



President's Report

YEAR IN REVIEW
2023-2024





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About SCAG

SCAG is the nation's largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 191 cities and nearly 19 million residents. SCAG serves as a catalyst for a brighter future for Southern California by leading a vision to elevate the region.

Vision Statement

Southern California's catalyst for a brighter future.

Mission Statement

To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing and promoting best practices.

Visit us at [SCAG.CA.GOV](https://www.scag.ca.gov)

Cover Photo: Anaheim Convention Center - Orange County



On behalf of the Regional Council, I am pleased to share this report of annual accomplishments for SCAG in the fiscal year 2023-24. The Executive/Administration Committee convened a strategic planning session in June 2023 to integrate high-level goals and priorities into SCAG's Strategic Plan update and planning work for the year. The accomplishments outlined in this report highlight SCAG's work toward those goals and priorities.

SCAG's most prominent accomplishment in 2023-24 was the final development and adoption of the Connect SoCal 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, the signature regional planning policy document for Southern California. This work culminated with the Regional Council's adoption of Connect SoCal 2024. Drafted every four years through a collaborative and data-driven process, Connect SoCal 2024 presents a long-term vision for the future of the region on critical issues that impact all six counties in the SCAG region—mobility, communities, environment and economy—and that require coordinated planning and investments by all layers of government.

As the president of the Regional Council, I also tasked SCAG's staff, Regional Council and policy committees with special attention to several additional priorities of critical importance for the region in 2023-24: clean transportation technology, transit and rail recovery, and goods movement. This report also documents tangible progress in advancing these issues for the benefit of local action and regional coordination.

With lasting sadness, SCAG acknowledges the loss of Ventura County Supervisor Carmen Ramirez, who was tragically killed before she could fulfill her tenure as SCAG Regional Council President in 2023-24. The entire SCAG team honored her memory throughout the year by working together toward a brighter vision for Southern California, and we hope she would be proud of our accomplishments.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Art Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Art Brown
Regional Council President, 2023-2024
Southern California Association of Governments



Connect SoCal 2024 Development & Adoption

SCAG serves as a catalyst for a brighter future for Southern California by leading a vision to elevate the region and creating the holistic plan to achieve our unified goals.

CONNECT SOCAL 2024 DEVELOPMENT & ADOPTION

Connect SoCal 2024 Pillars: Mobility, Communities, Environment, Economy

The goals for Connect SoCal fall into four mutually reinforcing categories: mobility, communities, environment and economy.

- **Mobility:** Build and maintain an integrated multimodal transportation network.
- **Communities:** Develop, connect and sustain communities that are livable and thriving.
- **Environment:** Create a healthy region for the people of today and tomorrow.
- **Economy:** Support a sustainable, efficient and productive regional economic environment that provides opportunities for all residents.

Regional Planning Policies

For the first time with Connect SoCal 2024, SCAG developed a set of Regional Planning Policies to guide decision-making in the region that integrates land use and transportation planning and aligns with the Connect SoCal 2024 vision. These policies directly respond to each of the four pillars of the plan, with 22 policies in areas such as complete streets, housing the region, air quality and workforce development. The policies have been refined over several planning cycles to promote multimodal transportation investments, also incorporating recent direction from SCAG's Regional Council, policy committees and special subcommittees.

