



NO. 661
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Regional Council (RC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

Members Present

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Hon. Art Brown, President | <i>Buena Park</i> | District 21 |
| Hon. Cindy Allen, 2nd Vice President | <i>Long Beach</i> | District 30 |
| Hon. Jan Harnik, Imm. Past President | | RCTC |
| Supervisor Luis Plancarte | | Imperial County |
| Supervisor Don Wagner | | Orange County |
| Supervisor Karen Spiegel | | Riverside County |
| Supervisor Vianey Lopez | | Ventura County |
| Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich | | ICTC |
| Hon. Alan Wapner | | SBCTA |
| Hon. Trish Kelley | | TCA |
| Hon. Mike T. Judge | | VCTC |
| Hon. Gil Rebolgar | <i>Brawley</i> | District 1 |
| Hon. Kathleen Kelly | <i>Palm Desert</i> | District 2 |
| Hon. Linda Krupa | <i>Hemet</i> | District 3 |
| Hon. Clint Lorimore | <i>Eastvale</i> | District 4 |
| Hon. Zak Schwank | <i>Temecula</i> | District 5 |
| Hon. Frank Navarro | <i>Colton</i> | District 6 |
| Hon. Ray Marquez | <i>Chino Hills</i> | District 10 |
| Hon. Wendy Bucknum | <i>Mission Viejo</i> | District 13 |
| Hon. Tammy Kim | <i>Irvine</i> | District 14 |
| Hon. Jon Dumitru | <i>Orange</i> | District 17 |
| Hon. Marshall Goodman | <i>La Palma</i> | District 18 |



Hon. Carlos Leon	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Joe Kalmick	<i>Seal Beach</i>	District 20
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23
Hon. Claudia Frometa	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. José Luis Solache	<i>Lynwood</i>	District 26
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Mark E. Henderson	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Suely Saro	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Gary Boyer	<i>Glendora</i>	District 33
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Keith Eich	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. Drew Boyles	<i>El Segundo</i>	District 40
Hon. Lauren Meister	<i>West Hollywood</i>	District 41
Hon. Ken Mann	<i>Lancaster</i>	District 43
Hon. David J. Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Laura Hernandez	<i>Port Hueneme</i>	District 45
Hon. Rocky Rhodes	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Tim McOsker	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Casey McKeon	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Elizabeth Becerra	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Oscar Ortiz	<i>Indio</i>	District 66
Hon. Celeste Rodriguez	<i>San Fernando</i>	District 67
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Larry McCallon	<i>Highland</i>	Air District Representative
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Brd.
Ms. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

Members Not Present

Supervisor Curt Hagman, 1st Vice President

- Supervisor Kathryn Barger
- Supervisor Hilda Solis
- Hon. Damon L. Alexander
- Hon. Deborah Robertson
- Hon. L. Dennis Michael
- Hon. Rick Denison

Members Not Present

- San Bernardino*
- Rialto*
- Rancho Cucamonga*
- Yucca Valley*

Members Not Present

San Bernardino County

- Los Angeles County
- Los Angeles County
- District 7
- District 8
- District 9
- District 11



Hon. John Gabbard	<i>Dana Point</i>	District 12
Hon. Lauren Kleiman	<i>Newport Beach</i>	District 15
Hon. Valerie Amezcua	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Jeff Wood	<i>Lakewood</i>	District 24
Hon. Andrew Sarega	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31
Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler	<i>Alhambra</i>	District 34
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Konstantine Anthony	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Eunisses Hernandez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 48
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 50
Hon. Nithya Raman	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Katy Young Yaroslavsky	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Imelda Padilla	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 56
Hon. Heather Hutt	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Traci Park	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
Hon. John Lee	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Hugo Soto-Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. Kevin de León	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Marisela Nava	<i>Perris</i>	District 69
Hon. Karen Bass	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Brown called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and asked Regional Council Member Larry McCallon, Air District Representative, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

He also reminded the members that if a member of this body was attending remotely but not at a location specified on the agenda, they could observe but not participate in any discussion or voting of this body.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Brown opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. He noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. He reminded the public to submit comments via email to ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov.

There were no public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

The Clerk of the Board acknowledged that two public comments were received by the 5:00 p.m. deadline, one from the Business Industry Association of Southern California (BIA) and the other from the City of Huntington Beach regarding Agenda Item 5 – RHNA Reform Legislative Action.

