Update on SCAG Tools Underway
Regional Data Platform (RDP), SoCal Greenprint, Local Information Services Team (LIST)

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SCAG Planning Division, with Esri and The Nature Conservancy
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Guiding Themes & Goals

- Pursue resources for planning and implementation of open data, big data, and new technology initiatives (*Future Communities Framework Strategy 4*)

- Promote data-driven decision making, government transparency, and data as a public engagement tool to accelerate progress toward achieving regional planning goals (*Future Communities Framework Policy 1*)

- Increase the availability of civic data and information to reduce costs and increase the efficiency of public services (*Future Communities Framework Policy 2*)
Presentation Outline

1) Regional Data Platform
2) SoCal Greenprint
3) Local Information Services Team

Southern California Association of Governments

Regional Data Platform
The Region Faces Big Challenges...

**Population Growth**
The region will add **4 million** people by 2035

**Housing Crisis**

**Transportation**
446 million miles driven each day

**Climate Change**

**Location Efficiency**
Transit Oriented Development
Active Transportation

6th Cycle RHNA

**Connect SoCal** is the big picture vision for a sustainable Southern California
Local Jurisdiction General Plans are the individual puzzle pieces that bring Connect SoCal into focus.

Addressing These Challenges...
Requires Planning, Engagement & Data Sharing

- Struggle to update local General Plan
- Need data, tools, resources, and support
- Struggle to do regional forecasting & planning
- Need accurate, complete, and current local data
A Platform for a Smarter Region
The SCAG Regional Data Platform

- A robust system of systems for regional data sharing and collaboration
- Facilitates better planning at all levels
- Provides a platform to support a variety of SCAG initiative and programs

Supporting **regionally aware** local planning
And **locally informed** regional planning
For a more cohesive and sustainable region...

**HELPR Tool**

HELPR Tool URL - [https://maps.scag.ca.gov/helpr/](https://maps.scag.ca.gov/helpr/)
Recorded Demo - [https://youtu.be/mYDL_xKtG-4?t=4195](https://youtu.be/mYDL_xKtG-4?t=4195)
**Selected Parcel Attributes in HELPR**

- Existing Land Use
- Zoning Designation
- General Plan Designation
- Specific Plan Designation
- Assessor: Improvement-to-land value ratio
- Parcel size (acres)
- Slope
- Building footprint area
- Brownfield/superfund designation
- Priority growth/constraint area
- Environmental justice/opportunity areas
- Proximity to grocery/healthcare/open space

**Selected Environmentally Sensitive Areas**

- High and Very High Hazard Fire Risk Zones
- Liquefaction Susceptibility Zones
- Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones
- 100 Year Floodplains
- Active River Areas
- Wetland Areas
- Sea Level Rise Areas
- Landslide Hazard Zones
- Protected Areas
- Wildlife Habitat, Connectivity Areas, and Missing Linkages
- Natural Community & Habitat Conservation Plans Reserve Designs
- Status and Locations of Rare Plans and Animals
Regional Data Platform Pilot Project Schedule

2020

Initiation
• Project Kickoff

Requirements Validation
• Close collaboration with SCAG staff

Local Jurisdiction Outreach
• Interviews with 10 member agencies

2021

We are here

2022

PILOT SYSTEM LAUNCH

Long Range Planning Tool Development
• Initial prototyping
• Foundational development
• Collaborative design & testing with 9 member agencies

System Trainings
• Training for pilot member agencies

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Goal of the SoCal Greenprint

To protect, restore, and enhance natural lands, public greenspace, working lands, and water resources and the benefits they provide to people and nature throughout the SCAG region.

Key Users of the SoCal Greenprint

- Infrastructure Agencies
- Conservation Practitioners
- Community-Based Organizations
- Developers
- Planners (Town, City, County, Tribal)
Milestones

