



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
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www.scag.ca.gov

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HYBRID (IN-PERSON & REMOTE PARTICIPATION) \*

# ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

***In-Person & Remote Participation\****

***Thursday, March 3, 2022***

***9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.***

***\*Public Participation: The SCAG offices are currently closed to members of the public. Please see next page for detailed instructions on how to participate in the meeting.***

***To Attend and Participate on Your Computer:***

**<https://scag.zoom.us/j/317727062>**

***To Attend and Participate by Phone:***

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

**Meeting ID: 317 727 062**

### ***PUBLIC ADVISORY***

Given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A), the meeting will be held telephonically and electronically.

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](mailto:aguilarm@scag.ca.gov). Agendas & Minutes are also available at: [www.scag.ca.gov/committees](http://www.scag.ca.gov/committees).

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 Public Comments

*You may submit public comments in two (2) ways:*

1. **In Writing:** Submit written comments via email to: [EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov) by 5pm on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. 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.

All written comments received after 5pm on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

2. **In Real Time:** If participating in real time via Zoom or phone, during the Public Comment Period (Matters Not on the Agenda) or at the time the item on the agenda for which you wish to speak is called, use the “raise hand” function on your computer or \*9 by phone and wait for SCAG staff to announce your name/phone number. SCAG staff will unmute your line when it is your turn to speak. Limit oral comments to 3 minutes, or as otherwise directed by the presiding officer. 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.

If unable to connect by Zoom or phone and you wish to make a comment, you may submit written comments via email to: [EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov).

***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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### 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*



## Instructions for Participating in the Meeting

SCAG is providing multiple options to view or participate in the meeting:

### To Participate and Provide Verbal Comments on Your Computer

1. Click the following link: <https://scag.zoom.us/j/317727062>
2. 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.
3. Select “Join Audio via Computer.”
4. 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.
5. During the Public Comment Period, use the “raise hand” function located in the participants’ window and wait for SCAG staff to announce your name. SCAG staff will unmute your line when it is your turn to speak. Limit oral comments to 3 minutes, or as otherwise directed by the presiding officer.

### To Listen and Provide Verbal Comments by Phone

1. Call **(669) 900-6833** to access the conference room. Given high call volumes recently experienced by Zoom, please continue dialing until you connect successfully.
2. Enter the **Meeting ID: 317 727 062**, followed by #.
3. Indicate that you are a participant by pressing # to continue.
4. You will hear audio of the meeting in progress. Remain on the line if the meeting has not yet started.
5. During the Public Comment Period, press \*9 to add yourself to the queue and wait for SCAG staff to announce your name/phone number. SCAG staff will unmute your line when it is your turn to speak. Limit oral comments to 3 minutes, or as otherwise directed by the presiding officer.

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## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

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### EEC - Energy and Environment Committee *Members – March 2022*

1. **Hon. David Pollock**  
EEC Chair, Moorpark, RC District 46
2. **Hon. Deborah Robertson**  
EEC Vice Chair, Rialto, RC District 8
3. **Hon. Cindy Allen**  
Long Beach, RC District 30
4. **Hon. Ana Beltran**  
Westmorland, ICTC
5. **Hon. Daniel Brotman**  
Glendale, AVCJPA
6. **Hon. Margaret Clark**  
Rosemead, SGVCOG
7. **Hon. Robert Copeland**  
Signal Hill, GCCOG
8. **Hon. Maria Davila**  
South Gate, GCCOG
9. **Hon. Ned Davis**  
Westlake Village, LVMCOG
10. **Hon. Rick Denison**  
Yucca Valley, SBCTA
11. **Hon. Julian Gold**  
Beverly Hills, WSCCOG
12. **Hon. Shari Horne**  
Laguna Woods, OCCOG
13. **Hon. Britt Huff**  
Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG
14. **Hon. Jonathan Ingram**  
Murrieta, WRCOG
15. **Hon. Dan Kalmick**  
Huntington Beach, OCCOG

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## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

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- 16. Hon. Joe Kalmick**  
Seal Beach, RC District 20
- 17. Hon. Elaine Litster**  
Simi Valley, VCOG
- 18. Hon. Diana Mahmud**  
South Pasadena, SGVCOG
- 19. Hon. Cynthia Moran**  
Chino Hills, SBCTA
- 20. Hon. Oscar Ortiz**  
Indio, CVAG
- 21. Sup. Luis Plancarte**  
Imperial County
- 22. Hon. Randall Putz**  
Big Bear Lake, RC District 11
- 23. Sup. Carmen Ramirez**  
Ventura County
- 24. Hon. Greg Rath**  
Mission Viejo, OCCOG
- 25. Hon. Richard Rollins**  
Port Hueneme, VCOG
- 26. Hon. Jesus Silva**  
Fullerton, Pres. Appointment (Member at Large)
- 27. Hon. Sharon Springer**  
Burbank, SFVCOG
- 28. Hon. Connor Traut**  
Buena Park, OCCOG
- 29. Hon. John Valdivia**  
San Bernardino, SBCTA
- 30. Hon. Colleen Wallace**  
Banning, WRCOG
- 31. Hon. Edward Wilson**  
Signal Hill, GCCOG

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## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

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Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
**Thursday, March 3, 2022**  
**9:30 AM**

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

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

*(The Honorable David Pollock, Chair)*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Matters Not on the Agenda)**

This is the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that is *not* listed on the agenda. 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. Public comment for items listed on the agenda will be taken separately as further described below.

**General information for all public comments:** Members of the public are encouraged, but not required, to submit written comments by sending an email to: [EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov) by 5pm on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. Such comments will be transmitted to members of the legislative body and posted on SCAG's website prior to the meeting. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Energy and Environment Committee regarding any item on this agenda (other than writings legally exempt from public disclosure) are available at the Office of the Clerk, located at 900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 during normal business hours and/or by contacting the office by phone, (213) 630-1420, or email to [aguilarm@scag.ca.gov](mailto:aguilarm@scag.ca.gov). Written comments received after 5pm on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting. Members of the public wishing to verbally address the Energy and Environment Committee in real time during the meeting will be allowed up to a total of 3 minutes to speak on items on the agenda, with the presiding officer retaining discretion to adjust time limits as necessary to ensure efficient and orderly conduct of the meeting. The presiding officer has the discretion to equally reduce the time limit of all speakers based upon the number of comments received. If you desire to speak on an item listed on the agenda, please wait for the chair to call the item and then indicate your interest in offering public comment by either using the "raise hand" function on your computer or pressing \*9 on your telephone. For purpose of providing public comment for items listed on the Consent Calendar (if there is a Consent Calendar), please indicate that you wish to speak when the Consent Calendar is called; items listed on the Consent Calendar will be acted upon 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.



## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

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### REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

##### Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – January 6, 2022

##### Receive and File

2. Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

3. Southern California Edison (SCE) Charge Ready New Construction Rebate (NCR) 15 Mins.  
*(Naveed Ahmad, Senior Advisor eMobility Business Development & Partnerships, SCE)*
4. SoCal Gas Commitment to Net Zero 15 Mins.  
*(Michelle Sim, Director of Sustainability, SoCal Gas)*
5. California Air Resources Board: Sustainable Communities & Climate Policy Update 20 Mins.  
*(Lana Wong, Air Pollution Specialist, California Air Resources Board)*
6. Connect SoCal's Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) 101 20 Mins.  
*(Karen Calderon, Senior Regional Planner)*

#### CHAIR'S REPORT

*(The Honorable David Pollock, Chair)*

#### STAFF REPORT

*(Rachel Wagner, Regional Affairs Officer, SCAG Staff)*

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ADJOURNMENT



Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
**March 3, 2022**

**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022**

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

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting virtually (telephonically and electronically), given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A). A quorum was present.

**Members Present**

<b>Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark (Chair)</b>	<b>District 46</b>
<b>Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Vice Chair)</b>	<b>District 8</b>
Hon. Cindy Allen, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland	ICTC
Hon. Daniel Brotman, Glendale	AVCJPA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	SGVCOG
Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village	LVMCOG
Hon. Julian Gold, Beverly Hills	WSCCOG
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates	SBCCOG
Hon. Dan Kalmick, Huntington Beach	OCCOG
Hon. Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach	District 20
Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley	VCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena	SGVCOG
Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills	SBCTA
Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio	CVAG
Sup. Luis Plancarte	Imperial County
Hon. Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake	District 11
Sup. Carmen Ramirez	Ventura County





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Hon. Greg Raths, Mission Viejo	OCCOG
Hon. Richard Rollins, Port Hueneme	VCOG
Hon. Jesus Silva, Fullerton	President's Appointment
Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut, Buena Park	OCCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill	GCCOG

**Members Not Present**

Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate	GCCOG
Hon. Rick Denison, Yucca Valley	SBCTA
Hon. Jonathan Ingram, Murrieta	WRCOG
Hon. John Valdivia, Signal Hill	GCCOG

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair David Pollock called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. Staff confirmed a quorum was present. Policy Committee Member, Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Chair Pollock 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 [EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov). Rachel Wagner, Regional Affairs Officer, acknowledged there were no written public comments received by email before or after the 5 p.m. deadline.

Seeing there were no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

**REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

Chair Pollock noted that staff asked to move Item Number 3 to the end of the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting - January 6, 2022

A MOTION was made (Rollins) to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion was SECONDED (Plancarte) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Davis, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Moran, Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Ramirez, Rath, Rollins, Silva, Springer and Traut (21)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAINS:** None (0)

The Clerk received a message from Policy Committee member Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake, District 11, indicating his audio was not working and was not able to cast his vote in favor for the Consent Calendar in time. His vote is not reflected in the count.

