



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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MEETING OF THE

**EXECUTIVE/
ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE**

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

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

To Attend In-Person:

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

To Attend and Participate on Your Computer:

<https://scag.zoom.us/j/889726747>

To Attend and Participate by Phone:

**Call-in Number: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 889 726 747**

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: <https://scag.ca.gov/meetings-leadership>.

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order 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) 630-1420. 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-Peron 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 B Meeting Room on the 17th floor starting at 3:00 p.m.

To Attend by Computer: Click the following link: <https://scag.zoom.us/j/889726747>. 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: 889 726 747**, 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 Monday, July 3, 2023**, 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 Monday, July 3, 2023, 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.

OUR MISSION

To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.

OUR VISION

Southern California’s Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES

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



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.

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EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

TELECONFERENCE AVAILABLE AT THESE ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS

<p>Cindy Allen Long Beach Civic Center 411 W Ocean Blvd Long Beach, CA 90802</p>	<p>Marshall Goodman Orange County Sanitation District 10844 Ellis Ave Fountain Valley, CA 92708</p>
<p>Curt Hagman Chino Hills District Office 14010 City Center Drive Chino Hills, CA 91709</p>	<p>Patricia Lock Dawson Riverside – City Hall 3900 Main Street 7th Floor - Conference Room Riverside, CA 92522</p>
<p>Larry McCallon City of Highland – City Hall 27215 Base Line Street Highland, CA 92346.</p>	<p>Tim Sandoval City of Pomona - City Hall 505 S Garey Avenue Bader Conference Room Pomona, CA 91766</p>



EAC - Executive/Administration Committee
Members – July 2023

- 1. Hon. Art Brown**
Chair, Buena Park, RC District 21
- 2. Sup. Curt Hagman**
1st Vice President, San Bernardino County
- 3. Hon. Cindy Allen**
2nd Vice President, Long Beach, RC District 30
- 4. Hon. Jan C. Harnik**
Imm. Past President, RCTC Representative
- 5. Hon. Frank A. Yokoyama**
CEHD Chair, Cerritos, RC District 23
- 6. Hon. David J. Shapiro**
CEHD Vice Chair, Calabasas, RC District 44
- 7. Hon. Deborah Robertson**
EEC Chair, Rialto, RC District 8
- 8. Sup. Luis Plancarte**
EEC Vice Chair, Imperial County
- 9. Hon. Tim Sandoval**
TC Chair, Pomona, RC District 38
- 10. Hon. Mike Judge**
TC Vice Chair, VCTC
- 11. Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson**
LCMC Chair, Riverside, RC District 68
- 12. Hon. Jose Luis Solache**
LCMC Vice Chair, Lynwood, RC District 26
- 13. Hon. Marshall Goodman**
La Palma, RC District 18, Pres. Appt.
- 14. Hon. Clint Lorimore**
Eastvale, RC District 4, Pres. Appt.
- 15. Hon. Larry McCallon**
Highland, RC District 7 Pres. Appt./Air Dist. Rep.

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- 16. Hon. Tim McOsker**
Los Angeles, RC District 62

- 17. Hon. Andrew Masiel**
Tribal Govt Regl Planning Board Representative

- 18. Ms. Lucy Dunn**
Business Representative - Non-Voting Member

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EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy B Meeting Room
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Wednesday, July 5, 2023
3:00 PM

The Executive/Administration 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 Art Brown, 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

ACTION ITEM

1. Connect SoCal 2024: Policy Framework
(Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Director)

PPG. 7

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Recommend that the Regional Council adopt the updated Policy Framework for Connect SoCal 2024.

2. Approval of Amendment No. 2 to Executive Director's Employment Agreement and Annual Work Plan
(Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, BB&K)

PPG. 24

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the attached Amendment No. 2 to the Employment Agreement between SCAG and Kome Ajise and approve the Executive Director's Proposed Annual Work Plan for 2023-24.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meeting – May 31, 2023
4. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 23-014-C01, Information Technology (IT) – Geospatial Application Development and Support

PPG. 40

PPG. 47



EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

5. Resolution No. 23-657-1 Authorizing Acceptance of Grant Funds from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Grant Program PPG. 58
6. AB 825 (Bryan) and AB 645 (Friedman) Follow-up PPG. 64
7. Governor and Legislative Permitting Reform Proposals PPG. 69
8. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships PPG. 76

Receive and File

9. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold PPG. 80
10. CFO Monthly Report PPG. 84

INFORMATION ITEM

11. REAP 2.0 Program Call for Applications Update PPG. 86
(Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer)

CFO REPORT

(Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(The Honorable Art Brown, Chair)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

(Kome Ajise, Executive Director)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT



AGENDA ITEM 1
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)
Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)
Transportation Committee (TC)
Regional Council (RC)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

From: Sarah Dominguez, Planning Supervisor
(213) 236-1918, dominguezs@scag.ca.gov

Subject: Connect SoCal 2024: Policy Framework

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EAC:

Recommend that the Regional Council adopt the updated Policy Framework for Connect SoCal 2024.

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR RC:

Adopt the updated Policy Framework for Connect SoCal 2024.

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CEHD, EEC AND TC:

Receive and File.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 1: Produce innovative solutions that improve the quality of life for Southern Californians.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In June 2022, SCAG's Regional Council adopted a Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024 which documented the policy priorities and outlined a structure for continued policy development and leadership for plan development. This update to the Policy Framework advances those priorities and confirms the direction for Connect SoCal 2024 in advance of a draft plan release in October 2023.

BACKGROUND:

What is Connect SoCal 2024?

As required by federal and state law, SCAG prepares a long-range Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) every four years which provides a vision for integrating land use and transportation for increased mobility and more sustainable development.

SCAG's next RTP/SCS, Connect SoCal 2024, will incorporate important updates of fundamental data, enhanced strategies and investments based on, and intended to strengthen, the plan adopted by the SCAG Regional Council in 2020.

What is the Policy Development Framework?

In July 2021, the Executive Administration Committee directed staff to develop a Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024 that "identifies priority policy issues for deeper discussion and establishes a sub-committee structure for policy education, engagement, and consensus building to guide visionary policy development"¹.

In June 2022, the Regional Council adopted the Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024 that identified the draft Vision and Goals for the plan, identified key policy priorities, outlined the structure for advancing policies through the three SCAG Policy Committees and established the Connect SoCal 2024 Special Subcommittees that concluded in Spring of this year.

Policy Framework Update

Over the past year, each Policy Committee have reviewed and discussed fundamental policy and technical aspects of plan development. The Special Connect SoCal 2024 Subcommittees dug deeper into three intersectional topics: Next Generation Infrastructure, Resilience and Conservation, and Racial Equity and Regional Planning to develop white papers and recommendations. Then from April to June, SCAG conducted outreach and engagement activities and heard from thousands of stakeholder and community members throughout the region about their current challenges and priorities for the future. The direction and feedback from these avenues, in addition to ongoing engagement with stakeholders through SCAG's working group and technical advisory committees, are being incorporated in the development of the draft Connect SoCal 2024.

This update to the Policy Framework reflects specific elements of direction and feedback received over the past year. First, an update to the Goals and Vision (based on public outreach and engagement), a methodology for Priority Equity Communities (based on engagement with stakeholders and direction from Policy Committee members) and finally, a set of Regional Planning Policies (based on direction from the standing Policy Committees and special Connect SoCal Subcommittees and review by stakeholders in April 2023).

Vision and Goals: During April - June 2023, SCAG conducted public outreach and engagement activities including, but not limited to public workshops and a public survey. The full findings are discussed in a July 2023 staff report to the SCAG Policy Committees and will inform plan development in a myriad of ways. While most of the top responses and comments were currently reflected in either the Vision or Goals, there were two prominent themes expressed in both the survey and workshop comments that weren't reflected.

¹ <https://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=2256&Inline=True>

Vision: One of the top responses in the public survey of over 3,600 respondents when asked about envisioning the region in 2050 was: “A region that is prosperous, with economic opportunity for all residents.” The plan Vision has been updated to include “prosperous”.

Goals: One prominent workshop comment theme and top response in the survey was about resource use (“Sustainable in its use of resources”; “More sustainable designs to conserve water and energy in residential and public spaces”). An environment subgoal has been updated to reflect the aim to “enable more sustainable use of energy and water.”

Priority Equity Communities: SCAG has developed a new, flexible equity area definition, called Priority Equity Communities, to comply with statutory requirements and support SCAG equity efforts beyond the Plan. This methodology has been developed and reviewed by stakeholders and members of the public during the Connect SoCal 2024 outreach and engagement, as well as direction from the Energy and Environment Committee.

Regional Planning Policies: The draft Regional Planning Policies were presented in June 2023 to each SCAG Policy Committee. The set of policies included in this framework incorporates feedback received at those meetings. Specifically, a policy to address safety and personal security on transit has been added to the Safety category.

Next Steps

SCAG staff are seeking approval of the Policy Framework to confirm the approach for the plan and the use of the Regional Planning Policies and Priority Equity Communities methodology before these elements are used for development of Implementation Strategies and analysis, respectively, for the draft Connect SoCal 2024. A release of the draft Connect SoCal 2024 is anticipated in October 2023 with a final plan adoption anticipated for April 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with this item is included in the FY 22-23 Overall Work Program (310.4874.01: Connect SoCal Development).

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Policy Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

Policy Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

JULY 2023 UPDATE

Originally approved by the Regional Council on June 2, 2022 as a Policy Development Framework, this document carried forward the existing Policy Priorities that will be reflected in Connect SoCal 2024, SCAG's 2024-2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). It also outlined a policy development leadership structure and outlook to foster policy education, engagement, consensus building and decision-making.

This July 2023 update serves to confirm the direction for Connect SoCal 2024 in advance of the draft plan release in October 2023. The changes reflect feedback on plan elements from stakeholders and the general public as well as discussions with and direction from SCAG leadership, including the regular Policy Committees and the Connect SoCal 2024 Special Subcommittees. The major changes in this version can be found in the additions of the "Connect SoCal 2024: Policy Structure" and "Priority Equity Communities" sections which serve to advance the previously set Policy Priorities.

DRAFT PLAN VISION AND GOALS

In January 2022, staff began engaging with stakeholders through the Regional Planning Working Groups and the Technical Working Group on the draft Vision and Goals for Connect SoCal 2024. Their feedback informed the original draft Vision and Goals which were further modified based on public outreach and engagement in Spring 2023. Changes to the Vision and Goals since the June 2022 adopted version of this framework, based on public outreach and engagement, are noted in **bold**.

The draft Vision is meant to capture what we want the region to be by 2050 and is supported by four draft Goals, each centered around a key theme (Mobility, Communities, the Environment, and the Economy). These goals are each further defined by supporting sub-Goals.

DRAFT VISION

A healthy, **prosperous**, accessible and connected region for a more resilient and equitable future.

DRAFT GOALS

Mobility: Build and maintain a robust transportation network.

- Support investments and programs that are well-maintained and operated, coordinated, and resilient, and result in improved safety and air quality.
- Ensure reliable, accessible, affordable, and quality travel options while striving to enhance equity in transportation resources offered in underserved communities.
- Plan for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

Communities: Develop, connect, and sustain communities that are livable and thriving.

- Reinforce vibrant, human-centered communities in urban, suburban, and rural settings to increase mobility options and reduce travel distances.

- Produce and preserve a diversity of housing types to improve affordability, accessibility, and choices for all.
- Foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity, and actively seek to reduce racial and economic disparities.

Environment: Create a healthy region for the people of today and tomorrow.

- Develop communities that are resilient and can mitigate, adapt to, and respond to chronic and acute stressors and disruptions, such as climate change.
- Integrate the region’s development pattern and transportation network to improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions **and enable more sustainable use of energy and water**.
- Conserve and restore the region’s natural and agricultural resources.

Economy: Support a sustainable, efficient, and productive regional economic environment that provides opportunities for all.

- Provide physical and digital infrastructure to improve access to education, vocational training, jobs, financial systems, and to foster the growth of small businesses in underserved communities.
- Advance a resilient and efficient goods movement system that supports the economic vitality of the region, attainment of clean air, and quality of life for our communities.
- Improve regional multimodal transportation system infrastructure and efficiency to enhance the region’s global economic competitiveness.

POLICY PRIORITIES

The Draft Policy Priorities are based upon policy direction established in Connect SoCal 2020 and recent Regional Council actions to address three of the emerging issues facing the region.

EMERGING ISSUES

There are three salient and interconnected challenges facing our region: equity, resilience, and the economy. Actions by SCAG’s Regional Council since the adoption of Connect SoCal 2020 provide a policy foundation for work on the next plan and expanded policy focus on these emerging issue areas.

Equity

On July 2, 2020, the Regional Council adopted Resolution No. 20-623-2¹ on Racial and Social Justice, affirming SCAG’s commitment to meaningfully advance justice, equity, diversity and inclusion, and establishing the Special Committee on Equity and Social Justice to advance social justice throughout the agency.

On May 6, 2021, the Regional Council adopted the Racial Equity Early Action Plan², the purpose of which is to guide and sustain SCAG’s regional leadership in service of equity and social justice. It reflects discussions and feedback provided to the Special Committee on the definition of equity and overarching goals and strategies to advance racial equity through SCAG’s policies, practices, and activities.

¹ <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rc070220agn01.pdf?1602368143>

² <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rc050621fullpacket.pdf#page=91>

Resilience

On January 7, 2021, the Regional Council adopted Resolution No. 21-628-1³ on Climate Change Action that affirms a climate change crisis in Southern California and identifies actions for SCAG to undertake, including: developing a regional resilience framework, initiating a regional climate planning network, and developing a regional advanced mitigation program (RAMP). On October 12, 2022 the Regional Council also adopted a Water Action Resolution that called on local and regional partners to join together to adopt an “all of the above” response to the drought and water shortage emergency. Resolution No. 22-641-3⁴ requires SCAG to identify, recommend and integrate into Connect SoCal 2024 policies and strategies to align investments in water infrastructure with housing needs and the adopted growth forecast and development pattern.

Economy

On July 1, 2021, the Regional Council adopted the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy (IERS) Final Report and Recommendations⁵, which identifies five core principles to drive SCAG’s work and to act as a lens for identifying recommendations:

1. Center the economic recovery strategy on racial and gender equity; focusing in reducing the racial wealth gap;
2. Focus on rebuilding the middle class with high road employment;
3. Ensure that all strategies contribute to a climate ready region;
4. Tailor strategies to the needs of both industry sectors and geographic subregions; and
5. Bring new and diverse voices to the table.

On February 4, 2021, the Regional Council adopted Resolution No. 21-629-2⁶ to establish a Broadband Action Plan to assist in bridging the digital divide. The Broadband Action Plan includes incorporating broadband planning, data and research findings, and strategies, as appropriate, into existing SCAG programs and future RTP/SCS strategies.

CONNECT SOCIAL 2024: POLICY STRUCTURE

Connect SoCal 2020 was organized by a Core Vision and Key Connections. Many of the policies and strategies summarized as the Core Vision are reflective of the policies and projects developed at the local level and gathered by SCAG through the plan development process (through the Local Data Exchange with local jurisdictions and Project List submissions from County Transportation Commissions). Key Connections, in contrast, identified critical regional strategies to “close the gap” between what could be accomplished through intensification of core planning strategies alone, and what needed to be done to meet increasingly aggressive greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Many of these locally driven projects and policies will be carried forward into Connect SoCal 2024 but organized instead by Regional Planning Policies and Implementation Strategies. This change will allow SCAG to better reflect the breadth of issue areas within Connect SoCal 2024, integrate the emerging issue

³ <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rc010721fullpacket.pdf#page=12>

⁴ <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/scag-resolution-22-647-3-water-final.pdf>

⁵ <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rc070121fullpacket.pdf#page=13>

⁶ <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rc020421fullpacket.pdf#page=13>

areas within the RTP requirements and to better support partners in demonstrating alignment with the regional plan.

- **Regional Planning Policies:** will carry on the intent of the *Core Vision* and *Key Connections* to articulate broad and established regional policies or best practices for land use and transportation planning. CTCs or local jurisdictions can point to these policies to establish alignment with the RTP/SCS. The list of Regional Planning Policies is included in Appendix 1.
- **Implementation Strategies** will be priorities for SCAG efforts in fulfilling or going beyond the Regional Planning Policies to support the region in “closing the gap” in order to reach plan goals. The list of Implementation Strategies will be included in the draft plan release and will align with categories of Regional Planning Policies.

The below chart articulates how SCAG will carry forward the Core Vision, Key Connections and other policy areas of Connect SoCal 2020 into this new Regional Planning Policies organization. There are also several new policy areas based on recent Regional Council Resolutions or discussions and direction from Policy Committee members.

