



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
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MEETING OF THE

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

***Members of the Public are Welcome to Attend
In-Person & Remotely***

***Thursday, December 5, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.***

To Attend In-Person:

**SCAG Main Office – Policy A Meeting Room
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90017**

To Watch or View Only:

<https://scag.ca.gov/scag-tv-livestream>

To Attend and Participate on Your Computer:

<https://scag.zoom.us/j/82916839134>

To Attend and Participate by Phone:

Call-in Number: 1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 829 1683 9134

PUBLIC ADVISORY

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Maggie Aguilar at (213) 630-1420 or via email at aguilarm@scag.ca.gov. Agendas & Minutes are also available at: www.scag.ca.gov/committees.

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation to participate in this meeting. SCAG is also committed to helping people with limited proficiency in the English language access the agency's essential public information and services. You can request such assistance by calling (213) 630-1410. We request at least 72 hours (three days) notice to provide reasonable accommodations and will make every effort to arrange for assistance as soon as possible.



Instructions for Attending the Meeting

To Attend In-Person and Provide Verbal Comments: Go to the SCAG Main Office located at 900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 or any of the remote locations noticed in the agenda. The meeting will take place in the Policy A Meeting Room on the 17th floor starting at 10:00 a.m.

To Attend by Computer: Click the following link: <https://scag.zoom.us/j/82916839134>. If Zoom is not already installed on your computer, click “Download & Run Zoom” on the launch page and press “Run” when prompted by your browser. If Zoom has previously been installed on your computer, please allow a few moments for the application to launch automatically. Select “Join Audio via Computer.” The virtual conference room will open. If you receive a message reading, “Please wait for the host to start this meeting,” simply remain in the room until the meeting begins.

To Attend by Phone: Call (669) 900-6833 to access the conference room. Given high call volumes recently experienced by Zoom, please continue dialing until you connect successfully. Enter the **Meeting ID: 829 1683 9134**, followed by #. Indicate that you are a participant by pressing # to continue. You will hear audio of the meeting in progress. Remain on the line if the meeting has not yet started.

Instructions for Participating and Public Comments

Members of the public can participate in the meeting via written or verbal comments.

1. **In Writing:** Written comments can be emailed to: ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov. Written comments received **by 5pm on Wednesday, December 4, 2024** will be transmitted to members of the legislative body and posted on SCAG’s website prior to the meeting. You are **not** required to submit public comments in writing or in advance of the meeting; this option is offered as a convenience should you desire not to provide comments in real time as described below. Written comments received after 5pm on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of this committee regarding any item on this agenda (other than writings legally exempt from public disclosure) are available at the Office of the Clerk, at 900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 or by phone at (213) 630-1420, or email to aguilarm@scag.ca.gov.
2. **Remotely:** If participating in real time via Zoom or phone, please wait for the presiding officer to call the item for which you wish to speak and use the “raise hand” function on your computer or *9 by phone and wait for SCAG staff to announce your name/phone number.
3. **In-Person:** If participating in-person, you are invited but not required, to fill out and present a Public Comment Card to the Clerk of the Board or other SCAG staff prior to speaking. It is helpful to indicate whether you wish to speak during the Public Comment Period (Matters Not on the Agenda) and/or on an item listed on the agenda.

General Information for Public Comments

Verbal comments can be presented in real time during the meeting. Members of the public are allowed a total of 3 minutes for verbal comments. The presiding officer retains discretion to adjust time limits as necessary to ensure efficient and orderly conduct of the meeting, including equally reducing the time of all comments.

For purpose of providing public comment for items listed on the Consent Calendar, please indicate that you wish to speak when the Consent Calendar is called. Items listed on the Consent Calendar will be acted on with one motion and there will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the legislative body so requests, in which event, the item will be considered separately.

In accordance with SCAG’s Regional Council Policy, Article VI, Section H and California Government Code Section 54957.9, if a SCAG meeting is “willfully interrupted” and the “orderly conduct of the meeting” becomes unfeasible, the presiding officer or the Chair of the legislative body may order the removal of the individuals who are disrupting the meeting.



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

TELECONFERENCE AVAILABLE AT THESE ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS*

<p>Ana Beltran 351 W. Main Street Westmorland, CA 92281</p>	<p>Robert D. Copeland Signal Hill Public Library Learning Center 1800 E. Hill Street Signal Hill, CA 90755</p>	<p>Ned Davis City of Westlake Village - City Hall 31200 Oak Crest Drive Westlake Village, CA 91361</p>
<p>Carmen Hernandez City of Barstow - City Hall 220 E Mountain View Barstow, CA 92311</p>	<p>Shari L. Horne City of Laguna Woods - City Hall 24264 El Toro Road Laguna Woods, CA 92637</p>	<p>Britt Huff City of Rolling Hills Estates - City Hall 4045 Palos Verdes Drive North Rolling Hills Estates CA, 90274</p>
<p>Steven Leash Cahuilla Band of Indians 52701 Hwy 371 Anza, CA 92539</p>	<p>Elaine Lister City of Simi Valley - City Hall 2929 Tapo Canyon Road Simi Valley, CA 93063</p>	<p>Daniel Ramos The Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City Sante's Conference Room 1250 S. Hayes Street Arlington, VA 22202</p>
<p>Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios City of Ventura - City Hall 501 Poli Street Ventura, CA 93001</p>	<p>Ali Taj 11856 187th Street Artesia, CA 90701</p>	<p>Tamala Takahashi City of Burbank - City Hall 275 East Olive Avenue 2nd Floor, Council Office Burbank, CA 91502</p>
<p>Connor Traut 7661 Silver Street Buena Park, CA 90620</p>	<p>Stephanie Virgen City of Coachella - City Hall 1515 Sixth Street Coachella, CA 92236</p>	<p>Dale Welty City of Canyon Lake - City Hall 31526 Railroad Canyon Road, Suite 5 Canyon Lake, CA 92584</p>

* Under the teleconferencing rules of the Brown Act, members of the body may remotely participate at any location specified above.



