

Energy and Environment Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments
October 8, 2015

Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) held its meeting at the SCAG Los Angeles Office. The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Hon. Denis Bertone, San Dimas	SGVCOG
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG
Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa	OCCOG
Hon. Ed Graham, Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena	SGVCOG
Hon. Mike Munzing, Aliso Viejo	District 12
Hon. Jim Osborne, Lawndale	SBCCOG
Hon. Greg Pettis, Cathedral City	District 2
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard (Vice-Chair)	District 45
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Chair)	District 8
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City	WCCOG
Mr. Steve Schuyler, Ex Officio	Building Industry Association
Hon. Betty Sanchez, Coachella Valley	CVAG
Hon. Jack Terrazas	Imperial County
Hon. Diane Williams, Rancho Cucamonga	SANBAG
Hon. Edward Wilson, Signal Hill	Gateway Cities
Hon. Bonnie Wright, Hemet	WRCOG

Members Not Present

Hon. Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo	TCA
Hon. Mitchell Englander, Los Angeles	District 59
Hon. Laura Friedman, Glendale	Arroyo Verdugo Cities
Hon. Mike Gardner, Riverside	WRCOG
Hon. Steve Hwangbo, La Palma	District 18
Hon. Thomas Martin, Maywood	GCCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates	District 40
Hon. Linda Parks	Ventura County
Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark	VCOG
Hon. Eric Schmidt, Hesperia	SANBAG
Hon. John Sibert, Malibu	District 44

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Vice-Chair, Oxnard, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Dr. Paul Simon, Director, Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, stated that the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the Public Health Alliance of Southern California supports the inclusion of the proposed public health guiding principles and framework in the 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS). The inclusion of public health considerations and measurable outcomes in the 2016 RTP/SCS is an important next step. By further addressing health in the plan we have the potential to achieve a wide-range of health and economic benefits across the region.

Mr. Bill Sadler, Safe Routes to School National Partnership, stated that Safe Routes to School was a national non-profit that works to advance safe walking and biking to school. The partnership works closely with SCAG and its partners in the Southern California region to achieve this reality. Safe Routes to School supports the public health guiding principles and framework. Public health is also considered a co-benefit of many of the Cap-and-Trade programs and many of the areas that reduce Greenhouse gas emissions.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes of the September 3, 2015 Meeting

Receive and File

2. 2015 Regional Council and Policy Committees Meeting Schedule
3. 2016 Regional Council and Policy Committees Meeting Schedule
4. SCAG Sustainability Planning Grants Program – Monthly Update
5. Cap-and-Trade Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program Update
6. Preliminary Discussion Draft of Proposed Updates to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines
7. SB 743 – Related CEQA Guidelines Update
8. Update on Air Quality Management Plans (AQMPs)
9. 2015 Active Transportation Program Update

10. Recap of Progress made on the Development of the Draft 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS) and Anticipated Next Steps

A MOTION was made (Forester) to move the Consent Calendar. The MOTION was SECONDED (Genis) and APPROVED by the following votes:

AYES: Bertone, Clark, Forester, Genis, Graham, Horne, Mahmud, Osborne, Pettis, Ramirez, Sahli-Wells, Terrazas, Wilson, Wright, Williams

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Sanchez

ACTION ITEMS

11. 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR): Mitigation Measures Guiding Principles and Performance-Based Approach

Marie Campbell, President, Sapphos Environmental Incorporated, provided an overview regarding the contents of the draft PEIR for the 2016 RTP/SCS. The PEIR for the 2016 RTP/SCS serves as a programmatic document that conducts a region-wide assessment of potential significant environmental effects of the 2016 RTP/SCS.

Ms. Campbell stated that in order to bring schedules into alignment for release of the PEIR and the RTP/SCS documents, staff plans to bring forward for consideration the release of the draft PEIR document on December 3, 2015 and release the document on December 4, 2015 for a 55-day public review period, rather than the statutorily required 45-day public review period. This schedule is also intended to address concerns that the review period was bridging over the holiday season.

Ms. Campbell presented highlights of the Executive Orders and legislation that are addressed in the PEIR greenhouse gas emissions analysis, which include Executive Order S-3-05; Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32); and Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection of 2008 (Senate Bill 375). This analysis will also address Executive Order B-16-12 which sets a 2050 target of greenhouse gas emission reductions from the transportation sector equaling 80% less than the 1990 level.

There was discussion about health risk correlation related to the Air Quality analysis. Staff responded that they plan to evaluate such correlation and use the 2015 state Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment guidance on health risk assessment. Sixteen (16) segments have been identified and are being used for the analysis. Comments from the SCAG Technical Working Group, received on the selection of the 16 segments were taken into consideration in finalizing the segments.