Total Investments and Growth Projections

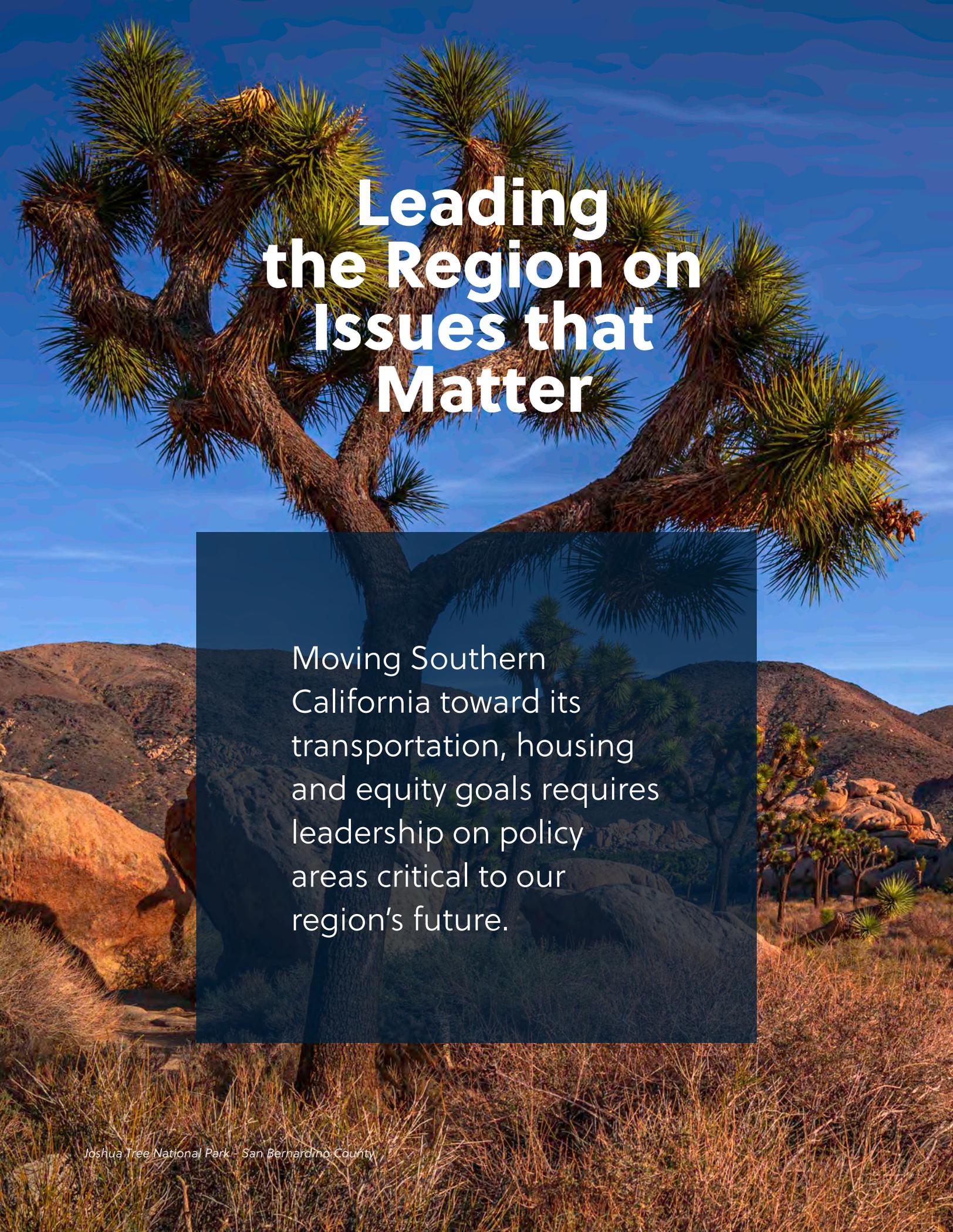
The plan projects total growth of 2 million new residents by 2050, 1.6 million new households and 1.4 million new jobs by 2050. Connect SoCal 2024 calls for \$751.7 billion in transportation investments—60 percent for operations and management, 37 percent for capital projects and 3 percent for debt service. The investments are projected to result in a 19 percent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions while locating 61 percent of new households and 65 percent of new jobs in Priority Development Areas. More than 2,000 projects would also result in 869 miles of regional express transit lanes, 4,000 miles of new bike lanes and 181,200 new transit service miles, reducing daily congestion for the average Southern Californian by 6.2 minutes.

Outreach and Engagement

Information collected from local agencies, such as project lists from county transportation commissions and future land use and growth information from local jurisdictions, was essential for crafting Connect SoCal 2024. Stakeholder feedback and public consultation spanned two years; in-person and virtual workshops for Connect SoCal concluded in May 2023, and an online survey for stakeholders concluded in June 2023. SCAG staff met with 164 jurisdictions during the development stage, which also included input from hundreds of stakeholders and thousands of Southern Californians and leadership from 149 policy committee and Regional Council members.

The SCAG Regional Council voted in November 2023 to release both the draft Connect SoCal 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and the accompanying Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for public review and comment through January 2024.