Connect SoCal 2020	Change	Connect SoCal 2024
CORE VISION	→	REGIONAL PLANNING POLICIES
Sustainable Development	-	Mobility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System Preservation and Resilience • Complete Streets • Transit and Multimodal Integration • Transportation Demand Management • Transportation System Management • Technology Integration* • Safety • Funding the System/User Pricing Communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Development Areas • Housing the Region* • 15 Minute Communities* • Equitable Engagement and Decision-Making * Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Development • Air Quality • Clean Transportation • Natural and Working Lands Preservation • Climate Resilience Economy
System Preservation & Resilience	-	
Demand & System Management	-	
Transit Backbone	-	
Complete Streets	-	
Goods Movement	-	
KEY CONNECTIONS	→	
Smart Cities & Job Centers	Merged under “Transportation Demand Management” and “Technology Integration”	
Housing Supportive Infrastructure	Broadened to “Housing the Region”	
Go Zones	Merged under “Transportation Demand Management”	
Accelerated Electrification	Revised and Merged under “Clean Technology”	
Shared Mobility & Mobility as A Service (MaaS)	Revised and Merged under “Transit and Multimodal Integration”	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goods Movement • Broadband* • Universal Basic Mobility* • Workforce Development * • Tourism
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* New policy area for Connect SoCal 2024

PRIORITY EQUITY COMMUNITIES

SCAG continues to affirm its commitment to advancing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout Southern California by working to operationalize racial equity through regional planning functions. In order to implement the policy direction noted above in the “Emerging Issues” section into Connect SoCal 2024 development, staff have prepared a new approach for Connect SoCal 2024’s Equity Analysis that is grounded on best practices and extensive internal and external stakeholder input. This method for defining Priority Equity Communities (formerly Environmental Justice areas, Disadvantaged Communities and Communities of Concern) frames and focuses the Equity Analysis on populations that have been historically marginalized and are susceptible to inequitable outcomes.

On June 1, 2023, staff shared a report to the EEC on this final proposed approach for identifying an equity area for the SCAG region for use in the Connect SoCal 2024 Equity Analysis. Staff propose replacing the three equity communities (i.e., Environmental Justice Areas, SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities, and Communities of Concern) with a new, flexible equity area definition, called Priority Equity Communities, to comply with statutory requirements and support SCAG equity efforts beyond the Plan. Priority Equity Communities are census tracts in the SCAG region that have a greater concentration of populations that have been historically marginalized and are susceptible to inequitable outcomes based on several socioeconomic factors.

Staff propose determining a census tract as a Priority Equity Community if there is a concentration above the county average of:

1. **BOTH** low-income households⁷ and people of color; OR
2. **EITHER** low-income households or people of color AND of four or more of the following:
 - i. Vulnerable Ages⁸
 - ii. People with Disabilities
 - iii. People with Limited English Proficiency
 - iv. Limited Vehicle and Transit Access⁹
 - v. People without a High School Diploma
 - vi. Single Parent Households
 - vii. Housing Cost Burdened Households

⁷ Households with an income less than or equal to twice the federal “poverty level”

⁸ Older adults over 65 years old and youth under 18 years old

⁹ Households with more people than vehicles owned not located near a High-Quality Transit Corridor

With the proposed approach and using data from the U.S. Census Bureau American Communities Survey five-year estimates (2017-2021), Priority Equity Communities cover approximately 49 percent of the region's population.

Priority Equity Communities will be used to conduct analysis for the Connect SoCal 2024 Equity Analysis. In continuing to affirm its commitment to advancing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout Southern California, staff will also explore opportunities to incorporate Priority Equity Communities in planning practices and to advance equity through the policies and strategies in the Plan.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT: LEADERSHIP & OUTLOOK

Policy discussions that occur during SCAG's Policy Committee meetings provide valuable direction to staff on areas for further research, potential strategies to address regional challenges, and priorities for what to include in the proposed plan.

Staff have brought forward informational and discussion items related to the relevant Regional Planning Policies; highlighting context and data from staff research; perspectives from academics, researchers or policy experts; and insights from local practitioners. Presentations have also focused on current subregional efforts and best practices to address Connect SoCal 2020 implementation, as well as emerging trends and new issues related to each Regional Planning Policy. The plan issue areas organized by Policy Committee are outlined in the table below.

MAIN POLICY COMMITTEES

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE	COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Regional Planning Policies		
<p>Mobility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System Preservation and Resilience • Complete Streets • Transit and Multimodal Integration • Transportation Demand Management • Transportation System Management • Technology Integration • Safety • Funding the System/User Pricing <p>Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goods Movement • Broadband • Universal Basic Mobility • Tourism 	<p>Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Development <p>Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Development Areas • Housing the Region • 15 Minute Communities • Equitable Engagement and Decision-Making <p>Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce Development • Tourism 	<p>Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Development • Air Quality • Clean Transportation • Natural and Working Lands Preservation • Climate Resilience <p style="text-align: center;">Environmental Compliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PEIR • Transportation Conformity • Environmental Justice • SB 375 Technical Methodology

JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE

The issues facing the region are intersectional and often do not neatly fit within one committee. For that reason, it is occasionally necessary to hold a Joint Policy Committee meeting of members from all three Policy Committees (Transportation; Community, Economic, Human Development; and Energy and Environment) to share pertinent information, discuss key plan development issues or seek coordinated actions or recommendations.

SPECIAL CONNECT SOCAL 2024 SUBCOMMITTEES

To help dive deeper into key areas for Connect SoCal, SCAG established three new subcommittees: Next Generation Infrastructure, Resilience and Conservation, and Racial Equity and Regional Planning.

These three subcommittees were comprised of members from across the region. They met between September 2022 and February 2023 and prepared recommendations to SCAG Policy Committees on how to address these emerging issues within Connect SoCal 2024. The findings and recommendations from those subcommittees will be used to inform ongoing policy development discussions at each Policy Committee. The final White Papers along with agendas and materials from each subcommittee meeting can be found at their respective page at <https://scag.ca.gov/meetings-subcommittees>.

Appendix 1: SCAG Connect SoCal 2024: Draft Regional Planning Policies

The Regional Planning Policies establish broad regional policies for integrated land use and transportation planning and identify the path towards realizing the vision of Connect SoCal. The below policies are meant to guide decision making for both SCAG and partner agencies as we work towards a sustainable, equitable, and resilient future for the region. It is also intended to be used as a resource by County Transportation Commissions or local jurisdictions to demonstrate alignment with the RTP/SCS by referring to specific policies when seeking resources from state or federal programs.

Per Government Code §65080(b)(2)(K), SCAG's Sustainable Communities Strategy does not regulate the use of land, nor shall it be interpreted as superseding the exercise of the land use authority of cities and counties in the region. The guidance provided in these Regional Planning Policies is meant to support local jurisdictions in future General Plan updates to help in implementing the regional vision of Connect SoCal 2024.

In summary, carrying forward the below set of policies at the regional and local level will be critical in implementing the vision represented by Connect SoCal 2024.

** (asterisk) in policies denotes terms that are defined in the glossary at the end of this document*

MOBILITY

System Preservation and Resilience

1. Prioritize repair, maintenance, and preservation of the SCAG region's existing transportation assets first, following a "Fix-It-First" principle.
2. Promote transportation investments that advance progress toward the achievement of asset management targets, including for National Highway System pavement and bridge condition and transit assets (rolling stock, equipment, facilities, and infrastructure).

Complete Streets

3. Pursue the development of complete streets that comprise a safe multi-modal network with flexible use of public rights-of-way for people of all ages and abilities using a variety of modes (e.g., people walking, biking, rolling, driving, taking transit).
4. Ensure the implementation of complete streets that are sensitive to urban, suburban, or rural contexts and improve transportation safety for all, but especially vulnerable road users (e.g., older adults, children, pedestrians, bicyclists, etc.).
5. Facilitate the implementation of complete streets and curb space management strategies that accommodate and optimize new technologies and micromobility devices, first/last mile connections to transit, and last mile delivery.
6. Support implementation of complete streets improvements in Priority Equity Communities*, and particularly with respect to Transportation Equity Zones*, to enhance mobility, safety, and access to opportunities.

Transit and Multimodal Integration

7. Encourage and support the implementation of projects both physical and digital that facilitate multimodal connectivity, prioritize transit and shared mobility, and result in improved mobility, accessibility, and safety.
8. Support connections across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to develop transportation projects and programs resulting in improved connectivity.

9. Encourage residential and employment development in areas surrounding existing and planned transit/rail stations.
10. Support the implementation of transportation projects in Priority Equity Communities, and particularly with respect to Transportation Equity Zones, to enhance mobility, safety, and access to opportunities.
11. Create a resilient transit and rail system by preparing for emergencies and the impacts of extreme weather conditions.

Transportation Demand Management

12. Encourage the development of transportation projects that provide convenient, cost-effective and safe alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle travel (e.g., trips made by foot, on bikes, via transit, etc.).
13. Encourage jurisdictions and TDM practitioners to develop and expand local plans and policies to promote alternatives to single occupancy vehicle travel for residents, workers, and visitors.
14. Encourage municipalities to update existing (legacy) TDM ordinances by incorporating new travel modes and new technology, and by incorporating employment and residential sites of certain populations, for example employers who have less than 250 employees (below the 250 or more employees threshold identified in AQMD’s Rule 2202).

Transportation System Management

15. Pursue efficient use of the transportation system using a set of operational improvement strategies that maintain the performance of the existing transportation system instead of adding roadway capacity.
16. Prioritize transportation investments that increase travel time reliability, including build-out of the regional express lanes network.

Technology Integration

17. Support the implementation of technology designed to provide equal access to mobility, employment and economic opportunity, education, health and other quality of life opportunities for all residents within the SCAG region.
18. Advocate for data sharing between the public and private sectors to effectively evaluate the services’ benefits and impacts on communities while protecting data security and privacy.
19. Advocate for technology that is adaptive and responsive to ensure that it remains up to date to meet the evolving needs of users and stakeholders.
20. Promote technology that has the capacity to facilitate economic growth, improve workforce development opportunities, and enhance safety and security.
21. Proactively monitor and plan for the development, deployment, and commercialization of new technology as it relates to integration with transportation infrastructure.

Safety

22. Eliminate transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries on the regional multimodal transportation system.
23. Integrate the assessment of equity into the regional transportation safety and security planning process, focusing on the analysis and mitigation of disproportionate impacts on disadvantaged communities.
24. Support innovative approaches for addressing transit safety and security issues so that impacts to transit employees and the public are minimized and those experiencing issues (e.g., unhoused persons) are supported.

25. Support the use of transportation safety and system security data in investment decision-making, including consideration of new highway and transit/rail investments that would address safety and security needs.

Funding the System/User Pricing

26. Promote stability and sustainability for core state and federal transportation funding sources.
27. Establish a user fee-based system that better reflects the true cost of transportation, provides firewall protection for new and existing transportation funds, and equitable distribution of costs and benefits.
28. Pursue funding tools that promote access to opportunity and support economic development through innovative mobility programs.
29. Promote national and state programs that include return-to-source guarantees while maintaining flexibility to reward regions that continue to commit substantial local resources.
30. Leverage locally available funding with innovative financing tools to attract private capital and accelerate project delivery.
31. Promote local funding strategies that maximize the value of public assets while improving mobility, sustainability, and resilience.

COMMUNITIES

15 Minute Communities

32. Promote 15-minute communities as places with a mix of complementary land uses and accessible mobility options that align with and support the diversity of places (or communities) across the region where residents can either access most basic, day-to-day needs within a 15-minute walk, bike ride, or roll from their home or as places that result in fewer and shorter trips because of the proximity of complementary land uses.
33. Support communities across the region to realize 15-minute communities through incremental changes that improve equity, quality of life, public health, mobility, sustainability and resilience, and economic vitality.
34. Encourage efforts that elevate innovative approaches to increasing access to neighborhood destinations and amenities through an array of people-centered mobility options.

Housing the Region

35. Encourage housing development in areas with access to important resources (economic, educational, health, social, and similar) and amenities to further fair housing access and equity across the region.
36. Encourage housing development in transit-supportive and walkable areas to create more interconnected and resilient communities.
37. Support local, regional, state, and federal efforts to produce and preserve affordable housing while meeting additional housing needs across the region.
38. Prioritize communities that are vulnerable to displacement pressures by supporting community stabilization and increasing access to housing that meets the needs of the region.
39. Promote innovative strategies and partnerships to increase homeownership opportunities across the region with an emphasis on communities who have been historically impacted by redlining and other systemic barriers to homeownership for people of color and other marginalized groups.
40. Advocate for and support programs that emphasize reducing housing cost burden (for renters and homeowners), with a focus on the communities with the greatest need and vulnerabilities.

41. Support efforts to increase housing and services for people experiencing homelessness across the region.

Priority Development Areas

42. Promote the growth of origins and destinations, with a focus on future housing and population growth, in areas with existing and planned urban infrastructure including transit and utilities.
43. Promote the growth of origins and destinations in areas with a proclivity toward multi-modal options like transit and active transportation, to reduce single occupant vehicle dependency and vehicle miles traveled.
44. Seek to realize scale economies, or a critical mass, of jobs and destinations in areas across the region which can support non-SOV options and shorter trip distances, combined trips, and reduced vehicle miles traveled.

Equitable Engagement and Decision-Making

45. Advance community-centered interventions, resources, and programming that serve the most disadvantaged communities and people in the region, like Priority Equity Communities, with strategies that can be implemented in the short-to-long-term.
46. Promote racial equity that is grounded in the recognition of the past and current harms of systemic racism and one that advances restorative justice.
47. Increase equitable, inclusive, and meaningful representation and participation of people of color and disadvantaged communities in processes.

ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable Development

48. Promote sustainable development and best practices that enhance resource conservation, reduce resource consumption, and promote resilience.
49. Implement the Forecasted Regional Development Pattern of Connect SoCal 2024, consisting of household and employment projections that have been reviewed and refined by jurisdictions and stakeholders, to advance this shared framework for regional growth management planning.
50. Support communities across the region to advance innovative sustainable development practices.
51. Recognize and support the diversity of communities across the region by promoting local place-making, planning, and development efforts that advance equity, mobility, resilience and sustainability.

Air Quality

52. Reduce hazardous air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions and improve the air quality throughout the region through planning and implementation efforts.
53. Support investments that reduce hazardous air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions.
54. Reduce the exposure and impacts of emissions and pollutants and promote local and regional efforts that improve the air quality for vulnerable populations, including but not limited to Priority Equity Communities and the AB 617 Communities*.

Clean Transportation

55. Accelerate the deployment of a zero-emission transportation system and use near-zero emission technology to offer short term benefits where zero emissions solutions are not yet feasible or commercially viable.
56. Promote equitable use of and access to clean transportation technologies* so that all may benefit from them.

- 57. Consider the full environmental life-cycle of clean transportation technologies including upstream production and end of life as an important part of meeting SCAG's objectives in economic development and recovery, resilience planning and achievement of equity.
- 58. Maintain a technology neutral approach in the study of, advancement of, and, where applicable, investment in clean transportation technology.

Natural and Agricultural Lands Preservation

- 59. Prioritize the climate mitigation, adaptation, resilience, and economic benefits of natural and agricultural lands in the region.
- 60. Support conservation of habitats that are prone to hazards exacerbated by climate change, such as wildfires and flooding.
- 61. Support regional conservation planning and collaboration across the region.
- 62. Encourage the protection and restoration of natural habitat and wildlife corridors.
- 63. Encourage conservation of agricultural lands to protect the regional and local food supply and agricultural economy.
- 64. Encourage policy development of the link between natural and agricultural conservation with public health.

Climate Resilience

- 65. Prioritize the most vulnerable populations and communities subject to climate hazards to help the people, places, and infrastructure that are most at risk for climate change impacts, recognizing that disadvantaged communities are often overburdened.
- 66. Support local and regional climate and hazard planning and implementation efforts.
- 67. Support nature-based solutions* to increase regional resilience of the natural and built environment.
- 68. Promote sustainable water use planning, practices and storage that improve regional water security and resilience in a drier environment.
- 69. Support an integrated planning approach to help local jurisdictions meet housing production needs in a drier environment.

ECONOMY

Goods Movement

- 70. Leverage and prioritize investments particularly where there are mutual co-benefits to both freight and passenger/commuter rail.
- 71. Prioritize community and environmental justice concerns together with economic needs and support workforce development opportunities particularly around deployment of zero-emission and clean technologies, and their supporting infrastructure.
- 72. Explore and advance the transition toward zero-emissions and clean technologies and other transformative technologies where viable.
- 73. Advance comprehensive systems-level planning of corridor/supply chain operational strategies, integrated with road and rail infrastructure, and inland port concepts.
- 74. Ensure continued, significant investment in a safe, secure, clean and efficient transportation system, including both highways and rail, to support the intermodal movement of goods across the region.

Broadband

- 75. Support ubiquitous regional broadband deployment and access, to provide the necessary infrastructure and capability for Smart Cities strategies and to ensure that the benefits of these strategies improve safety and are distributed equitably.

- 76. Develop networks that are efficient, scalable, resilient and sustainable, to support transportation systems management and operations services and “tele-everything” strategies that reduce vehicle miles traveled, optimize efficiency, and accommodate future growth of regional economies.
- 77. Encourage investments to provide access towards digital activities that support upwards educational, financial and economic growth.
- 78. Advocate for current, accurate data to identify opportunity zones and solutions to support the development of broadband services to community anchor institutions and local businesses.
- 79. Promote an atmosphere which allows for healthy competition and innovative solutions which are speed driven, while remaining technologically neutral.
- 80. Use a bottom-up approach to identify and support a community’s broadband needs.

