



**NO. 662
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024**

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 (RC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Art Brown, President	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
Supervisor Curt Hagman, 1st Vice President		San Bernardino County
Hon. Jan Harnik, Imm. Past President		RCTC
Supervisor Luis Plancarte		Imperial County
Supervisor Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Don Wagner		Orange County
Supervisor Karen Spiegel		Riverside County
Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich		ICTC
Hon. Ashleigh Aitken		OCTA
Hon. Trish Kelley		TCA
Hon. Mike T. Judge		VCTC
Hon. Gil Rebollar	<i>Brawley</i>	District 1
Hon. Kathleen Kelly	<i>Palm Desert</i>	District 2
Hon. Linda Krupa	<i>Hemet</i>	District 3
Hon. Clint Lorimore	<i>Eastvale</i>	District 4
Hon. Zak Schwank	<i>Temecula</i>	District 5
Hon. Frank Navarro	<i>Colton</i>	District 6
Hon. Deborah Robertson	<i>Rialto</i>	District 8
Hon. L. Dennis Michael	<i>Rancho Cucamonga</i>	District 9
Hon. Ray Marquez	<i>Chino Hills</i>	District 10
Hon. John Gabbard	<i>Dana Point</i>	District 12
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	<i>Mission Viejo</i>	District 13



Hon. Tammy Kim	<i>Irvine</i>	District 14
Hon. Lauren Kleiman	<i>Newport Beach</i>	District 15
Hon. Jon Dumitru	<i>Orange</i>	District 17
Hon. Marshall Goodman	<i>La Palma</i>	District 18
Hon. Carlos Leon	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Joe Kalmick	<i>Seal Beach</i>	District 20
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23
Hon. Jeff Wood	<i>Lakewood</i>	District 24
Hon. Claudia Frometa	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. José Luis Solache	<i>Lynwood</i>	District 26
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Mark E. Henderson	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Suely Saro	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Gary Boyer	<i>Glendora</i>	District 33
Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler	<i>Alhambra</i>	District 34
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Keith Eich	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Drew Boyles	<i>El Segundo</i>	District 40
Hon. Lauren Meister	<i>West Hollywood</i>	District 41
Hon. Ken Mann	<i>Lancaster</i>	District 43
Hon. David J. Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Laura Hernandez	<i>Port Hueneme</i>	District 45
Hon. Rocky Rhodes	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Casey McKeon	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Elizabeth Becerra	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Oscar Ortiz	<i>Indio</i>	District 66
Hon. Celeste Rodriguez	<i>San Fernando</i>	District 67
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Larry McCallon		Air District Representative
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Brd.
Ms. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

Members Not Present
Hon. Cindy Allen, 2nd Vice President

Members Not Present
Long Beach

Members Not Present
District 30



Supervisor Kathryn Barger		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Vianey Lopez		Ventura County
Hon. Alan Wapner		SBCTA
Hon. Damon L. Alexander	<i>San Bernardino</i>	District 7
Hon. Rick Denison	<i>Yucca Valley</i>	District 11
Hon. Valerie Amezcua	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Andrew Sarega	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31
Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. Konstantine Anthony	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Eunisses Hernandez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 48
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 50
Hon. Nithya Raman	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Katy Young Yaroslavsky	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Imelda Padilla	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 56
Hon. Heather Hutt	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Traci Park	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
Hon. John Lee	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Hugo Soto-Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. Kevin de León	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Tim McOsker	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Marisela Nava	<i>Perris</i>	District 69
Hon. Karen Bass	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large

Staff Present

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Brown called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. and asked Regional Council Member Larry McCallon, Air District Representative, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

He also reminded the members that if a member of this body was attending remotely but not at a location specified on the agenda, they could observe but not participate in any discussion or voting of this body.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Brown opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. He noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. He reminded the public to submit comments via email to ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov.

There were no public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged that public comments [for Item No. 2] were received by the 5:00 p.m. deadline and transmitted to members.