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

EEC - Energy and Environment Committee *Members – December 2024*

1. **Sup. Luis Plancarte**
EEC Chair, Imperial County
2. **Hon. Jenny Crosswhite**
EEC Vice Chair, Santa Paula, RC District 47
3. **Hon. Damon Alexander**
San Bernardino, SBCTA
4. **Hon. Ana Beltran**
Westmorland, ICTC
5. **Hon. Arthur Bishop**
Apple Valley, SBCTA
6. **Hon. Phil Brock**
Santa Monica, WSCCOG
7. **Hon. Margaret Clark**
Rosemead, RC District 32
8. **Hon. Robert Copeland**
Signal Hill, GCCOG
9. **Hon. Ned Davis**
Westlake Village, LVMCOG
10. **Hon. Rick Denison**
Yucca Valley, RC District 11
11. **Hon. Carmen Hernandez**
Barstow, SBCTA
12. **Hon. Shari Horne**
Laguna Woods, OCCOG
13. **Hon. Britt Huff**
Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG
14. **Hon. Joe Kalmick**
Seal Beach, RC District 20
15. **Hon. Steven Leash**
Cahuilla Band of Indians
16. **Hon. Elaine Litster**
Simi Valley, VCOG



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

- 17. Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson**
Riverside, RC District 68
- 18. Sup. Vianey Lopez**
Ventura County
- 19. Hon. Lauren Meister**
West Hollywood, RC District 41
- 20. Hon. Cory Moss**
Industry, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)
- 21. Hon. Daniel Ramos**
Adelanto, SBCTA
- 22. Hon. Jose Sanchez**
Los Angeles County, CoC
- 23. Hon. Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios**
Ventura, VCOG
- 24. Hon. Jennifer Stark**
Claremont, SGVCOG
- 25. Hon. Ali Taj**
Artesia, GCCOG
- 26. Hon. Tamala Takahashi**
Burbank, SFVCOG
- 27. Hon. Connor Traut**
Buena Park, OCCOG
- 28. Hon. Stephanie Virgen**
Coachella, CVAG
- 29. Hon. Dale Welty**
Canyon Lake, WRCOG
- 30. Hon. Edward Wilson**
Signal Hill, GCCOG



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Thursday, December 5, 2024
10:00 AM

The Energy and Environment Committee may consider and act upon any of the items on the agenda regardless of whether they are listed as Information or Action items.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(The Honorable Luis Plancarte, Chair)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Matters Not on the Agenda)

This is the time for public comments on any matter of interest within SCAG's jurisdiction that is **not** listed on the agenda. For items listed on the agenda, public comments will be received when that item is considered. Although the committee may briefly respond to statements or questions, under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon at this time.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – November 7, 2024 PPG. 7

Receive and File

2. Energy and Environment Committee Outlook and Future Agenda Items PPG. 13
3. Status Update on the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidance for Evaluating Cumulative Impacts from Air Toxics PPG. 17

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. Electric Grid Readiness 30 mins. PPG. 20
(Hamed Mohsenian-Rad, Professor, UC Riverside)
5. Regional Resilience Framework Overview 10 mins. PPG. 22
(Sebastian Shetty, Associate Regional Planner, SCAG)
6. Model Pathways to Deep Decarbonization 20 mins. PPG. 30
(Rick Horsch and Jordan Gerow, Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization)



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

CHAIR'S REPORT

(The Honorable Luis Plancarte, Chair)

STAFF REPORT

(Rachel Wagner, Government Affairs Officer, SCAG)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC). A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>.

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) 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

Sup. Luis Plancarte (Chair)

Hon. Jenny Crosswhite (Vice Chair)

Hon. Damon L. Alexander

Hon. Art Bishop

Hon. Phil Brock

Hon. Margaret Clark

Hon. Robert Copeland

Hon. Rick Denison

Hon. Carmen Hernandez

Hon. Shari Horne

Hon. Britt Huff

Hon. Dan Kalmick

Hon. Joe Kalmick

Hon. Elaine Litster

Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson

Hon. Vianey Lopez

Hon. Lauren Meister

Hon. Daniel Ramos

Hon. Dale Welty

Hon Edward Wilson

Santa Paula

San Bernardino

Town of Apple Valley

Santa Monica

Rosemead

Signal Hill

Yucca Valley

Barstow

Laguna Woods

Rolling Hills Estates

Huntington Beach

Seal Beach

Simi Valley

Riverside

West Hollywood

Adelanto

Canyon Lake

Signal Hill

Imperial County

District 47

District 7

SBCTA

WSCCOG

SGVCOG

GCCOG

District 11

SBCTA

OCCOG

SBCCOG

OCCOG

District 20

VCOG

District 68

Ventura County

District 41

SBCTA

WRCOG

GCCOG



Members Not Present

Hon. Ana Beltran	<i>Westmoreland</i>	ICTC
Hon. Ned Davis	<i>Westlake Village</i>	LVMCOG
Hon. Steven Leash	<i>Cahuilla Band of Indians</i>	
Hon. Cory Moss	<i>City of Industry</i>	Pres. Appt
Hon. Jose Sanchez	<i>Los Angeles County</i>	COC
Hon. Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios	<i>Ventura</i>	VCOG
Hon. Nick Schultz	<i>Burbank</i>	AVCJPA
Hon. Jennifer Stark	<i>Claremont</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Ali Taj	<i>Artesia</i>	Pres. Appt
Hon. Tamala Takahashi	<i>Burbank</i>	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut	<i>Buena Park</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Stephanie Virgen	<i>Coachella</i>	CVAG

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Plancarte called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and Policy Committee member Daniel Ramos, Adelanto, SBCTA, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Plancarte opened the public comment period and noted that this was the time for members of the public to offer comment for matters that are within SCAG’s jurisdiction but are not listed on the agenda.

