



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024**

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.iqm2.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

Sup. Curt Hagman, President

Hon. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice President

Hon. Ray Marquez, 2nd Vice President

Hon. Art Brown, Imm. Past President

Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD

Hon Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair CEHD

Hon. Luis Plancarte, Chair, EEC

Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, Vice Chair EEC

Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC

Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC

Hon. Larry McCallon, President’s Appt.

Hon. Karen Bass, President’s Appt.

Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President’s Appt.

Hon. Jan Harnik, President’s Appt.

Hon. Lucy Dunn

Long Beach

Chino Hills

Buena Park

Calabasas

Simi Valley

Santa Paula

VCTC

Riverside

Los Angeles

Mission Viejo

RCTC

San Bernardino County

District 30

District 10

District 21

District 44

District 46

Imperial County

District 47

Ventura County

District 68

Air District Representative

Member-At-Large

District 13

Riverside

Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC

Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC

Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.

Lynwood

Pomona

Pechanga Dev. Corp.

District 26

District 38

TGRP Representative

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director



Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

First Vice President Cindy Allen called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and asked Art Brown, Immediate Past President to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

First Vice President Allen opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. She noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG’s jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda.

The Clerk of the Board acknowledged there were no written public comments received before or after the deadline.

Seeing no public comment speakers, First Vice President Allen closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

INFORMATION ITEM

1. 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games Update

There were no public comments for Item 1.

Executive Director Ajise provided a report on Item 1 and discussed SCAGs preparations for the 2028 Olympics and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles, highlighting the economic impact and regional involvement. Additionally, Mr. Ajise shared that in anticipation of this event, SCAG staff had been working in partnership with LA28, Metro, Caltrans, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office, and Metrolink, a group collectively known as the Games Mobility Executives (GME), to develop mobility plans and pursue state and federal funds for transportation infrastructure and mobility resources before, during, and after the Games. Mr. Ajise shared Mayor

Bass had hosted an after-action summit with officials from the City of Paris to share lessons learned from the 2024 Games last summer – and thanked her for inviting the committee and SCAG staff to participate in that event. He then introduced Mayor Bass who was going to highlight more about the work she was leading in the city and in the region to host the successful 2028 games.

Los Angeles Mayor, Karen Bass, thanked the members for the invitation to speak. She stated she looked forward to being active with SCAG and all they could do with all of the regional events that were coming into play. She emphasized they had the Olympics in 2028 but shed light on the World Cup events that were going to take place in 2026. She stated the World Cup, would bring eight games that would be played physically in the City of Inglewood, however it would impact all of the region. She stated she went to Paris the first time in March to see what they were doing to prepare, and shared how wonderful the Mayor of Paris was in opening up the doors of City Hall, and being very supportive. Furthermore, she shared that one of the things that was the most exciting about Paris, was the way the Olympics impacted the whole area. She stated that probably about 5% of the people maybe attended a game but it felt like the entire city was involved. She talked about the various ways the region could have involvement in the 2028 Olympics based on her Paris observations. Additionally, she discussed the use of public transportation to get to the venues. She referenced the Olympics in 1984, and how everyone was concerned about traffic, thinking it would be a traffic nightmare, and it turned out to be some of the best times in the city because of the coordinated efforts with businesses. She closed by stating she looked forward to working with the members, and that she knew this was an opportunity to really bring the whole region together. She stated they all knew that the only way to do this was for all of them to be together on every level of government.

2. REAP 2 Program Update

There were no public comments for Item 2.

Chief Planning Officer, Sarah Jepson shared a brief update with members on SCAG's REAP 2.0 program. She shared the program was benefiting many of the cities across the region. She stated they were working very hard collectively to get the program restarted. She stated that as they were aware, and, thanks to the great advocacy of the Regional Council, their funding for REAP 2.0 was largely restored with the final budget. She reported the budget for the program was \$231.5 million to implement about six different programs to support the implementation of Connect SoCal. She stated this was a \$14.5 million reduction from their original budget. She stated that based off the direction from the members, they prioritized the resources they had and were able to fund all of their suballocation programs, those that were formula based and those that were projects that were selected through their competitive programs. Additionally, she shared they had a couple regional programs that were also funded through REAP 2.0 which they were able to fund in other parts of SCAG's budget, so that the full program that the Board had approved, could move forward.