Seeing no additional public comment speakers for items not listed on the agenda, President Brown closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. Governor's Budget Update: Regional Early Action Planning Grant 2021 (REAP 2.0)

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, provided a report on the Governor's proposed budget which was released on January 10. He shared that the Governor's budget was proposing \$1.2 billion dollars in cuts and that \$300 million dollars of those were particularly for the REAP program. Under the REAP program, SCAG has been able to support housing production throughout the region. He explained that SCAG had received the monies about a year ago and had developed an extremely comprehensive program in a very short amount of time, which had recently allowed them to award 118 grants throughout the region. He expressed the current situation provided some uncertainty on the REAP program over the next several months as the budget moved its way through the legislative process. He further explained SCAG was putting together a strong advocacy effort,

understanding that the legislature, as well as the Governor, had made a strong commitment to housing. He also indicated HCD had informed SCAG that if the Governor's proposed budget moved forward, the allocation would be cut in half to approximately \$123 million, which was not the appropriate step moving forward. He also shared that given the uncertainty they had to pause the suballocation programs. He noted staff had been diligently reaching out to each of the agencies to issue stop orders on any memorandums of understanding or by informing a grantee that there would be a delay before moving forward. Lastly, he shared they would be posting a toolkit on how members could assist with the advocacy efforts.

Regional Council Member Hilda Solis, Los Angeles County, thanked staff for the presentation and for the steps they had taken knowing that the cuts were pending. She expressed she would do her part on the Board of Supervisors to see if they could collectively get their board to send a letter to the Governor's office. She emphasized that the funding that REAP 2.0 provided was essential, especially when they were talking about the priorities of the Governor, the Board of Supervisors in LA County, and around the Southern California region regarding housing and homelessness. She shared that in the first district, which she represents, they were looking at a potential loss of \$5 million dollars to the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust fund which had helped them incentivize their small cities who could not undertake a lot of these developments for interim and permanent housing. She indicated it was a major impact to the San Gabriel Valley, which overlapped three of the supervisorial districts. She urged SCAG staff to take a look at what other funding might be made available and if they could develop a plan to identify potential alternative fundings to help restart the contracting and funding of the projects that were mentioned and are underway. Specifically, she noted if they could look at the federal formula allocations for the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), the Congestion, Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) and the state Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). She expressed that SCAG should prioritize using these funds to backfill the REAP 2.0 funded programs as she did not think they should have to wait five to six months while the legislature or Governor negotiated the budget. She indicated they should be looking at how they can reduce and eliminate any risk to any of these particular projects that they know will have a tremendous impact in their region.

Staff indicated they were exploring all options where these projects might be funded via other sources and noted that the ones she mentioned may be a good idea since it was transportation funding, so long as there was a nexus with the projects.

Regional Council Member Rocky Rhodes, Simi Valley, District 46, shared that at the CEHD meeting there was discussion about having a single letter signed by all the Regional Council members as he thought it would have greater impact.

Regional Council Member Margaret Clark, Rosemead, District 32, agreed with Supervisor Solis and shared she was surprised that they had been pushing for housing and homelessness for years and

had been trying to take away their local control of this and were now going to take away the funding that they have for their housing trust.

Regional Council Member Wendy Bucknum, Mission Viejo, District 13, appreciated the comments by her colleagues and stated she supported writing a letter and agreed with the housing comments. She also asked to share with the Regional Council the short-term plans for implementation on staffing assignments and what the full extent of SCAG's reduction was in regard to their team members because of this funding reduction.

Staff explained they were pausing all of the subregional allocation programs and that there was still some work that needed to be done. Staff further explained they did have staff on board that would continue to charge some time to the REAP program and that overall, the number was about 20 full time equivalents of which most were limited term only and about two and a half were full time equivalents from their regular staff. Staff also noted they had several vacancies and that one of the things they were also doing was reviewing those vacancies and shifting assignments of staff that had been working on REAP programs to other ongoing funding sources or projects that need additional assistance to help fill in the gaps. Staff indicated they were going to do their best to minimize any expenditure of the REAP 2.0 resources while waiting for final program allocation numbers.

Regional Council Member Karen Spiegel, Riverside County, indicated she liked the idea of trying to find other sources and thought it was critical to have a plan in case it did not get reinstated. She indicated they should start looking at the projects and the criteria for how they are going to mitigate this loss because it was going to be a challenge.

Staff explained the first goal was to get the funding restored but that they were preparing some options they would come back with to the Regional Council to get feedback and direction on.

ACTION ITEMS

Action Items 2 and the Consent Calendar were acted upon together. The roll call vote is reflected below.

2. Recommended Data Standards for SoCal Greenprint

President Brown opened the Public Comment Period for Action Item 1.

The following public comments speakers provided comments in support of Item No. 2.

