



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC). A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.ig2.com/Citizens/>.

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) 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. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Chair)	District 8
Sup. Luis Plancarte (Vice Chair)	Imperial County
Hon. Cindy Allen, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Daniel Brotman, Glendale	AVCJPA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	SGVCOG
Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate	GCCOG
Hon. Rick Denison, Yucca Valley	SBCTA
Hon. Julian Gold, Beverly Hills	WSCCOG
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates	SBCCOG
Hon. Dan Kalmick, Huntington Beach	OCCOG
Hon. Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach	District 20
Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley	VCOG
Hon. Vianey Lopez,	Ventura County
Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio	CVAG
Hon. Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake	District 11
Hon. Connor Traut, Buena Park	OCCOG
Hon. Dale Welty, Canyon Lake	WRCOG



Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill

GCCOG

Members Not Present

Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland

ICTC

Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village

LVMCOG

Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills

SBCTA

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Deborah Robertson called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Rick Denison, Yucca Valley, SBCTA, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Deborah Robertson opened the public comment period and provided detailed instructions on how to provide public comments. She noted that this was the time for members of the public to offer comment for matters that are within SCAG’s jurisdiction but are not listed on the agenda.

She reminded the public to submit comments via email to EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov. She noted that public comments received via email after 5pm on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, would be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

SCAG staff confirmed 19 written comments had been received before the 5:00 p.m. deadline on January 4, 2023, and had been transmitted to members.

Seeing no additional public comment, Chair Robertson closed the public comment period for matters not listed on the agenda.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

STAFF REPORT

Rachel Wagner, Regional Affairs Officer, provided an update regarding the Joint Policy Committee meeting in March to discuss the Connect SoCal 2024 Subcommittees. She stated each subcommittee met three times since September and that the Resilience & Conservation and Racial Equity & Regional Planning meetings would conclude in January. She stated the Next Generation

Infrastructure subcommittee would conclude with a final meeting in February. She stated the culmination of the subcommittee's discussions would be a white paper and draft recommendations. She stated these recommendations would address emerging issues within Connect SoCal 2024 which would be shared at the Joint Policy Committee meeting in March 2023. Ms. Wagner also provided an update on elections, asking members to keep an eye out for election notices as they worked with SCAG's subregional organizations (COGs) to fill vacancies on the Regional Council and Policy Committees created by the November 2022 General Election. Furthermore, she shared SCAG was co-sponsoring and/or attending the following events and members were invited:

- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Clean Air Awards, Friday, January 6, 2023 at 11:30 a.m.; and
- State of the Port of Los Angeles, on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 11:30 a.m.

Lastly, she called attention to Item 3 on the Consent Calendar. She stated each month, staff would update this item as needed to reflect the anticipated outlook for the Committee, which was subject to change. She stated Sarah Jepson, SCAG Planning Director would provide the overview for that item.

Sarah Jepson, Planning Director at SCAG addressed the committee regarding Item No. 3 on the Consent Calendar. She stated this item was an outlook of the agenda items they anticipated bringing forth to the committee throughout the year. She stated this had been developed with both the Chair and Vice Chair to ensure they were addressing the business and major policy priorities. She went through the presentation, describing the structure and content of the items in the 3 columns on the slides.

Policy Committee Member Oscar Ortiz, Indio, CVAG, stated since they were talking about lithium batteries and how those can be renewable in the future, he wanted to include a discussion on hydrogen power and how it could be used as an alternative to battery storage. He stated he wanted them to look at all options when looking at energy storage.

Ms. Jepson shared the Emerging Technology Committee was discussing these issues. She stated they were working on a clean transportation technology policy and would make sure that item was brought forward as an information item to EEC.

Policy Committee Member Julian Gold, Beverly Hills, WSCCOG stated he wanted to weigh in on member Ortiz's comments. He stated he was the Chair of the Board on Clean Power Alliance, and thought the issue around energy storage, unfortunately was an issue that was greater than just them. He stated if they were really going to entertain that as a significant conversation it would need to involve investor-owned utilities. He stated the issues were important, but they needed to know it was beyond their scope, and in order to engage in that conversation they needed large

stakeholder conversations if they wanted to effectuate change that would make a difference for their residents.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – November 3, 2022

Receive and File

2. Regional Energy and Environment Committee Outlook and Future Agenda Items
3. Final 2022 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP)
4. CARB Final 2022 Scoping Plan
5. SCAG's Draft Digital Action Plan
6. SCAG Climate Action Resolution Quarterly Update - 2nd Annual Update

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Robertson closed the Public Comment Period.

