
The Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its meeting telephonically and electronically, given public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Members Present
Hon. Rex Richardson, President Long Beach District 29
Hon. Clint Lorimore, 1st Vice President Eastvale District 4
Hon. Jan Harnik, 2nd Vice President RCTC SBCTA
Hon. Alan D. Wapner, Imm. Past President Imperial County
Supervisor Luis Plancarte Los Angeles County
Supervisor Kathryn Barger Los Angeles County
Supervisor Holly Mitchell Orange County
Supervisor Don Wagner Riverside County
Supervisor Karen Spiegel San Bernardino County
Supervisor Curt Hagman Ventura County
Supervisor Carmen Ramirez ICTC
Hon. Maria Nava-Froelich OCTA
Hon. Tim Shaw TCA
Hon. Peggy Huang VCTC
Hon. Mike T. Judge Air District Representative
Hon. Ben Benoit
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker El Centro District 1
Hon. Kathleen Kelly Palm Desert District 2
Hon. Rey Santos Beaumont District 3
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Zak Schwank</td>
<td>Temecula</td>
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<td><strong>Members Present - continued</strong></td>
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<td>Hon. Frank Navarro</td>
<td>Colton</td>
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<td>Hon. Larry McCallon</td>
<td>Highland</td>
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<td>Hon. Deborah Robertson</td>
<td>Rialto</td>
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<td>Hon. L. Dennis Michael</td>
<td>Rancho Cucamonga</td>
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<td>Hon. Ray Marquez</td>
<td>Chino Hills</td>
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<td>Hon. Randall Putz</td>
<td>Big Bear Lake</td>
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<td>Hon. Fred Minagar</td>
<td>Laguna Niguel</td>
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<td>Hon. Michael Carroll</td>
<td>Irvine</td>
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<td>Hon. Diane Dixon</td>
<td>Newport Beach</td>
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<td>Hon. Phil Bacerra</td>
<td>Santa Ana</td>
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<td>Hon. Leticia Clark</td>
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<td>Hon. Kim Nguyen</td>
<td>Garden Grove</td>
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<td>Hon. Trevor O’Neil</td>
<td>Anaheim</td>
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<td>Hon. Joe Kalmick</td>
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<td>Hon. Art Brown</td>
<td>Buena Park</td>
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<td>Hon. Marty Simonoff</td>
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<td>Hon. Frank Yokoyama</td>
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<td>Hon. Ray Hamada</td>
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<td>Hon. Sean Ashton</td>
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<td>Hon. José Luis Solache</td>
<td>Lynwood</td>
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<td>Hon. Mark E. Henderson</td>
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<td>Hon. Cindy Allen</td>
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<td>Hon. Steve De Ruse</td>
<td>La Mirada</td>
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<td>Hon. Jorge Marquez</td>
<td>Covina</td>
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<td>Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler</td>
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<td>Hon. Margaret E. Finlay</td>
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<td>Hon. Steve Tye</td>
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<td>Hon. Tim Sandoval</td>
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<td>Hon. James Gazeley</td>
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<td>Hon. Drew Boyles</td>
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<td>Hon. Alex Fisch</td>
<td>Culver City</td>
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<td>Hon. Paula Devine</td>
<td>Glendale</td>
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<td>Hon. Juan Carrillo</td>
<td>Palmdale</td>
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<td>Hon. David J. Shapiro</td>
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<td>Hon. David Pollock</td>
<td>Moorpark</td>
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<td>Hon. Lorrie Brown</td>
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<td>Hon. Paul Krekorian</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>District 49/Public Transit Rep.</td>
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Members Present - continued
Hon. Paul Koretz  Los Angeles  District 52
Hon. Mike Bonin  Los Angeles  District 58
Hon. Joe Buscaino  Los Angeles  District 62
Hon. Steve Manos  Lake Elsinore  District 63
Hon. Michael Posey  Huntington Beach  District 64
Hon. Hector Pacheco  San Fernando  District 67
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson  Riverside  District 68
Hon. Marisela Magana  Perris  District 69
Mr. Randall Lewis  Business Representative  Ex-Officio Member
Hon. Eric Garcetti  Los Angeles  Member-at-Large