- Pam O'Conner, former SCAG President
- Carlos Rodriguez, Building Industry Association of Southern California

- Helen Higgins, Friends of Coyote Hills
- Claire Schlotterbeck, Hills for Everyone
- Elizabeth Wallace, California Native Plant Society Orange County Chapter
- Chris Wilson, Los Angeles County Business Federation
- Jack Eidt, SoCal 350 Climate Action Group
- Nayiri Baghdassarian, San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
- Gloria Sefton, Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks
- Roxy Rivas, Pacoima Beautiful
- Richard Lambros, Southern California Leadership Council
- Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League
- Melanie Schlotterbeck, representing community-based equity, nonprofit and social justice groups, and housing and infill nonprofits

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

Ryan Wolfe, Sustainable and Resilient Development Manager, provided an overview of the SoCal Greenprint and the Regional Advanced Mitigation Planning (RAMP). His presentation included information on what is 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, as well as a tool to support RAMP. He also provided information on RAMP which was 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. He also shared that RAMP has its own RAMP initiative to help establish, supplement, or complement regional conservation and mitigation banks, and other approaches. He noted that it was an entirely voluntary effort that was required by the Connect SoCal 2020 PEIR mitigation measures. He also reported that the RAMP Policy Framework directed SCAG to establish the Greenprint Technical Advisory Committee (GTAC), to bring together a variety of stakeholders from throughout the region to go ahead and discuss the data standards and to advance forward a shared vision for them. He noted that the GTAC was composed of elected officials from throughout the region, staff from various agencies, and environmental and business stakeholders. He also shared that the GTAC really built on the RAMP Policy Framework recommendations, which mirrored the recommended data standards, included that data must be publicly available, that there needed to be a strong partnership with government agencies, and that it was for informational purposes only. He also indicated that they had three GTAC meetings and provided information on all three meetings.

Joerg Tonndorf, ARUP, provided an overview of the recommended data standards and briefly went over the key objectives for the data standards which were 1) to ensure alignment with the RAMP Policy Framework; 2) build on RAMP-ATG Recommendations and Greenprint TAC feedback; 3) ensure Greenprint meets/surpasses other relevant web mapping application standards; 4) establish a consistent and transparent approach to data, evaluation, selection and updates; and 5) clearly

communicate the purpose of Greenprint data and its limitations. He also provided a brief overview of how data standards were grouped into topic areas ranging from how to evaluate the data (A1-A6), how to communicate the purpose of the data (A7-A8 and B1-B2), tool accessibility (C1), the process for maintaining and updating the data (D1-D5), and how to present the data (E1-E2).

Mr. Wolfe noted that under Standard A4 in the staff report on packet page 19, the language was listed correctly and that in the presentation that went out with it as Attachment "A" there was a slight deviation in terms of the language. He indicated that the PowerPoint slide before them reflected the correct language with the crossed-out language compared to what was in the packet.

Regional Council Member Hagman, San Bernardino County, acknowledged staff, all the participants and the leadership for coming together to create good policy. He informed the President that he would be happy to move [the item for approval] it when appropriate.

Regional Council Member McCallon stated he agreed with Regional Council Member Hagman and emphasized that one of SCAG's goals was to be a convener of stakeholders to collaborate on issues that affect the region. He indicated that this was a good example of what they can achieve when they talk to each other rather than talking past each other. He suggested that they take this item along with the Consent Calendar and indicated he would second the motion made by Regional Council Member Hagman.

Regional Council Member Hagman consented adding the Consent Calendar to his motion.

Regional Council Member Spiegel indicated that it was an interesting time when it was so divisive in the room and thought they should learn from it. She indicated that when they make policy recommendations it should be open and transparent.

Regional Council Member Lauren Meister, West Hollywood, District 41, asked if this was what had been approved at the Energy and Environment Committee (EEC). Staff acknowledged that it was. She also expressed that she thought the disclaimer seemed a little bit on the side of overkill but strongly supported SCAG's development of the SoCal Greenprint. She indicated that they needed to remember that nature was also critical infrastructure and extreme heat, pollution, disappearing tree canopy and green space also hits their lower income communities hardest. She indicated that just like there must be housing equity, there must also be climate equity. She thanked the efforts of the GTAC and staff, and expressed she was proud to be a member of the EEC, which was unanimous in its support of this item. She noted that the SoCal Greenprint would promote transparency and inform decision making, as well as be a valuable tool for local jurisdictions.

Board Council Duran read into the record the corrected language on Standard A4 which was approved by the EEC on January 4 as follows: data input shall be created, sponsored, or used by regulatory agencies, state and or federal agencies.

Regional Council Member Frank Navarro, Colton, District 6, indicated he was in support of the Greenprint and was glad to see it come to fruition. He indicated that it was an excellent tool for the collaboration, the transparency, and the working together for their region. He indicated that they couldn't work alone and had to work together. He thanked staff.

