



# 2016 2040 RTP SCS

## PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

### Public Workshops

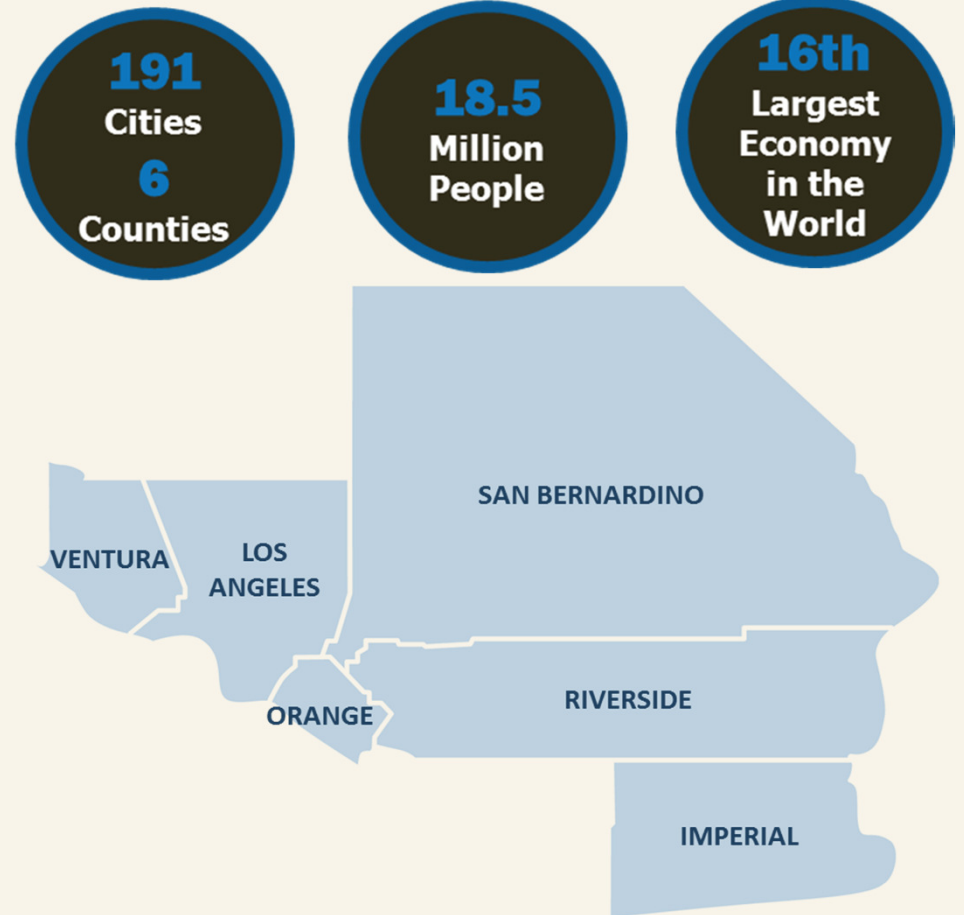
A Presentation by the Southern California Association of Governments  
January 19, 2016

## Workshop Agenda

- SCAG Overview
- Project (“2016 RTP/SCS”) Overview
- Schedule
- Environmental Review Process
- Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)
  - Framework and basis
  - Organization of the contents
  - Scope of impact analysis
  - Summary of findings of impact analysis (18 resource categories)
  - Performance standards-based mitigation measures
  - Alternatives analysis
- Draft 2016 RTP/SCS PEIR Distribution
- Next Steps
- Submitting Comments and Making Comments Today

## SCAG Overview - What is SCAG?

- Nation's largest Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Council of Governments (COG)
- 70,000+ miles of highways and arterials
- 470 miles of passenger rail
- Six (6) air carrier airports
- Directed by a Regional Council of 86 local elected officials
- Policies developed by sub-committees comprised of an additional 73 local elected officials



## Project Overview – What is RTP/SCS?

- Long-term Vision and Investment Framework
- Federal Requirements
  - Updated every 4 years to maintain eligibility for federal funding
  - Long Range: 20+ years into the future
  - Financially-constrained: Revenues = Costs
  - Passes regional emission standards (Conformity)
- State Requirements
  - Must meet state planning law requirements to meet Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction targets



