

**JOINT MEETING OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL (RC);  
 COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CEHD) COMMITTEE; ENERGY  
 AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC); AND THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (TC)  
 OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
 MARCH 1, 2012**

**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AND/OR DISCUSSIONS THAT OCCURRED AT THE SPECIAL MEETING. AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING/VIEWING AT [www.scag.ca.gov/scagtv](http://www.scag.ca.gov/scagtv).**

The RC, CEHD, EEC and TC held its Special Meeting at SCAG’s Los Angeles Office.

**CEHD Members Present**

**Representing**

|                    |                                |                      |                                 |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Chair*</b>      | <b>1. Hon. Bill Jahn</b>       | <b>Big Bear Lake</b> | <b>District 11</b>              |
| <b>Vice Chair*</b> | <b>2. Hon. Paula Lantz</b>     | <b>Pomona</b>        | <b>District 38</b>              |
|                    | 3. Hon. Carol Chen             | Cerritos             | Gateway Cities                  |
|                    | * 4. Hon. Ginger Coleman       | Apple Valley         | District 65                     |
|                    | * 5. Hon. Margaret Finlay      | Duarte               | District 35                     |
|                    | 6. Hon. Ron Garcia             | Brea                 | OCCOG                           |
|                    | * 7. Hon. James Gazeley        | Lomita               | District 39                     |
|                    | * 8. Hon. Jon Harrison         | Redlands             | District 6                      |
|                    | * 9. Hon. Steven Hofbauer      | Palmdale             | District 43                     |
|                    | 10. Hon. Elaine Holmes         | Indio                | CVAG                            |
|                    | * 11. Hon. Bill Jahn           | Big Bear Lake        | District 11                     |
|                    | * 12. Hon. Joel Lautenschleger | Laguna Hills         | District 13                     |
|                    | * 13. Hon. Ronald Loveridge    | Riverside            | District 4                      |
|                    | 14. Hon. Charles Martin        |                      | Morongo Band of Mission Indians |
|                    | 15. Hon. Kathryn McCullough    | Lake Forest          | OCCOG                           |
|                    | * 16. Hon. Carl Morehouse      | Ventura              | District 47                     |
|                    | 17. Hon. Gene Murabito         | Glendora             | SGVCOG                          |
|                    | * 18. Hon. John Nielsen        | Tustin               | District 17                     |
|                    | 19. Hon. Laura Olhasso         | La Cañada/Flintridge | Arroyo Verdugo Cities           |
|                    | * 20. Hon. Ed P. Reyes         | Los Angeles          | District 48                     |
|                    | 21. Hon. Bob Ring              | Laguna Woods         | OCCOG                           |
|                    | * 22. Hon. Deborah Robertson   | Rialto               | District 8                      |
|                    | 23. Hon. Gino Sund             | Altadena             | SGVCOG                          |

