

Energy and Environment Committee
of the
Southern California Association of Governments
September 6, 2012

Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Energy and Environment Committee held its meeting at the SCAG Los Angeles Office. The meeting was called to order by the Hon. Margaret Clark, Acting Chair. There was not a quorum.

Members Present

Hon. Sylvia Ballin, San Fernando	District 67
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Larry Forester, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Ed Graham, Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Keith Hanks, Azusa	District 33
Hon. Thomas Martin, Maywood	GCCOG
Hon. Diane Williams, Rancho Cucamonga	SANBAG
Hon. Edward Wilson, Signal Hill	Gateway Cities

Members Not Present

Hon. Lisa Bartlett, Dana Point	TCA
Hon. Denis Bertone, San Dimas	SGVCOG
Hon. Brian Brennan, San Buenaventura	VCOG
Hon. Mark Calac	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG
Hon. David Gafin, Downey	District 25
Hon. James Johnson, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Phil Luebben, Cypress	OCCOG
Hon. Rafi Manoukian, Glendale	SFVCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates	District 40
Hon. Sam Pedroza, Claremont	SGVCOG
Hon. Jeffery Prang, West Hollywood	WSCCOG
Hon. Lupe Ramos Watson, Indio	District 66
Hon. Ed Scott, Rialto	SANBAG
Hon. Jack Terrazas	Imperial County
Hon. Sam Toles, Cathedral City	CVAG
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro	District 1
Hon. Mark Waldman, La Palma	OCCOG
Hon. Dennis Zine, City of Los Angeles	District 50

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Margaret Clark, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Genevieve Blanche, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, informed the EEC of the upcoming Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Conference being held on Thursday, September 27th, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., at the Courtyard by Marriott in Monrovia.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

To allow more time to convene a quorum, Consent Calendar Item 1 and Action Items 2 and 3 were moved to after Information Items 4 through 8.

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. Update on 2012 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP)

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG Staff, stated that inclusive of the required regional transportation strategy and control measures prepared by SCAG, the Draft 2012 AQMP represents a blueprint for reaching the federally mandated and health-based air quality standards in the South Coast Air Basin. The Draft 2012 AQMP demonstrates attainment of the federal 24-Hour Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 standards in the South Coast Air Basin.

On July 19, 2012 the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) released the Draft AQMP for public review and comment. Comments on the Draft AQMP were suggested to be submitted by August 31, 2012. However, the AQMD will continue to accept comments on a revised Draft until the final hearing by the AQMD Governing Board on November 2, 2012. The AQMD has held six public workshops and made eight presentations to sub-regional Council of Governments throughout the AQMD region. In addition, four regional public hearings will be held September 11-13, 2012. A revised Draft 2012 AQMP, the Socioeconomic Impact Analysis, and the Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) are scheduled to be release by the end of this week before the regional public hearings next week [note, the release date for the Socioeconomic report was later changed to the end of September].

Upon conclusion of the AQMP comment period, SCAG's written portion of the proposed Final 2012 AQMP, which is Appendix IV-C: Regional Transportation Strategy and Control Measures, will be presented to the EEC and the Regional Council on November 1, 2012 for approval. The Final 2012 AQMP is scheduled to be presented to the AQMD Governing Board for adoption at its November 2, 2012 hearing. The Final 2012 AQMP, which includes components prepared by AQMD, SCAG, and the California Air Resource Board (ARB), will be submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

5. Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Measure M2 Freeway Mitigation Program Overview

Christine Fernandez, SCAG Staff, stated that this item was being brought forward to the EEC as a precursor to the development of SCAG's open space strategy. As a reminder, a commitment to develop an open space strategy was included in the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable

Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) upon recommendation by the EEC to the Regional Council (RC).

Ms. Fernandez then introduced Dan Phu, OCTA Environmental Programs Manager, and Monte Ward, a consultant for OCTA, who provided details of OCTA's Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP), which included the program background, a description of the types of properties Orange County has invested in, and the infrastructure and environmental benefits achieved by the program.

OCTA's EMP was developed as part of Measure M2, Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements that was renewed by voters in November 2006. The EMP provides for allocation of at least five percent of the total Measure M2 freeway budget for comprehensive environmental mitigation to offset impacts from the thirteen M2 freeway improvement projects, resulting in just over \$300 million of open space funding over the life of the program, 2011 through 2041. The EMP allocates funds for land acquisitions and habitat restoration projects to facilitate the permitting process through state and federal resource agencies. Properties are purchased from willing sellers and permanently preserved as open space. To date OCTA's EMP has successfully preserved over 950 acres of open space lands and funded approximately 400 acres of habitat restoration projects.

A master agreement between OCTA, Caltrans, and state and federal resource agencies was approved in January 2010. The agreement allows for higher-value environmental protection benefits such as habitat protection, connectivity and resource preservation in exchange for streamlined project approvals for the thirteen M2 freeway projects.

6. Litigation Update

Justine Block, SCAG Deputy Legal Counsel, stated that her written report in the committee's agenda packet provides a litigation update including information regarding the settlement agreement related to the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District litigation. Since the written report was prepared, staff has received information about two recent actions from the U.S. EPA. These actions relate to implementation of a 9th Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals decision, the Association of Irrigated Residents v. EPA case. The EEC was informed at a previous meeting about that decision which relates to the 1-hour State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the South Coast Air Basin requiring that transportation control measures (TCMs) and control strategies offset emissions from growth in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT). Last week, EPA took action to disapprove portions of the 1-hour and the 8-hour Ozone SIPs for the South Coast Air Basin and secondly, to require California to develop revisions to the 1-hour Ozone SIP. The new 1-hour Ozone SIP revisions would be due within twelve months of the final EPA rule. The EPA has issued guidance that would allow flexibility not only to include transportation control measures but also control strategies in the portion of the SIP that has to be revised and submitted to the EPA. SCAG is responsible for the TCM portion of the South Coast Air Basin SIP.

