



Southern California Association of Governments  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, California 90017  
**November 7, 2019**

**NO. 615  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting at the SCAG main office, 900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

**Members Present**

<b>Hon. Bill Jahn, President</b>	<b><i>Big Bear Lake</i></b>	<b>District 11</b>
<b>Hon. Rex Richardson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	<b><i>Long Beach</i></b>	<b>District 29</b>
<b>Hon. Clint Lorimore</b>	<b><i>Eastvale</i></b>	<b>District 4</b>
<b>Hon. Alan D. Wapner, Imm. Past Pres.</b>	<b><i>Ontario</i></b>	<b>SBCTA</b>
Supervisor Luis Plancarte		Imperial County
Supervisor Karen Spiegel		Riverside County
Supervisor Linda Parks		Ventura County
Hon. James Predmore	<b><i>Holtville</i></b>	ICTC
Hon. Peggy Huang	<b><i>Yorba Linda</i></b>	TCA
Hon. Jan Harnik	<b><i>Palm Desert</i></b>	RCTC
Hon. Ben Benoit	<b><i>Wildomar</i></b>	Air District Representative
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker	<b><i>El Centro</i></b>	District 1
Hon. Kathleen Kelly	<b><i>Palm Desert</i></b>	District 2
Hon. Rey Santos	<b><i>Beaumont</i></b>	District 3
Hon. Zak Schwank	<b><i>Temecula</i></b>	District 5
Hon. Frank Navarro	<b><i>Colton</i></b>	District 6
Hon. Larry McCallon	<b><i>Highland</i></b>	District 7
Hon. Deborah Robertson	<b><i>Rialto</i></b>	District 8
Hon. L. Dennis Michael	<b><i>Rancho Cucamonga</i></b>	District 9
Hon. Ray Marquez	<b><i>Chino Hills</i></b>	District 10

**OUR MISSION**

*To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.*

**OUR VISION**

*Southern California's Catalyst for a Brighter Future*

**OUR CORE VALUES**

*Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous*

**Members Present - continued**

Hon. Fred Minagar	<i>Laguna Niguel</i>	District 12
Hon. Steve Nagel	<i>Fountain Valley</i>	District 15
Hon. Cecilia Iglesias	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Charles Puckett	<i>Tustin</i>	District 17
Hon. Trevor O'Neill	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Sean Ashton	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. Emma Sharif	<i>Compton</i>	District 26
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Dan Medina	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Jorge Marquez	<i>Covina</i>	District 33
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Judy Mitchell	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	District 40
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells	<i>Culver City</i>	District 41
Hon. Jess Talamantes	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Steven Hofbauer	<i>Palmdale</i>	District 43
Hon. David Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Carmen Ramirez	<i>Oxnard</i>	District 45
Hon. David Pollock	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 46
Hon. Tim Holmgren	<i>Fillmore</i>	District 47
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Rita Ramirez	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Megan Beaman Jacinto	<i>Coachella</i>	District 66
Hon. Hector Pacheco	<i>San Fernando</i>	District 67
Hon. Rusty Bailey	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Marisela Magana	<i>Perris</i>	District 69
Mr. Randall Lewis	<i>Lewis Group of Companies</i>	Business Representative

**Members Not Present**

Supervisor Kathryn Barger	Los Angeles County
Supervisor Hilda Solis	Los Angeles County
Supervisor Don Wagner	Orange County



**Members Not Present - continued**

Supervisor Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County
Hon. Mike T. Judge	<i>Simi Valley</i>	VCTC
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	<i>Mission Viejo</i>	District 13
Hon. Michael Carroll	<i>Irvine</i>	District 14
Hon. Stacy Berry	<i>Cypress</i>	District 18
Hon. Tri Ta	<i>Westminster</i>	District 20
Hon. Art Brown	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
VACANT		District 23
Hon. Sonny Santa Ines	<i>Bellflower</i>	District 24
Hon. Lena Gonzalez	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Steve De Ruse	<i>La Mirada</i>	District 31
Hon. Teresa Real Sebastian	<i>Monterey Park</i>	District 34
Hon. Jonathan Curtis	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Gilbert Cedillo	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 48
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 50
Hon. David Ryu	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Paul Koretz	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Nury Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 56
Hon. Herb Wesson, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Mike Bonin	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
VACANT	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Mitch O'Farrell	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. José Huizar	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Joe Buscaino	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Lyn Semeta	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Brian McDonald		Tribal Gov't Reg'l Plng Board
Hon. Eric Garcetti	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large

**Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer

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Joann Africa, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services  
Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs  
Basil Panas, Chief Financial Officer  
Julie Loats, Chief Information Officer  
Sarah Jepson, Interim Director of Planning  
Tess Rey-Chaput, Office of Regional Council Support

### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Bill Jahn called the meeting to order at 12:15PM and asked Second Vice President Clint Lorimore to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PRESENTATION ITEM**

#### 1. Economic Impacts of the Housing Crisis

President Jahn welcomed and introduced Professor Antonio M. Bento, USC Sol Price School of Public Policy, who will provide a presentation regarding the challenges and opportunities for sustainable development in Southern California and also provide context for policy discussions and actions that are being considered by SCAG's Regional Council and policy committees.

In light of the housing crisis, Executive Director Kome Ajise stated that policy discussions must go 'Beyond RHNA' and as a follow-up from the Executive/Administration Committee Retreat outcomes, that is to look further as a regional body that would enable the actual construction of housing in the region. In that vein, Mr. Ajise stated that Professor Bento is here today to present some perspective regarding the impacts of the housing crisis.

As a Public Policy Scholar and a sustainability expert, Professor Bento stated that he will provide perspective and regional vision regarding housing to collectively develop a regional plan that simultaneously promotes and accommodates growth while protecting the environment for current and future generations especially with the impacts of climate change. He emphasized that the goal of today's presentation is to offer a constructive criticism to HCD's regional housing needs determination and what can be done beyond the current RHNA. Professor Bento discussed some basic economic ideas regarding housing choices; market forces; implications of not building enough housing for the region; details matter when and where to build, and how much to build; and how to design programs that support affordable housing. Professor Bento emphasized going beyond RHNA as the social cost of one additional unit is not the same everywhere. He provided an example for two jurisdictions each with the same quota and shared an idea on what would be needed in a regional market. In closing, Professor Bento stated that a regional market for urban development program could be supplemented by streamlined approvals, tax increment financing and other

financing instruments for local government to support affordable housing production.

President Jahn opened the floor for comments from the Regional Council.

Discussion ensued and comments and questions were made regarding where to obtain funding to meet the building costs of the allocation; application of reasonable cap on the amount of affordable units that a city can accept; regional government and local jurisdictions' authority; concerns regarding the notion that housing is pollution in using market-based instruments; issues with meeting RHNA allocation and the challenges regarding government regulations; lack of financing and loss of redevelopment funds; and concerns regarding the market-based approach while meeting the supply and demand (Pollock, Wapner, Sahli-Wells, Manos, Hofbauer, and Mitchell).

On behalf of the Regional Council, President Jahn expressed thanks and appreciation for Professor Bento's presentation.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Jahn announced there were no public comment speakers.

#### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no prioritization of the agenda.

#### **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

##### **2. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 20-002-C01, Board Counsel Services**

President Jahn introduced the item and asked Executive Director Kome Ajise to provide background information.

