



Southern California Association of Governments Remote Participation Only July 1, 2021

# NO. 633 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2021

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <u>http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/</u>

The Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its special meeting telephonically and electronically, given public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

| Members Present                                     | - · · ·     | <b>D</b> <sup>1</sup> · · · · · · |
|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hon. Clint Lorimore, President                      | Eastvale    | District 4                        |
| Hon. Jan Harnik, 1st Vice President                 |             | RCTC                              |
| Sup. Carmen Ramirez, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President |             | Ventura County                    |
| Hon. Rex Richardson, Imm. Past President            | Long Beach  | District 29                       |
| Supervisor Luis Plancarte                           |             | Imperial County                   |
| Supervisor Holly Mitchell                           |             | Los Angeles County                |
| Supervisor Don Wagner                               |             | Orange County                     |
| Supervisor Karen Spiegel                            |             | Riverside County                  |
| Supervisor Curt Hagman                              |             | San Bernardino County             |
| Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich                            |             | ICTC                              |
| Hon. Tim Shaw                                       |             | OCTA                              |
| Hon. Alan Wapner                                    |             | SBCTA                             |
| Hon. Peggy Huang                                    |             | ТСА                               |
| Hon. Mike T. Judge                                  |             | VCTC                              |
| Hon. Ben Benoit                                     |             | Air District Representative       |
| Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker                           | El Centro   | District 1                        |
| Hon. Kathleen Kelly                                 | Palm Desert | District 2                        |
| Hon. Rey Santos                                     | Beaumont    | District 3                        |
| Hon. Zak Schwank                                    | Temecula    | District 5                        |



# REPORT

#### Members Present – continued

Hon. Frank Navarro Hon. Larry McCallon Hon. Deborah Robertson Hon. L. Dennis Michael Hon. Ray Marquez Hon. Randall Putz Hon. Fred Minagar Hon. Wendy Bucknum Hon. Michael Carroll Hon. Diane Dixon Hon. Phil Bacerra Hon. Leticia Clark Hon. Kim Nguyen Hon. Trevor O'Neil Hon. Joe Kalmick Hon. Art Brown Hon. Marty Simonoff Hon. Frank Yokoyama Hon. Ray Hamada Hon. Sean Ashton Hon. José Luis Solache Hon. Ali Saleh Hon. Mark E. Henderson Hon. Cindy Allen Hon. Steve De Ruse Hon. Jorge Marquez Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler Hon. Margaret E. Finlay Hon. James Gazeley Hon. Drew Boyles Hon. Alex Fisch Hon. Juan Carrillo Hon. David J. Shapiro Hon. David Pollock Hon. Steve Manos Hon. Elizabeth Becerra Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto

Colton **District 6** Hiahland District 7 Rialto **District 8** Rancho Cucamonga **District 9** Chino Hills District 10 Big Bear Lake District 11 Laguna Niguel District 12 Mission Viejo District 13 Irvine District 14 Newport Beach District 15 Santa Ana District 16 Tustin District 17 Garden Grove District 18 Anaheim District 19 Seal Beach District 20 Buena Park District 21 Brea District 22 Cerritos District 23 Bellflower District 24 Downey District 25 Lynwood District 26 Bell District 27 Gardena District 28 Long Beach District 30 La Mirada District 31 Covina **District 33** Alhambra District 34 Duarte District 35 Lomita District 39 El Segundo District 40 Culver City District 41 Palmdale District 43 Calabasas **District 44** Moorpark District 46 Lake Elsinore District 63 Victorville District 65 Coachella District 66



### **Members Present - continued**

Hon. Marsha McLean Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson Hon. Marisela Magana Mr. Randall Lewis

