



**REPORT** 

Southern California Association of Governments

March 6, 2025

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC) THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC). AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <a href="http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/">http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/</a>.

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

# **Members Present**

Sup. Curt Hagman, President		San Bernardino County							
Hon. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice President	Long Beach	District 30							
Hon. Ray Marquez, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Chino Hills	District 10							
Hon. Jan Harnik, Imm. Past President	RCTC	Riverside							
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD	Calabasas	District 44							
Hon Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair CEHD	Simi Valley	District 46							
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, Chair EEC	Santa Paula	District 47							
Hon. Lauren Meister, Vice Chair EEC	West Hollywood	District 41							
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38							
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC	VCTC	Ventura County							
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68							
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13							
Hon. Alan Wapner, President's Appt.	SBCTA	San Bernardino							
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corp.	TGRPB Representative							

# **Members Not Present**

Hon. Margaret Finlay, Vice Chair LCMC	Duarte	District 35
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	Member-At-Large
Hon Tarry McCallon President's Annt		Air District Renresenta

Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.

Hon. Lucy Dunn

Air District Representative

Business Representative

# **Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director



Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

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

President Curt Hagman called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Hagman opened the Public Comment Period.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged there were no written public comments received before or after the deadline.

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

## **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

#### **ACTION ITEM**

1. SCAG Participation in Vienna Social Housing Field Study: International Best Practices in Mixed-Income Housing, April 6-12, 2025

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that this trip was organized under the auspices of the LA County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHSA). He explained it was a statutory set up agency, and he, as SCAG's Executive Director sat on the board as a member. He explained this trip was organized to expose the LACAHSA Board to other modes of housing, and the Vienna trip was being led by the Global Policy Leadership Academy. He stated they did a trip twice a year. He reported they had an opportunity to send a board member and a staff person two years ago. He stated they were bringing this item before them, as he could not travel without their approval.



President Hagman asked if they could take the vote on this item together with the Consent Calendar.

Board Counsel Duran stated this was the discretion of the Chair and the committee.

President Hagman asked for a motion to include Action Item 1 and Consent Calendar Items 2 through 5 and Receive and File items 6 through 7.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

## Approval Items

- 2. Minutes of the Meeting December 5, 2024
- 3. AB 226 (Calderon & Alvarez) California FAIR Plan Association
- 4. 2025-26 State Legislative Platform Update
- 5. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

## Receive and File

- 6. Purchase Orders, Contract, and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
- 7. CFO Monthly Report

There were no public comments for Items 1 through 7.

A MOTION was made (Harnik) to approve Item 1 and the Consent Items 2 through 5 and Receive and File Items 6 through 7. Motion was SECONDED (Sandoval) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Marquez,

Rhodes, Sandoval and Wapner (11)

NOES: None (0)



**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

#### **INFORMATION ITEM**

8. Fifteen Years of Sustainable Communities Strategies in Southern California

Sarah Dominguez, Department Manager, provided a presentation on Item 8. She shared with the members they had been planning under the SB 375 Sustainable Community Strategies framework in the State of California for about 15 years now, since the California Air Resources Board first set their targets. During her presentation she shared some of the reflections on the changes and progress they had made in the region to date because they were on the cusp of a new target setting update process led by the California Air Resources Board. She also shared they were about to begin their fifth combined Regional Transportation Plan, Sustainable Community Strategy which was anticipated to be adopted in 2028.

After the presentation, Ms. Dominguez addressed member questions regarding 15-minute neighborhoods, population growth and migration, and VMT.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

There were no public comments for Item 8.

## **CFO REPORT**

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update on the progress of executing SCAG's existing programs. She also provided an update on the work they had been completing for REAP 2.0. She shared their goal was to have all of their MOU's executed by the end of March and were on track to accomplish that goal. She also reported they were busy preparing their fiscal year 26 budget which would be presented to the board the following month. She stated the budget included some exciting work for the region. Lastly, she stated the CFO report was a quarterly report and included the CFO charts as well as planning project highlights.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Hagman referred to the previous information item stating that in watching the news a lot of things were changing. He then asked that the Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer, Javiera Cartagena, provide the members with legislative updates during the next few months. He