Universal Basic Mobility*

- 81. Encourage partnerships and policies to broaden safe and efficient access to a range of mobility services to improve connections to jobs, education, and basic services.
- 82. Promote increased payment credentials for disadvantaged community members and transition of cash users to digital payment technologies to address payment barriers.

Workforce Development

- 83. Foster a positive business climate by promoting regional collaboration in workforce and economic development between cities, counties, educational institutions, and employers.
- 84. Encourage inclusive workforce development that promotes upward economic mobility.
- 85. Support entrepreneurial growth with a focus on underrepresented communities.
- 86. Foster a resilient workforce that is poised to effectively respond to changing economic conditions (market dynamics, technological advances, and climate change).
- 87. Inform and facilitate data-driven decision-making about the region’s workforce.

Tourism

- 88. Consult and collaborate with state, county, and local agencies within the region charged with promoting tourism and transportation.
- 89. Encourage the reduced use of cars by visitors to the region by working with state, county, and city agencies to highlight and increase access to alternative options, including transit, passenger rail, and active transportation.

REGIONAL PLANNING POLICY GLOSSARY

AB 617 Communities: In response to Assembly Bill (AB) 617, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) established the Community Air Protection Program. The Program’s focus is to reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution. CARB, community members, local air districts, and other stakeholders are working together to identify community concerns and air quality priorities and develop actions to measure and reduce air pollution and health impacts. AB 617 Communities are communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden around the State that have been selected by CARB annually since 2018 to develop and implement community air monitoring plans, community emission reduction programs, or both in order to improve air quality in their community. As of 2022, 17 communities have been selected as the designated AB 617 communities where air pollution reduction actions are underway. For more information on the AB 617 communities, please visit <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/capp-communities>.

Clean Transportation Technologies: Zero- and near zero-emission vehicles, their supporting infrastructure, and other facilitating products that reduce environmental impacts over their full life cycle including upstream production and end of life.

Nature-based solutions: Actions that work with and enhance nature to help address societal challenges. This term describes a range of approaches that protect, sustainably manage, and restore nature to deliver multiple outcomes, including addressing climate change, improving public health, increasing equity, and protecting biodiversity¹

Priority Equity Communities: Census tracts in the SCAG region that have a greater concentration of populations that have been historically marginalized and are susceptible to inequitable outcomes based on several socioeconomic factors.

Technology Neutrality: A stance that does not give preference to a particular technology as long as it furthers the desired outcome of a zero-emission transportation system that meets or exceeds federal and state targets.

Transportation Equity Zones: Communities across the SCAG region most impacted by transportation-related inequities

Universal Basic Mobility: Programs that provide qualified residents subsidies for transit and other mobility services.



AGENDA ITEM 2
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)

From: Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
(213) 787-2569, ruben.duran@bbkllaw.com

Subject: Approval of Amendment No. 2 to Executive Director’s Employment
Agreement and Annual Work Plan

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S
APPROVAL**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the attached Amendment No. 2 to the Employment Agreement between SCAG and Kome Ajise and approve the Executive Director’s Proposed Annual Work Plan for 2023-24.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 2: Advance Southern California’s policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy. 4: Provide innovative information and value-added services to enhance member agencies’ planning and operations and promote regional collaboration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In accordance with SCAG’s Bylaws and the Executive Director’s Employment Agreement, the Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) conducted an annual performance evaluation of the Executive Director earlier this year. The EAC recommended that the RC approve an amendment to the Agreement to extend the term of the Agreement by three years. The attached amendment makes only that change; the remaining terms of the Agreement remain in full force and effect.

BACKGROUND:

SCAG’s Executive Director, Kome Ajise, was hired on April 5, 2019. His employment agreement, as amended and attached hereto, sets forth the terms of employment, including an initial five-year term, an annual salary of \$382,000, customary employee benefits such as health and life insurance, and various other terms.

Section 2.03 of the agreement provides for an annual performance evaluation of the executive director by SCAG’s Executive/Administrative Committee; that process was completed in accordance with SCAG’s Bylaws prior to the 2023 General Assembly. The EAC recommended that the RC approve a three-year extension to the term of the Agreement, in recognition of a positive performance review.



Additionally, in accordance with Article V, Section C(3)(b) of SCAG's Bylaws, the EAC shall review and approve the Executive Director's Annual Work Plan, subject to ratification by the Regional Council.

Accordingly, Board Counsel has prepared the attached Amendment No. 2 to the employment agreement for consideration; additionally, the Executive Director's proposed Annual Work Plan is attached for review and approval as required by the Bylaws.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This action extends the term of SCAG's Executive Director with no change to compensation or benefits.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Original Employment Agreement as amended
2. Proposed Amendment No. 2
3. Executive Director's Proposed Annual Work Plan 2023-24

AMENDMENT NO. 1

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AND KOME AJISE

The EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS AND KOME AJISE, dated May 2, 2019, is hereby amended as follows:

1. **Section 2.03. (Performance Evaluation):** This section shall be revised, as follows:

Employee's performance will be evaluated in accordance with Article V, section C(3)(b) of SCAG's Bylaws.
2. **Section 3.02. (Employee Base Salary):** The base salary shall be increased to Three Hundred and Eighty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$382,000) per year.
3. **Section 3.03. (Cost of Living Adjustment):** This section shall be removed in its entirety.
4. Except as expressly amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

These amendments have been mutually agreed upon and shall become effective upon approval of this Amendment by the Regional Council.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

By: Jan C. Harnik
Jan C. Harnik, President

By: Kome Ajise
Kome Ajise, Executive Director

DATE: 10/6/2022

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Ruben Duran
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

FOR

KOME AJISE

This Employment Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement") is entered into by and between the Southern California Association of Governments, a California Joint Powers Agency (hereinafter referred to as the "Employer" or "SCAG") and Kome Ajise (hereinafter referred to as the "Employee"), each individually referred to as "Party" and collectively referred to as the "Parties," in consideration of the mutual promises as set forth herein.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the position of Executive Director is a "Director" level and "at-will" position;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interest of SCAG that all "Director" level positions and their terms of employment be set forth in an employment contract between SCAG and the Executive Director;

WHEREAS, the Regional Council has given authority to the SCAG President to enter into this Agreement on behalf of Employer; and

WHEREAS, SCAG intends that this Agreement set forth all obligations, rights and privileges it may owe to Employee and which Employee may owe to SCAG as a result of the employment relationship.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties agree to enter into this Agreement under the terms and the conditions set forth below.

ARTICLE 1. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT

Section 1.01 -- Specified Term

The Employer hereby employs Employee and Employee hereby accepts employment with Employer for the period from April 5, 2019 to April 4, 2024, hereinafter referred to as the "Term" of the Agreement.

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Section 1.02 -- Earlier Termination

This Agreement may be terminated earlier as hereinafter provided under Article 4.

ARTICLE 2. DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF EMPLOYEE

Section 2.01 -- Title and Description of Performance Goals

Employee shall serve as the Executive Director of SCAG. In that capacity, Employee shall do and perform all services, acts, or things necessary or advisable to fulfill the duties of an Executive Director pursuant to the provisions of Article VII of SCAG's Bylaws. However, Employee shall at all times be subject to the direction of the Regional Council and the policies of the Regional Council.

Section 2.02 -- Loyal and Conscientious Performance of Duties

Employee agrees that to the best of his ability and experience, he will at all times loyally and conscientiously perform all of the duties and obligations required of him either expressly or implicitly by the terms of this Agreement. Said required duties and obligations are set forth in Article VII of SCAG's Bylaws.

Section 2.03 -- Performance Evaluation

Employee's performance will be evaluated annually by SCAG's Executive / Administration Committee (EAC) and ratified by SCAG's Regional Council in accordance with the Bylaws of SCAG. This annual performance evaluation shall occur on or before April 30th of each year during the Term of this Agreement. Informal performance evaluations by the EAC may be undertaken as determined by the EAC. Each annual performance evaluation shall be based on Employee's performance as measured against both the required duties and obligations of the Executive Director and an annual Work Plan developed by Employee and the EAC and agreed to by the Regional Council. The EAC shall also have the authority to seek input from SCAG's Executive Management staff in assessing Employee's performance.

Section 2.04 -- Employer's Personnel Rules

Employee agrees to comply with all of the provisions set forth within the Personnel Rules of SCAG that are applicable to this Agreement, as they are adopted and periodically amended.

ARTICLE 3. OBLIGATIONS OF EMPLOYER

Section 3.01 -- General Description

Employer shall provide Employee with the compensation, incentives, and benefits as set forth below, and reasonable business expense reimbursement in accordance with SCAG's policies.

Section 3.02 -- Employee Base Salary

Commencing the starting date (Term) of this Agreement (April 5, 2019) and as compensation for the services to be rendered by Employee under this Agreement, Employer shall pay Employee a base salary of Three Hundred and Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$335,000.00) per year paid in equal biweekly amounts during the period of his employment and prorated for any partial employment period. During the Term of this Agreement and subject to the terms of this Article 3, the EAC shall have the authority to recommend the adjustment and increase of the base salary of Employee, with any such base salary adjustment and increase subject to the ratification of the Regional Council.

Section 3.03 -- Annual Cost of Living Increases

At the sole discretion of SCAG, and commencing on April 5, 2019 and continuing each year thereafter, provided that the Regional Council and General Assembly approve salary adjustments for SCAG employees through the annual budget approval process, Employee shall receive a cost of living increase paid consistent with any cost of living increase made available to SCAG staff and only if a cost of living increase is made available to SCAG staff. The amount of any such cost of living increase for Employee must be determined using a process that is consistent with that used for SCAG staff. Any such cost of living increase must be authorized by the SCAG President before it takes effect, and will be effective on the same date as it is effective for SCAG staff.

Section 3.04 -- Discretionary Merit Increase

At the sole discretion of SCAG and commencing on April 5, 2019 and continuing each year thereafter, provided that the Regional Council and General Assembly approve salary adjustment for SCAG employees through the annual budget approval process, Employee shall receive a merit salary adjustment based on the EAC' s review of Employee's performance of duties and obligations and achievement, as well as the achievement of performance objectives/desired outcomes as provided in a Work Plan to be subsequently approved and agreed upon between Employee and the EAC. Any merit salary increase, if any, must be consistent with any merit salary increase available to

SCAG staff and, after authorization by the SCAG President, will be effective on the same date as it is effective for SCAG staff.

Section 3.05 -- Limitation on Increases

Notwithstanding Sections 3.03 and 3.04 above, in years when there is no cost of living increase, merit salary adjustment or other form of compensation adjustment provided to SCAG staff, Employee will not receive any such increases, payments or adjustments. .

Section 3.06 -- Employee Benefits

(a) Employee is entitled to sick leave, all retirement, health, vision and dental insurance, life insurance, deferred compensation, and disability benefits and other work related programs offered to all non-exempt SCAG employees. In addition, life insurance with an increased coverage level of \$150,000.00 is provided. The Employer shall pay the full premium of this coverage; but the Employee shall be responsible for the taxable value of this benefit. Also, the Employer agrees to match Employee's annual contribution to SCAG's 457 deferred compensation retirement plan(s) provider, except that matching amount from Employer, not to exceed IRS limits in any given year.

(b) Employee will be entitled to accumulate annual vacation leave at the rate of 160 hours or at such accumulation rate as provided in the Personnel Rules as they are adopted and periodically amended, whichever is greater. Utilization of such leave and restrictions on the accumulation of such leave shall be governed by the provisions of the Personnel Rules.

(c) Employee will be entitled to receive ~~\$10,500 annually~~ ^{KA} or \$750 monthly for an auto allowance. This supplemental allowance will be paid as part of a non-accountable plan in accordance with applicable regulations of the United States Treasury Department, Internal Revenue Service, and all such payments will be reported as income.

(d) Employee shall receive a monthly allowance equal to cost of monthly parking in SCAG's Downtown Los Angeles headquarters.

(e) Employee shall receive \$250 monthly as reimbursement for the acquisition and use of a Cellular Telephone and for unrestricted Internet home use; and any hardware accessories.

(f) Employee shall also be entitled to receive, each year, Personal Floating Holidays to be used in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Personnel Rules of SCAG, as they are adopted and periodically revised.

(g) In addition to the vacation leave described in Section 3.06(b) above, Employee shall also be entitled to receive each year 80 hours of executive leave accrued annually on a calendar year basis, and whatever portion is unused as of December 31st of the calendar year, shall be paid out in cash upon Employee's request in the following calendar year.

(h) All sick leave, vacation, retirement and other benefits accrued by Employee as of the Effective Date of this Agreement shall be carried forward under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 4. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Section 4.01 -- Automatic Termination

This Agreement shall automatically terminate, with or without notice, and without the severance payment set forth in Article 4.03(a) (2), upon the occurrence of the following events:

- (a) the death of the Employee;
- (b) the inability of the Employee to perform the essential functions of his employment;
- (c) the voluntary or involuntary dissolution of Employer; or
- (d) the expiration of the Term of this Agreement.

This Agreement will also automatically terminate, after sixty (60) days written notice, in the event that Employee's position is eliminated due to work reduction caused by budgetary constraints or for any other reason; provided, however, that in this situation, severance payment may be paid to Employee in accordance with Article 4.03(a) (2) of this Agreement at the sole discretion of the Employer.

Section 4.02 -- Termination by Employee

The Employee may terminate this Agreement by providing the Employer with sixty (60) days written notice of his resignation of employment. Upon his resignation, Employee shall be entitled only to the compensation set forth in Section 4.04 and shall not be entitled to any severance payment.

Section 4.03 -- Termination by Employer

(a) **Without Cause:** The Employer may, at its sole discretion, terminate this Agreement without cause provided that Employer gives Employee at least sixty (60) days written notice of such termination without cause. Being at-will, Employee acknowledges that he has no right to the grievance procedures established by Employer.

- (1) Should Employer elect to terminate this Agreement without cause, Employer agrees to provide Employee with a severance payment as set forth in Section 4.03(a) (2) below from the date of termination.
- (2) Employee shall receive an amount equal to Employee's annual base salary as defined in Section 3.02 at the time of termination as a severance payment; except, that, in accordance with Government Code Section 53260, the maximum severance payment made to Employee cannot be more than Employee's annual base salary divided by twelve and multiplied by the number of months remaining in the Term of this Agreement (up to a maximum of twelve (12) months). In addition, Employer shall pay the life, vision, medical and dental premiums of Employee at the then current participation rate at the time of termination for the number of months remaining in the Term of this Agreement (up to a maximum of twelve (12) months).

(b) **For Cause:** The Employer shall have the right to immediately terminate Employee for cause if the Employee does any of the following:

- (1) willfully breaches or habitually neglects the duties which he is required to perform under terms of this Agreement;
- (2) commits acts of dishonesty, fraud, misrepresentation, or other acts of moral turpitude, that would prevent the effective performance of his duties or that places SCAG in an unfavorable light;
- (3) substantially fails to perform his duties or fails to meet his performance objectives based upon the annual review by the EAC;
- (4) engages in any actions that is disruptive to the workplace;
- (5) commits significant acts of insubordination to the Regional Council; or
- (6) violates any of the policies set forth in the Personnel Rules of SCAG, as adopted and periodically amended.

If the Employee is terminated by Employer for cause, Employee shall not be entitled to any severance payment from Employer, unless the EAC in its sole discretion authorizes severance payment and the decision by the EAC is ratified by a majority vote of the Regional Council.

(c) Notice of For Cause Termination: Should the Employer terminate Employee pursuant to Section 4.03(b), Employer agrees to provide Employee with written notice detailing the specific grounds leading to his for cause termination, provided that such written notice of termination for cause may be effective immediately.

Section 4.04 -- Effect on Compensation

In the event that this Agreement is terminated, for any of the reasons set forth in this Article, Employee shall be entitled to his base salary owed and benefits earned by and vested in Employee prior to the date of his termination, computed pro rata up to and including that date. Except for the provisions in this Agreement allowing for severance payment, and except for the payment of life, vision, medical and dental premiums as discussed in Section 4.03(a) (2), Employee shall be entitled to no further compensation as of the date of termination.

ARTICLE 5: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 5.01 -- Notices

Any notices to be given by either Party to the other shall be in writing and maybe transmitted either by personal delivery or by mail, registered or certified, postage prepaid with return receipt requested. Mailed notices shall be addressed to the Parties at the addresses appearing below. Each Party may change that address by written notice in accordance with this section. Notices delivered personally shall be deemed communicated as of the date of actual receipt; mailed notices shall be deemed communicated as of the date of mailing.

Notice to Employer

Human Resources Department
SCAG
900 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90017

Notice to Employee

Kome Ajise
900 W. Temple Street #407
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Section 5.02 -- Attorney's Fees and Costs

If any action is necessary to enforce or interpret the terms of this Agreement, the prevailing Party shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees, costs, and necessary disbursements in addition to any other relief to which that Party may be entitled. This provision shall be construed as applicable to the entire contract.