Adam Wood, BIA, thanked the President for the opportunity to comment and noted they had submitted a letter. He acknowledged SCAG staff and thanked Kevin Gilhooley for the outreach on Agenda Item 5, the RHNA reform matter. He explained that a lot of hard work went into this, and they were really appreciative of everything that was done. He indicated that they had one procedural request which was to reflect that the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) has the ability to review the language that will eventually be considered for implementation.

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

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

Action Items 1 and the Consent Calendar were acted upon together. The roll call vote is reflected below.

ACTION ITEMS

1. REAP 2.0 - Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) Funding Awards

President Brown opened the Public Comment Period for Action Item 1.

Sylvia Chavez, City of Calipatria, thanked the Regional Council for their consideration of the Delta Street Pump Station Project. She noted that this project will help with necessary repairs and future residential developments. She indicated that it would be channeled into making a significant difference in the lives of those they serve. On behalf of the city of Calipatria, she expressed thanks for their consideration.

Regional Council Member Maria Nava-Froelich, ICTC, recognized Mayor Sylvia Chavez, Public Works Director Edgar Self, and City Manager Laura Gutierrez. She indicated that on behalf of the city of Calipatria they were excited about the award that was recommended in the amount of \$1.5 million for the city of Calipatria. She indicated it would represent a range of investments in utility infrastructure, planning, capital projects that support housing planning efforts, and accelerate infield development. She indicated that these utilities were necessary in accelerating the housing supply choice and affordability, as well as affirmatively furthering fair housing. She also recognized the Imperial County SCAG office and ICTC staff.

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

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that this item was the latest award in their work under the Regional Early Action Planning program (REAP). He noted that with REAP, SCAG supports work to align both transportation and housing development to help achieve California's climate goals. He shared that under REAP 1, they had awarded \$47 million to just over 100 projects across the region. He noted that under REAP 2, they suballocated \$157 to jurisdictions throughout the region and with this award that number would climb to \$192 million. He shared that all of this work seeds investment in innovative finance, land use and transportation strategies which will have benefits for the region as it comes to fruition.

Ma'Ayn Johnson, Housing Program Manager, reported that the CEHD Committee supported the action to recommend that the Regional Council approve the RUSH funding awards as presented in the staff report. She provided a brief recap of the Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing (PATH) under REAP 2 which allocates \$88.8 million for housing focus grants. She also shared that a lot of these programs were continuations of plans that they had already laid the foundation for under the REAP 1 program. She noted the breakdown of the PATH grant as follows:

- Housing Infill on Public and Private Land (HIPP) Pilot Program - \$8.8 million and funded 11 projects, which was approved by the Regional Council in October;

- Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) for Lasting Affordability - \$45 million and funded 14 projects which was approved by the Regional Council in November; and
- Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) Pilot Program - \$35 million to fund non-transportation utilities infrastructure improvements both for planning and capital projects.

Jessica Reyes Juarez, Associate Regional Planner, provided background information on the RUSH program which was open to SCAG cities, counties, tribal governments and public agencies with a role in housing production. She noted that the program was targeted around how both utilities can support housing production goals and how it can embed elements of resilience, adaptation, and sustainability. She explained that the program itself was divided into two categories and that applicants could either apply to the planning projects category for infrastructure, planning, and assessing and supporting increased utility capacity for housing, or they could apply to the capital category for the implementation and construction work for those utilities. She noted that \$5 million was allocated to the planning category with the hopes of funding at least six projects in the region, and the remaining \$30 million was allocated to the capital projects category with the hopes of funding at least three projects in the region. She briefly described the outreach they did on this call for applications. She explained that they received six applications for the planning projects category and of that, one was deemed ineligible. As a result, she noted that five applications proceeded to evaluation by the SCAG evaluation team which determined that all five projects met the core criteria for REAP 2 and the RUSH pilot program and therefore, were being recommended for funding for a total of about \$2.7 million. With respect to the capital projects, she noted that they received 12 applications, and all proceeded to evaluation by the SCAG team. She explained that the team was recommending seven of those projects for funding for a total of about \$32.3 million. She shared that it was noted in their guidelines that depending on interest in the program categories, they could shift funds from one category to another. Since the planning category was under subscribed, they allocated those remaining funds into the capital category which was oversubscribed. She highlighted that in total this was a \$35 million allocation for the RUSH pilot program. She provided a breakdown of the project types being recommended under the planning and capital projects. Her presentation also included a slide on the summary of projects recommended by funding, project category and ranking. She noted that across the two programs, they had projects represented for communities in Imperial County, Los Angeles County, Riverside County, San Bernardino County and one tribal government. She explained that they did not receive applications from communities in Orange and Ventura counties. She also noted that approval of the RUSH funding awards would allow them to begin developing MOUs and scopes.

