



Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, California 90017
September 5, 2019

NO. 613
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2019

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/

In conjunction with the Regional Conference and General Assembly, the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting at the SCAG main office, 900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

Members Present

Table with 3 columns: Member Name, City, and District. Includes members like Hon. Bill Jahn (Big Bear Lake, District 11) and Hon. Wendy Bucknum (Mission Viejo, District 13).

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

**Members Present...continued**

Hon. Steve Nagel	<i>Fountain Valley</i>	District 15
Hon. Cecilia Iglesias	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Charles Puckett	<i>Tustin</i>	District 17
Hon. Stacy Berry	<i>Cypress</i>	District 18
Hon. Art Brown	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Sonny Santa Ines	<i>Bellflower</i>	District 24
Hon. Sean Ashton	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. Emma Sharif	<i>Compton</i>	District 26
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Dan Medina	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Steve De Ruse	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31
Hon. Jorge Marquez	<i>Covina</i>	District 33
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Teresa Real Sebastian	<i>Monterey Park</i>	District 34
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells	<i>Culver City</i>	District 41
Hon. Jess Talamantes	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Steven Hofbauer	<i>Palmdale</i>	District 43
Hon. David Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Carmen Ramirez	<i>Oxnard</i>	District 45
Hon. David Pollock	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 46
Hon. Tim Holmgren	<i>Fillmore</i>	District 47
Hon. David Ryu	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Joe Buscaino	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Lyn Semeta	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Rita Ramirez	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Marsha McLean	<i>Santa Clarita</i>	District 67
Hon. Brian McDonald		Tribal Gov't Reg'l Plng Board
Mr. Randall Lewis	<i>Lewis Group of Companies</i>	Business Representative
Hon. Eric Garcetti	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large



**Members Not Present**

Hon. Randon Lane, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	<i>Murrieta</i>	District 5
Supervisor Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Kathryn Barger		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County
Supervisor Linda Parks		Ventura County
Hon. James Predmore	<i>Holtville</i>	ICTC
Hon. Michael Carroll	<i>Irvine</i>	District 14
Hon. Trevor O’Neill	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Tri Ta	<i>Westminster</i>	District 20
VACANT		District 23
Hon. Lena Gonzalez	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Jonathan Curtis	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. Judy Mitchell	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	District 40
Hon. Gilbert Cedillo	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 48
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 50
Hon. Paul Koretz	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Nury Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 56
Hon. Herb Wesson, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Mike Bonin	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
VACANT	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Mitch O’Farrell	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. José Huizar	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto	<i>Coachella</i>	District 66
Hon. Rusty Bailey	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Marisela Magana	<i>Perris</i>	District 69

**Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer  
Joann Africa, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services  
Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs

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Basil Panas, Chief Financial Officer  
Julie Loats, Chief Information Officer  
Sarah Jepson, Interim Director of Planning  
Tess Rey-Chaput, Office of Regional Council Support

### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honorable Bill Jahn, President, called the meeting to order at 12:15PM and asked Immediate Past President Alan D. Wapner to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Jahn opened the public comment period.

Eric Reese, encouraged joining with the state and federal government including the car manufacturers industry to enhance existing autonomous technology to help fight traffic congestion and increase safety. He cited the positive train control system as an example of autonomous technology that enforced a proper buffer to alleviate traffic and lower traffic accidents.

Kendrick Rustad, proposed that downtown Los Angeles be its “own zone” and provide its own housing and transportation.

Leonora Camner, Housing L.A., commented regarding a vision of the future whereby there is abundance of housing in the region, especially in the urban areas with jobs and amenities where people can get around by walking, biking or using transit. She stated the RHNA Methodology should not include local input; rather it should include objectives and criteria for housing costs, share of multi-family housing, subsidized housing, job and housing ratio within a short commute.

President Jahn closed the public comment period.

### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no request to prioritize agenda items.

### **PRESENTATION ITEM**

#### 1. Green Region Initiative - Sustainability Map Update

President Jahn introduced the item and welcomed the 2018-19 CivicSpark Climate Fellows who will provide a presentation, they are: Guadalupe Franco, Elisa Barrios and April Crain.

