



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
T: (213) 236-1800  
www.scag.ca.gov

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-635-2**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS TO RELEASE THE NOTICE OF EXEMPTION (NOE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 21080(b), 21083, AND 21804 OF THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE AND CEQA GUIDELINES SECTIONS 15002(k)(1), 15061, 15062, 15262, AND 15300 to 15332 FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**

**REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS**

- President  
**Clint Lorimore, Eastvale**
- First Vice President  
**Jan C. Harnik, Riverside County Transportation Commission**
- Second Vice President  
**Carmen Ramirez, County of Ventura**
- Immediate Past President  
**Rex Richardson, Long Beach**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

- Executive/Administration  
**Clint Lorimore, Eastvale**
- Community, Economic & Human Development  
**Jorge Marquez, Covina**
- Energy & Environment  
**David Pollock, Moorpark**
- Transportation  
**Sean Ashton, Downey**

**WHEREAS**, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization, for the six county region consisting of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial counties pursuant to 23 U.S.C. § 134 et seq. and 49 U.S.C. § 5303 et seq.;

**WHEREAS**, SCAG adopted the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy ("RTP/SCS"), Connect SoCal, which included Sustainable Communities Program ("SCP") as part of its implementation strategy;

**WHEREAS**, on June 23, 2021, SCAG was awarded \$4,670,000 in Active Transportation Program funds ("Grant Funds") to undertake the Sustainable Communities Program ("Project");

**WHEREAS**, the primary goal of the Project is to: (1) implement Active Transportation Network Visions projects for LADOT and the City of Pomona, (2) implement Active Transportation Plan projects for the County of Los Angeles, and the City of Banning, (3) implement Safe Routes to School Plan projects in the City of Lynwood and the City of Duarte, (4) implement an interim capital improvement project in the City of Santa Monica, (5) implement First/Last Mile Plan projects for OCTA and the City of Montebello, (6) implement a Safety Plan project for the City of Santa Ana, and (7) implement a Non-Infrastructure project in the County of Riverside;

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Council will subsequently consider acceptance of Grant Funds for the Project on September 2, 2021 pursuant to Resolution No. 21-635-3;

**WHEREAS**, SCAG is required to conduct an assessment of potential environmental impacts of the Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), prior to receiving allocation of the awarded Grant Funds;

**WHEREAS**, SCAG has conducted an environmental assessment of the Project and determined that the Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(c)- Existing Facilities, Section 15304(e)- Minor Alterations to Land, Section 15306- Information Collection, Section 15322 - Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes and is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262-

Feasibility and Planning Studies; and the scope of the Project activities have been determined to not have a significant effect on the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, SCAG has prepared a Notice of Exemption (NOE) to be filed with the State of California Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Clerk for the County of Los Angeles, Orange County, and Riverside County where the Projects will be located for a 30-day public inspection period pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments, that the foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated by this reference.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the SCAG Regional Council finds that based upon an environmental assessment of the Project pursuant to Sections 21080(b), 21083, and 21804 of the Public Resources Code and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15002(k)(1), 15061, 15062, and 15300 to 15332, SCAG has determined that the following CEQA exemptions apply to the Project:

- The Project would involve implementing eleven active transportation projects in Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties, that could foster the minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use of existing highways, streets, sidewalks, gutters, bicycle and pedestrian trails and similar facilities beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination, as set forth in the exemption under CEQA Guidelines §15301(c) - Existing Facilities;
- The Project includes the preparation of active transportation and safety plans for the County of Los Angeles and OCTA, and the Cities of Banning, Lynwood, Los Angeles, Pomona, Montebello, Santa Ana, and Duarte. A project involving possible future actions but does not have a legally binding effect on later activities does not require the preparation of an EIR or Negative Declaration, as set forth in the exemption under CEQA Guidelines §15262 – Feasibility and Planning Studies;
- The Project includes basic data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activities which will not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. The project is strictly for information gathering purposes for possible future action which the agency has not yet approved, adopted or funded, as set forth in the exemption under CEQA Guidelines §15306- Information Collection;
- The Project may involve implementing interim capital improvement projects within the project areas that would exist for a limited duration on existing rights of way, as set forth in the exemption under CEQA Guidelines § 15304 (e) - Minor Alterations to Land; and
- The Project would include Active Transportation Network Vision projects for LADOT and the City of Pomona, Active Transportation Plan projects for the County of Los Angeles and the City of Banning, Safe Routes to School Plan projects in the Cities of Lynwood and Duarte, First/Last Mile Plan projects for OCTA and the City of Montebello, a Safety Plan project for the City of Santa Ana, an interim capital improvement project in the City of Santa Monica, and safety

education and encouragement campaigns in the County of Riverside; involving no physical changes in the area affected, which would fall under the exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines §15322 – Educational or Training Programs Involving No Physical Changes.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Regional Council, that:

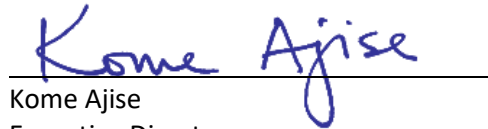
1. The Notice of Exemption for the proposed Project has been completed in compliance with CEQA and will be filed with OPR and the Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside County Clerks for a 30-day public inspection period; and
2. The proposed Project does not have a significant effect on the environment, and thus additional environmental review by SCAG is not required for the Project and a Notice of Exemption fulfills the requirements of CEQA.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at its regular meeting this second day of September, 2021.



Clint Lorimore  
President, SCAG

Attested by:



Kome Ajise  
Executive Director

Approved as to Form:



Michael R.W. Houston  
Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services