During the public comment period for Connect SoCal 2024 and the Draft PEIR, SCAG hosted three public hearings and 14 elected official briefings in Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties. In total, 229 local elected officials, city and county staff, and stakeholders participated in the briefings. SCAG also received 47 comment letters on Connect SoCal 2024 and 32 comment letters on the Draft PEIR. SCAG staff presented a summary of the comments received on both documents at a Joint Policy Committee meeting in March 2024 and included a "Public Participation and Consultation Technical Report" with the final Connect SoCal 2024 to document comments and responses.

A large Joshua tree stands prominently in the foreground, its spiky green leaves and thick, gnarled trunk reaching towards a clear blue sky. The tree is set against a backdrop of rolling desert hills and mountains, with some smaller Joshua trees visible in the distance. The ground is covered in dry, golden-brown grass and scattered rocks. The overall scene is a classic representation of the Southern California desert.

Leading the Region on Issues that Matter

Moving Southern California toward its transportation, housing and equity goals requires leadership on policy areas critical to our region's future.

LEADING THE REGION ON ISSUES THAT MATTER

Expert Panels on Presidential Priorities

In the 2023-2024 Executive/Administration Committee Work Plan, the Regional Council, under the leadership of President Art Brown, identified three main policy issues—clean transportation technology, transit and rail recovery, and goods movement—for regional dialogue and collaboration during the fiscal year. During the year, SCAG staff invited representatives from agencies leading on these issues to discuss challenges and opportunities for the region with the Regional Council.

CLEAN TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY EXPERT PANEL

SCAG staff convened a panel on clean transportation technology at the January 2024 Regional Council meeting to bring forward insights and direction concerning clean transportation technologies, expanding on SCAG's Clean Transportation Policy outlined in Resolution No. 23-654-5. The panel featured Stephen Collins, senior manager for strategic planning for Southern California Edison; Carrie Schindler, deputy executive director for the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority; and Angelina Galiteva, chief executive officer for the Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems. Speakers highlighted projects pioneering zero-emission technologies and efforts to accelerate them, as well as work to foster a zero-carbon economy.

PANEL ON TRANSIT AND RAIL RECOVERY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

In February 2024, the Regional Council meeting featured a panel discussion on the trajectory of public transit in Southern California as transit operators work to recover ridership lost during and after the pandemic. Panelists were David Aguirre, executive director of the Imperial County Transportation Commission; Darren Kettle, chief executive officer for Metrolink; Michael Pimentel, executive director for the California Transit Association; and Seleta Reynolds, chief innovation officer for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Panelists discussed efforts to better serve riders, improve coordination across agencies and industries, as well as the need for more flexible funding for operations.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOODS MOVEMENT EXPERT DISCUSSION

The March 2024 Regional Council meeting featured a panel discussion on key issues and opportunities for goods movement in Southern California. The panel featured Lena Kent, general director of public affairs for BNSF Railway; Ross Lane, government affairs leader for the Arizona & California Railroad Company; Salim Youssefzadeh, chief executive officer for WattEV; and Stephane Fosso, director, fleet technology and electrification for Sysco Corporation. The group talked about the technology advancements sustainability, community impacts and engagement, public-private partnerships and workforce development.

Clean Technology Compendium

SCAG published the "Clean Technology Compendium" in October 2023 in response to the imminent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution in the region and in accordance with the presidential priorities on clean transportation technology and goods movement. According to the February 2023 "Clean Transportation Technology Policy and Resolution," SCAG defines clean transportation technology as zero-and near-zero emission vehicles and the infrastructure needed for their operation, along with other products that reduce the environmental impact of the transportation sector.

The "Clean Technology Compendium" provides an in-depth overview of zero-and near-zero emission transportation technologies, including charging and fueling infrastructure and other supporting products. The compendium also offers recommendations and strategies to overcome obstacles and accelerate widespread clean technology adoption.

Climate Equity Compendium

In October 2023, SCAG published the "Climate Equity Compendium" in partnership with CivicSparks fellows. The "Climate Equity Compendium" provides resources for local planners in the SCAG region to advocate for equitable and actionable climate action policies and implement effective climate adaptation projects. SCAG and CivicSparks reached out to more than 60 local jurisdictions to identify and assess major obstacles to climate equity at the local level, including lack of funding, resources and staff capacity, as well as difficulties finding relevant data and conducting outreach.

