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MEETING OF THE

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

Thursday, February 15, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

SCAG OFFICES
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 236-1800

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MEETING ID: 142 774 637

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Kevin Kane at (213) 236-1828 or via email at kane@scag.ca.gov. Agendas & Minutes for the Technical Working Group are also available at: <https://scag.ca.gov/technical-working-group>

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. SCAG is also committed to helping people with limited proficiency in the English language access the agency's essential public information and services. You can request such assistance by calling (213) 630-1402. We request at least 72 hours (three days) notice to provide reasonable accommodations and will make every effort to arrange for assistance as soon as possible.

1. Preview of March Joint Policy Committee Meeting and Summary of Major Comment Responses

Sarah Dominguez

20 minutes

[Packet page 5](#)

2. Summary of Growth Projection and Socioeconomic Data Changes for the Final Connect SoCal 2024

Kevin Kane

10 minutes

[Packet page 16](#)

3. Summary of Connect SoCal comments received – Equity Analysis Technical Report

Annaleigh Ekman

20 minutes

[Packet page 20](#)

4. Status Update on the Proposed Final PEIR

Ryan Banuelos

20 minutes

[Packet page 28](#)



TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

Meeting Minutes (Abridged)

December 14, 2023

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

The meeting was held via Zoom teleconferencing.

Membership Attendance

LAND USE AUTHORITIES

Farfan-Valencia, Stacy City of Los Angeles
Gable, Emily City of Los Angeles
Katigbak, Steven City of Los Angeles

Kim, Susan City of La Habra
Shiomoto-Lohr, Gail City of Mission Viejo

REGIONAL PARTNERS

Equina, Justin OCCOG / City of Irvine
Garfio, Angel OCTA
Lee, Josh SBCTA

Leger, David SBCCOG
Smith, Steve SBCTA
Yzguerra, Esmerelda SGVCOG

REGULATORY & COORDINATING AGENCIES

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FIELD EXPERTS

Diep, Deborah CDR/CSUF

ALTERNATES & PUBLIC ATTENDEES

Henderson, Andy Building Industry Association (BIA)
Jolles, Mark --
Kartounian, Haig Southern California Edison
Singer, Nathaniel --



TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

Meeting Summary

1. 2024 ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY TARGETS

Michael Gainor presented on the updated 2024 Annual Transportation Safety Targets, which include number of fatalities, rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT), number of serious injuries, rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT, and number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. The 2024 regional safety targets were scheduled for adoption by the Regional Council on Feb. 1, 2024. Gail Shiimoto-Lohr (City of Mission Viejo) and Mark Jolles (non-TWG member of the public) participated in discussion.

2. DRAFT CONNECT SOCAL 2024 – OPEN TOWN HALL FOR TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

Lyle Janicek facilitated the open town hall for technical questions on the draft Connect SoCal 2024. Mark Jolles, Gail Shiimoto-Lohr, Steve Smith (SBCTA), Susan Kim (City of La Habra), Deborah Diep (CDR/CSUF), and Andy Henderson (BIA) engaged SCAG staff in discussion.



Connect SoCal 2024: March JPC Preview

February 15, 2024

WWW.SCAG.CA.GOV



Presentation Agenda

- 1 Public Comments
- 2 Plan Revisions
- 3 Next Steps



PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments Received

- Submissions from 53 organizations/agencies and from 28 individuals
- Totaling nearly 1800 unique comments
- Overall summary: requests for clarification, requests for additional data or analysis, suggestions for additional content, project changes





PLAN REVISIONS

Model and Plan Inputs



- Travel Demand Model Update
 - Mode choice model
 - Auto operating cost update
- Forecasted socioeconomic data in north Los Angeles County
- Transportation projects and network

Regional Planning Policies and Implementation Strategies

- Specific changes TBD



SCS Consistency Language

- Additional language on Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Consistency added to the Connect SoCal 2024 “main book” and two technical reports (*Demographic and Growth Forecast* and *Land Use and Communities*)



