

SCAG IN SACRAMENTO: WORKING TO BRING RESOURCES TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

A delegation from SCAG traveled to Sacramento last week to meet with seven state senators and 10 assemblymembers to discuss the need for regional equity in cap-and-trade derived funding. The SCAG group included President Margaret Finlay, Immediate Past President Michele Martinez and Regional Council members James Mulvihill, Jose Luis Solache, Rex Richardson, Margaret Clark, Laura Rosenthal, Jeff Giba, Carmen Ramirez, Pam O'Connor and Greg Pettis. The delegation stressed to the lawmakers that Southern California has not received its fair share of funding to build affordable housing, sustainable communities, and other transformative infrastructure projects, which will impact our region's ability to meet our emission reduction goals. SCAG is committed to providing a voice for the region on this and other issues, and will keep our Regional Council updated.

SCAG ECONOMIC SUMMIT TO ADDRESS HOUSING CRISIS

On Thursday, Nov. 9, SCAG, in partnership with the Southern California Leadership Council, will bring together local civic and business leaders to explore how the state's record-high home prices and shortage of available housing units stands to impact the economic health of the region, at the eighth annual Southern California Economic Summit: "The Cost of Not Housing." Held at the L.A. Hotel in downtown Los Angeles, the summit will be a crucial discussion on the challenges that housing affordability poses to local, regional and statewide economies. The event is free for elected officials. Early bird registration is \$75 per person until Sept. 15. Visit scag.ca.gov/economicsummit to register.

UPDATE ON GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is updating regional targets for reducing per-capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, under the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008, or SB 375. On July 27, SCAG submitted a comment letter to CARB to weigh in on CARB's draft recommendations. Specifically, SCAG stated that CARB's current draft recommendation of reducing GHG emissions per capita by 21 percent by 2035 is not achievable. SCAG reiterated that our recommended target of reducing GHG emissions per capita by 18 percent by the year 2035 is ambitious, but achievable pending much effort and innovation in future planning. Discussions about target setting are ongoing, and SCAG will continue working with CARB staff to address these issues. CARB is expected to issue its final recommendations for SB 375 GHG targets in October 2017, and take final actions in November 2017.

MOBILITY 21 SUMMIT TO CONVENE REGION'S TRANSPORTATION LEADERS SEPT. 29

SCAG is excited to support the upcoming Mobility 21 Summit, to be held in Anaheim on Sept. 29. Now in its 16th year, this conference brings together transportation leaders across public, private and nonprofit sectors to address Southern California's most pressing mobility issues. SCAG has been a proud member of the Mobility 21 advisory board for over a decade, and will take an active role in this year's program. SCAG President Margaret Finlay will speak at the Chairman's Roundtable, along with First Vice-President Alan Wapner, who is also the president of the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority. I will be joining the panel "Smart Cities: Communities Transformed by Transportation and Technology." For more information about the summit and to register, visit mobility21.com/2017summit.

SCAG LAUNCHES I-105 CORRIDOR SUSTAINABILITY STUDY WITH PARTNERS

In coordination with LA Metro and Caltrans, SCAG has launched an I-105 Corridor Sustainability Study. The study will leverage the existing framework of previously prepared corridor system plans, but will take a more comprehensive approach. The study's development will incorporate new planning tools including "complete streets" concepts and the Smart Mobility Framework. The ultimate goal is to identify

a comprehensive set of multi-modal solutions to the challenges in this corridor, not just for congestion but for long-term sustainability. SCAG held a kickoff meeting for the study on Aug. 23. With its scope and schedule defined, the study's next steps include the development of a stakeholder engagement strategy and a framework outlining the overall approach. Updates will be provided to SCAG's Transportation Committee throughout the development of the study. The study is expected to conclude in Spring 2019.

