



Southern California Association of Governments Remote Participation Only January 7, 2021

NO. 626 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020

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: http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/

The Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its 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

Hon. Rex Richardson, President	Long Beach	District 29
Hon. Clint Lorimore, 1st Vice President	Eastvale	District 4
Hon. Jan Harnik, 2 nd Vice President		RCTC
Hon. Bill Jahn, Imm. Past President	Big Bear Lake	District 11
Supervisor Luis Plancarte		Imperial County
Supervisor Don Wagner		Orange County
Supervisor Karen Spiegel		Riverside County
Supervisor Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County
Supervisor Linda Parks		Ventura County
Hon. James Predmore		ICTC
Hon. Alan D. Wapner		SBCTA
Hon. Peggy Huang		TCA
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
Hon. Frank Navarro	Colton	District 6
Hon. Larry McCallon	Highland	District 7

OUR MISSION

OUR VISION

Southern California's Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES

Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous





Members Present - continued

<u> Members Present - Continued</u>		
Hon. Deborah Robertson	Rialto	District 8
Hon. Ray Marquez	Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Fred Minagar	Laguna Niguel	District 12
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	Mission Viejo	District 13
Hon. Michael Carroll	Irvine	District 14
Hon. Phil Bacerra	Santa Ana	District 16
Hon. Charles Puckett	Tustin	District 17
Hon. Kim Nguyen	Garden Grove	District 18
Hon. Trevor O'Neil	Anaheim	District 19
Hon. Dean Grose	Los Alamitos	District 20
Hon. Art Brown	Buena Park	District 21
Hon. Marty Simonoff	Brea	District 22
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	Cerritos	District 23
Hon. Ray Hamada	Bellflower	District 24
Hon. Sean Ashton	Downey	District 25
Hon. José Luis Solache	Lynwood	District 26
Hon. Steve De Ruse	La Mirada	District 31
Hon. Steven Ly	Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Jorge Marquez	Covina	District 33
Hon. Jack Hadjinian	Montebello	District 34
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	Duarte	District 35
Hon. Tim Sandoval	Pomona	District 38
Hon. James Gazeley	Lomita	District 39
Hon. Drew Boyles	El Segundo	District 40
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells	Culver City	District 41
Hon. Paula Devine	Glendale	District 42
Hon. Steven Hofbauer	Palmdale	District 43
Hon. David Shapiro	Calabasas	District 44
Hon. Carmen Ramirez	Oxnard	District 45
Hon. David Pollock	Moorpark	District 46
Hon. Tim Holmgren	Fillmore	District 47
Hon. Kevin de León	Los Angeles	District 61
Hon. Joe Buscaino	Los Angeles	District 62
Hon. Steve Manos	Lake Elsinore	District 63
Hon. Lyn Semeta	Huntington Beach	District 64
Hon. Rita Ramirez	Victorville	District 65
Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto	Coachella	District 66
Hon. Hector Pacheco	San Fernando	District 67





Members Present - continued

Mr. Randall Lewis Business Representative Ex-Officio Member Hon. Eric Garcetti Los Angeles Member-at-Large

Members Not Present

Supervisor Kathryn Barger

Supervisor Hilda Solis

Hon. Miguel Pulido

Los Angeles County

OCTA

Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr. Pechanga Dev. Corp. Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Brd.

Hon. L. Dennis Michael Rancho Cucamonga District 9 Hon. Steve Nagel Fountain Valley District 15 Hon. Ali Saleh Bell District 27 Hon. Mark E. Henderson Gardena District 28 Hon. Jeannine Pearce Long Beach District 30 Hon. Jonathan Curtis La Cañada Flintridge District 36 Hon. Steve Tye Diamond Bar District 37 Hon. Gilbert Cedillo Los Angeles District 48

Hon. Paul Krekorian Los Angeles District 49/Public Transit Rep.