Chair Plancarte asked if any comments were received after the deadline. SCAG staff acknowledged there were no public comments received after the 5:00 p.m. deadline on November 6, 2024.

Seeing no public comment, Chair Plancarte closed the public comment period for matters not listed on the agenda.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – September 5, 2024

Receive and File

2. Energy and Environment Committee Outlook and Future Agenda Items
3. REAP 2.0 Program Update

A MOTION was made (Alexander) to approve the Consent Calendar with corrections made to the attendance on the minutes from October 3rd and revision to language listed in the public comment section. Motion was SECONDED (Brock) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Alexander, Bishop, Brock, Clark, Copeland, Crosswhite, Denison, Hernandez, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Lock Dawson, Lopez, Meister, Plancarte, Ramos and Welty (19)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. Expert Panel on Groundwater Sustainability

There were no public comments on item 4.

Ryan Wolfe, Manager of Sustainable and Resilient Development, introduced three speakers to discuss groundwater management and the importance of the resource towards water sustainability in the region. The speakers were Dr. Greg Pierce, Director – UCLA Water Resources Group and Co-Executive Director at Luskin School of Innovation; Anita Regmi, Senior Engineering Geologist, California Department of Water Resources; and Arne Anselm Deputy Director of Water Resources, Ventura County Public Works.

Dr. Greg Pierce provided information on the importance of groundwater for regional water supply in developed and rural areas. He discussed how groundwater was recharged and the importance of natural and agricultural land preservation for recharging. Anita Regmi provided a brief overview of overdraft conditions and the impacts of groundwater overdraft. Arne Anselm discussed strategies to ensure sufficient and safe groundwater supplies. He provided details on the hydrologic cycles,

basins and aquifers. Lastly, he shared the challenges to groundwater supply and provided opportunities and solutions for the future.

Chair Plancarte announced he would be briefly stepping out of the room and turned the meeting to Vice Chair Crosswhite.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

5. Senate Bill 375: Joint MPO Letter to CARB

There were no public comments on item 5.

Sarah Dominguez, Planning Supervisor, provided an update on a brief she presented in September related to SB 375 and the sustainable community strategy regarding the CARB target setting process that began in July to update the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction targets by 2026. She stated that SCAG wrote a letter to CARB requesting they pause the process which CARB replied by stating they were unable to pause the process and would continue with their technical evaluations. She indicated that SCAG was working with other MPO's and other state agencies to seek potential administrative changes to the program.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

6. Connect SoCal 2024: Implementation Strategies Update

Camille Guiriba, Senior Regional Planner, provided an update on the implementation strategies included in the adopted regional transportation plan and sustainable community strategy Connect SoCal 2024. She stated SCAG's role in the region and 4 methods of support SCAG provides its partners. She reviewed the vision and goals and listed SCAG's accomplishments in clean transportation and climate resilience.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair's report was given by Jeff Elder, Chief Council. Mr. Elder announced that Chair Plancarte's last official meeting as EEC Chair would be next month and Vice Chair Crosswhite would serve as Chair for the unexpired term through May 2025. He stated the December meeting of the EEC would have an item on the agenda for the election of a new EEC Vice Chair to fill the unexpired term. He requested that anyone wishing to nominate themselves or someone on the Committee for the position of Vice Chair to send Maggie Aguilar the name of the individual(s) no later than 5PM on



Friday, November 22, 2024. He stated that if there were no nominations received by the deadline, then nominations from the floor would be accepted and each candidate would be provided an opportunity to make a statement.

STAFF REPORT

Rachel Wagner, Government Affairs Officer, announced that SCAG would be hosting the Los Angeles County Mobile Workshop on Friday November 22, 2024, where SCAG members and executive staff would receive an exclusive tour of SoCalGas’s Hydrogen Home located in Downey. She stated the facility was North America’s first clean, renewable, hydrogen powered microgrid and attendees would be able to tour the site. She informed the committee members that if they were interested to contact Erik Rodriguez, Senior Government Affairs Officer for Los Angeles County at SCAG.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Regional Council Member Patricia Lock Dawson, Riverside, District 68, asked the committee members if they were attending COP 29.

Regional Council Member Damon Alexander, San Bernardino, District 7, announced San Bernardino had opened a hydrogen turbine.

Policy Committee Member Edward Wilson, Signal Hill, GCCOG, stated that the meeting was his last and provided farewell remarks.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Chair Crosswhite adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:39 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

