

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

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## **RESOLUTION NO. 24-667-3**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS APPROVING THE 2024-25 THROUGH 2029-30 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (2025 FTIP)

WHEREAS, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. section 134(d) for the Counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura, and as such, is responsible for the preparation, adoption and regular revision of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) and the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) pursuant to 23 U.S.C. section 134 *et seq.*, 49 U.S.C. section 5303 *et seq.*, and 23 C.F.R. section 450.312; and

WHEREAS, under state law, SCAG is the multicounty designated transportation planning agency and, as such, is responsible for preparation of the RTP/SCS under California Government Code section 65080 *et seq.*, and the FTIP under California Government Code section 65082 and Public Utilities Code section 130301 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, under federal metropolitan transportation planning law, 23 U.S.C. section 134 *et seq*. and implementing regulations under 23 C.F.R Part 450, a MPO shall develop and update a FTIP for the metropolitan planning area covering a period of no less than four years. In addition, under state law, the FTIP must be updated every two years and submitted to the United States Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) so as to be consistent with the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The SCAG Regional Council adopted and approved the FY 2022/23 – 2027/28 FTIP (2023 FTIP) in October 2022; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 FTIP is an update to the 2023 FTIP, and it is a staged, multi-year, intermodal program of transportation projects which covers six fiscal years, includes a priority list of projects to be carried out in the first four fiscal years (2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27, and 2027-28) and a listing of obligated projects from prior years that may require state or federal action. Projects in the additional two years (2028-29 and 2029-30) are to be considered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transportation Agency (FTA) as informational. The 2025 FTIP is composed of approximately 1,128 transportation projects with \$38.8 billion dollars programmed in fiscal years FY 2024-25 to FY 2027-28; and

WHEREAS, in a nonattainment or maintenance area designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) for one or more transportation-related criteria pollutants, the MPO, as well as the FHWA and FTA, must make a transportation conformity determination on the RTP and FTIP in accordance with the federal Clean Air Act to ensure that federally supported highway and transit project activities conform to the purpose of the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP); and

WHEREAS, transportation conformity for the 2025 FTIP is based upon a positive conformity finding with respect to the following tests: (1) consistency with the adopted RTP/SCS as amended, (2) regional emissions analysis, (3) timely implementation of Transportation Control Measures (TCMs), (4) financial constraint, and (5) interagency consultation and public involvement; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2024, the SCAG Regional Council adopted the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS (also referred as Connect SoCal 2024), including the associated transportation conformity determination, and on May 10, 2024, FHWA and FTA, in coordination with US EPA Region 9, determined that the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS conforms to the applicable SIPs; and

WHEREAS, the federally required transportation conformity analysis for the 2025 FTIP relies on and updates the federally approved transportation conformity analysis for 2024-2050 RTP/SCS; and

WHEREAS, 23 U.S.C. section 134(j)(3)(C) and 23 C.F.R. section 450.324(g) requires each project or project phase in the 2025 FTIP to be consistent with the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS as amended; and

WHEREAS, 42 U.S.C. section 7506(c)(1) also requires the 2025 FTIP to conform with the applicable SIPs developed for the federal nonattainment and maintenance areas in the SCAG region; and

WHEREAS, SCAG staff has conducted an analysis of the 2025 FTIP and found that it complies with federal and state metropolitan planning requirements and is consistent with the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS as amended and its policies, programs, strategies, and projects; and

WHEREAS, the latest planning assumptions, transportation modeling, and emissions modeling for the 2025 FTIP are identical to those for the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS as amended and updates the regional emissions analysis for the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS; and

WHEREAS, the regional emissions analyses for the 2025 FTIP are identical to the regional emissions analyses for the 2024-2050 RTP/SC. The regional emissions analyses used the EMFAC2021 model developed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and approved by US EPA for regional transportation conformity analysis in California on November 15, 2022 and applied the interim off-model adjustment factors that were developed by CARB and approved by U.S. EPA on May 26, 2023 for MPOs to use for regional transportation conformity determinations. Furthermore, the regional emissions analyses for all applicable transportation-related criteria pollutants and precursors meet

all applicable emission budget tests or interim emission tests (build/no-build test) for all milestone, attainment, and planning horizon years in all nonattainment and maintenance areas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 23 C.F.R. section 450.330(e) and 40 C.F.R. Parts 51 and 93, the TCM project categories and strategies identified in the applicable SIPs in the SCAG region were given funding priority, are expected to be implemented on schedule and, in the case of any delays, any obstacles to implementation have been or are being overcome; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 FTIP includes a Financial Plan that indicates estimated available resources including resources from public and private sources which are reasonably expected to be available to carry out the 2025 FTIP as required by 23 U.S.C. section 134(h)(2)(b) and 23 C.F.R. section 450.324(e); and