Hon. Bob Blumenfield Los Angeles District 50 Hon. David Ryu Los Angeles District 51 Hon. Paul Koretz Los Angeles District 52 Hon. Nury Martinez Los Angeles District 53 District 54 Hon. Monica Rodriguez Los Angeles Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson Los Angeles District 55 Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr. Los Angeles District 56 Hon. Herb Wesson, Jr. Los Angeles District 57 Hon. Mike Bonin Los Angeles District 58 Hon. John Lee Los Angeles District 59 Hon. Mitch O'Farrell Los Angeles District 60 Hon. Rusty Bailey Riverside District 68 District 69 Hon. Marisela Magana Perris

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Justine Block, Acting Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs



Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning Erika Bustamante, Acting Chief Financial Officer Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer Peter Waggonner, Office of Regional Council Support Maggie Aguilar, Office of Regional Council Support

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Richardson called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. President Richardson asked Immediate Past President Bill Jahn, Big Bear Lake, District 11, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION

President Richardson provided welcoming remarks for Wade Crowfoot, California Secretary for Natural Resources. Secretary Crowfoot began his presentation by acknowledging the role of local government in ensuring prosperity and protection of public health and safety. He outlined the work of the California Natural Resources Agency in scientific research to inform planning and protect residents. He discussed hazards facing California, such as earthquake, drought, flooding, wildfire and heat, as well as climate change's influence on such hazards. He spoke to 2020 wildfire season in California, noting its unprecedented severity. He explained the observed trend of increased severity of wildfires driven by warming winter temperatures, causing earlier drying and warming summer temperatures, thus worsening the spread of wildfires. He acknowledged the leadership of local fire agencies in response. He noted record-breaking temperatures throughout the state experienced this year. He discussed future risk of drought depending on forthcoming winter conditions and flooding, with potential effects on housing, beaches and infrastructure.

In considering responses to such hazards in California, Secretary Crowfoot emphasized the importance of supporting regional leadership, given regionally-specific challenges, through research and funding. He elaborated upon a state-level climate resilience bond, which would cause funding to flow to jurisdictions. He also addressed ways to cut the "green tape" and modify state processes to eliminate barriers for implementation of resilience-building projects in local communities. In closing, he reviewed current challenges and expressed optimism in economic recovery. He stressed collaboration in order to reduce wildfires, create resilience, address flooding and protect coastal assets.

President Richardson recognized Secretary Crowfoot's remarks about local cities' needs for preparing climate action adaptations. He discussed the City of Long Beach's Climate Action Adaption Plan and barriers to implementation, such as a lack of a dedicated stream of funding. President Richardson talked about the importance of balancing multiple fronts of current crises in local government, from fiscal to public health to climate.

Regional Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, thanked Secretary Crowfoot for his presentation and commented that drought and the diversification of water sources are outside of cities' control. She noted that Imperial County cities' water comes from the Imperial Irrigation District. She asked how to balance the need to create new housing units with the need of





providing water to these units. Secretary Crowfoot spoke about the State's Water Resilience Portfolio, which includes a goal of maintaining the backbone of water storage and conveyance. He clarified that the responsibilities for water system are shared between state and region, and he recognized differences of challenges throughout the state. He spoke to efforts relevant to local jurisdictions, such as encouraging water usage reductions and localized conservation. Finally, he noted Assembly Bill (AB) 1282, a permit-streamlining effort to help develop Proposition 1 transportation projects more quickly by identifying collaboration opportunities amongst state agencies and reducing roadblocks.

Regional Councilmember Alan Wapner, SBCTA, commented on legislative advocacy by the National League of Cities to expand the National Flood Insurance Program so that the program covers all natural disasters, including wildfires and earthquakes. Regional Councilmember Wapner asked if the State was pursuing a similar effort at a national level. Secretary Crowfoot acknowledged the issue of Californians obtaining home insurance as a result of wildfires, and he expressed a desire to learn more about the approach of the National League of Cities in this area.

Regional Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City, District 41, thanked Secretary Crowfoot for his leadership and reiterated the time-sensitive nature of the issues at hand. Regional Councilmember Sahli-Wells commented on the importance of funding for multi-benefit projects, providing an example of Measure W funding in Los Angeles County. She also commented on the notion of the just transition, citing an example of the phase-out of oil drilling in Culver City and emphasizing that investments in the environment have enormous economic opportunity. Secretary Crowfoot agreed with prioritizing multi-benefit projects and noted the importance of allowing families and communities benefitting from the fossil fuel industry to maintain prosperity.

