



**AGENDA ITEM 4**  
**REPORT**

Southern California Association of Governments  
JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa  
Sinatra Ballroom  
74-855 Country Club Drive  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
.....**May 5, 2022**

**NO. 642**  
**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Regional Council (RC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and 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**

**Hon. Clint Lorimore, President**

*Eastvale*

**District 4**

**Hon. Jan Harnik, 1st Vice President**

**RCTC**

**Sup. Carmen Ramirez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Ventura County**

Supervisor Luis Plancarte

Imperial County

Supervisor Don Wagner

Orange County

Supervisor Karen Spiegel

Riverside County

Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich

ICTC

Hon. Brian Goodell

OCTA

Hon. Alan Wapner

SBCTA

Hon. Peggy Huang

TCA

Hon. Mike T. Judge

VCTC

Hon. Ben Benoit

Air District Representative

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker

*El Centro*

District 1

Hon. Kathleen Kelly

*Palm Desert*

District 2

Hon. Rey Santos

*Beaumont*

District 3

Hon. Zak Schwank

*Temecula*

District 5

Hon. Larry McCallon

*Highland*

District 7

Hon. Ray Marquez

*Chino Hills*

District 10

Hon. Randall Putz

*Big Bear Lake*

District 11



Hon. Fred Minagar	<i>Laguna Niguel</i>	District 12
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	<i>Mission Viejo</i>	District 13
Hon. Diane Dixon	<i>Newport Beach</i>	District 15
Hon. Phil Bacerra	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Leticia Clark	<i>Tustin</i>	District 17
Hon. Kim Nguyen	<i>Garden Grove</i>	District 18
Hon. Trevor O'Neil	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Joe Kalmick	<i>Seal Beach</i>	District 20
Hon. Art Brown	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23
Hon. Ray Hamada	<i>Bellflower</i>	District 24
Hon. Sean Ashton	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. José Luis Solache	<i>Lynwood</i>	District 26
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Mark E. Henderson	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Cindy Allen	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Steve De Ruse	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31
Hon. Jorge Marquez	<i>Covina</i>	District 33
Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler	<i>Alhambra</i>	District 34
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Alex Fisch	<i>Culver City</i>	District 41
Hon. Paula Devine	<i>Glendale</i>	District 42
Hon. Juan Carrillo	<i>Palmdale</i>	District 43
Hon. David J. Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. David Pollock	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 46
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Michael Posey	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Elizabeth Becerra	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Marsha McLean	<i>Santa Clarita</i>	District 67
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Marisela Nava	<i>Perris</i>	District 69

**Members Not Present**

**Hon. Rex Richardson, Imm. Past President**  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

**Members Not Present**

***Long Beach***

**Members Not Present**

**District 29**  
**Los Angeles County**



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Supervisor Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County
Supervisor Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Hon. Frank Navarro	<i>Colton</i>	District 6
Hon. L. Dennis Michael	<i>Rancho Cucamonga</i>	District 9
Hon. Deborah Robertson	<i>Rialto</i>	District 8
Hon. Tammy Kim	<i>Irvine</i>	District 14
Hon. Steven Ly	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Jonathan Curtis	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Drew Boyles	<i>El Segundo</i>	District 40
Hon. Laura Hernandez	<i>Port Hueneme</i>	District 45
Hon. Lorrie Brown	<i>Ventura</i>	District 47
Hon. Gilbert Cedillo	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 48
Hon. Nithya Raman	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Paul Koretz	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 50
Hon. Nury Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 56
Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Mike Bonin	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
Hon. John Lee	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Mitch O'Farrell	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. Kevin de León	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Joe Buscaino	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto	<i>Coachella</i>	District 66
Hon. Eric Garcetti	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Brd.

**Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer  
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer  
Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning  
Carmen Fujimori, Human Resources Director  
Javiera Cartagena, Director of Government and Public Affairs  
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer

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Michael Houston, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services  
Jeffery Elder, Deputy Legal Counsel  
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel  
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board  
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

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

President Lorimore called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. and asked Regional Councilmember Kathleen Kelly, Pam Desert, District 2, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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), President Lorimore announced the meeting was being held both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically).

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Lorimore 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 [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov). The Clerk acknowledged there were no written public comments received by email before or after the deadline for items not listed on the agenda.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

### **ACTION ITEM**

1. Findings to Continue Holding Virtual Regional Council and Committee Meetings Under AB 361

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

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A MOTION was made (Posey) to (1) ratify the prior actions of the Executive/Administration Committee taken at its March 2, 2022 meeting relating to findings made pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3); (2) make the following findings required by Government Code Section 54953(e)(3) on the basis of the staff report, which is incorporated by this reference, that (i) a proclaimed state of emergency remains active in connection with the COVID-19 public health crisis, (ii) the RC has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and (iii) state and local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing in relation to the COVID-19 public health crisis and, further, (3) authorize all legislative bodies of the Southern California Association of Government (SCAG), including the RC, EAC and all committees and task forces established by the RC or SCAG's Bylaws, to utilize remote teleconference meetings pursuant to and in compliance with Brown Act provisions contained in Government Code Section 54953(e). Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

Before the vote, Brian Goodell, OCTA, noted for the record that he was present at the March 3 meeting. President Lorimore indicated this would be reflected in the record.