Main Book and Technical Report Changes

- Majority of requested text clarifications and additions are being applied by staff
- Updated Glossary





NEXT STEPS

Next Steps for Plan and PEIR

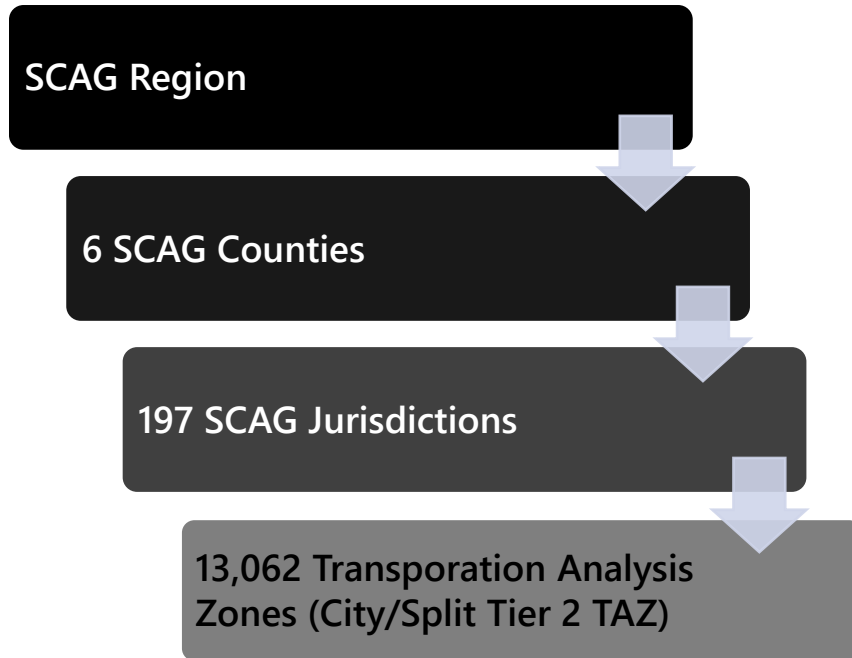
- **March 7, 2024:** Seek recommendation from the Joint Policy Committee that the Regional Council approve the revised Connect SoCal 2024
- **Now - March (Internal):** SCAG staff continue to update text and modeling for proposed final Plan
- **March 28, 2024:** Proposed final Plan available on ConnectSoCal.org
- **April 4, 2024:** Seek approval from the Regional Council to adopt Connect SoCal 2024 and approve the related PEIR

Summary of Growth Projection and Socioeconomic Data changes for the final Connect SoCal 2024

Kevin Kane, PhD

February 15, 2024 SCAG Technical Working Group

SCAG received several comments that either directly or indirectly related to the growth forecast or the plan's *Forecasted Regional Development Pattern*.



More detail can be found here in the [draft Demographics & Growth Forecast Technical Report](#)

Some comments requested more information regarding the region's growth outlook and its implications for housing, transportation, and other performance measures. These centered on the region's recent population decline, out-migration, and working-from-home, which are discussed in this technical report as key factors considered in forecasting. Some comments related to the yearlong Local Data Exchange (LDX) process whereby growth input was sought from local jurisdictions. Given the December 2022 LDX input deadline—which serves as a de facto 'effective date' for local input into the plan—the only changes that could be accommodated at this stage were specific follow-ups provided by local jurisdictions to data previously submitted prior to the deadline. As the regional plan process is ongoing, additional information such as recent specific plan approvals or other new information affecting future growth can be accommodated in future regional plans.

The relationship between small-area growth forecast data and Connect SoCal policies and strategies was also described in its own section—stating, among other things, that fine-scaled data are intended to illustrate the plan's policies and strategies and to facilitate modeling but are not binding. A similar disclaimer regarding "consistency" was also added to all maps containing projection data.

A continual challenge is reconciling the uncertainty inherent in projecting future growth and the statutory requirements to model and evaluate future conditions. Given new legislation and changes to state practice, SCAG will need to continually explain and educate stakeholders on the differences

between growth forecasting and the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process. Given the relationship between infill growth and the plan’s environmental objectives, continual refinement and outreach will be needed for concepts such as Priority Development Areas (PDAs).