Supervisor Linda Parks, Ventura County, asked Secretary Crowfoot to provide more information about Governor Newsom's 30 by 30 goal and how this connects with hazard mitigation. Secretary Crowfoot explained the State's simultaneous goal of creating housing and conserving land for environmental benefits. He provided further background on Governor Newsom's Executive Order and next steps. He commented on housing growth and the State's goals in ensuring that this growth avoids harm.

President Richardson thanked Secretary Crowfoot for his presentation.

President Richardson introduced new Regional Councilmember Kevin de León, Los Angeles, District 61. Regional Councilmember de León provided remarks to the Regional Council and outlined local issues affecting his jurisdiction and the region, from homelessness to climate change. He spoke about the unity of the region in addressing such concerns, particularly homelessness.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Richardson opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public



comments.

Board Counsel Ruben Duran stated that there were no written public comments received by email. Mr. Duran and SCAG staff confirmed that there were no public comment speakers.

President Richardson closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. SoCal Climate Adaptation Planning Guide

President Richardson introduced Kimberly Clark, Program Manager, to provide a presentation. Ms. Clark spoke on the recently published SoCal Climate Adaptation Planning Guide, which is part of SCAG's larger Southern California Regional Climate Adaptation Framework funded by Senate Bill (SB) 1 from a competitive grant. She stated SCAG established this effort to provide tools and resources to local jurisdictions and build resilience in the region. She outlined components of the framework, such as outreach and communications strategies; vulnerability mapping and assessment tools; and finance and funding guidance. She introduced consultant David Von Stroh of Cambridge Systematics, who discussed analyses and phases guiding climate adaptation planning. He continued by displaying maps of risks' widespread impacts, and he shared regulatory requirements which motivate this work, such as SB 379, SB 1035 and SB 1000. He elaborated on tools that have been developed through this framework, and he provided additional details on adaptation strategies worksheets and model policies.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM

2. Sustainable Communities Program - Housing & Sustainable Development Call for Applications

President Richardson introduced Sarah Jepson, Planning Director, to provide a presentation. Ms. Jepson provided background on the Sustainable Communities Program (SCP), stating that it is a piece of pandemic recovery strategy and local assistance being provided by SCAG, as presented to the Regional Council in September with Connect SoCal. She outlined four main areas that SCP is designed to support: Active Transportation & Safety; Housing and Sustainable Development; Smart Cities, Mobility Innovation, and Transportation Demand Management; and Green Region. She provided information on SCP's guidelines and timeline, if approved by the Regional Council, and





SCP's application and review process. She stated that SCP is intended to support Connect SoCal and complement resources provided to local jurisdiction through the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) and Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) programs.

A MOTION was made (Jahn) to approve the Housing and Sustainable Development Guidelines and authorize staff to release the Call for Applications. Motion was SECONDED (Navarro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

FOR:

ASHTON, BACERRA, BEAMAN JACINTO, BENOIT, BOYLES, BROWN, BUCKNUM, CARROLL, DE RUSE, DEVINE, FINLAY, GARCETTI, GAZELEY, GROSE, HADJINIAN, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HOLMGREN, HUANG, JAHN, JUDGE, KELLY, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MINAGAR, NAVARRO, NGUYEN, O'NEIL, PARKS, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, PREDMORE, PUCKETT, C. RAMIREZ, RICHARDSON, ROBERTSON, SAHLI-WELLS, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SEMETA, SHAPIRO, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE*, SPIEGEL, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (54)

AGAINST: NONE (0)

ABSTAIN: NONE (0)

While the voting results were being reviewed, Regional Councilmember José Luis Solache, Lynwood, District 26, informed President Richardson and SCAG staff that he was experiencing technical difficulties and intended to vote "For" the motion for Agenda Item No. 2. The vote for Regional Councilmember Solache* is annotated above.