**TC Members Present:**

**Representing**

|                   |                                  |                      |                       |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Vice Chair</b> | <b>* 1. Hon. Keith Millhouse</b> | <b>Moorpark</b>      | <b>VCTC</b>           |
|                   | * 2. Hon. Jerry Amante           | Tustin               | OCTA                  |
|                   | * 3. Hon. Michael Antonovich     |                      | Los Angeles County    |
|                   | * 4. Hon. Bruce Barrows          | Cerritos             | District 23           |
|                   | * 5. Hon. Glen Becerra           | Simi Valley          | District 46           |
|                   | 6. Hon. Russell Betts            | Desert Hot Springs   | CVAG                  |
|                   | * 7. Hon. Stan Carroll           | La Habra Heights     | District 31           |
|                   | * 8. Hon. Mary Craton            | Canyon Lake          | RCTC                  |
|                   | * 9. Hon. Gene Daniels           | Paramount            | District 24           |
|                   | * 10. Hon. Judy Dunlap           | Inglewood            | District 28           |
|                   | * 11. Hon. Paul Eaton            | Montclair            | District 9            |
|                   | 12. Hon. Mario Guerra            | Downey               | GCCOG                 |
|                   | * 13. Hon. Frank Gurulé          | Cudahy               | District 27           |
|                   | 14. Hon. Bert Hack               | Laguna Woods         | OCCOG                 |
|                   | * 15. Hon. Matthew Harper        | Huntington Beach     | District 64           |
|                   | * 16. Hon. Carol Herrera         | Diamond Bar          | District 37           |
|                   | * 17. Hon. Jim Hyatt             | Calimesa             | District 3            |
|                   | * 18. Hon. Michele Martinez      | Santa Ana            | District 16           |
|                   | 19. Hon. Ryan McEachron          | Victorville          | SANBAG                |
|                   | 20. Hon. Marsha McLean           | Santa Clarita        | North L. A. County    |
|                   | * 21. Hon. Barbara Messina       | Alhambra             | District 34           |
|                   | * 22. Hon. Leroy Mills           | Cypress              | District 18           |
|                   | * 23. Hon. Brad Mitzelfelt       |                      | SANBAG                |
|                   | * 24. Hon. Brett Murdock         | Brea                 | District 22           |
|                   | * 25. Hon. Steven Neal           | Long Beach           | District 29           |
|                   | * 26. Hon. Shawn Nelson          |                      | Orange County         |
|                   | * 27. Hon. Pam O'Connor          | Santa Monica         | District 41           |
|                   | * 28. Hon. Gary Ovitt            |                      | San Bernardino County |
|                   | * 29. Hon. Gregory Pettis        | Cathedral City       | District 2            |
|                   | * 30. Hon. Frank Quintero        | Glendale             | District 42           |
|                   | * 31. Hon. Sharon Quirk-Silva    | Fullerton            | District 21           |
|                   | * 32. Hon. Ronald Roberts        | Temecula             | District 5            |
|                   | 33. Hon. David Spence            | La Cañada/Flintridge | Arroyo-Verdugo Cities |
|                   | 34. Hon. Karen Spiegel           | Corona               | WRCOG                 |
|                   | 35. Hon. Tim Spohn               | City of Industry     | SGVCOG                |
|                   | * 36. Hon. Jeff Stone            | Riverside County     | Riverside County      |
|                   | 37. Hon. Jess Talamantes         | Burbank              | SFVCOG                |
|                   | * 38. Hon. Donald Voss           | La Cañada/Flintridge | District 36           |
|                   | * 39. Hon. Alan Wapner           | Ontario              | SANBAG                |

**EEC Members Present:**

**Representing**

|                    |                                     |                       |                    |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Chair*</b>      | <b>1. Hon. Margaret Clark</b>       | <b>Rosemead</b>       | <b>District 32</b> |
| <b>Vice-Chair*</b> | <b>2. Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker</b> | <b>El Centro</b>      | <b>District 1</b>  |
|                    | * 3. Hon. Lisa Bartlett             | Dana Point            | OCCOG              |
|                    | 4. Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz           | Canyon Lake           | WRCOG              |
|                    | 5. Hon. Larry Forester              | Signal Hill           | Gateway Cities     |
|                    | * 6. Hon. Keith Hanks               | Azusa                 | District 33        |
|                    | * 7. Hon. James Johnson             | Long Beach            | District 30        |
|                    | * 8. Hon. Judy Mitchell             | Rolling Hills Estates | District 40        |
|                    | * 9. Hon. Lupe Ramos Watson         | Indio                 | District 66        |
|                    | * 10. Hon. Jack Terrazas            |                       | Imperial County    |
|                    | * 11. Hon. Dennis Zine              | Los Angeles           | District 50        |

\* Regional Council Member

**Staff Present**

Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director  
 Joann Africa, Chief Counsel  
 Wayne Moore, Chief Financial Officer  
 Debbie Dillon, Deputy Executive Director, Administration  
 Sharon Neely, Deputy Executive Director, Strategy, Policy & Public Affairs  
 Douglas Williford, Deputy Executive Director, Planning and Programs  
 Huasha Liu, Director of Land Use & Environmental Planning  
 Rich Macias, Director of Transportation Planning  
 Sylvia Patsaouras, Interim Director of Regional Services and Public Affairs  
 Deby Salcido, Officer to the Regional Council  
 Tess Rey-Chaput, Office of Regional Council Support

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Pam O’Connor, Santa Monica, District 41, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and Councilmember Alan Wapner, Ontario, SANBAG, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

**Overview of the Draft 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) Comments and Revision Approach**

RTP Subcommittee Chair Alan Wapner, SANBAG, commented that SCAG staff is in the process of reviewing the public comments received on the RTP/SCS and PEIR and announced that an RTP Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2012 to provide final recommendations to the Transportation Committee who will then provide recommendations to the Regional Council and Policy Committees meeting scheduled for March 21, 2012, that the