**ACTION ITEM**

2. Transmittal to South Coast Air Quality Management District of Draft 2022 Air Quality Management Plan Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Transportation Control Measure

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Rongsheng Luo, Program Manager II, provided an overview of the Draft 2022 Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) Appendix IV-C and the next steps. He reported that the 2022 AQMP was being prepared primarily to attain the federal 2015 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard in the South Coast Air Basin. He explained that the 2022 AQMP was being jointly prepared by three agencies: the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), the lead agency, the California Air Resources Board (ARB), and SCAG. He noted that SCAG was responsible for the Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Transportation Control Measures (TCM), which includes an overview of the adopted Connect SoCal (2020 RTP/SCS), a list of committed TCM's in

the South Coast Air Basin, and an analysis of reasonably available TCM's. He further reported that staff was seeking approval from the EEC and Regional Council to transmit the draft Appendix IV-C to South Coast AQMD for inclusion in the Draft 2022 AQMP for public review. He reported that in May or June staff would return to the EEC and Regional Council for approval of the final Appendix IV-C which will be transmitted to the South Coast AQMD for inclusion in the final 2022 AQMP. Lastly, he noted that the 2022 AQMP is required to be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by August 3, 2022.

A MOTION was made (Huff) to approve the transmittal to the South Coast Air Quality Management District of the Draft 2022 Air Quality Management Plan Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Transportation Control Measures. Motion was SECONDED (Silva) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Allen, Beltran, Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Davis, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud, Moran, Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Rollins, Silva, Springer, Traut, and Wilson (25)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAINS:** None (0)

The Clerk received a message from Policy Committee member Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake, District 11, indicating his audio was not working and was not able to cast his vote in favor for Item Number 2 in time. His vote is not reflected in the count.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

*Agenda Item 3 was moved to the end of the agenda. Also, Agenda Item 6 was taken first as the presenter for Item 4 had not arrived to the meeting. Agenda Items have been reorganized to reflect the order of presentations.*

#### **6. SCAG Climate Action Resolution Quarterly Update**

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Kimberly Clark, Program Manager I, provided a quarterly update on SCAG's climate action resolution which was adopted by the Regional Council on January 7, 2021, and established priority work areas that can help promote resilience, reduce the regions contribution to greenhouse gas

emissions and promote adaptation to a changing climate. She stated that this action also included establishing a regional resilience framework, a climate planning network, Regional Advanced Mitigation Program, a work plan for accelerated electrification, including climate considerations in the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy, and including a climate adaptation and mitigation analysis and strategies in the 2024 Connect SoCal Plan. She further noted that SCAG would pursue partnerships to secure resources for local jurisdictions to establish climate action plans, urban heat mitigation plans, and other adaptation and mitigation plans. She also provided an update of the outreach activities staff engaged in and highlighted that SCAG also launched a new resource to help jurisdictions update general plan safety elements and local hazard mitigation plans to address climate adaptation and resilience strategies in compliance with SB 379.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

Policy Committee Member Diane Mahmud, South Pasadena, thanked Ventura County Supervisor and former EEC Chair Linda Parks who first recommended that SCAG adopt this policy. She also encouraged SCAG staff to continuously engage with the respective Council of Governments as she thought it was a really effective way to communicate all that SCAG offers in this regard.

Policy Committee Member Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates, stated she was very impressed with the amount of support being provided to local cities. She asked how the one-on-one sessions that are available to local jurisdictions worked. Ms. Clark stated the sessions were about one to two hours long, via Zoom, where they walked people through the SB 379 guide and also link them to available data applications to help form vulnerability assessments.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, expressed concern for vulnerable communities impacted by heat and noted they need to pay attention to this because it had huge health consequences.

Policy Committee Member Elaine Litster, Simi Valley, asked if all local jurisdictions had received SCAG's SB 379 guide or if it was something that needed to be requested. Ms. Clark stated it was available online, had advertised the resource through a special workshop with the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative, and also made presentations at the other regional collaboratives. She stated that for the Climate Adaptation Framework, they had made presentations at every subregional Council of Governments who were able to have them on their agenda.

#### 4. ICARP 2021 State Climate Adaptation Strategy and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy

Ms. Clark introduced Amanda Hansen from the California Natural Resource Agency.

Ms. Hansen provided an overview of the 2021 Climate Adaptation Strategy and the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, as well as opportunities presented for Southern California. She addressed the overarching goals of the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and noted that the strategy includes the following key content: definitions of California's eight natural and working landscapes; descriptions how these lands can deliver on our climate change goals; priority nature-based climate solutions to address the climate crisis; opportunities for regional climate smart land management; options to track nature-based climate action and measure progress; and almost 200 opportunities to scale climate smart land management across regions and sectors in California. With respect to the Climate Adaptation Strategy, she reported that the state was statutorily required to develop and update a comprehensive state strategy every three years. She noted that the key goals of the strategy were to: set strategic direction and identify needed outcomes; unify efforts across all sectors and regions; and help all Californians understand and contribute to California's climate resilience. Additionally, the strategy is organized around six outcome-based priorities, each with a list of goals that include specific actions, timeframes, success metrics, and responsible agency(s).

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

Policy Committee Member Mahmud asked if there has been any effort to quantify the cost of achieving the various outcomes and where the revenue to achieve them will come from. Ms. Hansen stated there was nothing in this strategy that was not an existing state commitment and everything in the strategy was currently underway.

Policy Committee Member Sharon Springer, Burbank, expressed that it was important to keep universal design moving forward.

Policy Committee Member Litster asked Ms. Hansen to expand on some of the potential contradictions when they talk about the need for green in their communities, but then tell people to cut back on water because of the water shortages. Ms. Hansen acknowledged the request and stated that when they looked at the Climate Smart Strategy it was very clear that they were talking about water wise plants. She stated that part of the rationale was that when you invest in nature-based solutions for cooling communities, a lot of times those costs were significantly less than the cost of more technological solutions.

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

## 5. Cooling Long Beach - Urban Heat Island Mitigation

Ms. Clark introduced Kristyn Vega-Payne, Sustainability Analyst with the Office of the City Manager in Long Beach.

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Ms. Vega-Payne provided an overview of the Cooling Long Beach Urban Heat Island Reduction Toolkit. She explained that the Cooling Long Beach project identifies sustainable design strategies to cool temperatures; improve walking, biking, connections to transit, and key community destinations; an increase the climate resiliency and wellbeing of a Long Beach neighborhood. She noted this project was funded by SCAG and led by the City of Long Beach. She stated that the location chosen for this project was the Washington Neighborhood, which was centrally located in their city, and was an area that was identified as important to address extreme heat impact. She stated this project was driven by an inclusive community engagement and noted the community partnership with the Washington Neighborhood Association and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles. She also reported that they were extremely excited about the community navigators, a pilot program designed to provide outreach training and skills to residents. She noted five cooling tools which included street trees, green infrastructure, shade structures, cool hardscapes and pavement, and cooling amenities. Lastly, she reported next steps for implementing this project were to secure funding.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

Policy Committee Member Huff asked if cooling amenities included cooling centers. Ms. Vega-Payne clarified that the cooling amenities they were referring to consisted of water fountains, misters, and splash pads, which were quick cool downs for people when it was extremely hot.

Policy Committee Member Jesus Silva, Fullerton, asked if they had received any feedback in regard to street closures in a community that relies on the ability to be able to use those streets to get to work. Ms. Vega-Payne stated that the closing to traffic would be only temporary during construction projects in order for the cooling to happen. She stated the feedback they had received from the community was mostly due to parking.

Policy Committee Member Mahmud asked if they were actively promoting the use of federal funds that are available for home insulation and if they were directing any of their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds towards this purpose. Ms. Vega-Payne stated they were not

currently directing CDBG funds for this purpose, but the conversations had started. In terms of the federal funds, she stated these were the weatherization funds that were run through a local non-profit, Long Beach Community Action Partnership. She thanked Policy Committee Member Mahmud for bringing this up.

Second Vice President Ramirez expressed concern over the use of AstroTurf and asked if this was addressed in their strategy. Ms. Vega-Payne stated that what they promote in their office was native plant habitat.

Policy Committee Member Cindy Allen, Long Beach, asked what the plans were on expanding this pilot program. Ms. Vega-Payne stated the first part was expanding internal education for other city staff and other departments about the cooling strategy so that they can start incorporating them into projects outside of the Washington neighborhood.

### 3. 2021 Student Showcase

Lyle Janicek, Associate Regional Planner, reported that SCAG invited college and university students in the region to conceptualize, create, and submit ArcGIS StoryMaps using SCAG's open data. He stated it was a meaningful way to provide insight, showcase plans, and projects, engage supporters and stakeholders, illustrate the possibilities of data, and highlight the usefulness of open data at the regional level. He described that the 2021 Student Showcase was a virtual StoryMap competition with two award categories in innovation and planning. He explained that the 2021 competition received eleven projects from nine different colleges throughout the SCAG region. He also noted there was a group of SCAG planning professionals that evaluated the projects and selected four winners. He noted pending Covid-19 protocols, they hoped to have the finalists from the 2022 competition present their work at the General Assembly and Regional Conference in May. He introduced Irene Farr, UCLA student, who won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the innovation category for her StoryMap titled: Identifying Hidden Open Spaces.

Ms. Farr shared an overview of her StoryMap which was an exploration of open space easements in unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Second Vice President Ramirez asked Ms. Farr to define conservation easements because as she was understanding it, this meant that the landowner had agreed to conserve in exchange for some benefit.

Ms. Farr explained that the county's planning department had these open space and conservation easements. She noted that in the past decades, the county had not documented the exact parcel numbers because they just did not have the inventory set up to filter where these easements were located. She stated that when she was an intern at the county her effort was to initiate this process

and though she was not able to map all the other easements that she found in Los Angeles County, they limited this to the pilot area for the map she was displaying. She noted that this was something that the county was moving forward with so that they can fully build this map out for people to reference to.