## Project Overview – Why is Developing an RTP/SCS Important?

- Transportation knows no boundaries
- Coordination of regional projects
- Facilitates regional/local competitiveness for funding
- Integrates transportation investments and land use strategies
- Allows federally-funded or regionally-significant projects to maintain their eligibility for federal funding





# Project Overview – How is the RTP/SCS Developed?

## Public Outreach & Committee Highlights

Meetings with Local Jurisdictions  
*to update and develop land use and forecasts (Since December 2013)*

195

Regional Council and Joint Policy  
Committee Meetings *(Since March 2015)*

12

Public Workshops & Open Houses  
*(Since May 2015)*

23

Environmental Justice Workshops  
*(Since November 2014)*

5

Policy Committee  
and Subcommittee Meetings  
*(Since January 2013)*

44

Technical Committee Meetings  
*(Since January 2013)*

93





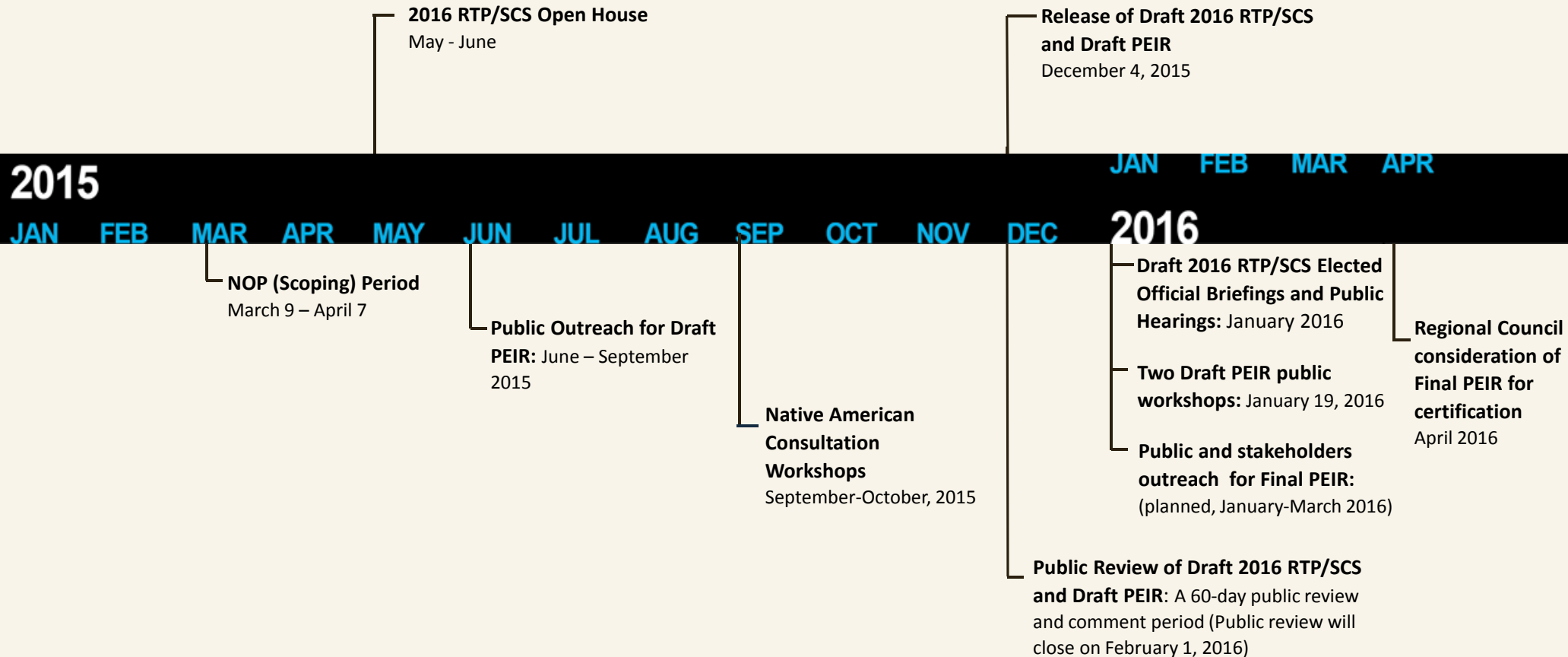




# DRAFT Program Environmental Impact Report

DECEMBER 2015 | STATE CLEARINGHOUSE # 2015031035

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report Schedule



# Environmental Review Process:

## CEQA Review Process

- Notice of Preparation (NOP)
- Public Review and Comment Period (Scoping)\*
- Draft PEIR Preparation
- Notice of Completion (NOC)/Notice of Availability (NOA)
- Draft PEIR Public Review and Comment Period (minimum 45 days)\*
- Responses to Comments/Final PEIR (February-early March 2016)
- 10-Day Public and Agency Review of the proposed Final PEIR (Late March 2016)\*
- Certification of the proposed Final PEIR and Project Decision (April 2016)
- Notice of Determination (April 2016)

\* Indicates opportunities for public review

## Environmental Review Process:

### CEQA Review Process to Date for the Draft PEIR

- NOP: March 9, 2015
- 30-day public review and comment period (scoping): March 9-April 7, 2015
  - Scoping Meeting 1: March 17, 2015
  - Scoping Meeting 2: March 18, 2015
- Draft PEIR Preparation: April-November 2015
  - Ongoing stakeholder outreach
  - Native American Consultation Workshops: October 2015
  - SCAG Policy Committees review and feedbacks: July-November 2015
- NOC/NOA: December 2015
- 60-day public review and comment period: December 4, 2015-February 1, 2016
  - Public Workshop 1: January 19, 2016 (2-4 p.m.)
  - Public Workshop 2: January 19, 2016 (5-7 p.m.)

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Framework and Basis for a Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