A MOTION was made (Robertson) to approve Contract No. 20-002-C01 in an amount not to exceed \$495,480 with Best Best & Krieger, LLP, to provide Board Counsel Services and as needed litigation services, subject to final review by SCAG Internal Audit and negotiation. Motion was SECONDED (Talamantes) and passed by the following votes:

**FOR:** Ashton, Bailey, Beaman Jacinto, Benoit, Clark, Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Hofbauer, Holmgren, Huang, Jahn, Kelly, Lorimore, Magana, Manos, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McDonald, Medina, Michael, Minagar, Mitchell, Nagel, O'Neil, Parks, Plancarte, Pollock, Predmore, Puckett, C. Ramirez, Richardson, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Sandoval, Santos, Schwank, Shapiro, Simonoff, Spiegel, Talamantes, Tye, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (45)

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**AGAINST:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** Iglesias and Saleh (2)

President Jahn introduced Ruben Duran, Partner, Best Best & Krieger, LLP. Mr. Duran noted that on behalf of Best Best and Krieger, he appreciated the Regional Council's approval of the contract and looked forward to serving as Board Counsel to SCAG.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meeting – August 5, 2019
4. Authorization to Approve Notice of Exemption (NOE) for SCAG 2017 Disadvantaged Communities Active Transportation
5. Revise SCAG's Standard Consultant Agreement (boilerplate contract) Language Related to Penalty Clauses
6. Resolution No. 19-615-1 Regarding Acceptance of Office of Traffic Safety Grant Funds to support the Active Transportation Safety and Encouragement Campaign
7. Resolution No. 19-615-3 Approving Amendment 1 to the FY 2019-20 Overall Work Program (OWP)
8. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: 20-003-C01, Mobility Innovations and Pricing Study

Receive and File

9. Local Government Planning Support Grants Program
  10. Final Federal Safer, Affordable, Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule Part I (to be distributed under separate cover)
  11. Purchase Orders \$5,000 - \$199,999; Contracts \$25,000 - \$199,999; and Amendments \$5,000 - \$74,999
  12. Connect SoCal Environmental Justice Report
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13. State and Federal Legislative Update

14. CFO Monthly Report

President Jahn noted that the supplemental report regarding Agenda Item 10, related to the Final Federal Safer, Affordable, Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule Part I, has been distributed to the members and paper copies are also available at the back of the room.

A MOTION was made (Navarro) to approve Consent Calendar, Agenda Item Nos. 3 through 8; Receive and File Items 9 through 14. Motion was SECONDED (Puckett).

Councilmember Peggy Huang, TCA, stated that she will be abstaining from Agenda Item 3 only. President Jahn asked staff to note the abstention on the record and is annotated\* below.

The motion passed by the following votes:

**FOR:** Ashton, Bailey, Beaman Jacinto, Benoit, Clark, Finlay, Gazeley, Harnik, Hofbauer, Holmgren, Jahn, Kelly, Lorimore, Magana, Manos, J. Marquez, R. Marquez, McCallon, McDonald, Medina, Michael, Minagar, Mitchell, Nagel, Navarro, O'Neil, Parks, Plancarte, Pollock, Predmore, Puckett, C. Ramirez, Richardson, Robertson, Sahli-Wells, Saleh, Sandoval\*\*, Santos, Schwank, Shapiro, Sharif, Spiegel, Talamantes, Tye, Viegas-Walker and Wapner (46)

**AGAINST:** Simonoff (1)

**ABSTAIN:** Huang\* [Agenda Item 3 only] and Iglesias (2)

While the voting results were being reviewed, Councilmember Tim Sandoval, Pomona, District 38, stated he inadvertently voted "No" and indicated that he intended to vote "Yes" on the Consent Calendar. President Jahn directed staff to correct Councilmember Sandoval's vote as a "Yes" vote and is annotated\*\* above.