A MOTION was made (Plancarte) to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion was SECONDED (Ortiz) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Davila, Denison, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Lopez, Ortiz, Plancarte, Putz, Robertson, Traut, and Welty (19)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Draft Regional Advance Mitigation Planning (RAMP) White Paper
India Brookover, Senior Regional Planner, introduced Elizabeth O’Donoghue, Director of the Sustainable and Resilient Communities Strategy in The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Climate Program.

Elizabeth O’Donoghue, provided a presentation to the committee on the findings of the draft RAMP

White Paper. She discussed the purpose of the White Paper, RAMP Framework, models and approach, ways to support existing programs, agency and stakeholder roles and key questions and information gaps.

Chair Robertson opened the Public Comment Period for Item 8.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Robertson closed the Public Comment Period.

ACTION ITEMS

9. Draft Regional Advance Mitigation Planning (RAMP) Policy Framework

Chair Robertson opened the Public Comment Period for Item 9.

The following members of the public provided comments in support of Item No. 9 and requested a seat for environmental representatives on the proposed advisory committee:

- Melanie Schlotterbeck, Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks
- Jack Eidt, Co-Founder of SoCal 350
- Richard Lambros, Southern California Leadership Council
- Chris Wilson, Los Angeles County Business Federation
- Carlos Rodriguez, BI Southern California
- Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League in Los Angeles
- Connor Medina, Government Affairs Manager, Orange County Business Council
- Robin Smith, Conservation Practitioner with the Diamond Bar Preservation Foundation
- Jennifer Hernandez
- Luis Portillo, President and CEO of the San Gabriel Economic Partnership
- Claire Schlotterbeck, Executive Director of non-profit Hills for Everyone
- Elizabeth Reid Weinscoat, Center for Biological Diversity
- Michael Lewis, Senior Vice President of the Construction Industry Coalition on Air
- Moises Cisneros, Co-Lead for the 30x30 Inland Deserts Working Group

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Robertson closed the Public Comment Period.

Policy Committee Member Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG, expressed her appreciation from the response from the public stating it was encouraging to see the level of support and the interest expressed in being part of the Greenprint committee.

Kimberly Clark, Planning Supervisor, presented Item No. 9. She discussed Draft RAMP Policy Framework regional goals like facilitating infrastructure, expediting project delivery, improving predictability for project funding and examining potential environmental impacts in early stages of

project development. Additionally, Ms. Clark discussed SCAG's role in supporting RAMPs such as being a resource for local partners and focusing policy on the transportation sector and related infrastructure. She also stated SCAG's role was to identify ways to support implementing agencies establish or supplement regional conservation and mitigation banks. Ms. Clark also discussed the timeline for the next steps.

Policy Committee Member Clark stated she was in favor of putting an environmental technical person on the committee. She asked if the committee was required to have unanimous consent on everything.

SCAG staff member Clark clarified the committee would not be a voting body, rather they would advise SCAG on decision making.

Policy Committee Member Clark stated she wanted to make a motion to approve staff's report [and include] that an elected official could be [on the TAC] instead of staff and that a member of the environmental community with RAMP experience be added to the committee. Her motion was seconded by Policy Committee Member Daniel Brotman, Glendale, AVCJPA.

Sarah Jepson stated she wanted to make sure before they moved forward with the vote that staff was clear on what they were voting on. She then re-stated what was in the policy framework along with the adjustments they understood they wanted made. She stated she would be reading from page 137 of the packet which was page 9 of the policy framework. She read the following: "The technical advisory committee will be comprised of at least one ~~staff~~ [she stated they would strike out the word "staff" this way they could have an elected official or a staff member selected] representative from: each county transportation commission in the SCAG region, Caltrans, each county government in the SCAG region, the City of Los Angeles, and two city governments within each county in the SCAG region. This technical advisory committee shall be open to the public and seek input from the development community, non-governmental conservation groups, regional conservation agencies, researchers, and other stakeholders." She stated the revision that had been made was the strikeout of the word staff. She asked if there were any other changes before, they moved forward with the vote.

Policy Committee Member Clark clarified that her motion also included the addition of a member of the environmental community with RAMP experience to the committee.

