



Southern California Association of Governments
October 1, 2026

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026**

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). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Rick Denison (Chair)	<i>Yucca Valley</i>	District 11
Hon. Daniel Ramos (Vice Chair)	<i>Adelanto</i>	District 65
Hon. Ana Beltran	<i>Westmoreland</i>	ICTC
Hon. Art Bishop	<i>Town of Apple Valley</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Martha Cardenas-Singh		Imperial County
Hon. Ed Chen	<i>Temple City</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	Pres. Appointment
Hon. Robert Copeland	<i>Signal Hill</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Ned Davis	<i>Westlake Village</i>	LVMCOG
Hon. Victoria Garcia	<i>San Fernando</i>	Pres. Appointment
Hon. Carmen Hernandez	<i>Barstow</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Shari Horne	<i>Laguna Woods</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Elaine Litster	<i>Simi Valley</i>	VCOG
Hon. Brian Johsz	<i>Chino Hills</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Vianey Lopez		Ventura County
Hon. Yasmine-Imani McMorris	<i>Culver City</i>	WCCOG
Hon. Suely Saro	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Patty Senecal	<i>Seal Beach</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Jennifer Stark	<i>Claremont</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Ali Taj	<i>Artesia</i>	Pres. Appt
Hon. Tamala Takahashi	<i>Burbank</i>	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut	<i>Buena Park</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Dale Welty	<i>Canyon Lake</i>	WRCOG

Members Not Present

Hon. Daniel Brotman	<i>Glendale</i>	District 42
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Hon. Britt Huff	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Steven Leash	<i>Cahuilla Band of Indians</i>	
Hon. Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios	<i>Ventura</i>	VCOG
Hon. Stephanie Virgen	<i>Coachella</i>	CVAG

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Denison called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. Policy Committee Member Ed Chen, Temple City, SGVCOG, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Denison opened the public comment period and noted that this was the time for members of the public to offer comment on matters that are within SCAG's jurisdiction but are not listed on the agenda.

Chair Denison asked if any comments were received after the deadline. SCAG staff acknowledged there were no public comments received after the 5:00 p.m. deadline of September 2, 2026.

Seeing no public comment, Chair Denison 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.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – July 2, 2026

Receive and File

2. EEC Outlook and Future Agenda Items
3. Connect SoCal 2050: CEQA Documentation Initiation
4. Innovative Clean Transit Regional Assessment Study

EEC Vice Chair Ramos stated that Member Victoria Garcia notified him that she did not attend from an approved remote location during the previous meeting and requested that her vote be removed from the meeting minutes.

A MOTION was made (Crosswhite) to approve Consent Calendar Item 1, with revised minutes; and Receive and File Items 2 through 4. Motion was SECONDED (Clark) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Beltran, Bishop, Cardenas-Singh, Chen, Clark, Copeland, Crosswhite, Davis, Denison, Hernandez, Horne, Johz, Litster, Lock Dawson, Ramos, Stark, Taj, Takahashi, Traut, and Welty (20)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

ACTION ITEM

5. Recommendation to Adopt Addendum 2 to the Connect SoCal 2024 Final Program Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. : 2022100337)

There were no public comments on item 5.

Karen Calderon, Principal Regional Planner, stated that CEQA required environmental review of Connect SoCal Amendment 2 and indicated the completed analysis found no new significant impacts and that all proposed changes remained within the scope of the previously certified PEIR. She recommended adoption of Addendum 2 as the appropriate environmental document.

A MOTION was made (Ramos) to recommend that the Regional Council adopt Resolution No. 26-684-1 approving Addendum 2 to the Connect SoCal 2024 Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR, SCH No. 2022100337), and direct staff to carry out administrative tasks for the approval. Motion was SECONDED (Chen) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Beltran, Bishop, Cardenas-Singh, Chen, Clark, Copeland, Crosswhite, Davis, Denison, Hernandez, Horne, Johz, Litster, Lock Dawson, Ramos, Saro, Stark, Taj, Takahashi, Traut, and Welty (21)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

6. Transportation Conformity Determinations of Proposed Final 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Proposed Final Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 2

There were no public comments on item 6.

Ryan Banuelos, Senior Regional Planner, stated that SCAG had completed the required transportation conformity analyses for the proposed 2027 FTIP and Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 2. He indicated

both reports satisfied all federal conformity requirements through regional emissions analysis, financial constraints and timely implementation of control measures. He requested that the committee recommend to the Regional Council for approval and authorization for federal submittal.

A MOTION was made (Lock Dawson) to recommend that the Regional Council approve the transportation conformity determinations of the proposed final 2027 FTIP and the proposed final Connect SoCal 2024 (2024 RTP/SCS) Amendment 2; and direct staff to carry out administrative tasks for submittal to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration for final approval. Motion was SECONDED (Saro) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Beltran, Bishop, Cardenas-Singh, Chen, Clark, Copeland, Crosswhite, Davis, Denison, Hernandez, Horne, Johz, Litster, Lock Dawson, Ramos, Saro, Stark, Taj, Takahashi, Traut, and Welty (21)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

7. Connect SoCal 2050: Policy Development Framework

There was one public comment on item 7 from Mike McCarthy, Vice Chair of Riverside Neighbors Opposing Warehouses and Sierra Club Box Springs Group Conservation Co-Chair. He stated the Connect SoCal 2050 framework should address goods movement, warehouse growth, and related air quality impacts.

