MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2022 – THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2022


The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its annual retreat meeting at the Hotel Paseo, Paseo A, 45-400 Larkspur Lane, Palm Desert, CA 92260. A quorum was present.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Members Present
Hon. Jan Harnik, President
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, 1st Vice President
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair, EEC
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC
Hon. Ray Marquez, Chair, TC
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Vice Chair, TC
Hon. Peggy Huang, Chair, LCMC
Hon. Jose Luis Salache, Vice Chair, LCMC
Hon. Margaret Finlay, President’s Appt.
Hon. Kathleen Kelly, President’s Appt.
Hon. Larry McCallon, President’s Appt.
Hon. Nithya Raman, President’s Appt.
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.
Hon. Lucy Dunn

RCTC
Ventura County
Cerritos
District 23
Calabasas
District 44
Rialto
District 8
Imperial County
District 10
Pomona
District 38
TCA

Members Not Present
Hon. Art Brown, 2nd Vice President
Hon. Clint Lorimore, Imm. Past President

Buena Park
District 21
Eastvale
District 4

Pechanga Dev. Corp.
TGRPB Representative

Business Representative
Staff Present
Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Erika Bustamante, Deputy Director of Finance
Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning
Annie Nam, Deputy Director of Planning - Transportation
Jenna Hornstock, Deputy Director of Planning – Land Use
Javiera Cartagena, Director of Government and Public Affairs
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Michael Houston, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Jan Harnik called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. President Harnik asked First Vice President Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged there no written public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

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

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks, Introductions, Agenda Review and Expectations
President Harnik provided opening remarks and had EAC members and staff introduce themselves.

2. SCAG 101: Overview of Organization

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer provided an overview of the organization which included a review of the SCAG region, vision, mission, core values, primary roles and responsibilities, the strategic plan goals, agency budget and overall workplan, the four-year budget and staffing history, and FY 2021-2022 accomplishments, recognitions, and awards. He also introduced the Executive Team and had them each provide a brief introduction of their departments.

3. Updating the Strategic Plan
(Kome Ajise, Executive Director, Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer, and Loree Goffigon, Performance Works)

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, provided opening comments regarding the Strategic Plan. He stated they were hoping to get input and direction as they were in the process of updating the strategic plan to be more relevant to the environment, they were in. The Executive Director asked Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer, to add some comments to this discussion. Ms. Dillon shared she was leading the efforts for this item and expressed her excitement in gathering the data, working with the consulting team, and refining it. She introduced Loree Goffigon, with Performance Works. Ms. Goffigon provided a general introduction to the work process, and went over what the strategic plan was, where they were going and how they planned to get there. She shared they would be working on aligning the vision, work culture, processes as well as stakeholder engagement. She emphasized this was a refresher, and that the process and project were designed to build on what was already underway.

4. Progress on President’s Work Plan and FY 23 Work Plan and Priorities
(Kome Ajise, Executive Director and Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning)

Mr. Ajise introduced the annual work plan. He stated that they had worked on this the previous year and would use it as a basis for discussion. He shared he hoped they would use the bones of the framework of last year’s work plan for creating a work plan for this coming year. He called upon Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning to talk about the structure of the plan.

Sarah Jepson stated this would be a working session and was hoping for active engagement. The focus of her discussion was around the four priority areas in the strategic workplan which were:
- Regional Policy Development and Regional Plan Update;
- Leadership in Resource Deployment and how they were implementing the current plan;
- Legislative Action; and
- Technology, Innovation and Leadership.
Various members shared their thoughts on what SCAG could look into as part of the workplan. Some ideas included economic growth, looking into who was left behind at the subregional level, creating jobs within the region and within communities to reduce travel distances for people. Members also discussed joint policy committees and looking at shared issues such as infrastructure, resource conservation, and racial equity.

5. Policy Briefing

*(Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning)*

- **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) / Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG)**

Mr. Chidsey provided context to the EAC on the two items that would be discussed. He shared that the both items that Annie Nam, Deputy Director for Transportation, would touch on were very complicated. He stated they involved on one side three decades worth of transportation funding law and on the other side the complex issue of air quality in the region. He stated that both were core functions of what they did as an organization. He shared there were changes coming on both fronts. He shared previous Air Quality plans had not been implemented on the Federal level. He stated the purpose of the presentation was to bring members up to speed so when the time came, they could approve an action that they would take on the air quality side.