Board Council Duran noted they had a motion by Regional Council Member Hagman and second by Regional Council Member McCallon to combine the Consent Calendar with agenda Item 2.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meeting – January 4, 2024
4. AB 761 (Friedman) – Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts in Los Angeles County
5. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 24-010-C01, SCAG's Regional Household Travel Study
6. 2024 Draft Regional Transportation Safety Targets

Receive and File

7. February 2024 State and Federal Legislative Update
8. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council's Approval Threshold
9. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Hagman) on **Item No. 2**: that the Regional Council adopt the SoCal Greenprint Recommended Data Standards and update the SCAG Regional Advance Mitigation Program Policy Framework (RAMP Policy Framework); and **Consent Calendar**: Items 3 through 6; and Receive and File Items 7 and 9. Motion was SECONDED (McCallon) and passed by the following roll call votes:

AYES: Aitken, Becerra, Boyer, Boyles, Brown, Bucknum, Clark, Crosswhite, Dumitru, Eich, Finlay, Frometa, Gabbard, Gazeley, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Henderson, Judge, J. Kalmick, Kelley, Kelly, Kim, Kleiman, Krupa, Leon, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, Mann, Manos, Marquez, Masiel, McCallon, McKeon, Meister, Michael, Nava-Froelich, Navarro, Ortiz, Plancarte, Rebollar, Rhodes, Robertson, C. Rodriguez, Saleh, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Solache, Spiegel, Tye, Wood and Yokoyama (53)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

Mr. Chidsey expressed appreciation and thanked staff, the stakeholders, and the Regional Council for their work on this item which he thought would provide a lot of value and benefits to the region.

INFORMATION ITEM

10. Presidential Priorities Panel: Transit/Rail Recovery

Mr. Chidsey introduced the panelist who provided brief remarks.

David Aguirre, Executive Director for the Imperial County Transportation Commission, shared that their agency was represented by seven cities within Imperial County, in addition to the County of Imperial and the Imperial Irrigation District. He noted that ICTC was a Regional Transportation Planning Agency, a County Transportation Commission, and public transit agency, in addition the administrator of the Imperial Valley Resource Management Agency. He explained that they provided a number of public transit services to the residents of Imperial County which included fixed route, ADA paratransit services, intra city dialer rides, non-emergency medical transportation, in addition to a newly installed service of micro transit in the city of Calexico. He shared that they transport somewhere in the ballpark of about 100,000 people a month and that they receive quite a bit of an influx of passengers coming from Mexico because they share a border with Mexico.

Darren Kettle, Chief Executive Officer for Metrolink, shared he was a lifelong resident of Southern California and a regular user of the train to get from Camarillo to Los Angeles. He noted that prior to the pandemic he would take the train four to five days a week which was now three days a week. He explained that the notion of classic commuter was very different than what it was in the mid-nineties which had fundamentally changed their system. He further explained that they use to get about 40,000 daily boardings at Metrolink prior to the pandemic and now after some service adjustments and different fare products and programs to encourage ridership they were at about 20,000 daily boarding, a 50 percent reduction from where ridership had been. He expressed that if

they didn't change their business model to reflect that they can't just be about commuters, which is what their history has been for 30 years, they weren't going to be sustainable. He shared that they have been having conversations about moving away from the commuter railroad to a regional passenger railroad serving all of Southern California. He noted they were a 545-mile system of six counties, 67 stations and the third largest regional passenger rail system in the country. He expressed he hoped that over the course of the next several years and with some new ideas that they are putting out over the course of the next year, that they can really capitalize and become Southern California's true regional passenger railroad.

Michael Pimentel, Executive Director for the California Transit Association (CTA), explained that they are a statewide nonprofit trade organization that represents California's transit industry and that their charter was broad and included member education on topics of importance to California transit agencies. He noted that their main focus was advocacy. He also shared that the work they did every day was making sure that their transit systems and rail systems had funding sources so that they can continue to deliver services, build major capital projects and to make sure that they have the statutory and regulatory support to be able to provide enhanced services to their communities. He also noted that their agency included 220 member organizations from transit and rail agencies, ferry operators, parts and manufacturers, RTPAs and MPOs. He explained that the work that they had been doing over the past few years was focused on pandemic response and recovery and that at the height of the pandemic they ended up doing a lot of work to provide funding directly to the agencies by requesting Federal emergency relief for the California transit agencies that ultimately delivered \$10 billion dollars and support over three relief packages. He also shared that last year they led additional advocacy efforts at the State level to make sure that there were resources to deal with what they saw as a pending and really looming fiscal cliff for agencies statewide which ultimately delivered \$5.1 billion dollars in added resources for the agencies to be used for capital projects and for operations. He further explained that as they had made the push on funding at the Federal and State level, they were always clear internally and with outside stakeholders that this funding needed to be a bridge to long term reforms, long term support for agencies in being able to provide services that would welcome riders back and to lead them to a position of fiscal solvency and operational viability over the mid to long term. He noted that much of the work that they had been doing had been focused around four main things like improving the speed and reliability of transit service, expediting transit project delivery, expanding access to their transit services, and addressing rider safety. He also noted that a lot of the work that they had done had been around transit prioritization and providing relief to agencies with regards to environmental regulations and permitting to make sure that they can deliver these projects in fast and efficient manner.