President Richardson made a point of privilege to acknowledge Regional Councilmember Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles, Member-at-Large, for brief remarks regarding recent election results.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

- 3. Minutes of the Meeting October 1, 2020
- 4. 2021 Meeting Schedule of Regional Council and Policy Committees
- 5. Resolution No. 20-626-1 Regarding the SCAG 2020 Title VI Program



- 6. Public Release of Transportation Conformity Analysis for Draft 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)
- 7. Release of the Draft 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)
- 8. Last Mile Freight Program Draft Guidelines
- 9. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 21-005-C01, State Advocacy
- 10. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 21-009-C01, Transit Asset Management
- 11. Contract Amendment Greater Than 30% of the Contract's Original Value and \$75,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-012-C01, Microsoft Enterprise Software License Agreement
- 12. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

- 13. Overview of 2022 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan and Near-term Air Quality Planning Challenges
- 14. California High-Speed Rail Los Angeles to Anaheim Section
- 15. Purchase Orders \$5,000 \$199,999; Contracts \$25,000 \$199,999 and Amendments \$5,000 \$74,999
- 16. CFO Monthly Staff Report

Regional Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, commented on Agenda Item No. 14, California High-Speed Rail Los Angeles to Anaheim Section, and action taken by the Transportation Committee and its meeting earlier today regarding this item, in which SCAG staff was given direction to arrange for High Speed Rail Authority and the railroad to provide a presentation. Regional Councilmember Vlegas-Walker asked Regional Councilmember Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, if he would like to provide additional detail. Regional Councilmember McCallon stated that his comments should be reflected in the Transportation Committee Minutes.

President Richardson asked Sarah Jepson, Planning Director, for a brief update on this item so that Regional Councilmembers could better understand its significance. Executive Director Kome Ajise responded that SCAG has been working with SBCTA and AQMD in talking to the High-Speed Rail





Authority about this issue, and that SCAG will continue to survey the issue. He mentioned that the impact was not originally in project's scope, and this is a late-scope development that is important to raise, so as high speed rail defines the project through the environmental process, they are full in terms of disclosure of the impact, how impact can be avoided or mitigated and how mitigations can become part of the project. He stated that CEO of the High-Speed Rail Authority is aware of concerns upon many conversations. Mr. Ajise referred to details within the staff report for further information, including two letters which he co-signed. He closed by stating that more relevant items will be brought to the Transportation Committee and Regional Council if necessary.

A MOTION was made (Jahn) to approve the Consent Calendar, Agenda Item Nos. 3-16. Motion was SECONDED (Solache). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

FOR: ASHTON, BACERRA, BEAMAN JACINTO, BENOIT, BOYLES, BROWN, BUCKNUM,

CARROLL, DE RUSE, DEVINE, FINLAY, GARCETTI, GAZELEY, GROSE, HADJINIAN, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HOFBAUER, HOLMGREN, HUANG, JAHN, JUDGE, KELLY, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MINAGAR, NAVARRO, NGUYEN, O'NEIL, PARKS, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, PREDMORE, PUCKETT, C. RAMIREZ, RICHARDSON, SAHLI-WELLS, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SEMETA, SHAPIRO, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE*, SPIEGEL, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and

YOKOYAMA (54)

AGAINST: NONE (0)

ABSTAIN: NONE (0)

BUSINESS REPORT

President Richardson stated that the Dodgers are the World Champions, making this the second professional sports championship won by a Los Angeles team this year.

President Richardson introduced Mr. Randall Lewis, Business Representative, who provided a business report on housing and the economy. Mr. Lewis stated that housing continues to be "red hot," with sales in the Inland Empire up seven percent year-over-year, but he speculated that this trend may not continue. He encouraged refinancing in consideration of current low interest rates. He noted that apartment occupancy is very strong but warned about a possible eviction cliff, which may pose a problem in 2021. He reviewed the retail market, listing recent closings and bankruptcies. He postulated that closings and bankruptcy announcements may slow in the next month, saying that retailers who have survived thus far will want to capitalize on the holiday season, but he predicted additional closings in January.





