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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

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

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Energy & Environment
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County of Imperial

Transportation
Tim Sandoval, Pomona

MEETING OF THE

COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members of the Public are Welcome to Attend In-Person & Remotely
Thursday, November 7, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

To Attend In-Person:
SCAG Main Office – Policy B Meeting Room
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90017

To Watch or View Only:
https://scag.ca.gov/scag-tv-livestream

To Attend and Participate on Your Computer:
https://scag.zoom.us/j/85813464379

To Attend and Participate by Phone:
Call-in Number: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 858 1346 4379

PUBLIC ADVISORY

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Maggie Aguilar at (213) 630-1420 or via email at aguilarm@scag.ca.gov. Agendas & Minutes are also available at: www.scag.ca.gov/committees.

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation 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) 630-1410. 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.

Instructions for Attending the Meeting

To Attend In-Peron and Provide Verbal Comments: Go to the SCAG Main Office located at 900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 or any of the remote locations noticed in the agenda. The meeting will take place in the Policy B Meeting Room on the 17th floor starting at 10:00 a.m.

To Attend by Computer: Click the following link: https://scag.zoom.us/j/85813464379. If Zoom is not already installed on your computer, click "Download & Run Zoom" on the launch page and press "Run" when prompted by your browser. If Zoom has previously been installed on your computer, please allow a few moments for the application to launch automatically. Select "Join Audio via Computer." The virtual conference room will open. If you receive a message reading, "Please wait for the host to start this meeting," simply remain in the room until the meeting begins.

To Attend by Phone: Call **(669) 900-6833** to access the conference room. Given high call volumes recently experienced by Zoom, please continue dialing until you connect successfully. Enter the **Meeting ID: 858 1346 4379**, followed by **#**. Indicate that you are a participant by pressing **#** to continue. You will hear audio of the meeting in progress. Remain on the line if the meeting has not yet started.

Instructions for Participating and Public Comments

Members of the public can participate in the meeting via written or verbal comments.

1. **In Writing:** Written comments can be emailed to: ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov. Written comments received **by 5pm on Wednesday, November 6, 2024**, will be transmitted to members of the legislative body and posted on SCAG's website prior to the meeting. You are **not** required to submit public comments in writing or in advance of the meeting; this option is offered as a convenience should you desire not to provide comments in real time as described below. Written comments received after 5pm on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting. Any writings or documents provided to a majority of this committee regarding any item on this agenda (other than writings legally exempt from public disclosure) are available at the Office of the Clerk, at 900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 or by phone at (213) 630-1420, or email to aguilarm@scag.ca.gov.

2. **Remotely:** If participating in real time via Zoom or phone, please wait for the presiding officer to call the item for which you wish to speak and use the "raise hand" function on your computer or *9 by phone and wait for SCAG staff to announce your name/phone number.

3. **In-Person:** If participating in-person, you are invited but not required, to fill out and present a Public Comment Card to the Clerk of the Board or other SCAG staff prior to speaking. It is helpful to indicate whether you wish to speak during the Public Comment Period (Matters Not on the Agenda) and/or on an item listed on the agenda.

General Information for Public Comments

Verbal comments can be presented in real time during the meeting. Members of the public are allowed a total of 3 minutes for verbal comments. The presiding officer retains discretion to adjust time limits as necessary to ensure efficient and orderly conduct of the meeting, including equally reducing the time of all comments.

For purpose of providing public comment for items listed on the Consent Calendar, please indicate that you wish to speak when the Consent Calendar is called. Items listed on the Consent Calendar will be acted on with one motion and there will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the legislative body so requests, in which event, the item will be considered separately.

In accordance with SCAG's Regional Council Policy, Article VI, Section H and California Government Code Section 54957.9, if a SCAG meeting is "willfully interrupted" and the "orderly conduct of the meeting" becomes unfeasible, the presiding officer or the Chair of the legislative body may order the removal of the individuals who are disrupting the meeting.

COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

TELECONFERENCE AVAILABLE AT THESE ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS*

Don Caskey City of Laguna Hills – City Hall 24035 El Toro Road Laguna Hills, CA 92653	**Debra Dorst-Porada** City of Ontario – City Hall 303 East B Street Conference Room 2 Ontario, CA 91764	**Bobby Duncan** City of Yucaipa – City Hall Executive Conference Room 34272 Yucaipa Boulevard Yucaipa, CA 92399
Bob Engler City of Thousand Oaks - City Hall 2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard Thousand Oaks, CA 91362	**Rose Espinoza** City of La Habra - City Hall 110 East La Habra Boulevard La Habra, CA 90631	**Camilo Garcia** City of Calexico - City Hall 608 Herber Avenue Council Chambers Calexico, CA 92231
Marshall Goodman CSULB Social Science/Public Affairs Building 1250 N. Bellflower Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90840	**William Hussey** City of Grand Terrace – City Hall 22795 Barton Road Grand Terrace, CA 92313	**Kathleen Kelly** 46-100 Burroweed Lane Palm Desert, CA 92260
Tammy Kim Irvine Civic Center 1 Civic Center Plaza Irvine, CA 92623	**Matt LaVere** Ventura County Government Center 800 S Victoria Avenue 4th Floor Conference Room Ventura, CA 93009	**Jed Leano** City of Claremont - City Hall 207 Harvard Avenue Conference Room Claremont, CA 91711
Anni Marshall City of Avalon - City Hall 410 Avalon Canyon Road Avalon, CA 90704	**John Mirisch** City of Beverly Hills - City Hall 455 N. Rexford Drive, 4th Floor Beverly Hills, CA 90210	**Zizette Mullins** City of Burbank - City Hall 275 E. Olive Avenue, 2nd Floor Burbank, CA 91502
Joe Murphy Pechanga Government Center 12705 Pechanga Road Temecula, CA 92592	**George A. Nava** City of Brawley - City Hall 383 Main Street Brawley, CA 92227	**Freddy Puza** 6001 Canterbury Drive, #104 Culver City, CA 90230
Becky A. Shevlin City of Monrovia - City Hall 415 S Ivy Street Monrovia, CA 91016	**Mary Solorio** 1425 Hollister Street San Fernando, CA 91340	**Helen Tran** City of San Bernardino - City Hall 290 North D Street Mayor's Office San Bernardino, CA 92401
Tony Wu 4509 Temple City Boulevard Temple City CA, 91780		

* Under the teleconferencing rules of the Brown Act, members of the body may remotely participate at any location specified above.