**AYES:** ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, BACERRA, BECERRA, BENOIT, A. BROWN, BUCKNUM, CLARK, DE RUSE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GAZELEY, GOODELL, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, JUDGE, J. KALMICK, KELLY, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MINAGAR, NAVA, NAVA-FROELICH, NGUYEN, O'NEIL, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE, SPIEGEL, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (48)

**NOES:** NONE (0)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

## 2. Nominations and Election of 2022-23 SCAG Officers

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

Michael Houston, Chief Counsel and Director of Legal Services, reported that the Nominating Committee met on March 17, 2022 to review applications for the 2022-2023 Board Officer positions for President, First Vice President and Second Vice President. He noted there was one applicant for the position of President, the Honorable Jan Harnik, one applicant for the position of First Vice President, the Honorable Carmen Ramirez, and two applicants for the position of Second

Vice President, the Honorable Art Brown and the Honorable Curt Hagman. He stated that the Nominating Committee discussed the candidates and unanimously nominated the Honorable Jan Harnik for the position of President, the Honorable Carmen Ramirez for the position of First Vice President and the Honorable Art Brown for the position of Second Vice President. He emphasized that all the nominated candidates met the eligibility requirements and were being presented to the Regional Council for election, which would then be presented to the General Assembly as part of the annual meeting for ratification.

A MOTION was made (Finlay) to elect the nominees recommended by the Nominating Committee as SCAG's 2022-23 officers, subject to ratification by the General Assembly. Motion was SECONDED (Bucknum). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

**AYES:** ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, BACERRA, BECERRA, BENOIT, A. BROWN, BUCKNUM, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GAZELEY, GOODELL, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, JUDGE, J. KALMICK, KELLY, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MINAGAR, NAVA, NAVA-FROELICH, NGUYEN, O'NEIL, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE, SPIEGEL, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (49)

**NOES:** NONE (0)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

### 3. Consideration of Proposed Amendments to the SCAG Bylaws

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

Second Vice President Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, reported that the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee met twice on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> for some very robust discussions on the six proposals put forward by a Regional Council Member, Trevor O'Neill. She provided a brief overview of the proposals and noted that proposals one, two and three would fundamentally change SCAG's governance structure and provided additional information in relation to this point. Committees. She also noted that Bylaws amendment Proposal 4 would recognize the TWG as the formal SCAG body in the bylaws and would require that the TWG consider all substantive SCAG policy initiatives and programs prior to the policy initiatives or programs being brought before a SCAG Policy Committee. She clarified that presently the TWG was composed entirely of unelected staff from member agencies and other interested public agencies for the purpose of providing SCAG with technical

input. She further clarified that the TWG was already an established part of SCAG's federally required Public Participation Plan and had a written charter to provide input to SCAG. Under Bylaws amendment Proposal 5, she noted it would reduce the period of service eligibility to serve as a SCAG officer from 24 to 12 months and would remove the requirement that a candidate must serve at least 12 months on the Regional Council before being an officer. Lastly, Bylaws amendment Proposal 6 would expand officer eligibility, including the TCA representative, who is presently not eligible to serve as an officer. She reported that the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee modified this proposal to include the Public Transportation Representative, the Tribal Government Regional Planning Board representative, and the Air Districts representative. She stated that the committee extensively discussed and debated the six proposals over the course of these two meetings and after discussing each item the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee voted not to recommend proposals one through five. She asked Michael Houston, Chief Counsel and Director of Legal Services, to go over the primary reasons for the Committee's recommendation to not recommend these proposals.

Michael Houston, Chief Counsel and Director of Legal Services, provided a detailed presentation on the six proposals as outlined by Second Vice President Ramirez and described primary reasons for the Committee's action on the Proposals. After his detailed presentation, he noted that the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee voted to not recommend proposals one through five and to recommend proposal six.

A comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and can be accessed on the SCAG website. The video recording of the meeting can also be accessed via the SCAG website.

Second Vice President Ramirez thanked Regional Council Member O'Neil for providing the proposals which were robustly discussed. She expressed that it was determined by the majority of the Committee that the amendments that were proposed would really make things more difficult to have flexibility for the Regional Council to make policy decisions in the best interest of the region. She noted that while regional cooperation input from both Policy Committee Members and the TWG is very important and necessary to making decisions, the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee as a whole did not believe that this should be set in concrete into the Bylaws, and that rather than increasing regional input, it was felt that the proposals would make the processes at SCAG more cumbersome rather than providing flexibility. She moved that the Regional Council recommend to the General Assembly to not adopt Bylaws amendment proposals one through five and that it adopt Bylaws amendment proposal six as recommended by the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee.