**BUSINESS REPORT**

As the business representative, Ex-Officio Member Randall Lewis, reported that the stock market and interest rates are down along with current manufacturing and services are also seeing signs of slowing down and what would trigger an unpredictable recession. Mr. Lewis discussed a negative interest rate that other countries in the world are experiencing whereby banks would pay a small amount of money each month to park some of their money which is a reversal of how a bank typically works. While the industrial market continues to show signs of good activity, he reported a

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number of retail stores are closing down or filing for bankruptcy. With respect to real estate and the housing market, Mr. Lewis stated there has been good activity and discussed how this impacts higher loan interest rates. Apartment rentals continue to rise and see no signs of slowing down. Ownership of housing is undergoing a transformative shift where smaller homes are being built in taller buildings with micro-units and co-living with down payment sharing or equity sharing. Mr. Lewis discussed fee structures for these types of homes and optimization of cubic space including agrihoods and cited examples of when people are looking at excess capacities. In closing, Mr. Lewis commended the Transportation Committee where Safe Routes for Seniors was discussed.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Jahn welcomed the following new members:

- RC Member Zak Schwank, Temecula, representing District 5
- President's Appointments to the Transportation Committee: Councilmembers Jeremy Smith, Canyon Lake, and Larry Smith, Calimesa.

President Jahn provided an update regarding the SCAG Wellness Challenge and reminded the members of the November 7 meeting schedule: 9AM – 9:30AM – EAC; 9:30AM – 11:30AM, a Joint Meeting of the RC and Policy Committees (CEHD, EEC and TC); 11:30 – 12PM, there will be an EEC meeting only; and 12:15 – 2PM, Regional Council meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, noted the supplement report regarding Agenda Item 10, related to the Final Federal Safer, Affordable, Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule Part I and provided background information and the impacts of the conformity determination analysis of Connect SoCal to the Federal Clean Air Act and consequently the 2021 FTIP. Mr. Ajise reported that SCAG has been working closely with the COGs regarding filing a joint complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief against final regulations of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). He stated that the general aspects of the SAFE Vehicles Rule are independent of the CAFÉ and GHG standards for model years 2021-2026. He stated that he will continue to provide future updates relative to the impacts of this reform.

Mr. Ajise reminded the members of upcoming meetings: the October 7 RHNA Subcommittee meeting and the October 21 Special Meeting of the CEHD Committee regarding the proposed recommended draft RHNA methodology for the Regional Council's consideration in November. Mr. Ajise reported that a response from HCD is expected regarding SCAG's objection letter to HCD's regional housing need determination.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Dan Medina, Gardena, District 28, announced that the Orange County Superior Court ruled in favor of the City of Gardena in its lawsuit regarding the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit requirements imposed by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Councilmember Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, expressed concerns regarding the Connect SoCal process and the lack of significant discussions on policy issues by the Policy Committees before the release of the draft Connect SoCal.

Immediate Past President Alan Wapner, SBCTA, echoed the comments made by Councilmember McCallon. While he appreciated the staff presentation items, Past President Wapner stated the policy discussions must be driven by the Policy Committee and Regional Council members and stated that he does not see Connect SoCal as a statement from SCAG Policy Committee members or the Board. He noted substantive and pressing policy issues that were not discussed by the Transportation Committee such as high-speed rail and dedicated truck lanes, and expressed frustration that Connect SoCal is a staff-driven RTP with no policy input from Policy Committee or Regional Council members who were provided with pre-determined information with no opportunity to comment or provide policy direction to staff.

Supervisor Karen Spiegel, Riverside County, echoed comments made by Past President Wapner and shared her experience this year and compared with the last RTP process.

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, expressed appreciation for the feedback and made remarks.

First Vice President Rex Richardson, Long Beach, District 29, expressed appreciation for the comments raised and stated that given the workload this year for the Board to be thorough and engaged in two (2) quality processes—RTP/SCS and RHNA—more meetings will need to be scheduled to allow for policy discussions and suggested perhaps that a study session on Connect SoCal be scheduled.

President Bill Jahn concurred with First Vice President Richardson's suggestion and directed staff to consider how to address these comments.

Councilmember Dan Medina, Gardena, District 28, echoed similar comments.

Councilmember Margaret Clark, Rosemead, District 32, asked a question regarding the possibility of extending the approval timeline to allow for additional review. Mr. Ajise noted that we may be able



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extend the timeline so long as SCAG does not jeopardize its current air quality conformity approval.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Jahn adjourned the Regional Council meeting at 1:49 PM.