

Connect SoCal 2024 Outreach: Community Partner Engagement Events Summary

Organization Name	Engagement Date	Event/Engagement Description	Estimated Number of Individuals Providing Feedback	Feedback Highlights (3-4 sentences).	Were there areas of widespread agreement or consensus? If so, please describe.	Did participants disagree with any themes, policies, or interventions? If so, please describe.	Did participants offer suggestions to improve the goals or underlying policies that will inform Connect SoCal? If so, please describe.
Central City Neighborhood Partners	4/19/2023	During CCNP's Youth Council meeting, youth ages 14-18 were asked to give their opinion on the Connect SoCal plan.	0-24	Many of the youth were intrigued by the plan and wanted to learn more about how they can get involved. Many raised great points on ways to improve their community and their curiosity among the proposed plans.	Many youths were asking how to make the streets safer, how to increase the frequency of busses, how to move the bus shelters to a safer location, and if solar panels be installed in the building, homes, and other places in the next few years	No, youth really wanted to do something about the homelessness crisis	N/a
Central City Neighborhood Partners	5/11/2023	During a nutrition course, CCNP engaged community members on the Connect SoCal Plan and informed community members on the different goals that are being addressed during this plan.	0-24	Community members were really engaged and wanted to learn more about what it means to create more jobs closer to where individuals live. Many also brought up the homelessness crisis and how they can work in community to address the concerns.	Many were in agreed with the proposed plan and loved the idea of creating more spaces that are adequate for their children.	Many agreed to having more affordable housing, however wanted to know how that would help the homelessness crisis. Many raised that building homes is not always the answer as they may end up abandoned, and the need for more support.	Some suggested issuing tickets for those who litter or being more vigilant on property. Some suggested more frequent trash pick up and more access to locations with light.
Central City Neighborhood Partners	5/16/2023	CCNP hosted an in person event and invited community members to join us as we review the Connect SoCal Plan and gather their feedback.	0-24	Many participants were curious to know when these changes would be made and who was priority population that could apply for the affordable homes proposed. Many were in agreement with creating more parks for their children, but emphasized that they need to be safe and the need for more security. Lastly their was a huge concern for the trash and how to keep the streets clean.	Many were in agreement with creating more homes, more parks and creating a community this is walkable and safe.	Participants wanted more information on how these interventions would affect them, specifically regarding housing. Many having been on the waitlist for affordable housing and wanted to know how this plan would affect their placement.	n/a
Central City Neighborhood Partners	5/19/2023	CCNP organized an in person event and invited community members to learn more on the connect SoCal plan and share their thoughts.	0-24	Many participants were in agreement with the plan and how can this plan help address the homelessness crisis. They were also curious to learn more on how this plan can help street vendors, as many take up the streets people walk on and if there can be a designated spot for street vendors. Additionally, how they can increase the number of times the bus/metro passes.	A big consensus on community and how to keep community safe. Issues surrounding safety arose and how to work together to keep themselves safe.	Participants where not in disagreement, however wanted representatives from SCAG to come and see their community so they can witness and see their areas of concern.	Having representatives from SCAG/ SoCal come see their community and see the different areas that they uplifted, homelessness, trash, safety. They also suggested that SCAG have a comment box, where they are able to write or send in pictures of what they are seeing around their community.
Day One	5/10/2023	This is a weekly meeting of middle and high school students participating in a youth mentoring program at Day One in Pasadena	0-24	We presented the slide deck provided and then talked about how their opinions are important since the plan will affect their future. Feedback varied, but some students mentioned wanting more green space, a few expressed recognition of the importance of the plan, and a few talked about how transportation should be a bigger community focus. One student wrote: "I say it's important because a lot of people can't afford cars or ways of transportation that they take the bus." Another student mentioned she'd like more Metro stations and more buses. One student told us he'd like more bike lanes.	The students gave their feedback on comment sheets so we didn't have the opportunity to have consensus.	No	No
Day One	5/22/2023	This was a Zoom meeting/presentation with members of the Foothill League of Women Voters, Pasadena 100 and Pasadena Complete Streets Coalition.	0-24	The attendees are active in Pasadena related to environmental concerns and mobility. Pasadena 100 is a group advocating for carbon free energy in Pasadena, so they were most interested in environmental goals of Connect SoCal. A number of attendees told me they never really knew what SCAG is and what it does, so they appreciated the presentation. The majority of attendees said they would do the survey online and a couple of the attendees were interested in the remaining workshops.	I'm not sure I can declare a consensus among the attendees although they all shared concerns about the environment and all the ways to reduce GHGs. The three organizations they represented are all very active in Pasadena advocating for local solutions. For them, expanding their perspective to the whole SCAG region seemed to be interesting and relevant for them.	No	A few attendees seemed surprised that the Inflation Reduction Act was not mentioned in the slides and wanted to know if that will be included or mentioned in the plan.

