Climate Adaptation Working Group

June 24, 2021
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

www.scag.ca.gov
Housekeeping

- Meeting length: approximately 2 hours
- Reminder to please mute your mics/phones
- Q&A at the end of each session
- Presentation materials will be shared with all participants following today's meeting
Agenda

SoCal Climate Adaptation Framework: New Resources & Tools
SB 379 Guidebook: Compliance Curriculum for Local Jurisdictions
FloodBRIDGE Flood Hazard Mapping
  University of California, Irvine
Cooling the City: Regulating Outdoor Climate through the Built Environment
  University of California, Los Angeles
Workshop Session: SCAG Environmental Equity Definition
Regional Planning Working Group Updates
Upcoming Events
Southern California Regional Climate Adaptation Framework

New Tools & Resources

Lorianne Esturas
SCAG Sustainability Department
June 24, 2021

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Climate Change Impacts In the SCAG Region

- Extreme Heat
- Sea Level Rise/Coastal Flooding and Erosion
- Severe Storms/Wind
- Inland Flooding
- Drought
- Wildfire
- Air Quality and Vector Borne Diseases
- Landslides
- Pests and Ecological Hazards
In October 2020, FEMA identified Southern California as one of the most vulnerable areas in the U.S. due to natural hazards.

Los Angeles County is the most at-risk nationwide.

Riverside County and San Bernardino County are amongst the 10 highest at-risk counties in the U.S.
Southern California Climate Vulnerabilities - Drought

Chaparral

Chaparral in Drought Conditions

Chaparral Vulnerability to Drought
- Very High
- High
- Medium
- Low
- Very Low

Source: Climate Science Alliance
Population Growth In CalFire Wildfire Hazard Areas

- 1.8 million people in Southern California reside in fire hazard areas in 2016
- By 2045, this could increase to 2.2 million based on local growth estimations

Source: CAL FIRE
Project Background

SoCal Climate Adaptation Framework:
- 2-year effort (February 2019 – February 2021)
- SB 1 Adaptation Planning Grant
- SCAG, Cambridge Systematics, with ESA, Here LA, and Urban Economics

Includes:
- Tools and Resources for Local Planning
- Outreach and Communications Strategies
- Planning Guidance and Model Policy Language
- Climate Adaptation Metrics & Tools for Local and Regional Agencies
- Adaptation Infrastructure Finance and Funding Guidance
Stakeholder Outreach

**Local Jurisdiction Practitioners**
- Two focus groups with 8 different jurisdictions
- Online survey tool to seek input from all jurisdictions
- Interviews with jurisdictions for case study analysis

**Broader Group of Stakeholders**
- Interviews with 8 CBOs
- Quarterly Climate Adaptation Working Group Meetings
- Two Public “Toolbox Tuesday” Trainings on SCAG’s Climate Adaptation Framework & Tools
- Five Public Pop-Up Climate Talks Events

**Elected Officials**
- Subregional COG Presentations
- Presentation to SCAG’s Energy & Environment Policy Committee
- Presentation to SCAG’s Regional Council
### Local Jurisdiction Practitioners
- Lack of dedicated staffing resources for climate planning
- Activities should cross departments
- High turnover and lack of champions or oversight is challenging
- Jurisdictions need more tools and datasets to track performance and would like to coordinate with counterparts

### Broader Group of Stakeholders
- There is a general knowledge gap on climate change solutions
- Linkages of community impacts from climate change can be challenging to convey
- Maps of climate impacts are not the best means for conveying impacts; images and statistics on local quality of life are
- The language of climate change and adaptation may not be familiar to several audiences

### Elected Officials
- Health, socioeconomic, and racial equity considerations should be included in regional policymaking addressing climate hazards
- SCAG shall develop a regional resilience framework, a regional climate planning network, and partnerships to support jurisdictions’ climate planning initiatives
Widespread Impacts

Wildfire Risk

Sea Level Rise

Extreme Heat

Flood Risk
Wildfire Scenario 2030 – “Business as Usual” Scenario
Sea Level Rise 2030 – “Business as Usual” Scenario

