

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS SCAG SPOTLIGHT



Legislation and Policy Affecting Our Region

February 2013

## RC Report

Highlights from the Regional Council Meeting

FEBRUARY 7, 2013



From left: SCAG 1st VP Greg Pettis, Mark Nelson of SCE, Keith E. Casey of Cal-ISO, SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhrata and Barry Wallerstein of SCAQMD at Energy Workshop.

**ENERGY WORKSHOP** – The Regional Council held a joint workshop - “What’s the Plan for Summer 2013 and Beyond?” - with SCAG’s policy committees today in response to energy issues prompted by the closure of the San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station. Presenters Mark Nelson of Southern California Edison, Dennis Peters of California Independent System Operator and Barry Wallerstein of the South Coast Air Quality Management District, discussed challenges to meeting peak demand in the summer and highlighted the need for a long-term perspective on the region’s energy capacity and infrastructure. View the presentations at <http://scag.ca.gov/committees/jointRCPC020713.htm>.

**ACTION – 2013 Top State Legislative Priorities Approved** - The Regional Council approved SCAG’s Top 2013 State Legislative Priorities. These priorities are selected from the legislative priority objectives adopted by the Regional Council in January and include Project Streamlining & Expediting; Financing, Economic Development & Community Reinvestment; and Equitable Cap-and-Trade Expenditures for Transportation. These priorities will serve to focus messaging at SCAG’s Sacramento Legislative Reception later this month and will guide the agency’s state advocacy efforts throughout the legislative session.

**ACTION – Pacific Electric Right-of-Way/West Santa Ana Branch Corridor Alternatives Analysis Approved** - The Regional Council approved the Alternatives Analysis (AA) of the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way/West Santa Ana Branch Corridor study and authorized SCAG to finalize the AA report to LA Metro and the Orange County Transportation Authority - owners of the PE ROW - for further study. The AA includes recommendations regarding technology, stations, alignments and phasing options. More info at <http://www.scag.ca.gov/perow/index.html>. Specifically, the Regional Council approved the Light Rail Transit alternative, in addition to the required No Build and Transportation Systems Management Alternatives, for further study.

## From the Executive Director

Additional News for the Month

**Compass Blueprint Recognition Awards** - Nomination packets for the Seventh Annual Compass Blueprint Recognition Awards are available. This awards program is an opportunity for jurisdictions to showcase projects encompassing the four key growth vision principles: Mobility, Livability, Prosperity and Sustainability; and to be recognized for groundbreaking achievements in planning. For more information visit [www.compassblueprint.org](http://www.compassblueprint.org).



Cal/EPA Secretary Matthew Rodriguez and SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhrata at Cal/EPA Workshop on Feb. 5

**Workshop on CalEnviroScreen Draft Tool and Follow-up** - On February 5, SCAG, in partnership with the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), hosted a workshop on the second Public Review Draft of the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen) currently being developed by Cal/EPA’s Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). The workshop included a presentation by Cal/EPA Secretary Matthew Rodriguez. The workshop presentation and summary are available on the SCAG website at <http://scag.ca.gov/new.htm#calEPAwksp>.

## SCAG REGIONAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL ASSEMBLY

May 2–3, 2013

JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

[www.scag.ca.gov/ga2013](http://www.scag.ca.gov/ga2013)

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## EVENTS FEBRUARY

- 11th Goods Movement Subcommittee Meeting
- 15th High-Speed Rail & Transit Subcommittee Meeting
- 18th Observance of Presidents Day – SCAG offices closed
- 20th SCAG Legislative Day/Sacramento

## MARCH

- 7th Regional Council & Policy Committee Meetings
- 12th 2013 HPMS Training Workshop
- 19th Toolbox Tuesdays: The Second Annual Implementing Complete Streets
- 26th Transportation Conformity Working Group