2024-2025

MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	Total Mtgs Attended To Date	
Alexander, Damon L.	San Bernardino, RC Distirct 7	0			1		1								2	
Beltran, Ana	Westmoreland, ICTC	0			0		0								0	
Bishop, Art	Apple Valley, SBCTA	1			1		1								3	
Brock, Phil	Santa Monica, WSCCOG	1			1		1								3	
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, RC District 32	1			1		1								3	
Copeland, Robert	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1			0		1								2	
Crosswhite, Jenny	Santa Paula, RC District 47	1			1		1								3	
Davis, Ned	Westlake Village, LVMCOG	1			0		0								1	
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, RC District 11	1	D A R K		1		1								3	
Hernandez, Carmen	Barstow, SBCTA	1		1		1		1								3
Horne, Shari	Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1		1		1		1								3
Huff, Britt	Rolling Hills Estates, SCBCOG	1		1		1		1								3
Kalmick, Dan	Huntington Beach, OCCOG	1		1		1		1								3
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, RC District 20	1		1		1		1								3
Leash, Steven	Cahuilla Band of Indians	1		1		1		0								2
Litster, Elaine	Simi Valley, VCOG	0		1		1		1								2
Lock Dawson, Patricia	Riverside, District 68			1		1		1								2
Lopez, Vianey	Ventura County	1		1		1		1								3
Meister, Lauren	West Hollywood, RC District 41	1		1		1		1								3
Moss, Cory	City of Industry, Pres. Apt							0								0
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1				1		1								3
Ramos, Daniel	Adelanto, SBCTA	1				1		1								3
Sanchez, Jose	Los Angeles County, COC	0				0		0								0
Sanchez-Palacios, Jeanette	Ventura, VCOG	0				0		0								0
Schultz, Nick	Burbank, AVCJPA	1				1		0								2
Stark, Jennifer	Claremont, SGVCOG	1				1		0								2
Taj, Ali	Artesia, Pres. Apt	1				0		0								1
Takahashi, Tamala	Burbank, SFVCOG	1			1		0								2	
Traut, Connor	Buena Park, OCCOG	1			1		0								2	
Virgen, Stephanie	Coachella, CVAG	1			1		0								2	
Welty, Dale	Canyon Lake, WRCOG	1			1		1								3	
Wilson, Edward H.J.	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1			1		1								3	



AGENDA ITEM 2
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
December 5, 2024

To: Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)
From: Ryan Wolfe, Manager for Sustainable and Resilient Development
213-630-1527, wolfe@scag.ca.gov

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

Subject: Energy and Environment Committee Outlook and Future Agenda Items

Kome Ajise

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive and File

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future. 2: Be a cohesive and influential voice for the region. 3: Spur innovation and action through leadership in research, analysis and information sharing. 4: Build a unified culture anchored in the pursuit of organizational excellence. 5: Secure and optimize diverse funding sources to support regional priorities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In April 2024, SCAG's Regional Council adopted the 2024-2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, Connect SoCal 2024. Following adoption of Connect SoCal 2024, staff developed a 12-month EEC Outlook to carry forward the policy priorities and Implementation Strategies of Connect SoCal 2024. For FY2025, the EEC Outlook reflects outcomes of the 2024 Executive Administration Committee (EAC) Retreat and discussions with the EEC Chair and Vice Chair. The Committee Outlook and Future Agenda Items will be updated monthly as a receive and file item.

BACKGROUND:

The work of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and the leadership from the agency's Policy Committees and Regional Council is driven by SCAG's legally mandated duties as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Southern California, the long-range Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), Connect SoCal 2024 as well as, the agency Strategic Plan approved by the Executive Administrative Committee on May 1, 2024.

Energy and Environment Committee Outlook and Framework

The Policy Committees help to further the implementation of Connect SoCal by advising on policy, research or resource programs. The Policy Committees will also be informed and advise on broader

regional leadership items as needed. Over the upcoming year, most agenda items fall under the following three categories:

1. **Connect SoCal:** Connect SoCal 2024, the 2024-2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy was approved on April 4, 2024. These agenda items will be focused on implementation of the investments and strategies included in the plan, as well as amendments as needed.
2. **Local Resources:** This refers to programs administered by SCAG such as the Sustainable Communities Program, the Regional Early Action Program, or Go Human. Action and information items may relate to guideline development or program awards. These agenda items may also include updates of grants, data or tools available to local jurisdictions.
3. **Regional Leadership:** These agenda items relate to issues or policy areas of regional significance and may include updates and presentations from external speakers.

The topics and panels covered may change based on speaker availability, progress on the targeted programs, and other requests from the Committee Chair and Vice Chair as well as members. To request future agenda items, Policy Committee members may request that the agenda item be pulled for discussion or they may send a request directly to the Chair or committee staff for consideration and reporting out at the next meeting. Agenda items that are recommended by Policy Committee members will be discussed with the Chair and Vice Chair to assess relevance to the EEC and the considerations noted above.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with this item is included in the FY 2025 Overall Work Program (810.0120.20: Planning Policy Development).

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. EEC Outlook_December

Energy & Environment Committee Agenda Outlook for FY25

Date	Connect SoCal	Local Resources	Regional Leadership
Sep.- Dec.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025 FTIP and Connect SoCal Amendment 1, Associated Transportation Conformity (proposed final) • Connect SoCal: Implementation Strategies Progress Report • TENT-Resolution No. 24-XXX Approving Connect SoCal 2024 CEQA Addendum No. 1 to Program Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. 2022100337) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Guidelines • Inflation Reduction Act Adaptation/Resilience Funding • Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program Update • State Adaptation/Resilience Funding • Groundwater Recharge Panel: Outside Presenters • Pathways to Deep Decarbonization <i>added to December</i> • Regional Resilience Framework Overview <i>added to December</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro-grids and Resilience • SB-375 Target Update Recommendation • SB-375 Joint MPO Letter • Electric Grid Readiness <i>replaced Micro-grids and Resilience</i>

❖ = **Emerging Technology Item**

Anticipated major actions and information items. Does not include all Receive/File and Program Updates.

Energy & Environment Committee Agenda Outlook for FY25

Date	Connect SoCal	Local Resources	Regional Leadership
Feb.- March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Innovative Clean Transit Study • Joint Policy Committee: Emerging Technology (Feb) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water White Paper Phase I • Climate Resilience Districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Clean Cities Coalition Strategic Plan
April- June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure Planning for Climate Vulnerability • SALC Study Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Adaptation and Climate Ready Home Hardening • 30x30: The Role of Parks ❖ Smart Cities: Electric Vehicle Incentives Program Draft Guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Sequestration – Natural and Farm lands: Outside Presenter • CARB SB 375 Target Setting Update

❖ = **Emerging Technology Item**

Anticipated major actions and information items. Does not include all Receive/File and Program Updates.