Regional Council Member Frank Yokoyama, Cerritos, District 23, and Chair of the CEHD Committee, stated that they received a presentation at the CEHD Committee and unanimously approved staff's recommendation. He noted that they received a very nice public comment and had representation from multiple representatives from the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians who attended the meeting and expressed gratitude and thanked SCAG staff for the recommendation of the RUSH funding. He

also reported that one application from the City of Norwalk, a city he represents, was not recommended and asked staff if they had reached out to the city to debrief and give them suggestions and advice on future applications.

Elizabeth Carvajal, Deputy Planning Director, stated that they provided applicants that were not successful with a notification and invited them to reach out to SCAG to schedule debrief. She indicated that this was something that was available to everyone that applied and was not successful. She shared that they sent out these notifications in advance of the CEHD meeting so that individuals were able to reach out to SCAG to schedule a debrief. She emphasized that this was something that was available to them.

Regional Council Member Yokoyama asked if this [the debrief] had happened with the city of Norwalk. Ms. Carvajal indicated that they had not received any debrief requests to date.

Regional Council Member Larry McCallon, Air District Representative, made the motion to approve Item 1 and the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Regional Council Member Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood, District 26.

Regional Council Member Karen Spiegel, Riverside County, asked to pull agenda Item No. 5.

Regional Council Member McCallon asked if they could discuss Item No. 5 before voting [on Item No.1 and the Consent Calendar]. President Brown acknowledged the request.

Regional Council Member Spiegel acknowledged the two written public comments they received. She indicated that the BIA made some good recommendations and noted it could be inclusive rather than making major changes by adding some transparency. She indicated that she had an interest in adding some of the comments from the BIA such as authorizing staff to develop draft legislative language and to identify and obtain a legislative author.

Kevin Gilhooley, Legislative Manager, reported that the LCMC was making a recommendation to the Regional Council that they move forward with these two concepts as SCAG sponsored legislation. He noted that the LCMC's recommendation was that they move forward with SCAG staff and SCAG lobbyist to identify a legislator who would be willing to commission draft legislation from the Office of the Legislative Council, the team of attorneys in Sacramento who write all the draft legislative bills and updates. He shared that the deadline to submit these requests was January 19 and legislators needed to submit these requests to the Office of Legislative Council in order to move forward with draft legislative language. He noted that as part of the recommendation from the LCMC they were also asking for permission to introduce the legislation. He shared that the draft legislation would be passed across either the Assembly or the Senate desk and that's where it would be stamped with a bill number. He noted the deadline for this was

February 16. He also indicated that that they were asking for permission to include SCAG's name as a bill sponsor on any of the material produced by the Legislators office. He shared that the LCMC has meetings in January and February where this legislation would come back to the Committee and where they would have met these deadlines. He noted that they also had the opportunity for the LCMC to fully flesh out whether they had achieved the goal or if there was an opportunity to improve the legislation, as well as how they can work to gain the support from their friends and colleagues, including the BIA and others. He shared that this would also be the centerpiece of their Sacramento summit scheduled for March.

Regional Council Member Spiegel asked if he would reach out and explain this response to the bill. Mr. Gilhooley shared that he had already been in contact with Mr. Woods from the BIA.

Regional Council Member Solache shared that they had multiple discussions throughout the years and with different administrations and noted that they were just happy the LCMC was moving forward with a proposal that makes sense. He indicated that SCAG staff did really great work following up with different stakeholders to make sure that they are going to introduce legislation that makes sense. He shared that this was a very well thought out process to get some sort of conversation going at the state level to address this issue that they keep having at SCAG and at other agencies. He expressed his support on behalf of the LCMC and indicated they had done the homework on this. He thanked staff for all the good work on this.

Regional Council Member Wendy Bucknum, Mission Viejo, District 13, stated that the way this had been summarized by the two former speakers was exactly her vision as a member of the LCMC and thought Mr. Gilhooley explained the process well. She said it was on the record that this was coming back and gave her assurance to those who sent in letters that this was the intent. She expressed that she appreciated the comment and would be supporting this item.