Members Not Present
Hon. Wendy Bucknum  Mission Viejo  District 13
Hon. Ali Saleh  Bell  District 27
Hon. Steven Ly  Rosemead  District 32
Hon. Jonathan Curtis  La Cañada Flintridge  District 36
Hon. Laura Hernandez  Port Hueneme  District 45
Hon. Gilbert Cedillo  Los Angeles  District 48
Hon. Bob Blumenfield  Los Angeles  District 50
Hon. Nury Martinez  Los Angeles  District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez  Los Angeles  District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson  Los Angeles  District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.  Los Angeles  District 56
Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas  Los Angeles  District 57
Hon. John Lee  Los Angeles  District 59
Hon. Mitch O’Farrell  Los Angeles  District 60
Hon. Kevin de León  Los Angeles  District 61
Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto  Coachella  District 66

Staff Present
Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Michael Houston, Chief Counsel
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs
Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Peter Waggonner, Office of Regional Council Support
Maggie Aguilar, Office of Regional Council Support
Patricia Chen, Special Counsel

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Richardson called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. President Richardson asked Regional Councilmember Michael Posey, Huntington Beach, District 64, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION

President Richardson introduced Michael Kodama, Executive Director of Eco-Rapid Transit, and Regional Councilmember Sean Ashton, Downey, District 25, who also serves as Eco-Rapid Transit’s Board Secretary, to present a planning award and recognize SCAG’s work on the West Santa Ana Branch Light Rail. Regional Councilmember Ashton provided background on the award, and Mr. Kodama elaborated on the award, which was awarded to Eco-Rapid Transit by the American Planning Association for grassroots planning efforts. Mr. Kodama attributed SCAG’s leadership and alternative analysis to the West Santa Ana Branch’s progress. He also recognized SCAG’s work involving transit-oriented development and value capture, and he thanked SCAG for continuing support of Eco-Rapid Transit since 2009, specifically recognizing Regional Councilmember Art Brown, Buena Park, District 21.

President Richardson elaborated on SCAG’s grant programs allowing for investment in local plans, and he thanked Mr. Kodama for his presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Richardson opened the Public Comment Period for items and matters other than Agenda Item No. 1 which would be heard during the Public Hearing, and he outlined instructions for public comments.

Board Counsel Ruben Duran stated that there were twelve written public comments received by email before the deadline of 5pm of Wednesday, March 3, 2021 which were transmitted to members and posted to SCAG’s website. Mr. Duran stated that there were no written public comments received by email after the deadline, except for those related to Agenda Item No. 1.
Mr. Duran confirmed that there were verbal public comment speakers by raised hand and acknowledged these speakers.

Warren Whiteacre, Orange County Transportation Authority, commented on Agenda Item No. 7, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) Inter-County Apport, and he requested that the Regional Council delay consideration of the item by one month.

Marsha McLean, North County Transportation Coalition Joint Powers Authority, commented on Agenda Item No. 7, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) Inter-County Apport, and she supported staff’s recommendation for allocations of funding.

James Parker, Los Angeles County Municipal Operators Association, commented on Agenda Item No. 7, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) Inter-County Apport, and he supported staff’s recommendation for allocation of funding.

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

**REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**ACTION ITEM**

1. Proposed Final 6th Cycle RHNA Allocation Plan

President Richardson opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed Final 6th cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Plan. He provided background and explained the process for the Public Hearing. President Richardson opened the Public Comment Period for the Public Hearing, and he outlined instructions for public comments.

Board Counsel Ruben Duran stated that there was one written public comment after the deadline of 5pm on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. The written comment was from Nicolle Aube, City of Huntington Beach, regarding the RHNA determination. Mr. Duran stated that there were six written public comments received by email before the deadline which were transmitted to members and posted to SCAG’s website.

Mr. Duran confirmed that there were verbal public comment speakers by raised hand, and he
acknowledged Dr. Holly Osborne.

Dr. Holly Osborne, resident of Redondo Beach, commented on the history of the RHNA algorithm, previous correspondence with SCAG staff and the RHNA Appeals Board hearings.