Sea Level Rise Scenario 2030
Relocation Summary (each dot = 50 people)
- Remove_POP_SLR_50
- Add_POP_SLR_50

Based on CoSMoS 1 meter SLR and avg storm conditions
NEW RESOURCE: Housing Element Parcel Tool (HELPR) 2.0

https://maps.scag.ca.gov/helpr/
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High and Very High Hazard Fire Risk Zones</th>
<th>Liquefaction Susceptibility Zones</th>
<th>Alquist–Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones</th>
<th>100 Year Floodplains</th>
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<tr>
<td>Active River Areas</td>
<td>Wetland Areas</td>
<td>Sea Level Rise Areas</td>
<td>Landslide Hazard Zones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protected Areas</td>
<td>Wildlife Habitat, Connectivity Areas, and Missing Linkages</td>
<td>Natural Community &amp; Habitat Conservation Plans Reserve Designs</td>
<td>Status and Locations of Rare Plans and Animals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Climate Change Action Resolution – adopted January 7, 2021

- Regional Resilience Framework
- Climate Planning Network
- Regional Advanced Mitigation Program (RAMP)
- Accelerated Electrification
- Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy
- Climate Adaptation & Mitigation Analysis and Strategies in the 2024 RTP/SCS

- Partnership Potential
  - Climate Action Plans
  - Urban Greening
  - Safety elements
  - Hazard mitigation infrastructure financing
  - Urban heat mitigation
  - Wildlife corridor restoration & greenway connectivity
  - EV permitting
Project Website

https://scag.ca.gov/climate-change-regional-adaptation-framework
SB 379 Guidebook
Compliance Curriculum for Local Jurisdictions

Emily Rotman
SCAG Sustainability Department
June 24, 2021

www.scag.ca.gov
What is SB 379?

- Passed in 2015, builds upon AB 162 (flood) and SB 1241 (fire)
- Key legislation for implementation of State’s climate adaptation goals under *Safeguarding California*
- Applies to all cities and counties in California
- Requires [*climate adaptation and resilience strategies to be incorporated into the general plan safety element by*](#) January 1, 2022
Why do we need SB 379?

- Southern California is one of the most vulnerable areas in the U.S. due to natural hazards
- Communities are already feeling and will continue to experience the impacts of climate change
- Local governments play a critical role in adaptation planning and building climate resilience

Source: FEMA National Risk Index, Oct 2020
What are the statutory requirements of SB 379?

Three main components of SB 379:

1. A **vulnerability assessment** that identifies the risks that climate change poses to the local jurisdiction and the geographic areas at risk from climate change impacts;

2. A **set of adaptation and resilience goals, policies, and objectives** based on the information in the vulnerability assessment for the protection of the community; and

3. A **set of feasible implementation measures** designed to carry out the identified goals, policies, and objectives.

An existing local hazard mitigation plan, climate adaptation plan, or other similar planning document that fulfills the requirements of SB 379 can be used to comply with the law by updating the safety element with a summary of, reference to, and/or attachment of the other compliant plan.
What is the timeline for SB 379 compliance?

- **Local Jurisdictions**
  - **Have Adopted LHMP**
    - As of January 1, 2017
  - **Have Not Adopted LHMP**
    - Update Safety Element of the General Plan Pursuant to SB 379 by January 1, 2022

- **Upon the Next Revision of the LHMP**
  - Update Safety Element of the General Plan Pursuant to SB 379
What is the SB 379 Guidebook?

• New CAF resource that provides a "compliance curriculum" to meet the requirements of SB 379
• Links existing SCAG, CAF, and other available adaptation planning resources and tools to support local safety element updates
• Follows the SoCal APG 4 Phases of Adaptation Planning and step-by-step guidance for local jurisdictions
• Highlights case studies of SB 379-compliant safety elements, LHMPs, CAAPs, etc. across the SCAG region
How do you use the SB 379 Guidebook?
Where to find the SB 379 Guidebook

https://scag.ca.gov/climate-change-regional-adaptation-framework/

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) developed the Regional Climate Adaptation Framework to assist local and regional jurisdictions in managing the negative impacts of climate change. The Framework provides an overview of how the Southern California region can work together to plan and prepare for the impacts of sea level rise, extreme heat, increasingly frequent and damaging wildfires, and other climate-related issues. With the impacts of severe climate hazards and issues already being felt, adaptation planning is necessary to help individuals, communities, and natural systems cope with the unavoidable consequences of a changing climate. The Framework was developed over a 2-year period, beginning in February 2019 and ending in February 2021.