AGENDA ITEM 3
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
December 5, 2024

To: Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)
Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)
Transportation Committee (TC)
Regional Council (RC)
From: Ryan Banuelos, Associate Regional Planner
(213) 630-1532, banuelos@scag.ca.gov
Subject: Status Update on the South Coast Air Quality Management District
(AQMD) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidance for
Evaluating Cumulative Impacts from Air Toxics

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CEHD, EEC, TC, AND RC:

Receive and File

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The South Coast AQMD has initiated development of a CEQA guidance for evaluating cumulative impacts from air toxics for projects that are located within the South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction and are not exempt from environmental reviews under CEQA. The CEQA guidance is an update to the existing South Coast AQMD's cumulative analysis guidance that was developed in 2003. Based on the current proposed guidance, the project-level cumulative air toxics impact analysis, if approved and adopted as proposed, includes the most significant changes. South Coast AQMD staff is holding public workshops and meeting with stakeholders to encourage and seek input and will be preparing a preliminary draft of the proposed CEQA guidance document in coming months. SCAG staff will continue to monitor the ongoing development of guidance and apprise members of SCAG's Regional Council, Policy Committees, and stakeholders of major updates as appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

CEQA requires cumulative impacts analysis for non-exempt projects and defines cumulative impacts as "two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts" (CEQA Guidelines Section 15355). South Coast AQMD is the resource agency with expertise in air quality and develops guidance on how to conduct air quality analysis for CEQA purposes.

The California Air Resources Board identifies diesel particulate matter (DPM) emissions from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant. In February 2022, South Coast AQMD staff initiated a public process for the development of new CEQA guidance on cumulative air quality impacts from air toxics (e.g., DPM) because the largest contributor to cancer risk from air pollution is DPM emissions. The development is intended to update South Coast AQMD's existing cumulative analysis guidance, which was developed in 2003 and to serve as a tool to support CEQA lead agencies when they evaluate projects' cumulative air toxics impacts pursuant to the requirements of CEQA. South Coast AQMD staff has held six public working group meetings to seek stakeholder feedback.

HIGHLIGHTS OF SOUTH COAST AQMD'S DRAFT CEQA GUIDANCE FOR CUMULATIVE IMPACTS FROM AIR TOXICS (DISCUSSED AT WORKING GROUP MEETING #6 ON NOVEMBER 6, 2024):

The draft guidance is currently proposed to focus on the operational phase of a project and applies to both regional projects and project-level analysis. The draft guidance includes revisions that may be relevant to project- or site-specific environmental reviews that are conducted by implementing agencies, as well as to environmental reviews for regional projects such as the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) when SCAG is a lead agency pursuant to applicable provisions of the CEQA. While South Coast AQMD staff has not developed a definition for regional projects, regional projects are expected to include plan-level documents such as master plans, general plans, and regional plans. The draft guidance for regional projects' cumulative air toxics impact analyses is proposed to remain largely unchanged from the current analysis approach, which uses 10 in a million significance threshold for cancer risk to determine if cumulative air toxics impacts would be significant.

The draft guidance for project-level cumulative air toxics impact analysis, if approved and adopted as proposed, includes significant changes. They would involve a multi-step process based on a number of project characteristics such as land use type, project size, location, and a project's proximity to high volume diesel-fueled trucks and health sensitive populations within Senate Bill 535 disadvantaged communities and/or Assembly Bill 617 designated communities that are most impacted by air pollution. The project-level cumulative cancer risk significance threshold would range between one in a million and 10 in a million depending on the project's background cancer risk from the South Coast AQMD's Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES) plus various project-specific characteristics.

The draft guidance also states that linear projects such as bridges, roads, and freeways (new or improvements) are medium cancer risk impact projects, and that major transportation projects (e.g., airport, port, railyard, bus/train station) are high cancer risk impact projects. Moreover, if regional projects have long-term construction activities, under the draft guidance, they could not be screened out from the cumulative air toxics impacts analysis because long-term construction activities take on characteristics of operational impacts. While the draft guidance would apply to all project types including transportation projects that are subject to CEQA within the South Coast

AQMD's jurisdiction, warehouse and distribution center projects appear to be of particular concern due to DPM emissions from diesel-fueled trucks contributable to cumulative air toxics impacts and associated cancer risk.

If the draft guidance is adopted as proposed, non-exempt CEQA projects that have initiated their environmental review processes after the guidance becomes effective are subject to the new guidance. In addition, CEQA projects located within the South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction or partially encompassing their jurisdiction are subject to the new guidance. CEQA projects located completely outside the South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction are not subject to the new guidance. For more information on the draft guidance and other related materials, please visit South Coast AQMD website: [https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/ceqa/ceqa-policy-development-\(new\)](https://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/ceqa/ceqa-policy-development-(new)).

SCAG staff will continue to track the development and provide periodic status updates on major updates as appropriate. Cities, counties, and other agencies such as County Transportation Commissions (LA Metro, OCTA, RCTC, and SBCTA) and Caltrans Districts (Districts 7, 8, and 12) that may have future non-exempt CEQA projects within the South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction are encouraged to participate in the South Coast AQMD's development process.

NEXT STEPS:

South Coast AQMD staff will continue to hold public workshops and meetings with stakeholders to seek feedback on the draft guidance. In addition, South Coast AQMD staff will be preparing a preliminary draft of the proposed CEQA guidance document in coming months. At stakeholders' request, South Coast AQMD staff is considering a public review and comment period for the preliminary draft guidance document and plans to provide an update to the Mobile Source Committee in early 2025 prior to seeking South Coast AQMD Governing Board approval and adoption.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with this item is included in the current Fiscal Year 2024-25 Overall Work Program (24-020.0161.04: Environmental Compliance, Coordination and Outreach).