CEHD - Community, Economic and Human Development Committee
Members – November 2024

1. **Hon. David J. Shapiro**
   CEHD Chair, Calabasas, RC District 44

2. **Hon. Rocky Rhodes**
   CEHD Vice Chair, Simi Valley, RC District 46

3. **Hon. Cindy Allen**
   2nd Vice President, Long Beach, RC District 30

4. **Hon. Valerie Amezcua**
   Santa Ana, RC District 16

5. **Hon. Gary Boyer**
   Glendora, RC District 33

6. **Hon. Drew Boyles**
   El Segundo, RC District 40

7. **Hon. Wendy Bucknum**
   Mission Viejo, RC District 13

8. **Hon. Don Caskey**
   Laguna Hills, OCCOG

9. **Hon. Tanya Doby**
   Los Alamitos, OCCOG

10. **Hon. Debra Dorst-Porada**
    Ontario, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)

11. **Hon. Bobby Duncan**
    Yucaipa, SBCTA

12. **Ms. Lucy Dunn**
    Business Representative, Non-Voting Member

13. **Hon. Keith Eich**
    La Cañada Flintridge, RC District 36

14. **Hon. Bob Engler**
    Thousand Oaks, VCOG

15. **Hon. Rose Espinoza**
    La Habra, OCCOG

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

16. **Hon. Waymond Fermon**
Indio, CVAG

17. **Hon. Margaret Finlay**
Duarte, RC District 35

18. **Hon. Claudia Frometa**
Downey, RC District 25

19. **Hon. Martin Fuentes**
Cudahy, GCCOG

20. **Hon. John Gabbard**
Dana Point, District 12

21. **Hon. Camilo Garcia**
Imperial County, CoC

22. **Hon. Marshall Goodman**
La Palma, RC District 18

23. **Hon. Mark Henderson**
Gardena, RC District 28

24. **Hon. Cecilia Hupp**
Brea, OCCOG

25. **William Hussey**
Grand Terrace, SBCTA

26. **Hon. Lynda Johnson**
Cerritos, GCCOG

27. **Hon. Kathleen Kelly**
Palm Desert, RC District 2

28. **Hon. Tammy Kim**
Irvine, RC District 14

29. **Hon. Lauren Kleiman**
Newport Beach, RC District 15

30. **Sup. Matt LaVere**
Ventura County CoC

31. **Hon. Jed Leano**
Claremont, SGVCOG

32. **Hon. Carlos Leon**
    Anaheim, RC District 19

33. **Hon. Anni Marshall**
    Avalon, GCCOG

34. **Hon. Andrew Masiel**
    Tribal Govt Regl Planning Board Representative

35. **Hon. Casey McKeon**
    Huntington Beach, RC District 64

36. **Hon. John Mirisch**
    Beverly Hills, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)

37. **Hon. Geneva Mojado**
    Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

38. **Hon. Joseph Morabito**
    Wildomar, WRCOG

39. **Hon. Zizette Mullins**
    Burbank, AVCJPA

40. **Hon. Joseph Murphy**
    Pechanga Band of Indians

41. **George Nava**
    Brawley, ICTC

42. **Hon. Marisela Nava**
    Perris, RC District 69

43. **Hon. Misty Perez**
    Port Hueneme, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)

44. **Hon. Freddy Puza**
    Culver City, WCCOG

45. **Hon. Nithya Raman**
    Los Angeles, RC District 51

46. **Hon. Gabriel Reyes**
    San Bernardino County CoC

47. **Hon. Sonny Santa Ines**
    Bellflower, GCCOG

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48. Hon. Becky Shevlin
Monrovia, SGVCOG

49. Hon. Mary Solorio
San Fernando, SFVCOG

50. Hon. Helen Tran
San Bernardino, SBCTA

51. Hon. Mark Waronek
Lomita, SBCCOG

52. Hon. Acquanetta Warren
Fontana, SBCTA

53. Hon. Jeff Wood
Lakewood, RC District 24

54. Hon. Tony Wu
West Covina, SGVCOG

55. Hon. Frank A. Yokoyama
Cerritos, RC District 23

56. Hon. Frank Zerunyan
Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG

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COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy B Meeting Room
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Thursday, November 7, 2024
10:00 AM

The Community, Economic and Human Development Committee may consider and act upon any of the items on the agenda regardless of whether they are listed as Information or Action items.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
(The Honorable David J. Shapiro, Chair)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Matters Not on the Agenda)
This is the time for public comments on any matter of interest within SCAG's jurisdiction that is ***not*** listed on the agenda. For items listed on the agenda, public comments will be received when that item is considered. Although the committee may briefly respond to statements or questions, under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon at this time.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

1.	Minutes of the Meeting – September 5, 2024	PPG. 9

Receive and File

2.	Senate Bill 375: Joint MPO Letter to CARB	PPG. 17
3.	REAP 2.0 Program Update	PPG. 24
4.	CEHD Agenda Outlook and Future Agenda Items	PPG. 29

INFORMATION ITEMS

5.	IERS Update – Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities *(Anna Van, Associate Regional Planner, SCAG)*	45 Mins.	PPG. 33
6.	Connect SoCal 2024: Implementation Strategies Update *(Elizabeth Carvajal, Deputy Director of Planning - Land Use, SCAG)*	10 Mins.	PPG. 65

CHAIR'S REPORT
(The Honorable David J. Shapiro, Chair)

STAFF REPORT
(Jonathan Davis, Government Affairs Officer, SCAG)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Southern California Association of Governments
November 7, 2024

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (CEHD)
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (CEHD). A VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING OF THE FULL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/.

The Community, Human and Development Committee (CEHD) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Hon. David Shapiro, Chair	*Calabasas*	**District 44**
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair	*Simi Valley*	**District 46**
Hon. Gary Boyer	*Glendora*	District 33
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	*Mission Viejo*	District 13
Hon. Tanya D. Doby	*Los Alamitos*	OCCOG
Hon. Bobby Duncan	*Yucaipa*	SBCTA
Ms. Lucy Dunn		Ex-Officio
Hon. Keith Eich	*La Cañada Flintridge*	District 36
Hon. John Gabbard	*Dana Point*	District 12
Hon. Camilo Garcia	*Imperial County*	CoC
Hon. Cecilia Hupp	*Brea*	OCCOG
Hon. William Hussey	*Grand Terrace*	SBCTA
Hon. Lynda Johnson	*Cerritos*	GCCOG
Hon. Kathleen Kelly	*Palm Desert*	District 2
Hon. Tammy Kim	*Irvine*	District 14
Sup. Matt LaVere	*Ventura County*	CoC
Hon. Jed Leano	*Claremont*	SGVCOG
Hon. Anni Marshall	*Avalon*	GCCOG
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	*Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Rep.*	
Hon. Joseph Morabito	*Wildomar*	WRCOG
Hon. Zizette Mullins	*Burbank*	AVCJPA
Hon. Marisela Nava	*Perris*	District 69
Hon. Freddy Puza	*Culver City*	WCCOG