Seleta Reynolds, Chief Innovation Officer for LA Metro, shared that prior to being at Metro she was the General Manager at the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) for eight years. She noted that LADOT has the largest municipal transit service in in Los Angeles County. She

expressed that it had been exciting to transition over to LA Metro. She shared her insights on LA Metro's strategy to rebuild ridership, which includes safety measures, cleanliness initiatives, and adjustments to service. She mentioned the launch of the largest transit ambassador program in the country for the purpose of providing reassurance to people that there is somebody there who is looking out for them, as well as the expansion of the Transit Security Officer program which the LA Metro Board is considering bringing in-house. She also mentioned the potential of projects like the mobility wallet which is part of a larger pilot called universal basic mobility and is focusing on addressing transportation inequalities and improving access to opportunities. She also highlighted that they had partnerships with universities to do some research on the effectiveness of these programs.

Mr. Chidsey asked the panelist 1) what kind of coordination needed to happen between all the different agencies, so that people traveling from point A to point B understand the options available to them; and 2) how the different systems, both public and private, are working together.

The panel engaged in discussion which revolved around the challenges and opportunities in improving public transportation in the region. The conversation highlighted the need for coordination among different agencies to provide seamless options for travelers. The role of technology, such as mobile apps and open-loop fare payment systems, was also discussed. The discussion was also focused on the need for further collaboration and integration to enhance the transportation system.

Mr. Chidsey indicated that funding was a critical issue for the future of transit and asked the panelist to talk about funding priorities for each their agencies and what their main hope was for policy change that comes out of this Transit Transportation Task Force to help move the State.

The discussion revolved around the future of transit in California, with a focus on funding issues and policy changes. The participants emphasized the need for adequate resources to transition from a commuter rail model to a regional passenger rail model. They also highlighted the importance of addressing workforce challenges, particularly the issue of operator assault and battery. Additionally, they discussed the need to redefine public transit to serve the diverse needs of the state and ensure adequate representation for Southern California in decision-making bodies.

Regional Council Member Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, shared she was a speaker at a congregation and indicated that when attendees were asked why they didn't ride transportation, they brought up the issues of safety, homelessness, security, and cleanliness. She encouraged the panelist to include talking points up front about the challenges for why people are not using public transportation. She asked if there was any way to get some high-speed rail money into the current system since high-speed rail was taking so long. She also asked that as part of the Presidential Priorities that SCAG include comments made regarding safety, homelessness, security, and

cleanliness as things they will look at to make transit more viable for the Southern California population.

Mr. Pimentel highlighted that on the safety and security front they had been working to address this at the statewide level and that over the past few years, they had been working in partnership with a group of advocacy organizations who had been furthering the call within the State capital and the need for them to address the safety of women, people of color and people from the LGBTQIA community as they ride their public transit systems. He shared that one of the things they were finding, as this group moves forward with campaigns, was that ridership levels had increased. He also noted that that they had been working with those advocacy organizations to move two bills through the State Legislature, both of which were signed by Governor Newsom. He also shared that they had been working on the issue of homelessness on public transit. He explained that for the last three fiscal years they had been asking for the State of California to provide transit agencies with direct access to homelessness funding and had been denied the request. He indicated that one of the things that they were happy to support was to move legislation forward that would compel counties in directing their resources toward homelessness, to at least have some interaction with the transit agencies to understand what their needs are.

Regional Council Member Dennis Michael, Rancho Cucamonga, District 9, asked if there had been any dialogue between Brightline West, Metrolink and other transit providers to talk about the increase of ridership, frequency of trains, and a seamless transfer for passengers.

