



Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
July 2, 2020

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2020

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.ig2.com/Citizens/>

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) held its meeting telephonically and electronically given public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor’s recent Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Members Present

Sup. Linda Parks (Chair)

Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark (Vice Chair)

- Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland
- Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead
- Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill
- Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village
- Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa
- Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods
- Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley
- Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena
- Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates
- Hon. Toni Momberger, Redlands
- Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills
- Hon. Jeannine Pearce, Long Beach
- Sup. Luis Plancarte
- Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard
- Hon. Greg Raths, Mission Viejo
- Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto
- Hon. Richard Rollins, Port Hueneme
- Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City
- Hon. Rhonda Shader, Placentia
- Hon. Emma Sharif, Compton
- Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank

Ventura County

District 46

- ICTC
- District 32
- GCCOG
- LVMCOG
- OCCOG
- OCCOG
- VCOG
- SGVCOG
- District 40
- SBCTA
- SBCTA
- District 30
- Imperial County
- District 45
- OCCOG
- District 8
- VCOG
- District 41
- President’s Appointment
- District 26
- SFVCOG

OUR MISSION

To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.

OUR VISION

Southern California’s Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES

Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous

Members Not Present

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate | GCCOG |
| Hon. Paula Devine, Glendale | AVCJPA |
| Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake | WRCOG |
| Hon. Greg Morena, Santa Monica | WSCCOG |
| Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio | CVAG |
| Hon. James Osborne, Lawndale | SBCCOG |
| Hon. Miguel Pulido, Santa Ana | OCTA |
| Hon. John Valdivia, San Bernardino | SBCCOG |
| Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill | GCCOG |
| Hon. Bonnie Wright, Hemet | WRCOG |

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Linda Parks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Linda Parks opened the Public Comment Period.

Staff read into record a comment received by email from Leor Alpern, South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Seeing there were no further public commenters, Chair Parks closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Parks acknowledged that there were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Proposed Final Connect SoCal (2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR))

Chair Parks introduced Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning, to provide a presentation and review the planning process leading to the Proposed Final Connect SoCal. She highlighted goals of Connect SoCal, including improving air quality, contributing to a robust economy and disaster recovery. She stated legal requirements that Connect SoCal must adhere to, such as the Clean Air Act, targets for greenhouse gas emissions as set by the California Air Resources Board and the Safer Affordable Fuel

Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule. She outlined transportation system investments incorporated in Connect SoCal, including 4,000 projects throughout the region. She explained the public comment period, noting that approximately 1,800 comments were received from November 14, 2019 to January 24, 2020. Based on these comments, staff provided clarification on various topics, such as transportation conformity and responding to the pandemic. Ms. Jepson elaborated on clarifications relevant to the EEC.

Ms. Jepson also reviewed the Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) and the process engaged in since the Draft PEIR was presented. She provided an overview on comments and corrections, affirming that recirculation was not required as the conclusions presented were not significantly changed. She expanded upon mitigation measures and objectives that the Plan meets.

In conclusion, Ms. Jepson explained the current recommendation to certify the PEIR and approve Connect SoCal as required for federal transportation conformity purposes only and allow up to 120 days to consider its implications in light of the short and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This would allow for review by Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Authority prior to a possible conformity lapse, while also allowing for more time for stakeholder engagement.

Regional Councilmember Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 8, commented on the effects of COVID-19 and asked about the input of business organizations, based on communications she has received. Sarah Jepson acknowledged that business organizations have been engaged and have submitted comments, which have been considered by staff. Regional Councilmember Robertson asked about certain projects, and Ms. Jepson provided clarification.

Regional Councilmember Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates, District 40, noted the impact of COVID-19 on funding for projects included in Connect SoCal and asked if a 120-day postponement is sufficient to understand this impact. Ms. Jepson acknowledged that all implications of COVID-19 will not be known within the 120-day period, and future revisions and updates will be included in the 2024 Connect SoCal Update, beginning development this year.

