



Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
September 3, 2020

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (TC)
THURSDAY, July 2, 2020

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (TC). A VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Transportation Committee 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 recent Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Hon. Sean Ashton, Downey	District 25
Hon. Phil Bacerra, Santa Ana	District 16
Hon. Rusty Bailey, Riverside	District 68
Hon. Ben Benoit, Wildomar	South Coast AQMD
Hon. Will Berg, Port Hueneme	VCOG
Hon. Russell Betts, Desert Hot Springs	CVAG
Hon. Art Brown, Buena Park	District 21
Hon. Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo	OCTA
Hon. Diane Dixon, Newport Beach	OCCOG
Hon. John Dutrey, Montclair	SBCTA
Hon. Emily Gabel-Luddy, Burbank	AVCJPA
Hon. James Gazeley, Lomita	District 39
Hon. Dean Gross, Los Alamitos	District 20
Hon. Jack Hadjinian, Montebello	District 34
Hon. Curt Hagman	San Bernardino County
Hon. Ray Hamada, Bellflower	District 24
Hon. Jan Harnik, Palm Desert	RCTC
Hon. Steven Hofbauer, Palmdale (Vice Chair)	District 43
Hon. Trish Kelley, Mission Viejo	OCCOG
Hon. Linda Krupa, Hemet	WRCOG
Hon. Richard Loa, Palmdale	NCTC
Hon. Clint Lorimore, Eastvale	District 4

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



Hon. Steven Ly, Rosemead	District 32
Hon. Steve Manos, Lake Elsinore	District 63
Hon. Ray Marquez, Chino Hills	District 10
Hon. Larry McCallon, Highland	SBCTA
Hon. Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita	District 67
Hon. L. Dennis Michael	District 9
Hon. Ara Najarian, Glendale	AVCJPA
Hon. Hector, Pacheco, San Fernando	District 67
Hon. Charles Puckett, Tustin	District 17
Hon. Ed Reece, Claremont	SGVCOG
Hon. Crystal Ruiz, San Jacinto	WRCOG
Hon. Ali Saleh, Bell	GCCOG
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Pomona	District 38
Hon. Rey Santos, Beaumont	District 3
Hon. Zak Schwank, Temecula	District 5
Hon. Marty Simonoff, Brea	District 22
Hon. Thomas Small, Culver City	Culver City
Hon. Jeremy Smith	Canyon Lake
Hon. Larry Smith	Calimesa
Hon. Ward Smith, Placentia	OCCOG
Hon. Karen Spiegel	Riverside County
Hon. Steve Tye	District 37
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro (Chair)	District 1
Hon. Don Wagner	Orange County
Hon. Alan Wapner, Ontario	SBCTA/SBCOG
Hon. Alicia Weintraub, Calabasas	LVMCOG
Mr. Paul Marquez, Caltrans District 7	Ex-Officio Member

Members Not Present:

Hon. Kathryn Barger	Los Angeles County
Hon. Joe Buscaino, Los Angeles	District 62
Hon. Jonathan Curtis, La Cañada-Flintridge	District 36
Hon. Mike T. Judge, Simi Valley	VCTC
Hon. Paul Krekorian	District 49
Hon. Fred Minagar, Laguna Niguel	District 12
Hon. Carol Moore, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Frank Navarro, Colton	District 6
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood	District 26
Hon. Cynthia Sternquist, Temple City	SGVCOG
Hon. Brent Tercero, Pico Rivera	GCCOG

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Cheryl Viegas-Walker called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Hon. Alan Wapner, Ontario, led the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call of members was conducted. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rich Lambros, Southern California Leadership Council, thanked SCAG for working openly during the 120-day period leading up to the September 3, 2020 Regional Council meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes of the Meeting – May 7, 2020

John Asuncion, SCAG staff, stated staff recommends a modification to the Minutes of the Meeting, May 7, 2020, to provide a more detailed description of the action taken on Item 1., Proposed Final Connect SoCal (2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)), as follows:

“A MOTION was made (Talamantes) to recommend to the Regional Council adoption of Resolution No. 20-621-1, which reflects the following:

- (1) Certify the Connect SoCal (2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy) Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR); adopt the Findings of Fact, Statement of Overriding Considerations, and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program;
 - (2) Allow for more time to review Connect SoCal and consider its implications in light of the short and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the region as requested by many stakeholders;
 - (3) Approve the Connect SoCal as required for federal transportation conformity purposes only, and postpone for up to 120 days the date by which the Regional Council would be asked to consider approval of Connect SoCal in its entirety and for all other purposes, including but not limited to submittal to the California Air Resources Board (ARB);
 - (4) Direct staff to provide a progress report describing modifications to the SCS and associated modeling and analysis within 60 days;
 - (5) Direct staff to work with local authorities to identify and restore locally approved entitlements as conveyed by local jurisdictions. The Regional Council further directs staff to within 60 days identify and quantify all differences within the SCS and locally-approved
-

General Plans and quantify the increase (or decrease) in housing, jobs or population between Connect SoCal and each local General Plan;

(6) Find that until such time as the Regional Council may consider and approve in a subsequent meeting approval of Connect SoCal (including any required CEQA documentation) in its entirety, the SCS in the 2016 RTP/SCS and the PEIR mitigation measures shall remain operative for the region. The Connect SoCal PEIR mitigation measures shall not be operative until the Regional Council adopts a Connect SoCal Plan in its entirety as described above; and

(7) Adopt the Consistency Amendment No. 19-12 to the 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP).”

2. Minutes of the Meeting – May 20, 2020

Receive and File

3. Highlights of the 31st Annual Demographic Workshop

A MOTION was made (Hofbauer) to approve the Consent Calendar with the above modification to the Minutes of the Meeting, May 7, 2020. The motion was SECONDED (Simonoff) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: ASHTON, BACERRA, BAILEY, BENOIT, BERG, BETTS, BROWN, CHUN, DUTREY, GABEL-LUDDY, GAZELEY, GROSE, HADJINIAN, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HOFBAUER, KELLEY, KRUPA, LOA, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MICHAEL, NAJARIAN, PACHECO, PUCKETT, REECE, RUIZ, SALEH, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SIMONOFF, SMALL, SMITH J., SMITH L., SMITH W., SPIEGEL, TYE, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WAPNER, WEINTRAUB (47)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. Connect SoCal Update

Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning, provided an update on Connect SoCal. Ms. Jepson stated the goal of the plan is to improve the economy, mobility and environmental health for communities in the region. Further, while there have been shifts due to the pandemic, the goals of the plan remain relevant, and, in some cases, they are now more important for the region to recover from the crisis. She noted Connect SoCal is a transportation infrastructure investment strategy which invests \$638 billion in regional projects while generating 432,000 local jobs. Additionally, it locates housing, jobs and transit closer

together in priority growth areas while preserving natural lands and open spaces and delivers significant benefits in mobility, safety, health outcomes, economic productivity and environmental justice while improving our infrastructure.

Ms. Jepson noted the plan is a collective vision for the region that evolves over time and she explained that the process began in 2017 with in-person meetings in each jurisdiction to understand local data and planning goals. The effort continued with joint policy committee meetings to examine who the plan will serve, where we'll grow and how we'll connect, which brought forth productive dialogue from various stakeholders including community based organizations, jurisdictions and members of the public, all of which helped shape the plan's priorities and strategies. She noted, May 7, 2020, staff was directed to postpone the Sustainable Communities Strategy portion to better understand the short and long-term implications of the pandemic and further align growth forecasts.

Ms. Jepson noted over the past months staff has engaged with many different stakeholders throughout the region including personal meetings, working groups, a public survey and a virtual townhall. She noted the feedback received focusses on how Connect SoCal can be vital in the post COVID economic recovery. Additionally, staff has assembled data to serve jurisdictions in the crisis, such as a COVID-19 Vulnerability Indicator Dashboard and produced a white paper examining in-depth the Economic Impacts of the pandemic. She reviewed growth forecasts noting that 97% of total regional households in the plan do not exceed general plan maximums. Ms. Jepson reviewed enhancements to the growth forecast and strategies that will lead to a reduction of vehicle miles travelled. She noted next steps include presenting the plan for adoption in September. Following adoption, it will be forwarded to California Air Resources Board (CARB) to determine the region's eligibility for \$1 billion in SB1 funding.

Hon Hector Pacheco, San Fernando, asked if there were times where sufficient data was not received from local jurisdictions and how data sharing can be improved. Ms. Jepson responded that the most recent effort represents a third confirmation by local jurisdictions and was an additional effort by staff to ensure all the entitlements had been captured.