Two large development projects covering 6 Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZs) in unincorporated Los Angeles County are the only instances in which growth projections were changed—this new information results in a slightly higher population, household, and employment projection for Los Angeles county and SCAG region. The below tables compare county-level growth between the draft and final plans following this change:

Draft Connect SoCal 2024 Growth Projection

Total Population	2019	2035	2050	2019-2050	
				Growth	Pct. Growth
Imperial	181,000	198,000	210,000	29,000	16.0%
Los Angeles	10,046,000	10,449,000	10,767,000	721,000	7.2%
Orange	3,191,000	3,299,000	3,439,000	248,000	7.8%
Riverside	2,386,000	2,784,000	2,992,000	606,000	25.4%
San Bernardino	2,175,000	2,357,000	2,623,000	448,000	20.6%
Ventura	849,000	858,000	852,000	3,000	0.4%
SCAG	18,827,000	19,946,000	20,882,000	2,055,000	10.9%

Total Households	2019	2035	2050	2019-2050	
				Growth	Pct. Growth
Imperial	52,000	65,000	72,000	20,000	38.5%
Los Angeles	3,393,000	3,933,000	4,139,000	746,000	22.0%
Orange	1,069,000	1,196,000	1,253,000	184,000	17.2%
Riverside	744,000	965,000	1,062,000	318,000	42.7%
San Bernardino	657,000	835,000	953,000	296,000	45.1%
Ventura	278,000	318,000	318,000	40,000	14.4%
SCAG	6,193,000	7,311,000	7,798,000	1,605,000	25.9%

Total Employment	2019	2035	2050	2019-2050	
				Growth	Pct. Growth
Imperial	69,000	82,000	91,000	22,000	31.9%
Los Angeles	5,031,000	5,386,000	5,433,000	402,000	8.0%
Orange	1,805,000	1,942,000	2,019,000	214,000	11.9%
Riverside	847,000	1,057,000	1,185,000	338,000	39.9%
San Bernardino	860,000	1,035,000	1,145,000	285,000	33.1%
Ventura	363,000	384,000	376,000	13,000	3.6%
SCAG	8,976,000	9,885,000	10,248,000	1,272,000	14.2%

Final Connect SoCal 2024 Growth Projection

Total Population	2019	2035	2050	2019-2050	
				Growth	Pct. Growth
Imperial	181,000	198,000	210,000	29,000	16.0%
Los Angeles	10,046,000	10,449,000	10,793,000	747,000	7.4%
Orange	3,191,000	3,299,000	3,439,000	248,000	7.8%
Riverside	2,386,000	2,784,000	2,992,000	606,000	25.4%
San Bernardino	2,175,000	2,357,000	2,623,000	448,000	20.6%
Ventura	849,000	858,000	852,000	3,000	0.4%
SCAG	18,827,000	19,946,000	20,909,000	2,082,000	11.1%

Total Households	2019	2035	2050	2019-2050	
				Growth	Pct. Growth
Imperial	52,000	65,000	72,000	20,000	38.5%
Los Angeles	3,393,000	3,933,000	4,155,000	762,000	22.5%
Orange	1,069,000	1,196,000	1,253,000	184,000	17.2%
Riverside	744,000	965,000	1,062,000	318,000	42.7%
San Bernardino	657,000	835,000	953,000	296,000	45.1%
Ventura	278,000	318,000	318,000	40,000	14.4%
SCAG	6,193,000	7,311,000	7,814,000	1,621,000	26.2%

Total Employment	2019	2035	2050	2019-2050	
				Growth	Pct. Growth
Imperial	69,000	82,000	91,000	22,000	31.9%
Los Angeles	5,031,000	5,386,000	5,461,000	430,000	8.5%
Orange	1,805,000	1,942,000	2,019,000	214,000	11.9%
Riverside	847,000	1,057,000	1,185,000	338,000	39.9%
San Bernardino	860,000	1,035,000	1,145,000	285,000	33.1%
Ventura	363,000	384,000	376,000	13,000	3.6%
SCAG	8,976,000	9,885,000	10,276,000	1,300,000	14.5%