### Members Not Present

Supervisor Kathryn Barger Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr. Hon. Steven Ly Hon. Jonathan Curtis Hon. Steve Tye Hon. Tim Sandoval Hon. Paula Devine Hon. Laura Hernandez Hon. Lorrie Brown Hon. Gilbert Cedillo Hon. Paul Krekorian Hon. Bob Blumenfield Hon. Nithya Raman Hon. Paul Koretz Hon. Nury Martinez Hon. Monica Rodriguez Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr. Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas Hon. Mike Bonin Hon. John Lee Hon. Mitch O'Farrell Hon. Kevin de León Hon. Joe Buscaino Hon. Michael Posey Hon. Eric Garcetti

## Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer Santa Clarita Riverside Perris Business Representative

Pechanga Dev. Corp. Rosemead La Cañada Flintridge Diamond Bar Pomona Glendale Port Hueneme Ventura Los Angeles Huntington Beach Los Angeles

District 67 District 68 District 69 Ex-Officio Member

## Los Angeles County

Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Brd. District 32 **District 36** District 37 District 38 District 42 District 45 District 47 District 48 District 49/Public Transit Rep. District 50 District 51 District 52 District 53 District 54 District 55 District 56 District 57 **District 58** District 59 District 60 District 61 District 62 District 64

Member-at-Large

# REPORT





Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning Carmen Flores, Human Resources Director Javiera Cartagena, Acting Director of Policy and Public Affairs Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer Michael Houston, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services Ruben Duran, Board Counsel Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board

### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Lorimore called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. and asked Regional Councilmember Ray Marquez, Chino Hills, District 10, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period, and he outlined instructions for public comments.

Board Counsel Ruben Duran stated that there were no written public comments received by email after the deadline.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

#### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. 2021 SCAG Scholarship Program

Scholarship Committee Chair Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, suggested that in the interest of time, rather than go through a roll call vote twice, she would like to provide a report and then just add Agenda Item 1 with the Consent Calendar. She reported that there was a total of 75 applicants from throughout the SCAG region. She thanked the Committee members, especially Mr. Randall Lewis, Ms. So-Ra Baek, and Dr. James Moore. She explained that at the time that they came together as a Scholarship Committee to award the scholarships, there was still uncertainty as to whether the California Transportation Foundation (CTF) would fund one or two scholarships. She indicated that Dr. Moore personally made the commitment that if CTF did not fund the second scholarship that he would personally put up \$4,000 and merited a standing ovation for that. She

asked if staff could confirm if there would be press releases issued to each of the counties identifying SCAG was awarding scholarships. She stated it was a remarkable job by the committee and was grateful for the opportunity to chair that Committee.

Regional Councilmember Margaret Finlay, Duarte, District 35, expressed that in the future she would like to see the process for the Scholarship Committee started in February or March, and for SCAG to get name recognition on this cause. She suggested perhaps presenting the scholarships at a breakfast or dinner event in each county.

Executive Director Kome Ajise thanked Chair Viegas-Walker for the work they did on the Scholarship Committee and confirmed that the CTF Board voted unanimously to fund both scholarships.

President Lorimore reported that the EAC members, the day before, voted to recommend approval of Item 6 on the Regional Council agenda, with a modification to substitute the identified legal firm listed under the subconsultants with another firm to be selected and not to exceed the identified cost.

The Regional Council combined the votes for Agenda Item No. 1 and the Consent Calendar, as noted below.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

## Approval Items

- 2. Minutes of the Meeting May 6, 2021
- 3. Approval of Additional Stipend Payments
- 4. Proposed Amendments to the Regional Council Policy Manual Relating to Teleconferenced Meetings
- 5. Contracts Amendment \$75,000 or Greater: Contract No. 18-028-C01, Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Implementation and Technical Assistance Services, Amendment No. 5
- Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-042-C01, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) Senate Bill 743 (SB 743) Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Mitigation Assistance Program
- 7. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-044-C01, Curb Space Management Study



- 8. Regional Transit Safety Target Setting
- 9. Transfer of Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Units from County of Orange to City of Santa Ana