Section 5.03 -- Entire Agreement

This Agreement supersedes any and all other agreements, either oral or in writing, between the Parties with respect to the employment of Employee by Employer, and contains all of the covenants and agreements between the Parties with respect to that employment in any manner whatsoever. Each Party to this Agreement acknowledges that no representations, inducements, promises, or agreements, orally or otherwise, have been made by any Party, or anyone acting on behalf of any Party, which are not embodied herein, and that no other agreement, statement; or promise not contained in this Agreement shall be valid or binding.

Section 5.04 -- Modification

Any modification or amendment of this Agreement will be effective only if it is in writing signed by both the President of SCAG acting on behalf of SCAG's Regional Council and the Employee. However, changes to the Personnel Rules of SCAG, except for those addressing compensation or benefits, are applicable to this Agreement.

Section 5.05 -- Partial Invalidity

If any provision in this Agreement is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall nevertheless continue in full force without being impaired or invalidated in any way.

Section 5.06 -- Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

Executed on May 2nd, 2019 at Los Angeles, California.

EMPLOYER

Southern California Association of Governments

By  _____
Alan Wapner, SCAG President

EMPLOYEE

Kome Ajise

By  _____
Executive Director

Approved as to Form:

 _____
Legal Counsel

AMENDMENT NO. 2

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AND KOME AJISE

The EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS AND KOME AJISE, dated May 2, 2019, is hereby amended as follows:

- 1. **Section 1.01. (Specified Term):** This section is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

The Employer hereby employs Employee and Employee hereby accepts employment with Employer for the period from April 5, 2019 to April 4, 2027.

- 2. Except as expressly amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

This amendment has been mutually agreed upon and shall become effective upon approval of this Amendment by the Regional Council.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

EMPLOYEE

By: _____
Art Brown, President

By: _____
Kome Ajise, Executive Director

DATE: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel

Attachment: Proposed Amendment No. 2 (Approval of Amendment No. 2 to Executive Director's Employment Agreement and Annual Work

**SCAG Executive Director Annual Work Plan
2023-24**

GOAL 1: Produce innovative plans that increase sustainability and improve the quality of life for Southern Californians

- Unite and elevate the region’s voice on transit recovery, goods movement, and a smooth transition to clean transportation technologies as key Presidential Priorities.
- Deliver Connect SoCal-2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy by building on policy direction set by 2022-2023 policy resolutions and special committee recommendations to establish an integrated set of Regional Planning Policies and Implementation Strategies in Connect SoCal 2024.
- Initiate staff work on 2024 Sustainable Communities Program /Local Implementation to implement in advance of Connect SoCal 2028.
- Deliver guidelines and project selection process for Federal and State funding programs administered by SCAG including the 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and the Carbon Reduction Program.
- Deliver and implement program guidelines for the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program, including identifying categories and funding sources to support a series of Calls for Projects to provide resources to meet the diverse planning needs of local communities and support implementation of regional planning policies and strategies.
- Deliver and implement REAP 2021 funding programs and project lists ensuring consistency with the strategic priorities approved in the REAP 2021 framework and resulting program-specific guidelines.

GOAL 2: Be the foremost data information hub for the region

- Continue to promote innovation in regional planning and policy guided by the work of the Emerging Technology Committee and through technical assistance programs.
- Provide oversight and help champion the use of data tools available through the RDP to enhance local planning capacity in support of regional goals.
- Continue evolution of SCAG’s hybrid cloud strategy in support of regional data sharing, Connect SoCal modeling efforts, and enterprise business systems.
- Continue to develop and maintain strong professional relationships with strategic big data partners in academia, private sector and all levels of government.

GOAL 3: Provide innovative information and value-added services to enhance member agencies’ planning and operations and promote regional collaboration

- Continue to bring elected leaders and community partners together to advance Regional Planning Policies and develop a shared understanding of challenges and solutions through site visits, mobile workshops and trainings.
- Continue to shape good public policy by hosting and convening thought leaders at the General Assembly, Economic Summit and the Demographic Workshop.
- Continue to develop new members on-boarding program to facilitate effective orientation and education of new members to maximize their participation and leadership.

**SCAG Executive Director Annual Work Plan
2023-24**

- Continue to enhance information databases, access to innovative software and tools, training and programs to better serve SCAG member cities and their participation in regional planning.
- Continue strategic regional grant programs to encourage member jurisdictions to implement SCAG adopted regional policies.
- Continue to develop, enhance and broadcast a cohesive and collaborative communication strategy.

GOAL 4: Advance Southern California’s policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy

- Continue to provide regional leadership on important transportation policy and budgetary issues to protect the SCAG region’s ability to implement the RTP/SCS, such as advocating against AB 6, AB 7, and AB 1335, and supporting funding commitments to the Active Transportation Program, Transit & Intercity Rail Capital Program, and securing relief funding for transit operators.
- Provide regional leadership and support for Governor Newsom’s CEQA Streamlining package, consistent with the organization’s legislative platform and priorities articulated at the 2023 Sacramento Summit.
- Provide regional leadership on substantive RHNA reform, including identification of specific principles from SCAG’s RHNA reform outreach efforts that can be translated to legislative proposals for the 2024 legislative year.
- Provide opportunities for SCAG leadership to act as ambassadors and champions of SCAG’s local planning programs and information services to increase awareness, reach and impact of SCAG services to advance regional plans and policies.
- Continue regular meetings with relevant government officials and host specific industry roundtables with leaders in labor and business.
- To improve legislation on behalf of SCAG at the local, state, and federal level, provide regular testimony, presentations, and speeches during official city, county, state and federal proceedings including, but not limited to, meetings, hearings, and committees.

GOAL 5: Recruit, support, and develop a world-class workforce and be the workplace of choice

- Continue to cultivate an excellent employee experience journey that allows individuals to understand their importance and value, purpose, and role as they progress in their tenure with the organization and that is anchored to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.
- Utilize workforce planning strategies to align classifications and development opportunities to match the organization’s future needs.
- Pursue information technology and business process innovations that support SCAG’s core business functions and improves efficiency, communication, and effectiveness across the organization.
- Continuous improvement of SCAG’s performance management process to advance employee development and performance and support managers setting employee goals

**SCAG Executive Director Annual Work Plan
2023-24**

- Foster a positive and supportive employee experience for new employees by continuously improving the orientation and onboarding program that familiarizes employees with SCAG’s vision and assists new employees with understanding their roles and responsibilities.

GOAL 6: Deploy strategic communications to further organization priorities and foster public understanding of long-range regional planning

- Complete update of SCAG Strategic Plan and ensure implementation includes a communication plan reflecting stakeholder input.
- Advance the brand identity and communication outreach of SCAG through timely strategic messaging, increased media exposure and expanded use of new media and technologies.
- Enhance outreach opportunities in the development of the Connect SoCal through SCAG Working Groups, Technical Advisory Committees, and various Sub-regional Leadership Group Meetings.
- Continue to enhance SCAG’s overall website and communications strategy to foster stakeholder understanding and engagement with SCAG.

GOAL 7: Secure ample funding to support organization priorities and use best practices to effectively and efficiently deliver work products

- Pursue Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) resources for SCAG and partner led efforts to implement Connect SoCal and support regional capacity building to increase local competitiveness for federal and state grants.
- Deliver excellent customer service through high quality, effective, efficient, and scalable business practices focused on continuous improvement.
- Continue to implement organization-wide project management standardization and best practices to enhance organizational responsiveness and effectiveness through portfolio visibility.
- Ensure risks identified by the Audit Committee are addressed and the committee is regularly updated on how staff is managing these risks.



MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2023

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC). AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.ig2.com/Citizens/>.

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) 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
Sup. Curt Hagman, 1st Vice President
Hon. Cindy Allen, 2nd Vice President
Hon. Jan Harnik, Imm. Past President
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair, EEC
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC
Hon. Clint Lorimore, President’s Appt.
Hon. Marshall Goodman, President’s Appt.
Hon. Larry McCallon, President’s Appt.
Hon. Lucy Dunn

Buena Park

Long Beach
RCTC
Cerritos
Calabasas
Rialto

Pomona
VCTC
Riverside
Lynwood
Eastvale
La Palma
Highland

District 21
San Bernardino County
Los Angeles County
Riverside
District 23
District 44
District 8
Imperial County
District 38
Ventura County
District 68
District 26
District 4
District 18
District 7
Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Tim McOsker, President’s Appt
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.

Los Angeles
Pechanga Dev. Corp.

District 62
TGRP Representative

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy 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
Michael Houston, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Art Brown called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. President Brown asked Regional Council Member Mike Judge, VCTC, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged there no written public comments received before or after the deadline.

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

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

ACTION ITEM

1. Adoption of Amended SCAG Conflict of Interest Code

There were no public comments on this item.

Michael R.W. Houston, Chief Counsel and Director of Legal Services, reported that every public agency in the state of California was required to adopt a Conflict of Interest Code that identifies positions within the agency that file statements of economic interests, known as Form 700. He indicated that the Fair Political Practices Commission reviews and approves SCAG’s Conflict of Interest Code once it becomes active. Additionally, state law requires on a biennial basis in every even numbered year, that each agency review its Conflict of Interest Code to determine if amendments are necessary. He explained that In 2020, SCAG conducted its biennial review of the Conflict of Interest Code which was last amended in 2016, and that due to significant changes in staffing and job classifications, including the 2022 classification and compensation study, legal counsel and FPCC determined it was necessary to amend and update the Conflict of Interest Code. He reported that the Conflict of Interest Code was posted and noticed for a 45-day public review period, as required by state law, from April 4 to May 19. He noted that no comments were received during or after the public review period and that the proposed amendments would add new staff positions and revise the titles of existing positions to reflect organizational changes. He further noted that following the Regional Council’s adoption of the amendments, the adoption would be forwarded to the FPCC for approval and that the Conflict of Interest Code would become effective after 30 days upon FPCC approval.

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

A MOTION was made (Robertson) that the Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) recommend that Regional Council (RC) adopt amendments to the Conflict of Interest Code of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Motion was SECONDED (Judge) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brown, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, McCallon, Plancarte, Robertson, Sandoval, Shapiro, Solache, and Yokoyama (15)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

2. Minutes of the Meeting – May 3, 2023

-
3. Contract Amendment: Contract No. 20-002-C01, Board Counsel Services – Term Extension
 4. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contact No. 23-024-C01, Lennox Community Pedestrian Plan
 5. Housing and Transportation Bills of Interest Follow-Up
 6. 2023 Sacramento Summit Legislation Follow-Up
 7. Safety, Resilience, and Housing Bills – Support
 8. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

9. SCAG Regional Travel Demand Model (ABM) Peer Review Meeting
10. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
11. CFO Monthly Report

Immediate Past President Jan Harnik, RCTC, reported that on Item 5 (page 47 of the agenda packet, AB 1525 - Assembly Member Mia Bonta, a two-year bill) RCTC also had significant questions about the positive and negative aspects of bill and appreciated the position that had been taken. She indicated that at their meeting there was one member that wanted an analysis done about how it may impact Riverside County and the Coachella Valley. She indicated that the analysis had been done and if it might be a resource for them, she was sure that RCTC would be happy to prepare it.

A MOTION was made (Harnik) to approve the Consent Calendar Item 2 through 8; and Receive and File Items 9 through 11. Motion was SECONDED (Plancarte) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brown, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, McCallon, Plancarte, Robertson, Sandoval, Shapiro, Solache, and Yokoyama (15)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

Information Item

12. Status Report on SCAG's Racial Equity Early Action Plan

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that the Regional Council adopted a resolution in July 2020 calling for an ad-hoc subcommittee to develop SCAG's response to advance equity. The subcommittee put forth an early action plan, which the Regional Council adopted in March 2021. He listed the updates on the progress of work in the plan by stating one-third of the work had been completed, approximately 10 items; about half of the items in the plan were in progress, approximately 17 items; while the remaining items were in planning stages, approximately 5 items. He stated the Racial Equity and Regional Planning subcommittee convened between September of last year and January 2023 and the white paper based on the subcommittee's input and findings was presented at the March Joint Policy Committee meeting as part of the Connect SoCal plan development process. Lastly, he stated there was an error on the notes under the Activate and Amplified section and it would be corrected.

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

CFO REPORT

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the 2024 work program had been submitted to Caltrans for approval. She indicated that approval was anticipated to be received by end of June. She also reported that staff was awarding funding to successful applicants of Go Human Community Hubs Call for Projects and that eligible applicants included CBO's, non-profits, and social enterprises. She noted that the total amount awarded was \$400,00 for 12 projects and MOU's were currently being prepared.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Brown reported that the EAC retreat would be in Buena Park on June 29 through June 30 and more details about the retreat would be available soon. He stated the 58th Annual Regional Conference & General Assembly in Palm Desert last month was a success and that there were more tickets sold, sponsors and sponsorship dollars, and media coverage than in past years. He indicated that details were available in the staff report to the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee last month. He reported that he and Executive Director Kome Ajise and Regional Council members Suely Saro and Mark Henderson attended a workshop in Long Beach on May 20 that was hosted by SCAG, the California Department of Technology and the California Public Utilities Commission. He indicated that the workshop gathered input on the development of the State Digital Equity Plan and the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Five-Year Action Plan. He also reported that he attended the annual Future Ports conference in Lakewood along with Executive Director Ajise and Chief Planning Officer Sarah Jepson. He reported that Mario Cordero

from the Port of Long Beach was in attendance, along with stakeholders across the goods movement industry. He indicated that panels featured discussions on automation, competitiveness and decarbonizing the supply chain. Lastly, he stated that the next regular meeting of the EAC was scheduled for Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director Ajise reported that SCAG concluded the in-person and virtual workshops for Connect SoCal held throughout the region over the last two months. He indicated that members of the public were able to contribute to Connect SoCal by taking a brief survey at ConnectSoCal.org before June 4. He noted that SCAG would present the highlights and findings from Connect SoCal outreach to the Regional Council next month and would also ask the EAC and Regional Council to approve an update to the Connect SoCal Policy Development Framework based on feedback received at the May Policy Committee meetings. He reported that the California Department of Housing and Community Development was crafting recommendations to reform the Regional Housing Needs Assessment process, which would be provided in a report to the California State Legislature by December 31. He indicated that SCAG would seek input from jurisdictions and stakeholders on the draft RHNA reform recommendations through a brief public survey and listening session on June 22. He reported that SCAG was in the process of finalizing the SoCal Greenprint Technical Advisory Committee, which would advise staff on the development of the Greenprint tool and ensure its alignment with the approved RAMP policy framework. He indicated that staff was reviewing applications and working to fill gaps to ensure regional representation. And that once the membership had been finalized, SCAG would schedule meetings with the TAC this summer. He also reported that the second phase of SCAG’s Regional Early Action Planning program – REAP 2.0 – had released four Calls for Applications to date, making \$116 million in funds available for local agencies in multiple program areas related to increasing housing production. He noted that SCAG had submitted the full funding application to state partners last December and that the state had provided feedback on five of the six proposed uses, with final feedback and approval anticipated by the end of June. Lastly, he stated he participated in the inaugural board meeting for the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS) on May 17.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

Regional Council Member Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 8, reported that she would not be attending the Regional Council Meeting as she would be traveling to the annual U.S. Conference of Mayors in Columbus Ohio. She indicated that they would be considering various resolutions and wanted to bring their attention to Resolution 42 which was asking the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to look at their analysis regarding Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFAS), which was basically a cost factor that the EPA wants to impose. She



expressed that she was hoping they could bring this to the Energy and Environment Committee in so that SCAG can provide a letter of support to the U.S. Conference of Mayors efforts to ask the EPA to reconsider the formulas that they are going to use to try determine how they will have to address pfos and pfoa as it relates to drinking water.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Brown adjourned the Meeting of the Executive Administration Committee at 3:34 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

2022-23																
MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	31-May	29-Jun	30-Jun	JULY	AUG	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Hon. Art Brown, President, Chair	Buena Park	District 21	1													1
Hon. Curt Hagman, 1st Vice Chair		San Bernardino County	1													
Hon. Cindy Allen, 2nd Vice Chair	Long Beach	District 30	1													1
Hon. Jan Harnik, Chair, Imm. Past President		RCTC	1													0
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 23	1													1
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 44	1													1
Hon. Deborah Roberston, Chair, EEC	Rialto	District 8	1													1
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC		Imperial County	1													1
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38	1													1
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC		VCTC	1													1
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68	1													1
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26	1													1
Hon. Marshall Goodman, President's Appt.	La Palma	District 18	1													1
Hon. Clint Lorimore, President's Appt.	Eastvale	District 4	1													1
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.		Air District Representative	1													1
Hon. Tim McOsker, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	District 62														0
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board														0
Ms. Lucy Dunn, Ex-Officio Member	Lucy Dunn Strategic Issues Ma	Business Representative	1													1
			16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14



AGENDA ITEM 4
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)

From: Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
(213) 630-1413, giraldo@scag.ca.gov

Subject: Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 23-014-C01, Information
Technology (IT) – Geospatial Application Development and Support

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve Contract No. 23-014-C01, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000, with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), to provide Geographic Information System (GIS) services and Geospatial Application Development and Support on an as-needed basis for the next three (3) years. Authorize the Executive Director, or his designee, pursuant to legal counsel review, to execute the contract on behalf of SCAG.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 3: Be the foremost data information hub for the region.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The consultant will augment SCAG's IT-GIS business analysis, data, development, and deployment efforts for internally developed projects on an as-needed basis. The consultant will also provide on-demand support and supplement in-house team in developing and maintaining GIS business solutions for SCAG.