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Mr. Janicek introduced Lacy Gugliemino, Crafton Hills College student, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the planning category for her StoryMap titled: To Reach It, We Have to Teach It.

Ms. Gugliemino shared an overview of her StoryMap which was about implementing community gardens in public schools as a way to help fight food insecurity and teaching sustainability.

Mr. Janicek closed by stating they were hoping to release the 2022 Student Showcase Competition flyers and information later in the month where competitors will be asked to prepare StoryMaps once again on planning challenges.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Chair Pollock stated that the presentations they had seen at this meeting were demonstrating their commitment to climate action, which was a goal of his from the beginning. He stated they had been traditionally focused on environmental quality, which was important, but climate change was becoming a bigger issue.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Rachel Wagner reported that the last day to apply for SCAG's Leadership Housing Policy Academy was January 10. She noted that the Housing Policy Leadership Academy engages emerging and established community leaders in a free, 10-session virtual workshop focused on best practice housing policy. She noted that sessions explore how policy shapes our housing ecosystem, the fundamentals of housing policy and legislation, and opportunities to advance pro-housing policy in





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our communities and regionwide. She reported that the monthly Academy sessions would begin in February, and they could visit SCAG's website for more information at [www.scag.ca.gov/hpla](http://www.scag.ca.gov/hpla).

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Policy Committee Member Springer requested an item on universal design and climate resilience.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Pollock adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:23 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**2021-22**

MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, District 30	1	1		0	1	1		1					5
Beltran, Ana	Westmoreland, ICTC	1	0		0	1	0		1					3
Brotman, Daniel	Glendale, AVCJPA	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, SGVCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1					5
Copeland, Robert	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Davila, Maria	South Gate, GCCOG	0	0		0	0	0							0
Davis, Ned	Westlake Village, LVMCOG	1	1		1	0	1		1					5
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, SCBTA	1	1		0	1	0							3
Gold, Julian	Beverly Hills, WSCCOG	1	1	D	1	1	1	D	1	D				6
Horne, Shari	Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Huff, Britt	Rolling Hills Estates, SCBCOG	1	1	A	1	1	1	A	1	A				6
Ingram,Jonathan	Murrieta, WRCOG				1	1	1							3
Kalmick, Dan	Huntington Beach, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, District 20	1	1	R	1	1	1	R	1	R				6
Litster, Elaine	Simi Valley, VCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1					5
Mahmud, Diana	So. Pasadena, SGVCOG	1	0	K	1	1	1	K	1	K				5
Moran, Cynthia	Chino Hills, SBCTA	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Ortiz, Oscar	Indio, CVAG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Pollock, David (CHAIR)	Moorpark, VCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Putz, Randall	Big Bear Lake, District 11	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Ramirez, Carmen	Oxnard, RC District 45	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Raths, Greg	Mission Viejo, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Robertson, Deborah	Rialto, RC District 8	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Rollins, Richard	Port Hueneme, VCOG	1	1		1	0	0		1					4
Silva, Jesus	Fullerton, President's Appointment	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Springer, Sharon	Burbank, SFVCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1					5
Traut, Connor	Buena Park, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Valdivia, John	San Bernardino, SBCCOG	0	1		1	0	1							3
Wilson, Edward H.J.	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		0	1	1		1					

Attachment: EEC Attendance Sheet 2021-22 (Minutes of the Meeting - January 6, 2022)



AGENDA ITEM 2  
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
March 3, 2022

**To:** Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)  
Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)  
Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)  
Transportation Committee (TC)  
Regional Council (RC)  
**From:** Sarah Dominguez, Program Manager II  
(213) 236-1918, dominguezs@scag.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
APPROVAL

**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.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

*In July 2021, the Executive Administration Committee convened for a strategic planning session. One action identified during that session was to create a Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024. Connect SoCal 2024, the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), will be prepared by SCAG over the next two years, in anticipation of an April 2024 adoption date. SCAG will build from the strategies and policies established in Connect SoCal 2020, such as the Core Vision and Key Connections. However, in developing Connect SoCal, SCAG must continue to monitor and reexamine trends and emerging issues in order to put forth a plan that addresses the region's evolving needs, challenges and opportunities. The attached draft Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024 outlines the approach for policy development with the existing Policy Committees and three new sub-committees.*

**BACKGROUND:**

**What is Connect SoCal 2024?**

SCAG prepares a long-range RTP/SCS every four years which provides a vision for integrating land use and transportation for increased mobility and more sustainable growth.

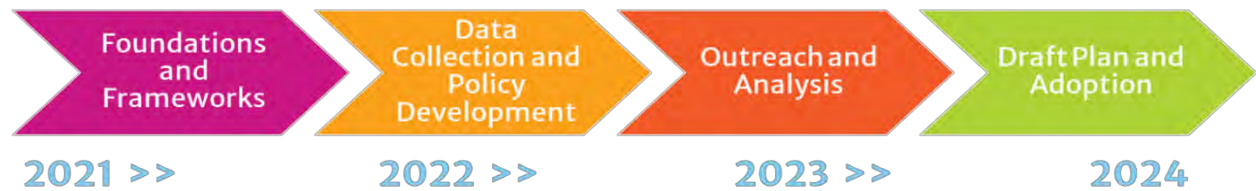
SCAG’s next RTP/SCS, Connect SoCal 2024, will incorporate important updates of fundamental data, enhanced strategies and investments based on, and intended to strengthen, the plan adopted by the SCAG Regional Council in 2020. The pillars of the Connect SoCal—the *Core Vision* and *Key Connections*—are anticipated to continue into the next plan. The *Core Vision* centers on maintaining and better managing the transportation network we have for moving people and goods, while expanding mobility choices by locating housing, jobs and transit closer together and increasing investment in transit and complete streets. The *Key Connections* augment the *Core Vision* of the plan to address trends and emerging challenges. These *Key Connections* lie at the intersection of land use, transportation and innovation to accelerate progress on regional planning goals. For this plan development cycle, SCAG staff will focus on process improvements and data updates and refinements. However, in developing Connect SoCal, SCAG must continue to monitor and reexamine trends and emerging issues in order to put forth a plan that addresses the region’s evolving needs, challenges and opportunities.

**Connect SoCal 2024: Status Update**

As described at the February 2022 Joint Policy Committee Meeting, SCAG is now entering into the “Data Collection and Policy Development” phase of plan development.

Throughout 2022, staff will be continuing with research to better understand the trends and existing conditions in the region. This phase also includes steps to understand the existing conditions and planning occurring at the local jurisdiction level through the Local Data Exchange process and engagement with County Transportation Commissions on the Project List later this year. Over the course of the next year and in the first half of 2023, SCAG staff will be seeking direction from our policy makers, through the relevant Policy Committees, on the priorities and strategies for Connect SoCal 2024 to augment and help better align plans and investments across the region.

Phases of Connect SoCal 2024 Development



### **Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024**

In July 2021, President Lorimore convened a strategic planning session for the Executive Administration Committee and executive staff to establish high-level work goals and priorities for work planning for the year. The resulting EAC Strategic Work Plan identified elevating and expanding policy leadership as a central measure to advancing the EAC's goals and priorities. Among the tasks assigned to staff to expand policy leadership was the development of a Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024. Per the EAC Strategic Work Plan:

“Working with the Executive Officers and the Policy Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs to develop a Policy Development Framework for 2024 Connect SoCal 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 (March 2022)”

The attached draft Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024 includes the preliminary plan vision and goals, key policy priorities, and an outline for the focus and responsibility of each Policy Subcommittee and three new sub-committees to consider opportunities to incorporate new policy direction and priorities identified by the board since 2020 into the regional plan.

#### **Next Steps**

In April 2022, SCAG staff will share this draft Policy Development Framework with each Policy Committee to solicit feedback and input before seeking a recommendation for adoption by the EAC and RC in June 2022.

Following adoption, SCAG will circulate a survey to all members, anticipated in June of this year, to assess interest in policy issues and in serving on one of the sub-committees. Following the results of this survey, SCAG will work with the President and Executive Officers establish the sub-committees and prepare a more detailed policy committee agenda outlook for each of the Committees to illustrate the progression of policy discussions leading up to plan analysis and production in Summer 2023.

Later this year, SCAG will be onboarding a consultant to assist with Public and Stakeholder Engagement for the plan. Early deliverables from that work will include educational materials to help stakeholders better understand the regional planning process as well as issue papers to inform the policy development process.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Work associated with this item is included in the FY 21-22 Overall Work Program (310.4874.01: Connect SoCal Development).

#### **ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Draft Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

## Draft Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

Connect SoCal 2024, the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), will be prepared by SCAG over the next two years, in anticipation of an April 2024 adoption date. Prepared in response to direction by the Regional Council, the Draft Policy Development Framework presents the Draft Plan Vision and Goals, Policy Priorities to be expanded and refined through the planning process to advance the vision and goals, and a policy development leadership structure and outlook to foster policy education, engagement, consensus building and decision-making.

### DRAFT PLAN VISION AND GOALS

In January 2022, staff began engaging with stakeholders through the Regional Planning Working Groups on the draft Goals & Vision for Connect SoCal 2024.

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 will each be further defined by supporting sub-Goals. In addition, staff aim to integrate overarching through lines of Equity and Resilience across the goals.

### DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

*Option 1:* A healthy, equitable and resilient region that works together to plan effectively for the challenges of tomorrow.

*Option 2:* A healthy, accessible and connected region for a more resilient and equitable future.

### DRAFT GOALS

*Mobility:* Build and maintain a robust transportation network.