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Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks	5/9/2023	The Southland Power in Nature Regional Group hosted a talk by Amy L. White, policy consultant for Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks about how to participate in SCAG's current Connect SoCal planning document development.	0-24	The participants were very interested in learning about advance mitigation to fund conservation efforts and want to be kept abreast of future Connect SoCal participation opportunities.	There is widespread agreement that community participation in the document development is critical.	Everyone agreed that in order for conservation and environmental policies to be adequately addressed, the community must be actively involved.	Not necessarily.
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks	5/15/2023	Southland Region Power in Nature Working Group hosts Amy White, policy consultant for Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks who presents Connect SoCal: Policy Planning for the Future of the SCAG Region Join us to discuss the Southern California Association of Governments' Connect SoCal Plan, how its policies can ensure future conservation success, and how to participate in designing new policies.	0-24	Many of the participants were there to learn about the Connect SoCal plan and didn't necessarily have direct feedback during the meetings. Questions about how to align non-profit conservation work with mitigation, 30x30, and Connect SoCal were mentioned several times. Another concept raised was how SCAG's work aligned (or didn't) with that of the conservation community and how SCAG could (or couldn't) be trusted	Consensus was reached that alignment of conservation work (land protection, restoration, reclamation, etc.) could bolster both the community driven work and meet the needs of SCAG and its partner agencies. For example, if the housing mandate is something SCAG promotes, the 30x30 mandate should also be promoted.	There were no disagreements--simply questions. Two key questions were (1) why is there only one group promoting the Connect SoCal outreach effort and (2) what does the conservation community have to benefit from if it gets involved?	No suggestions were offered per se, but the FHBP environment-focused survey results were helpful in understanding what the conservation community aims to do and issues it wants to resolve. The definition of conservation should be as broad and inclusive as possible (i.e., not just land protection, but also restoration, resilience, and reclamation).
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks	5/2/2023	California Association of Governments' Connect SoCal Plan, how its policies can ensure future conservation success, and how to participate in designing new policies.	25-49	Conservation needs to be called out separate from land use since it is a pillar of the plan. Conservation funding opportunities should be highlighted. SCAG should be told its conservation goals should align with 30x30 with the goal of 50x50. There should be space made at the roundtable (collaborative) for conservation groups	conservation and the environment are critical topics to be included throughout the document	Participants are relieved the environment is one of the four pillars.	See answer to question to feedback highlights
Latino Health Access	5/19/2023	We met with our youth participants to present the project and gather feedback. They learned about the project and gave their recommendations to ensure these plans are also youth-friendly.	0-24	The youth provided feedback on housing quality and quantity. They are concerned about their ability to obtain quality housing options in the future for themselves and their families. They also expressed concern about the environment, especially the air pollution. Other comments were relating to affordable healthcare and increasing ADA amenities.	Yes, there were areas of widespread agreement. All the youth agreed there is a housing crisis and they would like the housing access and quality to improve in our region for the future. They also all agreed we need to make improvements to the bike and pedestrian infrastructure.	No	N/A
Latino Health Access	5/22/2023	We presented virtually to our organization staff and to receive their feedback. It was a very interactive session, and participants provided tremendous feedback on the four categories of mobility, environment, economy, and communities using breakout rooms. The session was held in Spanish.	0-24	The group was very engaged with all of the topic areas discussed. For mobility, participants emphasized increasing access and safety for all who are on the streets, including wheelchair users. For environment, the group focused on reducing road congestion, improving cleanliness of streets, and creating programs to increase use of recycled materials. For economy, the major theme was access for small businesses to thrive. Lastly, for community, fair housing, housing and road safety, and reducing the amount of liquor and/or other substances in disinvested zip codes were the main themes.	Yes, the group agreed they envision an increase in access and equity to safer roads, housing, and healthy options for the next generation. They also agreed there should be more assistance programs for housing since the current climate is making it harder for people to obtain their own housing.	Participants only disagreed with the cycle of increased taxes and cost of living. This exacerbates issues that affect the low-income and disinvested zip codes in our region.	They suggested to analyze more impacts based on zip codes/areas since each is impacted by mobility, environment, housing, and community differently.