She stated some of those changes in the budget were reflected in the amendment which they would also consider on that day. She also highlighted how they were able to have some really good conversations with the Housing and Community Development Department (HCD), and how they had made some administrative changes that allowed them to extend the expenditure deadline for the program. She explained this meant that the agencies they had awarded funding to, had about another eight months to spend their resources. Furthermore, she reported they were also working with their legislative team on getting more time to implement the program and expect to have more updates on that very soon. She stated they were working with the MPO's across the State and with CalCOG, to make sure they had the appropriate amount of time to implement the program.

ACTION ITEM

There were no public comments for Item 3.

3. Resolution No. 24-668-1 Approving Amendment 1 to the FY 2024-25 Comprehensive Budget

Chief Financial Officer, Cindy Giraldo, presented Item 3 on the agenda. She stated that before them for approval was budget Amendment one to SCAG's fiscal year 25 budget. She stated in total, this amendment increased their budget by just under \$31 million dollars. She explained that table 1 of the staff report broke down the change in their budget by funding source with details, explaining each change. She then highlighted some of the larger items that had been included in the amendment. She reported there was a \$6.3 million funding increase in their Consolidated Planning grant revenues. She explained this was based on their annual reconciliation letter they receive from Caltrans. She stated the Budget Amendment also included four new grants, totaling \$3.3 million. She reported they had a net increase in the REAP 1 and REAP 2 budgets of \$13.8 million. She stated this was the combination of the increase in budget to carry over unspent balances from the prior year, due to the pause in the REAP 2 program offset by the \$14.5 million reduction in REAP 2 allocations from HCD. She explained that to absorb the reduced funding, sub allocation programs were prioritized and the regional pilot initiatives program, which was originally going to be funded with refunding, had been moved to the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding. She stated this brought her to the next increase which was a \$1.9 million increase in CRP funding to begin work on their Regional Pilot Initiatives program. Furthermore, Ms. Giraldo reported there was \$2.4 million of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funding and \$1.5 million of Surface Transportation Block grant funding that had been allocated to programming efforts and projects to support the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic games. She explained that with all those changes combined, she had covered just over \$29 million of the \$31 million dollar increase. She explained that all the balances were predominantly attributable to grant carryover adjustments when grant work carries over from one year to the next. Furthermore, she discussed SCAG's indirect cost budget. She stated SCAG had been doing some midterm and longer-term financial planning and preparation for a return to more normal funding levels in a post REAP world. She explained that as part of that effort SCAG

completed a zero-based funding exercise for their indirect cost budget and identified nearly a million dollars of annual budget savings within that budget. She stated the reduction of their indirect cost budget was included in this Budget amendment. She explained SCAG was always looking at its staffing levels and classifications in order to successfully position them for the execution of their ambitious programs. She reported this budget amendment included 3 staffing related items. The first was there were 28 staffing changes detailed for in attachment 3 or page 31 of the agenda packet within the staff report, but all said and done and these staffing changes net to no increase in their current staffing levels and had a net budget savings of just under \$550,000. Secondly, she reported a Junior Planner classification had been added to the salary schedule. She stated this new classification was intended to be a rotational cohort program for entry level planning professionals. Lastly, she stated they were requesting the delegation of authority to the Executive Director to hire limited term staff as operationally required in order to implement future grant awards. She stated this was essentially extending the authority that was already granted for the REAP program to future grant awards. She explained staff would report and include any such limited term staffing changes in their next budget amendment to the Board and to the Regional Council.

A MOTION was made (Brown) to recommend that the Regional Council adopt Resolution No. 24-668-1 approving a first amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Comprehensive Budget including: 1) A first amendment to the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Overall Work Program (FY 2024-25 OWP) Budget in the amount of \$30,657,159, increasing the FY 2024-25 OWP Budget from \$396,060,262 to \$426,717,421; 2) A first amendment to the Federal Transit Administration Discretionary and Formula Grant Budget (FTA Budget) in the amount of \$26,911, increasing the FTA Budget from \$277,729 to \$304,640; 3) A first amendment to the Indirect Cost Budget, in the amount of (\$960,777), reducing the Indirect Cost Budget from \$36,116,826 to \$35,156,049; 4) A first amendment to the General Fund Budget in the amount of \$135,000, increasing the General Fund Budget from \$3,089,698 to \$3,224,698; and 5) Authorization for SCAG Executive Director, or in his absence, the Chief Financial Officer, to use available fund balances from future grant awards received after the adoption of this Budget Amendment 1 to hire limited-term staff, as needed, to implement the grant award funded program in advance of formal budget adoption, with any changes included in the next Budget Amendment or Fiscal Year Budget, whichever is sooner. Motion was SECONDED (Bucknum) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Bass, Brown, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Marquez, McCallon, Plancarte, Rhodes, and Shapiro (14)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Lucy Dunn, Business Representative requested to get more information on Item No. 11.