stated that much of what they did in planning was federal policy or funds and things were changing daily. President Hagman stated the General Assembly registration opened February 10<sup>th</sup>. He stated this would be their 60th anniversary event. He stated they had to make sure no one missed this annual gathering with the region's public and private sector leaders May 1-2 at the JW Marriott in Palm Desert. He reported the next EAC meeting would be on March 6th.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Ajise stated that later that morning they would have a Joint Policy Committee meeting. He thanked President Hagman for allowing them to repurpose the meeting to deal with the emergent issues of the fires to talk about rebuilding and resiliency. He reported they were going to have Dr. Lucy Jones lead off with a context setting conversation about disaster and disaster relief. He stated they had a panel of folks that were working currently under fires and [others] that have worked around such fires. He shared that Amy Bodek from the County Regional Planning Department was leading some task forces on rebuilding and future planning. He stated Steve Soboroff, Chief Recovery Officer for the City of LA, would be there supported by Vince Bertone, who was the Planning Director for the City of LA. He shared Nuin-Tara Key had worked at the state level and had worked on the Sonoma County and the Paradise fires, bringing some experience on the overarching view of it. He stated this promised to be an interesting conversation. He stated this was the beginning of conversations about resiliency. He stated that after the fire, he got a call from Council Member Rhodes and thought it was instructive, [as far as] the perspective that a lot of cities had about what they could do differently because these are the kinds of events they expect more recurrently than what these things used to be. Executive Director Ajise then touched on AB 226, the California FAIR Plan. He stated this bill was authored by Assembly Members Lisa Calderon and David Alvarez and sponsored by the California BIA. He stated this bill was intended to address the potential liquidity challenges the FAIR Plan might face in the event of a major catastrophe, such as a wildfire, by allowing it to request the issuance of bonds through California's IBank. He stated they were following this closely as they had interest in it. He shared this item was discussed at the LCMC meeting. Furthermore, he reported SCAG received a Corrective Action letter from Caltrans in November. He stated it discussed recommendations and some process improvements. He stated this had been shared with the Audit Committee. He reminded members that the audit finding was that SCAG was able to adequately support its incurred costs resulting in a zero-dollar finding, meaning they did not ask for any money back, however pointed out some gaps in their processing along the areas of time charging and how they represent match and things like that. He shared SCAG was working with the state, as they had a year to fully implement the requirements meaning the state would be back to follow up. The Executive Director also provided an update on the Mojave Desert Highway Sanction Clock. He explained this was a very technical issue, but it was one that was very important to SCAG. He shared SCAG had three Air Districts within the region and in this case the Mojave Desert had a situation where the EPA disapproved their local air quality plan and rules. He stated that as a result, it triggered a 24-month highway sanction clock, which meant that over



the next 24 months, if things were not improving there would be a highway sanction which would stop project approvals at the federal level in that air district. He explained this was a very serious matter for SCAG, and they continued to pay attention to it. He stated they were talking about hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of projects that could be implicated. He stated they wanted to bring this to the members' attention and would continue to update them as they work to resolve this matter with both the state and federal agencies.

After the Executive Director's report, Mr. Ajise addressed questions brought up by the members regarding his report.

There were no public comments for the CFO report, President's report, or the Executive Director's report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Hagman adjourned the Meeting of the Executive Administration Committee at 9:44 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]
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#### Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

2024-25																	
MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	6-Jun	27-Jun	28-Jun	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Hon. Curt Hagman, President, Chair		San Bernardino County	1	1	1	1		1		1	1		1				8
Hon. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice Chair	Long Beach	District 30	1	1	1	1		0		1	0		1				6
Hon. Ray Marquez, 2nd Vice Chair	Chino Hills	District 10	1	1	1	1		1		1	1		1				8
Hon. Jan Harnik, Imm. Past President	Buena Park	RCTC	1	1	1	1	D	1	D	1	1	D	1				8
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD	Calabasas	District 44	1	1	1	1		1		1	1		1				8
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair, CEHD	Simi Valley	District 46	1	1	1	1		1		1	0		1				7
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, Chair, EEC	Santa Paula	District 47	1	1	1	1		1		1	1		1				8
Hon. Lauren Mister, Vice Chair, EEC	West Hollywood	District 41					Α		Α			Α	1				1
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38	0	0	1	1		0		0	0		1				3
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC		VCTC	1	0	0	1		1		1	1		1				6
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68	0	1	1	1		1		1	1		1				7
Hon. Margaret Finlay, Vice Chair, LCMC	Duarte	District 35											0				0
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	Member-At-Large		0	0	1		0		1	1		0				3
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13	1	0	1	1		1		1	1		1				7
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.		Air District Representative		1	1	1	K	1	K	1	1	K	0				6
Hon. Alan Wapner, President's Appt.		SBCTA											1				1
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	0	1	1	1		1		0	1		1				6
Ms. Lucy Dunn, Ex-Officio Member	Lucy Dunn Strategic Issues Mar	Business Representative	0	1	1	1		1		1	0		0				5
			9	11	13	15	0	12	C	13	11	0	14	0	0	0	98