Latino Health Access	5/24/2023	We met with a group of participants and opened it up to their families to learn about active transportation and the Connect SoCal project. They were very engaged, learned a lot, and provided a lot of feedback for the following topic areas: communities, mobility, economy, and equity & resilience.	0-24	The participants emphasized how a lot of our community members from low-income households are the most impacted by a lot of our region's issues. They advocated for more equitable public transportation options, job opportunities, and quality housing options. We held the session in a World Cafe Style so everyone would have the opportunity to add comments to each topic.	The consensus was on the topics of accessible housing, public transportation, and education/awareness. The group spoke about increasing wages to allow people to access more accessible and high quality housing. Regarding public transportation, they mentioned increasing bus and train options, with more route options and fewer waiting times.	N/A	The participants suggested more consistent survey collection to detect more of the community problems. They also suggested making public transportation options more accessible for all. The suggestion was to make it free.
Los Amigos de la Comunidad, Inc.	4/16/2023	Family/Community event with family entertainment and music. Community vendors attended and Los Amigos informed and engaged the public through out the event. We also had a both where participants could attend for further engagement and take the survey.	25-49	People were unaware of SCAG and this process. They wanted to add areas that were not a focus. Persons were willing to complete the survey while others were not willing to complete it.	They was agreement in the lack of opportunities (jobs) and the concern of low paying jobs.	Participants were agreement in that change was needed and that planning was needed as well.	People felt that training was necessary and outreach to the community on where and how to apply for jobs.

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Los Amigos de la Comunidad, Inc.	5/6/2023	A local Health Center celebrating mother's day with it's clients	25-49	Participants were not familiar with SCAG or this process. They were appreciative of the explanation and efforts. Participants were glad that they were getting an opportunity to complete the survey and provide their input.	They agreed that it is important their voice was being heard. They felt we covered topics that they had not thought about but were important such as future jobs and infrastructure.	No	They want persons that live near the border be considered - such as language and literacy levels.
Los Amigos de la Comunidad, Inc.	5/5/2023	Community festival with informational and vendor booths. There are also 2 stages with entertainment	50-74	Persons were excited about work training and investment needs from the government for this. People shared their concerns of the air quality and respiratory illnesses that are very prevalent in our community such as asthma. Persons were motivated about submitting their feedback. We issued flyers with the QR Code which they took with them and later sent us screenshots of completion via FaceBook messenger.	Most agreed that more jobs are necessary to improve our economy. Jobs with better salaries and benefits.	They agreed that we need plan for better air quality.	They liked how we were there at this event to provide information and felt that such community events were a good place for outreach.
Los Amigos de la Comunidad, Inc.	5/22/2023	Los Amigos Convening workshop	25-49	Participants understanding the importance of being involved in the decision making process for this and future investment of resources and projects. It is important to them to understand the process so their participation is meaningful. They want to know how their participation will aide in the future and the community.	They agreed that as a latino community they do not participate. Many felt due to language barriers.	They agreed on the need to plan for housing and economic opportunities. They need to be informed about upcoming opportunities and resources and how to effectively access them. They see others taking advantage of opportunities and now realized why they have missed opportunities due to lack of knowledge and and participation.	That it continue to be accessible in their language (Spanish) at their level where they understand the concepts. They want to be active participants in layman's term.
Los Amigos de la Comunidad, Inc.	4/27/2023	Los Amigos SCAG Workshop for the NorthEnd community in Imperial County	25-49	This community is within 10 miles from the Lithium Valley Site. They are extremely concerned about the environment, mobility, and economy. They asked us to return, which we have already to continue the discussion. We are scheduled to attend a 3rd time. They have many concerns about this new development taking place.	They agree that they are very apprehensive of impacts and want to make sure they get community benefits. The topic was the SCAG workshop but their focus is the Lithium and how that fits with Connect SoCal. They feel this allows them for input for the future. This is an opportunity they have been waiting for.	They need to be involved so that they they are not impacted negatively. They asked about how to participate in other county meetings.	The wanted continuous information and interaction as their community evolves and industry- lithium- takes on a larger role.
Los Angeles Ecovillage Institute	4/17/2023	We presented at the weekly meeting of the Urban Soil / Tierra Urbana housing co-op, a 100% affordable limited equity housing cooperative with a focus on ecological urban lifestyles. The group of participants include people who commute regularly on public transit and by bicycle, longterm LA residents, and immigrants.	0-24	Two main themes emerged from our discussion: the need for more reliable, frequent, and well-maintained public transit, and the need to prioritize protected bike lanes and dedicated bus lanes over private vehicles. Beyond just making changes to existing systems, participants suggested that we need to change planning and zoning regulations to allow people to live closer to where they work and play, reducing the need to travel. Other visions for the future included creating a street car system, encouraging bicycle co-ops to offer pedi-cabs, and allowing small businesses to operate in Metro stations to make them safer.	Participants all agreed that one of the biggest challenges for the region is that public transportation options are unreliable, inconsistent, and poorly maintained. For example, it's difficult for commuters to plan their day around transit because service is so inconsistent. Also, many Metro stations have elevators and escalators that are out of service for weeks or months. This discourages people from using public transit. Metro should have an increased maintenance budget. Everyone was in agreement over the need for more bike lanes, and specifically protected bike lanes that are not shared with cars or buses. They questioned the need for multiple lanes dedicated only to cars while bikes and buses have to share space. Participants were in agreement that we should not be widening or increasing the capacity of freeways.	Participants raised concerns about the fact that plans like this one contain really great recommendations but that government agencies can choose to disregard them. They expressed that governments should focus on implementing existing plans and tracking their progress.	Participants agreed that public transit and biking should be the highest priorities for the plan, as opposed to car infrastructure.
