



Southern California Association of Governments
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 – Regional Council Room
Los Angeles, CA 90017
September 1, 2022

# NO. 645 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS REGIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 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.igm2.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. Jan Harnik, President		RCTC
Sup. Carmen Ramirez, 1st Vice President		Ventura County
Hon. Art Brown, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Buena Park	District 21
Hon. Clint Lorimore, Imm. Past President	Eastvale	District 4
Supervisor Luis Plancarte		Imperial County
Supervisor Kathryn Barger		Los Angeles County
Supervisor Don Wagner		Orange County
Supervisor Karen Spiegel		Riverside County
Supervisor Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County
Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich		ICTC
Hon. Brian Goodell		OCTA
Hon. Alan Wapner		SBCTA
Hon. Mike T. Judge		VCTC
Hon. Ben Benoit		Air District Representative
Hon. Kathleen Kelly	Palm Desert	District 2
Hon. Rey Santos	Beaumont	District 3
Hon. Zak Schwank	Temecula	District 5
Hon. Frank Navarro	Colton	District 6
Hon. Larry McCallon	Highland	District 7





Hon. Deborah Robertson	Rialto	District 8
Hon. L. Dennis Michael	Rancho Cucamonga	District 9
Hon. Ray Marquez	Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Fred Minagar	Laguna Niguel	District 12
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	Mission Viejo	District 13
Hon. Tammy Kim	Irvine	District 14
Hon. Diane Dixon	Newport Beach	District 15
Hon. Phil Bacerra	Santa Ana	District 16
Hon. Leticia Clark	Tustin	District 17
Hon. Kim Nguyen	Garden Grove	District 18
Hon. Trevor O'Neil	Anaheim	District 19
Hon. Joe Kalmick	Seal Beach	District 20
Hon. Marty Simonoff	Brea	District 22
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	Cerritos	District 23
Hon. Ray Hamada	Bellflower	District 24
Hon. Denise Diaz	South Gate	District 25
Hon. José Luis Solache	Lynwood	District 26
Hon. Ali Saleh	Bell	District 27
Hon. Mark E. Henderson	Gardena	District 28
Hon. Cindy Allen	Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Margaret Clark	Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	Duarte	District 35
Hon. Keith Eich	La Cañada Flintridge	District 36
Hon. Tim Sandoval	Pomona	District 38
Hon. James Gazeley	Lomita	District 39
Hon. Drew Boyles	El Segundo	District 40
Hon. Alex Fisch	Culver City	District 41
Hon. Jess Talamantes	Burbank	District 42
Hon. David J. Shapiro	Calabasas	District 44
Hon. Laura Hernandez	Port Hueneme	District 45
Hon. Claudia Bill-de la Peña	Thousand Oaks	District 46
Hon. Lorrie Brown	Ventura	District 47
Hon. Steve Manos	Lake Elsinore	District 63
Hon. Michael Posey	Huntington Beach	District 64
Hon. Elizabeth Becerra	Victorville	District 65
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	Riverside	District 68
Hon. Marisela Nava	Perris	District 69
Ms. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative





Members Not Present	<b>Members Not Present</b>	Members Not Present
Supervisor Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Hon. Peggy Huang		TCA
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker	El Centro	District 1
Hon. Randall Putz	Big Bear Lake	District 11
Hon. Rex Richardson	Long Beach	District 29
Hon. Steve De Ruse	La Mirada	District 31
Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler	Alhambra	District 34
Hon. Steve Tye	Diamond Bar	District 37
Hon. Juan Carrillo	Palmdale	District 43
Hon. Gilbert Cedillo	Los Angeles	District 48
Hon. Paul Koretz	Los Angeles	District 52
Hon. Paul Krekorian	Los Angeles	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	Los Angeles	District 50
Hon. Nithya Raman	Los Angeles	District 51
Hon. Nury Martinez	Los Angeles	District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	Los Angeles	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	Los Angeles	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	Los Angeles	District 56
Hon. Mike Bonin	Los Angeles	District 58
Hon. John Lee	Los Angeles	District 59
Hon. Mitch O'Farrell	Los Angeles	District 60
Hon. Kevin de León	Los Angeles	District 61
Hon. Joe Buscaino	Los Angeles	District 62
Hon. Marsha McLean	Santa Clarita	District 67
Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto	Coachella	District 66
Hon. Eric Garcetti	Los Angeles	Member-at-Large
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corp.	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
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 Harnik called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and asked Regional Councilmember Ray Marquez, Chino Hills, District 10, 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 Harnik announced the meeting was being held both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically).