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

President Richardson introduced Kome Ajise, Executive Director, to provide a presentation on Agenda Item No. 1. Mr. Ajise reviewed background on the 6th cycle RHNA process until present day. He highlighted steps involving developing the methodology, adopting Connect SoCal and releasing the Draft RHNA Allocations. He then described the appeals process and the results of the RHNA Appeals Board hearings, causing redistribution of units. He stated next steps, including submission of the allocation plan to California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the deadline for jurisdictions’ Housing Elements. He concluded by alluding to possible improvements to the RHNA process given experience in this cycle, and he noted further discussion to occur during a later agenda item at today’s meeting.

President Richardson acknowledged the work of members who were involved throughout the RHNA process.

President Richardson closed the Public Hearing.

Regional Councilmember Trevor O’Neil, Anaheim, District 17, asked it was now appropriate to address questions to staff.

Board Counsel Ruben Duran stated that the Public Hearing should be reopened for members to address questions to staff, prior to deliberation.

President Richardson reopened the Public Hearing.

Regional Councilmember Trevor O’Neil, Anaheim, District 17, asked staff about a finding in the resolution which affirms that the RHNA allocation is consistent with the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). He described inconsistencies involving existing need calculations between the SCS and HCD, which affects the re-distribution of units. Kome Ajise provided background and outlined areas of consistency with the SCS. Ma’Ayn Johnson, SCAG staff, stated that, according to state law, the allocation plan shall allocate housing units consistent with the development pattern included in the SCS. She noted that there is not a requirement for numbers to be exactly the same. Regional Councilmember O’Neil thanked staff and noted continued concern for the difference.
Regional Councilmember Jan Harnik, RCTC, asked staff about a flaw in the algorithm as mentioned by Dr. Holly Osborne. Kome Ajise stated that there is no flaw. Ma’Ayn Johnson specified that the sheet crashes because of an issue akin to “dividing by zero.” She explained that at a certain point above the regional determination, it begins to break down because of the inputs within it. She stated that the outputs are accurate.

Supervisor Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, stated that her question was asked by Regional Councilmember Harnik. She thanked staff for their work.

President Richardson closed the Public Hearing.

President Richardson entertained a motion. A MOTION was made (Pollock) to adopt Resolution 21-630-2: A resolution of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) adopting the Final Housing Need Allocation Plan for the 6th cycle of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro).

President Richardson opened deliberation for Regional Councilmembers.

Regional Councilmember Michael Posey, Huntington Beach, commented in support of the adoption of the resolution approving the RHNA allocation. He expressed agreement with Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s previous comments, and he complimented Ma’Ayn Johnson’s work. Regional Councilmember Posey commented on legislative ideas for RHNA reform, and he spoke about the history of the RHNA process.

Regional Councilmember Trevor O’Neil, Anaheim, District 19, commented that he appreciates the inclusion of SCAG’s objection to HCD’s determination in the resolution. He noted concern about the timeline of events throughout the RHNA process; however, he suggested that the resolution is missing language on the manner by which the substitute RHNA allocation was adopted in lieu of the original staff recommendation.

Regional Councilmember O’Neil made a MOTION to amend Resolution No. 21-630-2, inserting clauses as follows:

Whereas, between February 2019 and October 2019, SCAG staff prepared, analyzed, and received public comment on several allocation methodologies; and

Whereas, following thorough analysis, consideration, and public input, SCAG staff recommended an allocation methodology to the RHNA subcommittee on October 10, 2019, which the RHNA subcommittee subsequently recommended to the CEHD Policy Committee; and
Whereas, on October 21, 2019, the CEHD Policy Committee considered the recommendation from the RHNA Subcommittee and unanimously recommended approval of the RHNA methodology by the Regional Council; and

Whereas, on November 7, 2019, the Regional Council adopted an alternative methodology that had not been analyzed at the same level by SCAG staff and that had not received the same level of public input as the Draft RHNA Allocation Methodology.

President Richardson asked the maker of the motion, Regional Councilmember David Pollock, whether he would like to incorporate language from the amendment offered by Regional Councilmember O’Neil into his original motion.