Los Angeles Ecovillage Institute	4/18/2023	We presented at a meeting of the Rampart Village Neighborhood Council, which represents approximately 25,000 people in the Rampart Village neighborhood. The council is made up of long-time neighborhood residents.	0-24	Participants were mostly focused on public transit ridership and access. They raised questions about whether Metro will implement free fares, and whether transit that is currently free (the Dash bus) will continue to be free. They were also interested in the timeline for large Metro projects like the purple line extension, and how the extension will be marketed. There was also a question about what the government is going to do about the dangers of public scooters scattered about on the sidewalks and "speeding" on sidewalks.	Participants were in agreement that public transit should be free. Many were concerned about Metro ridership being low. Many indicated that there was some progress being made in cleaning up the buses and trains, but that Metro still has quite a ways to go on this, and it is among the largest reasons that keeps people from using the public transit systems. People also were in agreement about scooters being dangerous, and that steps should be taken to keep them from laying around the sidewalks, making them a tripping hazard. They also raised the danger of scooter riders speeding among pedestrians on the sidewalks and crosswalks.	No one raised disagreements.	Some were concerned that public agencies often do extensive studies, draw broad input, write reports, and that "nothing comes of it." A few participants felt that government agencies engaged in research, polling and report writing should be more interconnected with other government agencies and community groups that follow through on implementation, and that there should be transparent and simple methods for the public to follow progress and accountability.

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Los Angeles Ecovillage Institute	4/21/2023	<p>Presented an event at a local community hub space to present on Connect SoCal and solicit feedback. The event also featured a talk by Mark Lakeman, an urban planner with a Portland-based project called City Repair, on community building and placemaking. About 60 people attended, and the crowd was diverse in terms of race, age, and where people were coming from. We had many participants from the neighborhood, as well as people coming from other parts of LA and as far away as Orange County. We gave a presentation on Connect SoCal, with a focus on the mobility goal, and then broke people into smaller groups to discuss the plan's goals. Each group presented their reflections on the plan and on regional transportation issues overall, and we ended with a large</p>	50-74	<p>Several themes came up in our conversation: many participants stressed the need to protect pedestrians and bikers from cars, allowing people to safely choose non-car modes of transportation. Others noted that public transit needs to be more frequent and reliable if it is going to be a viable alternative to cars. Several also expressed concern about the number of people sleeping on transit because they don't have housing. Many participants brought up the importance of learning from our region's transit history and being more imaginative in developing sustainable transportation options.</p>	<p>There was widespread agreement about safety. Many people stated that in order for people to move away from cars as their primary mode of transportation, other modes like walking and biking need to be safer. Reacting to the "shared streets" graphic in the Connect SoCal presentation, participants pushed back against shared bus/bike lanes, since they are very dangerous for bikers. Someone suggested separating car traffic completely from other modes by having upper and lower decks on roads. A participant from Bogota shared that bike lanes in her city are in the middle of the street (meaning that cars do not have to cross the bike lane to turn) and are separated from cars by a physical barrier. Bogota is also the birthplace of ciclavias, which many people brought up as a great initiative. Some recommended closing streets permanently to cars; for example, a street like Venice that stretches from central LA to the beach.</p> <p>Participants also felt unsafe walking. One participant mentioned that the risk posed by cars is so severe that she feels the urge to tell her mother she loves her before going out biking or on foot. Others stated that wider sidewalks would feel more welcoming to pedestrians.</p> <p>Reliable public transportation was another major theme. One participant stated that people's behavior is shaped by our infrastructure, and we need infrastructure to incentivize resilience and sustainability. Several people mentioned that when you look up transit options on Google maps, taking transit is often three or four times longer than driving. In some cases, public transit is even slower than walking! If we are going to shift away from cars and reduce emissions, participants felt it is essential to make public transit fast, frequent, and dependable. Participants agreed that funding a mix of transit options—streetcars, trains, buses—is essential, and that bus-only lanes should be prioritized over car lanes. The existing highway system can be converted to support more bus and rail options. One person also mentioned that public transit should feel safe for people of all gender identities. Another person hoped to be able to reach natural spaces—Malibu, the mountains, the forest—using public transit. One suggestion that came up was having a policy exchange between LA and cities that have better public transit, to learn what's working elsewhere.</p> <p>Another area of agreement was the need for integration between modes. For example, bike lanes should take you all the way to your destination, rather than being fragmented. And there should be options like mini buses for first and last mile transportation for people who don't live directly on a transit line.</p> <p>The conversation also focused on the region's history and how urban development has structured current transit inequities. For example, LA was historically developed around streetcar lines, which were later dismantled in favor of cars.