Regional Council Member O'Neil expressed his appreciation to the Bylaws and Resolution Committee for considering the proposals. He stated that the intent was to make sure that they as policymakers are fully aware to the best of their ability and staffs ability of the practical implications as articulated by those experts among their planning staff and their staff among their jurisdictions.

He stated it was not to complicate the process but to make sure that they have as much information as possible where they make policy decisions that affect their entire region. He stated that he hoped that staff will continue to engage on a more robust level with the TWG.

Regional Council Member Peggy Huang, TCA, thanked Regional Council Member O'Neill for his hard work and the members of the Bylaws Committee for a really robust discussion on each one of the proposals. She noted that on proposal number three one of the concerns that committee members had was about time and noticed that in the staff report it stated that generally items are presented a month in advance. She expressed that it was important that on very substantive policy issues or projects like Connect SoCal or RHNA that they don't rush through it.

President Lorimore asked for a second on the motion. Second Vice President Ramirez noted that Regional Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, had seconded the motion.

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, acknowledged Regional Council Member O'Neil's comment about the inclusion of the TWG in their decision making. He stated they valued the work they did with the TWG and he committed that they will continue to work on enhancing that input process. He stated they also had to work on making sure that they have adequate representation across the region in the TWG participation and that it was part of the outreach that they will commit to. He also acknowledged Regional Council Member Huang's comment in terms of splitting actions that go to policy committees. He noted that they had actually taken steps in the last year to ensure that a lot of the work that needs further action at the Regional Council is discussed a month before at the policy committee and not on the same day that it goes to the Regional Council. He did note that there will be occasions where they will have time constraints and will have to bring the item forward, but it will be rare occasions. He noted they have taken steps to ensure that in their timing of the agenda that they work with the chairs to the policy committees so that they have that separation by at least a month on those actions.

A MOTION was made (Ramirez) that the Regional Council act on the proposed Bylaws amendments as recommended by the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee and forward the proposed amendments to the General Assembly for action. Motion was SECONDED (Viegas-Walker). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

**AYES:** ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, BECERRA, BENOIT, A. BROWN, BUCKNUM, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GAZELEY, GOODELL, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, JUDGE, J. KALMICK, KELLY, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MINAGAR, NAVA, NAVA-FROELICH, NGUYEN, O'NEIL, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, SALEH, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE, SPIEGEL, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (49)





**NOES:** MCLEAN (1)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

4. Minutes of the Meeting – March 3, 2022
5. Approval for Additional Stipend Payment
6. Resolution No. 22-642-1 Approving Amendment 3 to the FY 2021-22 Overall Work Program Budget
7. Contract Amendment Greater Than 30% of the Contract’s Original Value: Contract No. 20-002-C01 Amendment No. 3, General Counsel Services
8. Contract Amendment Greater Than 30% of the Contract’s Original Value: Contract No. 21-054-C01 Amendment No. 2, Amazon Web Services (AWS) Infrastructure for the Regional Data Platform
9. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-047-C01 MRFP 14, Regional Resilience Framework
10. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-048-C01 MRFP 03, Sustainable Communities Program Parking Bundle
11. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-025-C01, Truck Route Study
12. 2023 Active Transportation Program Regional Guidelines
13. AB 1944 (Lee and C. Garcia) and AB 2449 (Rubio) - Brown Act Reform
15. SB 942 (Newman) - LCTOP Reform: Free or Reduced Fare Transit Program
16. Proposed Final Public Participation Plan

**Receive and File**

17. REAP 2 Program Development Framework and Process

18. Executive/Administration Committee Strategic Work Plan Progress Report Quarter Ending March 31, 2022
19. April 2022 State and Federal Legislative Update
21. Equity Analysis Approach (formerly Environmental Justice Analysis)
22. Draft 2022 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP)
23. Racial Equity Early Action Plan – FY22 Progress Report
24. Purchase Orders \$5,000 - \$199,999; Contracts \$25,000 - \$199,999 and Amendments \$5,000 - \$74,999
25. CFO Monthly Report

President Lorimore noted there was a request to correct the minutes and reflect attendance at the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting by Regional Council Member Brian Goodell, OCTA.

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

Regional Council Member O'Neil requested to pull item 20.

Regional Council Member Donald Wagner, Orange County, requested to pull item 14 for discussion.

Scott Campbell, Board Counsel, stated for the record that he was abstaining from any participation on Item 7, the contract amendment to the BB&K.