Regional Council adopt the RTP/SCS at the April 4, 2012 meeting. Chair Wapner provided an update on the following RTP Subcommittee meeting discussions and recommendations: 1) include a rail component with the High Desert Corridor in the Constrained Plan; 2) include the Bike/Ped/Neighborhood Electric Vehicle Path in Coachella Valley in the Constrained Plan; 3) forward a recommendation to include the full segment of the California-Nevada Plan in the Strategic Plan; 4) recommend to formally support the California High-Speed Rail Authority's (CHSRA) decision on the elimination of the Grapevine alignment as part of the High-Speed Rail; 5) include the SR 241-Toll Road Extension in the Constrained Plan; 6) discussed safeguarding future revenues in the Final RTP; 7) SCS discussion on the growth forecast and consistency of the TAZ maps; 8) received briefing from the Chief Counsel regarding the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision on Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) reductions through Transportation Control Measures (TCM) and its potential impacts; and 9) received overview of the public comments to the Draft RTP/SCS.

President Pam O'Connor thanked RTP Subcommittee Chair Wapner for his exceptional leadership and the RTP Subcommittee members' dedication.

Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, announced that at the upcoming April 4, 2012 meeting, the Regional Council is scheduled to certify the PEIR and adopt the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS. Mr. Ikhata announced that over 1,600 public comments have been received and read with the majority of these comments being positive. Mr. Ikhata clarified that all comments will be grouped and categorized based on the topic/issue and these comments will receive a response. Mr. Ikhata discussed the RTP's revenue sources; collaboration with federal agencies and other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO); the critical need of a Goods Movement System; Active Transportation for healthy communities; recommendation of a Plan with SCS; Environmental Justice, etc..., and emphasized the bottoms-up approach utilized in the development of the RTP/SCS.

President Pam O'Connor thanked Mr. Ikhata and announced that responses to the RTP/SCS and PEIR public comments will be available on the SCAG website on March 19, 2012 and announced that a Special Joint Meeting of the Policy Committees is scheduled for March 21, 2012 and participation by video-conference will be available at the satellite offices.

Mr. Ikhata announced that a California Air Resources Board (ARB) meeting to discuss the SCS is scheduled for March 22, 2012. In regard to the CHSRA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Mr. Ikhata reported that the CHSRA will review the revised Business Plan prior to taking action in April 2012.

To follow-up on Hasan Ikhata's comment, Councilmember Keith Millhouse, Moorpark, VCTC, reiterated that the CHSRA MOU has been approved by all agencies, with the exception of Orange County Transportation Agency, and that the CHSRA will take action in April 2012 to allow review of the revised Business Plan. Mr. Ikhata stated that the CHSRA has until June 2012 to take action and is in support of the MOU.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Pam O'Connor opened the Public Comment Period and announced that each of the ten (10) public comment speakers will be allowed to speak for ninety (90) seconds.

Robert Vinetz, MD, FAAP, Program Director, Queenscare Family Clinics and Co-Chair of the Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County (ALAC), thanked SCAG for its work in the SCS and commented regarding direct impacts on children's health in planning for the environment and communities and strongly urged to consider the health aspects in the RTP/SCS.

Bonnie Holmes-Gen, Senior Policy Director, American Lung Association of California (ALAC), thanked SCAG for its work in the development of the RTP/SCS while considering public health, Transit- Oriented Development (TOD), investment in Active Transportation; and noted a letter that was submitted to SCAG with ALAC's recommendations along with support letters.

Terry Roberts, Area Director-Riverside/San Bernardino, American Lung Association of California (ALAC), thanked SCAG for its efforts in the SCS and major emphasis on public health; urged to increase investments in Active Transportation; zero-emissions freight technology; and coordination with public health experts to expand health equity in the SCS.

Karen Jakpor, MD, MPH, Physician Volunteer, American Lung Association of California (ALAC), shared her perspective as a patient suffering with asthma; how public health impacts the RTP/SCS in communities; urged reduction of vehicle trips; and increased investment in zero-emission freight transportation.

Denny Zane, Executive Director, Move LA, commented on funding enhancements of the Metrolink and Goods Movement Systems which are vital to interconnectivity and economy of the region and to address its funding strategy in the RTP/SCS at the March 21, 2012 meeting which is consistent with legal practices and policies of the Regional Council.

Jerard Wright, Angeles Chapter Transportation Committee Co-Chair, echoed Mr. Zane's comments on transportation investments and land use component and emphasized the importance of adequate funding.

