

# Southern California Association of Governments January 4, 2023

## NO. 649 MINUTES OF THE MEETING EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC) WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022

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: <u>http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/</u>.

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its special meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically), given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A). A quorum was present.

Members Present				
Hon. Jan Harnik, President		RCTC		
Hon. Art Brown, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Buena Park	District 21		
Hon. Clint Lorimore, Imm. Past President	Eastvale	District 4		
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 23		
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD	Calabasas	District 44		
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair, EEC	Rialto	District 8		
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC		Imperial County		
Hon. Ray Marquez, Chair, TC	Chino Hills	District 10		
Hon. Peggy Huang, Chair, LCMC		ТСА		
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26		
Hon. Kathleen Kelly, President's Appt.	Palm Desert	District 2		
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.	Highland	District 7		
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corp.	TGRPB Representative		
Members Not Present				
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Vice Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38		
Hon. Margaret Finlay, President's Appt.	Duarte	District 35		
Hon. Nithya Raman, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	District 51		
Hon. Lucy Dunn				



#### Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning 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 Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

### CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Jan Harnik called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. President Harnik asked Regional Council Member Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, 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 <u>ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov</u>.

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

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

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

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

### **ACTION ITEM**

1. Findings to Continue Holding Virtual Regional Council and Committee Meetings under AB 361

There were no public comments on this item.



Board Counsel Duran provided brief comments on the reasons to continue holding virtual Regional Council and Committee meetings.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

A MOTION was made (Hagman) that the Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) acting on behalf of the Regional Council (RC): (1) make the following findings required by Government Code Section 54953(e)(3) on the basis of the staff report, which is incorporated by this reference, that (i) a proclaimed state of emergency remains active in connection with the COVID-19 public health crisis, (ii) the EAC has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and (iii) state and local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing in relation to the COVID-19 public health crisis and, further, (2) authorize all legislative bodies of the Southern California Association of Government (SCAG), including the EAC, RC and all committees, subcommittees and task forces established by the RC or SCAG's Bylaws, to utilize remote teleconference meetings pursuant to and in compliance with Brown Act provisions contained in Government Code Section 54953(e). Motion was SECONDED (Solache) and passed by the following votes:

- AYES: Brown, Hagman, Harnik, Huang, Kelly, Lorimore, Marquez, Masiel, McCallon, Plancarte, Robertson, Shapiro, and Solache (13)
- NOES: None (0)
- ABSTAIN: None (0)
- 2. REAP 2.0 Authorization to Apply for Full Funding Program

There were no public comments on this item.

Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning, reported that SCAG was eligible to receive approximately \$246 million in formula grant funding through the Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program for 2021 (REAP 2.0) and that over the last 18 months, SCAG staff had worked under the direction of the Policy Committees, EAC, and Regional Council to conduct outreach and develop a comprehensive REAP 2.0 program to submit for full funding. She addressed the major milestones in the program development process which were outlined in the report. She also explained that they were asking for their 1) authorization to submit a full funding application to HCD by their December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline; 2) approval of the program budget that they would submit to HCD; and 3) authorization to hire the limited term staff that was needed to implement the program once it was approved by



HCD. She highlighted elements (Core Objectives) and major program areas that were in the report and noted that the report also included a summary of 1) all the outreach that they had done and all the agencies and stakeholders that they have engaged; and 2) the draft program schedule, which outlines the timelines for when they would expect to initiate calls for projects to select projects within these different program areas.

Regional Council Member Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, asked how many staff they were thinking about temporarily hiring.

Ms. Jepson reported they had hired 13 limited term staff to support the program, and with the budget that was outlined they were looking to hire about 10 more people to support the program implementation.

Erika Bustamante, Deputy Director of Finance, clarified that the current staffing plan looks at about 30 limited term staff and that the ones Ms. Jepson had mentioned had already been on boarded with their authorization in February. She stated they had some current limited term staff that they were looking to extend that were currently supporting REAP 1.0 and would continue to support REAP 2.0. She stated they also had a couple of new ones that were part of the staffing plan.

Regional Council Member Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 8, asked if staffing would be deployed out in the rest sub regions. She also moved the item for approval.