AGENDA ITEM 4 REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
December 5, 2024

To: Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)
From: Ryan Wolfe, Manager for Sustainable and Resilient Development
213-630-1527, wolfe@scag.ca.gov
Subject: Electric Grid Readiness

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Information Only – No Action Required

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
This item supports the following Strategic Priority 5: Secure and optimize diverse funding sources to support regional priorities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
Electrification of cars, buses, trucks, building, and manufacturing in California over the coming decades will require major investments in the electric grid to ensure it has the capacity and flexibility to meet increasing energy demands, while also being reliable, affordable, and resilient. Massive grid upgrades to long distance power transmission and local power distribution networks will be needed to meet increased demand. The grid will also need to become more flexible to successfully integrate renewable energy production, as well as accommodate changing consumption patterns. UC Riverside’s recent white paper “California Grid Readiness: Stakeholder and Public Awareness” provides an in-depth and nuanced review of the issues that will need to be considered and addressed to increase electrification and meet our climate goals.

BACKGROUND:
To achieve its greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals, California has enacted a wide variety of legislation, policies, and funding programs that span every economic sector. The California Air Resources Board’s 2022 Scoping Plan lays out a path to achieve targets for carbon neutrality by 2045. Achieving these targets will require increased electrification of key sectors, especially transportation and buildings across the state. Substantial, ongoing investments in the grid will be needed to meet the resulting increased demand for electricity and ensure its reliability and resilience.

UC Riverside’s white paper examines the need for investments in transmission and local power distribution networks to meet this demand, manage the influx of solar, wind, and other carbon free sources, and adapt to changing consumption patterns. It also details the needs for investments to

make the grid more resilient in the face of climate change, the need for equity to be a key consideration in grid update strategies to ensure that low-income and disadvantaged communities and populations are not left behind, and ensure energy is affordable.

The paper was developed with oversight from the California Grid Readiness Consortium, a collective of academia, industry, and government agencies interested in assessing the readiness of California's electric grid to address the risks of climate change and deliver the massive amount of electrification needed to meet the state's climate goals.

Authors

Hamed Mohsenian-Rad is a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at UC Riverside. Throughout his career his research has focused on a range of smart grid topics. He received his Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of British Columbia, served as the Director of the UC-National Lab Center on Power System Cyber Security, and is also the Associate Director of the Winston Chung Global Energy Center. Mr. Mohsenian-Rad will be presenting the report findings at the EEC Policy Committee meeting.

Matthew Barth is the Esther & Daniel Hays Chaired Professor and Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Education at the Bourns College of Engineering, University of California-Riverside. He is part of the intelligent systems faculty in Electrical and Computer Engineering and conducts his research at the Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT), UCR's largest multi-disciplinary research center. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.



**AGENDA ITEM 5
REPORT**

Southern California Association of Governments
December 5, 2024

To: Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)
From: Sebastian Shetty, Associate Regional Planner
213-630-1533, shetty@scag.ca.gov
Subject: Regional Resilience Framework Overview

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Information Only – No Action Required

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future. 3: Spur innovation and action through leadership in research, analysis and information sharing.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In response to the policy priorities established in Connect SoCal 2020 and the Regional Council's Resolution No. 21-628-1 on Climate Change Action, SCAG launched the Regional Resilience Framework (RRF) in June 2022. The RRF aims to enhance the region's capacity to withstand climate-related disruptions and other external shocks through research, stakeholder engagement, scenario planning, and the development of a Resilience Toolkit. Key accomplishments include a landscape analysis of climate-related resilience practices in the region and a Resilience Exploratory Scenario Planning process (RXSP) that engaged local jurisdictions, community-based organizations (CBOs), and subject matter experts to develop recommendations to strengthen regional resilience throughout the SCAG region. The project is now entering its final phase, with a Resilience Toolkit set for release in early 2025.

BACKGROUND:

Connect SoCal 2020 called on the region to proactively prepare for disruptions caused by climate change, natural hazards, and other disasters as well as reduce the risks from ongoing chronic stressors that weaken the natural, built, economic, and social systems in Southern California (e.g. poor air quality or transportation system disrepair). Moving forward towards plan implementation, the Regional Council adopted Resolution No. 21-628-1 on Climate Change Action on January 7, 2021, which affirmed a climate crisis in Southern California and outlined actions for SCAG to undertake, including the development of a Regional Resilience Framework (RRF). Building on this work, Connect SoCal 2024 features resilience-focused regional planning policies and implementation strategies to help stakeholders consider and address the resilience challenges

facing the region, including those currently present and those expected up to 2050 and beyond. Together, Connect SoCal and the Resolution established opportunities for SCAG to support enhancing the region’s resilience to both immediate and long-term challenges.

In June 2022, SCAG staff launched the Regional Resilience Framework project in response to the policy priorities established in Connect SoCal 2020 and the Regional Council’s Resolution on Climate Change Action. The key goals of the project as established in Connect SoCal 2020 are to:

- Define “regional resilience” and explore potential near- and long-term disruptions to Southern California (such as earthquakes, droughts, wildfires, pandemics, and economic shocks);
- Conduct an exploratory scenario planning process to better anticipate a wide range of potential futures and strengthen the resilience and preparedness of the region; and,
- Develop a Resilience Toolkit, which will be a resource for partners across the region that seek to integrate resilience into their planning efforts (e.g. General Plan Safety Elements).

In recognition of the fact that disruptions and their impacts may be experienced differently by the broad range of diverse communities and geographies across the SCAG region, the RRF approach included engagement efforts designed to expand and deepen partnerships with community-based organizations (CBOs) for the purpose of supporting equitable and resilient outcomes.