Ms. Campbell further provided information about the Alternatives to the proposed 2016 RTP/SCS, which she described as substantively aligned with the scenarios in the RTP/SCS. Alternatives include the no-project alternative, the 2012 RTP/SCS alternative updated with local input, and an intensified land use alternative based on a similar transportation network and a land

use pattern. Alternatives are evaluated to assess ability to avoid or reduce significant impacts of the proposed RTP/SCS.

Finally, Ms. Campbell presented the performance standards-based mitigation approach which will include three components: 1) SCAG mitigation measures; 2) a “catch-all” mitigation measure for each of the CEQA resource categories, stating that lead agencies “can and should” (rather than “shall”) comply with the generally applicable performance standards that are linked to existing statutes, regulations, and adopted general plans for the CEQA resource category that the PEIR analyzes; 3) project-level mitigation measures which may be potentially utilized by implementing agencies to meet the specified performance standards.

A MOTION was made (Forester) to support for purposes of preparing the Draft PEIR for the 2016 RTP/SCS, the Guiding Principles and performance-based approach for the development of mitigation measures. The MOTION was SECONDED (Gennis) and APPROVED by the following votes:

AYES: Bertone, Clark, Ehrenkranz, Forester, Genis, Graham, Horne, Mahmud, Munzing, Osborne, Pettis, Ramirez, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Sanchez, Terrazas, Williams, Wilson, Wright
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

12. 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2016 RTP/SCS) – Proposed Public Health Guiding Principles and Framework

Sarah Jepson, SCAG Staff, stated that the Regional Council established a Public Health Subcommittee after adoption of the 2012 RTP/SCS and directed staff to develop public health data information and to more fully incorporate public health analysis into the development of the 2016 RTP/SCS. Staff then developed a Public Health Work Program which included an element to develop public health analysis framework. The public health analysis framework outlined staff’s approach for integrating Public Health into the plan.

The approach is guided by an understanding that there are a variety of factors that contribute to health. As SCAG is developing a plan that includes transportation and land use strategies the plan does have an impact on health, especially in the areas of neighborhood built environment and economic stability in the region. Staff’s approach is to improve its analysis tools and ability to understand the ways in which transportation and land use strategies contribute to health in the region.

The approach is based on a “Health in All Policies” approach which is a collaborative strategy that aims to improve public health outcomes by including health considerations and planning processes across sectors and policy areas. Staff plans to assess the ways housing, transportation (all modes) and economic development all play a role in health. There has been early engagement in the process by bringing health stakeholders and people with diverse backgrounds to provide input on the process. A comprehensive approach to the analysis involves looking closely at air quality, transportation safety, physical activity, and economic impacts.

The State of California has been a leader in the “Health in All Policies” approach, and SCAG staff is considering aligning its work with the state. The state now requires a health analysis for a

lot of their project funding applications. This applies to the Affordable Housing and Sustainability Communities Program with a primary goal to reduce gas emissions but also to reflect how the project will improve public health. Similarly, with the Active Transportation Program, there are specific points reflected in the scoring of applications that indicate how the project would improve public health.

The Public Health Analysis Guiding Principles set forth in the staff report, were presented by staff. Committee members commented that affordable housing and water are also related to public health and should be included as focus areas. The members had a robust discussion on “economic well-being” as a public health benefit and trade-offs to public health that can exist if job growth also results in air pollution. It was suggested that “economic well-being” be considered within the context of actually improving health outcomes as opposed to having an adverse effect on health outcomes. Another member commented that it will be up to each individual, organization, or person’s perspective, whether that is going to be beneficial or detrimental to health. Committee members commented that the term “economic well-being” is not very well-defined and requested that staff continue to examine this and other focus areas and clearly define the areas because they have different meanings to different people. Committee members additionally requested clarification on the term “climate resiliency” and recommended this term be replaced with “climate adaptation,” which is a term more people are familiar with.

Ms. Jepson stated the Draft Public Health Work Program was presented in order to receive feedback from the EEC as part of development of the Public Health Appendix for the 2016 RTP/SCS. Staff plans to address comments received from the EEC members, including comments regarding the focus areas, as the public health analysis is developed. Staff will include in the RTP/SCS Public Health Appendix, strategies and actions on how SCAG can continue to promote public health and support local agencies in advancing health strategies in their communities. SCAG’s draft Public Health Work Program will enable SCAG to continue its leadership and collaboration, improve its abilities to develop policy and perform policy analysis, as well as serve as a resource to the region’s communities.