- Support investments that are well-maintained and operated, coordinated, and resilient, and result in improved safety and air quality and minimize greenhouse gas emissions.
- Ensure reliable, accessible, affordable, and appealing travel options are readily available, while striving to enhance equity in the offerings in high need communities.
- Support planning for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

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

- Create human-centered communities in urban, suburban, and rural settings to increase mobility options and reduce travel distances.
- Produce and preserve diverse housing types in an effort to improve affordability, accessibility, and opportunities for all households.

*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 stresses and disruptions, such as climate change.
- Integrate the region's development pattern and transportation network to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Conserve the region's resources.

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

- Improve access to jobs and educational resources.
- 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.

After engaging with stakeholders to add to, edit, and modify the above draft statements, staff will bring these draft Vision and Goals concurrently to each Policy Committees in June 2022 alongside draft plan Performance Measures.

**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. The pillars of Connect SoCal 2020—the *Core Vision* and *Key Connections*—are outlined below followed by a summary of the emerging issues and related actions.

**CORE VISION**

Rooted in the 2008 and 2012 RTP/SCS plans, Connect SoCal’s *Core Vision* centers on maintaining and better managing the transportation network we have for moving people and goods, while expanding mobility choices by locating housing, jobs and transit closer together and increasing investment in transit and complete streets.

- Sustainable Development
- System Preservation & Resilience
- Demand & System Management
- Transit Backbone
- Complete Streets
- Goods Movement

Many of the policies and strategies summarized as the *Core Vision* of the plan 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). The Core Vision strategies will be discussed during plan development to identify barriers to implementation and opportunities for enhancement.

**KEY CONNECTIONS**

Connect SoCal 2020 introduced *Key Connections* that build on the *Core Vision* to leverage technology or advance policy needed to accelerate reaching plan goals. Key Connections identify critical regional strategies to “close the gap” between what could be accomplished through intensification of core planning strategies alone, and what must be done to meet increasingly aggressive greenhouse gas reduction goals. The Key Connections lie at the intersection of land use, transportation and innovation, aiming to coalesce policy discussions and advance promising strategies for leveraging new technologies and partnerships to accelerate progress on regional planning goals. The policies and strategies identified as *Key Connections* became the focal point for SCAG implementation efforts in directing research priorities and local technical assistance.

- Smart Cities & Job Centers
- Housing Supportive Infrastructure
- Go Zones
- Accelerated Electrification
- Shared Mobility & Mobility as A Service (MaaS)

In developing both the Core Vision and Key Connections, SCAG works with stakeholders, identifies trends and data in the region, assesses local best practices and researches the efficacy of different strategies. SCAG also needs strategic input and direction from Policy Committee members and the Regional Council.

## EMERGING ISSUES

There are three salient and interconnected challenges facing our region: equity, resilience, and the economy. Actions by SCAG's Regional Council over the past year and a half provide a policy foundation for work on the next plan development and expanded policy focus on these emerging issue areas.

### Equity

On July 2, 2020, the Regional Council adopted Resolution No. 20-623-2<sup>1</sup> 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 Plan<sup>2</sup>, 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.

### Resilience

On January 7, 2021, the Regional Council adopted Resolution No. 21-628-1<sup>3</sup> 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).

### Economy

On July 1, 2021, the Regional Council adopted the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy (IERS) Final Report and Recommendations<sup>4</sup>, 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. 21-629-2<sup>5</sup> to establish a Broadband Action Plan to assist in bridging the digital divide. The Broadband Action Plan includes incorporating

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

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

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

<sup>4</sup> <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rc070121fullpacket.pdf#page=13>

<sup>5</sup> <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/rc020421fullpacket.pdf#page=13>



broadband planning, data and research findings, and strategies, as appropriate, into existing SCAG programs and future Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategies.

### 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 will bring forward informational and discussion items related to the relevant *Core Vision* and *Key Connections*; highlighting context and data from staff research; perspectives from academics, researchers or policy experts; and insights from local practitioners. Presentations may also focus on current subregional efforts and best practices to address the Connect SoCal 2020 Key Connections, as well as emerging trends and new issues related to each *Core Vision* or *Key Connection*. 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
<b><i>Core Vision</i></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• System Preservation &amp; Resilience</li> <li>• Demand &amp; System Management</li> <li>• Transit Backbone</li> <li>• Complete Streets</li> <li>• Goods Movement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable Development</li> </ul>
<b><i>Key Connections</i></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go Zones</li> <li>• Shared Mobility &amp; MaaS</li> <li>• Smart Cities &amp; Job Centers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart Cities &amp; Job Centers</li> <li>• Housing Supportive Infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accelerated Electrification</li> </ul>
		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1018 1423 1429 1470" style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Environmental Compliance</i></b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1018 1470 1429 1675"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEIR</li> <li>• Transportation Conformity</li> <li>• Environmental Justice</li> <li>• SB 375 Technical Methodology</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>
<b><i>Environmental Compliance</i></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PEIR</li> <li>• Transportation Conformity</li> <li>• Environmental Justice</li> <li>• SB 375 Technical Methodology</li> </ul>		

### 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 SUB-COMMITTEES**

As discussed at the February 2022 Joint Policy Committee Meeting, there are a number of trends disrupted by the pandemic and emerging issues setting the context for the next Connect SoCal. To help dive deeper into key areas for Connect SoCal, SCAG will establish three new sub-committees.

These three sub-committees will be comprised of members from each county as well as select non-voting members representing business or civic leaders with unique and valuable perspective on the given sub-committee focus area.

These sub-committees will prepare and make recommendations to SCAG Policy Committees on how to address these emerging issues within Connect SoCal 2024.

<b>NEXT GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<b>RESILIENCE &amp; CONSERVATION</b>	<b>RESTORATIVE JUSTICE</b>
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Build on the recommendations for the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy to identify ways Connect SoCal can ensure opportunities for all; and explore solutions for making the most of existing infrastructure to maintain and improve levels of service such as through innovations in Broadband and System Demand Management.</p>	<p><i>Purpose:</i> Advance the direction set in the SCAG Regional Council Resolution on Climate Change Action to consider opportunities for enhanced conservation and how can Connect SoCal support our communities in adapting to changing conditions or mitigating risks to become more resilient.</p>	<p><i>Purpose:</i> Identify opportunities to advance racial equity through the policies and strategies in Connect SoCal and guide how our planning and investments over the next 30 years can address and rectify the effects of racially discriminatory policies in SCAG’s environmental justice communities.</p>



AGENDA ITEM 3  
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
March 3, 2022

**To:** Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)  
Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
APPROVAL

**From:** Alison Linder, Senior Regional Planner  
(213) 236-1934, linder@scag.ca.gov

**Subject:** Southern California Edison (SCE) Charge Ready New Construction Rebate  
(NCR)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EEC:**  
Information Only – No Action Required

**RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CEHD:**  
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 Connect SoCal, the Accelerated Electrification Key Connection offers a holistic and coordinated approach to de-carbonizing or electrifying passenger vehicles, transit, and goods movement vehicles. SCAG collaborates with multiple regional partners through its Clean Technology Program, the efforts of its internal Accelerated Electrification Key Connection Strategy team, and through its role as the Clean Cities Coalition. Southern California Edison has multiple programs that incentivize and support deployment of electric vehicles throughout the region and works with SCAG to further the vision of a regional de-carbonized transportation system. Naveed Ahmad from Southern California Edison (SCE) will present on the New Construction Rebate (NCR), a new program that targets multi-family residential developers to install EV chargers to allow tenants to charge their EV and offers rebates to cover expenses that go beyond California’s CALGreen code. This is part of SCE’s larger Charge Ready Program which has the goal of installing 30-40,000 EV ports or connectors over the next four years.*

**BACKGROUND:**  
The 2020 Connect SoCal or Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) introduced five key connections to meet more aggressive greenhouse gas reduction targets – one of which is Accelerated Electrification. The Accelerated Electrification strategy offers a

holistic and coordinated approach to de-carbonizing or electrifying passenger vehicles, transit, and goods movement vehicles. The New Construction Rebate program is part of SCE's larger Charge Ready Program, which supports deployment of EV charging infrastructure and is consistent with the goals of SCAG's Accelerated Electrification Key Connection.

SCE's Charge Ready program will add 30-40,000 new electric vehicle (EV) charging ports throughout its service area over the next four years. There are three options within the Charge Ready program designed to assist business and public sector decision-makers install EV charging equipment on their properties – the Charging Infrastructure & Rebate, Turn-Key Installation, and New Construction Rebate. All three program options are designed to focus the benefits of EV charging on marginalized and underrepresented communities, with a minimum of 50 percent of charging ports installed in disadvantaged communities (DAC), as well as a minimum of 30 percent in multi-family dwellings such as apartments and condos. Charge Ready is also designed to cover SCE's entire 50,000 square mile territory, including hard-to-reach rural areas and federally recognized tribal lands.

SCE's Charge Ready NCR program provides qualified participants, generally property owners or developers, with a one-time rebate to offset expenses for EV charging infrastructure improvements that go beyond California's CALGreen code. The program will strive to achieve the installation of up to 15,000 EV charging ports or connectors through the support of site-specific infrastructure projects. Project applications will be accepted for the duration of the four-year program, ending no later than 12/31/2025, or when program funds are exhausted, whichever comes first. The NCR rebate covers some (or all) of the cost of buying and installing approved EV charging stations, up to \$3,500 per hardwired charging port. For more information about this program and other Charge Ready initiatives, please visit [sce.com/charge ready](http://sce.com/charge ready).