### California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- SCAG is the lead agency to prepare a PEIR
- A programmatic, region-wide assessment of potential significant environmental effects
- A “first-tier” CEQA document designed to consider “broad policy alternatives and program-wide mitigation measures” (CEQA Guidelines §15168)
- Assesses direct and indirect, growth-inducing and cumulative effects
- Considers a range of reasonable alternatives, including the “no project” alternative
- Identifies feasible mitigation measures

### SCAG’s Policy Committees and Regional Council (RC)

- Energy & Environment Committee (EEC) authorized the release of the Notice of Preparation of the Draft PEIR on March 5, 2015
- EEC reviewed framework, summary of contents and approaches to major components of the Draft PEIR between July and November 2015
- EEC approved Guiding Principles and performance standards-based approach to mitigation measures in October 2015
- SCAG’s three (3) Policy Committees supported the framework, approaches and contents of the Draft PEIR and jointly recommended to the RC for release for public review and comment in November 2015
- The RC authorized the release of the Draft PEIR in December 2015

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Organization of the Contents

- Executive Summary
- Chapter 1 – Introduction
- Chapter 2 – Project Description
- Chapter 3 – Environmental Impact Analysis and Mitigation Measures (18 Resource Categories)
  - Definitions
  - Regulatory Framework
  - Existing Conditions
  - Methodology
  - Impact Analysis (including Significance Thresholds, and analysis of Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Impacts)
  - Mitigation Measures (based on the performance standards-based mitigation approach)
  - Level of Significance after Mitigation
- Chapter 4 – Alternatives
- Chapter 5 – Long Term CEQA Conditions
- Chapter 6 – Persons and Sources Consulted
- Chapter 7 – Glossary
- Appendices (including the Health Risk Assessment Technical Report)

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Scope of Impact Analysis: 18 Resource Categories (Draft PEIR Chapter 3)

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality (including Health Risk Assessment)
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change (including cumulative impacts)
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Mineral Resources
- Population, Housing, and Employment
- Recreation
- Transportation, Traffic, and Safety
- Public Services
- Utilities and Services Systems

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Summary of Findings of Impact Analysis: 18 Resource Categories (Draft PEIR Chapter 3)

