SoCal Greenprint Recommended Data Standards

SCAG Regional Council

February 1, 2024

SCAG

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The Recommended Action for RC

Staff recommend that the Regional Council (RC) adopt the SoCal Greenprint Recommended Data Standards and update the SCAG Regional Advance Mitigation Program Policy Framework (RAMP Policy Framework)

Presentation Agenda

1 **SoCal Greenprint and RAMP Overview**

2 **Review of Greenprint Data Standards**

3 **Recommended Action**

SOCAL GREENPRINT AND RAMP OVERVIEW

What is the SoCal Greenprint?

- A tool of publicly available data to help cities, counties, and transportation agencies make land use and transportation decisions, and conserve natural and farm lands
- A tool to support regional advance mitigation planning (RAMP) efforts

What is RAMP?

Regional Advance Mitigation Planning **(RAMP) is a process** for expediting project delivery by **planning for required mitigation to reduce environmental impacts earlier in the planning process and at a wider scale**.

- **Allows state and federal agencies to consider** the environmental impacts and mitigation needs of multiple planned infrastructure and development projects in the early stages.

- **Allows local project leads to identify and satisfy** those mitigation requirements early in the project planning and environmental review process.

- **Helps avoid costs and delays** associated with environmental mitigations **and more effectively avoid environmental harm**.

What is SCAG's RAMP initiative?

- To help establish, supplement, or complement regional conservation and mitigation banks, and other approaches to offset impacts of transportation and development projects.

- Participation is entirely voluntary.

- SCAG's RAMP, and the SoCal Greenprint, are required by Connect SoCal 2020 PEIR mitigation measures.

The RAMP Policy Framework directed SCAG to establish the Greenprint Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC) to inform:

- Data Policies & User Guidelines
- SoCal Greenprint Tool's Data Governance Standards
- Data Selection Criteria
- Process to Resolve Potential Divergent Perspectives on SoCal Greenprint Tool Data
- Data Parameters

The RAMP Policy Framework also made key recommendations

- These recommendations from the RAMP Advisory Task Group (RAMP-ATG) were the foundation for GTAC discussions

  - Data **must be publicly available**

  - Data **must be created, funded, used and/or developed in partnership with a government agency**

  - Data **will not be shown as constraints on future development or growth**

  - Data **will not be endorsed or adopted by the Regional Council as official policy of the agency**

  - Data elements **will be regionally comprehensive**

Summary of GTAC meeting content

- *GTAC Meeting #1:* Presented overview of the Greenprint, RAMP-ATG recommendations, and Caltrans RAMNA presentation. Discussion and feedback utilized to create first draft of Data Standards

- *GTAC Meeting #2:* Dedicated to review and discussion of draft Data Standards

- *GTAC Meeting #3:* Presentation and discussion of updated draft Data standards and initial data layer list. Options for tool functionality were also presented and discussed

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED DATA STANDARDS

Key objectives for SoCal Greenprint Data Standards

- Ensure alignment with RAMP Policy Framework

- Build on RAMP-ATG Recommendations and Greenprint TAC feedback

- Ensure Greenprint meets/surpasses other relevant web mapping application standards

- Establish a consistent and transparent approach to data, evaluation, selection and updates

- Clearly communicate the purpose of Greenprint data and its limitations

Recommended Data Standards: Topics

- Data Standards A1-A6: How to evaluate the data

- Data Standards A7-A8 and B1-B2: How to communicate the purpose of the data

- Data Standard C1: Tool accessibility

- Data Standards D1-D5: Process for maintaining and updating the data

- Data Standards E1-E2: How to present data

Recommended Data Standards A1-A6:
How to evaluate data

- *Standard A1.* Data must be publicly available, meaning that existing data layers are available online or can be accessed if requested and/or licensed.

- *Standard A2.* Data will consist of the most recent publicly available data and must include a defined set of metadata including information on authorship, geographic unit of accuracy, methodology for data development and anticipated timeline for regular updates.

- *Standard A3.* Draft data will not be included in the tool.

- *Standard A4.* Data input shall be created, sponsored, or used by regulatory agencies, ~~and/or other~~ state and/*or* federal agencies.*

- *Standard A5.* Data depicted will not be altered from their original source.

