
News Release

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SCAG announces Subregional Partnership Program; \$23 million available to projects that accelerate housing production

Los Angeles – The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is making available \$23 million to its subregional partners for projects that would accelerate home and apartment production and help local jurisdictions meet their immediate and longer-term housing needs.

The funding is through SCAG’s share of the state’s Regional Early Action Program (REAP), designed to help cities, counties and regions address the critical housing shortage across California. Last week, SCAG released jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction draft allocations for the 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) – a state-mandated process to ensure that jurisdictions plan for the housing needs of all residents regardless of income.

The Subregional Partnership Program would support local planning activities throughout the six-county SCAG region that are aimed at increasing housing production. Sixteen subregional agencies and joint powers authorities are eligible to apply.

“The housing crisis has been and remains one of the most significant challenges we face as a region and a state. Through our partnership with subregional agencies, we have the opportunity to provide communities with critical support in addressing their housing needs,” said SCAG President Rex Richardson, a Long Beach City Councilmember.

Last year, as part of the 6th Cycle RHNA process, the state Department of Housing and Community Development set a target of 1.34 million new homes for the six-county SCAG region by the end of the decade. The housing shortage has made California one of the most expensive markets in the United States, with an average home price nearly 2 ½ times greater than the national average and average rents nearly 50% higher than the rest of the country.

“Housing availability and affordability directly impact our ability to attract businesses and jobs, create healthy and prosperous communities, and maintain a good quality of life. All of our communities are affected and all should benefit from this program,” said SCAG Executive Director Kome Ajise.

The \$23 million set aside for the Subregional Partnership Program accounts for just under half of the \$47 million SCAG is eligible to administer under REAP. Eligible projects and activities include preparing and implementing local housing elements, temporary staffing to assist with housing elements, zoning ordinances to accommodate additional housing, and establishing regional housing trust funds.

The first date for subregions to file applications is September 17, and applications are due by December 1. SCAG will review all applications to determine eligibility and assess alignment with regional priorities.

Funds that are not applied for by subregions by the final deadline will be used by SCAG for other REAP programs. All projects must conclude by June 30, 2023.

Eligible subregional partners are:

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Imperial County Transportation Commission
Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments
City of Los Angeles
County of Los Angeles (unincorporated)
County of Riverside (unincorporated)
North Los Angeles County
Orange County Council of Governments
San Bernardino County Council of Governments
San Fernando Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Ventura County Council of Governments
Westside Cities Council of Governments
Western Riverside Council of Governments

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About SCAG

SCAG is the nation's largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 191 cities and nearly 19 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG's regional efforts, please visit www.scag.ca.gov.