Mr. Kettle expressed that there was a huge amount of enthusiasm at Metrolink for Brightline West coming to Southern California. He shared that they had an MOU with Brightline West, met regularly with their president, were looking at integrated ticketing and had started working on schedules that would allow half hour frequencies on the Metrolink line, on the San Bernardino line, all the way through to Ranch Cucamonga, and actually as far as San Bernardino by the time Brightline West comes online in 2028. He indicated that the idea was to have their Metrolink tracks on a ground level, and then they would be able to go up one flight of stairs or an escalator to Brightline West's lobby and jump on the high-speed train there. He expressed that they saw this as a tremendous opportunity.

Regional Council Member Jan Harnik, RCTC, brought up the issue of unfunded mandates and their goals for the environment and asked if there was some way to address Sacramento and ask for some strategic, clear, and accurate communication that helps people understand that this isn't just about electrification and that it was about efficient land use and protecting their environment. She inquired about where they can get a coordinated effort for strategic and accurate communication.

Mr. Kettle expressed that he thought this was one of the roles SCAG could take on as a convener and a facilitator of these conversations and indicated it was an opportunity in the room as the Connect SoCal plan was a tremendous vehicle to make this happen.

Ms. Reynolds also noted that there were several reports that came out from the AQMD and other air quality management districts that were very clear and indicated that even if they do achieve all of their electrification goals, they wouldn't get there with climate unless people drove less. She expressed that their challenge was getting people to see the benefits.

Mr. Pimental expressed that he thought there was going to be tremendous value in the years ahead for regions and local elected to speak to their legislators, the Governor's administration and to the California Air Resources Board on the need for them to rebalance this conversation toward mode shift and less on electrification.

Lastly, Mr. Chidsey asked the panelist what gave them optimism about the future of transit.

Mr. Aguirre shared that it was the collective power they have as a region to be able to make change.

Mr. Kettle shared that it was the next generation, the young people that gave him optimism about the future of transit.

Mr. Pimental pointed to the breath and scope of the new state Transit Transformation Task Force.

Ms. Reynolds shared it was the opportunity to give people a great experience using multiple forms of transit and the ability to come together as a region.

BUSINESS REPORT

Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, indicated that in the interest of time she would forgo her report. She shared that the US Chamber, California Chamber, American Farm Bureau, and BizFed LA had just filed a lawsuit against the California Air Resources Board (CARB) challenging the State's climate accountability package which would require companies to disclose direct and indirect admissions to CARB.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Brown welcomed returning Regional Council Member Ashleigh Aitken, OCTA representative. He also announced the call for 2024-2025 SCAG Board Officers and noted that

applications were being accepted through February 15, 2024 by 5:00 p.m. He explained that after review of the applications, the Nomination Committee would forward its recommendations to the Regional Council for consideration at the April 4, 2024, meeting and that the slate of SCAG Officers elected by the Regional Council would be presented at the General Assembly meeting scheduled for May 2, at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa in Palm Desert. He also reported that he had made appointments to several committees which were as follows:

Bylaws and Resolution Committee

Hon. Cindy Allen, Chair (Long Beach/Los Angeles County); Hon. Frank Yokoyama (Cerritos/Los Angeles County); Hon. Gil Rebolgar (Brawley/Imperial County); Sup. Luis Plancarte (Imperial County); Hon. Art Brown (Buena Park/Orange County); Hon. Marty Simonoff (Brea/Orange County); Hon. Jan C. Harnik (RCTC/Riverside County); Hon. Maricela Nava (Perris/Riverside County); Hon. Damon L. Alexander (City of San Bernardino/San Bernardino County); Sup. Curt Hagman (San Bernardino County); Hon. Jenny Crosswhite (Santa Paula/Ventura County); and Hon. Rocky Rhodes (Simi Valley/Ventura County).

Nomination Committee

Hon. Jan C. Harnik, Chair (RCTC/Riverside County); Sup. Luis Plancarte (Imperial County); Hon. Ali Saleh (Bell/Los Angeles County); Hon. Jose Luis Solache (Lynwood/Los Angeles County); Hon. Marshall Goodman (La Palma/Orange County); Hon. Larry McCallon (Air District Representative/San Bernardino County); and Sup. Vianey Lopez (Ventura County).

Scholarship Committee

Hon. Ray Marquez, Chair (Chino Hills/ San Bernardino); Sup. Luis Plancarte (Imperial County); Hon. Margaret Finlay (Duarte/Los Angeles County); Hon. Keith Eich (La Canada Flintridge/Los Angeles County); Hon. David J. Shapiro (Calabasas/Los Angeles County); Hon. Valerie Amezcuca (Santa Ana/Orange County); Hon. Jan C. Harnik (RCTC/Riverside County); Hon. Kathleen Kelly (Palm Desert/Riverside County); Hon. Steve Manos (Lake Elsinore/Riverside County); Sup. Vianey Lopez (Ventura County); and Hon. Andrew Masiel (Tribal Representation).