Final Plan - Draft Plan (Difference)

Total Population	2019	2035	2050
Imperial	0	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	26,000
Orange	0	0	0
Riverside	0	0	0
San Bernardino	0	0	0
Ventura	0	0	0
SCAG	0	0	26,000

Total Households	2019	2035	2050
Imperial	0	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	16,000
Orange	0	0	0
Riverside	0	0	0
San Bernardino	0	0	0
Ventura	0	0	0
SCAG	0	0	16,000

Total Employment	2019	2035	2050
Imperial	0	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0	28,000
Orange	0	0	0
Riverside	0	0	0
San Bernardino	0	0	0
Ventura	0	0	0
SCAG	0	0	28,000

Notes: Data reflect July 1. Projections rounded to the nearest 1000. Population projections based on SCAG's preliminary model plus household totals provided by local jurisdictions.

No other changes to growth forecast or socioeconomic data were made. Final plan performance measures, including the region-wide per-capita Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction target, are currently being evaluated. Staff plans to update the data and webmap available at <https://scag.ca.gov/local-data-exchange> to correspond with the final plan's projection and include revised consistency and disclaimer language upon final plan release.

THE 2024 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN/SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY
OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS



Equity Analysis Technical Report Update

Annaleigh Ekman

February 15, 2024

57

Comments

Prevalent
Topics:

- Copy editing
- Equity context
- Priority Equity Communities

Equity Analysis Updates

General Report Changes



1. Revised map template
2. Expanded policy discussion on Title VI and SB 1000
3. Added historical context
4. Added county-level demographics in the Historical Demographic Trends section
5. Changed wording and layouts for clarification on meaning or source
6. Standardized data labels in figures
7. Expanded, improved, and/or corrected analysis discussions
8. Revised analysis based on data input changes

Equity Analysis Updates

Expected Changes Due to Data Updates



Data Input Changes

- High Quality Transit Corridors in Priority Equity Communities
- Travel Demand Model Update
 - Mode choice model
 - Auto operating cost update
- Forecasted socioeconomic data in North LA County
- Updated Project List and network

Expected Impacts

- More population covered by Priority Equity Communities
- Changes to transit accessibility
- Minor or no change in:
 - Auto accessibility
 - Demographic analysis
 - Investment-related measures

Equity Performance Measures

Mobility

- Share of Transportation System Usage
- **Travel Time and Travel Distance Savings**
- **Access to Everyday Destinations**
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Collisions**

Communities

- Jobs-Housing Imbalance
- Neighborhood Change and Displacement
- **Rail-Related Impacts**