Prior Work

SCAG staff, alongside a consultant team retained for this effort, have been working to develop the RRF since the project’s initiation.

Starting in late 2022, the consultant team held a series of workshops with CBOs recruited from the diverse geographies in the SCAG region, centered around community resilience and how communities are preparing for or holding conversations on resilience. This engagement effort helped to inform the development of a matrix of shocks and stressors, which includes information on “shocks,” defined as sudden or acute events that threaten immediate safety and wellbeing – and “stressors,” defined as chronic challenges that weaken built, natural, economic or social systems and resources.

The shocks and stressors matrix was used to inform the development of Connect SoCal 2024; the matrix is directly referenced in the Land Use and Communities Technical Report and was central to the development of each aspect of the plan for consistency with SCAG’s policies and commitments related to resilience. As a result, resilience themes are deeply integrated into Connect SoCal 2024, and are emphasized in the framing of key issues regarding the future growth and development of the SCAG region, as well as through the policies and strategies advanced by the plan across several topic areas - including system repair, climate resilience, water resilience, priority development

areas, equitable engagement and decision-making, air quality, sustainable development, clean transportation, and natural and agricultural lands preservation, among others. These resilience-related policy priorities are further integrated into the implementation strategies included in the plan, which articulate how SCAG’s work will fulfill the regional vision established in the plan.

The RRF process was also designed to inform implementation of Connect SoCal 2024, inform the development of Connect SoCal 2028, enhance capacity-building and foster relationship-building through facilitating cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders, and illuminate areas for further study as SCAG continues to develop its forward-looking approach to regional planning and sustainability. Engagement focused on the Resilience Advisory Committee (RAC), comprised of individuals and agency partners with expertise in sustainability, resilience, and emergency management. The RAC explored resilience challenges and opportunities in the context of the diverse array of built, environmental, social, and economic systems in the SCAG region.

Next Steps

Following the conclusion of the RAC process in May 2024, the consultant team has been working to develop the Resilience Toolkit, which will be used as a resource to support jurisdictions in activities that include but are not limited to developing projects for grant applications, resilience planning efforts, and the funding and financing of resilience-related projects.

Currently under development, the Resilience Toolkit is expected to be completed in early 2025. Project rollout will be continued with the goal of making the Toolkit widely available and providing support and trainings.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Regional Resiliency Analysis (FY23 SB 1 Formula)

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. PowerPoint Presentation - RRF Overview



Regional Resilience Framework (RRF) Overview & Update

Addressing Climate Change & Building Regional Resilience in Southern California

December 2024

WWW.SCAG.CA.GOV

1

Regional Resilience Framework (RRF) Overview

- The RRF was launched in June 2022 to advance SCAG's climate action priorities and to strengthen the region's capacity to withstand climate disruptions and other shocks.
- The RRF includes research, stakeholder engagement, and the development of a Resilience Toolkit
- Following the completion of the Resilience Toolkit, SCAG staff will provide support and trainings to local jurisdictions

2

Background: Connect SoCal 2020 and the RRF

- Need for resilience framework established in Chapter 6 of **Connect SoCal 2020**
- SCAG Regional Council's **Resolution on Climate Change Action** (2021) affirmed SCAG's commitment to resilience
- RRF project was launched in June 2022 to support SCAG's resilience priorities



[Connect SoCal: Chapter 6
Regional Resilience Framework](#)

3

Goals of the Regional Resilience Framework

- **Define Regional Resilience:** Establish SCAG's definition of "regional resilience" to inform sustainable and resilient regional development
- **Engagement process:** Resilience Advisory Committee (RAC) explored resilience challenges and opportunities
- **Resilience Toolkit:** Create a resource to assist local jurisdictions in planning for resilience and strengthening their ability to respond to resilience challenges
- **Resilience Strategies:** Identify strategies to reduce vulnerabilities & increase regional resilience
- **Connect SoCal:** Support implementation of Connect SoCal strategies

4

Integration of Resilience into Connect SoCal 2024



- SCAG convened a special subcommittee to **establish a definition of regional resilience**
- The **Shocks and Stressors Matrix** informed **Connect SoCal 2024**, with resilience themes **integrated throughout the plan**
- These resilience-related policy priorities are further integrated into the **implementation strategies** included in the plan

5

Resilience Advisory Committee (RAC)

- **The RAC** comprised of individuals and agency partners with expertise in **sustainability, resilience, and emergency management**.
- The RAC helped to **explore resilience challenges and opportunities** in the context of the diverse array systems in the SCAG region
- Members included representatives from **local, regional, and state partners, university partners, researchers, and utility providers**.



6

Resilience Advisory Committee (RAC) Membership

- Port of Hueneme
- Orange County Center of Excellence for Labor Market Research
- Rancho Santiago Community College District
- Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority
- Southern California Edison (SCE)
- CAUSE
- Caltrans District 12
- LA Metro
- The Wellness Center at the Historic General Hospital
- Governor's Office for Planning & Research
- Strategic Growth Council
- California Public Utilities Commission
- OmniTrans
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
- CCAEJ
- Anaheim Transportation Network
- People for Housing OC
- Pomona College
- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
- CLUE Justice

Next Steps & Resilience Toolkit Development

- The project team is currently developing the **Resilience Toolkit**, which will be a SCAG resource for local jurisdictions
- The toolkit will support a range of activities, including:
 - **Grant applications** for resilience projects
 - **Resilience planning efforts** at the local level
 - **Funding and financing of resilience projects**
- The toolkit is expected to be **completed by early 2025**





THANK YOU

Sebastian Shetty – Associate Regional Planner (SCAG)

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AGENDA ITEM 6
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
December 5, 2024

To: Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)
From: Ryan Wolfe, Manager for Sustainable and Resilient Development
213-630-1527, wolfe@scag.ca.gov
Subject: Model Pathways to Deep Decarbonization

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Information Only – No Action Required

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future. 3: Spur innovation and action through leadership in research, analysis and information sharing.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Connect SoCal 2024 contains a range of policies and implementation strategies focused on reducing GHG emissions that also have a range of important co-benefits and support strong and resilient economic, social, and environmental systems, connected communities, and improved mobility. Many of the Plan strategies focus on providing information and best practices that can be a resource for local partners as they craft their own policies. Developed by Columbia University's Sabin Center for Climate Change Law and Widener University's Commonwealth School of Law, the Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization (LPDD) project is an online database that leverages the expertise of a nationwide network of pro bono attorneys to promote and draft model laws and ordinances that can inform greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction policy at every level of governance, and be a resource to partners throughout the SCAG region.