BACKGROUND:

Staff recommends executing the following contract \$500,000 or greater:

<u>Consultant/Contract #</u>	<u>Contract Purpose</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (23-014-C01)	The consultant will provide GIS and geospatial application development and support services to SCAG.	\$1,200,000



FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding of \$400,000 is available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Indirect Cost Program and Overall Work Program (OWP) Budgets in Project Numbers 811-1163.21 and 045-0142B.12, and the remaining balance will be requested in future fiscal year budgets, subject to budget availability.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Contract Summary 23-014-C01
2. Contract Summary 23-014-C01 COI

CONSULTANT CONTRACT NO. 23-014-C01

Recommended Consultant: Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI)

Background & Scope of Work: The consultant will augment SCAG’s IT-GIS business analysis, data, development, and deployment efforts for internally developed projects.

The aim is to establish a GIS consulting partnership who will work closely with SCAG’s IT-GIS Application Development & Support team. Consultant will provide on-demand support and supplement in-house team in developing and maintaining GIS business solutions for SCAG.

Project’s Benefits & Key Deliverables: The project’s benefits and key deliverables include, but are not limited to:

- Accelerated assessment of business requirements and project feasibility,
- Accelerated development and deployment of GIS projects,
- Broader expertise for user support in Planning and Jurisdictions.

Strategic Plan: This item supports SCAG’s Strategic Plan Goal 3: Be the foremost data information hub of the region. The on-demand augmentation will accelerate the initiative to improve information resources in the SCAG region. Complementary expert insights will also promote best practices for gathering, curating and deploying regional data under the Regional Data Platform.

Contract Amount:

Total not to exceed the estimated amount	\$1,200,000
ESRI (prime consultant)	\$948,000
Geoconvergence (subconsultant)	\$252,000

Contract Period: Notice to Proceed through July 30, 2026

Project Number(s): 811-1163.21 \$320,000
045-0142B.12 \$80,000

Funding source(s): Indirect Cost (IC) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA 5303)

Funding of \$400,000.00 is available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Indirect Cost Program and Overall Work Program (OWP) Budgets in Project Numbers 811-1163.21 and 045-0142B.12, and the remaining balance will be requested in future fiscal year budgets, subject to budget availability.

Request for Proposal (RFP): SCAG staff notified 4,646 firms of the release of RFP 23-014-C01 via the PlanetBids website. A total of 106 firms downloaded the RFP. SCAG received the following four (4) responsive proposals in response to the solicitation; two (2) of additional proposals (not shown) were disqualified for not meeting the DBE goal requirement. Given the selected consultant shall provide as-needed support services over the next three-years, the rates (as opposed to a specific price) each proposed are shown below:

ESRI (1 subconsultant)	\$109.00 - \$376.00/hr
Timmons Group (1 subconsultant)	\$115.00 - \$189.00/hr
PSOMAS (1 subconsultant)	\$110.00 - \$210.00/hr
Black & Veatch (1 subconsultant)	\$101.00 - \$262.00/hr

Selection Process: The Proposal Review Committee (PRC) evaluated each proposal in accordance with the criteria set forth in the RFP and conducted the selection process in a manner consistent with all applicable federal and state contracting regulations. After evaluating the proposals, the PRC interviewed the two (2) highest ranked offerors.

The PRC consisted of the following individuals:

Sean Tucker, Lead Enterprise GIS Administrator, SCAG
 Abhishek Sharma, GIS Application Developer, SCAG
 Jonathan Holt, Department Manager - Application Development and Support, SCAG
 Jung Seo, Program Manager II (GIS), SCAG

Basis for Selection: PRC recommends ESRI for contract award based on ESRI providing the best overall value. Specifically, ESRI provides SCAG with a partner team that presents the greatest depth of overall experience as well as experience with SCAG GIS technologies, and resources to make the most efficient use of labor hours. Experiences with the GIS technologies SCAG has selected and deployed was a critical aspect of the value assessment.

Further, in support of equity and DBE goals, the woman owned organization Geoconvergence, will be an important part of this project as well. They are planned to perform part of the effort and provide additional expertise.

**Conflict of Interest (COI) Form - Attachment
For July 6, 2023, Regional Council Approval**

Approve Contract No. 23-014-C01, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000, with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI), to provide Geographic Information System (GIS) services and Geospatial Application Development and Support on an as-needed basis for the next three (3) years. Authorize the Executive Director, or his designee, pursuant to legal counsel review, to execute the contract on behalf of SCAG.

The consultant team for this contract includes:

Consultant Name	Did the consultant disclose a conflict in the Conflict of Interest Form they submitted with its original proposal (Yes or No)?
ESRI (prime consultant)	No - form attached
Geoconvergence (subconsultant)	No - form attached

SCAG CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM

RFP No. 23-014

SECTION I: INSTRUCTIONS

All persons or firms seeking contracts must complete and submit a SCAG Conflict of Interest Form along with the proposal. This requirement also applies to any proposed subconsultant(s). Failure to comply with this requirement may cause your proposal to be declared non-responsive.

In order to answer the questions contained in this form, please review SCAG’s Conflict of Interest Policy, the list of SCAG employees, and the list of SCAG’s Regional Council members. All three documents can be viewed online at www.scag.ca.gov. The SCAG Conflict of Interest Policy is located under “OPPORTUNITIES”, then “Doing Business with SCAG” and scroll down under the “CONTRACTS” tab; whereas the SCAG staff may be found under “ABOUT” then “Employee Directory”; and Regional Council members can be found under “ABOUT”, then scroll down to “ELECTED OFFICIALS” on the left side of the page and click on “See the list of SCAG representative and their Districts.”

Any questions regarding the information required to be disclosed in this form should be directed to SCAG’s Deputy Legal Counsel, especially if you answer “yes” to any question in this form, as doing so MAY also disqualify your firm from submitting an offer on this proposal

Name of Firm: Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.

Name of Preparer:

Project Title: 2023 SCAG IT-GIS Application Development & Support team

RFP Number: 23-014 Date Submitted: Apr 21, 2023

SECTION II: QUESTIONS

- 1. During the last twelve (12) months, has your firm provided a source of income to employees of SCAG or members of the SCAG Regional Council, or have any employees or Regional Council members held any investment (including real property) in your firm?

YES NO *To the best of my knowledge

If “yes,” please list the names of those SCAG employees and/or SCAG Regional Council members and the nature of the financial interest:

Name	Nature of Financial Interest
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Attachment: Contract Summary 23-014-C01 COI (Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 23-014-C01, Information Technology (IT) –

2. Have you or any members of your firm been an employee of SCAG or served as a member of the SCAG Regional Council within the last twelve (12) months?

YES NO * To the best of my knowledge

If “yes,” please list name, position, and dates of service:

Name	Position	Dates of Service
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. Are you or any managers, partners, or officers of your firm related by blood or marriage/domestic partnership to an employee of SCAG or member of the SCAG Regional Council that is considering your proposal?

YES NO *To the best of my knowledge

If “yes,” please list name and the nature of the relationship:

Name	Relationship
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

4. Does an employee of SCAG or a member of the SCAG Regional Council hold a position at your firm as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or any position of management?

YES NO *To the best of my knowledge

If “yes,” please list name and the nature of the relationship:

Name	Relationship
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Have you or any managers, partners, or officers of your firm ever given (directly or indirectly), or offered to give on behalf of another or through another person, campaign contributions or gifts to any current employee of SCAG or member of the SCAG Regional Council (including contributions to a political committee created by or on behalf of a member/candidate)?

YES NO *To the best of my knowledge

If “yes,” please list name, date gift or contribution was given/offered, and dollar value:

Name	Date	Dollar Value
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

SECTION III: VALIDATION STATEMENT

This Validation Statement must be completed and signed by at least one General Partner, Owner, Principal, or Officer authorized to legally commit the proposer.

DECLARATION

I, (printed full name) Timothy Brazeal, hereby declare that I am the (position or title) Mgr., Commercial & Gov't Contracts of (firm name) Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc, and that I am duly authorized to execute this Validation Statement on behalf of this entity. I hereby state that this SCAG Conflict of Interest Form dated Apr 11, 2023 is correct and current as submitted. I acknowledge that any false, deceptive, or fraudulent statements on this Validation Statement will result in rejection of my contract proposal.


Timothy Brazeal (Apr 11, 2023 10:35 PM)

Signature of Person Certifying for Proposer
 (Original signature required)

Apr 11, 2023

Date

NOTICE

A materially false statement, omission, or fraudulent inducement made in connection with this SCAG Conflict of Interest Form is sufficient cause for rejection of the contract proposal or revocation of a prior contract award.

SCAG CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM

RFP No. 23-014

SECTION I: INSTRUCTIONS

All persons or firms seeking contracts must complete and submit a SCAG Conflict of Interest Form along with the proposal. This requirement also applies to any proposed subconsultant(s). Failure to comply with this requirement may cause your proposal to be declared non-responsive.

In order to answer the questions contained in this form, please review SCAG’s Conflict of Interest Policy, the list of SCAG employees, and the list of SCAG’s Regional Council members. All three documents can be viewed online at www.scag.ca.gov. The SCAG Conflict of Interest Policy is located under “OPPORTUNITIES”, then “Doing Business with SCAG” and scroll down under the “CONTRACTS” tab; whereas the SCAG staff may be found under “ABOUT” then “Employee Directory”; and Regional Council members can be found under “ABOUT”, then scroll down to “ELECTED OFFICIALS” on the left side of the page and click on “See the list of SCAG representative and their Districts.”

Any questions regarding the information required to be disclosed in this form should be directed to SCAG’s Deputy Legal Counsel, especially if you answer “yes” to any question in this form, as doing so MAY also disqualify your firm from submitting an offer on this proposal

Name of Firm: geoConvergence LLC
Name of Preparer: Prem Radhakrishnan
Project Title: Geospatial Application Development and Support
RFP Number: 23-014 **Date Submitted:** 04/07/2023

SECTION II: QUESTIONS

1. During the last twelve (12) months, has your firm provided a source of income to employees of SCAG or members of the SCAG Regional Council, or have any employees or Regional Council members held any investment (including real property) in your firm?

YES NO

If “yes,” please list the names of those SCAG employees and/or SCAG Regional Council members and the nature of the financial interest:

Name	Nature of Financial Interest
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2. Have you or any members of your firm been an employee of SCAG or served as a member of the SCAG Regional Council within the last twelve (12) months?

YES NO

If “yes,” please list name, position, and dates of service:

Name	Position	Dates of Service
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

3. Are you or any managers, partners, or officers of your firm related by blood or marriage/domestic partnership to an employee of SCAG or member of the SCAG Regional Council that is considering your proposal?

YES NO

If “yes,” please list name and the nature of the relationship:

Name	Relationship
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

4. Does an employee of SCAG or a member of the SCAG Regional Council hold a position at your firm as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or any position of management?

YES NO

If “yes,” please list name and the nature of the relationship:

Name	Relationship
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Have you or any managers, partners, or officers of your firm ever given (directly or indirectly), or offered to give on behalf of another or through another person, campaign contributions or gifts to any current employee of SCAG or member of the SCAG Regional Council (including contributions to a political committee created by or on behalf of a member/candidate)?

YES NO

If "yes," please list name, date gift or contribution was given/offered, and dollar value:

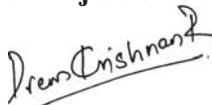
Name	Date	Dollar Value
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

SECTION III: VALIDATION STATEMENT

This Validation Statement must be completed and signed by at least one General Partner, Owner, Principal, or Officer authorized to legally commit the proposer.

DECLARATION

I, (printed full name) PREM RADHAKRISHNAN, hereby declare that I am the (position or title) CEO of (firm name) GEOCONVERGENCE LLC, and that I am duly authorized to execute this Validation Statement on behalf of this entity. I hereby state that this SCAG Conflict of Interest Form dated 04/07/2023 is correct and current as submitted. I acknowledge that any false, deceptive, or fraudulent statements on this Validation Statement will result in rejection of my contract proposal.



Digitally signed by Prem Radhakrishnan
Date: 2023.04.07 12:31:58 -05'00'

04/07/2023

Signature of Person Certifying for Proposer
(Original signature required)

Date

NOTICE

A materially false statement, omission, or fraudulent inducement made in connection with this SCAG Conflict of Interest Form is sufficient cause for rejection of the contract proposal or revocation of a prior contract award.



AGENDA ITEM 5
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

From: Roland Ok, Planning Supervisor
(213) 236-1819, ok@scag.ca.gov

Subject: Resolution No. 23-657-1 Authorizing Acceptance of Grant Funds from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Grant Program

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EAC:

That the Executive/Administration Committee recommend to the Regional Council to:

1. Approve Resolution No. 23-657-1 authorizing the Executive Director to accept grant funding of \$996,058 to conduct SCAG's Last Mile Project Assessment Study; and
2. Authorize SCAG to use available general fund balance to begin project work for SCAG's Last Mile Project Assessment Study. Upon execution of the grant agreement, the grant funding will be included and reconciled in a future budget amendment during FY 2023-24 and the general fund will be reimbursed for grant expenditures incurred.

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR REGIONAL COUNCIL:

That the Regional Council:

1. Approve Resolution No. 23-657-1 authorizing the Executive Director to accept grant funding of \$996,058 to conduct SCAG's Last Mile Project Assessment Study; and
2. Authorize SCAG to use available general fund balance to begin project work for SCAG's Last Mile Project Assessment Study. Upon execution of the grant agreement, the grant funding will be included and reconciled in a future budget amendment during FY 2023-24 and the general fund will be reimbursed for grant expenditures incurred.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 1: Produce innovative solutions that improve the quality of life for Southern Californians. 2: Advance Southern California's policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy. 4: Provide innovative information and value-added services to enhance member agencies' planning and operations and promote regional collaboration. 6: Deploy strategic communications to further agency priorities and foster public understanding of long-range regional planning. 7: Secure funding to support agency priorities to effectively and efficiently deliver work products.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On February 2, 2021, SCAG's Regional Council (RC) passed Resolution No. 21-629-2 directing its staff to aid in closing the digital divide in underprivileged communities. On April 6, 2023, the Regional Council passed Resolution No. 23-654-2 formalizing SCAG's Digital Action Plan which established actions and deliverables to secure Southern California's fair share of grant funding to assist in the implementation of broadband infrastructure. To facilitate the objectives set forth in both resolutions, SCAG applied for and was recommended to be awarded \$996,058 from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) at their June 29, 2023 meeting for the Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Grant Program to conduct a Last Mile Project Assessment for the SCAG Region.

BACKGROUND:

The CPUC's Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Program is a grant initiative that supports tribes and local agencies in California in their efforts to expand broadband service to unserved and underserved areas.¹ The program was established by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in accordance with Senate Bill 156.² LATA has a budget of \$50 million for grants, including a \$5 million set-aside specifically for tribes. The grants provided through this program are intended to fund technical assistance and planning work that will facilitate high-speed broadband infrastructure projects.

The grant program reimburses recipients for eligible preconstruction expenses to provide high-speed connections to unserved and underserved communities. Examples of reimbursable expenses include but are not limited to:

- Consultant or staff time for conducting work including but not limited to needs assessments, environmental and engineering studies, network design, and broadband strategic plans.
- Costs incurred in forming a joint powers authority for the purpose of bringing broadband to areas in need of sufficient internet connections.

Eligible applicants included:

- Cities and/or counties (including a county service area)
- Community services districts
- Public utility districts
- Municipal utility districts
- Joint powers authorities
- Local educational agencies

¹ Local Agency Technical Assistance Program. Available at: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/industries-and-topics/internet-and-phone/broadband-implementation-for-california/local-agency-technical-assistance>

² Senate Bill 156. Available at: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB156

- Sovereign tribal governments
- Electrical cooperatives

SCAG SELECTED AS A GRANT RECIPIENT:

On February 2, 2021, the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) passed Resolution No. 21-629-2, which instructed its staff to contribute efforts toward bridging the digital divide in underserved communities.³ Subsequently, on April 6, 2023, the Council passed another resolution, Resolution No. 23-654-2, which officially established SCAG's Digital Action Plan.⁴ This action plan outlined a set of actions and deliverables aimed at ensuring that Southern California receives its equitable share of grant funding to support the development of broadband infrastructure.

In alignment with the objectives outlined in the resolutions, as well as the actions and deliverables of the Digital Action Plan, SCAG submitted an application as a Joint Powers Authority, for a grant to the California Public Utilities CPUC on December 5, 2022, in which it requested \$996,058 in funding. The CPUC staff have recommended the Commission to approve SCAG's application, the Last Mile Project Assessment for the SCAG Region, at their June 29, 2023 meeting. At the time of writing this staff report, the June 29 meeting has not occurred. Staff will confirm the CPUC approval at the July 6 EAC meeting.