Councilmember Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa, OCCOG, asked how the volume of comments compared to previous cycles. Ms. Jepson stated that a substantial amount of comments have been received recently with requests for delays.

Regional Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City, District 41 asked if the recommended delay could have negative repercussions and if the delay would impact local jurisdictions' progress on RHNA. Ms. Jepson outlined next steps for engagement with local jurisdictions and confirmed that RHNA allocations cannot be issued until Connect SoCal's adoption.

Regional Councilmember Jeannine Pearce, Long Beach, District 30, asked about additional state and federal funding in response to COVID-19 that could be used towards Connect SoCal. Ms. Jepson responded and noted that she was aware of transportation-related assistance.

Regional Councilmember Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard, District 45, thanked staff for work in preparing Connect SoCal and spoke to comments she received via email.

Regional Councilmember Emma Sharif, Compton, District 26, asked if deadlines for federal conformity and local jurisdictions' housing elements stand given COVID-19. Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, confirmed that these dates have not changed.

Councilmember Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena, SGVCOG, asked if availability of financing for developers, considering enacted moratoriums on evictions, has been considered by SCAG. Mr. Chidsey stated that these details have not yet been considered within Connect SoCal but may be within the 120-day period.

Regional Councilmember Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 8, asked what can be done to help cities and SCAG advocate for appropriate changes to deadlines. Mr. Chidsey responded that this will become clearer in coming months, after immediate action in addressing the public health crisis of COVID-19.

Councilmember Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills, SBCTA, asked for clarification on the public comment process. Grieg Asher, SCAG staff, clarified the process of accepting comments by email, which will be read into record by staff.

Councilmember Sharon Springer, Burbank, SFVCOG, commented on aspirations for Southern California to become a national model in using housing and transportation investments as economic drivers in recovery.

SCAG staff announced that 112 comments for Agenda Item No. 1 were received before the 5pm deadline on Wednesday, May 6. These comments have been posted to SCAG's website, and a link was shared with committee members. SCAG staff read into the record comments received after the deadline from Richard Lambros et al., Southern California Leadership Council et al; Paavo Monkkonen, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs; Daniel Poineau, Resident of Los Angeles, CA; Ann Bickerton, Resident of Los Angeles, CA; Ryan Koyanagi, Resident of Pomona, CA; Michael Dworsky, Resident of Los Angeles, CA; Chris Edgar, Resident of Ladera Ranch, CA; Zachary Steinert-Threlkeld, Resident of Los Angeles, CA; Matt Stauffer, Resident of Los Angeles, CA; Gregory Dina, Resident of Los Angeles, CA; Denny Schneider and Robert Acherman, Alliance for a Regional Solution to Airport Congestion; and Jerard Wright, BizFed.

Regional Councilmember Sahli-Wells expressed support of the resolution but affirmed her concerns

about the delay and its impact on housing. Regional Councilmember Robertson echoed a similar position.

A MOTION was made (Mitchell) to recommend to the Regional Council adoption of Resolution No. 20-621-1 . Motion was SECONDED (Sharif) and passed by the following votes:

AYE/S: Beltran, Clark, Copeland, Davis, Genis, Horne, Litster, Mahmud, Mitchell, Moran, Parks, Pearce, Plancarte, Pollock, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Shader, Sharif and Springer (21)

NOE/S: None (0)

ABSTAIN/S: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

2. Minutes of the Meeting - March 5, 2020

Receive and File

3. COVID-19: Leading and Learning in Uncertain Times

A MOTION was made (Pollock) to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion was SECONDED (Sahli-Wells) and passed by the following votes:

AYE/S: Beltran, Clark, Copeland, Davis, Genis, Horne, Litster, Mahmud, Mitchell, Moran, Parks, Pearce, Plancarte, Pollock, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Shader, Sharif and Springer (21)

NOE/S: None (0)

ABSTAIN/S: None (0)

CHAIR'S REPORT

A report was not provided.

