COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, February 6, 2020

The Community, Economic and Human Development (CEHD) met at SCAG, 900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Hon. Peggy Huang, Chair
Hon. Stacy Berry, Vice Chair
Hon. M. Belén Bernal
Hon. Russell Betts
Hon. Wendy Bucknum
Hon. Michael C. Carroll
Hon. Rose Espinoza
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay
Hon. Micheal Goodland
Hon. Bill Hodge
Hon. Tim Holmgren
Hon. Cecilia Hupp
Hon. Bill Jahn
Hon. Robert “Bob” Joe
Hon. Kathleen Kelly
Hon. Jed Leano
Hon. Marisela Magana
Hon. Jorge Marquez
Hon. Anni Marshall
Hon. Lauren Meister
Hon. Bill Miranda
Hon. John Mirisch
Hon. Steve Nagel
Hon. Trevor O’Neil
Hon. Michael Posey
Hon. Jim Predmore

Cypress
South Gate
Desert Hot Springs
Mission Viejo
Irvine
La Habra
Duarte
Jurupa Valley
Calexico
Fillmore
Brea
Big Bear Lake
South Pasadena
Palm Desert
Claremont
Perris
Covina
Avalon
West Hollywood
Santa Clarita
Beverly Hills
Fountain Valley
Anaheim
Huntington Beach

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AGENDA ITEM 3
CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Peggy Huang, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Councilmember Jed Leano, City of Claremont, SGVCOG, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
There were no public comments received.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEM/S
There were no reprioritizations made.

CONSENT CALENDAR
Approval Items

1. Minutes of the October 3, 2019 Meeting
2. Minutes of the October 21, 2019 Special Meeting

Receive & File

3. State HCD Review Findings of SCAG’s Draft RHNA Methodology
4. Go Human Outlook – Safety Strategies and Resources

A MOTION was made (Kelly) to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion was SECONDED (Jahn) and passed by the following votes:

FOR: BERNAL, BERRY, BETTS, BUCKNUM, CARROLL, ESPINOZA, HOLMGREN, HUANG, HUPP, JAHN, JOE, KELLY, LEANO, MAGANA, MARQUEZ, MARSHALL, MIRANDA, NAGEL, POSEY, PREDMORE, PYE, AND RODRIGUEZ (22).

AGAINST: NONE (0).

ABSTAIN: MIRISCH (1).

INFORMATION ITEMS

5. Financial Tools to Preserve Affordable Housing

Chair Huang introduced Steve PonTell, Chief Executive Officer and President of National Community Renaissance. He stated that today’s presentation would focus on a variety of initiatives of a pilot program where private sector funding can participate, in conjunction with the public sector. He introduced Jennifer McElyea, Senior Managing Partner, Watt Investment Partners, who discussed a variety of tools available to address the housing crisis, including providing financial incentives for local jurisdictions to invest in and preserve naturally expiring affordable housing.

Ms. McElyea’s presentation included an overview of how the Welfare Exemption tax codes and private capital mechanisms could be incentivized as a tool to help preserve existing affordable housing. She discussed its applicability and benefits for partnering with the private sector to invest in housing, which could also include the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
Mr. PonTell and Ms. McElyea responded to the comments and questions expressed by the committee members, including questions on ways to make the program work for permanent housing, and comments on the availability of receiving RHNA credits for preserving housing in this 6th RHNA cycle.

President Jahn reported that SCAG’s leadership will be leading a delegation to Sacramento to meet with State Legislators. He noted that this pilot program would be included in the discussions.

The full presentation was included in today’s agenda packet.

6. **Resolution No. 20-618-1 Regarding Regional Funding for Housing**

Sarah Jepson, Planning Director, and Ma’Ayn Johnson, SCAG Staff, provided a brief overview of the Assembly Bill (AB) 101 program which was appropriated with funding for two new one-time programs to provide regions and jurisdictions with grants for planning activities, to enable jurisdictions to increase housing planning, and to accelerate housing production to meet housing needs determined in the sixth cycle of RHNA.

Ms. Jepson reported that the Executive Administration Committee (EAC) approved an action today that recommends that the Regional Council authorize SCAG to apply for advanced funding of 25% or $11,867,755 of its maximum eligible funding allowed under the Regional Early Action Program (REAP). Ms. Jepson described the public and stakeholder engagement process and noted that a broader description of both programs and the eligible planning activities was included in the agenda packet.

Ma’Ayn Johnson described the mechanics of the Local Early Action Program (LEAP) and REAP programs. She noted that the LEAP program allows direct funding to jurisdictions to support local planning efforts and process improvements to increase housing production. She explained that the REAP program intends to provide funding to designated councils of governments, including SCAG (SCAG is eligible to apply for up to $47,471,023 in one-time funding) to accelerate housing production through regional programs and providing funding to local jurisdictions based on criteria developed by SCAG. Ms. Johnson commented that SCAG is in the beginning stages for developing program objectives that align with regional and jurisdictional priorities, including the development of a Housing Program Framework for REAP. Ms. Johnson noted that there is some urgency to spend the grants as the deadline for spending all funds for both the LEAP and REAP programs is December 31, 2023.

SCAG staff responded on the comments and questions expressed by the committee members, including concerns for funding eligibility for an affordable housing trust fund, equitable funding formulations for jurisdictions with higher RHNA allocations and direct funding to organizations that are eligible and ready to receive funding.

7. **Advancement of the Growth Vision for Connect SoCal**
Kimberly Clark, SCAG Staff, provided a presentation on Connect SoCal’s Advancement of the Growth Vision. She provided background information for developing the Draft Connect SoCal plan’s Growth Vision and the Draft SoCal plan’s Growth Forecast Principles, which were drafted in partnership with stakeholders from SCAG’s Technical Working Group (TWG).

Ms. Clark described the one-on-one engagements process completed with local jurisdictions, Regional Planning Working Groups and Public workshops, seeking feedback for finalizing Connect SoCal’s vision of future growth.

Additional topics focused on the Draft Connect SoCal Plan’s growth vision methodology, priority growth areas, constrained areas, growth forecast principles, feedback summary and next steps.

SCAG staff responded on the comments and questions expressed by the committee members, including concerns for the final vote and adoption date of the Plan and when local jurisdictions will be notified of any Land Use changes. Additionally, SCAG staff noted that the Draft Growth Vision maps may be accessed on SCAG’s Open Data Portal webpage, which is accessible from the SCAG main website.

Moving forward, SCAG staff noted that SCAG will continue to utilize local feedback to finalize the regional Growth Vision, and that there will be an additional update and report provided at the March CEHD Committee meeting. Ms. Jepson noted that a vote on the final release is anticipated at the April 2, 2020 Joint Policy Committee meeting, with a recommendation for adoption to the Regional Council at its April 2, 2020 meeting.

The full presentation was included in the agenda packet.

**CHAIR’S REPORT**
Chair Huang announced that nominations for Chair and Vice Chair will be coming soon.

**STAFF REPORT**
Ma’Ayn Johnson, SCAG Staff, asked the Committee to mark their calendars for a webinar on local housing funding hosted by HCD on February 20, 2020 from 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. An email blast will be sent to local jurisdictions.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Chair Huang welcomed CEHD’s newest members: Hon. Acquanetta Warren, City of Fontana, and Hon. Micheal Goodland, City of Jurupa Valley.

**ADJOURNMENT**
There being no further business, Chair Huang adjourned the CEHD Committee meeting at 11:00 a.m.

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