WHEREAS, SCAG has worked concurrently with local, state, and federal jurisdictions in a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive manner as required by federal and state metropolitan transportation planning provisions; and

WHEREAS, 23 C.F.R. section 450.330(a) requires each MPO to adopt a public participation program. The SCAG's Regional Council adopted an updated Public Participation Plan on April 7, 2022, to serve as a guide for SCAG's public involvement process and provide more explicit details as to SCAG's strategies, procedures, and techniques for public participation on the RTP/SCS, FTIP and the Overall Work Program (OWP). Such strategies, procedures and techniques require SCAG to hold a public hearing regarding a draft FTIP; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the interagency consultation requirements, 40 C.F.R. section 93.105 as well as the provisions of SCAG's Public Participation Plan, SCAG consulted with the respective transportation and air quality planning agencies throughout the 2025 FTIP development process, which involved discussion of a draft of the 2025 FTIP and a proposed final 2025 FTIP with the Transportation Conformity Working Group (a primary regional forum for implementing the interagency consultation requirements). In addition, the Transportation Committee and SCAG's Regional Council authorized the release of the Draft 2025 FTIP for a 30-day public review and comment period on June 6, 2024. The Draft 2025 FTIP was available for public review and comment from July 12 to August 12, 2024 during which time SCAG held two (2) public hearings regarding the Draft 2025 FTIP on July 23, 2024 and July 30, 2024 respectively; and

WHEREAS, comments received during the public review and comment period were considered by staff and appropriately addressed as part of the final version of the Draft 2025 FTIP; and

WHEREAS, projects in the 2025 FTIP satisfy the transportation conformity provisions of 40 C.F.R. section 93.122(g) and all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 C.F.R. Part 450 including the establishment of performance management targets for safety performance measures for all public roads in the planning region; and

WHEREAS, SCAG encourages the CTCs to use equity-oriented criteria that meet the spirit and goals of Resolution No. 20-623-2 and the adopted Racial Equity Early Action Plan (EAP) approved by SCAG's Regional Council in May 2021, which should simultaneously consider benefits, burdens, and engagement for a holistic assessment of projects, in selecting and prioritizing projects for inclusion in the County TIPs; and

WHEREAS, the conformity analysis of the 2025 FTIP has been conducted simultaneously with that for the Amendment No. 1 to the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS in order to address the consistency requirement of federal law; and

WHEREAS, the transportation conformity analyses and determinations of the proposed final 2025 FTIP and the proposed final Amendment No. 1 to the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS were considered by SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee (EEC). At its September 5, 2024 meeting, SCAG's EEC approved staff's recommended action that the Regional Council approve the transportation conformity determinations of the proposed final 2025 FTIP and the proposed final Amendment No. 1 to the 2024-2050 RTP/SCS and direct staff to submit to the FHWA and FTA for approvals at its September 5, 2024 meeting; and

**WHEREAS,** SCAG's Regional Council has reviewed the final 2025 FTIP and related staff reports and materials, which are incorporated herein by this reference; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Council has and hereby grants authority to SCAG's Executive Director to approve FTIP amendments and associated transportation conformity determination and to transmit to the state and federal agencies amendments to the most currently approved FTIP; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Council has and hereby accepts delegation from Caltrans and delegates authority to SCAG's Executive Director to approve FTIP Administrative Modifications for submittal into the FSTIP consistent with approved FSTIP/FTIP Administrative Modification and Amendment Procedures as may be amended and subject to approval by Caltrans.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments as follows:

- The Regional Council approves and adopts the 2025 FTIP for all six (6) counties (Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura) in the SCAG region for the purpose of complying with federal and state metropolitan transportation planning requirements. In adopting the 2025 FTIP, the Regional Council finds as follows:
  - a. The 2025 FTIP complies with all applicable federal and state requirements and regulations; and
  - b. The 2025 FTIP implements and is consistent with SCAG's 2024-2050 RTP/SCS as amended; and

- c. The 2025 FTIP passes the five tests required for transportation conformity tests, namely: consistency with the adopted 2024-2050 RTP/SCS as amended, regional emissions analysis, timely implementation of Transportation Control Measures, financial constraint analysis, and interagency consultation and public involvement, and demonstrates positive transportation conformity.
- 2. In approving the 2025 FTIP, the Regional Council, approves the staff findings and incorporates all of the foregoing recitals in this Resolution.
- 3. SCAG's Executive Director or his designee shall transmit the 2025 FTIP and associated transportation conformity determination to the Federal Transit Administration and the Federal Highway Administration to make the final transportation conformity determination in accordance with the Federal Clean Air Act and EPA Transportation Conformity Rule, 40 C.F.R. Parts 51 and 93.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at its regular meeting this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

Curt Hagman President, SCAG County of San Bernardino

Attested by:

Kome Aiise

Executive Director

Approved as to Form:

Jeffery Elder Chief Counsel