Regional Councilmember Kathleen Kelly, Palm Desert, District 2, expressed concern about the nature of the language proposed in Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s motion to amend.

Ruben Duran clarified that motion to amend should receive a second so that the Regional Council can continue discussion.

The motion was SECONDED (Wagner).

President Richardson asked Regional Councilmember Pollock if he would acknowledge Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s amendment as a friendly amendment. Regional Councilmember Pollock stated that he would prefer to take the motion to amend separately.

Regional Councilmember O’Neil spoke about the nature of the language proposed in his motion to amend, and he stated that it is not subjective. He spoke about the timeline of the RHNA process.

President Richardson asked SCAG staff to respond.

Ruben Duran read language included in Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s motion to amend.

Kome Ajise stated that it is prerogative of the Regional Council to adopt what they choose to adopt. Mr. Ajise stated that the methodology was studied at staff-level, but he was unsure of the timeline.

Regional Councilmember Peggy Huang, TCA, expressed support of Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s amendment. She spoke about discussion at today’s joint meeting of the Policy Committees regarding affordable housing, and she spoke about the importance of local control in affordable housing production. She noted ideas to improve the RHNA process and address affordability issues.
Regional Councilmember Alan Wapner, SBCTA, asked a procedural question for Ruben Duran regarding the motion and Mr. Duran provided clarification.

Regional Councilmember Kathleen Kelly expressed concern about the fourth phrase proposed by Regional Councilmember O’Neil. She commented that she felt fully informed by staff’s report on that day, and she appealed to Regional Councilmember O’Neil that he adjust language of that phrase.

Regional Councilmember O’Neil stated that he would be willing to consider changes, as it is important to have it expressed in the record the draft methodology as adopted had not received the same vetting as the previously proposed staff recommendation.

President Richardson re-stated language as currently included in Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s motion to amend. President Richardson asked Regional Councilmember Kelly for a suggestion to modify the amendment language, and she suggested the wording “less opportunity for study.” Regional Councilmember O’Neil and President O’Neil asked Ruben Duran for assistance and his understanding of the proposal.

Patricia Chen, Special Counsel, suggested modified language stating, “the alternative methodology was not analyzed at the same level as the draft that was published.”

President Richardson expressed his agreement and asked if Regional Councilmember O’Neil would accept modified language as proposed by counsel. Regional Councilmember O’Neil confirmed that he would accept such language, with the condition that the issue of the public input would also be included as having less opportunity.

Regional Councilmember David Pollock, maker of the motion, announced that he would accept Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s amended language as it currently stands as a friendly amendment to the original motion. Regional Councilmember David J. Shapiro, the seconder of the motion, confirmed that he agrees to the friendly amendment.

The motion made by Pollock and seconded by Shapiro to adopt Resolution 21-630-2: A resolution of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) adopting the Final Housing Need Allocation Plan for the 6th cycle of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment. The motion, as amended by Regional Councilmember O’Neil’s friendly amendment, passed by the following roll call vote:

FOR: ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, ASHTON, BARGER, BENOIT®, BOYLES, A. BROWN, L. BROWN, BUSCAINO, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DEVINE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GARCETTI, GAZELEY, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, JUDGE,
* While the voting results were being reviewed, Regional Councilmember Ben Benoit, Air District Representative, and Regional Councilmember Patricia Lock Dawson, Riverside, District 68, informed SCAG staff that they were experiencing technical difficulties and intended to vote “For” the motion for Agenda Item No. 1. Regional Councilmember Mike Carroll, Irvine, District 14, informed staff that he was experiencing technical difficulties and intended to vote “Against” the motion for Agenda Item No. 1. The votes for Regional Councilmember Benoit*, Regional Councilmember Carroll*, Regional Councilmember Lock Dawson* are annotated above.

** With respect to the roll call vote for Agenda Item No. 1, the vote of the Regional Council representative for District 65 was not counted and is not included in the vote tally, as the representative was not an active Regional Councilmember at the time. The vote of a Policy Committee Member was not counted and is not included, as the representative was not an active Regional Councilmember.