Hon. Gabriel Reyes	*San Bernardino County*	CoC
Hon. Sonny Santa Ines	*Bellflower*	GCCOG
Hon. Becky Shevlin	*Monrovia*	SGVCOG
Hon. Acquanetta Warren	*Fontana*	SBCTA
Hon. Jeff Wood	*Lakewood*	District 24
Hon. Tony Wu	*West Covina*	SGVCOG
Hon. Frank Zerunyan	*Rolling Hills Estates*	SBCCOG

Members Not Present

Hon. Cindy Allen	*Long Beach*	District 30
Hon. Valerie Amezcua	*Santa Ana*	District 16
Hon. Drew Boyles	*El Segundo*	District 40
Hon. Don Caskey	*Laguna Hills*	OCCOG
Hon. Debra Dorst-Porada	*Ontario, Pres. Appt.*	Member at Large
Hon. Bob Engler	*Thousand Oaks*	VCOG
Hon. Rose Espinoza	*La Habra*	OCCOG
Hon. Waymond Fermon	*Indio*	CVAG
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	*Duarte*	District 35
Hon. Claudia M. Frometa	*Downey*	District 25
Hon. Martin Fuentes	*Cudahy*	GCCOG
Hon. Marshall Goodman	*La Palma*	District 18
Hon. Mark Henderson	*Gardena*	District 28
Hon. Lauren Kleiman	*Newport Beach*	District 15
Hon. Carlos A. Leon	*Anaheim*	District 19
Hon. Casey McKeon	*Huntington Beach*	District 64
Hon. John Mirisch	*Beverly Hills, Pres. Appt.*	Member at Large
Hon. Geneva Mojado	*Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians*	
Hon. Joseph Murphy	*Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians*	
Hon. George A. Nava	*Brawley*	ICTC
Hon. Misty Perez	*Port Hueneme, Pres. Appt.*	Member at Large
Hon. Nithya Raman	*Los Angeles*	District 51
Hon. Mary Solorio	*San Fernando*	SFVCOG
Hon. Helen Tran	*San Bernardino*	SBCTA
Hon. Mark Waronek	*Lomita*	SBCCOG
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	*Cerritos*	District 23

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable David Shapiro called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and asked Councilmember Tanya Doby, Los Alamitos, OCCOG, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Shapiro provided detailed instructions and general information on how to provide public comments. Additionally, he noted that public comments received via email to CEHDPublicComment@scag.ca.gov after 5pm on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, would be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

Chair Shapiro opened the public comment period and noted this was the time for members of the public to offer comment for matters that are within SCAG's jurisdiction but are not listed on the agenda.

SCAG staff noted there were no written public comments received via email before or after the 5pm deadline on Wednesday, September 4, 2024. SCAG staff also noted that there were no public comments for matters not listed on the agenda.

Chair Shapiro closed the public comment period for matters not listed on the agenda.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no reprioritizations made.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting - June 6, 2024

Receive and File

2. Transportation Conformity Determinations of Proposed Final 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Proposed Final Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 1

MOTION was made (Hupp) to approve Consent Calendar Items 1; and Receive and File Item 2. Motion was SECONDED (Bucknum). The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Boyer, Bucknum, Doby, Duncan, Eich, Gabbard, Garcia, Hupp, Hussey, Johnson, Kelly, LaVere, Leano, Marshall, Masiel, Morabito, Mullins, M. Nava, Puza, Reyes, Rhodes, Santa Ines, Shapiro, Shevlin, Warren, Wood, Wu, and Zerunyan (28)

NOES: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

There were no public comments on this item.

INFORMATION ITEMS

3.   SCAG 101: Overview of Organization

Chair Shapiro introduced Item 3 on the agenda. He asked Chief Operating Officer, Darin Chidsey, to provide an overview of the SCAG 101: Overview of Organization presentation.

Mr. Chidsey's presentation included an overview of SCAG's vision, goals, core values, and Strategic Plan priorities. The presentation also focused on the importance of SCAG's work in Southern California and its global impact including the impact of SCAG's Connect SoCal 2024 Plan. Additional highlights included discussion of the organization's governing structure and leadership, SCAG's primary roles and responsibilities, which integrates all comprehensive regional planning and transportation planning for the SCAG region, and State and Federal Legislative priorities.

The Committee thanked Mr. Chidsey for the presentation and the leadership's advocacy efforts towards the successful continuation of the REAP 2.0 grant funding program. Additional comments expressed from Councilmembers noted concerns over the economic and transportation-related impacts to the SCAG region for the upcoming 2025-26 World Cup and 2028 Summer Olympics events. A presentation from the region's sports representatives was suggested.

The comprehensive staff report and PowerPoint presentation was provided in the agenda packet.

There were no public comments on this item.

4.   CEHD Agenda Outlook and Future Agenda Items

Chair Shapiro provided remarks on the CEHD Agenda Outlook which is updated monthly. He asked Elizabeth Carvajal, Deputy Director, to provide an update.

Ms. Carvajal provided a brief overview of the updated CEHD Agenda Outlook (Outlook) for Fiscal Year 2025 which included highlights of the CEHD survey responses. Ms. Carvajal's presentation included core areas of focus and the major themes that deals with affordable housing production and economic development. She also mentioned that the updates to the Outlook were taken from the survey responses received from CEHD members, which were categorized by questions around major themes.

Ms. Carvajal noted that due to the condensed meeting schedule, the Outlook would include items that need to come before the CEHD along with topics that touch on the scope of the committee, such as projects, plans, and programs of regional significant for determinations of consistency and conformity with applicable regional plans. Items that are not covered this fiscal year can be considered in future years.

Staff responded on the comments and questions expressed by the Councilmembers, including responses for the lack of political support for SCAG's RHNA housing reform plan, workforce and economic development updates, including future discussions on the economic impacts that the FIFA World Cup and Olympics will have on the region.

The comprehensive staff report and PowerPoint presentation – CEHD Outlook Major Themes and CEHD Agenda Outlook presentation was included in the agenda packet.

There were no public comments on this item.