Draft PEIR Resource Category	Significant	# of SCAG Mitigation Measures	# of Project-Level Mitigation Measures
Aesthetics	✓	2	3
Agriculture and Forestry Resources	✓	15	3
Air Quality (Including Health Risk Assessment)	✓	2	2
Biological Resources	✓	2	6
Cultural Resources	✓	1	3
Energy	✓	4	1
Geology and Soils	✓	1	2
Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Changes (Cumulative Impacts only)	✓	12	1
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	✓	6	4
Hydrology and Water Quality	✓	4	3
Land Use and Planning	✓	11	8
Mineral Resources	✓	2	1
Noise	✓	1	2
Population and Housing	✓	10	2
Public Services	✓	8	21
Recreation	✓	3	1
Transportation, Traffic and Safety	✓	11	3
Utilities and Service Systems	✓	5	4



# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Performance Standards-Based Mitigation Measures

### Rationale

- Program EIRs must identify mitigation measures for significant impacts

### Guiding Principles

- Maintain flexibility at project-level while fulfills SCAG's responsibilities as the lead agency under CEQA in light of recent CEQA case law
- Recognize SCAG's limited authorities and distinguish SCAG commitments and project-level lead agency responsibilities
- Facilitate CEQA streamlining and tiering at project level, where appropriate

### Components

- Based on the Guiding Principles, SCAG evaluated a wide range of mitigation approaches and recommended the use of performance standards-based mitigation measures for the Draft 2016 RTP/SCS PEIR
- Three components:
  - SCAG mitigation measures
  - A “catch-all” mitigation measure
  - Project-level mitigation measures [“can and should” (rather than “shall”) be implemented by Lead Agency for transportation and development projects, as applicable and feasible]

### EEC Review and Approval

- EEC took action at its October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting to support use of a performance standards-based approach for the mitigation measures

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Alternatives Analysis

### Framework

- A range of reasonable alternatives to the Draft 2016 RTP/SCS is considered
- CEQA (Section 15162.6(e)) requires a “No Project” Alternative must be evaluated
- The Draft PEIR identifies an “environmentally superior alternative”
- Findings concerning project alternatives will be prepared for the proposed Final PEIR for consideration by SCAG’s Regional Council

### Analysis

- Alternatives to the Draft 2016 RTP/SCS are substantively aligned with the scenarios.
- They includes:
  - No Project Alternative (based on Scenario 1)
  - 2012 RTP/SCS Updated with Local Input Alternative (based on Scenario 2)
  - Intensified Land Use Alternative (based on a transportation network of Scenario 3 and land use pattern of Scenario 4)
- They are evaluated to assess ability to:
  - Meet the goals of the Draft Plan (2016 RTP/SCS)
  - Avoid or reduce the significant environmental impacts of the Draft 2016 RTP/SCS

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Alternatives Analysis Results: Comparing Alternatives to the Goals of the Draft 2016 RTP/SCS

Goals	Draft 2016 RTP/SCS	Alternative 1: No Project Alternative	Alternative 2: 2012 RTP/SCS Updated with Local Input Alternative	Alternative 3: Intensified Land Use Alternative
Align the Plan investments and policies with improving regional economic development and competitiveness.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Maximize mobility and accessibility for all people and goods in the region	Yes	No	Yes	No
Ensure travel safety and reliability for all people and goods in the region	Yes	No	Yes	No
Preserve and ensure a sustainable regional transportation system	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Maximize the productivity of our transportation system	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Protect the environment and health for our residents by improving air quality and encouraging active transportation (non-motorized transportation, such as bicycling and walking)	Yes	No	No	Yes
Actively encourage and create incentives for energy efficiency, where possible	Yes	No	No	Yes
Encourage land use and growth patterns that facilitate transit and non-motorized transportation	Yes	No	No	Yes
Maximize the security of the regional transportation system through improved system monitoring, rapid recovery planning, and coordination with other security agencies.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Alternatives Analysis Results: Comparing Alternatives to Draft 2016 RTP/SCS