SCAG worked with local municipalities, advocacy groups, universities, and other stakeholders to assess the unique issues affecting the SCAG region, available planning tools and resources, scientific data, and messaging strategies. Many local jurisdictions do not have the resources to adequately assess their local hazards, develop effective adaptation plans, and participate in regional planning efforts – our framework provides jurisdictions with a roadmap to adaptation in an effort to help build a more resilient Southern California.

As part of the overall Framework, SCAG is sharing new tools for local jurisdictions: first, the Communication & Outreach Strategies and Templates that can help jurisdictions and community-based organizations engage with residents to understand better how climate-related hazards are affecting community members. Second, SCAG developed the Southern California Climate Adaptation Planning Guide as a resource for local planning that describes the range of climate change hazards the SCAG region is likely to face in the coming decades. It also describes adaptation options relevant to the region and outlines a general process of adaptation.
Want to learn more?

Upcoming Workshops

- SCAG Toolbox Tuesday Training
  June 29, 2021 from 1-3pm
  - Register online at: https://scag.ca.gov/toolbox-tuesday

- LARC Local Climate Adaptation Planning Workshop
  June 30, 2021 from 9am-12pm
  - Register online at: https://www.laregionalcollaborative.com/events/2021/6/30/2021-forum-adaptation

Technical Assistance

- SCAG Local Information Services Team (LIST)
  - 1-on-1 technical assistance on general plan safety element updates

- SCAG Regional Data Platform & HELPR Tool
  - Risk and vulnerability assessment data and mapping resources

- If interested, please reach out to adaptation@scag.ca.gov
Thank You!

Questions?

adaptation@scag.ca.gov

Lorianne Esturas, esturas@scag.ca.gov
Emily Rotman, rotman@scag.ca.gov

www.scag.ca.gov
FloodBRIDGE
Flood Hazard Mapping

Richard Matthew
Brett F. Sanders
Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Urban Planning and Public Policy, UCI
Evolution of Flood Hazard Modeling and Mapping

- Phase 1: Historical Floodplains
- Phase 2: Survey Transects and 1D Models
- Phase 3: 1D model results projected onto 2D topography
- Phase 4: 2D and 1D/2D modeling
  - HEC-RAS 2D, Tuflow
- Phase 5: Local to Regional/Global Scales
  - LISFLOOD-FP (First Street Foundation), PRiMo (UCI), TRITON (ORNL)
  - Community-engaged model development to meet end-user needs for flood risk management
Transitioning from Local to Regional Modeling of Flood Hazards

Local (Reach) Models

- **Hydrology:**
  - Reach-based design flows (Q), precipitation (P) and downstream water levels (H)

- **Hydraulics:**
  - Topographic data
  - Resistance data
  - **Detailed** stormwater infrastructure and flow barriers (levees/bridges)

Regional Models

- **Hydrology:**
  - Regionally coordinated streamflow inputs (Q), precipitation (P), and boundary water levels (I)

- **Hydraulics**
  - Topographic data
  - Resistance data
  - **Simplified** stormwater infrastructure and flow barriers

Uncertainty in Flood Magnitude

The regional modeling approach aligns with needs for regional coordination in the management of flood risks, and can serve to frame future local studies required to meet detailed design needs.
LA Metro PRIMo Model
(Parallel Raster Inundation Model)