Environment

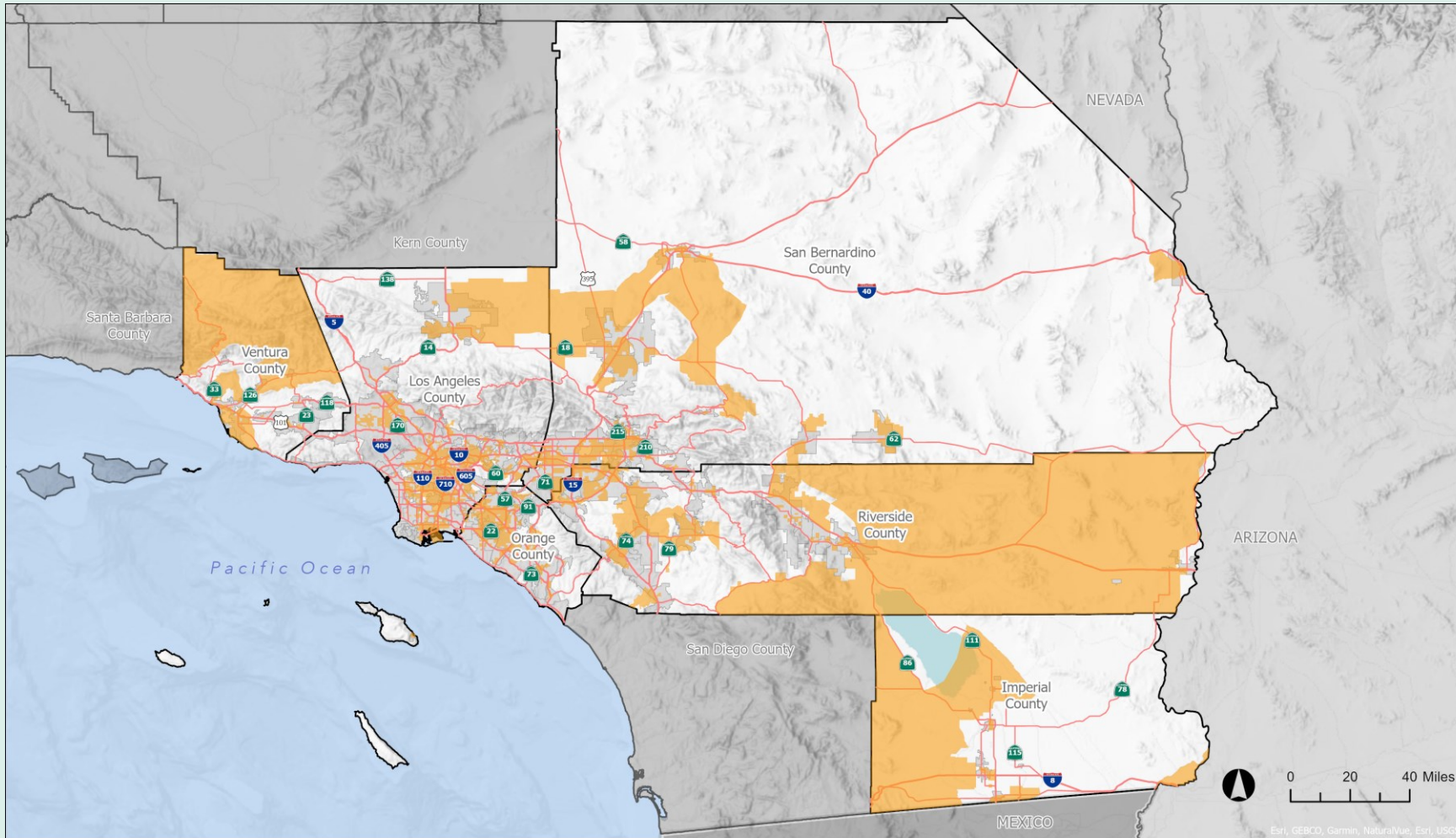
- **Resilience and Climate Vulnerabilities**
- **Emissions Impacts Analysis**
- Noise Impacts

Economy

- **Geographic Distribution of Transportation Investments**
- **Investments vs. Benefits**
- **Revenue Sources In Terms of Tax Burdens**
- Impacts from Mileage-Based User Fee