Upon request from the committee concerning information in her written report, Ms. Block further provided an update regarding a request from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) for SCAG to join in an amicus brief that is being prepared by the California Association of Councils of Government (CALCOG) in support of SANDAG's position in pending litigation, *Cleveland National Forest Foundation et al. v. SANDAG*. This case involves a challenge regarding SANDAG's RTP/SCS EIR. SCAG's Executive Administration Committee held a special meeting authorizing SCAG staff to join in this amicus brief.

7. Draft Subcommittees Work Plans

Hasan Ikhata, SCAG Executive Director, stated that in August of last month the RC created six new subcommittees. The subcommittees will report to the policy committees and the policy committees to the RC. The chair, vice-chairs, and members of the subcommittees have been appointed by RC President. The subcommittees will meet once a month for six months starting in October 2012. A schedule is being developed for the dates of the meetings. The cost is approximately \$123,000.00 for the six subcommittees. The recommendation of the subcommittees will be taken through the policy committees to the RC, and then to the General Assembly in May 2013.

8. Preliminary Draft 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) Development Schedule

Huasha Liu, SCAG Director, Land Use and Environmental Planning, stated that in 2012/2013, staff will lay the ground work for the 2016 RTP/SCS, including facilitating policy recommendations from the six subcommittees as well as perform the technical work and data development. In 2014, staff will start to roll out the local input and local scenario planning processes. January 2014 will be the deadline for SCAG's sub-regions to submit their 'Letter Of Intent' for taking for taking the delegation to develop a sub-regional SCS. September 2014 will be the deadline for locals to provide input on the economic growth projections, local land use policy, and transportation projects. In 2015, the regional policy scenario planning process will be built from the bottom up. SCAG intends to release the draft plan sometime in late 2015, hold concurrent workshops, and have the final EIR presented for certification and adoption in early 2016.

CHAIR'S REPORT

STAFF REPORT

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG staff, informed the committee that on Tuesday, September 11, a new member orientation will be held at SCAG.

Mr. Nadler also acknowledged and thanked Jacob Lieb for his tenure as SCAG staff to the EEC. The committee seconded his sentiments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

1. Minutes of June 7, 2012 Meeting

Due to lack of a quorum this item will be carried over to the October 4th EEC meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

2. Support of SCAG/Metro Joint Work Program Resolution and Metro Countrywide Sustainability Planning Policy

Paul Taylor, Deputy Executive Director, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), stated that Metro was developing a countywide sustainability policy that will better integrate sustainability principals and priorities. The policy would also provide a frame work for fostering the implementation of federal, state, local, and regional sustainability policies and plans including the SCAG RTP/SCS across Los Angeles County. There are number of funding sources for the policy including Measure R. In allocating the funding sources, Metro is moving in the direction of applying its sustainability policy and sustainability principles that are in the RTP/SCS.

Metro's Board has approved a joint work program between Metro and SCAG which includes a number of elements. Metro will be serving as a representative on the Regional CEO's Sustainability Working Group. Metro will develop and seek funding for a joint SCAG/MTA Sustainable Transportation Demonstration Program that will provide local agencies with planning, programming, and capital funds to implement Compass Blueprint projects or other innovative approaches. Implementation will continue with the First and Last Mile Strategic Plan. A countywide Safe Routes to School Strategic Plan will be continued with local communities to establish programs to sustain and enhance existing efforts. Metro will continue to support SCAG and collaborate with regional stakeholders on the regional Plug-In Electric Vehicle (PEV) Readiness Plan. Metro will support SCAG in developing a conservation planning policy as recommended in the RTP/SCS. Metro will support SCAG in exploring opportunities to expedite active transportation planning funding to ensure that local infrastructure is in place to support the extension of a rail system at the time when new stations come on. Metro will conduct a high-quality transit study to review the incentive programs offered by Metro and SCAG. Metro will continue to improve collaborative efforts to improve performance measurement and monitoring of the benefits of transportation projects and plans.

Progress on these items will be reported to Metro's ad hoc Sustainability Committee and to the EEC on a quarterly basis starting in January 2013.

No action was taken on this item due to lack of a quorum. This item will be brought back for action at the October meeting of the EEC.

3. Conformity Analysis for the 2013 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG staff, stated that the 2013 FTIP is a multi-modal listing of all proposed capital transportation projects program with over \$32 billion dollars in the SCAG region for the next six fiscal years. The Draft Conformity Analysis for the 2013 FTIP was released for a 30-day public review period including two public hearings. Staff has responded to written comments received. The final Conformity Analysis demonstrates that the 2013 FTIP meets all transportation conformity requirements.

No action was taken on this item due to lack of a quorum. This item will go to the Regional Council for action, without a recommendation from the EEC.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Water related issues, including receiving water language; permits, etc.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Margaret Clark adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

The next meeting of the Energy & Environment Committee will be held on Thursday, October 4, 2012 at the SCAG Los Angeles Office.

Action Minutes Approved by:



Jonathan Nadler, Manager
Compliance and Performance
Monitoring