CALIFORNIA MOBILITY INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES REPORT RELEASED

On Aug. 30, the California Transportation Commission released the California Mobility Investment Opportunities (CalMIO) Report to the public. The CalMIO report is a repurposed version of the previous report approved by the Commission titled the Report on Unfunded Transportation Investment Priorities which became outdated with the passage of Senate Bill 1 (SB 1). This report identifies which types of projects might be selected and constructed with the new SB 1 funding, and describes the state's transportation system needs. The CalMIO report also describes California's transportation system and needs, and why the system is so important to the state's economy and quality of life. The report takes individual looks at the state's "super-regions" (including the SCAG region), analyzing their transportation system conditions, consequences of funding shortfalls and potential improvements that may now be funded through SB 1. SCAG worked closely with the six county transportation commissions in our region throughout the development report's development, providing content and drawing from adopted plans and programs. The full CalMIO Report is available here (and the section that focuses on the super-region of Southern California can be found in Chapter 11): <http://bit.ly/2f5AYxP>.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR NEIGHBORHOOD-LEVEL AIR QUALITY PROJECTS

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) has finalized guidelines for the competitive Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) program. TCC seeks to fund projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions through developing and implementing transformative, neighborhood-level climate community plans that benefit the health and environment of disadvantaged communities. The TCC program will invest \$140 million in implementation grants in three communities: \$35 million in Los Angeles, \$70 million in Fresno, and \$35 million in a third location yet to be determined. SGC will also award \$1.5 million in planning grants to help communities get ready for a potential future TCC Implementation Grant. Funding for the TCC Program is provided by Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, an account established to receive cap-and-trade auction proceeds. The TCC concept proposal deadline is Oct. 18, and the full application and planning grant deadline is Nov. 30. Award announcements are expected in January 2018. For more information, please visit <http://bit.ly/2f5uXkQ>.

PARTNERSHIPS FUEL GO HUMAN ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE REGION

Building off the successful Go Human media campaign in spring 2017, SCAG collaborated with communities across Southern California this summer to continue to promote safe walking and biking. Go Human worked with the City of Santa Ana, who donated ad space, to place Go Human ads on an additional 26 bus shelters. Go Human also developed approximately 2,000 lawn signs with safety messaging for over 20 partners across the region to distribute near schools, residential neighborhoods and downtown districts to remind drivers to slow down. Go Human's blog also features new, dynamic content every few weeks highlighting recent efforts, partnerships, and upcoming strategies to encourage more people to walk and bike across the region. The blog reflects Go Human's recent successful demonstration project in the City of Riverside, a growing and dynamic partnership with CicLAvia, our summer bicycle safety education series reaching over 800 kids, and an announcement of the 20 new projects and events that Go Human and partner cities will host in the next 18 months. Go Human is funded by the Office of Traffic Safety, Mobile Source Reduction Committee and the California Active Transportation Program. To learn more about the campaign and opportunities to participate, please contact Julia Lippe-Klein, lippe-klein@scag.ca.gov.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR PLANNING GRANTS VIA SB 1

Caltrans has announced an upcoming funding opportunity for climate and sustainability planning projects. The Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017, or SB 1, will provide more than \$30 million in grant funds for 2017-2018. Final program guides and a call for projects will be released by Caltrans in early September, and grant applications will be due by Oct. 20. Of \$25 million available for Sustainable Communities Planning Grants, half will be awarded through a competitive process, with the remaining funds distributed to the state's MPOs on a formula basis. All \$7 million of funds for Climate Adaptation Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. Local jurisdictions and public agencies are encouraged to apply directly to Caltrans for competitive grant funds. Formula funds will enable SCAG to continue our region's important

sustainable communities planning work. These grant programs are designed to help meet California's ambitions goals for greenhouse gas reduction and to further the goals of our Sustainable Communities Strategy, adopted in 2016. For more information please visit <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/grants.html>.

STATEWIDE GENERAL PLAN GUIDELINES UPDATED FOR 2017

In early August, the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research announced the completion of the first comprehensive update to the General Plan Guidelines (GPG) since 2003. This new update incorporates recent legislative changes, guidance documents, a data mapping tool and additional resources. Some of the major changes include: 1) Reformatted sections on the mandatory elements of a general plan, including a new section on environmental justice; 2) Statutory checklists for all mandatory elements; 3) New sections on healthy communities, equitable and resilient communities, economic development and climate change. Additional information is available on the GPG website: <http://www.opr.ca.gov/planning/general-plan/guidelines.html>.