5.   Review of California's Housing Future 2040: The Next Regional Housing Needs Allocation

Chair Shapiro provided brief remarks regarding the California Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) published Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) reform report. He asked Ma'Ayn Johnson, SCAG staff, to present an overview of the RHNA reform report and list of recommendations developed through the SCAG led engagement process.

Ms. Johnson provided background information on the RHNA reform process noting that AB 101 (2019) required that HCD provide ways to reform RHNA and make recommendations. She noted the report was published April 18, 2024, is approximately 176 pages and SCAG staff comprehensively reviewed the report. Ms. Johnson's presentation included a comprehensive overview and background information of SCAG's RHNA reform recommendations submitted to HCD and whether SCAG's comments were addressed in the HCD report. Highlights included an analysis of the report structure, recommendations not addressed by HCD, other topics outside of SCAG's recommendations letter, HCD future implementation efforts and next steps.

Discussion from the Committee ensued. Staff responded on the comments expressed by the Councilmembers including responses regarding more context and understanding of the RHNA and RTP/SCS implementation process, AB 3093 status updates, and clarification and justification of the additional RHNA income categories. Additional concerns noted opportunities for further engagement with HCD regarding greater transparency, processes to navigate HCD/SCAG interpretation disputes and community outreach to address the legislative obstacles and challenges that leadership face.

As the discussion concluded, additional responses to the following topics and a final comment by Vice Chair Rocky Rhodes was provided.

- HCD's responsibility structure and conditions for restructuring
- Explanation for the objections to a trade and transfer program

Vice Chair Rocky Rhodes noted that SCAG staff, along with the CEHD membership can establish strategic goals to incorporate small changes through the legislature.

Staff will continue to monitor HCD updates and legislative bills and will keep the Committee updated.

The comprehensive staff report and PowerPoint presentation – 24-0820 Review of CA Housing Future 2040, 24-0905 SCAG Recommendations for Regional Housing Needs Assessment, and 24-0905 Evaluation of SCAG Comments in HCD Report; was provided in the agenda packet.

There were no public comments on this item.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Shapiro provided highlights of the Chair's Report. He reported on the following SCAG activities and noted that additional information can be found on SCAG's website.

- Southern California Demographics Workshop will be held on September 24, 2024, at SCAG's Main Office in Los Angeles.
- $50 million Goods Movement grant awarded to SCAG to support Last Mile Freight Program.
- Congratulations to Councilmember Frank Zerunyan on his recently published book, titled, "Advancing and Negotiating Sustainable Development Goals" A Practical Toolkit."

STAFF REPORT

Jonathan Davis, SCAG Government Affairs Officer, was introduced to the CEHD members. He announced the following updates:

- SCAG's Active Transportation and Safety Call for Sustainable Communities Program, call for applications is anticipated to remain open through September 27, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Shapiro noted that in recognition of Rosh Hashanah, the CEHD Committee will not meet in October. The next meeting of the CEHD will be on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 10:00am.

Chair Shapiro adjourned the meeting of the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee at 11:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Carmen Summers
Community, Economic and Human Development Committee Clerk

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE CEHD COMMITTEE]
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COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT														
2024-25														
MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, RC District 30	1												0
Amezcua, Valarie	Santa Ana, RC District 16	1												1
Boyer, Gary	Glendora, RC District 33				1									1
Boyles, Drew	El Segundo, RC District 40													0
Bucknum, Wendy	Mission Viejo, RC District 13	1			1									2
Caskey, Don	Laguna Hills, OCCOG	1												1
Doby, Tanya D.	Los Alamitos, OCCOG	1			1									2
Dorst-Porada, Debra	Ontario, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)													0
Duncan, Bobby	Yucaipa, SBCTA	1			1									2
Dunn, Lucy	Business Representative	1			1									2
Eich, Keith	La Cañada Flintridge, RC District 36	1	D	D	1	D								2
Engler, Bob	Thousand Oaks, VCOG	1												1
Espinoza, Rose	La Habra, OCCOG	1												1
Fermon, Waymond	Indio, CVAG	1												1
Finlay, Margaret E.	Duarte, RC District 35	1												1
Frometa, Claudia M.	Downey, RC District 25	1												1
Fuentes, Martin	Cudahy, GCCOG	1												1
Gabbard, John	Dana Point, District 12				1									1
Garcia, Camilo	Imperial County CoC	1	A	A	1	A								2
Goodman, Marshall R.	LaPalma, RC District 18	1												1
Henderson, Mark E.	Gardena, RC District 28	1												1
Hupp, Cecilia	Brea, OCCOG	1			1									2
Hussey William	Grand Terrace, SBCTA	1			1									2
Johnson, Lynda	Cerritos, GCCOG				1									1
Kelly, Kathleen	Palm Desert, RC District 2	1			1									2
Kim, Tammy	Irvine, RC District 14	1												1
Kleiman, Lauren	Newport Beach, RC District 15		R	R		R								0
LaVere, Matt	Ventura County CoC	1			1									2
Leano, Jed	Claremont, SGVCOG	1			1									2
Leon, Carlos A.	Anaheim, RC District 19													0
Marshall, Anni	Avalon, GCCOG				1									1
Masiel, Sr., Andrew	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians Tribal Gov Reg Planning Board				1									1
McKeon, Casey	Huntington Beach, RC District 64	1												1
Mirisch, John	Beverly Hills, Pres. Appt. (Member at Lar	1												1
Mojado, Geneva	Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians	1	K	K		K								1
Morabito, Joseph	Wildomar, WRCOG	1			1									2
Mullins, Zizette	Burbank, AVCJPA	1			1									2
Murphy, Joseph	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians	1												1
Nava, George A.	Brawley, ICTC	1												1
Nava, Marisela	Perris, RC District 69	1			1									2
Perez, Misty	Port Hueneme, Pres. Appt. (Member at Large)													0
Puza, Freddy	Culver City, WCCOG				1									1
Raman, Nithya	Los Angeles, RC District 51													0
Reyes, Gabriel	San Bernardino County CoC				1									1
Rhodes, Rocky	Simi Valley, RC District 46	1			1									2
Santa Ines, Sonny	Bellflower, GCCOG	1			1									2
Shapiro, David J.	Calabasas, RC District 44	1			1									2
Shevlin, Becky A.	Monrovia, SGVCOG	1			1									2
Solorio, Mary	San Fernando, SFVCOG													0
Tran, Helen	San Bernardino, SBCTA													0
Waronek, Mark	Lomita, SBCCOG													0
Warren, Acquanetta	Fontana, SBCTA	1			1									2
Wood, Jeff	Lakewood, RC District 24				1									1
Wu, Tony	West Covina, SGVCOG	1			1									2
Yokoyama, Frank A.	Cerritos, RC District 23	1												1
Zerunyan, Frank	Rolling Hills Estates, SBCCOG				1									1
TOTAL ATTENDANCE		38			29									