- Topographic data: 3 m resolution lidar data hydro-conditioned with road data and channel/pipe data.
  - 756 tiles with 1000x1000 cell grids (756 million cells)
  - Street inlets/small pipes neglected (for now; will be added later – there are 166,837 inlets in LA County)
- Resistance data: spatially distributed Manning n based on landcover
- Hydrodynamic flood solver (2D equations solved by finite volume method with 10x upscaling - PRIMo)
- Flooding Scenarios
  - 100-yr & 500-yr Precipitation: NOAA Atlas 14 (no infiltration)
  - 100-yr & 500-yr Streamflow: frequency analysis (HEC-SSP) of 51 USGS, LA County and OC County gages
  - 100-yr & 500-yr Storm Tide: frequency analysis of NOAA tide gage at Los Angeles
  - Composite Flood Maps where Depth = max(Precip, Streamflow, Storm Tide)
- All model simulations on NCAR/Cheyenne Supercomputer

Sanders and Schubert,
*Advances in Water Resources*, 2019
(1) Flood hazard modeling serves as a focal point for iterative stakeholder engagement with productive dialogue.

(2) Input on model configuration, impact of proposed infrastructure, and “what if” failure scenarios. Reshaping power structures in flood management.

(3) Map Menu and Legends

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flood Force (1% Annual Chance)</th>
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<td><strong>Map Information</strong></td>
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<td><img src="image" alt="Click me on map!" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Flood Force</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- People Likely Stable (&lt; 4.3 ft³/s)</td>
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<td>- People Topped (4.3 - 8.1 ft³/s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Cars Displaced (8.1 - 16.1 ft³/s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Structural Home Damage (16.1 - 27.0 ft³/s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Homes Washed Away (&gt; 27.0 ft³/s)</td>
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<table>
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<td><strong>Flood Depths</strong></td>
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<td>- Less than Ankle (&lt; 0.4 ft)</td>
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<td>- Ankle - Knee (0.4 - 1.5 ft)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Knee - Waist (1.5 - 3.3 ft)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Waist - Head (3.3 - 5.5 ft)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Above Head (&gt; 5.5 ft)</td>
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(4) Fine resolution matters
Maps of flooding are more intuitive, and people appreciate digital versions with pan/zoom functionality.

Viewing maps increases awareness about flood hazards.

Viewing maps reduces differences in perceptions of flooding.

Feedback helps modelers (experts) improve accuracy.

FloodBRIDGE
Flood Hazard Mapping

Brett F. Sanders
Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Urban Planning and Public Policy, UCI
The Neighborhood Disadvantage Index

Visualizing the socio-economic resilience of neighborhoods to flooding hazards

April 7, 2021

Quantifying the human impacts of flooding has disproportionately focused on property damage, thereby missing impacts for disadvantaged communities. Here we present a more contextually precise index at the Census Block Group scale, which allows us to present a new disadvantage analyses to flooding across the Los Angeles / Orange County metropolitan area.
Cooling the City
Regulating Outdoor Climate through the Built Environment

V. Kelly Turner
Assistant Professor of Urban Planning and Geography
Associate Director of Urban Environment Research, Luskin Center for Innovation
UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

Presentation to SCAG Climate Adaptation Working Group
June 24, 2021
Cities are hot and getting hotter

Source: Ed Hawkins, #Showyourstripes
“Silent Killer”

Source: NOAA/NWS

Hurricane Laura 2020
“Shade is an Equity Issue” - Garcetti

Watts:
10% Tree Cover
3.2C Above Average
Redlining Grade D

Bel Air:
35% Tree Cover
8.3C Below Average
Redlining Grade A
Which is true?

We need a much more nuanced conversation about urban heat!
Cooling the City - Avoiding Panaceas

Questions:
1. What type of problem is urban heat?
2. How can cities adapt to a hotter future?

Answers:
1. Urban heat is multiple problems: extreme heat events, urban heat island, human heat burden, equity
2. No one adaptation strategy can solve all of them

Policy Panaceas (Ostrom)

Environmental policies that are likely to fail due to incorrect assumptions of similarity in context or conditions
What type of problem is urban heat?

Number of municipal planning document (n=175, 2006 - 2020) from the top 50 most populous cities that mention each type of urban heat problem
We can’t control the weather...