At the conclusion of the presentation, President Jahn thanked the CivicSpark Fellows and stated

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that SCAG's partnership with CivicSpark will continue through the next 2019-20 program year.

### ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM

#### 2. Proposed RHNA Methodology

President Jahn introduced the item and asked CEHD Committee and RHNA Subcommittee Chair Peggy Huang to provide background information.

Chair Huang reported that staff developed three (3) proposed options for the RHNA Methodology based from feedback and input from the RHNA Subcommittee, the public and stakeholders. A schedule of the Public Hearings regarding the proposed RHNA Methodology is available on the SCAG website and flyers are available at the back of the room. Chair Huang emphasized that the Regional Council will not be taking action on a specific option; rather will be approving for release the three (3) proposed RHNA Methodology options for public comment and review. She encouraged members, local jurisdictions and the public to submit public comments. Finally, Chair Huang asked Ma'Ayn Johnson, SCAG staff, to provide a presentation and overview regarding the three (3) proposed RHNA Methodology options.

Ms. Johnson discussed the RHNA objectives; described each of the three (3) options; provided a comparison of the options and explained the full proposed RHNA methodology. In closing, she provided information of the next steps associated with the Public Hearings and submission of the draft RHNA Methodology review by HCD by the fall of 2019.

City of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti stated support for a RHNA methodology where housing has access to transit and jobs; however, he asked to look at employment patterns across Southern California and put housing where job sectors are growing. He echoed the comments made earlier regarding not excluding housing costs with multi-family and single-family and what level of subsidized housing exists in cities should be a part of the methodology as well as transit. He also stated that we need a higher social equity adjustment to build more affordable housing to places where there is better opportunity. He referenced a letter that he wrote detailing his concerns regarding the final allocation methodology. Finally, he stated support for moving forward with approving the proposed RHNA Methodology options and requested incorporating the factors that he mentioned.

Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City, District 41, asked for clarification regarding the meaning of local input and if limited by current zoning in the local jurisdiction.

Councilmember Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita, District 67, asked to add a public outreach in the north Los Angeles County area with Santa Clarita being the third largest city in the county.

Councilmember David Pollock, Moorpark, District 46, commented regarding taking into account job centers as part of the methodology.

Councilmember Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard, District 65, requested a fair allocation especially for those cities who are providing housing according to the law. She supported Option 2 of the proposed methodology with an amendment.

Councilmember Steve Hofbauer, Palmdale, District 43, commented regarding the challenge with meeting the housing numbers without redevelopment funds and suggested advocating for a viable tax increment financing.

At this point in time, President Jahn opened the Public Comment period.

Councilmember Alex Fisch, Culver City, urged the members to consider including additional objective factors that would truly serve the region as none of the three (3) proposed options align with its guiding principles. He suggested planning for the future that is fiscally and environmentally sound to be able to plan for more homes and more opportunities.

Michael Menjivar, Southern California Non-Profit Housing, encouraged a RHNA Methodology that is ambitious and equitable to address the severity of the housing affordability crisis.

Rebecca Muli, Abundant Housing L.A., shared a personal experience regarding challenges with affordable housing and asked to build more homes near jobs and transit, to reduce homelessness for low-income families and reduce displacement of the middle-class.

Grace Peng, League of Women Voters, commented that automobiles are the top contributors to air and water pollution and climate change in the region. However, the root cause of the problem is the imbalance of available jobs, affordable housing and land use policies. She encouraged working collaboratively to resolve the housing problem.

Paavo Monkonnen, Professor, UCLA Urban Planning, referenced a letter that he submitted to SCAG regarding the RHNA Methodology options and explained that two of the proposed options were distributing disproportionate number of housing to Riverside and San Bernardino counties and not where the jobs are located. He encouraged the members to ask SCAG staff that when releasing the document for public comment, to also include other options for the public to gain a better understanding of the RHNA process.