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)
Transportation Committee (TC)

Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)

From: Sarah Dominguez, Planning Supervisor
(213) 236-1918, dominguezs@scag.ca.gov

Subject: Senate Bill 375: Joint MPO Letter to CARB

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL

Kome Ajise

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EEC:
Information Only – No Action Required

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EAC, CEHD AND TC:
Receive and File

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
This item supports the following Strategic Priority 2: Be a cohesive and influential voice for the region.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
On July 23, 2024, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) held an initial public workshop on the 2026 Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) Regional Target Update and Updates to CARB's SCS Evaluation Process. In response to CARB's request for feedback on proposed guidelines updates and request for information related to target setting, the four largest Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in California, including SCAG, submitted a joint letter. This letter requests that CARB pause the current SCS guidelines and SB 375 targets update process in order to conduct a holistic review of SB 375.

BACKGROUND:
In 2006, California passed landmark climate legislation with Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32), the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. AB 32 required reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and tasked the California Air Resources Board (CARB) with the authority to adopt regulations and oversee the reduction of GHGs. Given that transportation accounts for nearly half of the state's GHG emissions, Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), the Sustainable Communities and Climate protection Act was passed in 2008 to support the reduction of emissions from cars and light duty trucks and to better integrate transportation and land use planning.

As directed by statute, CARB assembled a Regional Target Advisory Committee to advise on factors and methodologies to be considered in the target setting process. These CARB appointed members—including participants from county transportation commissions, metropolitan planning organizations (MPO) and academia—met throughout 2009 before the first targets were set for regions. SCAG's original targets for the first 2012 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, were to reduce per capita GHG emissions by 8 percent from 2005 levels by 2020 and to reduce emissions by 13 percent from 2005 levels by 2035.

Pursuant to Government Code Section § 65080(b)(2)(A)(iv) CARB shall update regional targets every eight years. SCAG's targets were updated in 2018, keeping the 8 percent reduction from 2005 levels by 2020 and updating the target for 2035 to a 19 percent reduction from 2005 levels. The next target update process must be concluded by 2026 to meet the eight-year requirement.

SB 375 Challenges

In 2017, California's legislature passed Senate Bill 150 (SB 150), requiring CARB to prepare a report every four years on the progress that each MPO has made in meeting the regional GHG emission reduction targets. The most recent, 2022 Progress Report[1] found that California is not reducing GHG emissions from personal vehicle travel as needed under SB 375 which risks California's ability to meet its overall climate commitments. This report also highlighted that achieving SB 375 GHG reduction targets requires a stronger focus on implementation which requires alignment across state, regional, and local actions. The report outlined 56 local, regional, and state actions needed to support SCS implementation. Of the 56 actions needed, 52 required actions by a state agency or the legislature. While regional agencies are responsible for developing the SCS, it is well documented that implementation requires support and action at state level.

Meanwhile, the state has made progress toward a zero-emission transportation sector with the passage of the Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II) regulation which requires that all new vehicles sold in the state starting in 2035 must be zero emission vehicles (ZEV). However, from an SB 375 perspective, this means that regions can no longer account for any ZEV strategies as part of their GHG emission target achievement. So, despite the $1 billion investment in ZEV rebates in Connect SoCal 2024 and SCAG's past planning work for electric vehicle charging[2], SCAG was unable to account for any related GHG emission reductions in the 19 percent target achievement. In SCAG's previous RTP/SCS, Connect SoCal 2020, ZEV strategies for incentives and charging infrastructure represented -1.76 percent GHG emission reduction, making it the single most effective strategy, more effective than both land use and pricing.

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[1] CARB. (2022). *2022 Progress Report: California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act.* https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2023-05/2022-SB150-MainReport-FINAL-ADA.pdf
[2] SCAG. (2023). SCAG EV Charging Station Study. https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/ev_funding_guide.pdf?1684340967

The SB 375 target and guideline update process could provide an opportunity to ensure that the targets and guidelines reflect known technical issues and provide clarity on the application of ACC II assumptions. However, as currently outlined, the process does not offer a path to clarify the relationship between the suite of state and regional goals nor does it provide a path for state level entities to take action to advance or accelerate implementation of SCSs.

Joint Letter

The four largest Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in California wrote a joint letter to CARB requesting that the current SB 375 Targets and SCS Guidelines process be paused to allow for a holistic review of SB 375 (see attachment). Specifically, the MPOs request to engage in a government-to-government dialogue with CARB, the California Transportation Commission, Caltrans and the California Department of Housing and Community Development in order to collaboratively discuss how to achieve multiple state and regional goals and shift the focus towards implementation. SCAG has begun meeting with CARB Board Members and has notified other stakeholders to brief them on the agency's position and intent to seek an improved framework for SB 375 that prioritizes and accelerates the implementation of regional SCSs. SCAG, along with other MPOs from across the state have begun meeting collectively with staff representatives from each of the requested state agencies.

CARB Response

On October 23, 2024, CARB responded to the MPO joint letter (see attachment). CARB expressed commitment to participating in the dialogue between state agencies and MPOs and additionally offered to meet with any organization. However, CARB stated that they cannot commit to pausing the SB 375 target update process given the statutory requirements and necessity to advance "analytical staff work, support an inclusive public dialogue, and conduct an environmental review on these topics".

FISCAL IMPACT:

Work associated with this item is included in the FY 24-25 Overall Work Program (310.4874.01: Connect SoCal Development).

ATTACHMENT(S):
1. Joint Letter to CARB from SCAG, MTC, SACOG, and SANDAG
2. CARB Response to MPOs on SB 375

September 20, 2024

Dr. Steve Cliff
Chief Executive Officer
California Air Resources Board
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **Pause Current SB 375 Targets and SCS Guidelines to Allow a Holistic Review of
SB 375 Framework**

Dear Dr. Cliff:

The state's four largest Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) request the opportunity to
partner with the California Air Resources Board (CARB), California Transportation Commission
(CTC), Caltrans, and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to
holistically review the SB 375 Framework to improve how state and regional agencies
collaborate to deliver multiple housing, climate, and transportation goals.