**Extreme Heat Events**
(aka. heat waves) High heat weather anomalies

**Cool Pop Up Events?**

Images: Philadelphia, PA (left), Houston, TX (Middle), Phoenix, AZ by Ariane Middel (right)
Cities are hotter because of how we build them, and they could be cooler if we build them differently.

**Regional Urban Heat Island**

Cities are hotter than proximate undeveloped areas.

Albedo moderates how much incoming solar radiation is radiated back as outgoing longwave radiation.
Cities are hotter because of how we build them, and they could be cooler if we build them differently.

**Human Thermal Comfort**

*Micro* conditions influence the human experience of heat.

**Mean Radiant Temperatures**

Net thermal exchange between a body and the objects that surround it.
Cities are hotter because of how we build them, and they could be cooler if we build them differently.

**Local Climate Zones (Stewart & Oke)**

Neighborhood climate conditions determined by the shape, size, configuration of materials.

Watts, Los Angeles change in local climate zone (Turner, unpublished data, SGC/TCC)
We must be clear about which urban heat problem we intend to solve.
Ambiguity in translating urban climate science to action will lead to panaceas

“The Urban Heat Island Effect in Los Angeles County and Zooming in on the Project Area. Source: Trust for Public Land Climate-Smart Cities Decision Support Tool.”

“Trees...reduce the urban heat island effect by providing shade.” (Greening DC Streets 2014, p. 17)
Does cool pavement work? UHI, yes

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<th>Air Temperature</th>
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Difference between cool pavement and asphalt (left) and cool pavement and concrete (right) in degrees Celcius in Sun Valley (Source: Middel et al. 2020 ERL)
Does cool pavement work? Thermal Comfort, it depends

"It feels less hot. Now, me and my family come out on weekends, and lay blankets out on the front yard and spend the time outside. I would describe my experience as fairly good...........

......Since the application of the cool pavements, a lot of people from other neighborhoods walk in our neighborhood."

"Because of the reflection, now it is less of a reason to spend time outside. I would like to see more trees and shade in the neighborhood. I don’t like the Cool Pavements. If it were meant to cool, it has not worked."

Source: Pilot questionnaire of Sun Valley residents (Zaidi 2020)
Cool materials > vegetation address urban heat island (LST)

Buildings > trees > lightweight structures to cool people (MRT)

Source: Middel et al. 2021. BAMS
Accepting trade-offs for most vulnerable
Regulate urban heat “pollution”...

**Cool Communities Act**

- Regulate production of heat
- Set standards for building materials
- Tie land use law to heat
- Enforce environmental justice mandate
How can we design heat resilience into the city?

Who is exposed to heat where and when?

How and why do communities experience heat?

What land is legally available for interventions?

Can we move beyond shade for cooling?
Research Plan

Identify Hot Spots of High Heat Exposure/Vulnerability Data

Use cell phone mobility data with existing thermal and heat health outcome data to determine who feels heat, where and when.
Understand Community Heat Experience

We will work with community partners co-PIs have known for years, to understand how people use and value different cooling interventions.
Beyond Shade: Cooling Structures

Informed by community engagement as well as our team’s expertise in passive cooling technologies, we will design, build and pilot a portfolio of low cost passive cooling structure approaches that deliver thermal comfort outdoors.
Identify Legal and Policy Levers that Do and Can Enable Cooling Interventions

We will both identify land usable for cooling interventions and recommend land use levers to decision-makers.
Thank You! (vkturner@ucla.edu)

Ariane Middel, Yujia Zhang, Florian Schneider (Arizona State), Matthew Stiller (U. Colorado), Nicole Cano, Emma M. French, Jonathan Ocon, Morgan Rogers, Falak Zaidi (UCLA), Lizy Dastin (Santa Monica CC), Amped Kitchens, InDecline, Erik Skotness

Luskin Center for Innovation, Strategic Growth Council Climate Change Research Grant, Pacoima Beautiful/Strategic Partners, Transformative Climate Communities
SCAG's Environmental Equity Definition