VOLKSWAGEN ZERO-EMISSIONS VEHICLE INVESTMENT PLAN FOR CALIFORNIA

On July 27, the CARB approved the Volkswagen Zero-Emissions Vehicle Investment Plan (ZIP) as part of a broader mitigation settlement with the auto manufacturer, resulting in a \$2 billion investment in infrastructure, public outreach and education, as well as access programs for zero-emission vehicles over a 10-year period. VW has created a new company called "Electrify America" that will invest \$800 million of the total in California in a series of four, \$200 million 30-month cycles. For Cycle 1, Electrify America intends to spend over \$100 million on vehicle charging infrastructure, including 350 community charging stations in the metropolitan areas of Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose and Fresno. Electrify America has also selected Sacramento as the first of two "Green Cities" where they will spend \$44 million on electric vehicle car share, transit and other innovative transportation technologies. SCAG's Clean Cities Coordinator has been participating in a coalition of stakeholders to advocate for the City of Los Angeles to be designated as the second Green City in a future cycle. SCAG will continue to work with our partners to advocate for investments in our region. Specifically, the coalition will be sharing the results of our Plug-In Electric Vehicle (PEV) Multi-family Housing study and the updated PEV siting atlas with Electrify America.

MPO FUTURE MOBILITY RESEARCH PROGRAM

SCAG recently formalized a Memorandum of Agreement with the San Francisco area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Sacramento Council of Governments, and the San Diego Association of Governments to combine efforts in a five-year research program that will examine the effects of new transportation technology on our modeling and policy efforts. Our inaugural meeting was Aug. 18, and we have since collectively begun to assess potential modeling techniques for how MPOs can nimbly adapt to new realities of transportation and mobility.

OCCOG LAUNCHES HOUSING INITIATIVES INSPIRED BY SCAG HOUSING SUMMIT

On Aug. 24, the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) unanimously voted to approve initial funding and support for a Citizens Housing Academy Workshop that will help empower local communities to develop strategies for addressing the housing crisis. The organization that developed this idea, the Orange County-based non-profit People for Housing, was founded as a consequence of inspiration from SCAG's October 2016 Housing Summit, and represents a continuation of regional housing strategies advanced through local-level efforts. SCAG encourages communities to explore locally suitable approaches and is ready to support their efforts in addressing the housing crisis.

SCAG DELEGATION VISITS ESRI INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

On Aug. 10, Esri invited a delegation from SCAG to meet with their president and co-founder, Jack Dangermond at their international headquarters in Redlands, California. In attendance were President Margaret Finlay, Immediate Past President Michele Martinez, Randall Lewis, Darin Chidsey, myself and several staff supporting SCAG's Open Data/Big Data Smart and Connected SCAG Region Committee. We discussed future opportunities for collaboration between our organizations, and additional technical assistance that SCAG can offer to local jurisdictions to spur the adoption of smart city technology in Southern California.

SCAG HOSTS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WORKSHOP WITH NATIONAL TRANSIT INSTITUTE

On July 26-27, SCAG hosted the National Transit Institute's two-day Advanced-Level Environmental Justice Workshop for representatives of transit agencies, MPOs, and private consulting firms from different regions around the nation. The course agenda included an overview of Environmental Justice (EJ) principles and policies, and examined eight case studies of different approaches to EJ analysis and outreach. The workshop fostered discussion on developing best practices and new approaches addressing EJ issues within our communities. The diverse backgrounds of the 30 workshop participants enabled lively dialogues on how different regions around the country deal with different types of EJ issues. Outcomes of the workshop will help guide SCAG staff to develop an enhanced EJ outreach and analysis for the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. For more information about the NTI Advanced-Level EJ Workshop, please visit <https://www.ntionline.com/advanced-level-environmental-justice-workshop/>.

SCAG CONTINUES INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In August, SCAG played host to three international delegations representing different nations. On Aug. 3, SCAG hosted a seminar on regional transportation planning for a Korean delegation from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT) and other Korean government authorities including Office for Government Policy Coordination, Ministry of Government Legislation, Sejong City, and Daejeon Metropolitan City. The Korean delegation shared key transportation and logistics policies in South Korea, and SCAG staff shared major strategies and innovations ongoing in Southern California. On Aug. 9, SCAG hosted a delegation of 30 public officials from Shenzhen, China. The delegation included management staff from the Shenzhen Municipality representing economic, trade, science, technology, industry and finance, among others. SCAG briefed the delegation on our core responsibilities and major regional challenges. The delegation was very interested in the regional governance model. On Aug. 10, SCAG hosted a delegation from the Israeli Federation of Local Authorities, which included 10 local mayors. Several Regional Council members and I joined them in a roundtable discussion on shared planning challenges including goods movement, affordable housing, economic development and multiculturalism in cities. Deputy Consul General of Israel, Eitan Weiss and Assemblymember Richard Bloom of Santa Monica were also in attendance.