#### Receive and File

- 10. Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) Comment Letter
- 11. June 2021 State & Federal Legislative Update
- 12. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 Overview
- 13. Purchase Orders \$5,000 \$199,999; Contracts \$25,000 \$199,999 and Amendments \$5,000 \$74,999
- 14. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Navarro) to approve Agenda Item No. 1, the Scholarship Committee recommendations for the 2021 SCAG Scholarship Program Award, and Consent Calendar, Item No.s 2 through 9; Receive and File Item No.s 10 through 14. Motion was SECONDED (Solache). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

- AYES: ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, ASHTON, BACERRA, BECERRA, BEAMAN JACINTO, BENOIT, BOYLES, A. BROWN, BUCKNUM, CARRILLO, CARROLL, CLARK, DE RUSE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GAZELEY, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, JUDGE, KALMICK, KELLY, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MAGANA, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MICHAEL, MINAGAR, MITCHELL, NAVA-FROELICH, NAVARRO, NGUYEN, O'NEIL, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, RICHARDSON, ROBERTSON, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SHAW, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE, SPIEGEL, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (58)
- NOES: NONE (0)

ABSTAIN: MINAGAR (Agenda Item No. 2) (1)

#### **BUSINESS REPORT**



# REPORT

Mr. Randall Lewis, Business Representative reported it is going to be a boom year according to all indications and alluded to everyone thinking that we are going to have an accelerated recovery. He reported the housing market continued to be crazy, especially in terms of western Inland Empire. He noted that the Orange County Register had a story indicating that houses in Southern California were going up \$1 every 2 minutes. He expressed that when you start measuring appreciation by the minute in Southern California, you knew something was wrong. On the supply side of the delivery sites, he reported there was still a lot of problems and lumber continued at record highs. He stated it was still over \$30,000 a house, more than building a typical house two years ago, and a lot of materials that were over 100%. He reported the other thing that was going on was interest rates were beginning to go up, even though they were still a phenomenal bargain, but when they go up over 3.1 or 3.2 it really has a big impact. For those with hotels in their cities, he suggested they do everything they can to support the efforts of those operators as the market was going to be strong. In terms of restaurants, he stated there was a lot of opportunities to do outdoor dining, and suggested cities take the chance to plan progressively to allow for outdoor dining, even at the expense of some parking in some cases. He really urged cities to look at this with their planning staff as people were eating out more, which would bring even more tax dollars to their community. He reported most economists were saying that we are going to have inflation, and we were seeing it on wages, oil prices, lumber, and other materials. He stated economists were reporting it as short term and that once we get into some supply chain issues the inflation would not be an issue. He expressed that he thought some of those economists were mistaken and inflation would continue for a while. He also reported on the number of single-family houses that were being built as rentals. He stated banking institutions nationally were either buying single family houses or partnering with home builders to build purpose-built single-family houses. Lastly, he indicated that California has not been a state for manufacturing in the last decade or so, and his sense was they were going to see some manufacturing come back to California. He stated that a lot of the businesses that offshored manufacturing because it was cheaper, can still do it, but he was hearing from a lot of companies that maybe those short-term gains were getting a slightly better price and were outweighed by supply chain uncertainty.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lorimore welcomed incoming Regional Councilmember Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita, District 67. He announced the following Policy Committee Presidential appointments: John Marish to CEHD, Jesus Silva to EEC, Christian Horvath to TC, Jess Talamantes to TC, and Jeremy Smith to TC. He announced the LCMC appointments: Alan Wapner as Chair, Peggy Huang as Vice Chair, Sean Ashton, Curt Hagman, Margaret Finlay, Jan Harnik, Jose Luis Solache, Ray Marquez, Frank Navarro, Letitia Clark, David Pollock, Steve Manos, Deborah Robertson, Ali Saleh, Cheryl Viegas-Walker, and Donald Wagner. With respect to the Audit Committee appointments, he indicated that the Committee was getting a little bit large, and the intent was to narrow it down and create more ownership from the Committee members. He reported there would be one member from each



county, with second Vice President Carmen Ramirez (Ventura County) chairing the Committee. He announced the Audit Committee members: Cheryl Viegas-Walker from Imperial County, Edward Wilson from Los Angeles County, Marty Simonoff from Orange County, Steve Manos from Riverside County, and Alan Wapner from San Bernardino County.