Feedback Exchange with the Climate Adaptation Working Group

Emily Rotman
SCAG Sustainability Department
June 24, 2021

www.scag.ca.gov
Presentation Overview

- Land Acknowledgement
- Background on SCAG's Equity Work
- Background on SCAG's Environmental Equity Definition
- Feedback and Discussion
- Next Steps
Land Acknowledgment

Resources to learn more:

- Native Land Digital (https://native-land.ca/)
- "Mapping Indigenous LA", UCLA (https://mila.ss.ucla.edu/)
- Gabrielino-Tongva Indian Tribe (https://gabrielinotribe.org/)
- Kizh Nation (https://gabrielenoindians.org/)
- Friends of Puvungna (https://www.instagram.com/protectpuvungna/?hl=en)
- Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (https://www.tataviam-nsn.us/)
- Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation (https://www.wishtoyo.org/chumash-village-1)
- LandBack Movement (https://landback.org/)
Background: SCAG's Equity Work Major Milestones

- SCAG Overview and Work Program
- Committee Purpose
- Defining Equity
- Special Presentation on Transportation Inequities from Mr. Charles Brown of Equitable Cities: "Arrested Mobility"

- Regional Equity Discussion
- SCAG Activities:
  - Defining Equity
  - Equity Inventory
  - Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Work Plan
  - Public Participation Plan

- Draft Racial Equity Framework & Early Action Plan

- Early Action Plan
- Final Recommendations
Background: SCAG's Equity Framework and Early Action Plan

**GOALS**

**Shift Organizational Culture**
Focus SCAG’s internal work and practices on inclusion, diversity, equity, and awareness.

**Center Racial Equity in Regional Planning & Policy**
Bring equity into SCAG’s regional planning functions.

**Encourage Racial Equity in Local Planning Practices**
Promote racial equity in efforts involving local elected officials and planning professionals.

**Activate & Amplify**
Communicate broadly SCAG’s commitment to racial equity and join with others in different fields and sectors to amplify impact.

**STRATEGIES**

**Listen & Learn**
Develop a shared understanding of our history of discrimination and the structural barriers that continue to perpetuate the inequities experienced today.

**Engage & Co-Power**
Create an environment where everyone is included, able to share their experiences, and equipped to talk about racial equity and inequities.

**Integrate & Institutionalize**
Focus on systems change to improve racial equity. Center racial equity in all aspects of work. This involves internal and external systems change. Advancing Racial Equity in Southern California.
"As central to SCAG's work, racial equity describes the actions, policies, and practices that eliminate bias and barriers that have historically and systemically marginalized communities of color, to ensure all people can be healthy, prosperous, and participate fully in civic life."
Background: SCAG's Environmental Equity Definition Objectives

- Build upon and operationalize SCAG's equity work
- Build a shared understanding of environmental equity for SCAG and its stakeholders
- Emphasize environmental equity as a priority in SCAG's work
- Provide a model process for other SCAG topic-specific equity definitions
Background: SCAG's Environmental Equity Definition Research

- Researched and compiled **existing definitions** of environmental equity, climate equity, environmental justice across academic institutions, community organizations, government agencies
  - Charles Lee, Des Moines Area MPO, Greenaction, Greenlining Institute, Mobilize Green, NAACP, SBCTA, SCAG, UC Berkeley, UCLA Luskin, University of Washington, USEPA

- Pulled **key concepts** from existing work
  - Impacts of historical injustice and disinvestment
  - Need to address and remediate root causes
  - Distinction between equality and equity
  - Disproportionate and unequal impacts
  - Vulnerable populations contribute least to environmental degradation and crises, but feel the impacts "first and worst"
  - Not just redistributing environmental harms, but abolishing them
Environmental Equity Definition: Example Potential Applications

Regional Resilience Framework

Resolution on Climate Change

Sustainability Awards

Policy Committees

Alternative Fuels & Vehicles

Sustainable Communities Program

SoCal Greenprint

Working Groups

Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy
"Environmental equity addresses the actions, policies, and practices that abolish the systemic inequities, marginalization, disinvestment, and exclusion from decision-making processes that have directly resulted in vulnerable people bearing disproportionate and adverse impacts from natural hazards and human activity, so that all people can enjoy access to the physical and social benefits of our natural and built systems."
Differentiate between environmental justice and environmental equity
Be intentional about what populations the definition refers to
Important to acknowledge impact of both natural and human activities
Framing the definition as a practice (actionable) vs. an explanation (informative)
Relate to SCAG's equity and resilience definitions
Consider a broad view of historical harms and systemic issues
Feedback: Guiding Questions

Is the definition distinct from environmental justice? Does the definition go a step beyond?