Heidi Feltz, resident, defined homelessness and housing and stated that it is irresponsible to plan housing by population. Ms. Feltz requested extending the September 3rd deadline to allow for

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more public input, defining the term ‘affordable housing;’ and urged consideration of not just income categories but categories of housing as well.

Richard Bjorn, resident, echoed the comments made earlier and encouraged taking into account job placement as it relates to housing and suggested allocating more housing goals where jobs are located. He suggested allocating houses per jurisdiction basis, per council district, to achieve local goals for above, moderate and low income housing.

President Jahn closed the Public Comment period.

President Jahn asked Chief Counsel Joann Africa to acknowledge receipt and to note for the record the five (5) letters received by SCAG regarding Agenda Item 2 prior to the meeting. Ms. Africa announced the letters were from the following and noted that paper copies were distributed to the Regional Council members and made available to the public with extra copies at the back of the meeting room: (1) Paavo Monkonnen, Professor, UCLA Urban Planning; dated July 29, 2019; (2) Marge Nichols, League of Women Voters; dated July 31, 2019; (3) Assemblymember Richard Bloom, dated July 31, 2019; (4) Natalya Zernitskaya, League of Women Voters; dated August 1, 2019; and (5) Mayor John Mirisch, City of Beverly Hills, dated August 1, 2019. Ms. Africa stated the key points that were raised in the letters were: using and not using local input as a factor for the methodology; encouraging a higher social equity adjustment such as 200%; and greater consideration that a job and housing balance be a factor for the methodology.

At this point in time, President Jahn entertained comments from the Regional Council members.

Councilmember Joe Buscaino, Los Angeles, District 62, commented that solving housing and homelessness issues must be done collaboratively and as a region. As the First Vice President of the National League of Cities (NLC), the housing and homelessness issue does not only affect the region but is also a national concern. Councilmember Buscaino stated that more than 20 local leaders from across the country came together to form the NLC Housing Task Force who recently released a report entitled, “*Homeward Bound – The Road to Affordable Housing.*” The report highlights recommendations that may be used as a tool for the region. Paper copies are available at the back of the meeting room and on the website at: <https://www.nlc.org/resource/homeward-bound-the-road-to-affordable-housing>. Councilmember Buscaino urged the members to attend the public hearings and choose a methodology that is equitable, just and fair for all residents in the entire region.

Councilmember David Ryu, Los Angeles, District 51, asked a question regarding the process if the existing options will need to be modified. He expressed concerns regarding the housing allocation that was determined for the region being “too low and will worsen the housing crisis.” He echoed the comments made by Mayor Garcetti and encouraged developing housing numbers that are both

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accurate and equitable.

Immediate Past President Alan D. Wapner, echoed comments regarding jobs and housing imbalance; however, there were notable improvements especially in the Inland Empire such as job creation and the availability of different types of housing. He also stated the RHNA process has been ongoing and emphasized the importance of all elected officials' obligation with informing the respective jurisdictions of the RHNA process including allowing public input. While there is recognition of a housing crisis, Past President Wapner stated this is not enough and suggested being mindful of providing attainable housing for all people with all income levels throughout the region.

Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City, District 41, asked a question as to how to reflect the comments that were made by members and the public and encouraged looking at the jobs and housing ratio to achieve a stronger focus on equity. She asked to incorporate the written comments by Professor Paavo Monkonnen and Assemblymember Bloom for consideration in today's action by the Regional Council, as follows, *"...housing costs, share of multi-family housing stock, share of subsidized housing, ratio of jobs to housing in the city; and share of regional jobs within a short commute."* She also asked to incorporate the following: *"...equitably increasing the regions' housing supply and the mix of housing types, tenure, and affordability in all cities and counties; promoting infill and efficient development patterns; socioeconomic equity; environmental and agricultural resource protection and GHG reduction; promoting a better jobs/housing fit throughout the region; balance disproportionate household income distributions; and affirmatively furthering fair housing."*

Supervisor Karen Spiegel, Riverside County, referenced the data in the agenda packet and noted a significant employment change in the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino specifically due to a tremendous amount of cars going through the county to drive to the location of jobs in Los Angeles and Orange counties where the higher-paying jobs are located. She encouraged collaboration and working across jurisdictional boundaries to achieve balance. Supervisor Spiegel expressed concerns with the limited scheduled Public Hearing locations and asked that more locations be scheduled to garner more public input. She also remarked the financial equity disparity between the northern California and southern California as was the case in transportation.