# **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Harnik opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. She noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. She reminded the public to submit comments via email to ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, 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 Harnik 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 Harnik opened the Public Comment Period.

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





A MOTION was made (A. Brown) that the Regional Council (RC): (1) ratify the prior actions of the Executive/Administration Committee taken at its June 1, 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 (Navarro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

AYES: Allen, Bacerra, Barger, Becerra, Benoit, Bill-de la Peña, Boyles, A. Brown, L. Brown,

Bucknum, L. Clark, M. Clark, Diaz, Dixon, Eich, Finlay, Fisch, Gazeley, Goodell, Hamada, Harnik, Henderson, Hernandez, Judge, J. Kalmick, Kelly, Kim, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, Manos, Marquez, McCallon, Michael, Minagar, Nava, Nava-Froelich, Navarro, Nguyen, O'Neil, Plancarte, Posey, Ramirez, Robertson, Saleh, Sandoval, Santos, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Solache, Spiegel, Talamantes, Wagner, Wapner

and Yokoyama (55)

NOES: NONE (0)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

President Harnik announced she would be providing the President's report.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Harnik announced Presidential appointments for the following policy committees: CEHD: Debra Dorst-Porada, City of Ontario (Member at Large), John Mirisch, City of Beverly Hills (Member at Large), and Misty Perez, Port Hueneme (Member at Large); EEC: Jesus Silva, City of Fullerton (Member at Large); and TC: Jeremy Smith, City of Canyon Lake (Member at Large) and Paul Marquez, Caltrans District 7 (Ex-Officio). She provided an update on the three new subcommittees which are Next Generation Infrastructure, Resilience & Conservation, and Racial Equity and Regional Planning. She noted that the subcommittees would be comprised of members from each County who will develop and make recommendations to the SCAG Policy Committees on how to address each issue within Connect SoCal. She informed members that following this meeting, the Clerk would send an email asking for their interest in serving on one of the subcommittees and





noted that subcommittee participation was open to both Regional Council and Policy Committee members. She informed members that the survey would be open through the month of July and appointments would be announced mid-August, with the first meetings starting in mid- to- late September. She provided an update on the EAC retreat and thanked the members of the EAC and SCAG staff for participating in an energizing and productive session. She noted that the conversations set the stage for a successful year of unity and collaboration to work on the region's work plan together. She stated that staff will bring back a draft President's work plan at the September EAC for review/input with the intent to bring back to October EAC and RC for approval and other quarterly progress reports. She also mentioned that interviews with the strategic plan consultant were underway for EAC members and that after the EAC provides input, the consultant will begin outreach and data collection with stakeholders and members of the Regional Council. She also reported that they spent significant time at the retreat regarding their current schedule for RC and PC meetings. She noted that one option would be to maintain the existing meeting date (the first Thursday of the month) but have PC meetings start earlier in the morning and increase the length of the RC meeting. Another option would be to move the PC meetings to a different day and/or week from when the RC meets and stagger the PC meetings on that new day. She noted that both options would continue to offer the opportunity to participate remotely. She indicated that in order to further evaluate these options, SCAG staff would be sending a survey to all members asking for their opinion and potential availability with respect to these two options and once this information is compiled, the EAC will have further discussion on this topic. On the legislative front, she reported that they met with Assemblymember Laurie Davies, from South Orange County, a member of the transportation and appropriations committees, for a discussion on public safety, RHNA reform, and funding equity for Southern California, especially as it relates to goods movement. She thanked 1st Vice President Carmen Ramirez, 2nd Vice President Art Brown, Immediate Past President Clint Lorimore, LCMC Chair Peggy Huang, as well as RC Members Wendy Bucknum, Fred Minagar and Don Wagner for joining her in that meeting. She reported that legislature recently approved a \$79 million budget allocation to build a new Student Center Building at the Cal State San Bernardino. She thanked Assemblymembers Chad Mayes and Eduardo Garcia. Lastly, she noted that the next meeting of the Regional Council meeting was scheduled on September 1, 2022 at 12:30 p.m.