</p>	<p>Many participants expressed opposition to policy solutions that try to improve on cars; for example, subsidizing electric cars or developing self-driving cars. While these both offer slight improvements on existing cars, they still incentivize driving and fail to address many of the problems with cars, like danger, traffic, and air pollution (which is only partially caused by carbon emissions, since roadside dust and tire wear contribute more pollution than exhaust). Even electric cars are still fairly harmful to the environment because of how their batteries are produced. Participants viewed the push for E.V.s as greenwashing that encourages consumerism and pushes people to continue driving everywhere.</p> <p>Some people also stated that we shouldn't be building new highways or car infrastructure at all, because this is effectively subsidizing a harmful mode of transit with public funds. Instead, we could be offering subsidies for people to buy electric bicycles. One person mentioned that as a senior citizen, he would benefit from a subsidized electric bike that he could not otherwise afford.</p>	<p>Participants appreciated that Connect SoCal considers housing and the environment alongside transit, since transit can't be addressed in a vacuum. We discussed needing to change zoning rules to allow housing to be closer to workplaces, reducing travel time. Participants envisioned structuring the region around small community hubs that allow residents to access their daily needs—workplaces, parks, healthy food markets, exercise and gathering spaces—by walking or biking, with longer trips between hubs connected by rail.</p>

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Los Angeles Ecovillage Institute	5/6/2023	We hosted an event at LAEVI's community hub space to present on Connect SoCal and solicit feedback. We also gave a mini tour of the Ecovillage, including a presentation on our aquaponics system. About 20 people attended, many of them coming from the surrounding neighborhood. We gave a presentation on Connect SoCal, with a focus on the mobility goal, and then had an open discussion of the plan's goals.	0-24	Participants discussed the influence of corporate interests in the development of the region's landscape and infrastructure, and expressed that if the government is serious about moving away from cars they need to push back against the auto industry and truly prioritize alternative modes of transportation. They also noted that public transit is extremely segregated, as compared to a city like New York, where many classes and races take the subway. As in the last convening, participants stressed that improving the safety and reliability of non-car modes is essential to lowering emissions, and recommended policies like building protected bike lanes or designating streets like Wilshire Boulevard car-free. Many participants brought up the fact that many other cities around the country and the world are doing a much better job than LA with sustainable transportation, and that we need to learn from their examples. This group also mentioned the impact of the housing crisis on transit, with many unhoused people essentially living on subway trains.	<p>Participants agreed that it's important that public transit be used by people from different racial, social, and economic backgrounds. Currently, public transit is almost exclusively used by low-income people of color, particularly latinx communities. Participants expressed that our public transit should be a space that people from different backgrounds share—which is the case in other cities and countries.</p> <p>Public transit will be more widely used when it runs more frequently. People pointed out that LA technically has an extensive public transit network, with routes all over the region, but that the lack of consistency in arrival times makes it difficult to use, often doubling or even tripling your commute time. If transit was more consistent, people of all classes would choose it over driving.</p> <p>Participants brought up that we need to provide more affordable housing for people living on the streets, making sidewalks and transit safer and more welcoming. New housing should be multi-family and dense, since single-family housing does not make sense from a transit standpoint.</p>	Participants objected to the focus on economic growth in Connect SoCal. They felt that this goal is in conflict with the mobility and community goals, because the pursuit of economic growth is the cause of the social and environmental justice challenges in the region. Instead, we should be working towards de-growth and addressing the harm caused by past economic growth.	<p>Participants suggested that the region should be learning from cities like Mexico City, which has an established public transit system and alternative forms of transportation. We can learn from Mexico City because its population size and geographic layout is similar to our region. The public transit system in Mexico City is largely successful because of the support of the Mexican government.</p> <p>One participant suggested a policy recommendation: that local government start its own city ride share program instead of the status quo having Uber and Lyft dominate the market.</p>
Orange County Environmental Justice Education Fund	4/21/2023	Presented on the Environment and Mobility goal topic areas with the Santa Ana Climate Resiliency Coalition, an alliance of community organizations dedicated to advocating for environmental and climate justice policies for the city of Santa Ana, and collected feedback from the represented groups.	0-24	Since the attendees were members of climate resilience and environmental justice organizations, many had expertise in the goal topic areas and provided crucial feedback. They provided crucial perspectives on how to make goals like transportation-centered housing, electric vehicles, building electrification, complete streets and public transportation more equitable and accessible for the most vulnerable members of our communities. This group was especially attentive to how low-income residents have specific needs to make these important improvements actually effective and helpful for their daily lives.	Everyone agreed with prioritizing housing near transportation; however, they emphasized that housing needs to be affordable, and all agreed that rent control is crucial to ensuring that new development remains accessible and equitable for all.	