Zero-Emissions Truck Infrastructure Study

After kicking off the "Zero-Emissions Truck Infrastructure Study" in January 2023, a Technical Advisory Committee is guiding SCAG staff in the development of the study, in alignment with the presidential priorities of clean transportation technology and goods movement. The study will envision a regional network of zero-emission truck charging and fueling infrastructure, create a phased blueprint and action plan toward realizing this vision and answer key questions about how stations in the region may operate to serve different truck markets and business functions.

LEADING THE REGION ON ISSUES THAT MATTER

Southern California Clean Cities Coalition Strategic Plan

The SCAG Regional Council adopted the Southern California Clean Cities Coalition Strategic Plan in April 2024, marking a pivotal step in the SCAG Clean Cities Coalition's mission to foster the transition toward cleaner fuels and vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality. Introduced in fiscal year 2024 as part of the coalition's annual work with the U.S. Department of Energy (U.S. DOE), this strategic plan leverages current and ongoing SCAG initiatives and aligns regional, state and federal objectives. The strategic plan also addresses the barriers to electrification of the transportation sector, such as cost and infrastructure, and outlines activities to shift the region to cleaner transportation. The strategic plan is intended to integrate with Connect SoCal 2024 regional priorities and strategies. The strategic plan also continues the SCAG region's eligibility for exclusive U.S. DOE funding.

Inclusive Contracting Toolkit

SCAG published the "Inclusive Contracting Toolkit" in November 2023 as a component of SCAG's Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy. The "Inclusive Contracting Toolkit" is a resource for procurement professionals, designed to serve as a comprehensive guide, offering best practices and actionable strategies aimed at public agencies and private anchor institutions. SCAG staff developed the "Inclusive Contracting Toolkit" with support from the Inclusive Contracting Technical Advisory Committee.

Highways to Boulevards Regional Study

In November 2023, the SCAG Regional Council authorized staff to accept Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending grant funds to support SCAG's "Highways to Boulevards Regional Study." The study will identify opportunities to remove, retrofit or mitigate transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity, such as highways or railways. Work on the study will continue through April 2025, with support from the Highways to Boulevard Regional Study Project Advisory Committee.

Safety Campaign Partnership

In September 2023, SCAG joined the California Office of Traffic Safety, the California Department of Transportation, California Highway Patrol, the Automobile Club of Southern California and the city of Long Beach to announce the "Safety Is Sharing. Safety Is Caring" traffic safety campaign.

34th Annual Demographic Workshop

SCAG hosted the 34th Annual Demographic Workshop on Sept. 20, 2023. The event, "The Seismic Generational Shift," brought together the region's leading demographers and population experts, as well as more than 400 attendees from the public and private sectors, to discuss the implications of Southern California's shifting demographics for housing, transportation and sustainability.

Workshop highlights included the release of SCAG's assessment of the American Community Survey data for 2022. This report looks at the shifts and constants of post-COVID Southern California, providing insights into the demographic, economic and housing trends between 2019 and 2022. Event speakers discussed this analysis, emphasizing potential consequences of slower population growth and high housing costs across the region. The workshop also focused on how the ongoing generational shift stands to redefine politics, culture, technology and the region's economy.

14th Annual Southern California Economic Summit

More than 500 attendees joined SCAG for the 14th Annual Southern California Economic Summit on Dec. 7, 2024 to discuss connections between planning and the long-term health of the Southern California economy.

The event featured the publication of the "Regional Briefing Book," which detailed the current state of the region's economy and provided benchmarks to track it in the coming year. SCAG economists generally saw reasons for cautious optimism about the resilience of Southern California's economy in the next year, especially after the region delivered solid growth in jobs and household incomes in 2023 despite challenges like inflation, office vacancies and increasing interest rates.

SCAG's Economic Roundtable, a team of independent economists representing the region's counties and key specialty areas, provided economic analysis throughout the 2023-2024 fiscal year by collaborating with staff to publish quarterly reports.



Regional Tools & Resources

SCAG empowers Southern California jurisdictions to work toward regional solutions by creating collaborative resources that improve access to data, best practices and tools.