SCAG staff will continue to collaborate with SCE and other regional partners in achieving the goals of the Accelerated Electrification Key Connection and the broader Connect SoCal Plan.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Work under the Accelerated Electrification strategy is funded in the FY22 OWP under task 310.4874.02 Key Connections Strategy Team.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. PowerPoint Presentation - SCE

# Applying for SCE's New Construction Rebate (NCR)

Southern California Association of Government (SCAG) – Energy & Environment Committee

Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Energy for What's Ahead™



1

## Who are we?



**Shant Nahapetian** – Senior Advisor, Local Public Affairs



**Dana Robertson** – Advisor, eMobility Business Development & Partnerships



**Naveed Ahmad** – Senior Advisor, eMobility Business Development & Partnerships

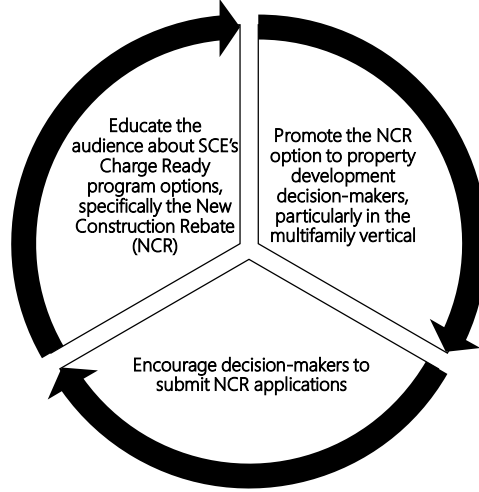
Energy for What's Ahead™

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2

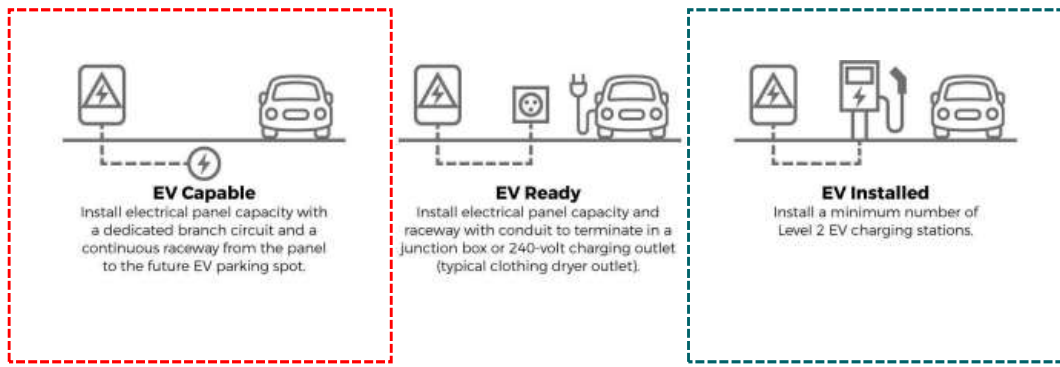
Attachment: PowerPoint Presentation - SCE 2spp (SCE Charge Ready New Construction Rebate (NCR))

### What are our objectives today?

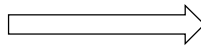


3

### The NCR program is designed to get a relevant property from EV Capable to EV Installed



*This is what a relevant property is required to have on 10% of parking spaces comply with CALGreen*



*This is where SCE wants a relevant property to get with the New Construction Rebate<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Graphic Source: Sacramento EV Blueprint, ARVF 17-402, Page 1 (<https://bit.ly/eveincal>)

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**Program Overview**

### Charge Ready Program Options

OFFERING S	OPTIONS	AVAILABLE TO	MIN. PORT REQUIREMENT	UTILITY-SIDE INFRASTRUCTURE	CUSTOMER-SIDE INFRASTRUCTURE	EVSE REBATE	INFRASTRUCTURE REBATE	MAINT/ NETWORK REBATE
CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE & REBATE	1 <b>SCE-Built Infrastructure</b>	Non-residential and multi-family	4+	SCE-installed	SCE-installed	✓	NA	NA
	2 <b>Customer-Built Infrastructure</b>	Non-residential and multi-family choosing to own infrastructure	4+	SCE-installed	Customer-installed	✓	Up to 80% of SCE's cost	NA
	3 <b>Maintenance/ Networking Rebate</b>	Multi-family located in DAC / Choosing to own charging stations	4+	SCE-installed	SCE-installed	✓	NA	✓
TURNKEY INSTALLATION	4 <b>Turnkey Installation</b>	Multi-family located in DAC	4+	SCE-installed	SCE-installed	NA	NA	NA
NEW CONSTRUCTION REBATE	5 <b>New Construction Rebate</b>	New multi-family construction	1+	SCE-installed (outside of program)	Customer-installed	Single rebate covering EVSE and infrastructure		NA

**EXTERNAL**

Energy for What's Ahead™ | 5

5

## I'm interested in applying – what are next steps?

When a decision-maker is ready to submit an NCR application, [they can go here](#) to submit. They will need the following to submit the application:

- o Approval of the property site owner
- o Assuming the property site owner is not submitting the application, approval and authority to sign/submit the application on behalf of the property site owner
- o Approval of the terms & conditions of NCR:
  - o [Here is a sample](#) of what NCR agreement entails

*Note: Best practice is for a decision-maker to submit an NCR application when they think they can get EV charging installed and operational on the property within 3 years of submitting the application, in order to reserve funding.*

- o *Note: The 3-year timing is not a hard deadline – SCE can grant an extension as needed*

If a property decision-maker and/or stakeholder wants access to more comprehensive Charge Ready literature, please see links below:

- o [New Construction Rebate \(NCR\)-Specific Program Guidelines](#)
- o [Comprehensive Charge Ready Program Guidelines](#)
- o [Basics of Charge Ready Program and EV Charging](#)


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**Thank You!**

Please reach out to [naveed.h.ahmad@sce.com](mailto:naveed.h.ahmad@sce.com) if questions and/or feedback

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7

Attachment: PowerPoint Presentation - SCE 2spp (SCE Charge Ready New Construction Rebate (NCR))





AGENDA ITEM 4  
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
March 3, 2022

To: Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
APPROVAL

From: Alison Linder, Senior Regional Planner  
(213) 236-1934, linder@scag.ca.gov

Subject: SoCal Gas Commitment to Net Zero

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Information Only – No Action Required

**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.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

*In Connect SoCal, the Accelerated Electrification Key Connection offers a holistic and coordinated approach to de-carbonizing or electrifying passenger vehicles, transit and goods movement vehicles. SCAG collaborates with multiple regional partners through its Clean Technology Program, the efforts of its internal Accelerated Electrification Key Connection strategy team and through its role as the Clean Cities Coalition. In support of regional objectives, the Southern California Gas Company (SoCal Gas), which is the nation’s largest natural gas distribution utility serving Central and Southern California, has made a climate commitment to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions in their operations and delivery of energy by 2045. Michelle Sim, SoCal Gas Director of Sustainability, will discuss the role of SoCal Gas in achieving greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals and its sustainability and climate commitment to net zero.*

**BACKGROUND:**

The 2020 Connect SoCal or Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy introduced five key connections to meet more aggressive greenhouse gas reduction targets – one of which is Accelerated Electrification. The Accelerated Electrification strategy offers a holistic and coordinated approach to de-carbonizing or electrifying passenger vehicles, transit and goods movement vehicles. The vision of de-carbonized transportation system requires support and implementation by many parties and SoCal Gas play a role in reducing carbon intensities.

SoCal Gas' climate commitment is to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions in their operations and delivery of energy by 2045. Their commitment supports California's 2045 carbon neutrality goal and demonstrates the opportunity for the gas system to advance a carbon neutral economy. Some examples of the types of projects include:

- SoCalGas is conducting hydrogen blending research and lab testing to support demonstration opportunities with potential to blend up to 20% hydrogen into the existing gas system.
- SoCalGas fleet conversion to zero emission vehicles. Demonstrating fuel cell electric trucks beginning 2022 in partnership with two OEMs for Class 2b and 3 utility trucks.
- Hydrogen Station Development: As an executive member of the CaFCP, SoCalGas is involved with the current and future hydrogen station network buildout plan achieve 1,000 stations by 2030.

SCAG staff will continue to collaborate with SoCal Gas and other regional partners in achieving the goals of the Accelerated Electrification Key Connection and the broader Connect SoCal Plan.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Work under the Accelerated Electrification strategy is funded in the FY22 OWP under task 310.4874.02 Key Connections Strategy Team.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. PowerPoint Presentation - SCG Sustainability Strategy



# SUSTAINABILITY

Southern California Association of Govts EEC  
March 3, 2022

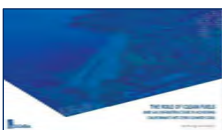


## Overview



### Climate Commitment

- Announced Climate Commitment
- Became the largest gas distribution utility in the nation to include scopes 1, 2, and 3
- Aligned with California's statewide decarbonization goals and the global Paris Agreement climate emissions



### SoCalGas Economy-wide Clean Fuels White Paper

- A California economy-wide assessment of an integrated energy system
- Key study findings note the importance and requirement of a clean fuels network if we require an affordable, resilient, and risk mitigating solution that supports electrification.



