MOVING FORWARD AS A REGION:
SCAG’s Future Communities Initiative
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Communities within the SCAG Region:

• 70% have limited or minimal staff resources to analyze data
• 43% have no in-house GIS services
• 84% share data through direct communications

*SCAG Regional Data Survey, Fall 2017
SCAG’s Future Communities Initiative

Initiative Framework
- SCAG has launched a 3-year, $8 m initiative to advance priority projects
- The initiative will leverage public/private funds, including $4.5 M in SCAG resources
- Projects will be administered by SCAG leveraging existing relationships and programs with cities/counties
Future Communities Initiative - Pilot Program Call for Projects

Goals and Objectives

• Test technology and data-driven approaches to reducing municipal VMT and GHG production
• Promote innovation to best practices and policies
• Identify strategies to quantify and monitor the performance and efficacy

Administration

• $2.7 M in grant funding (by MSRC and SCAG)
• 25% local match requirement

Key Dates

Call for Projects
- CFP opens – Nov 1, 2018
- CFP closes – mid Dec 2018
- CFP award recommendations – Jan 2019
- SCAG Board approval – Feb 2019

Pilot Programs
- Launch – Spring 2019
- Wrap Up – December 2020
- Final Reporting – December 2020
Readiness Survey Takeaways

- **60%** of responding agencies/municipalities reported having no VMT or GHG emissions goals
- **85%** had no way of estimating VMT/GHG reductions
- Dispersed ownership – who tends to lead these projects may not always match the full range of owners (transportation, IT, fleet)
- Internally, few trip reduction policies in place beyond scheduling/flex time

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<th>VMT / GHG Reduction Goals?</th>
<th>Method to Estimate VMT / GHG Production?</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
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100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% 86% 60% 14% 0%
Readiness Survey Takeaways

Current Municipal Employee VMT Reduction Strategies

- **Flextime (flexible start and end times)**: 35.6%
- **Compressed work week (9/80, 10/40)**: 93.2%
- **Telework/telecommute**: 15.3%
- **Parking cash out**: 6.8%
- **Paid parking**: 8.5%
- **Subsidized transit/pre-tax commuter account**: 3.4%
- **Work shuttle**: 0%
Future Communities Pilot Program: Search for New Ideas
EXAMPLE: Route Optimization + Fleet Telematics

Fleet Telematics Systems
Equipment/tech that allows information exchange between a vehicle fleet and central authority. Can unlock potential for fleet optimization.
Future Communities Initiative - Regional Data Platform

**DATA COLLECTION**
- Collect accurate relevant data about Southern California

**DATA COMMUNICATION**
- Automate, visualize, and distribute insights via dashboards with good story-telling

**KNOWLEDGE & ACTION**
- Technology that drives beneficial action across campaigns & content

**TECHNOLOGY**
- Conduct trainings to ensure that people are empowered to utilize the platform
- Interpretation of data into actionable insights and knowledge
- Foster citizen engagement

**PEOPLE**
- Enable users to improve the platform through data revision and insight sharing
- Empower local partners to use the platform for local initiatives
- Continuous result-oriented experimentation and innovation

Sources: MITX, Freepik.com

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**PROCESS**
- The Power of Shared Data
Future Communities Initiative – Policy Lab & Tool Builder

- **Policy Lab**
  - SCAG/Los Angeles Data Science Federation
  - County of Los Angeles/City of Los Angeles/SCAG Data & Donuts Monthly Speaker Series
  - Future of the Workplace Study

- **Tool Builder**
  - Mapping Transit Supportive Measures in Southern California
  - Active Transportation Database

- **UPCOMING: Data & Donuts School of Data**
Future Communities Initiative – Data Science Fellowship

• Fellowship Program for undergraduate and graduate university students in Data Science
• Links public agencies with data science staffing resources
• Funded with support from SCAG and Partners for Better Health
The inaugural Future Communities Forum was held on May 2nd, 2018 as part of SCAG’s Annual General Assembly. The forum helped to develop momentum about the value that shared data/applications can bring to local governments and showcase the work of local and international partners in the realm of open/big data.
THANK YOU!

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Members of the Open Data/Big Data Smart and Connected SCAG Region Committee