REGULAR MEETING

ACTION ITEM

3. 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Adoption

President Richardson introduced Agenda Item No. 3 and Sarah Jepson, Planning Director, to provide a presentation on the 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Adoption. Ms. Jepson began her presentation by explaining that the Federal Transportation Improvement Plan (FTIP) is a federally-mandated list of transportation investment priorities in the region. The list includes multi-modal capital improvement programs with various federal, state, and local fund sources proposed over a six-year period, and it is prepared by SCAG and county transportation commissions in a bottom-up process. She reviewed previous steps and background of the 2021 FTIP, including public engagement, comments received, an amendment submitted and relevant meetings held. In closing, she stated staff’s recommendation.
A MOTION was made (A. Brown) to Adopt Resolution No. 21-630-1 approving the 2021 FTIP including the associated transportation conformity determination. Motion was SECONDED (Ramirez). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

FOR: ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, BACERRA, BARGER, BENOIT, BOYLES*, A. BROWN, L. BROWN, BUSCAINO, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DEVINE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GARCETTI, GAZELEY, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, KALMICK, KELLY, KORETZ, KREKORIAN, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MAGANA, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MICHAEL, MITCHELL, NAVA-FROELICH, NAVARRO, NGUYEN, O’NEIL, PACHECO, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY, PUTZ, RAMAN, RAMIREZ, RICHARDSON, ROBERTSON, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SHAW, SIMONOFF, SOLACHE, TYE, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (60)**

AGAINST: NONE (0)

ABSTAIN: NONE (0)

* While the voting results were being reviewed, Regional Councilmember Drew Boyles, El Segundo, District 40, informed SCAG staff that he intended to vote “For” the motion for Agenda Item No. 3.

** With respect to the roll call vote for Agenda Item No. 3 the vote of the Regional Council representative for District 65 was not counted and is not included in the vote tally, as the representative was not an active Regional Councilmember at the time.

2. Report on RHNA Process and Consideration of Resolution

President Richardson introduced Agenda Item No. 2 and Executive Director Kome Ajise to provide brief context. Mr. Ajise stated that the resolution is a culmination of discussions about RHNA. He elaborated that, at the request of the subcommittee chair, the resolution was developed to outline plans to address RHNA reform, including work in the region, but focusing on work with the State.

President Richardson expressed his support the need for accountable conversations with the State.

A MOTION was made (Posey) to Adopt Resolution No. 21-630-3. Motion was SECONDED (Navarro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

FOR: ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, ASHTON, BARGER, BENOIT, BONIN, BOYLES, A. BROWN, L. BROWN, BUSCAINO, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DEVINE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH,
Against: NONE (0)
Abstain: NONE (0)

** With respect to the roll call vote for Agenda Item No. 2, the vote of the Regional Council representative for District 65 was not counted and is not included in the vote tally, as the representative was not an active Regional Councilmember at the time.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

4. Minutes of the Meeting – February 4, 2021

5. Approval of Additional Stipend Payments

6. Approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Draft Comprehensive Budget

7. Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) Inter-County Apportionments

8. Contracts $200,000 or Greater: 21-015-C01, SCAG Local Demonstration Initiative

9. Contracts $200,000 or Greater: 21-028-C01, Safe and Resilient Streets Strategies and Mini-Grants

10. Contracts $200,000 or Greater: 21-032-C01, Enterprise Business Intelligence

11. Contracts $200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-041-C01, Secondary Data Center Services

12. ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry) – Voter Approval Threshold
13. SB 4 (Gonzalez) and AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry) – Broadband

14. SB 7 (Atkins) - The Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2021

15. SB 44 (Allen) - CEQA Streamlined Judicial Review: Environmental Leadership Transit Projects

16. AB 43 (Friedman) - Traffic Safety

17. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

18. March 2021 State and Federal Legislative Update

19. CFO Monthly Report

President Richardson announced that staff has requested that Agenda Item No. 7, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) Inter-County Apportionments, be pulled and not acted on today. He provided background on the item, stating that CRRSAA funds are for transit agencies to resume operations. President Richardson directed staff to return to the Regional Council in April with details on the $126 million in question.

Supervisor Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, asked to pull Agenda Item No. 12, ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry) – Voter Approval Threshold, and he expressed that, in general, some items on the Consent Calendar generating mixed emotions from members may be better suited for discussion by the Regional Council.