### ESG Financing Framework

- Aligns our investments/activities with our sustainability goals to help drive our environmental, social and governance (ESG) commitments to support long-term, sustainable value for all shareholders and our other stakeholders



### Development of Full Sustainability Plan/Strategy

- Materiality Assessment
- Establish KPIs and Goals
- Stand-up Reporting Framework and align with Sempra



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# Executive Summary

Released January 25, 2022

Includes goals and key strategies to achieve measurable KPI's for five key areas:

1. Accelerate the Energy Transition
2. Protect Climate and Improve Air Quality in Communities
3. Increase Clean Energy Access and Affordability
4. Advance DE&I Culture
5. Achieve World Class Safety



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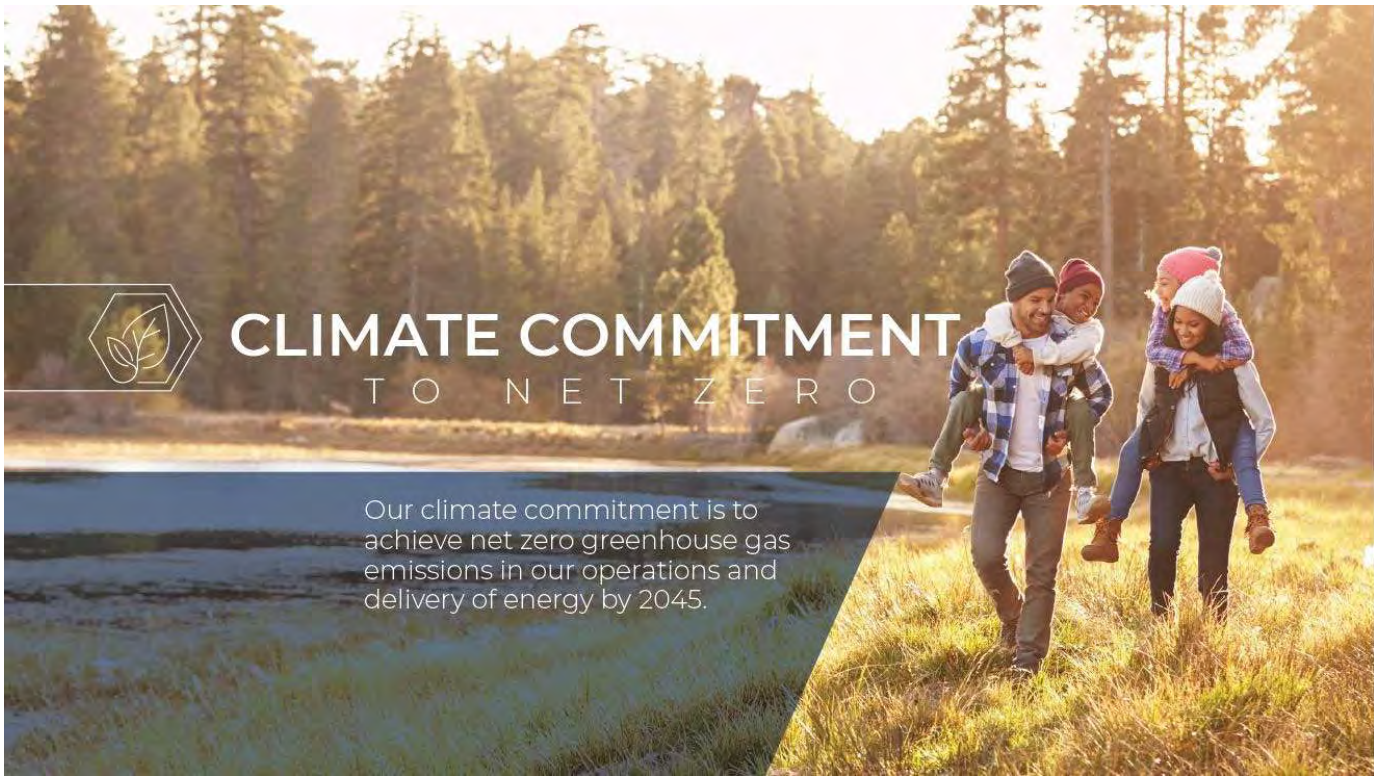
## Sustainability at SoCalGas

	Goals	Focus	Core Values
<b>Accelerate the Energy Transition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the delivery of clean fuels such as renewable natural gas</li> <li>Adapt our gas system for hydrogen</li> <li>Support customer decarbonization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewable natural gas</li> <li>Hydrogen</li> <li>Gas infrastructure</li> <li>Customer decarbonization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shape the Future (Clean Energy)</li> <li>Do the Right Thing (Drive resilient operations)</li> <li>Champion People (Customers)</li> </ul>
<b>Protect Climate and Improve Air Quality in Communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045</li> <li>Help improve local air quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operational GHG emissions</li> <li>Carbon intensity of gas for customers</li> <li>Methane emission reductions</li> <li>Transportation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shape the Future (Clean Energy)</li> <li>Do the Right Thing (Protect planet and people)</li> <li>Champion People (Communities)</li> </ul>
<b>Increase Clean Energy Access and Affordability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase access to clean energy</li> <li>Increase access to more affordable energy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy Efficiency</li> <li>Customer programs</li> <li>Energy procurement costs</li> <li>Community conversations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shape the Future (Equity)</li> <li>Do the Right Thing (Access for all)</li> <li>Champion People (Customers and communities)</li> </ul>
<b>Advance DE&amp;I Culture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the diversity, equity, and inclusion in the:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workplace</li> <li>Communities we serve</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Racial and ethnic diversity in leadership roles</li> <li>Gender parity in workplace</li> <li>Community investments</li> <li>Diverse business &amp; suppliers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shape the Future (Diversity)</li> <li>Do the Right Thing (Inclusivity)</li> <li>Champion People (Business partners, employees, and communities)</li> </ul>
<b>Achieve World Class Safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve/Grow safety values and culture</li> <li>Continuously develop a best-in-class safety management program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public safety</li> <li>Employee and contractor safety</li> <li>Continuous improvement</li> <li>Emergency management/response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shape the Future (Safe culture)</li> <li>Do the Right Thing (Emergency response/first responder support)</li> <li>Champion People (Public health and safety)</li> </ul>



# CLIMATE COMMITMENT TO NET ZERO

Our climate commitment is to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions in our operations and delivery of energy by 2045.



## Advancing Clean Fuels

### CLEAN FUEL PROJECTS



Advance clean fuels initiatives and projects like Department of Energy's Hydrogen Earthshot Initiative and SoCalGas' H2 Hydrogen Home project

### SUPPORTIVE INVESTMENTS



Develop regional clean fuel frameworks such as HyDeal LA in collaboration with a broad group of public and private sector stakeholders

### POLICY

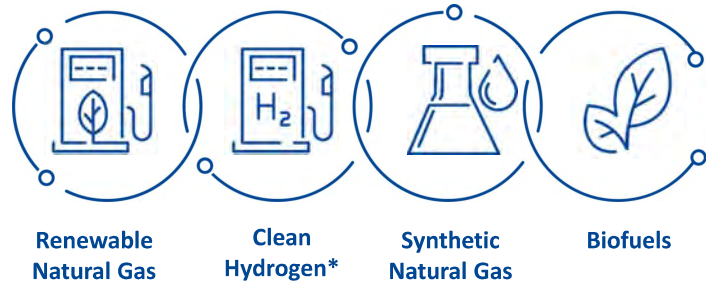


Implementation of a comprehensive statewide strategy to supply the clean, renewable, and/or carbon-neutral fuels necessary for cutting emissions and achieving California's decarbonization goals



# What are Clean Fuels?

Clean fuels are defined as alternative fuels that have a net-zero carbon footprint, which accounts for both their combustion and production.

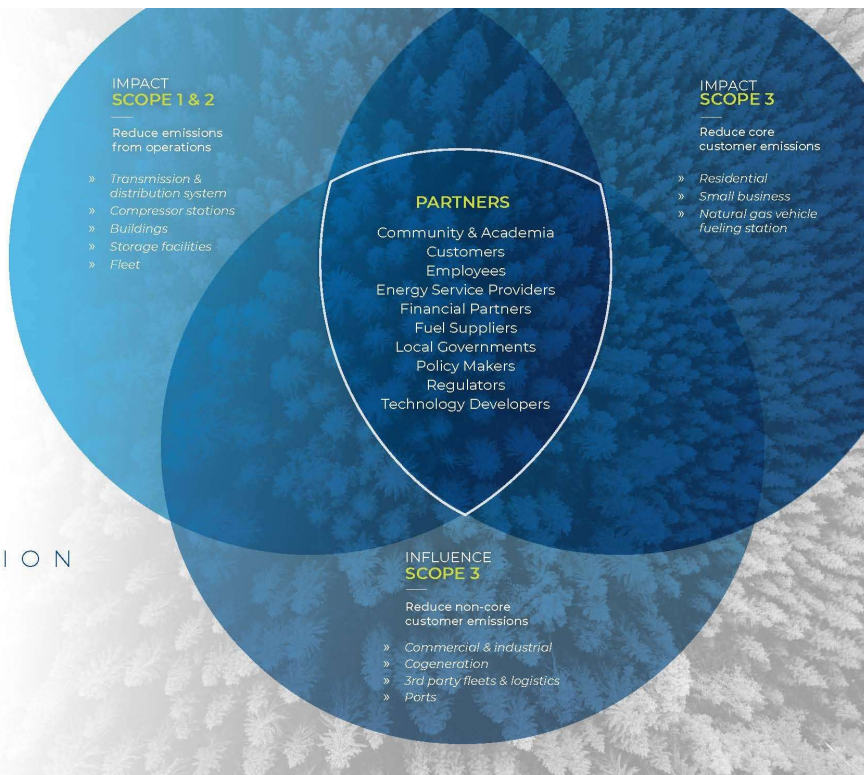


*\*Footnote: Clean hydrogen (or carbon-neutral hydrogen) is defined herein as hydrogen produced with a net-zero carbon footprint. Green hydrogen is considered carbon neutral as it is produced through electrolysis from renewable electricity, a process that splits water into hydrogen and oxygen molecules through the passage of electric current and produces no CO2 emissions.*



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Advancing Through  
COLLABORATION



## H2 Hydrogen Strikeforce

CEC-led initiative to advance hydrogen infrastructure build out to support fuel cell electric vehicles/trucks

Facilitated and overseen by California Fuel Cell Partnership

Focus on four key areas of policy and funding, jobs, infrastructure, and equity

Four goals:

1. Establish high level hydrogen infrastructure goals for 2030
2. Explore options for funding for hydrogen fueling infrastructure
3. Oversee jobs/workforce creation from hydrogen infrastructure build out
4. Develop strategies to ensure hydrogen infrastructure is accessible and promotes equity



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## What to Expect from SoCalGas

Accountability and Transparency

- 1. Focus on KPI tracking and measurements**
- 2. Share progress on goals**

Continuous Community Engagement

- 1. Quarterly community conversations**
- 2. Continuous internal progress and development**
- 3. Continuous external stakeholder feedback sessions**



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Thank you



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AGENDA ITEM 5  
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
March 3, 2022

**To:** Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)  
Transportation Committee (TC)  
Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
APPROVAL

**From:** Sarah Dominguez, Program Manager II  
(213) 236-1918, dominguezs@scag.ca.gov

**Subject:** California Air Resources Board: Sustainable Communities & Climate Policy  
Update

**RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EEC and TC:**

Information Only – No Action Required

**RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CEHD:**

Receive and File

**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:**

*Every four years, SCAG prepares a Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), also known as Connect SoCal. This regional plan is one component of broader suite of statewide requirements and policies that work toward reaching state climate goals. Lana Wong, Air Pollution Specialist, Sustainable Communities Policy & Planning Section, California Air Resources Board, will present on sustainable communities strategies and climate policies in California.*

**BACKGROUND:**

The state of California is a global leader in climate change policy. The actions of local governments and transportation agencies to create more sustainable communities is a crucial piece of implementing and reaching statewide climate goals. This staff report and the accompanying presentation by California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff, aim to provide further context to SCAG’s Policy Committee members for the upcoming development of SCAG’s Connect SoCal 2024 and the related greenhouse gas emission (GHG) reduction targets for that plan.

California’s climate change leadership began with landmark legislation in 2006 with the passage of Assembly Bill 32, which required CARB to develop a Scoping Plan that describes the approach California will take to reduce GHGs to achieve the goal of reducing emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. AB 32 was followed by subsequent supportive and further defining legislation<sup>1</sup>. One of which, Senate Bill 375, directs Metropolitan Planning Organizations, like SCAG, to prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy to achieve GHG emission reductions from light-duty cars and trucks. Connect SoCal 2024 will be SCAG’s fourth Sustainable Communities Strategy as part of its Regional Transportation Plan.

Given the significance of the transportation sector in achieving the state’s climate goals, making up 41 percent of state GHG emissions, creating more sustainable communities within the SCAG region is a critical component to achieving statewide goals.

There are a number of recent and upcoming efforts at the state level to align the state’s investments and priorities with state climate goals, including but not limited to the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), the 2022 Sustainable Communities Progress Report, and the 2022 Scoping Plan Update.

CARB staff, Lana Wong, will provide an overview and update on the role of Sustainable Communities Strategies to reach California’s climate goals and state level efforts to advance and support communities that reduce VMT and GHG.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

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<sup>1</sup> Including Senate Bill 32 which passed in 2016 and added a new target of 40 percent reduction from 1990 levels by 2030. CARB is required to update the Scoping Plan at least once every 5 years.

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AGENDA ITEM 6  
REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
March 3, 2022

**To:** Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)  
Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)  
Transportation Committee (TC)  
Regional Council (RC)  
**From:** Karen Calderon, Senior Regional Planner  
(213) 236-1983, calderon@scag.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Connect SoCal’s Program Environmental  
Impact Report (PEIR) 101

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S  
APPROVAL

**RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EEC:**

Information Only – No Action Required

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

Receive and File

**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:**

*The SCAG region’s long-range regional transportation plan/sustainable communities strategy (RTP/SCS) (entitled Connect SoCal 2024) is currently in development. This will require preparation of the Connect SoCal 2024 Program Environmental Impact Report (2024 PEIR or PEIR). The purpose of the PEIR is to provide information to the public and decisionmakers about the potential significant environmental impacts of the RTP/SCS and identify ways to avoid or reduce significant impacts by using feasible alternatives and mitigation. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the programmatic environmental analysis for the Connect SoCal PEIR evaluates potential environmental effects consisting of direct and indirect effects, growth-inducing impacts, and cumulative impacts resulting from the Plan, and includes mitigation measures to offset any identified potentially significant adverse environmental effects.*

*The 2024 PEIR will be under the oversight of the Energy and Environment Committee (EEC), who will be responsible for reviewing the Draft and Final PEIR (including mitigation measures and feasible alternatives) and approving release of all associated documents and notices. This staff report clarifies the relationship between Connect SoCal and the PEIR and provides an overview of*

*what to expect in the upcoming 2024 PEIR to provide context for future PEIR updates. A summary of the contents and environmental factors considered, approach to alternatives, and key milestones for the PEIR is described below. Staff is currently working on the acquisition of a CEQA Consultant to assist SCAG with the preparation of a legally defensible PEIR. The 2024 PEIR is tentatively scheduled to officially begin in the fall this year, with the Notice to Proceed. Staff is currently preparing a detailed policy committee agenda outlook which will include details of how this body will be kept informed of key PEIR updates.*

**BACKGROUND:**

CEQA and its implementing regulations (CEQA Guidelines) require SCAG as the Lead Agency to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for any discretionary government action, including programs and plans, that may cause significant environmental effects. Connect SoCal is a long-range comprehensive plan for the region's multi-modal transportation system, with the next update scheduled for 2024. Preparing the Plan is one of SCAG's primary statutory responsibilities under federal and state law. A regional transportation plan is the mechanism used in California by both Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies to conduct long-range (at least 20-year) planning in their regions. SCAG must adopt an RTP and update it every four years, or more frequently, if the region is to receive federal and/or state transportation dollars for public transit, streets/roads, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements As SCAG is responsible for developing. In addition, per state law, Connect SoCal must include a Sustainable Communities Strategy that demonstrates compliance with California Air Resources Board greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets from cars and light duty trucks.

Given the regional level of analysis provided in Connect SoCal, a PEIR is the appropriate CEQA document for Connect SoCal and is prepared every four years, concurrent with the Plan. An EIR is a disclosing document that provides information to the public and decisionmakers about the potential significant environmental impacts of a proposed project and the reasons a project is approved even if it will have some significant adverse impacts. The purpose of an EIR is to identify ways to avoid or reduce significant impact(s) by using feasible alternatives and mitigation.

Development of the next Connect SoCal is underway, which requires preparation of the 2024 PEIR. The 2024 PEIR will be a "first-tier" CEQA document designed to consider "broad policy alternatives and program wide mitigation measures" (CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15168). The programmatic environmental analysis for the 2024 PEIR will evaluate potential environmental effects consisting of direct and indirect effects, growth-inducing impacts, and cumulative impacts resulting from the Plan, and include mitigation measures to offset any identified potentially significant adverse environmental effects. As a first-tier document, the PEIR may serve as a foundation for subsequent, site-specific environmental review documents (including Addendums, Supplemental EIRs, Subsequent EIRs) for individual transportation and development projects in the region (CEQA

Guidelines Sec. 15385). This first-tier regional-scale environmental analysis also helps local agencies evaluate and reduce direct and indirect impacts, growth-inducing impacts, and cumulative environmental effects with respect to local projects.

The 2024 PEIR will be under the oversight of the EEC, who will be responsible for reviewing the Draft and Final PEIR (including mitigation measures and feasible alternatives) and approving release of all associated documents and notices.

### **SUMMARY OF CONTENTS FOR THE CONNECT SOCIAL PEIR:<sup>1</sup>**

Below is an overview of what to expect in the upcoming 2024 PEIR. A summary of the content typically included in the Connect SoCal Draft PEIR is provided below:

- **Executive Summary:** This summarizes key information presented in the Connect SoCal PEIR, including a table depicting significant impacts and proposed SCAG and potential project-level mitigation measures for each significant impact discussed in Chapter 3.0 – Environmental Impact Analysis.
- **Chapter 1.0 – Introduction:** This chapter provides background information on SCAG’s roles and responsibilities. The introduction summarizes the results of the scoping process and describes the PEIR as a first tier Program EIR. This Chapter describes the CEQA process, emphasizing the early identification of stakeholders and engagement through the scoping process. Supplemental materials, including the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of the Draft PEIR and comments received on the NOP will be attached, as appropriate, in appendices to the Draft PEIR document. It also describes consideration of CEQA streamlining opportunities, the environmental review process, and an overview of the contents of the Draft PEIR.
- **Chapter 2.0 – Project Description:** This chapter provides the location and boundaries of the Draft Plan; states the Draft Plan’s objectives; a general description of the Draft Plan; and includes a statement briefly describing the intended uses of the PEIR.
- **Chapter 3.0 – Environmental Impact Analysis–** This analysis includes Regulatory Framework; Environmental Setting; Significance Thresholds; Analysis of Direct, Indirect, and Cumulative Impacts; Mitigation Measures; and Level of Significance after Mitigation. Twenty (20) resource categories included in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines are analyzed in this section. (See discussion under *Environmental Factors Considered* for further details)
- **Chapter 4.0 – Alternatives -** This chapter describes a range of reasonable alternatives to the Draft Plan, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the Plan but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the Plan at a programmatic and region-wide level. (See discussion under *Alternatives* for further details)
- **Chapter 5.0 – Other CEQA Considerations:** This chapter identifies the significant

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<sup>1</sup> Table of Contents are subject to change prior to the release of the Draft PEIR. However, it is representative of all the major components that will be considered and is in accordance with the *CEQA Guidelines*.

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unavoidable environmental effects, significant irreversible environmental effects, irreversible damage from environmental accidents, and growth inducing impacts of the Plan.

- **Chapter 6.0 – Persons and Sources Consulted:** This chapter lists the contributors to the preparation of the PEIR and includes a list of sources consulted and used in preparing the Draft PEIR.
- **Chapter 7.0 – Glossary:** This chapter includes acronyms used in the Draft PEIR document.