Pauline Chow, Esq., Southern California Regional Policy Manager, Safe Routes to School National Partnership, thanked SCAG on its efforts in the development of the RTP/SCS and commented regarding Active Transportation support and funding; the need for policy and SCAG leadership for the creation of a regional transportation finance strategy committee, Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School Strategy.

Martha Cortez, Health Policy Director, Alliance for a Better Community (ABC), thanked SCAG for its efforts in the development of the RTP/SCS and urged to prioritize safety, health and equity of Active Transportation.

Rachel Morris, Executive Director, VCCool, and Ventura Bicycle Union Representative, stated that 1,318 signatures have been obtained for additional funding for Active Transportation as this has an overall effect in the region.

Ezequiel Gutierrez, Esq., thanked SCAG for its efforts in the development of the RTP/SCS and suggested ongoing monitoring of meeting the GHG targets with an effort to create TOD villages while achieving meaningful emissions reductions.

John Longville, Board of Trustees, San Bernardino Community College District and former SCAG President (1992-1993), complimented on the development of the Draft 2012 RTP/SCS and encouraged increased funding for Metrolink and Goods Movement.

Lee Dolley, Manhattan Beach resident, stated support for the northern completion of the 710 Fwy along with the supporters from the City of Alhambra and stated that the voters approved Measure R for funding of much-needed projects. Speaking specifically on the 710 Fwy project, Mr. Dolley stated Metro and Caltrans have implemented an environmental review process and is looking forward to the completion of the project.

Richard Lambros, Managing Director, Southern California Leadership Council, complimented SCAG for its work in the development of the RTP/SCS, specifically responses to the comments on the PEIR and RTP/SCS; appreciated the significant and important changes that were proposed specifically the local control and economic benefits aspects of the Plan; and requested to consider Phase 2 of the economic recovery strategy as a companion measure of the RTP/SCS.

Andrew Henderson, Vice President & General Counsel, Building Industry Association of Southern California (BIASC), echoed the comments made on SCAG's efforts in the development of the RTP/SCS and the proposed approaches on the PEIR and RTP/SCS. However, Mr. Henderson expressed concerns on the TAZ maps and the need to make certain that the proposed approaches will be reflected in the Final RTP/SCS.

President Pam O'Connor closed the Public Comment Period.

Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, provided information on the status of the lawsuit against SANDAG regarding its RTP, and announced that a meeting was held on February 9, 2012 with the Executive Directors of the MPOs to discuss the issues and possible consideration to provide support to file an amicus brief for SANDAG. In regard to the growth forecasts and TAZ maps, Mr. Ikhata reiterated that changes will not be made although SCAG will work closely with the cities, counties and agencies.

Councilmember James Johnson, Long Beach, District 30, commented regarding the importance of Goods Movement and the critical need to achieve zero-emission to improve public health and business growth. To attain this on a smaller scale, particularly the four-miles from the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles to the existing rail facility, Councilmember Johnson suggested the use of existing technology (e.g. electric catenary system) and a series of near-term improvements in the most impacted parts of the region from Goods Movement, as it would be fiscally-prudent in completing this on a smaller scale prior to implementing a 30- or 60-mile system from the 710

and 60 Fwys. Councilmember Johnson suggested an amendment to the RTP/SCS to include a four-mile zero-emission system in the near-term using existing technology that could be a regional and national model. Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, stated that SCAG staff is working on the language for the RTP with SCAQMD to include in the Plan.

Councilmember Carl Morehouse, Ventura, District 47, commented on the concerns expressed regarding Active Transportation and asked for elaboration on what is required to request additional funding and how this issue relates to the Plan four years forward. Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, responded that there is a lot of discussion at the state level for existing funding sources for Active Transportation and that there will be a continued effort to identify investments and needs at local levels.

Councilmember Karen Spiegel, Corona, WRCOG, stated that local and county Active Transportation is not included in the Plan and does not reflect the 1.3% funding. Councilmember Spiegel further stated that programs, such as Safe Routes to School, has benefitted cities and that the amount of funding should be identified and addressed in the Plan. Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, concurred and stated that there is actually more funding identified than that of 1.3%. He stated that SCAG is working with the six (6) County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) and has also initiated a joint study with Metro regarding the “first and last mile” strategy where Active Transportation is an important element.

Councilmember Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates, District 40, echoed comments made by Councilmember Johnson regarding Goods Movement; the need to have a clean freight movement; and the inclusion of a language in the RTP regarding near-term projects. Councilmember Mitchell stated that the logistics industry affects the air quality across the basin and emphasized the importance of clean Goods Movement in the region and impacts in the economy and how this relates to unmet air quality standards that affect the funding that will be received from the Federal government.