1. Steering committee includes outside experts
2. Engagement with over 60 advisors at 4 interactive workshops
   - Multiple sectors and diverse geographies
   - Public agencies and municipalities
   - Building and development community
3. Ongoing conversations and small working groups
4. 8 Rapid assessment interviews
5. Developed 6 user profiles
6. Pre-launch testing
7. Case studies
### Outreach Activities – Rapid Assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Organization Type</th>
<th>Housing-related?</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Project Specifications</th>
<th>Greenprint Advisor?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacoima Beautiful</td>
<td>Community Based Organization</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Interest: Identifying opportunities to expand greenspace</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside Corona Resource Conservation District</td>
<td>Agriculture Governmental Agency</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Western Riverside and San Bernardino</td>
<td>Interest: Highlighting the co-benefits of protecting agricultural lands.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean Power Alliance</td>
<td>Infrastructure Conservation Organization</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Ventura</td>
<td>Interest: Understanding the impacts and resources on a proposed project site for renewable energy.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Bernardino County Transportation Authority</td>
<td>Transportation Agency</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>San Bernardino</td>
<td>Interest: Identifying the impacts of a potential transportation corridor.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA County Planning</td>
<td>Planning Agency</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Interest: Identifying the environmental resources on a site proposed for housing development.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Industry Association of Southern California</td>
<td>Developer Organization</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Interest: Understanding the potential opportunities and benefits of a proposed housing development.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Club – Santa Clarita Chapter</td>
<td>Conservation Organization</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>Interest: Understanding the environmental impacts of a proposed housing development.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placeworks</td>
<td>Planning Consultant</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>San Bernardino</td>
<td>Interest: Understanding how the Greenprint can be used to inform General Plan updates.</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Technical Contributions

- SoCal Greenprint Data contributed to the HELPR tool
- Data flow between SoCal Greenprint and other SCAG tools
- Data in the SoCal Greenprint utilizes publicly available resources
1. **Compilation:** TNC Science team compiled lists of publicly-available data and developed metrics for each theme; used in rapid assessments.

2. **External Review:** We reached out to advisors who have expertise for each theme and ask them to review the data and metrics and provide feedback.

   Rapid assessment interviews with representative projects also provide feedback about data and metrics.

3. **Internal Review:** TNC Science team is reviewing data recommendations and will make final decisions about what to include/exclude.

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### Data Inventory – Agriculture Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIS Data Name</th>
<th>Source Name</th>
<th>Data Layers Used</th>
<th>Metric Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program 2016</td>
<td>California Department of Conservation</td>
<td>2016 Prime Farmland; 2016 Important Farmland; 2016 Farmland of Statewide Importance; 2016 Farmland of Local Importance; Grazing Land</td>
<td>Tabular: Acres in project area/region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program 1984</td>
<td>California Department of Conservation</td>
<td>1984 Prime Farmland</td>
<td>Descriptive/Graphic: Change in area of prime farmland between 1984 and 2016 (historic trend)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil Agricultural Groundwater Banking Index (SAGBI)</td>
<td>California Soil Resource Lab at UC Davis and UC-ANR</td>
<td>Groundwater recharge</td>
<td>Tabular: Acres of soils suitable for groundwater recharge in the project area/region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crop production</td>
<td>USDA</td>
<td>Agricultural production by CWHR 13 Agriculture Types</td>
<td>Descriptive: Dollar value of crops grown in the project area/region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected Change in Climate Water Deficit</td>
<td>USGS-BCM (Flint and Flint)</td>
<td>Climate water deficit</td>
<td>Descriptive: Additional water needed for irrigation under climate change (cross-cutting metric)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA Storie Index</td>
<td>USDA - Soil Survey Geographic Database</td>
<td>Soil rating</td>
<td>Tabular: Acres of project area with high Storie Index score in project area/region – indicator of soil health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 1 and 2 lands that are of high value for food production.</td>
<td>USDA - Soil Survey Geographic Database</td>
<td>Irrigation capability of soil</td>
<td>Tabular: Acres in project area/region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamson Act properties</td>
<td>County by county data</td>
<td></td>
<td>Protection metric: Number of properties in the project area or region enrolled in the Williamson Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmland Under Threat</td>
<td>American Farmland Trust</td>
<td></td>
<td>Descriptive: Information about the types of threats to farmland and action-oriented metric about the importance of conserving agricultural lands</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Purpose – Coordinate, plan, and develop a system to (1) link SCAG’s value-added products (e.g. data, applications, etc.) to help address local information needs, (2) deliver technical assistance, and (3) provide local staff an opportunity to offer feedback on how SCAG can improve our products to facilitate better collaboration, regionally and locally

Currently, LIST is focusing on the General Plan (e.g. housing, safety, and EJ, etc.) technical assistance

• Prepare a team to provide technical assistance to jurisdictions to use our data, tools, and model policies
Local Information Services Team (LIST) Progress

- Since February 2021, the LIST has met one-on-one with nearly 50 jurisdictions
- Hands-on trainings have included demonstrations of the HELPR Tool, and review of SCAG’s Resources for Housing Elements
- Training includes deadlines for updates to Safety Elements and Environmental Justice Elements; additional technical assistance will include a focus on these updates
- One-on-one sessions for Housing Elements will continue through June
- Additional sessions will continue as requested by jurisdictions
- Request technical assistance at list@scag.ca.gov

Integrated Project Schedule
Thank you for your partnership

Questions & Discussion

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