A MOTION was made (Brown) to approve Consent Calendar Items 4 through 16, with the exception of Item 14; Receive and File Items 17 through 25, with the exception of Item 20; and the corrected minutes to reflect attendance at the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting by Regional Council Member Brian Goodell, OCTA. Motion was SECONDED (Wagner). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

**AYES:** ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, BECERRA, BENOIT, A. BROWN, BUCKNUM, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GAZELEY, GOODELL, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, JUDGE, J. KALMICK, KELLY, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, NAVA, NAVA-FROELICH,

NGUYEN, O'NEIL, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE, SPIEGEL, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (48)

**NOES:** NONE (0)

**ABSTAIN:** POLLOCK abstained on Item 8 (1)

#### 14. S 3649 (Padilla) - Transportation Equity Act

Regional Council Member Wagner noted he pulled this item at the request of EAC members as a result of discussions the day before. He further noted that he fully supports the recommendation of the watch position. He stated this was an issue that generated some controversy and so it was appropriate for the Regional Council to discuss. He communicated that the bill by Senator Padilla to the Legislative Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) had a request from staff that they support the bill. He noted that a number of them looked into the bill and had some questions and concerns, and after very robust policy discussions, the LCMC vote was 10-2 to take a watch position. He further noted there were a couple of questions that were relatively straightforward, like the fiscal impacts of the bill and thanked staff for the answers to those questions. He explained that what got the attention of folks with this bill was that it appeared to be a straightforward bill that dovetails nicely with one of their strategic goals on equity, but it was also lopsided in terms of partisanship. He stated there was not a single member of the other party that had joined on to the bill, and this raised some warning flags to him. He stated they did not know if there were any amendments coming and reported that SCAG staff had reached out to Senator Padilla's office and the response was that none of the Republicans wanted join it [the bill] because it was a Trump administration effort to shut down the committee in the first place. He stated that this reinforced his concern that there must be something going on here and thought that the watch position was the appropriate one. He also brought attention to page seven of the bill that referred to Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. He clarified that this made reference to the sunset provision, basically that they were not going to ever sunset the committee. He emphasized that he was averse to growing government and to creating entities that have a completely indeterminate lifespan. Furthermore, he noted the staff report indicated that Secretary Buttigieg was looking to reestablish this committee at an administrative level and expressed that maybe this was why there was some opposition to the legislation from the bipartisan perspective. He stated it had taken on a partisan view and this was something they recognized at the committee. He urged the Regional Council to stick with the watch recommendation.

President Lorimore noted this was the third time that some of them were talking about it and stated that Regional Council Member Wagner had provided a good overview. He asked Javiera Cartagena, Director of Government and Public Affairs, to provide a detailed overview of the item.

Ms. Cartagena reported this item was a recommendation from the LCMC to watch Senate Bill 3649. She noted the bill, authored by Senator Padilla, proposes to reestablish, and codify the Transportation Equity Committee (TEC) to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on issues relating to transportation equity, from planning policy and advocacy stakeholders. She noted that the Obama administration established the TEC in 2016, but the Trump administration dissolved it in 2018. She stated that Senator Padilla introduced the bill for two main reasons: 1) to ensure continuity of the Committee during changing presidential administrations; and 2) to ensure that funding from the bipartisan infrastructure law is equitably distributed. She explained that the TEC would give advice and recommendations to the Secretary on transportation in equity by developing a strategic plan that analyzes national transportation metrics and the effect of transportation equity on factors like economic development, productivity, accessibility, and public engagement. She further explained that committee membership would consist of nine or up to 15 members appointed to two-year terms, with expertise in transportation related areas representing diverse viewpoints and geographies. As reflected in the staff report, she noted that Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg had expressed support for reestablishing the committee. She informed the Regional Council that there was a robust discussion at the LCMC who voted 10-2 to forward a watch recommendation to the Regional Council at its March 15 meeting. She also noted that the EAC pulled the item the day before and there was discussion on this and stated that they also voted on a watch position with a friendly amendment to pull the item at the Regional Council meeting.

Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker noted this [bill] fit within strategic plan goal number two, advancing Southern California's policy interests and planning priorities through regional statewide and national engagement and advocacy. She also noted that it falls within the Regional Council's adopted race equity resolution number 20 and early action plan. She indicated there was support from the Secretary for the reestablishment [of the committee]. She also called their attention to page 180 of the staff report which talked about the purpose of the committee. She stated that she wanted them [the Regional Council] to look at this without an R, D, or I behind their name. She stated the purpose of the committee was to provide independent and advice and recommendations to the Secretary on transportation equity, including by developing a strategic plan that includes recommendations to the Secretary on national transportation metrics and the effect of transportation equity on such factors as economic development, connectivity, accessibility, and public engagement. She expressed that in her mind the fact that it hits squarely within their goals and their stated objectives, was reason for them to support it. She also indicated that for years they had been searching for a friend in Washington, DC to stand up for Southern California and Senator Padilla was one of them who had served on the Regional Council. She noted they had a direct

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pipeline to his office on matters that concern them. She reminded them that Senator Padilla had been successful in securing almost a half million dollars for the SCAG region for a highway to Boulevard regional study. She questioned how this would look for SCAG to send a watch position on a bill that was squarely within things that they have articulated as supporting. She further stated that they had never looked at a bill solely based on a partisan point of view. She stated she was supporting this measure and asked for the Regional Council to join her in sending a powerful message to Senator Padilla that they have his back.