Is there something critical missing from the definition? Is there something in the definition that you feel shouldn't be included?

How do you see the definition potentially impacting or being implemented in your work?
We would love to hear any general impressions and feedback you have. Please feel free to unmute yourself or drop your comments into the chat.
"Environmental equity addresses the actions, policies, and practices that abolish the systemic inequities, marginalization, disinvestment, and exclusion from decision-making processes that have directly resulted in vulnerable people bearing disproportionate and adverse impacts from natural hazards and human activity, so that all people can enjoy access to the physical and social benefits of our natural and built systems."
Next Steps

- Refine definition with your feedback
- Share revised definition with you
- Seek further feedback from other Working Groups
- Finalize draft definition
Thank You!
Call for Applications #4: Civic Engagement, Equity & Environmental Justice
Since 2005, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has provided resources and direct technical assistance to local jurisdictions via the Sustainable Communities Program (SCP).

The 2020/21 SCP provided local jurisdictions with three opportunities to access funding and resources to meet the needs of their communities, address recovery and resiliency strategies considering COVID-19, and support regional goals.

SCAG will release a fourth Call for Applications for programs and projects centered on Civic Engagement, Equity & Environmental Justice in Fall 2021.
SCP Call 4 Goals + Objectives

Goals

• Center and prioritize racial and social equity
• Address the pervasive and deep inequities experienced in historically disinvested communities
• Include a wide range of eligible activities
• Support the development of plans to close the gap of racial inequities
• Support the goals in SCAG’s Equity Early Action Plan, Connect SoCal, SCAG's Public Participation Plan

Objectives

• Focus support in SCAG’s Communities of Concern and SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities
• Support local planning efforts focused on eliminating barriers to civic engagement
• Build community capacity, trust, and sustainable relationships with stakeholders
• Prioritize community identified and implemented projects
Eligible Project Types

• Civic Engagement and Racial Equity
  • Arts, Culture and Design
  • Safety and Community
  • Local Campaigns and Organizing
  • Parks, Green, Open and Public Space
  • Climate Action and Resilience
  • Community Healing and Repair

• Equity and Environmental Justice
  • AB 617 Implementation
  • Resilient Communities
  • SB1000 EJ Elements/Policies
  • Connect Communities
SCP Call 4 Timeline*

- **April–May 2021**: Initial Approach and Strategy
- **July 2021**: Listening Sessions
- **August 2021**: Draft Guidelines
- **September 2021**: Regional Council Approval and Call Opens
- **September 2021 – Winter 2022**: Application Development and Evaluation
- **Spring 2022**: Project Recommendations and Awards

*subject to change upon feedback*
Listening Sessions

Tuesday, July 13th
11:30am – 1:00pm

Thursday, July 15th
5:00pm – 6:30pm

Interested? Please RSVP!

Have questions? Please contact Anita Au, Senior Regional Planner
au@scag.ca.gov
(213) 236-1874
SCAG Regional Planning Working Groups
Climate Adaptation & Sustainable Communities Update

Lorianne Esturas
SCAG Sustainability Department
June 24, 2021

www.scag.ca.gov
Upcoming Events

SCAG Toolbox Tuesday

CAF Tools Part II

June 29, 2021
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

LARC Public Forum

Local Climate Adaptation in LA County

June 30, 2021
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

SCAG Energy & Environment Committee

July 1, 2021
9:30 am – 11:30 am

Questions?
adaptation@scag.ca.gov

www.scag.ca.gov