STAFF REPORT



A report was not provided.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S

Councilmember Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena, SGVCOG, asked SCAG staff to provide information about possible grant funding to jurisdictions for use in preparation of housing elements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Parks adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Waggoner
Energy and Environment Committee Clerk

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

2019-20

| MEMBERS | Date Appointed if after 5/1/19 | Representing | 2019-20 | | | | | | | | | | | | Total Mtgs Attended To Date | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------|-------|---|
| | | | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | | May 7 | |
| Beltran, Ana | | Westmoreland, ICTC | | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 3 |
| Clark, Margaret | | Rosemead, RC District 32 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 7 |
| Copeland, Robert | Jun-19 | Signal Hill, GCCOG | | 1 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 5 |
| Davila, Maria | | South Gate, GCCOG | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |
| Davis, Ned | | Westlake Village, LVMCOG | | 1 | | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 7 |
| Devine, Paula | | Glendale, AVCJPA | | 1 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 0 | 4 |
| Ehrenkranz, Jordan | | Canyon Lake, WRCOG | | 1 | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 0 | 5 |
| Gardner, Mike | | Riverside, WRCOG | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | | | | | 4 |
| Genis, Sandra | | Costa Mesa, OCCOG | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 8 |
| Horne, Shari | | Laguna Woods, OCCOG | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 6 |
| Litster, Elaine | Feb-20 | Simi Valley, VCOG | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 3 |
| Mahmud, Diana | | So. Pasadena, SGVCOG | | 1 | | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 7 |
| Mitchell, Judy | | Rolling Hills Estates, RC District 40 | | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 6 |
| Momberger, Toni | Aug-19 | Redlands, SBCTA | | | | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 5 |
| Moran, Cynthia | | Chino Hills, SBCTA | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | | 1 | 1 |
| Morena, Greg | May-19 | Santa Monica, WCCOG | D | 0 | D | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | D | D | | 0 | 1 | D | 0 | 3 |
| Ortiz, Oscar | | Indio, CVAG | A | 1 | A | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | A | A | | 1 | 1 | A | 0 | 7 |
| Osborne, Jim | | Lawndale, SBCCOG | R | 1 | R | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | R | R | | 1 | 1 | R | 0 | 5 |
| Parks, Linda (CHAIR) | | Ventura County | K | 1 | K | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | K | K | | 1 | 0 | K | 1 | 5 |
| Pearce, Jeannine | Nov-19 | Long Beach, District 30 | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 4 |
| Plancarte, Luis | | Imperial County | | 0 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 0 | 1 | | 1 | 6 |
| Pollock, David (Vice Chair) | | Moorpark, VCOG | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 8 |
| Pulido, Miguel | Feb-20 | Santa Ana, OCTA | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 1 | | 0 | 1 |
| Ramirez, Carmen | | Oxnard, RC District 45 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 8 |
| Raths, Greg | | Mission Viejo, OCCOG | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | | 1 | 2 |
| Robertson, Deborah | | Rialto, RC District 8 | | 0 | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 5 |
| Rollins, Richard | Feb-20 | Port Hueneme, VCOG | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 3 |
| Sahli-Wells, Meghan | | Culver City, RC District 41 | | 0 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 7 |
| Shader, Rhonda | Jun-19 | Placentia, President's Appointment | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 4 |
| Sharif, Emma | | Compton, RC District 26 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 8 |
| Springer, Sharon | | Burbank, SFVCOG | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 8 |
| Valdivia, John | | San Bernardino, SBCCOG | | 0 | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 1 |
| Wilson, Edward H.J. | | Signal Hill, GCCOG | | 1 | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 0 | | 0 | 4 |
| Wright, Bonnie | | Hemet, WRCOG | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 |

Attachment: EEC Attendance Sheet 2019-20 (Minutes of the Meeting - May 7, 2020)