Second Vice President Ramirez stated she agreed with Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker. She indicated she would be judging every piece of legislation that comes forward at the state or national level in the context of is it good for my community. She noted that she heard the concerns from Regional Council Member Wagner and the others who spoke the day before. She expressed that it was a very mild measure, was not expensive, and it sent a very good message to the Senator.

Regional Council Member Margaret Finlay stated that if the prior conversation by Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker or Second Vice President Ramirez was a motion then she would second the motion.

President Lorimore sought clarification on who was the motion maker.

Regional Council Member Finlay stated it was Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker.

Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker made the motion to support (S 3649 (Padilla) - Transportation Equity Act).

Regional Council Member Margaret Finlay reaffirmed the second on the support motion.

President Lorimore confirmed there was a motion by Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker and a second by Regional Council Member Finlay. Discussion on the item ensued.

Regional Council Member Huang made a substitute motion to maintain the watch position. She noted that she went back and watched the LCMC meeting and that in reviewing the entire meeting she thought the problem with this bill was that it was a little bit early in the process. She explained that she did support state senators whenever they do something for their region. She stated that she thought equity was important and that everyone supported that, but she was also for local control and taking care of their region. She indicated they should be advocating for funding projects in their region. She questioned the reason for this legislation and not so much who was carrying the bill. She indicated she agreed with Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker. She stated the legislation needed to bake a little bit more, which is why she was making the substitute motion to go with the recommendation from the LCMC to watch this.

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President Lorimore sought clarification that Regional Council Member Wendy Bucknum had seconded the substitute motion for a watch position.

Regional Council Member Wendy Bucknum, Mission Viejo, District 13, confirmed that she seconded the substitute motion for a watch position.

Board Counsel Campbell called point of order and stated that the substitute motion was the opposite of the initial motion and noted he [the President] had discretion.

Regional Council Member Alan Wapner called for point of order and stated it was not the same and that it could also be an oppose. He noted the substitute was appropriate.

Board Counsel Campbell indicated it was for the President to decide.

President Lorimore indicated that one was a support motion, and one was a watch and decided that they were different.

First Vice President Jan Harnik, RCTC, noted she was on the LCMC and EAC meeting that had the discussions. She indicated that she had asked that this item be taken off of the Consent Calendar so that the Regional Council could have discussion on this issue. She explained that she did vote for the watch position at the LCMC and that at that point SCAG staff went to Senator Padilla. She stated she had asked for this because she was concerned that it felt like a hyper partisan bill, that only Democrats were supporting, and she wanted to understand this. She indicated that staff had heard from Senator Padilla's office that there were no Republicans because the Republicans were not going to support something that the Trump administration had effectively dissolved. She stated this was very bothersome to her. She noted that they really had to take a look at this and understand that what they had was an opportunity to have a voice for their communities and for underserved communities. She indicated she would like to support Senator Padilla and would like to come out in front on something that was a de minimis cost and could give a voice to all of their communities. She indicated that after listening to all of reasons why they should support it and given the information that staff brought forward that they did not have at LCMC, that she would like to support it because she would like the Senator to know that they are behind him when he is out in front and supporting the needs of their region. She indicated that she would also like to suggest to Senator Padilla that one of those committee members be from SCAG, like the chair of the Transportation Committee or someone else that SCAG feels would represent their region well. She noted they needed a voice and here was their opportunity to have a voice in Washington, DC. She indicated she would be voting in support.

Regional Council Member Wagner expressed he found himself in agreement with the discussion but

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drew different conclusions as to the best course of action. He stated they should never look at a piece of legislation from the Republican or Democrat perspective and noted they should encourage bipartisanship. He expressed that he believed the watch position was appropriate.

Regional Council Member Steve Manos, Lake Elsinore, District 63, stated he did not necessarily disagree with some of the others on this particular bill and thought it was well intended. He expressed concern for this committee not having an end date or sunset date, which was probably what was preventing it from getting the type of support that it needs. He stated this was part of the reason why he would support a watch position, to see how it evolves. He further noted that he was opposed to the idea of a forever government entity, especially one that can be created administratively. He stated they shouldn't have to support everything that's dressed or couched from an equity position or from a friendly face.