President Brown also reported that he led a SCAG delegation for a tour in Long Beach on January 19 and he thanked Vice Mayor Allen and Councilmember Saro for hosting them in their city. He shared that SCAG members Marshall Goodman, Frank Yokoyama, Margaret Clark, and Dan Kalmick also joined the tour where they learned about the current state of goods movement as they toured the Alameda Corridor, the nation's largest trade gateway. He also noted that they toured award-winning affordable housing projects that would benefit low-income seniors, formerly unhoused veterans, and families. He thanked the guides from the Long Beach Housing Community Development Department. He also reported that that the Inland Empire Economic Partnership recently recognized SCAG with the "2023 Public Agency Award." He indicated that Executive Director Kome Ajise accepted the award at the Inland Empire Economic Partnership's 2023 Annual



Dinner and Awards Reception and that Chief Operating Officer Darin Chidsey, Regional Council Member Karen Spiegel and Policy Committee members Thomas Wong and Aquanetta Warren were also in attendance to celebrate this recognition. He also reported that there would not be individual Policy Committees in March and instead there would be a Joint meeting of the Policy Committees. He reminded the members that the next meeting of the Regional Council was scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. He also thanked Deborah Robertson who invited him to a dinner held by the California Black Chamber of Commerce for California Transportation Secretary Toks Omishakin, who is a great supporter of hydrogen fuel and bicycles.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, indicated that in the interest of time they would email the Executive Director’s report. He reminded members that the Joint Policy Committee (JPC) scheduled for next month would be to hear comments on Connect SoCal and would also be an opportunity to hear the feedback they had received from the community and stakeholders. He indicated that the JPC would act on it and forward it to the Regional Council for consideration in April.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regional Council Member Patricia Lock Dawson, Riverside, District 68, announced that the cities of Riverside and Rialto would be co-hosting an introductory workshop on the fundamentals of Public-Private Partnerships on Thursday, February 8, 2024. She informed members to contact SCAG staff if they were interested in attending.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Brown adjourned the meeting of the Regional Council at 2:08 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]