- *Standard A6.* Data will be regionally comprehensive to the extent feasible, unless data is locally important and not available through a regionally comprehensive source. Data gaps will be identified and explained for data layers in the tool to ensure accurate use of the information.
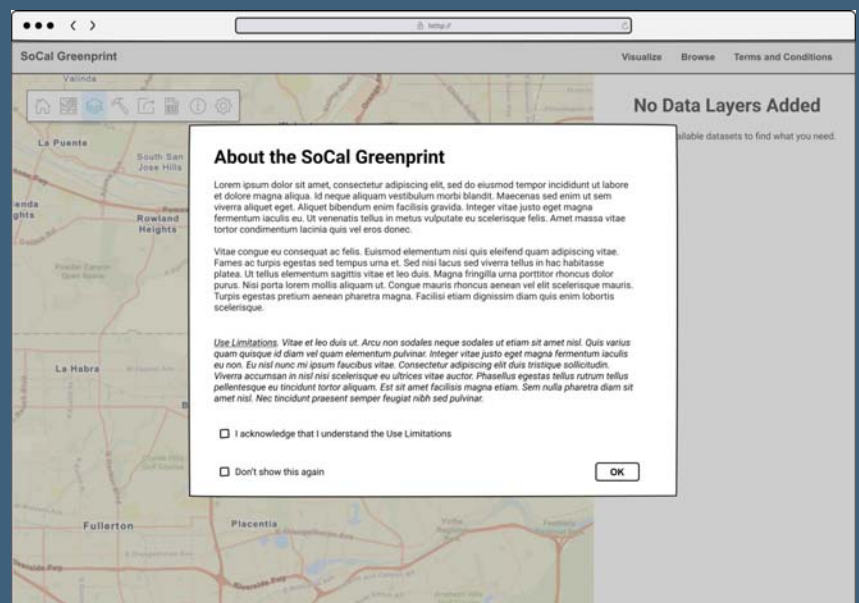
* Standard was adjusted during January EEC

Recommended Standards A7-A8 :
How to communicate the purpose of the data

- *Standard A7.* Data is intended to be used for informational purposes only and not be identified, qualified, or defined as constraints on future development or land use. This shall be conveyed in the disclaimer language that users will be required to accept prior to accessing the tool.

- *Standard A8.* Data will be for informational purposes and will not be adopted by SCAG and are not an expression of regional policy.

Recommended Data Standards B1-B-2:
How to communicate the purpose of the data

- *Standard B1.* To convey limitations and foster its proper use as well as emphasize to users that the SoCal Greenprint tool is for informational purposes only with no legal effect on land-use decisions made by local agencies or property owners, the final, publicly available version of the tool will include a "popup screen" displaying disclosure language and will require user acknowledgment of the data's limitations

- *Standard B2.* Prior to using the tool, users will be required to acknowledge and agree to the terms of use, containing the aforementioned disclosure and data limitations, through a "clickwrap" statement that is reasonably and prominently visible to all users. This will require the active, affirmative acknowledgement of each user and will be written to be easily understood by the average user.

Recommended Data Standard C1:
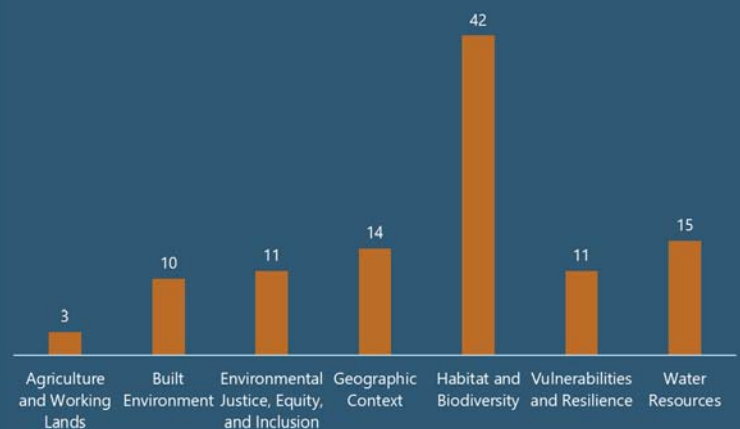## Tool accessibility

- *Standard C1.* The SoCal Greenprint will be web-based and easily accessible.

Recommended Data Standards D1-D5:
Process for maintaining and updating the data

- *Standard D1.* SCAG staff will prioritize selection of data accessible through the tool by rigorously applying the foregoing data policies, governance standards, and user guidelines.
- *Standard D2.* SCAG staff shall defer to feedback from regulatory agencies, and other state and federal agencies on the inclusion of particular data layers in the tool.
- *Standard D3.* Data layers will be selected based on their value in supporting land use and transportation decision-making for local agencies, and regional advance mitigation

Recommended Data Standards D1-D5:
Process for maintaining and updating the data

- *Standard D4.* Data will be organized in seven thematic areas, which are aligned with feedback from county transportation commissions and local planning needs in support of RAMP.

- *Standard D5.* The Greenprint tool will include a data update process. The process will include review of data layers under consideration to ensure they abide by the adopted data standards and then be advanced to the Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) for review. It will also include a review of existing data layers to verify whether they continue to meet the adopted standards.

Recommended Data Layers by Thematic Area

Recommended Data Standards E1-E2: How to present data

- *Standard E1.* The SoCal Greenprint shall feature a glossary and methods section that will provide full transparency to users on data elements featured
- *Standard E2.* Consistent with SCAG's data policy, layers will include metadata consistent with the Geospatial Metadata Standards and Guidelines established by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC).

Example of Complete Metadata:

CA Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP)

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THANK YOU

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For questions, please contact:
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