Regional Council Member David Pollock, Moorpark, District 46, stated he was on the LCMC and this was the third time he had gone through this discussion. He noted he took staff recommendations very seriously because staff has had the time to look at things in depth and trusted staff not to make partisan decisions. He indicated that he struggled with the arguments of why not to support this when equity and transportation was the core of what they are trying to do. He further stated that equity shouldn't be a partisan issue and expressed concern that they should have been listening to staff from the very beginning on this. He stated he would be supporting a support position.

Regional Council Member Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita, District 67, stated she had been listening very carefully to both sides and saw no reason to blindly give a support position at this time. She stated this was a partisan item at this time because not one single person in the Senate had signed on to this bill and she wanted to know the reason for not opposing it at all. She indicated that by having a watch position, they can keep an eye on it, and noted she would support a watch position.

Regional Council Member Alex Fisch, Culver City, District 41, indicated that the bill was relatively straightforward, and he didn't know what else they would watch for. He stated everyone had agreed that they did not care whether it was Republican or Democrat. He stated that the question he asks himself is whether this is good for his constituents. He stated he would be voting for the support position.

Regional Council Member Finlay stated she would like to see them craft something because she believed she had heard from First Vice President Harnik a support position, if amended to include a representative from SCAG. She asked First Vice President Harnik if this was the case.

First Vice President Harnik stated she would like to see somebody from SCAG on that Committee.

Regional Council Member Finlay offered a second substitute motion to take a support, if amended to include a representative from SCAG. Regional Council Member Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood, District 26, seconded the second substitute motion.

President Lorimore asked Board Counsel how many substitute motions they can make.

Board Counsel Campbell confirmed they had reached the maximum and noted they had three main motions that were pending. He clarified that the second substitute motion would be the first one they vote on.

President Lorimore asked if this was a viable ask and how it worked.

Ms. Cartagena called on Kevin Gilhooley, Legislative Manager, to provide a response.

Mr. Gilhooley stated that this was certainly something staff could write in the position letter to the Senator.

Regional Council Member Finlay stated she really liked the fact that this was giving the Senator the opportunity to go ahead and for them to do what she thought was important. She stated this puts SCAG out in front and this was the reason for trying to make this appealing, not only to the Senator, but to all of them.

President Lorimore asked Regional Council Member Finlay for clarity on her motion as he wanted to make sure staff understood the message to carry forward. He asked if this was something that a Regional Council Member or SCAG staff would be a part of and what her intention was by this motion.

Regional Council Member Finlay she stated she wanted the message to be carried forward and that it was important to her that someone be elected.

Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker noted that everyone knew SCAG as the largest MPO in the United States and though it would not be out of line for them to request that the Executive Director or his or her designee have a seat at the table. This way, if they decide as a Regional Council somewhere down the line for the Executive Director to delegate that responsibility to the President, or to the Chair of the Transportation Committee, or to a staff member they would be ensuring that they move forward. She thought this provided enough clarity for the motion and called for the question.

President Lorimore acknowledged Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker calling for the question



but stated that they had some people in the queue who wanted to speak. He asked Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker if she would allow for the speakers.

Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker acknowledged it was ok as long as they maintained a quorum and could get through this item.

Regional Council Member Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, expressed concern for putting in a SCAG representative in the support position. He stated that each state would want to weigh in and have someone from their state on the committee and thought this would be a way of killing the bill entirely. He suggested not including this.

Regional Council Member Solache stated he seconded the motion because of the possibility of having SCAG be represented in this group and having a voice at the table in these conversations. He encouraged the Regional Council to support the motion.

Regional Council Member Wapner expressed that the discussion had gone off track and stated he agreed with Regional Council Member McCallon. He noted he was going to go with the original watch position from the LCMC as he did not feel comfortable voting on the second substitute motion when it was vague.

President Lorimore reiterated they had a second substitute motion that was put forward by Regional Council Member Finlay and Regional Council Member Solache, which was to support if amended to include SCAG as having a membership. He noted they had two other motions if this item did not pass.

Regional Council Member Karen Spiegel, Riverside County, sought clarification on the motion they were voting on.

President Lorimore stated this was a second substitute motion to support if amended to include SCAG as part of this committee. He asked Board Counsel to confirm. Board Counsel Campbell reaffirmed.

A second Substitute MOTION was made (Finlay) to take a support, if amended position to include SCAG as having a membership role. Motion was SECONDED by (Solache). The motion failed by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** ALLEN, FINLAY, FISCH, HARNIK, J. KALMICK, KELLY, J. MARQUEZ, POLLOCK, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, SALEH, SHAPIRO, SOLACHE, and VIEGAS-WALKER (14)

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**NOES:** BECERRA, A. BROWN, BUCKNUM, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DEVINE, DIXON, GAZELEY, GOODELL, HAMADA, HENDERSON, HUANG, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MANOS, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MINAGAR, NAVA, O'NEIL, PLANCARTE, POSEY, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SIMONOFF, SPIEGEL, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (30)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

Regional Council Member Patricia Lock Dawson sought clarification on the motion they would be voting on and asked if this was the original staff recommendation.

