ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022


The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular 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. David Pollock, Moorpark (Chair) District 46
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Vice Chair) District 8
Hon. Daniel Brotman, Glendale AVCIPA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead SGVCOG
Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill GCCOG
Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village LVMCOG
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods OCCOG
Hon. Dan Kalmick, Huntington Beach OCCOG
Hon. Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach District 20
Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley VCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena SGVCOG
Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills SBCTA
Sup. Luis Plancarte Imperial County
Hon. Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake District 11
Sup. Carmen Ramirez Ventura County
Hon. Greg Raths, Mission Viejo OCCOG
Hon. Jesus Silva, Fullerton President’s Appointment
Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank SFVCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill GCCOG
Members Not Present
Hon. Cindy Allen, Long Beach District 30
Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland ICTC
Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate GCCOG
Hon. Rick Denison, Yucca Valley SBCTA
Hon. Julian Gold, Beverly Hills WSCCOG
Hon. Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates SBCCOG
Hon. Jonathan Ingram, Murrieta WRCOG
Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio CVAG
Hon. Richard Rollins, Port Hueneme VCOG
Hon. Connor Traut, Buena Park OCCOG
Hon. John Valdivia, Signal Hill GCCOG

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair David Pollock called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Policy Committee Member, Jesus Silva, Fullerton, President’s Appointment, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Staff confirmed a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Pollock opened the public comment period and provided detailed instructions on how to provide public comments. He noted that this was the time for members of the public to offer comment for matters that are within SCAG’s jurisdiction but are not listed on the agenda.

He reminded the public to submit comments via email to EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov. He noted that public comments received via email to after 5pm on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, would be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

SCAG staff noted there were no written public comments received by email before or after the 5pm deadline on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. SCAG staff also noted that there were no public comments for matters not listed on the agenda.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the public comment period for matters not listed on the agenda.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.
CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on this item.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting - January 6, 2022

Receive and File

2. Policy Development Framework for Connect SoCal 2024

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


NOES: None (0)

ABSTAINS: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

3. Southern California Edison (SCE) Charge Ready New Construction Rebate (NCR)

There were no public comments on this item.

Alison Linder, Senior Regional Planner, introduced Naveed Ahmad, Senior Advisor of eMobility and Business Development and Public Partnerships from Southern California Edison (SCE). She stated Mr. Ahmad would be discussing the new construction rebate which was a new program that targeted multifamily residential developers to install EV Chargers. She also introduced Michelle Sim, Director of Sustainability at Southern California Gas Company (SoCal Gas). She stated Ms. Sim would be talking about their commitment to Net Zero, which was a commitment business wide to reduce their carbon emission and would be focusing her presentation on some of the work they were doing around hydrogen fueling which would be an important zero emissions transportation fuel.

Mr. Ahmad shared his presentation, where he discussed SCEs Charge Ready Program Options. The
main focus of his presentation was on the new construction rebate. Furthermore, he discussed how the NCR options were valuable to property developers and other decision makers.

Mr. Ahmad responded to comments and questions expressed by the Committee members, including observations on availability of funding for new construction and existing multifamily residential buildings. He also addressed questions around EV charging meeting peak loads. Furthermore, he addressed available rebates for single family homes, and the having to enroll in time of use to mitigate costs.

The comprehensive staff report, including PowerPoint presentation, was included in the agenda packet and can be accessed on the SCAG website.

4. SoCal Gas Commitment to Net Zero

There were no public comments on this item.

Michelle Sim, Director of Sustainability at Southern California Gas Company (SoCal Gas), provided a high-level presentation on SoCal Gas’ approach to climate objectives and its potential contribution to the regional planning exercises and mobility sector. She stated they were the largest gas utility in the nation serving 22 million customers regionally located in southern California. She stated their service stretched from Central California down to the Mexican border. She explained that they transported natural gas through their pipeline infrastructure and looked forward to increasing volumes of renewable natural gas with lower carbon intensity as well as exploring hydrogen as a decarbonization tool for the future. She highlighted her team was responsible for aligning their company business strategy around their five focus areas of sustainability, which are 1) Accelerate the Energy Transition; 2) Protect Climate and Improve Air Quality in Communities; 3) Increase Clean Energy Access and Affordability; 4) Advance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Culture; and Achieve World Class Safety.

Ms. Sim responded to comments and questions expressed by the committee members, including how hydrogen fuel cells fit in to the future economy, how hydrogen fuel fit into the housing element and how SoCal Gas could provide hydrogen to the powerplant in the City of Glendale.

The comprehensive staff report, including PowerPoint presentation, was included in the agenda packet and can be accessed on the SCAG website.

5. California Air Resources Board: Sustainable Communities & Climate Policy Update

There were no public comments on this item.
Sarah Dominguez, Senior Regional Planner introduced Lana Wong, with the California Air Resources Board (CARB), who would provide a presentation about the states Sustainable Communities policy framework.

Ms. Wong provided a broad overview of the SB 375 program as to why it was important, what it was expected to achieve, how it has been going and what can be done to help.

Ms. Wong responded to comments and questions expressed by the Committee members, including observations on how state funding was approached and how transportation and transit systems were working.

Sarah Jepson, Planning Director, informed the committee that conversations around the future of transit were occurring at the Transportation Committee [meeting].

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and can be accessed on the SCAG website.

6. Connect SoCal’s Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) 101

There were no public comments on this item.

Karen Calderon, Senior Associate Planner, provided an overview of Connect SoCal’s PEIR. Specifically, what it is, why they do it and the CEQA requirement.

The comprehensive staff report, including PowerPoint presentation, was included in the agenda packet and can be accessed on the SCAG website.

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

Chair Pollock stated that the April EEC meeting would have an item on the agenda, specifically dedicated for the election of the new EEC chair and Vice Chair for the year 2022-23. He stated that if they would like to nominate someone on the committee for the position of Chair or Vice Chair to email [the Clerk and Deputy Clerk] with the name of the individual and position no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, March 25. He stated that if no nominations were received by the deadline, nominations could be made from the floor and accepted at the time of the next meeting. He also announced that registration for the 57th Regional Conference and General Assembly was open, and it was taking place May 5-6, 2022, in Palm Desert.

**STAFF REPORT**
Rachel Wagner reminded everyone that the [Regional Conference and General Assembly] was free to attend for elected officials and city managers. She stated there was a special early bird discount rate of $100 off general admission and special room rate for those who registered before March 31. She also stated that staff was working with City Clerks to confirm appointments of the voting delegates and alternates to the General Assembly.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Policy Committee Member Diana Mahmud, announced that SCAG provided complimentary lodging for one-night at the General Assembly for committee members.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Pollock adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:35 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]
## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT
### 2021-22

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