Regional Council Member Alan Wapner, SBCTA, stated that as part of the approval, he would like to make sure that the actual language comes back to the LCMC as he thought it was important that they include it as part of their action. He expressed that prior to it being forwarded to their advocates, the LCMC should have an opportunity to review the actual draft language before it moves forward.

Regional Council Member Patricia Lock Dawson, Riverside, District 68 and Chair of the LCMC, assured Regional Council Member Spiegel and the other commenters that all these comments were discussed and taken in. She indicated they were committed to full transparency and full review of any language that staff comes up with and subject to approval by the LCMC. She motioned approval of this agenda item that had been pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Regional Council Member Bucknum seconded Regional Council Member Lock Dawson's motion. She also indicated that she did agree with Regional Council Member Wapner and stated if he felt more comfortable with adding this language as part of a motion, that it come back to the LCMC, she would be comfortable with it if Regional Council Member Lock Dawson was in agreement. She indicated that she was not sure if this was his intent.

Regional Council Member Lock Dawson stated she would be happy to include it [in the motion].

Regional Council Member Wapner stated this was what he intended and appreciated them adding it to the motion.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, provided clarity on the motions and indicated that they currently had a friendly amendment from Regional Council Member Wapner which had been acceded to by Regional Council Member Bucknam, and so the motion on the Consent Calendar and Item No. 1 would include the friendly amendment without objection.

Regional Council Member McCallon accepted the friendly amendment to his motion.

Board Counsel Duran reaffirmed the acceptance of the friendly amendment. He also provided additional clarification on a separate item on the Consent Calendar related to Item No. 3, the proposed revisions to the Regional Council Policy Manual (RCPM). He indicated that there was some confusion with respect to two amendments that had been put forward for the Regional Council's consideration which were in Section V of the RCPM. He noted that there were two separate proposed amendments that included two separate attachments. He indicated attachment one was the first part of the proposed amendment and attachment two was the second part and then the following amendments were two other sections of the RCPM.

Regional Council Member Jan Harnik, RCTC, stated that they had a similar discussion at the Executive/Administration Committee and the item passed unanimously. She expressed that this was one of those items in which they were not asking for money and were just asking for obstacles to be removed so they could address the housing crisis.

Regional Council Member Yokoyama asked for clarification on the language of the friendly amendment.

Board Counsel Duran stated that it was that the item come back to the LCMC once the process has started for further information and/or review of the proposed legislation which were two pieces of proposed pieces of legislation.

The Clerk confirmed that the motion was made by Regional Council Member McCallon and seconded by Regional Council Member Solache.

CONSENT CALENDAR

As noted above, there were two public comments submitted for Item No. 5. Additionally, a public comment was made earlier on Item No. 5. No additional public comments were made.

Approval Items

2. Minutes of the Meeting – November 2, 2023
3. Amendments to the Regional Council Policy Manual
4. Guidelines for 2024 Go Human Community Streets Grant Program
5. RHNA Reform - Legislative Action
6. 2024 State & Federal Legislative Platform

Receive and File

7. January 2024 State and Federal Legislative Update
8. REAP 1.0 Biannual Program Update
9. Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 External Financial Audit
10. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
11. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (McCallon) on **Item No. 1**: that the Regional Council: 1) approve the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) funding awards as presented in the report; 2) authorize the SCAG Executive Director or his designee to execute all documents and actions incident to effectuating the awards and resulting projects including any revisions to proposed scopes of work as needed for compliance with the REAP 2.0 program; and **Consent Calendar**: Items 2 through 6; and Receive and File Items 7 and 11. Additionally, that proposed legislation on Agenda Item 5 come back to the LCMC once the process has started for further information and/or review of the proposed legislation. Motion was SECONDED (Solache) and passed by the following roll call votes:

AYES: Allen, Becerra, Boyer, Boyles, Brown, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Dumitru, Eich, Finlay, Frometa, Goodman, Harnik, Henderson, L. Hernandez, Judge, J. Kalmick, Kelley, Kelly, Krupa, Leon, Lock Dawson, Lopez, Lorimore, Mann, Manos, Marquez, Masiel, McCallon, McKeon, Meister, Nava-Froelich, Navarro, Ortiz, Plancarte, Rebollar, Rhodes, C. Rodriguez, Saleh, Sandoval, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Solache, Spiegel, Wagner, Wapner, and Yokoyama (48)

*Regional Council Member, Suely Saro, Long Beach, District 29, expressed support for Item 1 and the Consent Calendar. Unfortunately, her vote is not reflected in the count due to staff error in listing her location on the agenda incorrectly.