Regional Councilmember Clint Lorimore, Eastvale, District 4, asked to pull Agenda Item No. 13, SB 4 (Gonzalez) and AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry) – Broadband, in addition to Agenda Item No. 12.

A MOTION was made (Solache) to approve the Consent Calendar, Agenda Item Nos. 4-6; 8-11; 14-19. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

FOR: ALLEN, ANDRADE-STADLER, ASHTON, BARGER, BENOIT, BONIN, BOYLES, A. BROWN, L. BROWN, BUSCAINO, CARRILLO, CLARK, DE RUSE, DEVINE, DIXON, FINLAY, FISCH, GARCETTI, GAZELEY, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HENDERSON, HUANG, KALMICK, KELLY, KORETZ, KREKORIAN, LOCK DAWSON, LORIMORE, MAGANA, MANOS, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MICHAEL, MITCHELL, NAVA-FROELICH, NAVARRO, NGUYEN, O’NEIL, PACHECO, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY, PUTZ,
AGAINST: NONE (0)

ABSTAIN: NONE (0)

** With respect to the roll call vote for Agenda Item Nos. 4-6; 8-11; 14-19 the vote of the Regional Council representative for District 65 was not counted and is not included in the vote tally, as the representative was not an active Regional Councilmember at the time.

President Richardson introduced Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs, to provide a report on Agenda Item Nos. 12 and 13. For Agenda Item No. 12 Mr. Yoon stated that ACA 1, authored by Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, would lower the local voter threshold to from two-thirds to 55 percent to approve local bonds and special taxes by a city, county, and special district to fund infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing projects. For Agenda Item No. 13, Mr. Yoon stated that SB 4 (Gonzalez) and AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry) both make reforms to the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF). He noted that both bills eliminate sunset to collect surcharge; however, SB 4 does have a cap on the rate, and AB 14 does not have a cap.

President Richardson recognized the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee (LCMC) for their advocacy work, and he recognized Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry

Supervisor Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, commented that she supports the measures, and she recounted previous discussion on the items at committees. She mentioned feedback received from Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry, and she emphasized the importance of considering broadband as a vital utility and the importance of local control to satisfy public needs.

Regional Councilmember Michael Posey, Huntington Beach, District 64, expressed opposition to Agenda Item No. 12. He commented that ACA 1 represents an opportunity for increased taxes. He expressed support of SB 4 and AB 14 and spoke about the importance of broadband access for the public and as a tool for economic development.

Regional Councilmember Clint Lorimore, Eastvale, District 4, expressed opposition to ACA 1 given the possibility of increasing taxes, and he spoke about previous discussion at committees. He expressed support of broadband and the goal of SCAG in promoting access; however, he expressed concern about AB 14, as there is no cap.

Supervisor Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, commented that he pulled Agenda Item No. 12 to
allow for discussion by Regional Councilmembers. President Richardson acknowledged his comments regarding the use of the Consent Calendar.

Regional Councilmember Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 8, spoke in support of ACA 1 and lowering the threshold to allow for local control. She discussed unfunded liabilities and other concerns related to the measure.

Regional Councilmember L. Dennis Michael, Rancho Cucamonga, District 9, acknowledged the work of Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry and provided background on the legislation.

Regional Councilmember David Pollock, Moorpark, District 46, shared a previous experience serving on his local school board, expressing that lowering the relevant threshold allowed local measure to pass and provided a greater level of investment for public schools. He spoke about oversight measures and requirements related to the legislation.

President Richardson commented that ACA 1 pertains to bonds related to housing and infrastructure related to the housing crisis. As a constitutional amendment, voters would have to approve ACA 1, and then cities have the choice to apply it in their jurisdictions.

Regional Councilmember José Luis Solache, Lynwood, District 26, commented on LCMC’s discussion of the items. He acknowledged Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Los Angeles County, as a member of LCMC.