President Lorimore stated a motion was made in the beginning to support which was not the staff recommendation and the substitute motion then was to watch which was staff recommendation.

Regional Council Member Viegas-Walker clarified that the original staff recommendation to the LCMC was to support and the LCMC then decided to take a watch position. She also asked Board Counsel to clarify if there were two motions remaining for them to vote on.

Board Counsel Campbell noted there was two motions and stated the pending motion before them was the watch position.

Regional Council Member Bucknum asked for a point of order. She clarified that the motion that she seconded was the LCMC's recommendation to do a watch position.

President Lorimore reiterated that what was before them was a substitute motion for a watch position.

Regional Council Member Finlay clarified that what they had before them was the Committee's recommendation [a watch position] and if it failed, then they would go back to the original motion which was staffs recommendation to support.

President Lorimore reaffirmed this was the case.

A Substitute MOTION was made (Huang) to take a watch position on S 3649 (Padilla) - Transportation Equity Act. Motion was SECONDED by (Bucknum). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

**AYES:** BECERRA, BUCKNUM, CLARK, DEVINE, DIXON, GAZELEY, GOODELL, HAMADA, HUANG, JUDGE, LORIMORE, MANOS, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MINAGAR, O'NEIL, POSEY, SANTOS, SIMONOFF, SPIEGEL, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (23)

**NOES:** ALLEN, A. BROWN, FINLAY, FISCH, HARNIK, HENDERSON, J. KALMICK, KELLY, LOCK DAWSON, J. MARQUEZ, NAVA, POLLOCK, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, SALEH, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SOLACHE, TYE, and VIEGAS-WALKER (20)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

20. Review of Proposed Regulatory Changes to California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) Tax Exempt Bond Allocation Criteria

Regional Council Member O'Neil stated this was the item that he asked for at the last Regional Council meeting and specifically asked staff to provide comments on the proposed CDLAC change if it was consistent with their legislative platform, or to bring an item back for discussion at the Regional Council for potential action if it was not. He noted the item was a Receive and File item on Consent with a recommendation for taking no action. He reminded the Regional Council that the proposed CDLAC changes would reprioritize how the state allocates bond funding for affordable housing projects and would give deference to very low income or homeless related projects than to those in first priority, which meant that the money won't be there for projects serving other affordable categories or mixed income projects and would make it even harder for those projects to come to fruition and more difficult for them to comply with RHNA. He noted the following: 1) that he did not ask for the staff recommendation as this was a policy issue that should be discussed among the Regional Council Members; 2) that between this meeting and the last meeting when he asked for this item, he did not receive communication from SCAG staff about the issue, and it was only when the agenda was released that he learned that staff had done something about this; 3) that in basing this recommendation, the only stakeholder that staff reached out to was the Orange County Housing Finance Trust, who supports more funding going towards homeless projects and that there was no effort to get any stakeholder input in the affordable sphere to base this recommendation on; and 4) that staff knew based on his comments that the Orange County Council of Governments had already taken a unanimous position on the issue and provided a comment letter to CDLAC. He communicated that Executive Director Ajise called him in between the CEHD Committee and the Regional Council meeting to convey that staff was mindful of the concerns by Orange County. Regional Council Member O'Neil expressed that the concerns of Orange County were not considered in the analysis that led to staff recommendation. He further noted that this item was agendized as Receive and File, but their rules articulated that action could be taken on any agenda item regardless of whether it was listed as an Action item, Receive and File item, or Information item. He stated he was pulling it to give the Regional Council the opportunity to make policy decisions instead of policy being directed by staff. He further stated this was a technical issue and the last thing any of their cities needed was yet another hurdle to getting affordable housing projects done. Before going into the discussion, he asked staff to respond to his concerns as to how this item was handled in the first place, and then asked for staff to provide additional background on the issue for the Regional Council to consider during the deliberation and discussion.

Executive Director Ajise clarified that he had called Regional Council Member O'Neil earlier in the day on a wide range of issues about Orange County and the conversations they had been having with them. On this issue, he stated they did look into it. He asked Ms. Jenna Hornstock, Deputy Director of Planning, Land Use to provide a report.