A MOTION was made (Pettis) to support for inclusion in the Draft 2016 RTP/SCS the proposed guiding principles and framework for the development and presentation of public health analysis in the plan. Additionally, the committee directed staff to address comments received from the committee members and provide further opportunity for the committee to review and discuss the focus areas. The MOTION was SECONDED (Bertone) and APPROVED by the following votes:

AYES: Bertone, Ehrenkranz, Forester, Horne, Mahmud, Munzing, Osborne, Pettis,
Ramirez, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Sanchez, Terrazas, Williams, Wilson, Wright
NOES: Clark, Genis
ABSTAIN: None

PRESENTATION ITEM

13. Single-Family Affordable Solar Homes (SASH) Program

Ms. Bambi Tran, Regional Director of GRID Alternatives, a community based non-profit solar contractor agency, provided an overview of the SASH program and highlighted opportunities for

collaboration with local governments in the SCAG region. The presentation included resources available to Southern California home-owners and impacts on local communities.

The program was developed to decrease electricity usage by solar installation, provide full and partial incentives for solar system for low-income participants, offer the power of solar and energy efficiency to homeowners, decrease the expense of solar ownership, and develop energy solutions that are environmentally and economically sustainable.

CHAIR'S REPORT - None

STAFF REPORT - None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - None

ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deborah Robertson adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Energy & Environment Committee (EEC) will be held on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at the SCAG Los Angeles office.

Energy and Environment Committee Attendance Report

2015

Member (including Ex-Officio) LastName, FirstName	Date Appointed if after 1/1/15	Representing	X = County Represented					X = Attended Black Shading = Dark												Total Mtgs Attended	
			Imperial	Los Angeles	Orange	Riverside	San Bernar dino	Ventura	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov		Dec
Bertone, Denis		SGVCOG		X					J	J	X		G	X	X	J	X	X	J	J	5
Chun, Ross		TCA							O	O		X	E		X	O	X		O	O	3
Clark, Margaret		Rosemead		X					I	I	X		N	X	X	I	X	X	I	I	5
Ehrenkranz, Jordan		WRCOG				X			N	N	X		E	X		N		X	N	N	3
Englander, Mitchell		Los Angeles		X					T	T			R			T			T	T	
Forester, Larry		Gateway Cities		X							X	X	A	X	X		X	X			6
Friedman, Laura		AVCOG		X					M	M	X	X	L	X	X	M			M	M	4
Gardner, Mike	Jun-15	WRCOG				X			E	E				X	X	E	X		E	E	3
Genis, Sandra		OCCOG			X				E	E	X	X		X	X	E	X	X	E	E	6
Graham, Ed	Feb. 15	SANBAG		X					T	T	X	X	A	X	X	T	X	X	T	T	6
Horne, Shari	Apr-15	OCCOG			X				I	I		X	S	X	X	I	X	X	I	I	5
Hwangbo, Steve	Jan. 15	La Palma			X				N	N	X		S			N	X		N	N	2
Mahmud, Diana		SGVCOG		X					G	G	X		E	X	X	G	X	X	G	G	5
Martin, Thomas		GCCOG		X							X		M	X	X		X				4
Mitchell, Judy		SBCCOG		X								X	B	X	X						3
Munzing, Mike		District 12			X						X	X	L	X	X		X	X			6
Osborne, Jim	Jun. 15	SBCCOG											Y	X	X			X			3
Parks, Linda	Feb.15	Ventura						X			X				X						2
Pettis, Greg	Jun. 15	Cathedral City				X								X	X		X	X			4
Pollock, David		VCOG						X			X	X			X						3
Ramirez, Carmen		Oxnard						X			X	X			X			X			4
Robertson, Deborah		District 8		X							X	X		X	X		X	X			6
Sahli-Wells, Meghan		WCCOG		X							X			X			X	X			4
Sanchez, Betty	Oct. 15	CVAG				X												X			1
Schmidt, Eric		SANBAG		X								X									1
Schuyler, Steve		BIASC			X						X	X			X		X	X			5
Sibert, John		District 44	X								X				X		X				3
Terrazas, Jack		Imperial County	X								X	X						X			3
Williams, Diane		SANBAG		X							X	X		X	X		X	X			6
Wilson, Edward		Signal Hill				X					X	X		X	X		X	X			6
Wright, Bonnie	Jan. 2015	WRCOG						X			X						X	X			3
		TOTALS	2	13	5	5	1	3													