# **INFORMATION ITEM**

2. 2021-22 CivicSpark Housing Fellows: Regional Affordable Housing Initiative

President Harnik opened the Public Comment Period.

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



Ms. Clare Blackwell provided a brief overview of the CivicSpark program, a statewide Governor's Initiative AmeriCorps program administered by the CivicWell, which gives fellows professional development opportunities while building capacity for local jurisdictions to address resilience challenges. She explained that the fellows supported the implementation of Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) program, specifically in support of housing planning to advance SCAG's region wide goals outlined in Connect SoCal to help jurisdictions meet their Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) goals. Her presentation also addressed how the fellows help provide technical assistance to support REAP subrecipients in applying for or expending program resources, which helped build capacity for sub recipients to implement new housing programs, particularly efforts to increase Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) production.

Ms. Angelica Gonzalez, CivicSpark Housing Fellow, reported that their ADU research goals involve reviewing and sharing internally with housing staff ADU permit data reported in the Annual Progress Reports (APR) to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) from local jurisdictions. She explained that as they tracked ADU permit data for recent years they analyzed growth trends to determine which jurisdictions were thriving in ADU developments. She also shared that Garden Grove was leading in ADU permits and was fourth in the SCAG region. She briefly explained that the region had experienced growth in ADU production from 2018 to 2021 and that ADU's were contributing to the overall housing production in the region. Lastly, she noted that the goal was to share this research externally with local jurisdictions and for this reason had delivered this research in an ADU story map.

Ms. Isabel Goldfarb, CivicSpark Housing Fellow, shared that they developed a story map about ADU's for SCAG's housing and a new web page and explained that the story map exhibits the benefits of ADU's for renters, residents, communities and cities through human centered stories. She further explained that it highlights innovative ADU practices in the SCAG region to promote multiple avenues of support for ADU development. She indicated that the story map illustrates ADU permitting progress across the SCAG region and promotes SCAG's current work regarding ADU's. She noted the story map would be available on SCAG's website mid-July. Lastly, her presentation featured jurisdictions with innovative ADU practices, which include Garden Grove, Pasadena and Los Angeles.

Ms. Blackwell noted that next steps would be share their deliverables with CivicSpark staff and project partners. She thanked the housing team for their support over the past two years.

Regional Councilmember Lorrie Brown, Ventura, District 477, expressed interest in finding out how many different types of uses they have with ADU's. She also requested information on ADU permitting that would help coastal cities or cities with hillsides.

# **ACTION ITEM**



## 3. REAP 2.0 Framework and Program Status Update

President Harnik opened the Public Comment Period.

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

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that in June the Executive Administration Committee (EAC) reviewed and recommended that the Regional Council approve the Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program (REAP) for the Program Development Framework. He explained that SCAG's REAP 2.0 Framework outlines the core objectives, guiding principles, programmatic areas, major milestones and schedule for allocating the \$246M that SCAG is eligible to apply for through REAP 2.0. He indicated that staff was seeking approval of the Framework to guide additional outreach to inform the development of the specific funding programs and projects to be included in the full REAP 2.0 Program application, which will be going to HCD before the December 31, 2022 deadline. He expressed staff was pleased to be bringing this item forward after nearly a year of conversations with the EAC, Policy Committees, Regional Council and stakeholders on how to align the REAP 2.0 program with board priorities and state funding requirements. He explained that the Framework does limit how SCAG will allocate its REAP 2.0 funds but does establish some guideposts to ensure that as we move forward with the development of more detailed program guidelines and project selection that we have clear policy direction from the board. He further noted that the Framework outlines major milestones and decision points in the program development process so there is transparency around the timing of key decisions to be brought back to the Policy Committees and the Regional Council for approval.

Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning, reiterated that the framework outlines the core objectives, the guiding principles, the major programmatic areas and milestones and schedule for allocating the funds that are available to SCAG through the REAP 2.0 program. She explained that these core objectives align with the state statute that created the funding program, and HCD draft guidelines; SCAG's Connect SoCal implementation strategy, which was developed as a companion piece to the adopted 2020 plan; and the EAC strategic work plan that was initiated by the board last June. She noted that these core objectives include supporting transformative planning and implementation activities that realize Connect SoCal objectives; leverage and augment the Connect SoCal Implementation Strategy to support activities that can be implemented quickly and in line with the pandemic recovery priorities; building regional capacity to deliver housing that realizes the six cycle RHNA goals; represent best practices in VMT reduction; and promote infill development in priority growth areas. She further explained that along with the core objectives, the framework also includes some guiding principles for staff as they put together the different programs that would meet these core objectives. She highlighted some of those guiding principles as follows:



- develop a program with balance of formula allocations and competitive programs to ensure that the funding supports critical planning and implementation activities across the region, while also prioritizing the most regionally impactful projects;
- include Early Program Initiatives to provide immediate benefits to the region that can be implemented in time to support the 2024 plan;
- develop funding guidelines specific to Housing Supportive Infrastructure Program and a
  County Transportation Commission (CTC) Partnership Program or for any other subprograms for which SCAG will allocate money either by formula or competitive program.
  These guidelines would be brought back to the policy committees and board for approval
  along with a recommendation for the amount of funding from the program to be set aside
  for each of the programs included in those guidelines;
- at least 80% in full application will be suballocated through formula or competitive competition to partners to meet the project implementation; and
- work to balance funding allocations according to equity considerations and ensure under resourced areas are not left out.

She also highlighted three main program areas which include the Early Program Initiatives, the Housing Supportive Infrastructure Program, and the CTC Partnership Program. She explained that the final section of the framework was a schedule that outlines in more detail when they might expect to see the guidelines and the various programs that staff was looking to develop and move forward for board consideration. She also noted that they had done some additional outreach since the EAC approved the framework in June. Specifically, they had accelerated a lot of their efforts around the engagement for the Housing Supportive Infrastructure Program, which included partnering with the sub regions to do outreach to cities and counties to better understand their needs; targeted engagement sessions with community-based organizations and housing developers; one on one meetings with housing trust funds; and tribal engagement. Lastly, she indicated they were looking forward to the opportunity to host an Industry Forum to help define the utility infrastructure program.

Regional Council Member Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, suggested having a conversation with staff about private housing trusts. Ms. Jepson noted they were looking forward to have more conversations to understand where the gaps are and where these resources can help fill in.

A MOTION was made (Finlay) to adopt SCAG's REAP 2021 Program Development Framework. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

**AYES:** 

Allen, Bacerra, Barger, Becerra, Benoit, Bill-de la Peña, Boyles, A. Brown, L. Brown, Bucknum, L. Clark, M. Clark, Diaz, Dixon, Eich, Finlay, Fisch, Gazeley, Goodell, Hagman, Hamada, Harnik, Henderson, Hernandez, Judge, J. Kalmick, Kelly, Kim, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, Manos, Marquez, McCallon, Minagar, Nava, Nava-Froelich,





Navarro, Nguyen, O'Neil, Plancarte, Posey, Ramirez, Robertson, Saleh, Sandoval, Santos, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Spiegel, Talamantes, Wagner, Wapner and Yokoyama (54)

NOES: NONE (0)

**ABSTAIN:** NONE (0)

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

President Harnik opened the Public Comment Period.

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

First Vice President Carmen Ramirez, Ventura, reported that the President, Jenna Hornstock, Deputy Director of Land Use, and she had been invited to attend a conference on social housing in Vienna. She indicated that Vienna was one of the most affordable cities on the planet and that this was a great opportunity for SCAG learn about what was going on in Vienna and to bring some of that back. She noted that housing was one of the more critical issues in our state and in our region.

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, reported that SCAG was invited to participate in a trip to Vienna for social housing. He indicated that this trip had been put together by a group from California with about 40 leaders from throughout the state looking to learn from what Vienna was doing. He expressed that timing was particularly important as they were in the midst of finalizing the REAP grant program. He stated they looked forward to hearing what the delegation brings back.