Draft PEIR Resource Category	Alternative 1: No Project Alternative	Alternative 2: 2012 RTP/SCS Updated With Local Input Alternative	Alternative 3: Intensified Land Use Alternative
Aesthetics	Similar	Similar	Similar
Agriculture and Forestry Resources	Worse	Worse	Similar
Air Quality (Including Health Risk Assessment)	Worse	Similar	Similar
Biological Resources	Worse	Worse	Better
Cultural Resources	Worse	Similar	Better
Energy	Worse	Worse	Better
Geology and Soils	Worse	Similar	Similar
Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Changes (including cumulative impacts)	Worse	Worse	Better
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	Worse	Worse	Better
Hydrology and Water Quality	Worse	Worse	Better
Land Use and Planning	Better	Better	Worse
Mineral Resources	Better	Similar	Similar
Noise	Better	Better	Worse
Population, Housing, and Employment	Better	Similar	Similar
Public Services	Similar	Similar	Similar
Recreation	Similar	Better	Worse
Transportation, Traffic and Safety	Worse	Worse	Worse
Utilities and Service Systems	Worse	Worse	Better
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF RESOURCE CATEGORIES WITH "WORSE IMPACTS" COMPARED TO THE DRAFT 2016 RTP/SCS</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Distribution

### Notice of Availability (NOA)

- Translated into Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese
- Distributed to over 2,700 recipients
- Published in twelve (12) major newspapers in the region
- Posted with County Clerk of the Board for each of the six counties
- Posted on SCAG's website
- Posted at SCAG's Los Angeles and regional offices

### Notice of Completion (NOC)

- Filed with the State Clearinghouse (State Clearinghouse Number: 2015031035)

### Draft 2016 RTP/SCS PEIR

- Available for review and download at SCAG's website: <http://scagrtpscs.net/Pages/DRAFT2016PEIR.aspx#how>
- Hardcopies or CDs are available for review at:
  - County Clerk
  - SCAG Los Angeles and regional offices
  - Fifty-five (55) public libraries in the SCAG region
  - Hardcopies and/or CDs are available upon request
  - For information on SCAG's regional offices and public libraries, or to request hardcopies and/or CDs, please contact Ms. Lijin Sun, (213) 236-1882 or [2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov](mailto:2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov)

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Next Steps

- **Close of the 60-day public review and comment period: February 1, 2016**
  - Written comments will be accepted until the close of business or no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2016
- **Preparation of the proposed Final PEIR: February-March 2016**
  - Review and prepare responses to all written comments on the Draft 2016 RTP/SCS PEIR
  - Comment letters on the Draft PEIR will be included in the proposed Final PEIR
  - Response to all written comments will be included as part of the proposed Final PEIR (CEQA Guidelines §15132)
  - Corrections and/or additions to the Draft PEIR will be reflected in the proposed Final PEIR
- **Distribution of the proposed Final PEIR for public and agency review: March 2016**
  - 10 days prior to certifying the proposed Final PEIR (CEQA Guidelines §15088)
- **Final PEIR certification: April 2016**
  - SCAG's Regional Council will consider certification of the Final PEIR for the 2016 RTP/SCS
  - Prior to approving the 2016 RTP/SCS, the Final PEIR must first be certified by the Regional Council (CEQA Guidelines §15090)

# Draft 2016 RTP/SCS Program Environmental Impact Report

## Submitting Comments and Making Comments Today\*

- **Draft PEIR public review and comment period:** December 4, 2015 to February 1, 2016
  - Written comments that are submitted during the Draft PEIR public review and comment period must be postmarked on or by February 1, 2016
- **Please direct written comments on the Draft PEIR (by mail) to:**
  - Southern California Association of Governments
  - Ms. Lijin Sun
  - Senior Regional Planner
  - 818 West Seventh Street, 12th Floor
  - Los Angeles, California 90017-3435
- **Comments may also be submitted electronically to:** [2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov](mailto:2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov)
- **Making comments today – comment cards**

*\* Spanish, Chinese, Korean or Vietnamese bilingual staff, and American Sign Language personnel are on-hand today*

2016  
2040 RTPSCS

Making Comments Today.

Learn more by visiting [www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov). Contact SCAG at: [2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov](mailto:2016PEIR@scag.ca.gov)