President Hagman acknowledged her request and announced Ms. Jepson would address it after the committee voted on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

4. Minutes of the Meeting – September 5, 2024
5. 2025 Meeting Schedule of the Executive Administration Committee, Policy Committees, and Regional Council
6. Master Fund Transfer Agreement with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2034
7. Contract 24-020-C01 Amendment 2, Addressing Barriers to Economic Opportunities
8. Acceptance of Office of Traffic Safety Grant (OTS) Funds 2025: Go Human Campaign
9. Acceptance of Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Funds: Safety Modeling
10. Resolution No. 24-668-5 to Address California's Marketplace for Residential and Commercial Property Insurance
11. Senate Bill 375: Joint MPO Letter to CARB
12. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

13. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
14. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Shapiro) to approve Consent Items 4 through 12 and Receive and File Items 13-14. Motion was SECONDED (Marquez) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Bass, Brown, Bucknum, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Marquez, McCallon, Plancarte, and Rhodes (12)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

Chief Planning Officer, Sarah Jepson provided a brief update on Item 11. She explained that what was on Senate Bill 375, and their joint MPO letter to CARB, was addressing some changes they were hoping to make within the program. She provided background stating that every four years they develop Connect SoCal, their Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy. She explained that in that plan, as required by SB 375, they were required to show how they will achieve a greenhouse gas reduction target that was set by the Air Resources Board. She stated they had submitted their last plan to the Air Resources Board and were waiting for their approval. She explained this approval was important because it ensured they had access to certain State transportation funds. She stated that as part of the process, the target gets updated by the Air Resources Board and were working on a process to initiate the resetting of the target. She explained how SCAG, along with the other Big 4 MPO's asked that CARB pause their process and take a little bit more time to talk about what's changed within SB 375 since the bill was passed more than 10 years ago. They also asked CARB to think about any changes to the framework that might make it more effective. She shared they felt like they had developed great plans. She stated they spent a lot of time analyzing them and going back and forth on details and assumptions, etc. She elaborated stating the place where they had not been quite as successful was on the implementation and making sure both the State and the regions were moving forward collectively to implement the plans. Furthermore, she stated the Big 4 were very much supportive of the overall program. She stated they had seen great value in the region, and across the State in integrating land use and transportation planning. She explained they wanted to emphasize that their aim was to make this program stronger and more effective for the region. She stated the Air Resources Board was concerned about their legislative requirements, and had said that they could not accommodate the pause but were willing to have more conversations with the MPO's and the other State agencies to think more about the framework and some changes that can be made. She stated they had initiated those conversations at a staff level and were hoping to make some progress there.

Board Counsel Ruben Duran asked President, if he could do one housekeeping item. He explained two votes were not recorded in the system. One was for Member Shapiro and the other for Member Crosswhite. He stated he believe they intended to vote however the results only showed 12 votes. He asked for President Hagman's permission, to have the clerk record those two votes. The Board Clerk confirmed with Members Crosswhite and Shapiro that they voted in favor of the Consent Calendar.

There were no public comments for the CFO report, President's report or the Executive Director's report.