Hon Trish Kelley, Mission Viejo, asked about the pandemic's effect on Connect SoCal's financial assumptions. Ms. Jepson responded that Connect SoCal is a long-range plan for regional transportation investments but staff continues to monitor outcomes in order to make assessments about long-term implications.

5. SCAG's SB 743 Local Implementation Support

Michael Gainor, SCAG staff, reported on recent changes in SB 743. Mr. Gainor stated SB 743 has been modified and transportation impacts are to be measured by Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) rather than motor vehicle delay. He noted the objective of SB 743 is to advance statewide efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the CEQA process by facilitating development of more centralized transit-oriented communities reducing overall dependence on single occupancy vehicle travel. Further, developments that utilize infill areas and transit-oriented communities are encouraged. He stated VMT mitigation options can involve altering the design of the project site to minimize the generation of new single occupancy vehicle trips as well as enhancing active transportation to the site or a transportation demand strategy to minimize single occupancy vehicle trips.

Mr. Gainor stated SCAG has had an ongoing effort with SB 743 since 2013 and has worked closely with the Governor' Office of Planning and Research as well as with local jurisdictions to ensure an inclusive process. He reviewed projects in which SCAG is working with local jurisdictions on mitigation strategies as well as VMT mitigation opportunities and noted the diversity of the region can present challenges at some sites to access some types of VMT mitigation activities.

Hon. Trish Kelley, Mission Viejo, asked about a recent request for a delay of SB 743. Mr. Paul Marquez, Caltrans District 7, responded that currently there is no indication yet that the request would be granted.

6. US 101 Connected Communities Study Status Report

Mahmoud Ahmadi, Iteris, reported on the US 101 Connected Communities Study. Mr. Ahmadi reported the study examines a 28-mile portion of US 101 in Ventura County and noted the goals include safety and health, social equity, multimodal mobility and a robust economy. The study area includes a 3-mile buffer around the corridor to understand the population, mobility and traffic patterns as well as land use, noting 60% of surrounding land use is agricultural. He reviewed current mode share and noted the majority of daily trips are 30-minutes in length or less. Mr. Ahmadi reviewed the public outreach workshops and performance measures including VMT reduction, person throughput, GHG, air quality and high accident locations. He reviewed post COVID-19 considerations including the possibility that more employees will work from home in the future as well as the emergence of telehealth, tele-education and e-bikes.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Cheryl Viegas-Walker requested an update on congestion pricing activities.

ADJOURNMENT



Chair Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE]

2020-21

MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	2020-21												Total Mtgs Attended To Date			
			JUN (GA)	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY				
Ashton, Sean	Downey	District 25	1															1
Bacerra, Phil	Santa Ana	District 16	1															1
Bailey, Rusty	Riverside	WRCOG	1															1
Barger, Kathryn	Los Angeles County	Los Angeles County	1															0
Benoit, Ben	Wildomar	South Coast AQMD	1															1
Berg, Will	Port Hueneme	VCOG	1															1
Betts, Russell	Desert Hot Springs	CVAG	1															1
Brown, Art	Buena Park	District 21	1															1
Buscaino, Joe	Los Angeles	District 62																0
Chun, Ross	Aliso Viejo	OCTA	1															1
Curtis, Jonathan	La Cañada Flintridge	District 36																0
Dixon, Diane	Newport Beach	OCCOG	1															1
Dutrey, J. John	Montclair	SBCTA	1															1
Gabel-Luddy, Emily	Burbank	AVCIPA	1															1
Gazeley, James	Lomita	District 39	1															1
Grose, Dean	Los Alamitos	Dist 20	1															1
Hadjinian, Jack	Montebello	SGVCOG	1															1
Hagman, Curt	San Bernardino Cnty	San Bernardino Cnty	1															1
Hamada, Ray	Bellflower	Bellflower	1															1
Harnik, Jan	Palm Desert	RCTC	1															1
Horbauer, Steven	Palmdale	District 43	1															1
Judge, Mike	Simi Valley	VCTC																0
Kelley, Trish	Mission Viejo	OCCOG	1															1
Krekorian, Paul	Public Transit Rep	District 49																0
Krupa, Linda	Hemet	WRCOG	1															1
Loa, Richard	Palmdale	NCTC	1															1
Lorimore, Clint	Eastvale	District 4	1															1
Ly, Steven	Rosemead	District 32	1															1
Manos, Steve	Lake Elsinore	District 63	1															1
Marquez, Paul	Caltrans District 7	Ex-Officio	1															1