President Harnik clarified that Item No. 7 for objective development standards bundle was not an electrical vehicle charging study but instead was technical assistance to that effort. She also noted that on Item No. 6 she would be recusing herself and registering such a vote because she had a real property conflict of interest on this item.

# **Approval Items**

- 4. Minutes of the Meeting June 2, 2022
- 5. Approve Two Regional Council Members' (President and First Vice President) and SCAG One Staff Member's Participation in the Vienna Social Housing Field Study, Sept 11-17, 2022
- 6. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-047-MRFP- 24, Palmdale Housing Project



- 7. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-047-MRFP-29, Objective Development Standards Bundle (Non-Los Angeles County)
- 8. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-034-C01, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) Wilshire Center/Koreatown Network Visioning & Quick Build Implementation
- 9. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-042-C01, SCP Call 3 GoSGV Engagement & Evaluation
- 10. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-050-C01, City of Banning Comprehensive Active Transportation Plan & City of Lynwood Safe Routes to School Plan
- 11. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-059-C01, Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) (the 2024 RTP/SCS)
- 12. Release of Transportation Conformity Analyses of Draft 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Draft 2020 Connect SoCal Amendment #2
- 13. Release of Draft 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Draft Connect SoCal (2020 RTP/SCS) Amendment 2 for Public Review and Comment
- 14. Two Transit Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) Substitution by Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)
- 15. Housing Bills of Interest
- 16. Transportation Bills of Interest

# Receive and File

- 17. July 2022 State and Federal Legislative Update
- 18. RHNA Reform Timeline
- 19. REAP 1.0 Biannual Program Update
- 20. Initial Findings for Connect SoCal CEQA Addendum No. 3 to Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse #2019011061)



- 21. Connect SoCal 2024 Draft Vision, Goals, and Performance Measures
- 22. Equity Analysis Update (formerly Environmental Justice Analysis) Performance Measures
- 23. Regional Campaign Efforts for the Affordable Connectivity Program
- 24. Status Update on Transportation Conformity Challenges in SCAG Region
- 25. Go Human Mini-Grant Awards to Improve Traffic Safety
- 26. Purchase Orders \$5,000 \$199,999; Contracts \$25,000 \$199,999 and Amendments \$5,000 \$74,999
- 27. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Simonoff) to approve Consent Calendar Items 4 through 16; Receive and File Items 17 through 27. Motion was SECONDED (Finlay). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

AYES: Allen, Bacerra, Barger, Becerra, Benoit, Bill-de la Peña, Boyles, A. Brown, L. Brown,

Bucknum, L. Clark, M. Clark, Diaz, Dixon, Eich, Finlay, Fisch, Gazeley, Goodell, Hagman, Hamada, Harnik, Henderson, Hernandez, Judge, Kalmick, Kelly, Kim, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, Manos, Marquez, McCallon, Michael, Minagar, Nava, Nava-Froelich, Navarro, Nguyen, O'Neil, Plancarte, Posey, Ramirez, Robertson, Saleh, Santos, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Solache, Spiegel, Talamantes, Wagner, Wapner

and Yokoyama (55)

NOES: NONE (0)

**ABSTAIN:** Posey and Spiegel (2) on Item No. 4; and Harnik (1) on Item No. 6

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

Ms. Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, provided an update on the economy and housing. She noted that the national level unemployment was very low, jobs plentiful and wages were rising pretty sharply, but inflation continued to remain historically high. She further noted that the Federal Reserve was focused on bringing down inflation even if it meant forcing a short and shallow recession. She reported that housing mortgage rates had gone from record lows to over 5%, slowing home sales and it was having a ripple effect through the southern California economy. She





highlighted that even though employment numbers were good, the actions of the Fed to slow inflation were taking a toll on the homebuilding industry, foreshadowing layoffs in mortgage escrow customer service. She indicated that consumer spending was around 70% of all economic activity.