Philip Law, Deputy Director, stated that the Connect SoCal 2050 Policy Development Framework was reviewed by the Connect SoCal 2050 Subcommittee and brought forward for policy committee recommendation. He stated that the framework focused on regional planning policies, implementation strategies, future scenario planning, and leadership through the subcommittee, with key focus areas including demographics, transportation technology, housing, and resilience. He further stated that the current plan included significant investments in transportation operations and maintenance and noted the long-term transportation funding challenges associated with declining gas tax revenue. Lastly, he indicated that future policy committee discussions would address issues such as resilience, housing, environmental considerations, and disadvantaged communities.

A MOTION was made (Saro) to recommend that the Regional Council adopt the Connect SoCal 2050 Policy Development Framework. Motion was SECONDED (Lock Dawson) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Beltran, Bishop, Cardenas-Singh, Chen, Clark, Copeland, Crosswhite, Davis, Denison, Garcia, Hernandez, Horne, Johz, Litster, Lock Dawson, Lopez, McMorrin, Ramos, Senecal, Saro, Stark, Taj, Takahashi, and Welty (24)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Regional Wildlife Connectivity Study Overview

There were no public comments on item 8.

India Brookover, Senior Regional Planner, stated that the Regional Wildlife Connectivity Study, which was funded through a Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant, would identify high-value areas for wildlife connectivity improvements, support transportation safety and ecosystem resilience, highlight best practices, and identify funding and partnership opportunities. She indicated the study would be conducted from 2027 through 2029 with ongoing stakeholder engagement and would support future wildlife crossing and habitat connectivity efforts across the SCAG region.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Denison stated that SCAG released the Innovative Clean Transit Regional Assessment, which evaluates regional readiness for the transition to zero-emission bus fleets by 2040. He also announced SCAG received a \$700,000 Caltrans grant for the Regional Wildlife Connectivity Study, which would identify opportunities to improve wildlife movement, reduce vehicle collisions, and support ecosystem connectivity.

STAFF REPORT

Chair Denison provided the staff report and stated that the SCAG Economic Roundtable discussed regional economic trends, noting continued economic growth, slower job creation, increased housing production, and varying economic conditions across the SCAG region.

ANNOUNCEMENT

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Denison adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 10:30 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT															
2026-2027															
MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date	
Beltran, Ana	Westmoreland, ICTC	0	1	D	1									2	
Bishop, Art	Apple Valley, SBCTA	1	1		1									3	
Brotman, Daniel	Glendale, RC District 42	1	0		0									1	
Cardenas-Singh, Martha	Imperial County	0	1		1									2	
Chen, Ed	Temple City, SCVCOG	1	1		1									3	
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, Pres. Apt	1	1		1									3	
Copeland, Robert	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	0		1									2	
Crosswhite, Jenny	Santa Paula, RC District 47	1	1		1									3	
Davis, Ned	Westlake Village, LVMCOG	1	0		1									2	
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, RC District 11	1	1		1									3	
Garcia, Victoria	San Fernando, Pres. Apt	0	1	A	1									2	
Hernandez, Carmen	Barstow, SBCTA	1	1		1									3	
Horne, Shari	Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1	0		1									2	
Huff, Britt	Rolling Hills Estates, SCBCOG	1	1		0									2	
Johsz, Brian	Chino Hills, SBCTA	1	1		1									3	
Leash, Steven	Cahuilla Band of Indians	0	0	R	0									0	
Litster, Elaine	Simi Valley, VCOG	1	0		1									2	
Lock Dawson, Patricia	Riverside, District 68	0	1		1									2	
Lopez, Vianey	Ventura County	1	0		1									2	
McMorrin, Yasmine-Imani	Culver City, WCCOG	1	1		1									3	
Ramos, Daniel	Adelanto, SBCTA	1	1	K	1									3	
Sanchez-Palacios, Jeanette	Ventura, VCOG	1	0		0									1	
Saro, Suely	Long Beach, RC District 29	1	1		1									3	
Senecal, Patty	Seal Beach, OCCOG	1	1		1									3	
Stark, Jennifer	Claremont, SGVCOG	1	1		1									3	
Taj, Ali	Artesia, Pres. Apt	1	1		1									3	
Takahashi, Tamala	Burbank, SFVCOG	0	1		1									2	
Traut, Connor	Buena Park, OCCOG	0	1		1									2	
Virgen, Stephanie	Coachella, CVAG	0	1		0									1	
Welty, Dale	Canyon Lake, WRCOG	1	1		1									3	