



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC). AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>.

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) 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**

<b>Sup. Curt Hagman, President</b>		<b>San Bernardino County</b>
<b>Hon. Cindy Allen, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	<i>Long Beach</i>	<b>District 30</b>
<b>Hon. Ray Marquez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	<i>Chino Hills</i>	<b>District 10</b>
<b>Hon. Art Brown, Imm. Past President</b>	<i>Buena Park</i>	<b>District 21</b>
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair CEHD	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Chair, EEC		Imperial County
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, Vice Chair EEC	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC	<i>VCTC</i>	Ventura County
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President’s Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13
Hon. Jan Harnik, President’s Appt.	<i>RCTC</i>	Riverside
Hon. Alan Wapner, President’s Appt.		SBCTA Representative

**Members Not Present**

Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRP Representative
Hon. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

**Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer

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Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer  
Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer  
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel  
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services  
Richard Lam, Deputy Legal Counsel  
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board  
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honorable Curt Hagman called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. President Hagman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Hagman opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. He noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. He reminded the public to submit comments via email to [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov).

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel acknowledged there were no written public comments received before or after the deadline.

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

### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

### **ACTION ITEM**

1. Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Executive Director's Employment Agreement

There were no public comments for Item 1.

Board Counsel Ruben Duran provided members a brief report on Item 1. He explained that as directed by the EAC at one its recent meetings, pursuant to a successful performance evaluation of the Executive Director they had before them a proposed amendment number 3 to his employment agreement. He stated the only item that proposed amendment affected was [the Executive Director's] annual base salary as directed by the EAC, and negotiated with Mr. Ajise, and himself on

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behalf of the EAC. Board Counsel stated the amendment reflected a 3% merit increase in his salary. Lastly, he stated there were no other proposed adjustments to any provision of [the Executive Director’s] agreement.

A MOTION was made (Brown) to approve the attached Amendment No. 3 to the Employment Agreement between SCAG and Kome Ajise to adjust the Executive Director’s Salary in response to positive performance review, and approve the Annual Work Plan for 2024-25. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Allen, Brown, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Marquez, Plancarte, Rhodes, Shapiro, Solache and Wapner (13)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

2. Approve SCAG Participation in the 2024 Paris Olympic Games Observation Program and Study Tour

There were no public comments for Item 2.

Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, provided a brief report for Item 2. He stated the SCAG region was set to host the Olympics in four years, and that SCAG had been participating in the Games Mobility Executive Group for about a year now. He shared this group was charged to create the transportation plans for the Olympic games. He stated there were different roles and responsibilities to each of the members, however collectively, the group was charged with a really large task. He stated that members of the group were going to be traveling to Paris during the summer to participate in what is called the Observer Program. He stated they were seeking approval because SCAG’s Bylaws and Policy Manual indicates that any international travel must be approved by the Regional Council, and they were seeking to send two staff members to participate in that Observer Program. However, he shared they knew there were other opportunities that might arise over the course of the summer, and they were also asking for approval for as many as two additional staff members and two Regional Council members to participate in events that have not been specified yet. Lastly, he stated that because it took the Regional Council's approval to approve international travel, and they were unsure about what other opportunities might arise over the next 6 to 8 weeks, and the Regional Council was dark in July, they were asking that specifically for Olympic travel, they delegate that authority to the Executive Director, should any unique opportunities arise that would be in SCAG’s best interest to participate in, as they prepare for the 2028 Olympics.



Regional Council member Wendy Bucknum, Mission Viejo, District 13 expressed her support and excitement in relation to this item. She also asked for clarification if they wanted to put a [monetary] cap on this item. She stated it did not have a cap as far as additional monies. She stated she was supportive of that, so that staff had the authority.

President Hagman stated they currently had \$45,000 and asked Mr. Chidsey to confirm.

Mr. Chidsey stated they were correct, that it was for actual expenses up to \$45,000. He stated that if there were to be additional travel it would likely be above that and it would be hard to assess. He stated he understood if the committee was more comfortable about putting a cap on it as well. He offered to report back.

A MOTION was made (Solache) the Executive Administration Committee (EAC) recommend that the Regional Council approve: 1) Participation of up to two Regional Council members, in accordance with Article VIII, Section F of the Regional Council Policy Manual, and up to four SCAG staff in accordance with the SCAG Employee Travel Policy, in the 2024 Paris Olympic Games Observation Program and Study Tour in the early part of August, and after the Games to meet with the Paris delegation on lessons learned in preparation for the LA28 Olympic Games; 2) Delegation of authority to the Executive Director to approve international travel, specific to the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, for any needed additional SCAG international travel related to the 2024 Paris Olympic Games; and 3) Expenditure of approximately \$45,000 to cover travel expenses which will be allocated from SCAG's General Fund, Project Number 800-0160.01, and the expenditure of additional funds to cover travel expenses for any additional international travel authorized by the Executive Director. Per SCAG Travel Policy, foreign travel requires Regional Council approval. Motion was SECONDED (Bucknum) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Allen, Brown, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Marquez, Plancarte, Rhodes, Shapiro, Solache and Wapner (13)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meeting – May 1, 2024

4. Contract 18-002-SS1 Amendment 13, Legal Services
5. Contract 20-002-C01 Amendment 7, Board Counsel Services
6. Contract 20-035-C01 Amendment 6, Information Technology (IT) Managed Services
7. AB 2535 (Bonta) - TCEP Funding for Zero-Emission Freight

Receive and File

8. Update on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed Action on South Coast Air Quality Management District's Plan to Meet the 1997 Ozone Standard
9. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
10. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Brown) to approve the Consent Calendar Items 3 through 7; and Receive and File Items 8 through 10. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Allen, Brown, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Marquez, Plancarte, Rhodes, Shapiro, Solache and Wapner (13)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

There were no public comments for Item the CFO report, President's report or the Executive Director's report.