Ms. Hornstock indicated she listened to the video recording of the meeting to make sure they captured the request. She stated that what she heard was that they look into the proposed changes to the regulations for allocating tax exempt bonds through CDLAC. She noted that the recommendation was that if appropriate write a comment letter opposing the proposed changes. She noted that comment letters were due March 28. She reported they had the senior housing adviser, who has been working with SCAG and is retired from HCD and worked at the state on these kinds of issues for 30 years, to look into this. She stated the important thing to note was that the proposed regulations were put forward specifically because the state was making efforts to better align their various funding sources, a very specific effort to align tax exempt bonds with other funding programs. She noted that there has been a larger set of efforts around this including a supernova with about four different funding sources grouped together. She stated that in the report staff noted that these low-income targeting thresholds were determined on the basis of need data within the eligible categories as compiled by the state agencies. She also noted that it's not quite as restrictive as was suggested and the income categories targeted by the pending regulations for rental new construction projects or homeless are extremely low, very low, and mixed income. A final note, she stated that the very low-income portion of RHNA for OCCOG is over 46,000 units, so there was a need in that region for this funding. Ms. Hornstock also acknowledged that staff should have reached out and will do that next time. She stated they were just really trying to do a technical review of why the regulation is there and if there was an alternate recommendation. She noted that staff felt that they did not have an alternate recommendation in terms of the state goals, so they determined that writing a comment letter at this time was not appropriate.

Regional Council Member O'Neil thanked staff for the response and asked if they were beyond the comment period. Ms. Hornstock acknowledged the question and stated this was correct.

Regional Council Member O'Neil expressed disappointment at how his request was handled.

Second Vice President Ramirez thanked Regional Council Member O'Neil for raising this issue and staff for acknowledging that there could have been more communication. She also acknowledged staff for trying to pay attention to all these things going on and stated she wanted to lift up staff because they were really carrying a heavy load and noted appreciation for them.

A MOTION was made (J. Marquez) to Receive and File Item 20. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

**AYES:** ALLEN, BECERRA, A. BROWN, BUCKNUM, CARRILLO, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GAZELEY, GOODELL, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, JUDGE, J. KALMICK, KELLY, LORIMORE, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MINAGAR, NAVA, O'NEIL, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY, PUTZ, RAMIREZ, SALEH, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SPIEGEL, TYE, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (39)

**NOES:** HUANG (1)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period for the Business Report, President's Report and Executive Director's Report.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

### **BUSINESS REPORT**

Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, stated business was delighted to be part of the work that SCAG does for both planning and investment purposes. She highlighted a recent BizFed LA poll for business leaders on homelessness, taxes, crime and education. She noted that the poll indicated that homelessness, to no surprise, had risen to the top issue for business as well. She also reported that Fran Inman was not reappointed to the California Transportation Commission. She also shared that rapidly rising inflation exports in real dollars were down over 5% and that imports continued to surge. She noted that companies were a little concerned about a possible West Coast ports strike. She also noted that although port congestion remains high, it is starting to ease from the peak backup of 109 container vessels for the ports of LA and Long Beach. She stated that the latest numbers for April 1 indicated that the total containership backup was 41. She also reported that Ms. Hornstock had made a great presentation [at the CEHD Committee] on the Chan Zuckerberg work on housing messaging. She noted that one of the things business wanted was to include builders in that effort. She also reported that local and state business leaders are continuing to look at SCAG's Regional Advance Mitigation Planning process, a good thing, but they were worried that it was getting confused with the Greenprint. She expressed they were looking forward to having some of the issues resolved. She also reported that business continues to be concerned about inflation as it did not seem to be coming down anytime soon and it was affecting the everyday working man and woman as the cost-of-living increases. Lastly, she welcomed Regional Council Members to let her know if there was anything they wanted her to bring before the Regional Council.

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**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Lorimore reported that on March 9<sup>th</sup>, SCAG and the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments held a joint meeting to discuss regional collaboration between agencies. He thanked SBCAG Board Chair, Das Williams and members of the SCAG Regional Council: Jan Harnik, Carmen Ramirez, Laura Hernandez, David Pollock and David Shapiro for their participation. He also reported that on April 5<sup>th</sup>, SCAG in partnership with CalSTA, co-hosted a listening session soliciting feedback on the Proposed Trailer Bill Language for this year’s \$1.2 billion Port Freight, Goods Movement Budget Proposal. He noted the event gathered stakeholders from all over Southern California and state and federal representatives provided insights on emerging and high priority projects for the region. He further reported they would be coming back next month after a three-year hiatus to hold their annual event in Palm Desert. He announced that they had secured the keynote speaker for their 57th Annual Regional Conference and General Assembly which was John Quiñones, a veteran of ABC News and Creator and Host of the show “What Would You Do?”, who would be exploring the dilemmas that leaders and communities face, challenge them to examine the “What Would You Do?” moments in their own lives, and offer thought-provoking takeaways. Lastly, he reported that the next Regional Council meeting was scheduled at the JW Marriott in Palm Desert on May 5, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., followed by the General Assembly at 11:00 a.m.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Given the late hour, Executive Director Ajise stated the report would be emailed to the members.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S**

There were no future agenda items.

**ANNOUNCEMENT/S**

There were no announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Lorimore adjourned the Regional Council meeting in at 2:54 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]

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