REGIONAL TOOLS & RESOURCES

Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0)

The Department of Housing and Community Development awarded SCAG with more than \$237 million in REAP 2.0 funds in July 2023. REAP 2.0 is a flexible program that accelerates progress toward state housing goals and climate commitments through partnerships between the state, regions and local jurisdictions. SCAG sub-allocated more than 80 percent of the REAP 2.0 funds to eligible jurisdictions in the SCAG region through calls for applications in four program categories: Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing, the Sustainable Communities Program, County Transportation Commission Partnership Program and the Subregional Partnership Program 2.0.

Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing (PATH): In October 2023, the Regional Council approved funding recommendations for the Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands (HIPP) Pilot Program, an \$8 million competitive program under the PATH umbrella to support scaling up the development of available land and implementing corridor-wide or area-wide infill housing policies and initiatives. The 11 awarded HIPP projects include site assessments, site inventories, inclusionary housing programs and specific plans that unlock lands for housing with diverse housing types.

In November 2023, the Regional Council approved funding recommendations for the Lasting Affordability Program, providing \$45 million for program-level investments in housing trust funds, community land trusts, catalyst funds and nonprofit organizations. In total, the Lasting Affordability Program funded 14 planning and implementation projects to carry out REAP 2.0 goals of accelerating infill development, affirmatively furthering fair housing and reducing vehicle miles traveled through PATH.

In January 2024, SCAG's Regional Council approved funding recommendations for the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing Pilot Program (RUSH) under the PATH umbrella, funding 12 projects for a total of \$35 million. RUSH invests in utility infrastructure planning and capital improvements to support jurisdictions in meeting the housing production goals defined in the 6th Cycle of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment, local housing elements and the REAP 2.0 program framework.

County Transportation Commission Partnership Programs: In July 2023, the Regional Council approved \$80 million in funding for the County Transportation Commission Partnership Program, made possible by REAP 2.0 funding. SCAG awarded funding to 33 planning and implementation projects that expand access, increase mobility and bring jobs and housing closer together for a more sustainable growth pattern across the region. Project awards covered three eligible project categories: \$35 million for projects that increase transit ridership, \$36 million for multimodal communities projects and \$9 million for projects that shift travel behavior.

Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 1.0)

On April 1, 2024, SCAG submitted its annual report detailing the use of its REAP 1.0 funds to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The report includes project updates, associated accomplishments and best practices, the status of activities and summary of housing production indicators.

SCAG was awarded \$47 million in REAP 1.0 funding in 2019 to increase housing supply, accelerate housing production and support local jurisdictions during the 6th cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment process. All REAP 1.0 programs and projects are expected to conclude by June 30 and a final report will be submitted to HCD. SCAG will also share project tools and resources along with outcomes with its members and the public after June 30.

Sustainable Communities Program

The SCAG Regional Council approved \$4 million in October 2023 to support 11 projects through the Sustainable Communities Program – Civic Engagement, Equity and Environmental Justice (SCP CEEEJ) program. SCP CEEEJ funds projects that support multimodal communities, and housing and land use strategies that align with SCAG's REAP 2.0 framework. The SCP CEEEJ also prioritizes strategies that close the racial equity gap, include partnerships with community-based organizations and fund or provide direct benefit to historically disadvantaged, underserved, underrepresented and under-resourced communities.

The Sustainable Communities Program – Smart Cities & Mobility Innovations project awards, approved by the Regional Council in July 2022, focused on emphasizing curb use, parking management and technology integration. These "parking bundle" projects tested new curb management technologies, assessing baseline and future conditions related to parking inventory, management and policy in each of the two cities, and recommended approaches for managing local parking needs in the future. Two case studies—from the City of Desert Hot Springs looking at parking management plans and the City of Garden Grove assessing on-street parking issues in residential areas—were shared in a staff report to the Transportation Committee on Nov. 2, 2023.

The Regional Council approved the current Sustainable Communities Program Guidelines in 2020. Since then, SCAG issued four calls for applications and awarded \$11.8 million to 56 projects. The staff report shared with the Regional Council in November includes a summary of the projects funded to date.

REGIONAL TOOLS & RESOURCES

Regional Data Platform and Local Data Exchange

The Regional Council approved SCAG's Local Data Exchange (LDX) in July 2023 to share planning, land use and growth-related data with local jurisdictions in preparation for the development of Connect SoCal 2024. SCAG received data from 135 jurisdictions—more than 66 percent of jurisdictions in the SCAG region—and completed a thorough data confirmation process before Regional Council approval. The Local Data Exchange process gathered and analyzed data that made critical contributions to the vision for the region laid out in Connect SoCal 2024.