SCOPE OF WORK:

Upon the RC authorization for the Executive Director to accept the grant award, SCAG will use the funding to determine and provide high-level design for a maximum of three (3) shovel-ready projects located within the SCAG region. Proposed shovel-ready projects would be designed to provide services that meet or exceed 100 Mbps for unserved and/or underserved communities within proximity to California Department of Technology (CDT's) proposed 18 middle-mile projects, as feasible.

Potential work efforts⁵ may include but not be limited to:

- Regionwide assessment
 - o Land Use Assessment
 - o Market and Needs Assessment
 - o Gap Analysis and Public Asset Inventory
 - o Market Assessment
- Determination of priority areas
- Public outreach

³ Resolution No. 21-629-2. Available at: https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/resolution_no._21-629-2_-_support_to_increase_broadband_access.pdf?1646942018

⁴ SCAG's Digital Action Plan. Available at: <https://scag.ca.gov/post/scag-digital-action-plan>

⁵ Scope of work is dependent and subject to change based on final negotiations with the CPUC.

- Route determination for three (3) shovel ready projects
- Roadmap to implementation
 - o Technology Roadmap
 - o Financing and Implementation Recommendations
 - o Last Mile Drawings
 - o High-Level Engineering Design

AVOIDANCE OF REDUNDANT PROJECTS:

To date, at least 23 other applicants within the SCAG region have been awarded a LATA grant.⁶ While the original intent of the LATA funds was aimed towards assisting local jurisdictions and other qualifying agencies, many local jurisdictions throughout the SCAG region lack the staff or resources to analyze and determine opportunity areas and develop engineering design for last mile services. Unfortunately, it is these local jurisdictions that are in dire need of better connectivity, as they have a high-concentration rate of low-income households (often communities of color), many of whom face affordability and accessibility issues.

As such, SCAG will ensure that its proposed Scope of Work will not supersede a local jurisdictions effort, nor will the work product result in an unnecessary/redundant network. SCAG will only engage local jurisdictions who need last mile services but were not able to apply or did not have the capacity to procure a consultant and take on project management roles.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If approved by the RC, SCAG's Executive Director will be authorized to accept \$996,058 from the CPUC LATA Program. There is no local match requirement. Further, SCAG will use available general funds balance to begin project work. Upon execution of the grant agreement, the grant funding will be included and reconciled in a future budget amendment during FY 2023-24 and the general fund will be reimbursed for grant expenditures incurred.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Resolution No. 23-657-1 Accept CPUC LATA Grant Funds

⁶ Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Applications. Available at: <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/cpuc.broadbandsupport/viz/LATAApplications/LATADashboard?publish=yes>



RESOLUTION NO. 23-657-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (SCAG) TO ACCEPT CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC) LOCAL AGENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (LATA) GRANT FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE LAST MILE PROJECT ASSESSMENT FOR THE SCAG REGION

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90017
T: (213) 236-1800
www.scag.ca.gov

REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

- President
Art Brown, Buena Park
First Vice President
Curt Hagman, County of San Bernardino
Second Vice President
Cindy Allen, Long Beach
Immediate Past President
Jan C. Harnik, Riverside County Transportation Commission

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Executive/Administration
Art Brown, Buena Park
Community, Economic & Human Development
Frank Yokoyama, Cerritos
Energy & Environment
Deborah Robertson, Rialto
Transportation
Tim Sandoval, Pomona

WHEREAS, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization, for the counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Venture, pursuant to Title 23, United States Code Section 134(d)

WHEREAS, SCAG is responsible for bringing Southern California's diverse residents and local partners together with unifying regional plans, policies, and programs that result in healthy, sustainable, and economically resilient communities;

WHEREAS, approximately nine to ten percent of all households within the SCAG region do not have access to broadband;

WHEREAS, these households are disproportionately located in unserved and underserved communities and rural communities;

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2021, the Regional Council passed Resolution No. 21-629-2, which recognizes the need to close the digital divide and provide long-term community benefits that include the ability to fully engage in the digital economy, access to existing and emerging transportation services, expands economic opportunities, and is a viable strategy which assists in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and reduction in vehicle miles traveled (VMT);

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2023, the Regional Council passed Resolution No. 23-654-2, which formalized SCAG's Digital Action Plan, which sets forth an outlined list of actions of deliverables aimed at ensuring Southern California receiving its equitable share of grant funding to support the development of broadband infrastructure;

WHEREAS, California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) established the Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Program which supports tribes and local agencies in California to expand broadband services to unserved and underserved communities;

WHEREAS, the grant program reimburses recipients for eligible preconstruction expenses to provide high-speed connections to unserved and underserved communities;

WHEREAS, SCAG recognizes that unserved and underserved communities lack the staff or resources to analyze and determine last mile services within their local jurisdictions;

Attachment: Resolution No. 23-657-1 Accept CPUC LATA Grant Funds (Resolution No. 23-657-1 Authorizing Acceptance of Grant Funds from

WHEREAS, SCAG submitted a grant application to the CPUC LATA Grant Program and was awarded \$996,058 to conduct a Last Mile Project Assessment for the SCAG Region;

WHEREAS, the assessment would determine and provide high-level design for a maximum of three (3) shovel-ready projects located within unserved or underserved communities, and designed to meet or exceed 100 Mbps;

WHEREAS, the assessment will not supersede the work efforts of local jurisdictions who received LATA grant funding;

WHEREAS, SCAG's acceptance of funds will assist in fulfilling the objectives set forth under Resolution Nos 21-629-2 and 23-654-2;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Regional Council that SCAG's Executive Director is authorized to accept funds of \$996,058 to conduct a Regionwide Last Mile Assessment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: SCAG's Executive Director is hereby designated and authorized by the Regional Council to execute all necessary agreements and other documents on behalf of the Regional Council as they relate to accepting the funds and implementing activities through the funds.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at its regular meeting this 6th day of July 2023.

Art Brown
President, SCAG
City of Buena Park

Attested by:

Kome Ajise
Executive Director

Approved as to Form:

Michael R.W. Houston
Chief Counsel



AGENDA ITEM 6 REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)
From: Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
(213) 236-1980, cartagena@scag.ca.gov
Subject: AB 825 (Bryan) & AB 645 (Friedman) Follow-up

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Regional Council take a watch position on Assembly Bill (AB) 825 (Bryan) and AB 645 (Friedman), as recommended by the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 2: Advance Southern California’s policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At its June 20, 2023, meeting, the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) received a report on AB 825 (Bryan), relating to legalizing bicycling on sidewalks, and AB 645 (Friedman), related to automated speed enforcement. After robust discussion on the bills, the committee forwarded recommendations to the Regional Council (RC) to adopt a “watch” position on AB 825 (Bryan) and AB 645 (Friedman).

BACKGROUND:

SCAG is monitoring over 200 legislative bills that relate to active transportation, affordable housing and housing production, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) modernization, land use, transportation, and more. Of these 200+ bills, staff identified and presented seven priority bills at the May 23, 2023 LCMC, with a recommendation to support AB 364 (Bryan), AB 785 (Santiago), AB 1508 (Ramos), Senate Bill (SB) 517 (Gonzalez), and SB 538 (Portantino). Support positions were subsequently adopted by the RC at its June 1, 2023 meeting. In addition, staff included AB 825 (Bryan) and AB 645 (Friedman) at the May 23, 2023 LCMC meeting for informational purposes and to collect informal feedback from the committee.

The committee asked various questions and commented on AB 825 and AB 645 but members generally expressed support for the concepts. Specifically, committee members inquired about the

downsides of AB 825, of which staff mentioned that it might pose an issue of local control. The committee also inquired about the downsides of AB 645, in which staff clarified that the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and other related organizations posed various privacy and equity concerns. Some members expressed that the strong data retention provisions are essential to ensure jurisdictions sufficiently protect their residents' privacy. Other members inquired about the delayed fines and expanding the scope of the jurisdictions authorized to pilot the speed safety system. Since the committee gave generally positive feedback on AB 825 and AB 645, staff brought returned to the June 20, 2023 LCMC meeting with additional information a recommendations to support both bills.

At the June 20, 2023 meeting, LCMC members explored to two subject bills and raised many pros and cons concerning their merits. After robust discussion, the LCMC forwarded a recommendation to the RC to adopt a "watch" position on AB 825 (Bryan) and AB 645 (Friedman).

More information on both bills is included below:

The LCMC recommends a WATCH position for the following two legislative bills:

Bill: AB 825 **Author:** Assemblymember Isaac Bryan (D-Los Angeles)
Title: Legalizing Bicyclists on Sidewalks
Status: Passed Assembly Floor 61-14. Referred to Sen. Transpo. Committee pending hearing.

This bill would prohibit cities and counties from restricting the use of bicycles on sidewalks next to highways that do not include Class I, II, or IV bikeways. It would also establish a 10-mile-per-hour speed limit on bikes utilizing the sidewalk and require a bicycle user riding on the sidewalk to yield the right of way to pedestrians.

AB 825 passed by a vote of 11 to 4 in the Assembly Transportation Committee, 12 to 3 in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and 61-14 on the Assembly Floor. The Assembly Appropriations Committee determined that this bill would have minor costs. The bill is now in the Senate, where it was referred to the Senate Transportation Committee and it is awaiting a hearing. Streets for All sponsored this bill, and other supporters include Active San Gabriel, Norwalk Unides, California Bicycle Commission, and California Walks. Livable California is the only organization with registered opposition.

Bill: AB 645 **Author:** Assemblymember Laura Friedman (D-Glendale)
Title: Speed Safety Cameras Pilot Program
Status: Passed Assembly Floor 58-7. Pending Senate Committee referral.

This bill would authorize the cities of Los Angeles, San Jose, Long Beach, Oakland, Glendale, and the City/County of San Francisco to pilot speed camera systems for five years or until January 1, 2032, in high-injury areas and school zones in limited numbers based on population. The bill would require participating jurisdictions to adopt a Speed Safety System Use Policy and a Speed Safety System Impact Report. The Speed Safety System Use Policy shall outline policies regarding the purpose and use of the speed cameras. The Speed Safety System Impact Report shall include an assessment of the impact of the pilot on civil rights, a description of the speed cameras, an estimate of costs, an evaluation of the areas where cameras will be deployed, and why those particular locations may be experiencing high fatality and injury collisions. The bill requires participating jurisdictions to inform the public of the pilot at least 30 days before enforcement begins and only issue warning notices within the first 60 days of the pilot, after which violations may be issued. Participating jurisdictions may only continue to operate the speed cameras at a specific location if it reduces speed violations unless they install traffic calming measures and speed feedback signs in areas where cameras do not reduce speeding.

The bill sets fines of \$50, \$100, \$200, or \$500 for going over the speed limit by 11 mph, 16 mph, 26 mph, or 100 mph, which participating jurisdictions are required to reduce for those under the poverty line or offer community service. The bill requires that revenues be spent on program costs, including traffic calming measures, installation costs, arbitration of violations, and reporting requirements for performance metrics. Excess revenues must be spent on traffic calming measures within three years, or they will revert to the State Active Transportation Program. Participating jurisdictions must submit a report to the Legislature by March in the fifth year of implementation of the pilot. They must also abide by confidentiality provisions relating to the retention and disposal of information captured by the speed cameras.

This bill passed 12 to 0 in the Assembly Transportation Committee, 8 to 1 in the Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee, 11 to 3 in Assembly Appropriations, and 58 to 7 on the Assembly Floor. The bill is now in the Senate where it is waiting to be referred to its committees. According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, this bill will have significant costs for local governments, which the State will not reimburse since its provisions are optional, and revenues from the pilot will help offset costs. The City of San Jose, the Glendale Police Department, and Streets for All are a few of the bill's co-sponsors. Other organizations in support include Active San Gabriel Valley, BikeLA, the Cities of Long Beach, West Hollywood, Los Angeles, and the Santa Monica Safe Streets Alliance. Organizations in opposition include ACLU California Action and the Electronic Frontier Foundation. Opponents argue that while the State has many unsafe streets, automated enforcement and ticketing raise privacy and equity concerns. They argue that the state can improve safety by investing in enhancing roads rather than taxing residents via fines.

Last month, the LCMC inquired about expanding the scope of the cities authorized to pilot the speed safety system. Upon investigating further, staff learned that Assemblymember Friedman

limited this bill to the aforementioned cities and counties due to negotiations with the bill's opposition and agreed not to expand the pilot further. AB 645 is already an expanded version of a previous similar bill, which initially only included San Francisco and San Jose. AB 645, which now includes various cities in Los Angeles County, marks the first time since 2005 that a speed camera bill has passed in either legislative chamber.

Prior Committee Action

At the LCMC meeting on May 23, 2023, staff presented AB 825 (Bryan) and AB 645 (Friedman) to the Committee for informational purposes only. The committee asked various questions and commented on both bills but was generally supportive. Specifically, committee members inquired about the downsides of AB 825, of which staff mentioned that it might pose an issue of local control. The committee also inquired about the downsides of AB 645, in which staff clarified that the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and other related organizations posed various privacy and equity concerns. Some members expressed that the strong data retention provisions are essential to ensure jurisdictions sufficiently protect their residents' privacy. Other members inquired about the delayed fines and expanding the scope of the jurisdictions authorized to pilot the speed safety system.

Given positive feedback at the May LCMC, staff brought both bills back and presented them to the LCMC at its meeting on June 20, 2023, with a recommendation to support. After hearing the presentation, members had additional questions and expressed various concerns about both bills.

Regarding AB 825 (Bryan), members asked for clarification on whether the provisions would apply only to sidewalks next to highways, or if they would also be enforced on all city streets. Members expressed concerns that applying these provisions on all streets would endanger pedestrian safety. Members also expressed concerns that the bill would not provide funding for cities and counties to enforce its provisions, which could include signage, public messaging, and other costs. Further, members also expressed concerns about electric bikes being allowed on sidewalks since they could also pose a significant danger to pedestrians, and the bill does not address them. Lastly, while some members thought a proposed 10-mile-per-hour speed limit was a good attempt to protect pedestrian safety, it may be hard to enforce it.

Members also expressed concerns about AB 645 (Friedman), including how violations would be enforced given that there would be photographic evidence of the vehicle, but no proof of who was driving a vehicle when a violation was committed. Members also asked various questions to clarify which types of speed cameras would be used in the pilot and whether cities could use them for purposes other than speeding enforcement. Lastly, members also expressed privacy concerns, especially given that the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) registered opposition to the bill.



Ultimately, the LCMC voted to forward a “watch” position on AB 825 (Bryan) and AB 645 (Friedman) to the Regional Council.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with the staff report on AB 825 (Bryan) & AB 645 (Friedman) is contained in the Indirect Cost budget, Legislation 810-0120.10.



AGENDA ITEM 7
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)

From: Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
(213) 236-1980, cartagena@scag.ca.gov

Subject: Governor and Legislative Permitting Reform Proposals

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Regional Council take a support position on Assembly Bill (AB) 914 (Friedman) and the proposals titled CEQA Judicial Streamlining, Green Financing Programs for Federal IRA Funding, NEPA Delegation Authority, and Public-Private Partnership Authority I-15 Wildlife Crossings from Governor Newsom's permit streamlining trailer bills package, as recommended by the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 2: Advance Southern California's policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At its June 20, 2023, meeting, the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) members received a report on eleven bills related to permitting and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform. After discussion and deliberation, the LCMC voted to forward recommendations to the Regional Council (RC) to adopt a support position on Assembly Bill (AB) 914 (Friedman) and the proposals titled CEQA Judicial Streamlining, Green Financing Programs for Federal IRA Funding, NEPA Delegation Authority, and Public-Private Partnership Authority I-15 Wildlife Crossings from Governor Newsom's permit streamlining trailer bills package.

BACKGROUND:

SCAG is monitoring over 200 legislative bills related to active transportation, affordable housing and housing production, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) modernization, land use, transportation, the budget, and more. As the Legislature negotiates the budget bill with the Governor, staff is also monitoring all related budget and trailer bills.

Notably, the Governor announced ten budget trailer bill proposals in mid-May that would provide permitting reform and project streamlining for various projects across many sectors. These proposals would generally accelerate construction, expedite court reviews, streamline permitting, address cumbersome CEQA processes, and maximize federal dollars. This package includes proposals that would address the following:

1. CEQA Administrative Records Review
2. CEQA Judicial Streamlining
3. Green Financing Programs for Federal IRA Funding
4. Accelerating Environmental Mitigation
5. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Delegation Authority
6. Public-Private Partnership Authority I-15 Wildlife Crossings
7. Job Order Contracting
8. Progressive Design Build Authority for DWR and Caltrans
9. Fully Protected Species Reclassification
10. Delta Reform Act Streamlining

In addition, Assemblymember Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) introduced AB 914, which relatedly, would provide CEQA streamlining for certain electrical infrastructure projects.