Ms. Nam focused her discussion on the transportation funding component. She talked about two federal formula programs CMAQ and STBG. She stated that these programs were part of federal review, and that there were corrective actions for both, indicating administration of programs had not been in compliance, specifically, STBG could not be suballocated. She stated SCAG was working with County Transportation partners, to develop action plans addressing recommendations to improve the process and identifying SCAG’s role in project selection. She stated they would be meeting over next six months to draft an action plan by December 2022.

Ms. Jepson provided a brief overview of the air quality conformity component. She walked through two significant air quality issues that would potentially have implications for transportation investments. One being the notice of intent to sue that had been recently filed by the South Coast AQMD to sue the U.S. EPA and the second was the Regional Transportation Conformity lockdown.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Harnik adjourned the EAC Retreat of the Executive Administration Committee at 5:30 p.m. to Friday, July 1, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2022 – 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM**
Members Present

Hon. Jan Harnik, President
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, 1st Vice President
Hon. Clint Lorimore, Imm. Past President
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair, EEC
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC
Hon. Ray Marquez, Chair, TC
Hon. Kathleen Kelly, President’s Appt.
Hon. Larry McCollon, President’s Appt.
Hon. Nithya Raman, President’s Appt.
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Hon. Ray Marquez, Chair, TC
District 10

Hon. Kathleen Kelly, President’s Appt.
District 35

Hon. Larry McCollon, President’s Appt.
District 2

Hon. Nithya Raman, President’s Appt.
District 7

Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.
District 51

Hon. Lucy Dunn
TGRPB Representative
Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Art Brown, 2nd Vice President
Buena Park
District 21

Hon. Tim Sandoval, Vice Chair, TC
Pomona
District 38

Hon. Peggy Huang, Chair, LCMC
TCA

Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC
Lynwood
District 26

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Erika Bustamante, Deputy Director of Finance
Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning
Annie Nam, Deputy Director of Planning - Transportation
Jenna Hornstock, Deputy Director of Planning – Land Use
Javiera Cartagena, Director of Government and Public Affairs
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Michael Houston, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Honorable Jan Harnik called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. President Harnik asked Immediate Past President Clint Lorimore, Eastvale, District 4, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged there no written public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Harnik closed the Public Comment Period

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Recap on Day 1

A brief recap of the previous day was provided. President Harnik asked all participants (EAC members and staff) to provide thoughts and take aways from the previous day’s discussion.

2. Consideration of RC, EAC and Policy Committee Meeting Schedule & Options (Michael R.W. Houston, Legal Counsel/Director of Legal Services)

President Harnik stated this had been something she asked for. She stated they had seen the growth of SCAG and its responsibilities from 2019-2022 and the change had been huge. She stated that their [Regional Council] meetings were only an hour and a half. She wanted them to look if they were being effective and if they were having complete discussions on matters.

Chief Counsel Michael Houston thanked President Harnik for the introduction to this item because it framed the issue nicely. He stated his presentation was about going through some ideas and options to give the members some space to have a discussion and provide staff with direction. He stated the goals for that day were focused on high level opportunity and purposes that would help guide discussions. As part of his discussion, he presented two potential options. Option one, was an option to move Policy Committee meetings to another day or another week from the date and week of the current Regional Council meetings. Option two, was to keep the existing schedule but start the Policy Committee meetings earlier and provide more time for the Regional Council meeting. During this presentation he highlighted advantages and disadvantages.
Members provided their input on the options provided. Members discussed their own demographics/personal backgrounds and how that impacted who could stay for longer discussions.

3. Wrap up / Next Steps

(Kome Ajise, Executive Director)

Mr. Ajise thanked everyone for their time and the honest discussion. He stated there would be follow up on the Strategic Plan and interviews to capture their perspectives as they build the plan. He stated there would also be an update to the workplan based on their conversation and they would be provided with options regarding the meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Harnik adjourned the EAC Retreat of the Executive Administration Committee at 10:37 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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