SCAG also conducted a Regional Data and Services Experience survey from February to March 2024 to assess the use of Regional Data Platform (RDP) data and tools by local jurisdictions. The survey also assessed the effectiveness of data sharing through the LDX portal and evaluated the geographic information systems (GIS) skills and capacity within our region.

Survey results will guide enhancements to the RDP, ensuring that it remains a robust resource for all stakeholders. Survey feedback on the LDX portal interactions will inform strategies to streamline data sharing processes and improve accessibility for users across the region. Additionally, survey findings will inform the development of tailored GIS training programs.

Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant

The California Public Utilities Commission approved a \$1 million Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) grant for SCAG on June 29, 2023. LATA grants support local agencies and tribes in their efforts to expand broadband service to unserved and underserved Californians.

The funding enables SCAG to advance up to three broadband projects in unserved or underserved areas. SCAG is collaborating with local jurisdictions unable to apply for funding or lacking the resources to engage a consultant or manage the project themselves.

Go Human 2023 Community Hubs Grant Program

Go Human awarded \$360,000 in Community Hubs Grant Program funding in June 2023 to 11 community organizations for local projects that leverage community gathering and resource sites for equity-centered traffic safety and community engagement projects.

Traffic Safety Grants

In October 2023, the SCAG Regional Council accepted \$1.35 million in grant funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to fund *Go Human* activities in 2023-24 for localized traffic safety engagement, temporary safety demonstration projects and grant distribution across the region, in addition to research and analysis to assess existing strategies and inform new ones.

Also in October 2023, the Regional Council accepted another \$886,000 OTS grant award to fund development of a predictive modeling platform for regional transportation safety. This award supports SCAG's efforts to improve analysis and mitigation of safety risks on the regional multimodal transportation system to reduce collision-related fatalities and serious injuries.

In December 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced a \$12 million award for SCAG under the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program. This funding will support three initiatives to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries in Southern California:

- Develop a Regional Safety Action Plan as the roadmap for new and ongoing safety strategies and support supplemental planning and demonstration activities led by local jurisdictions.
- Expand *Go Human* safety programs, including grants for community-based organizations, complete streets pop-up demonstrations and local safety campaigns.
- Pilot quick-build demonstrations through a competitive call for applications.



Legislative Advocacy & Interagency Collaboration

SCAG is the unified voice of the region, advocating for the legislative and funding needs of Southern California's diverse and growing communities, and creating a strong coalition that can achieve more together.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY & INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION

Regional Housing Needs Assessment Reform Recommendations

In September 2023, the Regional Council approved SCAG's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) reform recommendations. On Aug. 16, 2023, SCAG staff presented a total of 13 recommendations at a special meeting of the Community, Economic and Human Development committee, with changes to the regional determination, methodology and appeals processes.

Some recommendations will require legislation to implement, while others will be evaluated as part of the 7th RHNA cycle. The Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee used the recommendations to prepare multiple proposals for potential SCAG-sponsored bills and to advocate for bills containing high-priority RHNA reform concepts. SCAG will continue to monitor and report on the California Department of Housing and Community Development's process and explore ways to implement the approved recommendations.

Regional Housing Needs Assessment Reform Legislative Advocacy

This year, SCAG sponsored Assembly Bill (AB) 2485, authored by Assemblymember Juan Carrillo (D-Palmdale), chair of the Assembly Committee on Local Government and a former member of the SCAG Regional Council. AB 2485 would establish procedures for the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to publicize data sources, analyses and methodology used in the development of a region's regional housing need determination. In addition, the bill would also require HCD to convene a panel of experts to advise HCD on its assumptions, data and analyses before making its final regional housing need determination for a region. SCAG requested Chair Carrillo to author the bill to increase the transparency and accuracy in the development of a region's regional housing need determination. SCAG's advocacy to support AB 2485 has included outreach to the California Association of Council of Governments, California State Association of Counties, League of California Cities, the region's cities and counties, SCAG's sister metropolitan planning organizations and other housing-related stakeholders.