While staff included information on all 10 of the above proposals to the LCMC, staff recommended support only for AB 914 and the four underlined proposals, as follows: (2) CEQA Judicial Streamlining, (3) Green Financing Programs for Federal IRA Funding, (5) NEPA Delegation Authority, and (6) Public-Private Partnership Authority I-15 Wildlife Crossings.

The LCMC supported the staff recommendation.

More information on these proposals, which would support the principles included in the Regional Council's adopted legislative platform, are included below:

The LCMC recommends SUPPORT for the following five proposals:

Proposal 2: CEQA Judicial Streamlining

Recommendation: Support

Summary

This proposal would provide for expedited judicial review of challenges to certain water, transportation, clean energy, and semiconductor or microelectronic projects under CEQA.

Proposal

This proposal would promote efficiency at the backend of the CEQA process by requiring that judicial challenges and appeals to an environmental analysis be completed within 270 days, to the extent feasible. This proposal would only apply to infrastructure projects related to water, clean transportation, clean energy, and semiconductor or microelectronic research and development facilities.

Eligible clean energy projects would include solar or wind electrical generating power plants, energy storage systems, manufacturing, production, or assembly of energy storage, wind or solar energy systems, and electric transmission projects. Eligible water projects would include the delta conveyance project, water storage projects funded by the California Water Commission, water recycling projects, desalination projects, and canal or other conveyance maintenance and repair projects.

Concerning clean transportation projects, however, the Governor's proposal would allow streamlining for up to 20 projects, ten state and ten local, that support the California State Transportation Agency's (CalSTA) Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) framework. The CalSTA Secretary would be responsible for certifying a project's consistency with the CAPTI.

Background

CEQA requires public agencies to study potential adverse environmental impacts of proposed projects and adopt alternatives or mitigation measures to reduce the effects of significant project impacts. It also requires environmental studies should be made available for public review and comment. Public agency obligations under CEQA are enforceable by courts, often through lawsuits brought by the public. While these lawsuits are given scheduling preference, lawsuits, and appeals may take several years to resolve.

The California Legislature has created expedited judicial processes for certain projects, such as the SCAG-supported Senate Bill (SB) 7 (Atkins, 2021), which extended streamlining projections for certain projects. This CEQA streamlining proposal for water, transportation, clean energy, and certain semiconductor/microelectronic projects is modeled after SB 7 to resolve CEQA challenges to critical infrastructure projects.

Staff recommends a "support" position as it aligns with Item 4 under Affordable Housing & Housing Production, and Items 1, 2, 3, and 5 under Project Streamlining to support legislative efforts that expedite and streamline project development and delivery, CEQA reform, CEQA judicial streamlining, and simplification of permitting processes, especially for priority projects, such as transportation, transit, or housing projects.

Proposal 3: Green Financing Programs for Federal IRA Funding

Recommendation: Support**Summary & Proposal**

The Governor's proposal would authorize IBank and the Department of Water Resources to access and utilize federal funding provided in the Inflation Reduction Act, to finance projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It would also clarify that any revenues resulting from Direct Pay should be deposited directly into the program making the investment.

Background

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) created the federal Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GHGRF) with \$27 billion of funding to transform lending markets and create new, revolving pools of capital that public lenders can use to motivate significant additional private investment. The US Environmental Protection Agency will host three competitions to distribute the funds to eligible entities, including states, who will have some discretion in using the funding. These competitions include \$14 billion for a National Clean Investment Fund, \$6 billion for a Clean Communities Investment Accelerator, and \$7 billion for a Solar for All competition.

IBank and the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development convened a working group to shape the state's GHGRF application to compete for these funds.

The IRA also includes provisions that allow eligible entities, such as states, to monetize available tax credits through "direct pay," where the IRS will send direct payments equal to the value of a claimed tax credit.

Staff recommends a "support" position as this proposal aligns with Items 1 and 4 of the Legislative Platform's Building Resilience section to support legislative efforts that ensure that the state is investing funds to meet the state's overall greenhouse gas reduction goals, while ensuring the SCAG region gets its fair share of funding.

Proposal 5: NEPA Assignment for Rail Projects

Recommendation: Support

Summary

This proposal would remove the current sunset provision and permanently authorize the consent of California to the jurisdiction of federal courts and waiver of immunity by CalSTA regarding the performance of certain federal environmental responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Proposal

This proposal would remove the January 2025 expiration date to ensure that the state’s federal agreement remains permanent, allowing for continued project acceleration. Terminating the NEPA agreement would delay environmental documents and increase costs for local projects such as the Los Angeles Unions Station (Link US) and Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) projects. Delays could vary from one year to more than two years for bigger projects. The current NEPA authorization has led to significant time savings for environmental approvals, including at least one year in time savings on 600 approvals and 124 months in time savings for 21 Environmental Impact Statement Approvals.

Background

The Secretary of the California Transportation Agency has the authority to assume responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and other federal environmental laws for any railroad, public transportation, or multimodal projects. Section 13979.2 of the Government Code contains the existing federal agreement that assigns the CalSTA Secretary these responsibilities but is set to expire on January 1, 2025, unless it is extended by new legislation.

Staff recommends a “support” position as it aligns with Item 5 under Project Streamlining to support legislative efforts that streamline and simplify regulatory review processes, permitting, and oversight at the state and federal level, as well as increased coordination among state and federal agencies.

Proposal 6: Direct Contracting Authority for I-15 Wildlife Crossings

Recommendation: Support

Summary

This proposal would authorize the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to directly contract to construct three wildlife crossings over Interstate 15 (I-15) as part of the Brightline West high-speed rail project between California and Nevada.

Proposal

The proposed language would allow Caltrans to directly contract with Brightline West to develop, design, and construct wildlife crossings as part of their project in the median on the I-15. This would allow the state to collaborate with Brightline West so that one entity can manage the simultaneous construction of the high-speed rail and wildlife crossings while avoiding delays and increased costs.

Background

Caltrans, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Brightline West agreed in February 2023 to construct three wildlife crossings across the I-15 and the future Brightline West high-speed rail system, which would connect Southern California to Nevada via the I-15 median. These

crossings will provide a safe path for wildlife to cross over the existing highway lanes and future high-speed rail.

Caltrans has the authority to enter cooperative agreements with public agencies on transportation projects to partner on project delivery and funding. However, since they are a private company, Caltrans has no authority to enter into an agreement with Brightline West to compete for funds for the wildlife crossings. Caltrans is concerned that the Brightline West and wildlife crossing projects will conflict, resulting in delays and increased costs. Thus, it would be in the State's best interest to avoid these delays by creating a pathway to directly contract with Brightline West, which has applied for federal rail funds.

Staff recommends a "support" position as it aligns with Items 1 and 5 under Project Streamlining to support legislative efforts that expedite and streamline project development and delivery and simplification of permitting processes, especially for priority projects, such as transportation, transit, or housing projects.

Bill: AB 914 **Author:** Assemblymember Laura Friedman (D-Glendale)

Title: CEQA Streamlining Electrical Infrastructure

Status: Passed 79-0 on the Asm. Floor. Referred to Sen. EQ and Sen. E., U., & C. Committees pending hearing.

Recommendation: Support

This bill would establish a two-year time period for a lead state agency to complete CEQA review and approve or deny an application for an electrical infrastructure project. It would also require a state agency that fails to meet the two-year time period to submit to the Legislature a report stating why the review could not be completed within the period and identifying potential impacts to the electrical system that could result from the delay.

AB 914 passed by a vote of 79 to 0 on the Assembly Floor and was referred to the Senate Committees on Environmental Quality and Energy, Utilities & Communications, pending a hearing in the Environmental Quality Committee. The Assembly Appropriations Committee determined that this bill would impose minor and absorbable costs to both the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

This bill is supported by the California Building Industry Association, California Association of Councils of Governments, California Chamber of Commerce, Civicwell (formally the Local Government Commission), Edison International and Affiliates, Including Southern California Edison, HNTB, Inland Empire Economic Partnership (IEEP), Los Angeles Business Council, Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), and San Diego Gas & Electric. The Defenders of Wildlife, Fission Transition, and the Sierra Club oppose the bill.

Staff recommends a “support” position as it aligns with Item 1 under Project Streamlining to support legislative efforts that expedite and streamline project development and delivery and CEQA reform, especially for priority projects.

Prior Committee Action

At the LCMC meeting on June 20, 2023, staff presented the above five proposals to the Committee with a recommendation to support AB 914 (Friedman) and the proposals titled CEQA Judicial Streamlining, Green Financing Programs for Federal IRA Funding, NEPA Delegation Authority, and Public-Private Partnership Authority I-15 Wildlife Crossings from Governor Newsom’s permit streamlining trailer bills package. After hearing the presentation, the LCMC voted unanimously to forward a support position to the Regional Council on all five proposals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with the staff report on the Governor & Legislative Permitting Reform Proposals is contained in the Indirect Cost budget, Legislation 810-0120.10.



AGENDA ITEM 8
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)
From: Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
(213) 236-1980, cartagena@scag.ca.gov
Subject: SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve up to \$50,772 for memberships and sponsorships with 1) Mobility21 (\$30,000), 2) the 2023 UCLA Arrowhead Symposium (\$10,000), 3) the American Public Transportation Association (\$5,772), and 4) the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials 52nd National Meeting & Training Conference (\$5,000).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 2: Advance Southern California’s policy interests and planning priorities through regional, statewide, and national engagement and advocacy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At its June 20, 2023, meeting, the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) recommended approval of up to \$50,772 for memberships and sponsorships with 1) Mobility21 (\$30,000), 2) the 2023 UCLA Arrowhead Symposium (\$10,000), 3) the American Public Transportation Association (\$5,772), and 4) the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials 52nd National Meeting & Training Conference (\$5,000).

BACKGROUND:

Item 1: Mobility21
Type: Membership & Sponsorship **Amount:** \$30,000

Mobility 21 is a coalition of public, business, and community stakeholders to pursue regional solutions to transportation challenges facing the SCAG region and San Diego County. SCAG is a founding member of Mobility 21, and Kome Ajise, SCAG’s Executive Director, is a member of the coalition’s board of directors. Created in 2002 as an effort in Los Angeles County, Mobility 21 became a regional effort in 2007 with the primary goals to:

- Support practical solutions to Southern California’s transportation challenges;

- Mobilize regional support for transportation funding and legislative priorities at the federal and state levels;
- Unite political leaders around common priorities for transportation; and
- Bring together residents, civic leaders, business groups, and industry experts to inspire them to act and educate them on how to effectively speak out in support of transportation initiatives.

SCAG is a founding member of Mobility 21, and Kome Ajise, SCAG’s Executive Director, is a member of the coalition’s board of directors, which includes representation from various other SCAG stakeholders and agencies. Staff recommends retaining membership with Mobility21 at a cost of \$25,000.

Mobility21 co-hosts an annual conference with SCAG, and this year’s 2023 Mobility 21 Southern California Transportation Summit Challenge of Change will be held on Friday, September 29, 2023, at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California. Last year’s Summit, which SCAG attended, focused on the Future Forward from the COVID-19 pandemic. It featured panels such as Transportation Investment Equity, Our Nation’s Ports: Course Correction, Are We There Yet? Getting to Zero Emissions, and Choice vs. Congestion. Various panels included members of the SCAG board. Staff recommends sponsoring the conference at the \$5,000 Gold level, which along with our Mobility21 membership, includes the following benefits:

- Nine (9) full Summit comp registrations;
- Two (2) expo-only registrations;
- 1 VIP Reception ticket;
- Exhibitor table at Mobility 21 Expo and one (1) exhibitor-only registration;
- Logo visibility on a shared slide in the conference sponsor slide show;
- Logo on Mobility 21 sponsor page website;
- Company name on pre-conference advertising, both print and electronic;
- Company name on the event program and other Summit materials; and
- Half-page ad in Summit program.

The combined cost of retaining membership and sponsoring the 2023 Mobility21 Summit is \$30,000.

Item 2: 33rd Annual UCLA Lake Arrowhead Symposium

Type: Sponsorship **Amount:** \$10,000

The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Lewis Center and Institute of Transportation Studies Program holds a symposium dealing with regional and public policy issues each year. This year’s Symposium – *Transforming Transportation* – will convene from October 15-17, 2023, at the UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center and will bring together a diverse and intimate group of

influential policymakers, private sector stakeholders, public sector analysts, consultants, advocates, and researchers to delve into the pressing public policy challenges at the nexus of transportation, land use, and the environment. SCAG has been a sustaining co-sponsor for this program, enabling SCAG to maintain membership on the 2022-2023 Arrowhead Steering Committee and directly help plan and evaluate the event, including suggesting topics and speakers, nominating experts to attend the Symposium consistent with SCAG goals.

SCAG staff recommends that the agency sponsor the event at the “Platinum Sponsor” level in the amount of \$10,000, which provides SCAG with the following:

- Three (3) complimentary registrations;
- Two (2) registrations at 50% off (Early Bird registration costs \$1,095);
- Five (5) invitations for symposium attendees;
- Opportunity to nominate a speaker for UCLA’s review;
- Representation on the 2022-2023 Arrowhead Steering Committee;
- Recognition as sponsor of one of four dinners or receptions;
- Exclusive display of promotional materials during early evening reception;
- Shared display of promotional materials at the registration area;
- Highlighted recognition on the symposium website & online materials;
- Logo placement in printed symposium materials;
- Highlighted recognition as a Platinum sponsor from the podium; and
- Opportunity to network with speakers, faculty, and prominent public officials.

Item 3: American Public Transit Association (APTA)

Type: Membership **Amount:** \$5,772

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) is a leading force in advancing public transportation. APTA members include transit systems, government agencies, manufacturers, suppliers, consulting firms, contractors, and other business partners. To strengthen and improve public transportation, APTA serves and leads its diverse membership through advocacy, innovation, and information sharing. An annual membership provides SCAG access to the highest-quality tools, resources, and programs, including advocacy efforts, networking and partnership opportunities, the latest industry research and data, and professional development. These benefits are valuable in light of recent and continued work in Congress on providing aid to transit agencies in light of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as transportation reauthorization legislation and spending bills.

Item 4: Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) 52nd National Meeting & Training Conference (NMTC)

Type: Sponsorship **Amount:** \$5,000

COMTO is a national, multi-ethnic organization founded in 1971 to advocate for the transportation careers and transportation needs of minorities. Since its inception, COMTO has 39 chapters throughout the United States and over 3,000 members from various transportation-related corporations, small businesses, government agencies, and universities.

COMTO will host its 52nd National Meeting and Training Conference (NMTC) from July 8–11, 2023, in Los Angeles. The event will be a premier in-person gathering of professionals in the transportation industry, attracting officials at all career levels seeking best practices, tools, and solutions to workplace and industry challenges. COMTO’s 2023 NMTC will bring together industry leaders and practitioners to provide insights into transportation projects, policies, and strategies at work and explore the latest innovations fueling the transportation industry’s future. This conference will bring together industry and transportation leaders across all modes to network, exchange ideas and discuss solutions as we work to ensure safe, accessible, affordable, and environmentally sustainable transportation options today and beyond.

SCAG staff recommends that the agency sponsor the event at the “Friend of COMTO” level in the amount of \$5,000, which provides SCAG with the following:

- SCAG featured as a sponsor for the 2023 National Meeting & Training Conference;
- (1) Conference Registration;
- (1) Annual Memberships to COMTO;
- (1) Exhibitor Booth;
- Quarter-page ad in Conference Program; and
- Logo to be included in the program and on the website.

PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTION:

Staff presented the sponsorship for up to \$50,772 for memberships and sponsorships with 1) Mobility21 (\$30,000), 2) the 2023 UCLA Arrowhead Symposium (\$10,000), 3) the American Public Transportation Association (\$5,772), and 4) the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials’ 52nd National Meeting & Training Conference (\$5,000) to the LCMC at its meeting on June 20, 2023. The LCMC approved this item unanimously as part of the consent calendar.

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$35,772 for membership with Mobility21, 2023 Mobility21 Summit, and APTA is included in the approved FY 23-24 General Fund Budget. \$15,000 to sponsor the UCLA Lake Arrowhead Symposium and the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials’ 52nd National Meeting & Training Conference is included in the approved FY 23-24 Indirect Cost budget.



AGENDA ITEM 9
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

From: Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
(213) 630-1413, giraldo@scag.ca.gov

Subject: Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council's
Approval Threshold

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Information Only - No Action Required

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 7: Secure funding to support agency priorities to effectively and efficiently deliver work products.