Equity Analysis Updates

Priority Equity Communities



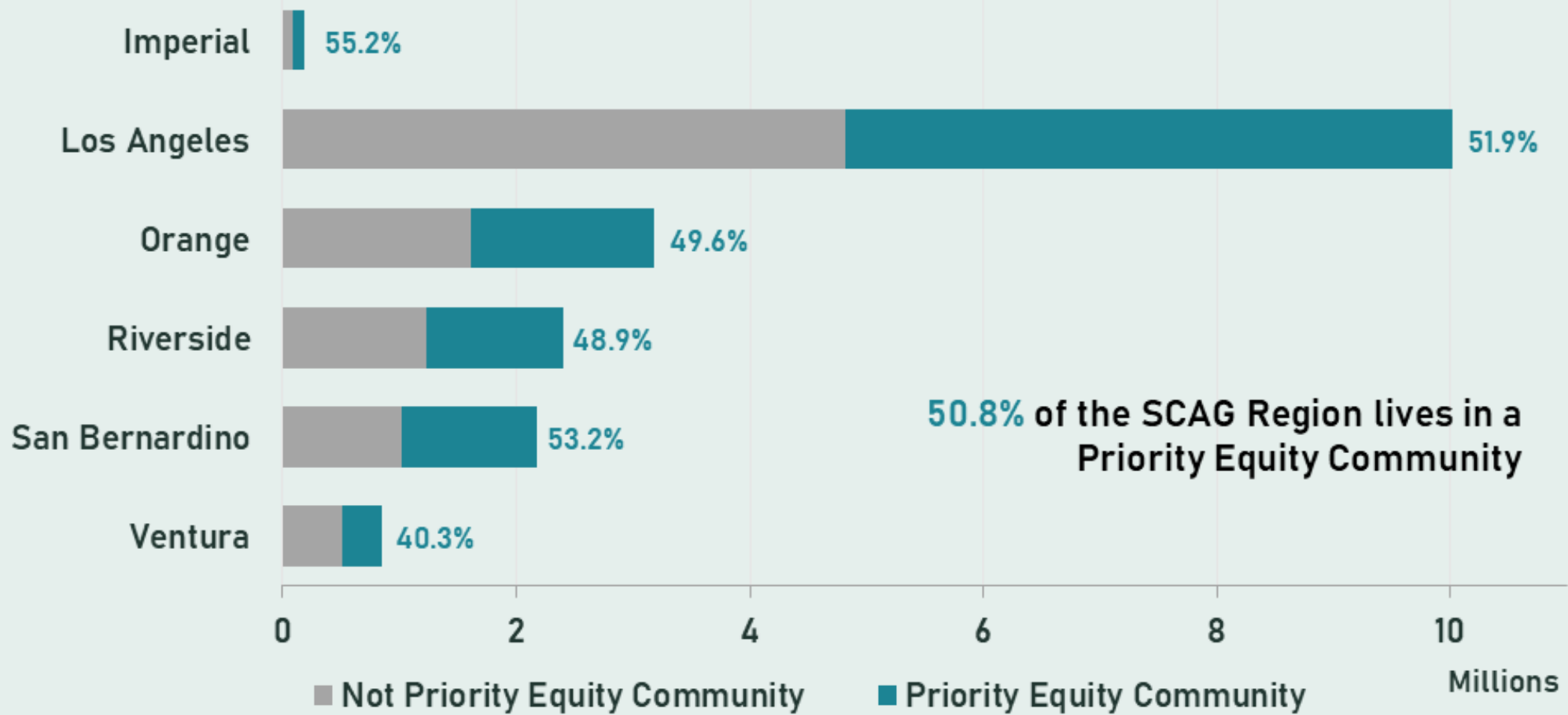
- Freeways and Highways
- Priority Equity Communities
- ▭ SCAG Counties
- ▭ City Boundaries

SCAG Technical Working Group 2/15/2024

Source: SCAG 2023, developed with data from U.S. Census Bureau ACS, 2017-2021 and SCAG 2023 High Quality Transit Corridors

Equity Analysis Updates

Priority Equity Communities



Questions? Comments?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT
[SCAG.CA.GOV/CONNECT-SOCAL](https://scag.ca.gov/connect-socal)





Connect SoCal 2024 Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)

Technical Working Group

February 15, 2024

WWW.SCAG.CA.GOV



Presentation Agenda

- 1 CEQA Requirements**
- 2 2024 PEIR Process**
- 3 2024 Final PEIR Components**
- 4 Resolution and Exhibits**
- 5 Next Steps**

CEQA Requirements

- SCAG is the CEQA Lead Agency for Connect SoCal 2024 (CEQA Project)
- PEIR is the appropriate type of CEQA document for a regional plan
- PEIR includes a region-wide, first-tier, programmatic level assessment
- Evaluates and discloses potential environmental impacts of Plan
- Mitigates or avoids significant adverse environmental impacts of Plan