He also reported that considering the June 15<sup>th</sup> reopening, staff was preparing for a return to inperson Regional Council and committee meetings and that it was anticipated that the first day of inperson meetings would be September 2 with a hybrid approach, meaning both in-person and remote video/videoconferencing participation. He stated additional details on this would be forthcoming to assist the Regional Councilmembers in their planning. Lastly, he reported the next meeting of the Regional Council meeting would be held on Thursday July 1 at 12:30 p.m.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Kome Ajise announced that staff was back in the office with some voluntary returns and that a third of the staff was working through different days of the week in the office. He indicated they were beginning to see some reporting out of the 2020 Census and one of the indications that they saw in the census was that California grew by about 6.1% in the 2010's, but slightly below the U.S. growth rate of 7.4%. He stated that during the year 2020, the state and SCAG lost about half of a percent of its population, attributable to the pandemic in some way. He reported the region managed to grow its housing stock by 0.7%, which was a lot better than what we had in 2019. He stated we had great opportunities to look more closely at long term sustainability and equity in our communities here in Southern California.

Lastly, he reported SCAG would be hosting the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual SCAG-USC Demographic workshop, which would again take place over two afternoons over ZOOM, on Tuesday June 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup>. He indicated the theme for this year was the post pandemic city and that day one would feature a demographic checkup panel, which would dive into results from the 2020 Census and information on migration and population change, in addition to a collaborative panel with the USC's Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics discussing the unequal impacts of COVID-19. Day two would include a keynote address by Tiffany Chu, founder of REMIX, and a panel on the future of the workforce, transportation, and housing. He further stated that each day would end with three roundtables for participants to learn more and sharpen their skills, and that this year's workshops would provide some insight as we launch into our 2024 Regional Plan.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S**

There were no additional future agenda items requested.

## ANNOUNCEMENT/S





Regional Councilmember Mark Henderson, Gardena, District 28, asked for an update on the Racial Equity Committee because he wanted to make sure they do not lose sight of where they are going with it. Executive Director Ajise stated they were not losing sight of it and that the Regional Council took an action, and they had the early action plan. He indicated they would now work on how those strategies are being implemented and would bring them forward at either the Policy Committees or the Regional Council.

Patricia Lock Dawson asked for a presentation on the state budget and its implications for their regions. Executive Director Ajise stated staff could comeback with their take on how the budget affects them. Regional Councilmember Lock-Dawson stated there were some agreements made this week in the Senate and Assembly leadership regarding homelessness funding and its implication for affordable housing and thought it would be great to hear staff give their interpretation of what they think the implications would be.

President Lorimore stated they had several leaders in the immediate area of the Inland Empire that had recently passed away and shared their names and hoped that they could adjourn this meeting in their memory. Longtime Councilmember, Kathy Acevedo from the city of Norco, which was a huge loss to the community. He stated she had an ongoing fight with cancer and fought until the end. Also, close friend and mentor, Don Galleano, a personality larger than life, director of Western Municipal Water District and Metropolitan Water District. Lastly, Councilmember for the city of Eastvale, Ike Bootsma, who served more times as mayor in the history than anybody else in the city of Eastvale.

Regional Councilmember Karen Spiegel, Riverside County, reported the loss of Jordan Ehrenkranz from the city of Canyon Lake, who also served on SCAG's committees over the years. She indicated this weekend would be the celebration of life of the last female county supervisor. She stated representation was important and their job was to always mentor to replace themselves, and to make sure that their seats are with people that they have worked with, trained, and mentored. She stated SCAG was a great place to bring people to get an idea of what it is like in Southern California.

Regional Councilmember Alan Wapner, SBCTA, stated it was unfortunate to add to list but wanted to also acknowledge the passing of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Sergeant who was killed last week and the Los Angeles County firefighter.



## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Lorimore adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 1:17 p.m. in memory of those individuals that were mentioned and those that they lost during this past year.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]

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