N/A	<p>Participants emphasized adding building electrification goals, especially given the recently published research around asthma and gas stoves. Buildings are primary source of carbon emissions in North America, so building electrification is crucial to reducing GHG emissions. They also emphasized prohibiting any new fossil fuel infrastructure. If building something from scratch, start the right way.</p> <p>Making transportation routes more accessible also came up. A participant mentioned that, in Seattle, there's an app that you can plug your destination and find out a route to get there via different types of transportation, and an OC app similar to that would be helpful.</p> <p>More light rail also came up.</p> <p>Encourage more alternative mobility, safer sidewalks and protected bike lanes since so many areas in OC don't have that.</p> <p>Participants expressed a desire to see the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy connected to local efforts to implement Climate Action and Adaptation Plans, and to see these policies put into CAAPs.</p> <p>Participants also brought up ensuring there's places to charge electric car. In apartments with shared parking or that require residents to park on the street, it's very hard to charge your vehicle and providing more charging is important.</p> <p>More local power creation was also a high priority.</p> <p>Request affordable EV charging. No point in expensive EV charging standing in a low income neighborhood. Places should have solar power and provide free charging</p>
Orange County Environmental Justice Education Fund	4/20/2023	OCEJEF set up a booth with SCAG materials, presentation slides, and a scannable QR code to engage with participants at Santa Ana College's Earth Day Sustain-a-Palooza event. Participants came by in groups of 5-10 at a time, during which we presented on the Environmental and Mobility goals of the RTP and SCS, solicited feedback, and offered opportunities for them to submit feedback virtually and continue to engage with Connect SoCal.	25-49	Most participants did not provide detailed feedback, and instead expressed general support for changes to address environmental issues and climate change, and a desire to learn more about the Plan. Vehicle electrification was of general interest. Many participants scanned the QR code to submit feedback directly to SCAG.	There was general support for assistance with vehicle electrification for low-income communities, including affordable charging stations.	No	Not at this time

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Orange County Environmental Justice Education Fund	5/25/2023	Invited our general membership and several of our community partners to our presentation on the Connect SoCal Development process and goal topic areas, emphasizing Environment and Mobility but reviewing all of the topic areas and providing opportunities for feedback for each topic.	0-24	All of the participants brought up the importance of accessible transportation, infill development, and the preservation and enhancement of natural and working lands. Many of the participants brought up helpful feedback on addressing the root causes of environmental and climate issues, and how to ensure that these improvements remain affordable and effective for low-income residents.	-preserving and enhancing natural and working lands can really help to clean up some of the toxins in the air. the greenspaces can help us to have open space & healthy neighbors -Transitioning to a zero/near-zero vehicles would be great and very impactful for our community's air quality -Support for the goal of infill development, especially because we have such a large population in Southern California and are running out of land -Air pollution from heavy car use in densely populated areas would be eased by electric vehicles -widespread support of complete streets -new transportation infrastructure would provide much needed jobs for community	-Participants emphasized that companies like Amazon have created an expectation of lightning fast delivery of goods, which has created unjust and harmful work conditions and a huge burden on low-income communities and the environment. They emphasized that having more local production of goods and food, and moving away from an expectation of rapid delivery, would be more beneficial for our environment, wellbeing, and local economies. -Participants believe there should be more of an emphasis on collaboration and leadership of Indigenous peoples in these conversations, including points around land and water remediation, and pushing for local jurisdictions to prioritize Indigenous ecological knowledge and perspectives in all of these policies. -Participants brought up that using vacant housing/buildings should be more of a priority than building new housing, emphasizing that there are more vacant homes and housing units in Southern California than unhoused people.	-Include mixed land use strategies, like having grocery stores under apartments -Having seniors, children, and students be exempt from public transportation fees & Having discounts to low income individuals. Having discounts to parents. -We mention rolling as part of complete streets for those who may use wheelchairs and other devices to get around. How will people with disabilities be prioritized in complete streets? -Any apps to improve transportation should be accessible in all of the languages spoken by our communities -Participants emphasized improving transportation accessibility for the elderly and those without access to app phones -Encouraging local officials to be present in the communities that work with--drink their water, walk their streets, take their bus routes, and get first-hand experience with the obstacles they face
Santa Ana Active Streets	5/8/2023	Willard Neighborhood Association monthly meeting. Residents meet to talk about community concerns and get updates happening in their neighborhood.	0-24	One community member felt it was difficult to grasp the importance of this work, was more concerned about short term issues, including lack of parking in their neighborhood. Eventually supported idea of finding new solutions. Other comments supported more access to reliable and fast transit options, improved street safety. One person had an interest in bringing crossing guards to their community. Multiple people wanted improved street quality, and street safety.	Overall, everyone wanted safer streets, or well paved streets.	Questioned why parking isn't included as a solution, but ultimately understood adding more parking is not a long term solution.	Consider making it easier to get crossing guards in safety strategies.