Supervisor Jeff Stone, Riverside County, thanked SCAG for its efforts in the development of the RTP/SCS; noted that Riverside County has the worst air quality standards; noted the need for clean transportation as emphasized in the public comments; and asked for a stronger language in the RTP that emphasizes the need to transition to cleaner technology and rail. Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, responded that impacts at the Port of Los Angeles equally affect all the counties in the region; that the language in the RTP on this matter will prompt action with the AQMD and other entities; and stated the need for the Federal government’s leadership in setting policies.

First Vice-President Glen Becerra, Simi Valley, District 46, stated support for and echoed comments made regarding Active Transportation. In planning for the next four years, First-Vice President Becerra suggested a concerted effort to engage local communities with a stronger focus on Active Transportation while creating a thoughtful and balanced approach. In regard to Goods Movement, First-Vice President Becerra stated that this is important as it allows funding for projects in the Plan. He stated his full support for the need of a robust economic plan to complement the RTP/SCS and suggested exploring non-state solutions on the growth of the region and California as a whole.

Councilmember Russell Betts, Desert Hot Springs, CVAG, commented on the improvement of air quality since his childhood; the efforts of zero-emissions Goods Movement; and suggested contacting industries that are affected to support a cooperative effort.

Councilmember Marsha Mclean, Santa Clarita, North L.A. County, commented on funding issues; however, stated that it does not preclude including a strong language in the RTP specifically stating the need for scheduling enhancements for Metrolink areas. Councilmember McLean stated that an increase in ridership was noticeable due to the recent high gas prices and suggested that schedules be amenable to riders to encourage use of public transportation. Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, responded that the Metrolink system is funded by the CTCs and although funding is limited, there is a need to explore other funding sources for Metrolink while improving and increasing its services.

Councilmember Keith Millhouse, Moorpark, VCTC, as a member of the Metrolink Board, stated that Metrolink recognizes the scheduling needs although there are funding and capacity limitations that exist. He stated that these issues are being examined and schedules are reviewed and adjusted to meet demands and that the Board will continue to address these concerns. Moreover, Councilmember Millhouse stated that he appreciated and is encouraged to see that a representative from Ventura County has obtained 1,300 signatures for increased Active Transportation funding, thus, citing Ventura County as an example of—and is the only large county in the state—without a sales tax to support highway improvements and transportation services. Councilmember Millhouse stated that to be completely reliant upon State and Federal government funding to satisfy transportation needs is challenging. Lastly, Councilmember Millhouse thanked SCAG staff for its efforts in the development of the RTP/SCS.

Councilmember Jerry Amante, Tustin, OCTA, echoed Councilmember Betts' and First Vice-President Becerra's comments recommending the need to explore alternative funding sources due to the limited funding that is received from the state in the wake of facing financial challenges. Councilmember Amante stated that the loss of jobs and businesses that left the state is attributed to stringent regulations by a bankrupt government at the regional and state levels.

Councilmember Bert Hack, Laguna Woods, OCCOG, commented regarding Active Transportation; shared his perspective on the issues and concerns raised; the limited funding that is available; advised that continued dialogue is important to address problems in the region; and stated support for the 2012 Draft RTP/SCS.

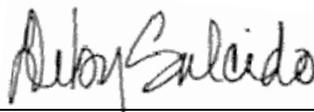
Councilmember Ed P. Reyes, Los Angeles, District 48, shared his perspective in understanding and identifying the strengths of the region while considering the extraordinary levels of poverty and challenges with transit-dependency in certain pockets of the region. Councilmember Reyes asked if there are future strategies that could address this issue in the RTP. Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, responded that SCAG is required by law to address this issue in the RTP.

President Pam O'Connor announced that the public comments on the RTP/SCS and PEIR are posted on the SCAG website and the responses to these comments will also be posted on March 19, 2012. President O'Connor reiterated that a Special Joint Meeting of the Policy Committees

will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at 12:00 p.m., at the SCAG Los Angeles office. At the March 21, 2012 meeting, President O'Connor noted that the Policy Committees will recommend that the Regional Council certify the Final PEIR for the RTP/SCS and adopt the Final RTP/SCS at the April 4, 2012 Regional Council meeting, in conjunction with the April 5, 2012 General Assembly, both to be held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Special Meeting of the Joint Regional Council and Policy Committees adjourned at 12:01 p.m.



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Deby Salcido, Officer to the Regional Council