**CFO REPORT**

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, thanked the committee for their support the previous month for the fiscal year 2025 budget and overall work program. She stated that subsequent to their approval, they submitted the overall work program to Caltrans and was happy to report they received their approval on May 29. She reported that similar to this time last year, staff was busy completing the awards for the Go Human call for projects. She stated this call would award \$461,000 across 15 projects throughout the region. She stated this would bring the total number of active and ongoing pass-through projects to just over 100, funded through 24 different special

grants. She stated that if they retained full REAP funding, they could anticipate approximately another 50 or more projects to add to that count. She reported SCAG's role as a pass-through agency had grown over the past few years. She stated that to provide some perspective in 2020, SCAG's highest number to date had been 16 active awarded projects, so this really showed their dedication to seeking out funding for the region. Furthermore, she reported SCAG's fiscal year 2025 membership invoices would be going out in the next couple of weeks, and they certainly appreciated their support in expediting or routing those for payment.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Hagman provided an update on SCAG's Washington D.C. Advocacy Trip. He shared a few of the members traveled to Washington D.C. to advocate for federal legislative priorities to support planning needs for the upcoming Olympic games, as well as funding for programs to support housing production, complete streets and broadband efforts. He stated they were happy to hear from Senator Alex Padilla and Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi at their annual California Congressional Transportation Reception, which they co-hosted with their bay area counterpart, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. He stated they also met with several representatives, including friends of SCAG, Congresswoman Norma Torres and Congressman Pete Aguilar. Furthermore, he reported last month, WTS International awarded this year's Honorable Ray LaHood Award to SCAG Executive Director Kome Ajise. He reported Mr. Ajise received the WTS-Los Angeles version of this award last fall, nominating him for the international award alongside 1,200 transportation leaders from all over the United States. He congratulated Mr. Ajise for this prestigious recognition. President Hagman also reported that he and SCAG Deputy Director of Planning Annie Nam participated in the Inland Empire Economic Partnership's Logistics and E-Commerce Summit. He stated Ms. Nam presented a white paper on the state of goods movement in the region and he spoke on a panel of experts discussing the issue, covering details of data in the trucking industry, the role of technology in improving goods movement and how SCAG can play a critical role supporting collaboration in this space. He reported the EAC and the Policy Committees would be dark in July in observance of Independence Day. He stated the next regular meeting of the EAC was scheduled for Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 3 p.m. Lastly, he reported they would kick off the year with the EAC retreat on June 27-28 in San Bernardino County.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, provided an update on REAP. He shared with members that after tireless legislative advocacy over the past few months, they received encouraging news. He reported the California State Assembly and State Senate announced a Joint Legislative Budget Plan, which proposed to restore significant funding for several programs proposed to be cut under Governor Newsom's January Budget proposal and May Revision. He stated that the Joint Legislative Budget Plan would restore \$250 million to the Regional Early Action Planning program (REAP 2.0),

of the originally proposed \$300 million cut and reject proposed cuts to the Active Transportation Program. He stated both programs provided important resources for implementing Connect SoCal 2024 and have been the focus of SCAG’s recent advocacy. He stated they appreciated all of them and the many partners who worked alongside SCAG to highlight the importance of the projects made possible by these funding sources. He stated that while this news was encouraging, there were still several steps to negotiate a final budget and SCAG would continue focused advocacy throughout this process. He explained that if the budget was approved, SCAG staff hoped to move forward with significant REAP sub-allocations and would continue engagement to “restart” the program once the budget was finalized. He shared that given a lot could happen between then and June 15, SCAG staff were preparing for all scenarios and encouraging partners to continue advocacy. Mr. Ajise also provided an update on AB 2485 by Assemblymember Juan Carrillo. He stated this was SCAG’s sponsored bill that sought to increase transparency measures concerning the RHNA determination process. He stated the bill passed in the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development on April 17, then moved through the Assembly Local Government and Appropriations Committees, before going back to the Assembly floor on May 22, where it was passed unanimously. He shared it was now headed to the Senate where it would likely be assigned to the Senate Housing Committee. Mr. Ajise also provided the members with a General Assembly Recap. He thanked all the members that attended the 2024 Regional Conference and General Assembly in Palm Desert. He shared they had more than 800 attendees gathered for the event, along with esteemed speakers, panelists, partners and sponsors, who contributed to productive discussions on the pillars of Connect SoCal 2024: mobility, housing and communities, the environment and the economy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Hagman adjourned the Meeting of the Executive Administration Committee at 3:25 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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**Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report**

MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	2024-25												Total Mt Attende To Date	
			6-Jun	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY		
Hon. Curt Hagman, President, Chair		San Bernardino County	1													3
Hon. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice Chair	Long Beach	District 30	1													3
Hon. Ray Marquez, 2nd Vice Chair	Chino Hills	District 10	1													3
Hon. Art Brown, Imm. Past President	Buena Park	District 21	1													3
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD	Calabasas	District 44	1													3
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair, CEHD	Simi Valley	District 46	1													3
Sup. Luis Plancarte, Chair, EEC		Imperial County	1													3
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, Vice Chair, EEC	Santa Paula	District 47	1													3
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38	0													1
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC		VCTC	1													1
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68	0													2
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26	1													3
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	Member-At-Large														0
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13	1													2
Hon. Jan Harnik, President's Appt.		RCTC	1													3
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.		Air District Representative														2
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	0													2
Ms. Lucy Dunn, Ex-Officio Member	Lucy Dunn Strategic Issues Ma	Business Representative	0													2
			12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

Attachment: EAC Attendance Sheet 2024-25 (Minutes of the Meeting - June 5, 2024)