Councilmember Steve Manos, Lake Elsinore, District 63, commented regarding the jobs and housing imbalance and that the RHNA allocation not produce inequitable results in some cities. He also stated the challenges with building costs of homes without subsidies or lack of funding.

A MOTION was made (Manos) to authorize the release of the three (3) Proposed RHNA Methodology options for public comment and to direct staff to include greater context that informs the public that there is the opportunity for additional options and alternatives to these three (3) options. Motion was SECONDED (Kelly) and passed by the following votes:



**FOR:** Ashton, Berry, Brown, Buscaino, Clark, DeRuse, Garcetti, Gazeley, Harnik, Huang, Iglesias, Jahn, Judge, Kelly, Lorimore, Manos, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McDonald, Medina, Minagar, Nagel, Pollock, C. Ramirez, R. Ramirez, Real Sebastian, Richardson, Robertson, Ryu, Sahli-Wells, Saleh, Santa Ines, Santos, Semeta, Shapiro, Sharif, Spiegel, Talamantes, Tye, Viegas-Walker, Wagner and Wapner (43).

**AGAINST:** Holmgren (1)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

RHNA Subcommittee and CEHD Committee Chair Peggy Huang encouraged the members and the public to submit their written comments during the public comment period and emphasized the importance of their participation and suggested reading through the RHNA Subcommittee meeting records as matters raised at today's discussions were also discussed at the RHNA Subcommittee meetings.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### Approval Items

3. Caltrans Audits' Final Corrective Action Plans
4. Agency Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2019-20
5. Minutes of the Meeting – June 6, 2019
6. Approval for Additional Stipend Payments
7. 2020 Meeting Schedule of the Regional Council and Policy Committees
8. Amendment 1 to the Memorandum of Agreement for the Metropolitan Planning Organization Partners' Connect SoCal (RTP/SCS) Coordinator
9. SB 592 (Wiener): Housing Accountability Act
10. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 19-029-C01, Los Angeles Union Station/Civic Center District Study
11. SCAG Event Sponsorship Policy
12. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

#### Receive and File

13. Model Resolution for Transportation Safety
14. Purchase Orders \$5,000 - \$199,000; Contracts \$25,000 - \$199,999 and Amendments \$5,000 - \$74,999
15. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Richardson) to approve the Consent Calendar, Agenda Items 3 through 12; and Receive and File Items 13 through 15. Motion was SECONDED (Viegas-Walker) and passed by the following votes:

**FOR:** Ashton, Berry, Brown, Buscaino, Clark, DeRuse, Gazeley, Harnik, Holmgren, Huang, Jahn, Judge, Kelly, Lorimore, Manos, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McDonald, Nagel, Pollock, C. Ramirez, R. Ramirez, Richardson, Robertson, Ryu, Sahli-Wells, Santos, Shapiro, Sharif, Spiegel, Talamantes, Tye, Viegas-Walker, Wagner and Wapner (36).

**AGAINST:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

#### **BUSINESS REPORT**

A report was not provided.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Jahn welcomed the following new members:

- RC District 30 Representative Jeanine Pearce; Long Beach; no policy committee yet
- RC District 3 Representative Rey Santos of Beaumont; also in the Transportation Committee
- CVAG subregional appointment of Lisa Middleton, Palm Springs; also in the Transportation Committee
- SBCTA subregional appointment of Toni Momberger, Redlands; also in the Energy and Environment Committee
- SBCTA subregional appointment of John Dutrey, Montclair; also in the Transportation Committee
- President's Appointment of Larry Smith, Calimesa; also in the Transportation Committee

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A report was not provided.



ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Jahn adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 1:51 p.m.

The next meeting of the Regional Council is scheduled for Thursday, September 5, 2019 at the SCAG Los Angeles Office, 900 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90017.