Santa Ana Active Streets	5/18/2023	Monthly Santa Ana Active Streets volunteer and programs meeting.	0-24	The following feedback were given during the feedback exercise: more bright lights near bus stops; cost for non-college or student bus passes should be more affordable; more frequent service between Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, specifically rail lines; improve network connectivity between all SCAG counties; and, while waiting at a bus stop, offer info to community services in various languages. Participant was surprised by 2018-2021 increase in injuries and fatalities mentioned in presentation.	Solutions that received the most support included more access to reliable, frequent and fast transit options and more comfortable routes for walking, biking, or rolling. Both received six votes each. The third highest at 3 votes was more destinations that can be reached by walking, biking or rolling.	In regards to more incentives and infrastructure for zero emission vehicles, a commenter said that this solution was not as high of a priority.	More high speed rail. More frequent trains crossing between counties (e.g. high quality transit between Orange County and Long Beach; faster more frequent travel between Orange County and San Diego).
Save Our Seniors Network	5/16/2023	presentation of SCAG Overview slides to Executive Committee	0-24	There was a tremendous amount of skepticism regarding the effectiveness of SCAG, source of funds, and prior community involvement or lack thereof. A few main points were first: the lack of visibility in general of SCAG and what its actual operations and mandates are. Second, that SCAG has no way to enforce Connect SoCal 2024. Three was the role of large industries in SCAG's policymaking. Four was that the themes addressed were abstract and the connection to implementable policies was absent.	Yes, the lack of visibility of SCAG relative to other governmental bodies was unanimous. The need for concrete connections between implemented policies and overarching goals for Connect SoCal.	The sentiment that the failure to clearly state that SCAG has no enforcement ability with regards to Connect SoCal 2024 was seen as critical to emphasize. Otherwise, the survey could be interpreted as misleading participants to believe that they were having actual impact, without continued involvement.	Clearly outlining ways to evaluate the performance metrics of the previous RTP plans and current progress of the Connect SoCal plan. Concrete examples of the abstract themes. Outlining actionable methods for communities to deepen their involvement in housing and transportation planning at a local level. Emphasizing the necessity of a long term horizon in planning infrastructure. The lack of discussion of the planning horizon was also perceived as a consequence of the severe absence of intergenerational connection in the plan, i.e. no articulation of the plan in terms of family structure.

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Save Our Seniors Network	5/4/2023	General Body Meeting. SCAG: The SOSN Perspective	0-24	The role of public input in transportation input as being of impact. The reality of the sandwich generation's utter dependence on commuting. The sandwich generation are those who care for a parent over 65 and have at least one child under 18. The impact of the availability of services for elders – especially during times of crisis. The critical role of location for elders who have no personal transportation. The impact of the availability of their family has on the health of elders.	While the term "age" is included in the description of Connect SoCal 2024, the needs of the elderly are not included directly in any of the questions. The questions relate to work and only the obligations to younger family members.	Asian populations exhibit significant intercommunity heterogeneity that is not reflected in home ownership and similar SES statistics. Categorizing all Asians together often overlooks significant factors such as generational status in the U.S. Longer life expectancies results in greater dependence on health equity since the elderly require greater care. The lack of health equity metrics was perceived as a serious omission. In particular, the impact of the environment on health, was a clear implication of the regional plan yet was not significantly addressed.	Given the time frame of the regional plan, long term health metrics are inherently fundamental. Life expectancy per income category, leading causes of mortality as correlated to proximity to environmental hazards would be variable that demonstrate the direct relevancy of regional planning to everyday lives. Long term health effects can have significant economic impacts, adding yet more support to the prioritization of health equity in the survey. Health is a fundamental quality of life factor. Income growth at the expense of health outcomes may prove counterproductive. Health improvements across all demographics may equalize populations across income categories.
