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2012 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) & Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)

JOIN US AS WE DEVELOP THE 2012 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN!

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has been committed to integrated transportation and land use planning. Now with Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), a law that calls for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks through the integrated planning of transportation, land use and housing, SCAG will incorporate a Sustainable Communities Strategy as a part of the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan.

WHAT IS THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN?

The RTP is a long-range transportation plan that provides a vision for regional transportation investments over a 20-year period. Using growth forecasts and economic trends, the RTP considers the role of transportation in a more holistic light, including economic factors, environmental issues and quality-of-life goals. The RTP provides an opportunity to identify transportation strategies today that address our mobility needs for the future.

The RTP is updated every four years to reflect changes in economic trends, State and Federal requirements, progress made on projects, and adjustments for population and jobs. Transportation projects must be included in the RTP in order to qualify for Federal and State funding. The last RTP was adopted by SCAG's Regional Council in 2008, and the Draft 2012 RTP is scheduled for release in December 2011 and for adoption in April 2012.

WHAT IS THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY?

The SCS is a new element of the RTP that will demonstrate the integration of land use, transportation strategies, and transportation investments within the Plan. This new requirement was put in place by the passage of SB 375, with the goal of ensuring that the SCAG region can meet its regional greenhouse gas reduction targets set by the California Air Resources Board (ARB).

In September 2010, ARB issued an 8% reduction target to the SCAG region for the planning year 2020 and a 13% reduction target by 2035. The targets apply to the SCAG region as a whole.

RTP SCHEDULE

January 2011

Hold RTP/SCS Data Gathering Workshops/Meetings

February 2011

ARB Sets Final Target for SCAG Region

Spring 2011

Hold RTP/SCS Subregional Workshops, Policy Committee Workshops and PEIR Scoping Meeting

September 2011

State HCD Issues Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Determination for SCAG Region

December 2011

Release Draft 2012 RTP/SCS

December 2011 – January 2012

Hold Public Hearings

January 2012

Hold Workshops with Elected Officials

April 2012

Adopt Final 2012 RTP/SCS

October 2012

Adopt Final RHNA

October 2013

Housing Element Due Date



SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Developing the SCS requires meaningful collaboration with local governments and stakeholders to identify land-use opportunities around the region to address the needs of our growing population and ensure compliance with State and Federal requirements.

The SCS will be a comprehensive regional vision built and implemented from the local level. Some of the key land-use policies and strategies that cities are considering in order to achieve the goals of SB 375 include:

- Focusing growth in existing and emerging centers and along major transportation corridors
- Creating significant areas of mixed-use development and walkable communities
- Targeting growth around existing and planned transit stations
- Preserving existing open space and stable residential areas

WHAT IS SCAG'S ROLE IN DEVELOPING THE RTP/SCS?

As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), SCAG is the lead agency to facilitate the development of the RTP and the SCS. In a region of six counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura) and 191 cities, SCAG understands the importance of input and consensus and utilizes a collaborative process to develop the RTP. SCAG seeks the opinion and feedback of interested parties, including county transportation commissions, subregions, local governments as well as several state and federal agencies, environmental and business communities, tribal governments, non-profit organizations and the general public. The goal of this collaborative process is an RTP that reflects public consideration and addresses the region's needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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