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Regional Council Attendance Report																
2023-2024																
MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date		
Aitken, Ashleigh	OCTA	0	1		0	0	1			1				3		
Alexander, Damon L.	San Bernardino, RC District 7	1	1		1	1	0		0	0				4		
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, RC District 30	1	1		1	0	1		1	0				5		
Amezcuca, Valerie	Santa Ana, RC District 16	1	1		0	0	0		0	0				2		
Andrade-Stadler, Adele	Alhambra, RC District 34	1	0		1	0	0		0	1				3		
Anthony, Konstantine	Burbank, RC District 42	1	0		0	0	0		0	0				1		
Barger, Kathryn	Los Angeles County	0	1		0	0	0		0	0				1		
Bass, Karen	Los Angeles, (Member at Large)	0	0		0	0	1		0	0				1		
Becerra, Elizabeth	Victorville, RC District 65	1	1		0	1	0		1	1				5		
Blumenfield, Bob	Los Angeles, RC District 50	0	0		0	0	0		0	0				0		
Boyer, Gary	Glendora, RC District 33	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Boyles, Drew	El Segundo, RC District 40	0	0		1	0	1		1	1				4		
Brown, Art	Buena Park, RC District 21	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Bucknum, Wendy	Mission Viejo, RC District 13	1	1	D	1	1	1	D	1	1				7		
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, RC District 32	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Crosswhite, Jenny	Santa Paula, RC District 47	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
de Leon, Kevin	Los Angeles, RC District 61	0	0		0	0	0		0	0				0		
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, RC District 11	0	1		0	0	0		0	0				1		
Dumitru, Jon	Orange, RC District 17	0	1		1	1	1		1	1				6		
Dunn, Lucy	Business Representative	1	1		1	1	0		1	1				6		
Eich, Keith	La Cañada Flintridge, RC District 36	1	0		1	1	1		1	1				6		
Finlay, Margaret E.	Duarte, RC District 35	1	1	A	0	1	1	A	1	1				6		
Frometa, Claudia M.	Downey, RC District 25	0	0		0	0	0		1	1				2		
Gabbard, John	Dana Point, RC District 12		1		1	0	0		0	1				3		
Gazeley, James	Lomita, RC District 39	1	1		1	1	1		0	1				6		
Goodman, Marshall	La Palma, RC District 18	1	0		1	1	1		1	1				6		
Hagman, Curt	San Bernardino County	1	1		1	1	0		0	1				5		
Harnik, Jan C.	RCTC	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Harris-Dawson, Marqueece	Los Angeles, RC District 55	0	0		0	0	0		0	0				0		
Henderson, Mark E.	Gardena, RC District 28	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Hernandez, Eunisses	Los Angeles, RC District 48	0	0		0	0	0		0	0				0		
Hernandez, Laura	Port Hueneme, RC District 45	1	1		1	1	0		1	1				6		
Hutt, Heather	Los Angeles, RC District 57	0	0	R	0	0	0	R	0	0				0		
Judge, Mike T.	Simi Valley, VCTC	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, RC District 20	1	1		1	1	0		1	1				6		
Kelley, Trish	TCA Representative	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Kelly, Kathleen	Palm Desert, RC District 2	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Kim, Tammy	Irvine, RC District 14	0	1		0	1	1		1	1				5		
Kleiman, Lauren	Newport Beach, RC District 15	1	1		1	1	1		0	1				6		
Krekorian, Paul	Los Angeles, RC District 49/Public Transit Rep	0	0		0	0	0		0	0				0		
Krupa, Linda	Hemet, RC District 3	1	1	K	1	1	1	K	1	1				7		
Lee, John	Los Angeles, RC District 59	0	0		0	0	0		0	0				0		
Leon, Carlos A.	Anaheim, RC District 19								1	1				2		
Lock Dawson, Patricia	Riverside, RC District 68	0	1		1	1	1		1	1				6		
Lopez, Vianey	Ventura County	1	1		1	1	1		1	0				6		
Lorimore, Clint	Eastvale, RC District 4	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Mann, Ken	Lancaster, RC District 43	1	1		0	1	1		1	1				6		
Manos, Steve	Lake Elsinore, RC District 63	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Marquez, Ray	Chino Hills, RC District 10	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Masiel, Andrew	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians Tribal Gov. Reg. Plng. Brd.	1	0		0	1	0		1	1				4		
McCallon, Larry	Air District Representative	0	0		0	1	1		1	1				4		
McKeon, Casey	Huntington Beach, RC District 64	1	1		1	0	1		1	1				6		
McOsker, Tim	Los Angeles, RC District 62	1	0		1	1	0		1	0				4		
Meister, Lauren	West Hollywood, RC District 41	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Michael, L. Dennis	Rancho Cucamonga, RC District 9	1	1		1	1	1		0	1				6		
Nava, Marisela	Perris, RC District 69	1	1		1	1	0		0	0				4		
Nava-Froelich, Maria	ICTC	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7		
Navarro, Frank J.	Colton, RC District 6	0	0		1	1	0		1	1				4		
Ortiz, Oscar	Indio, RC District 66	1	1		1	0	1		1	1				6		
Padilla, Imelda	Los Angeles, RC District 53				0	0	0		0	0				0		

Attachment: RC Attendance Sheet 2023-24 (Minutes of the Meeting - February 1, 2024)

Park, Traci	Los Angeles, RC District 58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Price, Curren D.	Los Angeles, RCDistrict 56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raman, Nithya	Los Angeles, RC District 51	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rebollar, Gil	Brawley, RC District 1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	5
Rhodes, Rocky	Simi Valley, RC District 46	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Robertson, Deborah	Rialto, RC District 8	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	5
Rodriguez, Celeste	San Fernando, RC District 67	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Rodriguez, Monica	Los Angeles, RC District 54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saleh, Ali	Bell, RC District 27	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Sandoval, Tim	Pomona, RC District 38	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	6
Sarega, Andrew	La Mirada, RC District 31	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Saro, Suely	Long Beach, RC District 29	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Schwank, Zak	Temecula, RC District 5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Shapiro, David J.	Calabasas, RC District 44	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Simonoff, Marty	Brea, RC District 22	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Solache, José Luis	Lynwood, RC District 26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Solis, Hilda	Los Angeles County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Soto-Martinez, Hugo	Los Angeles, RC District 60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spiegel, Karen	Riverside County	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Tye, Steve	Diamond Bar, RC District 37	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	3
Wagner, Donald P.	Orange County	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Wapner, Alan	SBCTA/SBCOG	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	6
Wood, Jeff	Lakewood, RC District 24			1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	4
Yaroslavsky, Katy	Los Angeles, RC District 52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yokoyama, Frank A.	Cerritos, RC District 23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7