She reported that on June 30, the U.S. Supreme Court denied the California trucking Association's petition challenge to AB 5, a 2019 law that precludes independent truckers from providing trucking services unless those services are outside the usual course of the hiring entity's business. She noted that the Ninth Circuit transmitted a mandate to the district court to lift the preliminary injunction which had prevented enforcement against these truckers. She stated that this meant that a sizable portion of California's trucking capacity was now at risk. She explained that 71% of trucking companies in California operate a single truck and that these single truck operators represent 20% of the California registered truck capacity with significantly more of the capacity likely impacted and there was no accommodation under AB 5 for trucks based outside of California. She noted that a business coalition letter was currently being circulated, addressed to Governor Newsom and legislative leadership asking for a short term pause in the enforcement of AB 5 and urging a negotiated compromise to avoid further supply chain disruptions. She indicated that business leaders asked if SCAG would add this to future items for discussion among the leadership.

With respect to the CARB scoping plan, she reported that a number of the business groups have summarized concerns to reduce greenhouse gases and make California carbon neutral. She indicated that everyone was supportive of the climate change goals, but the current CARB proposal ignores important data for business. She stated businesses were predicting that it was going to affect working families, housing, and the economy in California. She expressed that one of the things that really troubles them [business] is the update apparently includes capping urban expansion to 6% and makes any housing that is not at least 20 units and two to three stories tall almost impossible to build, exacerbating the housing shortage.

Additionally, she reported that the next GLUE Councill meeting was August 8<sup>th</sup> and that the last meeting was very robust. She expressed she was thrilled to have both President Harnik and First Vice President Ramirez meet with them to discuss their two-year agenda, which was particularly focused on broadband. Lastly, she reported that Rabbi Rick Steinberg was putting together, with a whole ecumenical Coalition, a summit on anti semitism and hate at UCI on August 30<sup>th</sup>.

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Kome Ajise provided an update on the CARB 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan and noted that SCAG sent a letter expressing concern about their strategies. He stated they were asking them to discuss the potential effectiveness of those strategies and the cost of the strategies that are proposed. He stated they were looking forward to working with CARB as they finalize the Scoping Plan and bring it for a vote in the fall. He provided an update on the Local Data Exchange



(LDX), he reported that they were scheduling one on one meetings with all 197 local jurisdictions. He indicated they would also provide training to the jurisdictions on the available tools in the Regional Data Platform (RDP). He also provided an update on RAMP and Greenprint developments. He noted that as directed by the Regional Council last October, the advisory task group (ATG) had met five times and were looking forward to the last meeting to review and hopefully approve the draft policy framework for the RAMP that will go to the Energy and Environment Committee and the Regional Council. He also reported that SB 197, the bill that extends rezoning deadlines for housing elements, was approved. SCAG jurisdictions that missed the February deadline but adopt a compliant housing element by October 15, 2022 will be able to have until February 2025 to rezone. He also noted that SB 197 also extends a few other deadlines like RHNA Reform. Basically, the deadline for the State's report on RHNA reform to the Legislature has been extended from the end of this year to December 31, 2023. He also reported that AB 197 also extended the REAP 1.0 expenditure deadline by another year and funds must be expended by December 2024. Mr. Ajise also reported that AB 2237 by Assemblymember Laura Friedman was held over. He expressed that it was wise that our LCMC and Regional Council chose to oppose unless amended and thought it helped continue the conversation. He also shared SCAG attended the NARC annual conference in Columbus, Ohio and had shared SCAG's Regional Data Platform. He noted that SCAG received an Achievement Award for the Housing Policy Leadership Academy. Additionally, he reported that SCAG joined Mobility21's annual trip to Washington, D.C. and met with several legislators like Congressman Pete Aguilar, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez from Cerritos, Senator Alex Padilla, and Charles Small, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Transportation. Lastly, he welcomed Ana Vallianatos who had joined SCAG as the new Department Manager of Communication and Public Affairs.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S**

There were no future agenda items.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT/S**

Regional Council Member Finlay, Duarte, District 35, announce the passing of Duarte Councilmember Tzeitel Paras-Caracci and asked that the meeting be adjourned in her memory.

## <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

There being no further business, President Harnik adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 2:00 p.m. in memory of Tzeitel Paras-Caracci.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]