



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

A photograph of the California State Capitol building in Sacramento, California. The building is a grand, white, neoclassical structure with a prominent central dome topped with a golden orb. The dome is surrounded by a series of columns and arches. To the left of the dome, an American flag flies on a tall pole. The building is set against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, there are green lawns and a flower bed with various colorful flowers. The image is partially obscured by a large, semi-transparent blue graphic overlay that consists of several overlapping, diagonal bands of different shades of blue, creating a modern, geometric design.

**SCAG  
2016 LEGISLATIVE  
ADVOCACY TRIP**

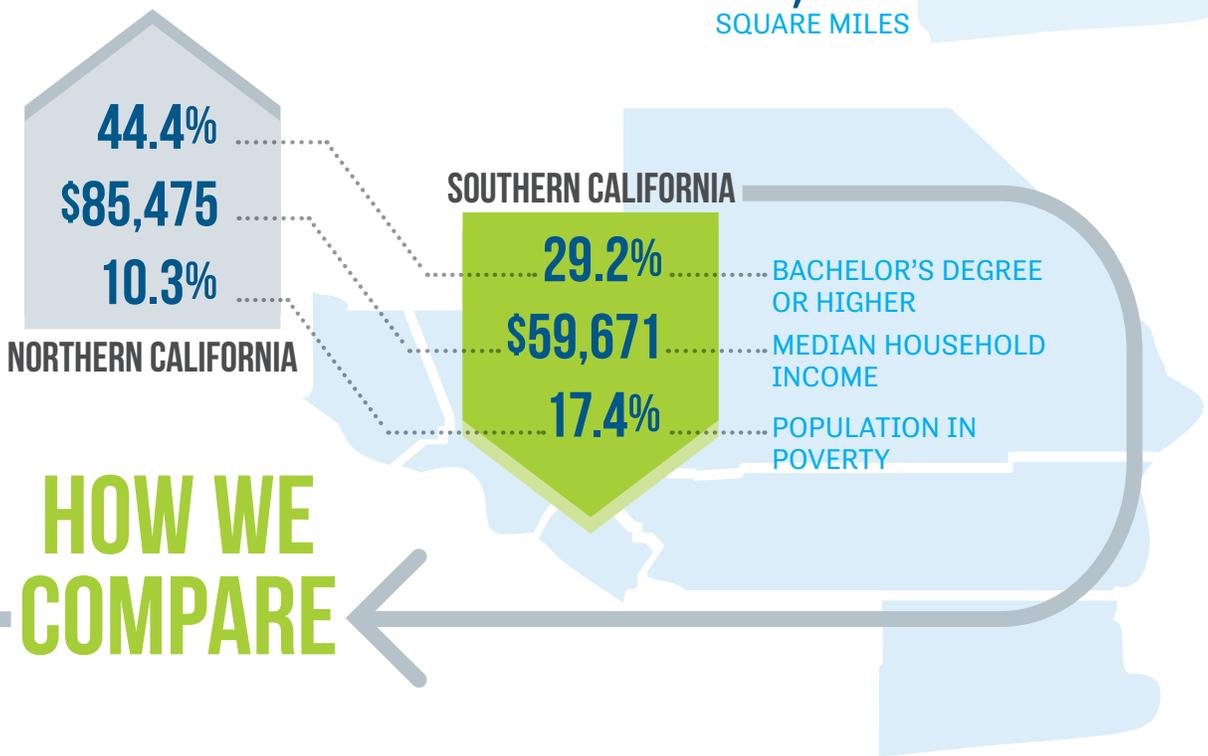
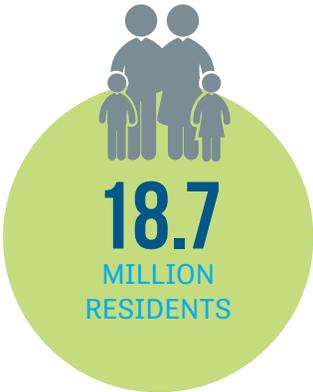
Sacramento | March 16-17, 2016

# SCAG FACTS

**6** COUNTRIES  
**48.4%** STATE POPULATION

## SCAG

**191** CITIES  
**5.9%** U.S. POPULATION



# HELP US MEET SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S NEEDS

## Transportation Funding

*Southern California currently has a multi-billion dollar \$274.9 billion need to repair and maintain the existing infrastructure. Recently, the California Transportation Commission removed \$754 million in critical transportation improvements from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) due to lower forecasted revenues from the price-based fuel excise tax.*

- SCAG supports legislative efforts offering a balanced consideration of revenue measures to addresses the State's systemic funding deficit.
- Including reforms to expedite project delivery, it is imperative that vehicle weight fees be returned to transportation while protecting all new sources of transportation revenue from borrowing or uses for any purpose other than transportation.

## Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF)

*Southern California is the nation's global trade gateway and freight infrastructure is vital to the State and national economy. Recently passed Federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act includes new resources to states to invest in freight infrastructure.*

- Rather than "reinvent the wheel," FAST Act freight funds should be used on the existing architecture of the TCIF.
- Established by Prop 1B in 2006, TCIF has already successfully allocated \$2 billion of bond monies to fund \$6 billion of freight projects.
- Support AB 2170 (Frazier), sponsored by SCAG, which allocates the FAST Act federal formula freight funds into the existing TCIF.

## SB 743 Implementation – Proposed CEQA Guidelines

*Recently the Office of Planning & Research (OPR) released its Revised Proposal on Updates to the CEQA Guidelines on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA to implement SB 743 (Steinberg, 2013).*

- The proposal puts California on a "road diet" limiting congestion reducing projects to a 4% total cap.
- It adds vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and induced demand analysis to CEQA evaluation – dramatically increases potential litigation to challenge projects.
- It will also slow or halt up to 50% of projects in SCAG's 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/ Sustainability Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), causing greater congestion and air quality/ emissions impacts.

## High-Speed Rail

*California High-Speed Rail Authority's recently released Draft 2016 Business Plan changes the initial operating segment from Southern California to Northern California. In 2013, Southern California transportation agencies and the California High-Speed Rail Authority signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to invest \$1 billion in Southern California.*

- Ensure adequate resources to Southern California to fulfill the development of projects as required under the MOU.

## Cap-and-Trade Funding

*In the first round of funding, the Strategic Growth Council awarded only 22% of funding from the Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities Program to projects in the SCAG region. In a jurisdiction of over 18.7 million people, approximately half of the State's population and two-thirds of the State's disadvantaged communities, this is far below the SCAG region's fair share.*

- SCAG supports the equitable distribution of revenues from the implementation of the Cap-and-Trade program to transportation improvements and sustainable communities that maximize resources to the SCAG region.



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# 2016 REGIONAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL ASSEMBLY

POWER OF THE PAST,  
*FORCE OF THE FUTURE*

**MAY 5-6**  
*scag.ca.gov/ga2016*

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