SB 375 Provides A Foundation from Which the State Can Move Forward
At the outset, we note that SB 375 has changed regional transportation planning for the better.
With each new iteration of the SCS, we have seen better integration of land use, housing, and
transportation policies, supporting better climate and quality of life outcomes for our residents.
Importantly, the public has become more involved in the development of these plans, resulting in
projects that are more responsive to our communities' needs. This progress should be used as a
foundation for further improvements in the state and regional planning framework.

But The Time Is Right to Holistically Revisit the SB 375 Planning Framework
A lot has changed since SB 375's adoption in 2008. The state has accelerated transportation
electrification through Advancing Clean Cars II so that almost one in four new cars sold is zero
emission. Under SB 743, vehicle miles traveled has replaced level-of-service as a critical success
metric for transportation projects large and small. The state has also adopted substantial
legislative changes to address a state housing crisis. In addition, the global pandemic
fundamentally altered travel patterns and land use preferences – creating headwinds that were
unforeseen when the law was designed or when targets were last set by the CARB Board.

Thanks to state programs to support affordable housing and sustainable communities, active
transportation, and transit improvements, as well as the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP)
program, partial funding is available to support critical housing and transportation needs needed

to achieve our ambitious goals. But as the SB 150 report acknowledged, funding and staffing for implementation remains far short of what is needed to fully implement these regional plans. A restructured planning process can shift the focus toward implementation and thereby deliver faster and more effective results.

Request to Conduct a Holistic Review of the SB 375 Framework
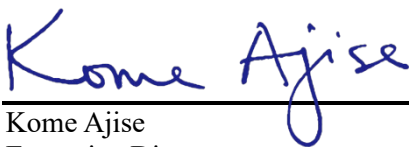
We request that CARB, CTC, Caltrans, and HCD work with MPOs to comprehensively evaluate the SB 375 framework. This effort will require us to engage in a deep and effective dialogue about the best way to achieve the suite of state and regional housing, climate, and transportation-related objectives, including the reductions of GHG emissions. As part of this request, we ask that CARB pause the current SCS guidelines and SB 375 targets to allow for a robust and collaborative conversation about the best path forward in the coming months.

To demonstrate our commitment to this concept, this letter represents the collective submission of comments by the undersigned MPOs for both the proposed amendments to the SCS guidelines (comments requested by CARB by August 30th) and the request for information related to the target setting (preliminary data questionnaire requested by CARB by October 30th). The time is right to develop more robust implementation solutions that will fit state, regional, and local objectives. Thank you for your consideration.
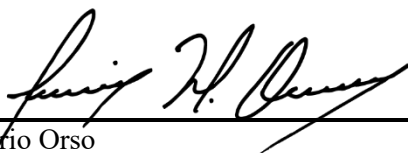
Sincerely,

Andrew Fremier
Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Kome Ajise
Executive Director
Southern California Association of Governments

Mario Orso
Chief Executive Officer
San Diego Association of Governments

James Corless
Executive Director
Sacramento Area Council of Governments

CC:
- Tomiquia Moss, Secretary, California Business, Consumer Services, and Housing
- Toks Omishakin, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency
- Sam Assefa, Director, Office of Planning & Research / Land Use & Climate Innovation
- Tony Tavares, Director, California Department of Transportation
- Tanisha Taylor, Executive Director, California Transportation Commission
- Gustavo Velasquez, Director, California Department of Housing & Community Development

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

October 23, 2024

Andrew Fremier
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jcorless@sacog.org

Dear Executive Directors Fremier, Ajise, and Corless, and Chief Executive Officer Orso:

Thank you for your letter dated September 20, 2024, regarding the desire to holistically review the SB 375 framework. CARB agrees that SB 375 is an important foundation for planning and envisioning a future that better supports our climate goals and community needs, and we appreciate your agencies' ongoing work and collaboration with our team to help make it a success. We agree that it is of crucial importance to ensure that the strategies identified in the plans developed under SB 375 are implemented.

CARB was recently invited to participate in a dialogue between State agencies and regional metropolitan planning organizations. Our understanding is that this effort is intended to facilitate and further the dialogue you have proposed. We are committed to participating and would welcome your participation in this effort. In addition to the workgroup, we would

be happy to meet with any of your organizations or consider any data or recommendations that you may wish to provide for the target update or evaluation guidelines.

In your letter, you requested that CARB pause our current processes to update the regional greenhouse gas reduction targets and the Sustainable Communities Strategies Program and Evaluation Guidelines to allow time for such dialogue to occur. CARB values MPO input and has been inviting MPO input on the guidelines and target-setting processes since late 2023. Given the statutory requirements for target setting and the need to update the Evaluation Guidelines in time for the fifth round of sustainable communities strategies, we cannot commit to pausing the process. CARB must continue advancing our analytical staff work, support an inclusive public dialogue, and conduct an environmental review on these topics.

There is still time to shape the process, however, and we welcome any input your agencies may have. If there is a specific recommendation on how to best solicit your input, please share as we greatly value your input. Additionally, we commit to considering any input or concepts developed during the aforementioned dialogue as we undertake our work.

We look forward to continuing dialogue with your agencies about all of these important topics and doing so at a pace that will allow us to meet the requirements established by law. Thank you again for your letter. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. *Jennifer Gress*, Chief of CARB's Sustainable Transportation and Communities Division.

Sincerely,

Steven S. Cliff, Ph.D., Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board

cc: Chanell Fletcher, Deputy Executive Officer - Equity, Communities & Environmental Justice, CARB
        chanell.fletcher@arb.ca.gov

        Jennifer Gress, Ph.D., Chief, Sustainable Transportation and Communities Division, CARB
        Jennifer.Gress@arb.ca.gov

Attachment: CARB Response to MPOs on SB 375 (Senate Bill 375: Joint MPO Letter to CARB)

To: Executive/Administration Committee (EAC)
Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)
Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)
Transportation Committee (TC)
Regional Council (RC)

From: Alisha James, Senior Public Affairs Specialist
(213) 236-1884, james@scag.ca.gov

Subject: REAP 2.0 Program Update

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL

Kome Ajise

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR EAC:
Information Only – No Action Required

RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR CEHD, EEC, TC AND RC:
Receive and File

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
Resolution 22-649-1 authorized SCAG to receive and administer $246,024,084.00 in Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program of 2021 (REAP 2.0) funds from the State of California. SCAG's REAP 2.0 program is designed to implement Connect SoCal, our regional vision to address transportation and land use strategies that help the region achieve sustainability goals.