Mr. Lewis commended Secretary Crowfoot for his presentation and work on climate change, and he spoke to businesses' investments and decisions related to climate change. He reiterated the statement that "winning slowly is losing" in terms of climate change action. He discussed recent statewide ballot propositions and their impact on rent control and the housing market as a whole. He elaborated on election results and their potential influence on the economy, the stock market and tax policy. He spoke about the fear of civil unrest regionally and nationally, and he talked about the "California Exodus," a trend of high-net-worth individuals leaving the state due to taxes and the business climate. He continued by discussing stimulus packages, unemployment and interest rates in response to the ongoing pandemic. In closing, he emphasized the importance of consensus-building for the region, state and country to thrive.

President Richardson spoke about recent regional developments, departures and expansions seen in industries and the business community.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Rex Richardson began his report by recognizing outgoing Regional Councilmembers Bill Jahn, Rusty Bailey, Steve Nagel, Jeannine Pearce, Chuck Puckett, Miguel Pulido, Lyn Semeta, Meghan Sahli-Wells and Herb Wesson. He noted that, depending on election results, Regional Councilmembers Mike Carroll, Dean Grose, Jack Hadjinian, Tim Holmgren, James Predmore, Carmen Ramirez and David Ryu may also be outgoing. He thanked all affected members for their service.

President Richardson provided an update on the RHNA Litigation Study Team, which met on November 2, 2020, per request of Regional Councilmember Peggy Huang, TCA. The Study Team discussed a recent Freddie Mac report on housing supply and a request to revisit options related to California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) housing needs determination for the SCAG region. After deliberation, a majority of Study Team members recommended that SCAG leadership continue dialogue with HCD and not pursue litigation against HCD at this time.

Regional Councilmember Wendy Bucknum, Mission Viejo, District 13, asked for more details regarding the legality of HCD's determination and the dialogue which occurred at the recent Study Team meeting. President Richardson noted that dialogue about potential litigation should occur under Closed Session, and the Study Team discussed whether that was the appropriate path to take. There was consensus within the Study Team that litigation is not the preferred action, but the group shared sentiment over the determination and discussed other possible future actions. Regional Councilmember Bucknum asked Legal Counsel for additional information, and President Richardson asked if SCAG staff would like to add remarks. Executive Director Kome Ajise noted that it is the prerogative of the Regional Council to consider litigation, and this matter can be brought back to Closed Session. He reiterated the consensus of the Study Team not to pursue litigation.



Regional Councilmember Bucknum noted the large quantity of RHNA appeals filed and asked if this can be reduced through action. President Richardson clarified differences between appeals process and potential litigation. Regional Councilmember Bucknum asked to continue relevant discussion at future meetings. President Richardson acknowledged her request.

President Richardson noted that there are no meetings of the Policy Committees or Regional Council in December, but he encouraged members to attend the upcoming 11th Annual Southern California Economic Summit.

Regional Councilmember Trevor O'Neil, Anaheim, District 19, commented on the RHNA Litigation Study Team and the Regional Council's role in pursuing legal action. He asked staff how to obtain details on the Study Team's dialogue and suggested a Closed Session of the Regional Council. Board Counsel Ruben Duran acknowledged Regional Councilmember O'Neil's comments as well as Regional Councilmember Wendy Bucknum's earlier comments. Mr. Duran discouraged members from engaging in an extended discussion and recommended agendizing a future agenda item for that purpose, if it be the desire of the body. President Richardson asked for members' input to guide next steps, and he reiterated the consensus of the Study Team.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Kome Ajise announced that SCAG has received concurrence from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) on the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as approved by the Regional Council in September, and he elaborated on CARB's response. He provided details on RHNA appeals, stating that 52 appeals were received and the comment period will last until December 10. He continued by mentioning SCAG's work in addressing the digital divide, and he recognized Supervisor Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, for his leadership in developing a resolution to be adopted by jurisdictions and to be considered at a future Regional Council meeting. Mr. Ajise provided background on SCAG's new CFO, Cindy Giraldo, and he thanked Acting CFO Erika Bustamante for her work. In closing, he shared information on the 11th Annual Southern California Economic Summit.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S

There were no additional future agenda items requested.

ANNOUNCEMENT/S

There were no announcements.





ADJOURNMENT

President Richardson adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 2:15 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]