Assembly Leadership Advocacy

SCAG representatives met with California State Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas and the newly appointed chair of the Assembly Local Government Committee and former SCAG Regional Council member and State Assemblymember Juan Carillo. Representing SCAG were Regional Council President Art Brown, Second Vice President Cindy Allen, Immediate Past President Jan Harnik, Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee Vice Chair Jose Luis Solache, and Executive Director Kome Ajise.

SCAG leadership was pleased to share longstanding legislative and budgetary priorities, including support for ongoing statewide investments in active transportation and infill infrastructure grant programs, as well as the funding and implementation of the Regional Early Action Planning 2.0 program, which SCAG is using to fund implementation of pro-housing and greenhouse gas emissions reducing infrastructure programs.

Sacramento Legislative Summit

A delegation of SCAG leaders visited the state capital for the agency's annual Sacramento Summit on March 19-20. This year's trip focused on three important themes: 1) protecting the Regional Early Action Planning 2.0 grant program from proposed budget cuts; 2) supporting Assembly Bill 2485, authored by Assemblymember Juan Carrillo (D-Palmdale) that would increase transparency and accuracy in the development of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment determination; and 3) honoring promises made to the Active Transportation Program and Infill Infrastructure Grant program that fund local infrastructure needs that support the SCAG's climate, housing and vision zero goals.

Awards & Recognition

SCAG's 'Other-to-Residential Toolkit' Receives Multiple Awards from American Planning Association Chapters

The American Planning Association Los Angeles chapter recognized SCAG's "Other-to-Residential Toolkit" with the Award of Excellence in the Best Practices category. The "Other-to-Residential Toolkit" was also honored with the American Planning Association's California Chapter's Merit Award for Best Practices.

The "Other-to-Residential Toolkit" provides a step-by-step guide for policymakers and agency staff on innovating to expand housing options, such as converting underutilized sites into residential, and was made possible by funding from the Regional Early Action Planning grant program.

SCAG's Development Streamlining Project Recognized by California State Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals

The California State Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals recognized SCAG and its consulting partners Ascent, Civic Solutions and Sohagi Law Group with the Award of Merit at their annual statewide conference in April 2023 for the Environmental Resource Document as part of SCAG's Development Streamlining efforts.

The Development Streamlining project continues to move forward with its fourth and final workshop scheduled for June 20. Registration details, recordings of prior workshops and guidance materials are all available on SCAG's Development Streamlining webpage.

SCAG Awarded Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to SCAG for its annual comprehensive financial report for the 2022 fiscal year. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government agency and its management.

Awards & Recognition

SCAG Executive Director Recognized by WTS-LA

The Women's Transportation Seminar – Los Angeles Chapter (WTS-LA) recognized SCAG Executive Director Kome Ajise with the prestigious Honorable Ray LaHood Award, named after the former secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation. WTS created the Honorable Ray LaHood Award to recognize male transportation leaders who have exemplified the WTS mission by contributing to the advancement of women and minorities in the transportation sector.

SCAG Received the 2023 Public Agency Award from the Inland Empire Economic Partnership

The Inland Empire Economic Partnership (IEEP) presented SCAG with its 2023 Public Agency Award in February 2023. The IEEP works collaboratively to build and strengthen the many diverse communities and sub-regions representing the Inland Empire and continues to address current deficits in human capital, transportation infrastructure, educational attainment, environmental quality and political influence.

Go Human Partners Recognized with Awards Across the Region

SCAG *Go Human* partner projects were recognized with multiple American Planning Association (APA) awards across the region:

APA Orange County

- **2023 Grassroots Initiative, Award of Excellence**
Santa Ana Active Streets: Willard Safe Streets
- **2023 Implementation Category, Award of Excellence**
City of Laguna Niguel: Niguel Hills Middle School Safety Program

APA Inland Empire

- **2023 Grassroots Initiative, Award of Excellence**
Artlands Creative & OmniTrans: Revitalizing Public Transportation Through Bus Bench Art

APA Los Angeles

- **2023 Grassroots Initiative Award of Excellence**
Public Matters: How East Los Moves: Creatives, Custom People-Powered Transit in City Terrace
- **2023 Public Outreach Award, Award of Merit**
Los Angeles Walks: Promoters for Safe Streets: A Model for Public Outreach Investments



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