BACKGROUND:

SCAG executed the following Purchase Orders (PO's) for more than \$5,000 but less than \$500,000

<u>Consultant/Contract #</u>	<u>PO' Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
E K Technologies	FY23 IT Services	\$19,800
CPRIME, Inc.	FY23 ASANA Software Licenses	\$7,789

SCAG executed the following Contracts more than \$25,000 but less than \$500,000

<u>Consultant/Contract #</u>	<u>Contract's Purpose</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
Cambridge Systematics (23-032-C01)	The consultant shall review SCAG's current Small Area Secondary Variables Allocation Model (SASVAM) and provide recommendation to improve the model.	\$145,012



SCAG executed the following Contracts more than \$25,000 but less than \$500,000

<u>Consultant/Contract #</u>	<u>Contract's Purpose</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
<u>SCAG executed these Amendments for more than \$5,000 but less than \$150,000 and less than 30% of the original contract value</u>		
<u>Consultant/Contract #</u>	<u>Amendment's Purpose</u>	<u>Amendment Amount</u>
N/A	N/A	N/A

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Contract Summary 23-032-C01

CONSULTANT CONTRACT NO. 23-032-C01

Recommended Consultant:

Cambridge Systematics

Background & Scope of Work:

SCAG develops socioeconomic forecasts including population and households to support a wide range of planning activities. Specifically, SCAG forecasts population and household characteristics at sub-jurisdictional level known as Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ). These future socioeconomic growth patterns help SCAG assess Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and the associated Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions for the purpose of developing the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). At each round of the RTP/SCS, SCAG collaborates with the local jurisdictions to develop projections of population, households, and employment, known as major variables. Population and household characteristics (population by age, ethnicity, household income etc.) are further estimated and calculated using the Small Area Secondary Variables Allocation Model (SASVAM) at TAZ level.

The primary objective for this project is to review the current SASVAM and provide options to improve the projection method. The consultant shall provide a framework for suggested methods and options. Further the consultant shall identify specific areas for improvements. The methods shall be implementable and fit into SCAG’s overall forecasting process. Through this project, SCAG intends to enhance the analytical and modeling capability and improve forecasting accuracies.

Project’s Benefits & Key Deliverables:

- The project’s benefits and key deliverables include, but are not limited to:
- Supporting socioeconomic subject analysis and the region’s various plans, programs, and major projects;
 - Recommended approaches for growth projection methods to enhance SASVAM; and
 - Conducting empirical analysis/research on the new development and rapid growth communities, unique growth pattern areas, and emerging issues.

Strategic Plan:

This item supports SCAG’s Strategic Plan Goal 3: Be the foremost data information hub for the region.

Contract Amount:

Total not to exceed	\$145,012
Cambridge Systematics (prime consultant)	\$98,620
Mike Reilly, LLC (subconsultant)	\$26,998
Bomba Consulting, LLC (subconsultant)	\$15,893
MMTAM, LLC (Subconsultant)	\$3,501

Contract Period:

May 15, 2023 through June 30, 2025

Project Number(s):

070-2665A.02 \$70,000
Funding source(s): Consolidated Planning Grant (CPG) – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Funding of \$70,000 is available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 Overall Work Program (OWP) Budget in Project Number 070-2665A.02, and the remaining

balance will be requested in future fiscal year budgets, subject to budget availability.

Request for Proposal (RFP):

SCAG staff notified 1,463 firms of the release of RFP 23-032 via SCAG’s Solicitation Management System website. A total of 38 firms downloaded the RFP. SCAG received the following three (3) proposals in response to the solicitation:

Cambridge Systematics (3 subconsultants)	\$145,012
Manhan Group (1 subconsultant)	\$149,768
Murepa Korea, LLC (1 subconsultant)	\$150,000

Selection Process:

The Proposal Review Committee (PRC) evaluated each proposal in accordance with the criteria set forth in the RFP and conducted the selection process in a manner consistent with all applicable federal and state contracting regulations. After evaluating the proposals, the PRC did not conduct interviews because the proposals contained sufficient information on which to base a contract award.

The PRC consisted of the following individuals:

Sung Ho Ryu, Senior Regional Planner, SCAG
Sungbin Cho, Principal Modeler, SCAG
Cheol Ho Lee, Senior Regional Planner, SCAG

Basis for Selection:

The PRC recommended Cambridge Systematics for the contract award because the consultant:

- Presented the most suitable technical approach for the project. In addition to reviewing published literature, they proposed conducting up to four (4) practitioner interviews to gather perspectives on the advantages/disadvantages of various approaches, which will allow staff to gain insights into emerging demographic projection methods and provide a broader range of options to tackle challenges with various variable relationship issues;
- Provided the best project management strategy, with emphasis on documentation of the project. Since this is a complex project, documentation is crucial to maintaining consistency and facilitating sharing technical information with regional partners and enable improvements;
- Demonstrated the best understanding of project’s goals, structure, and limitations of the current SASVAM. The proposal clearly outlines the goals of the demographic projections and their connections to the transportation model, specifically the “Recommended Enhancements section” in the proposal highlights the steps necessary to align with our project’s objectives; and
- Proposed the lowest price.



AGENDA ITEM 10
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Regional Council (RC)
From: Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
(213) 630-1413, giraldo@scag.ca.gov
Subject: CFO Monthly Report

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Information Only - No Action Required

STRATEGIC PLAN:
This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 7: Secure funding to support agency priorities to effectively and efficiently deliver work products.

ACCOUNTING:
Membership Dues
As of May 31, 2023, 188 cities, 6 counties, 7 commissions, and 3 tribal governments have paid their FY23 membership dues. This represents 99.31% of the membership assessment.

Investments & Interest Earnings
As required by SCAG's investment policy adopted by the Regional Council in July 2018, staff will provide a monthly report of investments and interest earnings. During FY 2022-23, SCAG has moved all funds invested in the Los Angeles County Investment Pool to our Bank of the West operating account, except for any remaining interest earnings received in July 2022-May 2023. Alternatively, SCAG has established a new investment account in the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) and invested \$6.11M as of May 31, 2023. SCAG has earned \$6,782.03 interest from funds invested in the Los Angeles County Investment Pool and \$113,710.19 of interest from funds invested in the Local Agency Investment Fund account as of May 31, 2023.

BUDGET & GRANTS (B&G):
Caltrans provided their comments to the FY 2022-23 Overall Work Program (OWP) 3rd Quarter Progress Report. Staff addressed the comments and provided responses to Caltrans on June 7, 2023.

Staff kicked off FY 2024-25 Budget Development process in March, and the Divisional Work Plans and respective Budget Requests were presented in June. Each Division will work on finalizing their



FY25 Budget Requests and submit the required budget request materials to Budget & Grants Department in July.

Staff prepared FY 2023-24 OWP In-Kind Match Package for the value of third-party services by local transportation agencies that may be accepted as match for federal funds for specific SCAG planning work activities. The In-Kind Match Packet was prepared in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200.306 and will be submitted to Caltrans for review and approval.

Staff received feedback from the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on the REAP 2.0 Full Application, which was submitted in December 2022. Staff addressed the comments and submitted the revised REAP 2.0 Full Application in June. Concurrently, staff is finalizing the review of the standard agreement for the REAP 2.0 funding and looking forward to executing the agreement soon.

Lastly, during this month, staff continued to work on finalizing and executing the 11 OTS Go Human Community Hub Grant MOUs. The program received 37 applications from across the SCAG region and awarded \$360,000 in Community Hubs Grant funds. The awardees from across the region will implement a wide variety of safety projects this summer.

CONTRACTS

In May 2023, the Contracts Department issued six (6) Request for Proposal; awarded three (3) contracts; issued ten (10) contract amendments; and processed thirty-nine (39) Purchase Orders to support ongoing business and enterprise operations. Staff also administered 211 consultant contracts. Contracts staff continued to negotiate better pricing as well as reduced costs for services. This month Contracts' staff negotiated \$72,754 in budget savings, bringing the cumulative FY23 savings to \$1,628,554.



AGENDA ITEM 11
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
July 5, 2023

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)
Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)
Transportation Committee (TC)
Regional Council (RC)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
APPROVAL**

From: Hannah Brunelle, Senior Regional Planner
(213) 236-1907, brunelle@scag.ca.gov
Subject: REAP 2.0 Program Call for Applications Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EAC:
Information Only – No Action Required

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CEHD, EEC, TC AND RC:
Receive and File

STRATEGIC PLAN:
This item supports the following Strategic Plan Goal 1: Produce innovative solutions that improve the quality of life for Southern Californians. 4: Provide innovative information and value-added services to enhance member agencies’ planning and operations and promote regional collaboration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
Resolution No. 22-649-1 authorizes SCAG to receive and administer \$246,024,084 in Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program of 2021 (REAP 2.0) funds from the State of California. REAP 2.0 is managed by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR), the Strategic Growth Council (SGC), and the California Air Resources Board (CARB). SCAG anticipates the final approval of the full grant award by HCD this month. REAP 2.0 supports transformative planning and implementation activities and accelerates infill development that facilitates housing supply, choice, and affordability, to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), support Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH), and advance implementation of the region’s Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS).

SCAG’s REAP 2.0 program includes six Calls for Applications to provide local agencies and eligible applicants across the SCAG region multiple opportunities to access funding in different program areas and also supports regional programs to implement Connect SoCal. This report provides a

progress update for SCAG's REAP 2.0 program and a summary of the status of each Call for Applications.

BACKGROUND:

The REAP 2.0 program was established as part of the 2021 California Comeback Plan under AB 140. REAP 2.0 builds on the success of REAP 2019 (REAP 1.0) and expands the program focus by integrating housing and climate goals, and allows for broader planning and implementation investments, including infrastructure investments supporting infill development to facilitate housing supply, choice, and affordability.

SCAG's REAP 2.0 program combines coordinated and transformative actions aligning transportation and housing development by investing in innovative finance, land use, and transportation strategies to help achieve California's housing and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. SCAG's program includes three major program areas: The Early Program Initiatives (EPIs), Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing (PATH), and the Transportation Partnership Programs (TPP). The three major program areas in SCAG's REAP 2.0 program work together to meet the REAP 2.0 objectives and support implementation of SCAG's adopted Connect SoCal.

Over the last 18 months, SCAG staff, under the direction of the policy committees, the EAC, and the RC, has worked to develop a comprehensive REAP 2.0 program. Major milestones in the program development process include the following:

- February 3, 2022, the Regional Council (RC) authorized staff to apply for the REAP 2.0 advance funding to support outreach and program development, including hiring required limited-term staff.
- July 7, 2022, the RC adopted the REAP 2.0 Program Framework including guiding principles and the identification of major programmatic areas to guide SCAG's grant proposal.
- October 6, 2022, the Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) reviewed the comprehensive REAP 2.0 Draft Proposed Budget.
- November 30, 2022, the EAC, on behalf of the RC, authorized SCAG to apply for the full REAP 2.0 funding and authorized the acceptance of the full REAP 2.0 funds.
- December 29, 2022, SCAG submitted the full REAP 2.0 application ahead of the December 31, 2022, deadline.
- June 11, 2023, SCAG received a preliminary staff level approval of the REAP 2.0 application from HCD and is subject to final approval by the HCD Internal Loan Committee.

REAP 2.0 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS SUMMARY

SCAG is sub-allocating 80 percent of the full REAP 2.0 grant award for partner-led projects, to ensure projects can be delivered efficiently and effectively, while reducing SCAG's administrative costs. SCAG is releasing six Calls for Applications to provide eligible applicants multiple



opportunities to access funding across different program areas. A summary of SCAG’s Calls for Application is as follows:

Call for Applications	Funding Amount	Release Date	Closing Date	Regional Council Approval
County Transportation Commission (CTC) Partnership Program	\$80,000,000	April 2023	May 2023	July 2023
Sub-Regional Partnership Program 2.0 (SRP 2.0)	\$23,084,008	April 2023	June 2023	September 2022
Sustainable Communities Program – Civic Engagement, Equity, and Environmental Justice (SCP CEEJ)	\$5,000,000*	April 2023	June 2023	September 2023
PATH - Pilot Program: Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands (HIPP)	\$8,835,000	May 2023	July 2023	October 2023
PATH - Notice of Funds Available: Funding for Lasting Affordability (NOFA)	\$45,000,000	June 2023	July 2023	October 2023
PATH - Pilot Program: Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH)	\$35,000,000	Summer 2023	Fall 2023	Early 2024

**\$2 million in Senate Bill 1 (SB1) funding*

To promote the Calls for Applications, SCAG implemented various outreach activities, complemented by offering multiple forms of technical assistance to help facilitate the process for applicants. The programs were promoted through SCAG newsletters, targeted emails, and presentations to external meeting groups. Outreach included program-specific application workshops to review eligibility, application requirements, and scoring. Each program also offered office hours to provide one-on-one support to applicants.

The County Transportation Commission (CTC) Partnership Program

The CTC Partnership Program connects infill housing to daily services and increases travel options that support multimodal communities to shift travel modes. On April 12, 2023, SCAG released the CTC Partnership Program Call for Applications. Prior to closing the Call on May 9, 2023, SCAG held an application workshop and made office hours available to applicants. SCAG received a total of 37 projects totaling over \$115 million. SCAG recommends funding 33 projects and is seeking approval of the recommended project award list from the RC. With the CTC Partnership Program, SCAG will fund a diverse set of transformative planning and implementation projects that expand access, increase mobility options, bring jobs and housing closer together, and achieve a more sustainable growth pattern across the region.

Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing (PATH)

PATH supports strategies to accelerate infill development leading to increased housing supply, choice, and affordability while also reducing VMT. The PATH program includes three Calls for Applications, including the Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands (HIPP), Notice of Funds Available: Funding for Lasting Affordability (NOFA), and Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH).

On May 10, 2023, SCAG released the HIPP program, a competitive Call for Applications to support eligible applicants in scaling up development of available land and implementing large corridor-wide or area-wide infill housing policies and initiatives. The HIPP program has an estimated budget of \$8 million and will accept applications through July 10, 2023. On June 7, 2023, SCAG released the NOFA for Lasting Affordability, a competitive Call for Applications to provide support for innovative housing finance, trust funds, catalyst funds, and new permanent funding sources. The NOFA for Lasting Affordability has an estimated budget of \$45 million and will accept applications through July 31, 2023. To support applicants, SCAG staff are available for regular office hours to respond to questions and discuss projects proposed throughout the application periods. For both NOFA and HIPP, SCAG staff hosted application workshops and posted the recording along with Q&A responses on the program webpage.

The Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) program focuses on investments in utility infrastructure planning and capital improvements that will support jurisdictions in meeting the housing production goals. On Friday, April 28, SCAG hosted the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) Industry Forum, in partnership with PlaceWorks and the Urban Land Institute of Los Angeles (ULI/LA). The RUSH Industry Forum brought together thought leaders from Southern California and across the country for recommendations to implement the basic utility infrastructure needed for housing: water, wastewater, stormwater management and electricity. The outcomes of the RUSH Industry Forum will help guide the delivery of SCAG's RUSH grant program. The RUSH Call for Applications is expected to be released in late summer 2023.

Early Program Initiatives (EPIs)

The EPIs tie this work together by building capacity for planning innovation across the region through advancements in community engagement and partnerships, data driven decision making, and performance measurement and monitoring. The Sustainable Communities Program - Civic Engagement, Equity and Environmental Justice (SCP CEEEJ) released the Call for Applications on April 12, 2023. The Call closed on June 5, 2023, and SCAG received 17 applications totaling \$6.9 million. SCAG is currently evaluating applications and anticipates taking the recommended project list to the RC in September 2023. The Sub-Regional Partnership 2.0 (SRP 2.0) Call for Applications opened April 12 and closed May 31, 2021, with extensions granted to several subregional partners through June 30, 2023. SCAG is currently evaluating submitted applications to determine eligibility with REAP 2.0 objectives and will work closely with subregional partners on next steps. The SRP 2.0



Program is noncompetitive and makes \$23 million available to sub-regional councils of governments for eligible activities supporting member cities and counties implementing housing element work plans.

Local agencies and eligible applicants are encouraged to review individual program guidelines and apply for SCAG's REAP 2.0 programs. Applications and program guidelines are available on [SCAG's REAP 2.0 website](#).

NEXT STEPS:

In July, SCAG anticipates its full REAP 2.0 application will be approved by the State allowing staff to proceed with projects approved by the RC. Staff will provide regular updates to the RC and Policy Committees on the REAP 2.0 program and any changes to the grant budget will be processed through SCAG's budget amendment procedures.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The funding for this program has been included in the REAP 2.0 work plan. Funding is subject to REAP 2.0 funding approval from the California Department of Housing and Community Development.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. PowerPoint Presentation - REAP 2.0 Program Update



REAP 2.0 PROGRAM UPDATE

July 2023

WWW.SCAG.CA.GOV

REAP 2.0 Schedule Updates

Action	Timeline
SCAG received preliminary staff level approval from HCD on the full application	June 11, 2023
SCAG MOU development	Mid-Late Summer 2023
Anticipated Standard Agreement (SA) approval	End of July
Anticipated State announcement of REAP 2.0 awards	End of July
Template MOUs ready	Fall 2023*

* Pending State Approval of Full SCAG Program

REAP 2.0 Call for Applications Schedule

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HIPP Pilot (Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands)	\$8,835,000	May 2023	July 10, 2023	October 2023
NOFA For Lasting Affordability	\$45,000,000	June 2023	July 31, 2023	October 2023
RUSH Pilot (Regional Utilities Supporting Housing)	\$35,000,000	Summer 2023	Fall 2023	Early 2024

*\$3 million from SB1



THANK YOU!

For more information, please visit:

<https://scag.ca.gov/reap2021>

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