A MOTION was made (Clark) to recommend that the Energy & Environment Committee (EEC) recommend that the Regional Council approve the RAMP Policy Framework and RAMP White Paper and that the technical advisory committee be comprised of at least one representative (could be elected official or staff member) from each county transportation commission in the SCAG region, Caltrans, each county government in the SCAG region, the City of Los Angeles, and two city

governments within each county in the SCAG region. Additionally, the committee would also include a member of the environmental community with RAMP experience. Motion was SECONDED (Brotman) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Davila, Denison, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Lopez, Ortiz, Plancarte, Putz, Robertson, Traut, and Welty (19)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

10. Release of Transportation Conformity Analysis of Draft Connect SoCal 2020 Amendment #3 and 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Consistency Amendment #23-03 for Public Review and Comment

Chair Robertson opened the Public Comment Period for Item 10.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Robertson closed the Public Comment Period.

Lijin Sun, Principal Planner, presented Item No. 10. She stated the entire SCAG region was under the transportation conformity lockdown. She stated staff had provided a comprehensive status update at the July 2022 EEC meeting on the conformity lockdown, multi-agency efforts to resolve it and staff proactive amendments to the RTP and FTIP to reduce its impacts. She stated significant impact had been made, such that the conformity lockdown was expected to be fully lifted and resolved in April 2023. She reported that to reduce this impact, SCAG staff had proactively initiated the development of a Connect SoCal Amendment #3 and 2023 FTIP Consistency Amendment #23-03. She stated these items needed to demonstrate conformity, and staff had confirmed it conformed to the regulation requirements. Furthermore, she explained the next step in the process was public review and that SCAGs Transportation Committee was considering recommending approval to the Regional Council of the release of the amendment documents for 30-day public review and comment period. She stated staff at EEC was seeking the committee's recommendation that the Regional Council on the same day approve the release of the transportation conformity analysis as part of the amendments for the 30-day comment period.

A MOTION was made (Plancarte) to recommend that the Regional Council (RC) authorize the Executive Director to release the transportation conformity analysis of the draft Connect SoCal 2020 Amendment #3 and 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Consistency Amendment #23-03 for public review and comment. Motion was SECONDED (Litster) and passed by the following votes:



AYES: Allen, Brotman, Clark, Davila, Denison, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Lopez, Ortiz, Plancarte, Putz, Robertson, Traut, Welty and Wilson (18)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Robertson reported the deadline for the 2023 Sustainability Awards Call for Nominations was Tuesday, January 10, and encouraged members to look into that. She stated the winners of the SCAG Sustainability Awards would be presented at the 2023 Regional Conference and General Assembly at the JW Marriott Resort & Spa in Palm Desert on May 4-5, 2023. She also reminded members that SCAG was working closely with our subregional organization (COGs) to fill vacancies on the Regional Council and Policy Committees. She stated if they or their colleagues were interested in serving, to please reach out to SCAG or subregional staff. Chair Robertson also acknowledged new committee members:

- Ventura County Supervisor, Vianey Lopez
- City of Canyon Lake, Dale Welty
- City of Claremont, Jennifer Stark

She thanked them for being on board and welcomed them to the committee. Lastly, she asked they consider moving the Chair’s Report to the beginning of the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Robertson adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:40 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

2022-23

MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, District 30	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Beltran, Ana	Westmoreland, ICTC	0	0		0	1	1		0					2
Brotman, Daniel	Glendale, AVCJPA	1	1		0	1	1		1					5
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, SGVCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Copeland, Robert	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Davila, Maria	South Gate, GCCOG	0	0	D	0			D	1					1
Davis, Ned	Westlake Village, LVMCOG	1	0		0		1		0					2
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, SCBTA	1	0		0	1			1					3
Gold, Julian	Beverly Hills, WSCCOG	1	1		0	1	1		1					5
Horne, Shari	Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Huff, Britt	Rolling Hills Estates, SCBCOG	1	1	A	1	1	1	A	1					6
Kalmick, Dan	Huntington Beach, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, District 20	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Litster, Elaine	Simi Valley, VCOG	0	1		1	1			1					4
Lopez, Vianey	Ventura County								1					1
Moran, Cynthia	Chino Hills, SBCTA	1	0	R	1	1	1	R	0					4
Ortiz, Oscar	Indio, CVAG	0	0		0	1	1		1					3
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Putz, Randall	Big Bear Lake, District 11	1	0		1	1			1					4
Robertson, Deborah	Rialto, RC District 8	1	1	K	1	1	1	K	1					6
Stark, Jennifer	Claremont, SGVCOG								0					0
Traut, Connor	Buena Park, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Welty, Dale	Canyon Lake, WRCOG								1					1
Wilson, Edward H.J.	Signal Hill, GCCOG	0	0		0	1	1		1					3

Attachment: EEC Attendance Sheet 2022-23 (Minutes of the Meeting - January 5, 2023)