CFO REPORT

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, shared how the report included some highlights prepared by the Chief Planning Officer of some projects that were completed the past quarter. She stated the report also included their quarterly finance reports for the 1st quarter of their current fiscal year. She reported that all REAP 1 projects were complete and staff was busy collecting final deliverables. She stated their final report was due to HCD, later in the month. She stated it was important to remember that REAP 1 was one of the larger programs in SCAG's history, if not the larger program, until they got REAP the sequel, which was five times as ambitious in every way. Lastly, she stated there would be a report on the REAP 1 programs at the CEHD policy committee meeting the following month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Hagman provided an update on the Economic Summit. He shared that due to scheduling conflicts and the holidays, they would not have the traditional Southern California Economic Summit. However, he explained they would still provide the annual regional economic report by making the 2024 Southern California Economic Update an item at the Regional Council's December 5th meeting. He stated this item would include SCAG's Annual Economic Reporting and analysis, as well as near term Outlook for SCAG Economic Roundtable. He shared the update would present a detailed economic outlook for the region highlighting that growth in sectors, such as goods, movement, healthcare, and tourism, would drive the economy in this coming year. He stated they would also have time for an in-depth discussion on the state of the economy among Regional Council members. Furthermore, he shared that plans for the General Assembly were already starting to take shape. He reported SCAG would be hosting the 2025 Regional Conference and General Assembly on May 1st and 2nd at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa in Palms Desert. He stated this would be the 60th Annual Regional Conference and General Assembly. Lastly, he reminded member that the next EAC meeting would take place on December 5, at 9:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Ajise stated that now that they were back on track with REAP, they were looking forward to working with all of SCAG's jurisdictions on Project MOU's. He stated he knew one of the issues that had come up recurrently was the pace of getting the MOU's done. He stated they had a hundred projects that they were trying to get out, but with the delay there was a sort of clog in the process. He stated they had to do their due diligence as the MOU's were legal documents. He stated that one thing they found, was that when they sent folks MOU's, somehow they did not

really accept it on face value, and they wanted changes to it. He stated this then required them to process those legal documents, and there was some back and forth, creating a little bit of churn in the process. He stated this was all in good measure. He shared they were doing their best to get those projects started because they needed to begin to have those funds flow. Additionally, he stated they also created avenues for getting projects initiated and started as quickly as possible where there were letters of no prejudice that could be had if an agency was willing to take the risk upfront to then get started once they clear the gate of verification on the scope and assessment. Furthermore, he shared that later that afternoon, they would have a presentation by the Deputy Secretary for Housing for homelessness, Dhakshike Wickrema from the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. He stated this was in pursuit of their ongoing effort to strengthen partnerships to create opportunities for housing production and sustainable communities in the region. He stated Ms. Wickrema had 15 years of experience in addressing homelessness in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. He stated she had experience from their region, having worked within the City of Los Angeles, and also at the county level. He stated he was going to be reporting on SB 375 but since Ms. Jepson had already touched on it, he would not cover it. He did, however, add that the letter sent by the largest 4 MPO's in the State, was sent to put a pause in the process, because they felt like with good intentions, they could really address the necessary changes to 375. Lastly, he discussed a Mobility Workshop that was scheduled to take place on November 22nd. He stated this would be a tour of a SoCal Gas Hydrogen home located in the City of Downey. He stated the hydrogen innovation experience was North America's 1st clean, renewable hydrogen powered microgrid home and it was something they wanted to showcase to have everybody that could be there understand how this was put together, and what the opportunities might be across the region. He asked members to rsvp to Erick Rodriguez, Government Affairs Officer.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Hagman adjourned the Meeting of the Executive Administration Committee at 9:44 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

2024-25																	Total Mtgs Attended To Date	
MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	6-Jun	27-Jun	28-Jun	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY		
Hon. Curt Hagman, President, Chair		San Bernardino County	1	1	1	1		1		1							6	
Hon. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice Chair	Long Beach	District 30	1	1	1	1		0		1							5	
Hon. Ray Marquez, 2nd Vice Chair	Chino Hills	District 10	1	1	1	1		1		1							6	
Hon. Art Brown, Imm. Past President	Buena Park	District 21	1	1	1	1	D	1	D	1							6	
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD	Calabasas	District 44	1	1	1	1		1		1							6	
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair, CEHD	Simi Valley	District 46	1	1	1	1		1		1							6	
Sup. Luis Plancarte, Chair, EEC		Imperial County	1	1	1	1		1		1							6	
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, Vice Chair, EEC	Santa Paula	District 47	1	1	1	1	A	1	A	1							6	
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38	0	0	1	1		0		0							2	
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC		VCTC	1	0	0	1		1		1							4	
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68	0	1	1	1		1		1							5	
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26	1	1	1	1	R	1	R	0							5	
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	Member-At-Large		0	0	1		0		1							2	
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13	1	0	1	1		1		1							5	
Hon. Jan Harnik, President's Appt.		RCTC	1	1	1	1		1		1							6	
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.		Air District Representative		1	1	1	K	1	K	1							5	
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	0	1	1	1		1		0							4	
Ms. Lucy Dunn, Ex-Officio Member	Lucy Dunn Strategic Issues Mar	Business Representative	0	1	1	1		1		1							5	
			12	14	16	18	0	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90

Attachment: EAC Attendance Sheet 2024-25 (Minutes of the Meeting - November 7, 2024)