Ms. Jespon stated staff would conduct a variety of different activities to support the delivery of this program. She stated that staff would work to do outreach in their communities and work with the applicants to make sure that they can apply for the resources. She noted that these were the planning staff that would be both developing the programs and would be out in the community supporting implementation. She also noted that they would also have some administrative staff added to support the development of the MOU's, all the accounting, and all of the activities that need to happen for them to successfully deliver the \$247 million program of which 85% of the funding was going directly to partner agencies.

Second Vice President Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, expressed that a quarter billion dollars was a lot for 30 staff but hoped that as the program grows, they could look at the overhead compared to what kind of numbers they were getting out of the programming. He sated he was glad to hear that at least 85% plans to get out in the field.

Ms. Jepson explained that administrative costs were about 5% and the other portion was for other programs that SCAG was going to manage directly and hire consultants to support additional work in communities. She stated that programs like the Regional Data Platform (RDP) were a resource they provided to local jurisdictions to support their local planning. She explained that some of these



resources would support the expansion of the RDP and some other new data tools that they wanted to bring to the region to support planning work. She clarified that it was programs that they were developing to do work directly with communities in planning.

Second Vice President Hagman stated he thought this was a great opportunity for them and to bring this to the Regional Council as it gets developed. He stated he was fully supportive of them receiving the grant and them doing their mission. He seconded the motion by Regional Council Member Robertson.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

A MOTION was made (Robertson) that the Executive/Administration Committee (EAC), acting on behalf of the Regional Council (RC): (1) approve the REAP 2.0 Program Budget as presented in Attachment 2of the staff report, (2) authorize the Executive Director or their designee to hire Limited Term staff needed to implement REAP 2.0 program, and (3) adopt Resolution No. 22-649-1 authorizing the Executive Director or their designee to submit the Regional Early Action Planning Grant 2.0 (REAP 2.0) Full Application to the State Partners by the December 31, 2022 deadline. Motion was SECONDED (Hagman) and passed by the following votes:

- **AYES:** Brown, Hagman, Harnik, Huang, Kelly, Lorimore, Marquez, Masiel, McCallon, Plancarte, Robertson, Shapiro, Solache, and Yokoyama (14)
- NOES: None (0)
- **ABSTAIN:** None (0)

### CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

### Approval Items

- 3. Minutes of the Meeting November 2, 2022
- 4. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-017-C01, Supporting Infrastructure for Zero Emission Heavy Duty Vehicles
- 5. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: 23-019-C01, Strategic and Technical Services for SCAG's REAP 2.0 Transportation Initiatives



- 6. Solutions for Congested Corridors Program Grant Application in Partnership with Metrolink
- 7. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

#### Receive and File

8. CFO Monthly Report

Second Vice President Curt Hagman asked about the two contracts on the Consent Calendar because he noticed they had the same company and wondered if there were a lot of competitors.

Leyton Morgan, Contracts Manager, explained the two items were completely separate and the first item for Cambridge had six competitors. He stated that they had originally awarded the contract to another firm, but they were not able to come to an agreement with them, so they went to Cambridge. For the second item, Cambridge was the only proposer, even though they went out for bid couple of times to try to get someone else.

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

- AYES: Brown, Hagman, Harnik, Huang, Kelly, Lorimore, Marquez, Masiel, McCallon, Plancarte, Robertson, Shapiro, Solache, and Yokoyama (14)
- NOES: None (0)
- ABSTAIN: None (0)

### CFO REPORT

Ms. Bustamante reported that the CFO report in the agenda packet included several charts on the progress of finance and procurement activities and a list of planning contracts awarded for the fiscal year. She noted that they also included in the report an update on our investment earnings as required by SCAG's investment policy which was adopted by the Regional Council in 2018. She reminded them that earlier this year SCAG opened a new investment account with the Local Agency Investment Fund with Regional Council approval. Lastly, she reported that the budget development process for the next fiscal year was in its final stage, and they had budget decisions coming in December. She indicated they were on track to bring back the draft budget in March.