A summary of contents of the Connect SoCal Final PEIR is provided below:

- **Chapter 8.0 – Introduction to the Final PEIR:** This chapter provides a brief summary of overview of what has occurred since the Draft PEIR and a brief overview of the Final PEIR process.
- **Chapter 9.0 – Response to Comments:** This chapter provides background information on the Final PEIR for the Connect SoCal PEIR and includes public written comments on the Draft PEIR and its responses. It includes Master Responses to comments that recurred in a number of comment letters, and responses to written comments made by public agencies, organizations, and interested parties.
- **Chapter 10.0 – Clarifications and Revisions:** This chapter provides clarifications and revisions to the Draft PEIR including staff-initiated corrections and revisions made because of public comments.
- **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program** - The Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) is a standalone document that is prepared in compliance with the requirements of §21081.6 of the California Public Resources Code and CEQA Guidelines § 15091 (d) and § 15097. The MMRP, the monitoring plan, applies to the goals, policies, and strategies articulated in the RTP/SCS and related mitigation measures to be implemented by SCAG, and project-level performance standards-based mitigation measures which are within responsibility, authority, and/or jurisdiction of project-implementing agency or other public agency serving as lead agency under CEQA in subsequent project- and site- specific design, CEQA review, and decision-making processes, to meet the performance standards for each of the CEQA resource categories.
- **Findings of Fact** - The statement of Findings of Fact is prepared in compliance with the requirements of § 21081.6 of the California Public Resources Code and CEQA Guidelines § 15091. It describes facts, discussions, and conclusions reached in the environmental review relative to impacts, mitigation measures, and selection of an alternative.
- **Statement of Overriding Considerations** - The Statement of Overriding Considerations is prepared in compliance with § 21081 of Public Resources Code and CEQA Guidelines § 15093. The existence of significant unavoidable impacts as identified in the Draft PEIR requires the preparation of a Statement of Overriding Considerations. The Statement of Overriding Consideration explains why SCAG is willing to accept the residual significant

impacts. It describes the economic, social, environmental, and other benefits of the RTP/SCS that override the significant unavoidable environmental impacts. It “reflect[s] the ultimate balancing of competing public objectives when the agency decides to approve a project that will cause one or more significant effects on the environment” (CEQA Guidelines § 15021 (d)).

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS CONSIDERED:**

The PEIR is a programmatic document that analyzes the potential effects of the Plan on the environment. Although Connect SoCal will include individual transportation projects, the PEIR does not specifically analyze environmental effects of any individual transportation or development project. Project-level environmental analyses will be prepared by implementing agencies on a project-by-project basis as projects proceed through the design and decision-making process.

The scope of environmental effects analyzed in the Connect SoCal PEIR are as follows:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology & Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services (Police, Fire, Schools, Library)
- Recreation
- Transportation/Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems (Solid Waste, Wastewater, Water Supply)
- Wildfire

**MITIGATION MEASURES:**

CEQA requires that SCAG identify all feasible mitigation measures in the PEIR that will avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effects of the project. The Connect SoCal PEIR includes two types of mitigation measures: SCAG mitigation measures and project-level mitigation measures.

SCAG mitigation measures are program wide measures for implementation by SCAG that address the large-scale regional impacts from the variety of projects spread over more than 20 years. In addition, the PEIR identifies project-level mitigation measures for lead agencies to consider, as applicable and feasible, in subsequent project-specific design, CEQA review, and decision-making processes. It is ultimately up to the lead agency to determine the appropriateness of the mitigation measure based on project-specific circumstances.

The project-level mitigation measures identified by SCAG “can and should” be considered by lead agencies in project-specific environmental review documents as appropriate and feasible. This language mirrors CEQA Guidelines section 15091(a)(2), and it is assumed that each lead agency for specific projects would have the ability to impose and enforce these measures (i.e., that they can implement them). Lead agencies for specific projects are responsible for developing project specific mitigation measures and ensuring adherence to such mitigation measures.

Overall, mitigation measures used in the PEIR recognize the limits of SCAG’s authority; distinguish between SCAG commitments and project-level responsibilities and authorities; optimize flexibility for project implementation; and facilitate CEQA streamlining and tiering where appropriate on a project-by-project basis determined by each lead agency.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The development of alternatives in a PEIR is focused on avoiding or reducing potentially significant impacts of the Plan while achieving most of the project objectives. The PEIR evaluates three potential alternatives to Plan: a No Project Alternative and another two alternatives that meet the CEQA alternatives criteria. The No Project Alternative is required by Section 15126.6(e)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines and assumes that the Plan would not be implemented.

The No Project Alternative considers continued implementation of the goals and polices of the adopted RTP/SCS and is based on the adopted RTP/SCS regional population, housing, and employment data. The No Project Alternative includes only those transportation projects that are in the first year of the previously conforming FTIP. The growth scenario included in the No Project Alternative, and all alternatives, includes the same regional totals for population, housing and employment.

Each Alternative, except the No Project Alternative, will vary in terms of land use and transportation assumptions and may include variations in land use development patterns or transportation network.

Section 15126.6 of the CEQA Guidelines requires that an “environmentally superior” alternative be selected among the alternatives evaluated in the PEIR. In general, the environmentally superior alternative is the alternative that would be expected to generate the fewest adverse impacts. If the No Project Alternative is identified as environmentally superior, then another environmentally superior alternative shall be identified among the other alternatives.

When approving the Plan, SCAG has the discretion to select one or more alternatives as long as they are within the range of impacts identified in the PEIR.



**CURRENT STATUS OF THE 2024 PEIR:**

Staff is working on the acquisition of a CEQA Consultant to assist SCAG with the preparation of a legally defensible PEIR. The CEQA Consultant RFP was release February 2nd, 2022 and the Consultant is expected to be selected and onboarded by August 2022, pending funding approval. The Consultant will assist SCAG in completing the PEIR and provide services to ensure compliance with federal and state planning and environmental laws.

**NEXT STEPS:**

Below are the list upcoming milestones for the 2024 Connect SoCal PEIR. Staff is also preparing a detailed policy committee agenda outlook which will include details of how to keep this body informed of key PEIR updates.

<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Tentative Schedule</b>
Release of the Initial Study/Notice of Preparation	Fall 2022
Scoping Meetings and Comment Period	Winter 2023 (minimum of 30-day scoping comment period)
Stakeholder Outreach	Winter and Spring 2023
Release Connect SoCal Draft PEIR	Within 30-days after Connect SoCal Release
Connect SoCal PEIR Workshop	Within 30-days after Draft PEIR Release
Public review and comment period of the Connect SoCal PEIR	At least 45 days after Draft PEIR Release
Certification for Connect SoCal and Final PEIR	April 2024

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Work associated with this item is included in the current Fiscal Year 2021/22 Overall Work Program (22-020.0161.04: Environmental Compliance, Coordination & Outreach).

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. PowerPoint Presentation - PEIR 101



# Connect SoCal's Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) 101

Karen Calderon, Planning Strategy Department  
March 3, 2022

[www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov)



## Introduction



- SCAG is the lead agency for the Connect SoCal PEIR.
  - Identifies ways to avoid or reduce significant impact(s) by using feasible alternatives and mitigation
  - Disclosing document that evaluates the potential environmental impacts of implementing Connect SoCal
  - Certification of the PEIR is required before Connect SoCal adoption
- PEIR provides a region-wide program level assessment of potential effects of implementing projects, programs, and policies included in the RTP/SCS.

# Summary of Contents



- **Draft PEIR:**
  - Executive Summary
  - Chapter 1.0 – Introduction
  - Chapter 2.0 – Project Description
  - **Chapter 3.0 – Environmental Impact Analysis**
  - Chapter 4.0 – Alternatives
  - Chapter 5.0 – Other CEQA Considerations
  - Chapter 6.0 – Persons and Sources Consulted
  - Chapter 7.0 – Glossary
- **Final PEIR:**
  - Chapter 8.0 – Introduction to the Final PEIR
  - Chapter 9.0 – Response to Comments
  - Chapter 10.0 – Clarifications and Revisions
  - Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
  - Findings of Fact
  - Statement of Overriding Considerations

# Chapter 3.0 – Environmental Impact Analysis



## 20 Environmental Factors

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation/Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities/Service Systems
- Wildfire

## Example: Aesthetics



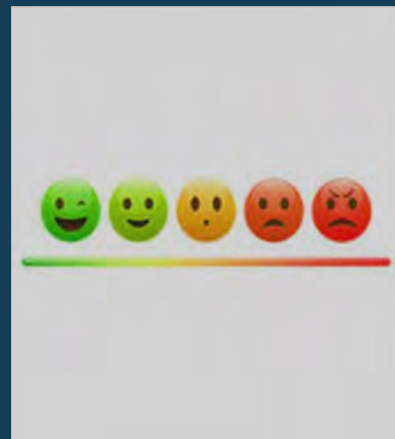
### I. AESTHETICS

Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?
- b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?
- c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?
- d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

### Determination of Significance

- No Impact
- Less than Significant
- Less than Significant with Mitigation
- Significant and Unavoidable Impact



## Mitigation Measures



### Mitigation Measures

- SCAG Mitigation Measures
  - Implemented by SCAG
- Project-Level Mitigation Measures
  - Implemented by local agencies/developers, as applicable
  - Useful for tiering



## Chapter 4: Alternatives



### Three Alternatives:

- Alternative 1 – No Project Alternative (CEQA requirement)
- Alternative 2
- Alternative 3



### Alternatives CEQA criteria :

- Feasible
- Meet most of the basic project objectives (Plan Goals)
- At least one needs to be environmentally superior

# PEIR Process and Timeline



# Thank You

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