ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC). A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG’S OFFICE.

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) met at SCAG, 900 Wilshire Blvd., 17th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017. A quorum was present.

Members Present
Sup. Linda Parks (Chair) Ventura County
Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark (Vice Chair) VCOG
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead District 32
Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill GCCOG
Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village LVMCOG
Hon. Paula Devine, Glendale AVCIPA
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake WRCOG
Hon. Mike Gardner, Riverside WRCOG
Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa OCCOG
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods OCCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena SGVCOG
Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio CVAG
Hon. James Osborne, Lawndale SBCCOG
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard District 45
Hon. Emma Sharif, Compton GCCOG
Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank SFVCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill GCCOG

Members Not Present
Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland ICTC
Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate GCCOG
Hon. Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates District 40
Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills SBCTA
Hon. Greg Morena, Santa Monica WSCCOG
Chair Linda Parks, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02AM, and invited The Honorable Ned Davis, Westlake Village, LVMCOG, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Parks opened the public comment period.

Mr. Leeor Alpern, South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) shared with the committee regarding services and programs available. SCAQMD has launched an application on both the IOS and Android mobile platforms that provide hourly updates on local air quality standards, clean fuel stations, electric charging, and hydrogen and natural gas. The 31st Annual Clean Air Awards is scheduled for October 4, 2019 at the LA Grand Hotel and shared that SCAQMD is offering $500 rebates on furnace replacement.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no reprioritization of the agenda.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the SCAG 2019 Local Demonstration Initiative

Chair Parks introduced the item and invited SCAG staff Hannah Brunelle to provide an update on the SCAG 2019 Local Demonstration Initiative, this project will implement temporary demonstration projects in six cities across the SCAG Region in Imperial, Los Angeles and Ventura counties. These projects are exempt from CEQA and will not have a significant impact on the environment.

A MOTION was made (Gardner) to recommend the Regional Council approve Resolution No. 19-612-1 approving the filing of the Notice of Exemption for the SCAG 2019 Local Demonstration Initiative, and recommend the Regional Council approve Resolution No. 19-612-5 to accept the
Active Transportation Funds for the project. Motion was SECONDED (Genis) and passed by the following votes:

**AYE/S:** Parks, Pollock, Clark, Copeland, Davis, Devine, Ehrenkranz, Gardner, Genis, Horne, Ortiz, Osborne, Sharif, Springer (14)

**NOE/S:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN/S:** None (0)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approval Item

2. Minutes of the Meeting - April 4, 2019

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

**AYE/S:** Parks, Pollock, Clark, Davis, Devine, Ehrenkranz, Gardner, Genis, Horne, Ortiz, Osborne, Sharif, Springer (13)

**NOE/S:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN/S:** Copeland (1)

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

3. Local Input Survey Results

SCAG staff Roland Ok presented an illustrative presentation of the Local Input Survey Results including the objective of the survey, a review of the survey questions asked, and a summary of the key findings. The Local Input Survey was prepared in preparation for the development of the Connect SoCal/2020 RTP-SCS. The summary provided was based upon a tabulation of the multiple choice questions asked in the survey versus open-ended questions. If the committee is interested staff can provide a status on the trends identified in the open questions at a future meeting.

4. SCAG Environmental Plan

Jason Greenspan, SCAG Manager of Sustainability provided the committee with an update on
SCAG’s Environmental Plan (Plan). The Plan is a collection of operational policies and strategies initiated to reduce the agency’s GHG emissions, waste and its overall environmental footprint. When adopted in December 2016 SCAG was seeking certification as a green business under the Los Angeles Green Business Program (LAGBP). Additional information regarding the LAGBP is available here. The 2016 Environment Plan provides context concerning the discussions recently occurring at this committee regarding eliminating the use of plastic water bottles at SCAG meetings. Discussion ensued regarding several issues for consideration to be included in the next update of the Plan. Councilmember Wilson reiterated his previous inquiry about the use of alternate fuel vehicles for SCAG staff who receive a SCAG auto allowance. Justine Block, Deputy Legal Counsel responded that when this was brought up previously, staff forwarded this comment to the SCAG General Counsel and this item was incorporated during contract negotiations with the new Executive Director.

5. Safety Leadership Symposium and Workshop Series

SCAG staff Hina Chanchlani provided a presentation on the Safety Leadership Symposium and Workshop Series held during the General Assembly. The aim for the Safety Leadership Symposium and Workshop Series was to educate and encourage collaboration among local elected officials to support collision-reducing policies, strategies and projects. Approximately 137 attendees participated in the series with 22 pledges received related to these efforts. This program will be included as part of the 2020 ConnectSoCal Plan scheduled for release fall 2019.

6. The Future of the Workplace: Regional Summary and Travel Impacts

Chair Parks invited Jingjing Zang, Cambridge Systematics to present on the Future of the Workplace. As part of its Future Communities Initiative SCAG has undertaken studies to better understand teleworking behavior within the SCAG region and emerging trends. Ms. Zang’s presentation considered several factors and reviewed emerging trends determined as part of the analysis including: co-working space, gig (freelance) economy and workplace automation and the impact these future workplace trends will have on the economy and technological changes altering work trips.

7. Connect SoCal Technical Methodology Submittal to California Air Resources Board

SCAG staff Rongsheng Luo provided an update to the committee on the Connect SoCal Technical Methodology submitted to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) last month. As the MPO for the southern California Region, SCAG is required by California State statute to submit a technical methodology to ARB that SCAG intends to use to estimate GHG emissions from SCAG’s Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The deadline for submittal of the technical methodology to ARB was prior to SCAG initiating the SB 375 public hearing for the SCS which was met.
8. SCAG Transportation Demand Management Strategic Plan Update

SCAG staff, Stephen Fox provided an illustrative update to the committee on SCAG’s Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategic Plan. The TDM Strategic Plan was developed during summer 2018 and will be a guiding document for SCAG’s future TDM planning and coordination activities, and will inform the development of Connect SoCal with an aim of reducing the demand on the current facilities. New technology-enabled mobility options will be incorporated into the next TDM Strategic Plan, determine the current state of TDM, identify best practices and opportunities to improve and expand TDM, understand impacts, develop regional goals and objectives that align with state and federal mandates including congestion reduction, air quality and sustainability and develop performance measures to evaluate effectiveness.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Parks took this opportunity to welcome the new Energy and Environmental Committee member the Honorable Robert Copeland, Signal Hill.

STAFF REPORT

Members were informed that SCAG will be dark for the month of July.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S

Supervisor Parks expressed interest in discussing Vehicle Miles Travel (VMT) versus Level of Service (LOS). She also expressed interest in having a discussion on Natural Gas/Bio-mass and its effect on Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

The Honorable Diane Mahmud expressed interest in learning more about planned power outages and preparation in high fire hazard zone areas.

The Honorable Carmen Ramirez informed she was interest in learning more about the Census and its impact on the Region.

The Honorable Diane Mahmud commented that she would like to have a report on regulations and compliance regarding organic waste.

The Honorable Oscar Ortiz remarked he’d like to hear more about development of a dedicated “greenspace” for drop off of organic waste.
The Honorable Sandra Genis would like to discuss the reduction of waste stream.

The Honorable David Pollock would like to explore the Intersection between RHNA allocations and SCAG’s Sustainable Communities Strategy.

**ANNOUNCEMENT/S**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Parks adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 12:02PM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 1, 2019 from 10:00AM - 12:00PM

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Hahn, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Board
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