*Regional Council Member Margaret Clark, Rosemead, District 32, expressed support for Item 1 and the Consent Calendar. Her vote is not reflected in the count as she was not at a noticed location and there was not a quorum of the membership present in the room for her to use the “just cause” provision.

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEM

12. Presidential Priorities Panel: Clean Transportation Technology

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that since 2020, California has implemented significant measures, such as Governor Newsom’s Zero Emission Vehicle Order, Advanced Clean Cars 2 and Advanced Clean Fleets, requiring a shift to Zero Emissions Vehicles. He noted that on April 6, 2023, the Regional Council responded by adopting the Clean Transportation Technology Policy, formalizing SCAG’s commitment to support the development, commercialization and deployment of a zero-emission transportation system and supporting elements, with an emphasis on technology neutrality. He indicated that aligning with this policy, the EAC Strategic Work Plan includes a Presidential Priority on clean transportation, as a key area for regional collaboration this fiscal year. He shared that SCAG has made significant progress on this Presidential Priority and this includes the completion and ongoing development of several major projects like the Clean Technology Compendium, the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Study, the Last Mile Freight Program, and the Southern California Zero Emission Truck Infrastructure Study. He noted that each of these projects plays a role in advancing clean technology initiatives in the region. He explained that they invited three representatives whose organizations were leading the clean energy transition, to provide

their perspectives on the challenges and opportunities they face in achieving California's ambitious clean energy targets. He indicated the speaker were as follows:

- Stephen Collins, Senior Manager for Strategic Planning at Southern California Edison (SCE), who would present on the energy landscape needed to achieve California's 2045 net-zero emissions goal.
- Carrie Schindler, Deputy Executive Director of the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA), who would share insights into her agency's proactive role in leading the clean energy transition.
- Angelina Galiteva, CEO of the Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems, who would talk about the California hydrogen hub initiative.

Mr. Collins provided a presentation on SCE's newly released white paper, "Countdown to 2045: Realizing California's Pathway to Net Zero." He shared that their findings shined a light on many of the actions that will need to be taken in California and in Southern California to achieve decarbonization goals. He also shared that the pace for electrification will need to increase and that the total number of zero emission appliances and vehicles in California by 2045 will be even higher than they had previously anticipated. He explained that in order to supply the clean electricity that's required for these appliances to be zero emissions, the build out of clean generation in California will also need to increase to include more solar, more wind, new technologies, as well as offshore wind. Additionally, he indicated that the grid that connects the clean energy generation to these use cases that drive the economy will need to expand as well. He also shared that the analysis shows what their company believes is the most feasible and the most cost-effective way for California to achieve its goals and to support all of the economic development that's projected to take place throughout the State over the next 21 years. His presentation also included reasons for why they wrote the white paper such as policies in place, market change, emerging technologies and an infusion of government funding. He also shared some of the findings and indicated that demand on electricity will almost double by 2045 and that the two biggest drivers were electric vehicles and building electrification. He explained that the State's supply of electricity will have to increase which is why they did a cost optimization and a reliability optimization to estimate what the best mix for California will be. His presentation also included information on grid expansion as it relates to transmission and distribution which will also need to increase. He also addressed affordability and what the cost of the total investment will be.

Members engaged in discussion regarding future savings, the burden on individual households, what sources will be relied upon to meet increased demand, and the difficult process of putting solar roofing on California homes versus other states given new PUC rules.

Ms. Schindler shared that SBCTA has been working for years on improving air quality with the focus on transportation. She indicated that there were three areas they were working on which were

trucks, buses and passenger rail. Her presentation included information about zero-emission multiple unit (ZEMU) rail vehicles on the Arrow rail service between San Bernardino and Redlands and the implementation process they went through with multiple partners. She also shared that the ZEMU vehicles use a hybrid hydrogen fuel cell and battery technology to propel the vehicle. She also noted that they developed the ZEMU while building on the infrastructure and included two ports for fueling the vehicle. Her presentation also included a brief overview of the project schedule which started in 2018 and is expected to be completed by 2024. She also addressed the topic of transit operator initiatives and indicated they had \$200 million programmed for bus operators over the next seven years. She briefly touched upon the West Valley Corridor 100 percent zero-emission bus rapid transit system and the Victor Valley Transit Authority's hydrogen system which they are getting ready to break ground on for their hydrogen fueling facility. Her presentation also included information on clean truck initiatives which SBCTA started looking at back in 2011. She shared that they had a toolkit that they worked on with Metro and RCTC on how to build healthy communities and healthy economies together. She also noted that in 2022, SBCTA took an action to incorporate zero-emission truck charging/fueling stations into their SB 1 Transit Enhanced Corridor grant application and now have three sites. Lastly, she shared that they were working with SCAG on the zero-emission truck infrastructure study.