Save Our Seniors Network	5/23/2023	Live presentation of overview slides as well as Equity & Resilience and Community Feedback	0-24	How agencies at various jurisdictional levels have or have failed to coordinate and how they might change in their ways of coordinating was a major point of the conversation. One example was the planning of interstate through Little Tokyo. This prompted further discussion about how major infrastructure investments have historically harmed ethnic enclaves.	Housing and transportation have failed minority communities. Major infrastructure projects are planned and completed such that minority communities bear the environmental hazards. The pandemic epitomized the lack of resilience and deadly consequences of the risks borne by minority elderly communities, especially those with limited English.	The port of Los Angeles Southern California International Gateway project was discussed. Many felt that ill effects of the project would be shouldered by minority communities. Life spans are cut short because of air quality and the air quality is always worse in low income areas. One major example was Chinatown -- where PPM has reached 4xs the average rate in Los Angeles.	One consistent comment is what it will take to see actual change and how the survey must direct people to streamlined methods to become directly involved in their local jurisdiction's decision making process for projects that have life-altering consequences for their communities and loved ones. One suggestion is to create a mobile application that connects survey participants with the specific contact points for their local jurisdiction.
Save Our Seniors Network	5/25/2023	Virtual workshop to discuss safeguarding our seniors	0-24	A community's ability to mobilize to address crises and dire needs was indicated as a critical measure of equity. How to address homelessness in a humane manner. Regional planning that vigorously focuses on human connections. Greater focus on connecting with nature.	A community's ability to mobilize was also indicated as critical to resilience.	The extremely slow process of changing land use designations as land use patterns change. Such as airports continuing to operate when homes are built around them. Airports were originally constructed far from homes, but residential developed caught up to their immediate surroundings.	Provide more convenient and effective digital interactions to allow less technologically literate people voice their and their communities' needs.
Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living	5/19/2023	Join SCRS Staff who are interested in hearing more about ideas you have for transportation improvements throughout L.A. County.	0-24	The opportunity was offered to current consumers (clients) of our employment program. Those that aren't shy shared their concerns and frustrations with paratransit service specifically and oftentimes having to rely on public transportation like the bus, rail or shuttle options in their communities. Two individuals shared that they wish paratransit was more reliable because they feel safer there than on the bus or train. Some shared they are sometimes better understood due to their disability on paratransit than on bus or rail.	Safety and operator compassion or understanding stood out most from those who were vocal, while others nodded in agreement when asked directly in a yes or no format.	NA	It was difficult for them to articulate specific improvements or goals towards policies and this was a learning opportunity for our team on how to improve (simplify) what our objective was.
Strategic Action for a Just Economy	5/18/2023	We invited community members involved in our committee and posted on social media.	0-24	Community members are worried about the future of their neighborhood, the high cost of housing, rent and access to amenities in their neighborhood not only for themselves also for their families and children. We had parents and youth join the conversation and they all agree that we need to have more resources available for youth in the future. Community members are concerned about the current status of transportation for example lack of reliability in transit, cost of transit and advocate for fareless transit.	We need more housing and accessible transportation. We need more opportunities for kids and youth in our communities.	People don't trust electric vehicle requirements.	Community members had questions regarding how the goals will be implemented.
Uplift San Bernardino/Making Hope Happen Foundation	4/15/2023	With a focus on the Community Pillar, the Connect SoCal presentation duration was 45 minutes: a 30-minute bilingual presentation, and 15-minute feedback activities. Participants were able to have their feedback recorded on Post-it boards. Participants used the QR code to take the survey.	0-24	The participants expressed that their needs are focused on more immediate housing and living issues than issues that will be resolved in the year 2050. Participants also stated, "the number of displaced people are alarming. If cost of rent does not stop increasing, my family will be adding to those numbers."	Affordable housing is not affordable on minimum wage.	Even though transportation is an issue, the community is more focused on keeping their homes.	They hope some of the SCAG projects will be focusing on housing.

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Uplift San Bernardino/Making Hope Happen Foundation	5/17/2023	The Uplift San Bernardino team presented Connect SoCal the Neighborhood Association Council of San Bernardino	0-24	Participates stated, "Access to parks for this coming summer. It's so sad Perris hill park is being cleaned out but people are just being moved to across the street." "Housing! Is such a big challenge right now!!!" "Better transportation and safety for streets, too many speeding drivers" "Finding displaced people long term solutions"	Affordable Housing is a big issue in the community.	No	"SCAG is not well known nor are their projects" "This is a first I am hearing about SCAG"