In January, the Governor's budget proposed a 50 percent reduction to the REAP 2.0 Program across the state which would have been approximately $123M for SCAG. In response to budget uncertainty, SCAG issued a stop work order to pause its REAP 2.0 Program and refrained from entering into any new MOUs. As a result of the region's successful advocacy, SCAG received a final award allocation of $231.5 million, which included a reduction of $14.5 million from SCAG's original allocation. SCAG also successfully secured an administrative extension from HCD to recoup the time lost through the stop work order by extending the grantee expenditure deadline to June 30, 2026.

This report provides a progress update for SCAG's REAP 2.0 program and efforts to swiftly restart work across the program and ensure successful delivery. In addition to the activities captured

below, staff has revised the program budget to align with our final award allocation of $231.5 million with the funding change reflected in Amendment 1. The revised program prioritizes and fully funds all competitive and formula-based grant awards as approved by the Regional Council, including the allocation of $192 million to approximately 100 projects. To address the REAP 2.0 funding cut, REAP 2.0 funding was removed from the SCAG-led regional programs and services; staff proposes to use Carbon Reduction Program funds to fully fund the Regional Pilot Initiatives program. With these proposed changes, SCAG is able to move forward with the full complement of programs originally proposed and approved by the Regional Council to support Connect SoCal implementation. Any future budget revisions will also be considered and approved by the board through the budget amendment process.

BACKGROUND:
The REAP 2.0 program was established as part of the 2021 California Comeback Plan under AB 140. REAP 2.0 builds on the success of Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program of 2019 (REAP 1.0) and expands the program focus by integrating housing and climate goals, and allows for broader planning and implementation investments, including infrastructure investments supporting infill development to facilitate housing supply, choice, and affordability.

Major investments in program development and prioritization of projects have resulted in SCAG's development of a comprehensive REAP 2.0 program that combines coordinated and transformative actions aligning transportation and housing development by investing in innovative finance, land use, and transportation strategies. SCAG's REAP 2.0 program includes three major program areas: The Early Program Initiatives (EPIs), Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing (PATH), and the Country Transportation Commission (CTC) Partnership Program.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION & DELIVERY
SCAG has been actively working to restart the REAP 2.0 program. Over the summer, SCAG made progress collaborating with grantees to make progress on project scopes of work, executing agreements, and initiating project work. To support grantees and mitigate timeline challenges caused by the program's stop work order, SCAG has taken the following steps:

- SCAG negotiated an administrative extension with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), giving grantees an additional seven months to expend grant resources. The new expenditure deadline is June 30, 2026.
- SCAG is streamlining the administrative processes by developing templates for MOUs and MOU attachments and creating draft scopes of work for each grantee.
- For projects with an approved scope of work and are at risk of not meeting the deadline, SCAG will consider authorizing work in advance of executing a memorandum of understanding, under certain circumstances and with written approval from SCAG.

- Notices have gone out to partners awarded funds under SCAG's sub-allocation programs rescinding the Executive Director's pause of all significant REAP 2.0 activities, allowing the program work to proceed and communicating the new expenditure deadline of June 30, 2026.
- SCAG is collaborating with the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) on pursuing a legislative extension that could provide additional time, if needed.

PREQUALIFIED CONSULTANT BENCH

Building on the successes of the REAP 1.0 consultant bench, SCAG developed a Request for Interest and Qualifications (RFIQ) to prequalify consultants and establish on call consultants to assist SCAG grantees to complete projects funded by REAP 2.0.

PROGRAM PROGRESS UPDATES

The REAP programs are critical funding for implementing the strategies in the Connect SoCal 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. SCAG's focus in recent months has been working in partnership with grantees and partners to review project feasibility, rescope where necessary, and accelerate the contracting process to ensure successful project delivery.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM - CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (SCP CEEEJ)

The Sustainable Communities Program - Civic Engagement, Equity and Environmental Justice (SCP CEEEJ) grants prioritize housing planning that aims to close the racial equity gap and include partnerships with community-based organizations. On October 5, 2023, the Regional Council approved funding awards for six Housing and Land Use Strategies projects totaling $2.3 million, complementing five multi-modal communities projects funded by SB 1 funds in the amount of approximately $2 million.

Upon re-starting the program, SCAG staff met with all project teams individually to confirm project viability given delays. All six SCP CEEEJ projects funded through REAP 2.0 are now moving forward. SCAG staff anticipate some projects will be ready for consultant procurement this fall.

SUB-REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM 2.0

The Sub-Regional Partnership Program 2.0 (SRP 2.0) Program makes $23 million available to sub-regional partners for eligible activities supporting member jurisdictions with implementing housing element work plans and strategies for increasing affordable housing.

Staff are working closely with project managers from each of the subregional partners to finalize the project list each subregion will offer to its member jurisdictions. In many subregions this includes technical assistance to help jurisdictions fulfill their housing element obligations. Once the

project list is finalized, staff will work with each project manager to complete documents and attachments needed for MOU execution.

In the meantime, a subregion may procure the technical assistance bench of consultants and work with their member jurisdictions to determine the technical assistance projects that will be awarded. Once the project list has been approved by SCAG a subregion may also begin the consultant procurement process and prepare their projects for kickoff.

COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (CTC) PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The County Transportation Commission (CTC) Partnership Program connects infill housing to daily services and increases travel options that support multimodal communities to shift travel modes. On July 6, 2023, the Regional Council approved staff recommendations to fund 33 transformative planning and implementation projects that expand access, increase mobility, and bring jobs and housing closer together to achieve a more sustainable growth pattern across the region. SCAG has executed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with all the CTCs.

Staff worked closely with individual project managers across all six CTCs to develop project scopes, budgets and timelines. Staff also continue to work collaboratively with the CTCs to revise project scopes, timelines, and budgets based on the new expenditure timeline of June 30, 2026. SCAG staff anticipate some changes to the final project list, including use of projects on the contingency list. These updates will be provided in the next update to Regional Council and the policy committees.

Staff are currently processing invoices submitted by the CTCs for work completed to date. Invoice and reporting training for the CTCs was held on October 23 and 24, 2024.

PROGRAMS TO ACCELERATE TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH)

There are three programs under PATH: Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands (HIPP) pilot program, Lasting Affordability program, and Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) program.

The Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands (HIPP) Pilot Program makes $8 million available to support eligible applicants in scaling up development of available land and implementing large corridor-wide or area-wide infill housing policies and initiatives. In October, the Regional Council approved funding recommendations to award 11 projects including site assessments, site inventories, inclusionary housing programs and specific plans that unlock lands for housing with diverse housing types.