Members engaged in discussions regarding hydrogen supply issues and whether any of the fueling stations had electrolyzers onsite.

Ms. Galiteva provided a presentation on ARCHES initiative to accelerate renewable hydrogen projects through the California Hydrogen Hub. She also provided an overview of their mission which is to create sustainable statewide renewable, clean hydrogen market and ecosystem in California. She explained that ARCHES utilizes renewable resources to produce hydrogen with the objective to fully decarbonize the regional economy. She provided an overview of ARCHES projects and indicated that they created a system approach that focuses on the feedstock, hydrogen production, distribution/infrastructure, and demand/offtake. She also shared that they wanted to see what the ecosystem was in California for hydrogen as they were applying for the hydrogen hub, and as a result issued a solicitation for proposals. From 100 proposals, she indicated that 39 were selected to be part of the proposal to DOE. Her presentation included an overview of the drivers for selecting the projects, the reasons for why they received the DOE funding and a map of the production and offtake sites. She emphasized ARCHES commitment to communities was very strong and that they were focused on improving environmental health and the quality of life, increasing availability of high-quality family-sustaining green jobs, and ensuring the hydrogen market is aligned with California community needs. Her presentation also included information about ARCHES investment which will be \$229 million in workforce development projects and an additional \$150 million in programs defined in partnership with individual communities. Additionally, she provided a brief overview of the community benefits in engagement and the workforce. Lastly, she noted that they

were currently in negotiations with the DOE and hoping to move into phase one as everything had to be built by 2030 and had to run for two years by 2032 to get all the funding.

Members asked questions regarding the number of high paying jobs this project will produce, and which counties had projects.

Mr. Ajise thanked the presenters and noted that they had been working on issues related to clean technology over the years which had been addressed at the Regional Council.

BUSINESS REPORT

Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, reported they had a great agenda coming up for the GLUE Council meeting scheduled for January 29 at 10:00 a.m. She noted items of discussion which included the hydrogen hub, the State budget deficit, business community support on the Greenprint and Connect SoCal, and a presentation from Jeff Montejano, CEO of the Southern California Building Industry Association, who would provide an update on housing for 2024. She also brought attention to the Chapman Economic Forecast in her report which indicated that resale housing supply was constrained, there wasn't enough on the market and that mortgage interest rates were still high.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Brown welcomed new Regional Council Member Carlos A. Leon, Anaheim, RC District 19 and thanked Ashleigh Aitken, who previously held the seat, for her service on the Regional Council. He also thanked Brian Goodell, OCTA Representative, for his service on the Regional Council. He provided an Economic Summit recap and noted that there was more than 500 in attendance. He also provided an update on the Connect SoCal 2024 elected briefings and noted that SCAG hosted 15 briefings in Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties. He also announced the call for committee members to serve on the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Scholarship Committee. He shared that Second Vice President Cindy Allen had also started the process to convene the General Assembly Host Committee. He also reported that Executive Director Kome Ajise was one of 25 members appointed to California State Transportation Agency's statewide Transit Task Force and noted that the Task Force would meet bimonthly to develop policy recommendations for growing transit ridership, improving the transit rider experience and addressing long-term operational needs. He indicated that the recommendations would be reported to the state Legislature by October 21, 2025. Lastly, he reminded members that the next Regional Council meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that SCAG was accepting nominations for three federal programs which were the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). He noted that the combined budget for these three programs was \$278 million. He explained that the project nominations would go through each County Transportation Commission who will coordinate with eligible entities in their counties to submit a prioritized list to SCAG. He indicated that SCAG would bring a list of those three programs to the Regional Council in June. He also introduced Jeff Elder as the newly appointed Chief Legal Counsel and provided a brief overview of Mr. Elder’s public work experience. He also announced the retirement of Leyton Morgan, Contracts Manager, who worked with SCAG for the last 17 years.

Mr. Morgan expressed his thanks to the Regional Council and staff and noted his appreciation for the support.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Brown adjourned the meeting of the Regional Council at 2:07 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]

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