BACKGROUND:

The Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization (LPDD) database is grounded on a seminal academic report compiled and edited at Columbia University's Sabin Center for Climate Change Law and Widener University's Commonwealth School of Law. Based on a technical analysis undertaken by the Deep Decarbonization Pathways Project, in 2019, Professors Michael Gerrard and John Dernbach published a book entitled Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization in the United States. The text, showcasing 60 expert authors focusing on 35 different areas of the economy, offered more than 1,000 specific recommendations that can be taken by policymakers at the federal, state, county and local levels, and by private actors to reduce GHG emissions.

Working from that foundation, the LPDD team has assembled a nationwide network of expert attorneys working pro bono to turn these legal recommendations into draft laws, ordinances, and recommendations. This includes model laws and ordinances that can inform local efforts to expand electric vehicle charging station access, decarbonize the electric supply, support the spread of community-owned renewable energy, implement green financing institutions, establish green building codes and green infrastructure approaches, and sustainably manage food waste among others. LPDD also identifies procedural opportunities, to integrate climate policies into public decision-making processes and bodies that can support substantial emissions reductions.

There will also be a Toolbox Tuesday that will dive deeper into this tool on February 25th of 2025 from 1:00-2:30pm.

Speaker Biographies

Rick Horsch, LPDD Coordinator of Drafting

Rick Horsch oversees the preparation of model laws to address climate change at the federal, state, and local levels for LPDD.

Mr. Horsch is a Retired Partner at the law firm of White & Case LLP, where his practice has concentrated on domestic and international environmental law and climate change matters. He has more than 30 years of experience in environmental law.

He is currently a Lecturer in Law at Columbia Law School, where he teaches International Environmental Law, and was previously an Adjunct at Seton Hall Law School, where he taught courses on U.S. Environmental Law and International Environmental Law.

Jordan Gerow, LPDD Director of Content

Jordan Gerow is LPDD's Director of Content. He performs all external research for the LPDD database, while supporting the drafting and outreach teams as necessary.

He is an energy law specialist with a range of experience in promoting microgrids, distributed energy resources, and utility reform. He graduated magna cum laude from the Elizabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University with concentrations in environmental and international law, and worked for several years with the Pace Energy and Climate Center.

Jim Geocariss, California Consultant

Jim Geocariss assists LPDD with outreach to public and private organizations in California that might be interested in the LPDD database. Jim also updates LPDD on new California legislation concerning decarbonization.

Jim has over 45 years of experience in environmental law. He recently retired as a partner at the Orange County office of a large national law firm. Jim has worked on environmental and energy issues for a range of large infrastructure projects across multiple sectors, has substantial experience in California energy and environmental policy, and strong familiarity with the range of state and regional agencies in California that have jurisdiction over environmental and energy matters.

Jim is a graduate of Stanford Law School and also holds a Master's in Political Science from Stanford.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. PowerPoint Presentation - SCAG December 2024

Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization Model Laws Project

Jim Geocaris
Jordan Gerow
Rick Horsch
Karla Perri

December 5, 2024

The LPDD Project: Introduction

- The LPDD Model Laws Project drafts model laws to mitigate climate change and makes them available to policymakers at every level of government in the United States, providing them tools to decarbonize all sectors of the economy.

The LPDD Project: Introduction

- The Project has enlisted dozens of law firms and scores of individual lawyers around the country to use their legal skills to engage in addressing climate change
- The Project website provides free access to high quality legal work to legislators and nongovernmental organizations.
- The Project is part of the Columbia University Climate School and the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia Law School.
- The Project is nonpartisan.

Progress to Date

- To date, more than 80 model laws have been prepared and posted on the LPDD website -- lpdd.org
- Each model law is accompanied by an explanatory memorandum.
- The website also contains more than 2,500 actual and proposed statutes, ordinances, and other resources relating to decarbonization from various jurisdictions across the country.
- LPDD staff is available to work pro bono with agencies on searches of the LPDD database for materials relating to decarbonization subjects of particular interest.

Preparing the Model Laws: Drafting and Peer Review

- Each model law has been drafted by a lawyer or law firm and peer reviewed by a person with deep expertise in the area.
 - Dozens of law firms, individual attorneys, law professors and retired judges are participating in the Project as drafters.
 - We have more than 90 peer reviewers -- all are experts in their field.

4

Inclusion of Environmental/Climate Justice Considerations

- Our drafting and peer review protocols instruct drafters and peer reviewers to incorporate climate justice provisions into the model law, to the extent relevant.
- The Project has an Environmental/Climate Justice Advisory Committee, advising on environmental/climate justice issues.

5

Scope of Model Laws Available

- The model laws and other resources cover all sectors of the US economy that must be decarbonized if we are to reach net-zero by 2050:
- Energy Generation
- Transportation
- Buildings
- Industry
- Agriculture

6

LPDD Website – lpdd.org

- Questions?
- Jordan Gerow will take you through the website

7