Regional Council Member McCallon asked about the status of membership dues. Ms. Bustamante indicated they were at 50% collected and were hoping to have all dues collected in December or January at the latest.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Harnik provided updates on the fall legislative meeting series which included meetings with Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh, Assemblymember Tina McKinnor and Assemblymember Mike Fong, and the participation of the Board Officers and several Regional Council Members. Discussions with Senator Ochoa Bogh (Oh-Cho-Uh Bohg) were focused on needed funding to address infrastructure needs due to population growth in her district. With Assemblymember McKinnor, discussions were focused on securing funding for the Inglewood Transit Connector Project and including zoning overlay for religious institutions to build housing on their properties. With Assemblymember Fong, discussions were focused on addressing housing and infrastructure needs in the region. She also reported that SCAG's Legislative team hosted a webinar with information on federal funding resources available to our region as part of the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure, Investment and Jobs Act. She also noted that the special "Money Monday" edition of the "Toolbox Tuesday" series aired on November 21 and was available on SCAG's website. She provided an update on the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern California Economic Summit scheduled for the next day at the Sheraton Grand in Downtown Los Angeles. She stated that they would be presenting new economic research about our region's ability to weather a potential recession, as well as interesting panel discussions about the region's strengths and emerging sectors. She also provided a reminder about upcoming meetings in January and noted that they would be welcoming the public back to attend our meetings in person. She also highlighted the slightly modified schedule – as determined by decisions at the last Regional Council meeting. She noted that the Regional Council meeting on Thursday, January 5, 2023, would start at its new regular time at noon, and run until 2:00 p.m. Lastly, she reminded members that the next meeting of the EAC was scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 3 p.m. and wished everyone happy holidays.

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

Executive Director Ajise provided updates on the stated agency meetings with executive leadership at the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the California Office of Planning Research (OPR), the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) on November 8 and 9. He explained that the conversations focused on challenges and opportunities for achieving housing, climate and safety goals in Southern California and the role SCAG can play in supporting local implementation of state policies, which included work SCAG is proposing to fund in its REAP 2 application. He also provided an update on the Connect SoCal Subcommittees which have been diving deeper into key topic areas to develop recommendations for the next regional



transportation plan in 2024. He reported that the subcommittees next and final meetings would be in January, where they would review white papers and recommendations to be submitted to the SCAG Regional Council in March. Mr. Ajise also provided an update on the RAMP-ATG and stated that the Framework was accepted by the RAMP Advisory Task Group during its last meeting on November 16. He explained that the draft policy would now be forwarded to SCAG's Energy and Environment Committee and Regional Council early next year, as well as shared with Transportation Committee and Community, Economic and Human Development Committee. He stated that as the RAMP policy framework is finalized, they would revisit efforts to develop a tool to help stakeholders make early and informed decisions about infrastructure, growth and conservation, and mitigation requirements in our regional plan. He also noted that the current contract with the Nature Conservancy had expired, and staff would initiate a competitive procurement process where the selected consultant would also facilitate the Greenprint Technical Advisory Committee. Lastly, he provided an duplicate on outreach activities in the region which included: a meeting with VCTC to discuss the REAP CTC Partnership Program; participation in a panel at CoMotion LA on creating public-private partnerships to facilitate more sustainable communities; SCAG staff presenting a SCAG-sponsored scholarship at the WTS LA annual scholarship dinner; participating in a RAND panel about leveraging investments related to the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics to benefit underserved communities; presenting at the annual California Transportation Association conference, hosted by Omnitrans and held in Ontario; housing staff sharing their expertise in presentations to Leadership Today and HomeAid Orange County; and having a speaker at the Eye on DEI event hosted by the Orange County PRSA.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Harnik adjourned the Meeting of the Executive Administration Committee at 3:36 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC] //

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MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	JUN	30-Jun	1-Jul	JULY	AUG	15-Aug	31-Aug	OCT	NOV	30-Nov	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	Total Atter To [
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Hon. Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County									1	1						2
Hon. Clint Lorimore, Imm. Past President	Eastvale	District 4	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1						8
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 44	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1
Hon. Deborah Roberston, Chair, EEC	Rialto	District 8	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						ç
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC		Imperial County	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1
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Hon. Tim Sandoval, Vice Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						1
Hon. Pegyy Huang, Chair, LCMC		TCA	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1						8
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1						Ę
Hon. Margaret Finlay, President's Appt.	Duarte	District 35	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0						8
Hon. Kathleen Kelly, President's Appt.	Palm Desert	District 2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.	Highland	District 7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						1
Hon. Nithya Ramen, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	District 51	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0						7
ion. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1						e
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