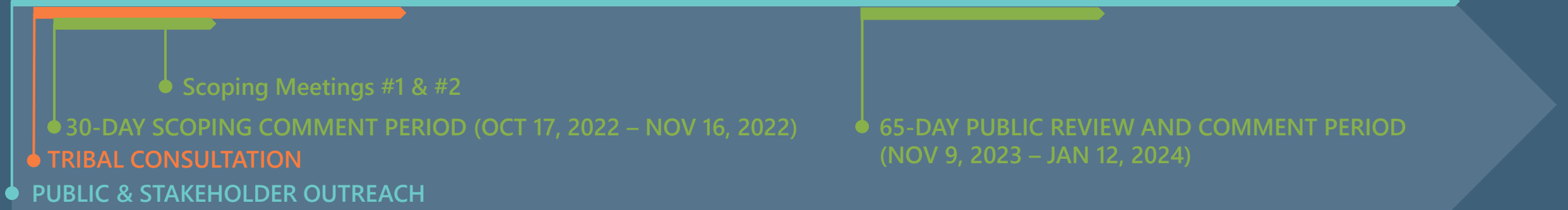


2024 PEIR Process

2022

2023

2024



- Aviation Technical Advisory Committee
- Global & Land Use Economic Counsel
- Joint Policy Committees
- Joint Sustainable and Resilient Communities/ Natural And Farm Lands Conservation
- Regional Council
- City of Riverside
- South Coast Air Quality Management District
- Technical Working Group
- Ventura County Air Pollution Control District
- Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority / Riverside County Transportation Commission

The Three Components of the Proposed Final PEIR



**COMPLETE DRAFT PEIR
(CHAPTERS 1-7)**



**RESPONSE TO COMMENTS
(CHAPTER 8)**



**CLARIFICATIONS AND REVISIONS
(CHAPTER 9)**

Component No. 1: Complete Draft PEIR

- **Executive Summary**
- **Chapter 1.0 – Introduction**
- **Chapter 2.0 – Project Description**
- **Chapter 3.0 – Environmental Setting, Impacts, and Mitigation Measures**
- **Chapter 4.0 – Alternatives**
- **Chapter 5.0 – Other CEQA Considerations**
- **Chapter 6.0 – List of Preparers**
- **Chapter 7.0 - Glossary**
- **7 Technical Appendices supporting the 2024 Draft PEIR**

For a complete copy of the 2024 Draft PEIR, please visit SCAG's website at: www.scag.ca.gov/peir

For additional information including a detailed summary of the 2024 Draft PEIR, please see previous SCAG staff reports from the April 2023, July 2023, and November 2023 EEC meetings, at: <https://scag.ca.gov/energy-and-environment-committee-past-agendas>



COMPONENT NO. 2 OF THE FINAL PEIR

Chapter 8 - Response to Comments

Comments Received on the Draft PEIR

- 33 comment letters
- Totaling approximately 700 unique comments
- Overall summary: requests for clarification, additional data, analysis, or content

CATEGORY OF COMMENTERS	NUMBER
Sovereign Nations	1
Federal Agencies	1
State Agencies	3
Regional Agencies	2
Subregional Agencies	1
County Transportation Commissions	2
Local Agencies (including SCAG Member Jurisdictions)	6
Organizations	16
Individuals	1
Total	33*

*Note: Includes 31 timely submission of comment letters and two comment letter received after the close of the public review and comment period.

Master Responses for Recurring Themes

No. 1 – Comments related to Draft Connect SoCal 2024

No. 2 – General Comments and Non-CEQA Issues

No. 3 – Level of Detail in a Program EIR versus Project EIR

No. 4 – Regional Development Pattern and Growth Forecast

No. 5 – Mitigation Measures

No. 6 – Alternatives



COMPONENT NO. 3 OF THE FINAL PEIR

Chapter 9 - Clarifications and Revisions

Categories of Revisions

Category 1 – Revisions to the Plan Since Publication of the 2024 Draft PEIR

- Summarizes the latest project information for various Plan components such as Plan’s Project List, jurisdictional level growth forecast, modeling and SPM results, and transportation finance.