A MOTION was made (Solache) to approve the Consent Calendar, Agenda Item Nos. 12 and 13. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

FOR: ALLEN, ASHTON, BOYLES (Item 13 only), A. BROWN, L. BROWN, CARRILLO, CLARK, DEVINE, DIXON (Item 13 only), FINLAY, FISCH, HAGMAN (Item 13 only), HAMADA, HARNIK, HUANG (Item 13 only), KALMICK, KELLY, KREKORIAN, J. MARQUEZ, R. MARQUEZ, MCCALLON (Item 13 only), MICHAEL, MITCHELL, NAVA-FROELICH, NAVARRO (Item 13 only), NGUYEN, O’NEIL (Item 13 only), PACHECO, PLANCARTE, POLLOCK, POSEY (Item 13 only), PUTZ, RAMAN, RAMIREZ, RICHARDSON, ROBERTSON, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAPIRO, SOLACHE, TYE (Item 13 only), VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER (Item 13 only), WAPNER and YOKOYAMA (46)**

AGAINST: BOYLES (Item 12 only), DE RUSE, DIXON (Item 12 only), HAGMAN (Item 12 only), HUANG (Item 12 only), LORIMORE, MCCALLON (Item 12 only), NAVARRO (Item 12 only), O’NEIL (Item 12 only), POSEY (Item 12 only), SHAW, TYE (Item 12 only) and WAGNER (Item 12 only) (13)
ABSTAIN: NONE (0)

** With respect to the roll call vote for Agenda Item No. 12 and 13, the vote of the Regional Council representative for District 65 was not counted and is not included in the vote tally, as the representative was not an active Regional Councilmember at the time.

BUSINESS REPORT

President Richardson introduced Mr. Randall Lewis, Business Representative, who provided a brief report. Mr. Lewis stated that housing remains strong, although he predicted a slowdown, while noting that prices, interest rates, and construction costs are going up. He elaborated that rents are strong in all, but he noted that they have dropped 25-30 percent in San Francisco. He continued by discussing the evolving nature of retail, and he noted that movie theaters are watching the performance of future releases. He continued by commented that interest rates are going up, affecting purchasing and borrowing on multiple levels. He suggested a joint education program to educate the public on sites related to housing development and RHNA. He thanked President Richardson and SCAG staff for reinstating GLUE Council and commented on its broadened composition.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Rex Richardson provided a report and announced new President’s Appointments, beginning with Hon. Art Brown as Ex-Officio Representative to the LOSSAN Board of Directors. He continued by announcing appointments to the Nominating Committee: Sup. Luis Plancarte, representing Imperial County; Hon. Margaret Finlay and Hon. Jorge Marquez representing Los Angeles County; Hon. Mike Posey representing Orange County; Hon. Meagan Beaman Jacinto representing Riverside County; Hon. Alan Wapner (Chair) representing San Bernardino County; and Hon. David Pollock representing Ventura County. Then, he announced appointments to the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee: Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker and Sup. Luis Plancarte representing Imperial County; Hon. Margaret Finlay and Hon. Sean Ashton representing Los Angeles County; Hon. Kim Nguyen and Hon. Art Brown representing Orange County; Hon. Jan Harnik (Chair) and Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto representing Riverside County; Hon. Dennis Michael and Hon. Deborah Robertson representing San Bernardino County; and Sup. Carmen Ramirez and Hon. David Pollock representing Ventura County.

He also described SCAG’s Scholarship Program, open to high school seniors and community college students in the SCAG region, and the application process. He announced a call for Regional Councilmembers to express their interest to serve on Scholarship Committee. Subsequently, he reviewed a New Member Orientation event, which occurred on February 23, 2021 and provided information about SCAG’s organization, structure and benefits. In closing, he noted the schedule
for April meetings.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Executive Director Kome Ajise stated that he would forgo his report in the essence of time.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S**

Regional Councilmember Alan Wapner, SBCTA, asked that Senate Bill 9 be brought to the Regional Council through SCAG’s legislative process.

**ANNOUNCEMENT/S**

Regional Councilmember Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 8, announced “The State of Women” event hosted by the City of Rialto, scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2021. The event is held annual in recognition of Women’s History Month. She also invited members to a presentation today being given by Nikole Hannah-Jones at University of California, Riverside regarding The 1619 Project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Richardson adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 2:31 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]