Category 2 – Response to Comments on the 2024 Draft PEIR

- Revisions and clarifications from comments received on Draft PEIR.

Category 3 – Staff-Initiated Clarification and Revisions

- Staff-initiated revisions to correct typographical errors, including grammar, punctuation, misspellings, missing words, misnumbering, and other clerical errors.

Bottom line: With public comments and updates, the conclusions regarding the significance of the impacts in the Draft PEIR were not affected. All information and revisions merely clarify, amplify, or make insignificant modifications to the Draft PEIR. Recirculation is not required.



ADDITIONAL CEQA REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR THE PROPOSED FINAL PEIR

Resolution and Exhibits to the Proposed Final PEIR

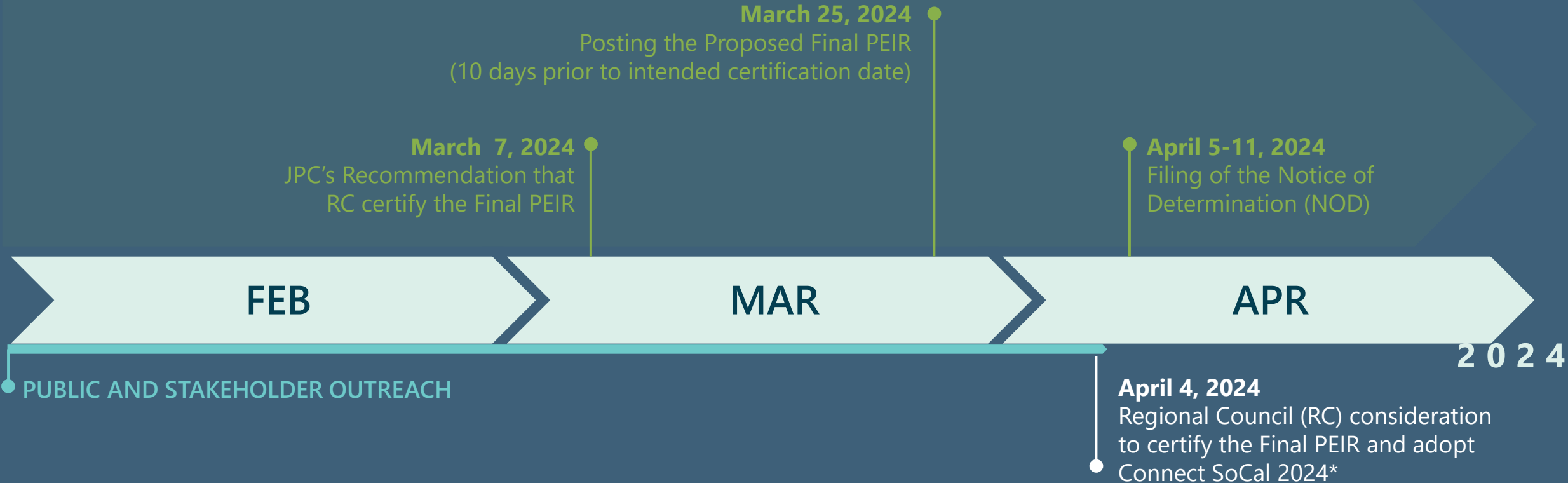
A resolution and three exhibits will be presented to the Regional Council at its April 4, 2024 meeting:

- 1) Exhibit A - Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (CEQA Guidelines Section 15091(d) and 15097)
- 2) Exhibit B - Findings of Fact (CEQA Guidelines Section 15091)
- 3) Exhibit C - Statement of Overriding Considerations (CEQA Guidelines Section 15093)



NEXT STEPS

Anticipated Upcoming Milestones



*The Final PEIR must first be certified by the Regional Council prior to approving Connect SoCal 2024 (CEQA Guidelines Section 15090)



THANK YOU!

For more information, please visit: <https://scag.ca.gov/peir>