The Lasting Affordability Program provides $45 million to support innovative housing finance, housing trust funds, catalyst funds, and new permanent funding sources. On November 2, 2023, the Regional Council approved funding recommendations for 14 projects.

The Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) program provides $35 million to focus on investments in utility infrastructure planning and capital improvements that will support jurisdictions in basic utility infrastructure needed for housing. On January 4, 2024, the Regional Council awarded funding for 12 projects for a total of $35 million.

For all three of these programs, staff are working with the project managers from each grantee agency to finalize the scope of work and ready the projects for MOU execution and consultant procurement.

NEXT STEPS
 Staff will continue to support grantees and will keep the Regional Council updated on the REAP 2.0 program's progress. Should additional modifications to our REAP 2.0 program budget be necessary, staff will present any proposed changes for review and approval to the board through our budget amendment process.

FISCAL IMPACT:
Work associated with this item is included in the FY 24-25 Overall Work Program No. 305 – Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Grants Program – REAP 2.0.

Southern California Association of Governments
November 7, 2024

To:	Community Economic & Human Development Committee (CEHD)	**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL**
From:	Elizabeth Carvajal, Deputy Director (213) 236-1801, carvajal@scag.ca.gov	
Subject:	CEHD Agenda Outlook and Future Agenda Items	

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and File

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
This item supports the following Strategic Priority 2: Be a cohesive and influential voice for the region.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
In April 2024, SCAG's Regional Council adopted the 2024-2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, Connect SoCal 2024. Following adoption of Connect SoCal 2024, staff developed a 12-month CEHD Outlook to carry forward the policy priorities and Implementation Strategies of Connect SoCal 2024. For FY2025, the CEHD Outlook reflects outcomes of the 2024 Executive Administration Committee (EAC) Retreat, survey responses from CEHD members, and discussions with the CEHD Chair and Vice Chair. The Committee Outlook and Future Agenda Items will be updated monthly as a receive and file item.

BACKGROUND:
The work of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and the leadership from the agency's Policy Committees and Regional Council is driven by SCAG's legally mandated duties as a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Southern California, the long-range Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), Connect SoCal 2024 as well as, the agency Strategic Plan approved by the Executive Administrative Committee on May 1, 2024[1].

Community, Economy, and Human Development (CEHD) Committee Outlook and Framework
The Policy Committees help to further the implementation of Connect SoCal by advising on policy, research or resource programs. The Policy Committees will also be informed and advise on broader regional leadership items as needed. Over the upcoming year, most agenda items fall under the following three categories:

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[1] SCAG 2024 Strategic Plan: https://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=2497&Inline=True

1. **Connect SoCal:** Connect SoCal 2024, the 2024-2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy was approved on April 4, 2024. These agenda items will be focused on implementation of the investments and strategies included in the plan. as well as amendments as needed.

2. **Local Resources:** This refers to programs administered by SCAG such as the Sustainable Communities Program, the Regional Early Action Program, or Go Human. Action and information items may related to guideline development or program awards. These agenda items may also include updates of grants, data or tools available to local jurisdictions.

3. **Regional Leadership:** These agenda items relate to issues or policy areas of regional significance and may include updates and presentations from external speakers.

The topics and panels covered may change based on speaker availability, progress on the targeted programs, and other requests from the Committee Chair and Vice Chair as well as members. To request future agenda items, Policy Committee members may request that the agenda item be pulled for discussion or they may send a request directly to the Chair or committee staff for consideration and reporting out at the next meeting. Agenda items that are recommended by Policy Committee members will be discussed with the Chair and Vice Chair to assess relevance to the CEHD Policy Committee and the considerations noted above.

FISCAL IMPACT:
Work associated with this item is included in the FY25 Indirect Cost Program (810.0120.20: Planning Policy Development).

ATTACHMENT(S):
1. Nov 2024 CEHD Agenda Outlook

Community, Economic & Human Development Committee Agenda Outlook for FY2025-Revised

Date	Connect SoCal	Local Resources	Regional Leadership
Sept.-Dec (No October meeting)	• Connect SoCal 2024: Implementation Strategies Progress Report • Expanding Homeownership – Alternative Ownership and Financing Models	• REAP 1: Bi-Annual Update	• Inclusive Economic Growth Update • RHNA Reform • Tribal Data Needs Assessment Project Update • SCAG 101 and CEHD Agenda Outlook

KEY

∨ = Emerging Technology Item

Anticipated major actions and information items. Does not include all Receive/File and Program Updates.

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Community, Economic & Human Development Committee Agenda Outlook for FY2025-Revised

Date	Connect SoCal	Local Program	Regional Leadership
Feb. – March (No January meeting)	• Connect SoCal 2024: Implementation Strategies Progress Report • Joint Policy Committee: Plan Implementation (Feb)	• REAP 2.0 Update	• Downtown Revitalization Economic Development Strategies ∨ Factory Built Housing
April-June	• Housing production strategies across the region • Housing Production Data	**General Assembly**	• Best Practices for Economic Development • Community Land Trusts • Community Development Funding Programs

KEY

∨ = Emerging Technology Item

Anticipated major actions and information items. Does not include all Receive/File and Program Updates.

To:	Community, Economic and Human Development Committee (CEHD)	**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL**
From:	Victor Negrete, Department Manager (213) 236-1974, negrete@scag.ca.gov	
Subject:	IERS Update – Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities	*Kome Ajise*

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Information Only—No Action Required.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future. 2: Be a cohesive and influential voice for the region. 3: Spur innovation and action through leadership in research, analysis and information sharing.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
In July 2021, the Regional Council adopted the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy (IERS) to implement SCAG Resolution No. 20-623-2 (regarding racial and social equity). The IERS sets forth strategies for SCAG's role in advancing equitable regional economic recovery and growth. With support from Senator Susan Rubio, SCAG received one-time grant funding from the State to implement several core recommendations developed in the IERS. This report provides an overview of two projects funded through the grant to explore how the region can expand access to economic opportunities, particularly for lower-income communities and communities of color.

BACKGROUND:
In July 2021, the Regional Council adopted the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy (IERS) to implement SCAG Resolution No. 20-623-2 (regarding racial and social equity). The IERS sets forth strategies for SCAG's role in advancing equitable regional economic recovery and growth. With support from Senator Susan Rubio, SCAG received a one-time grant funding from the State to implement several core recommendations developed in the IERS. This report provides an overview of two projects funded through the grant to explore how the region can expand access to economic opportunities, particularly for lower-income communities and communities of color.

**Addressing Barriers to Economic Opportunities Report**

Alongside the IERS, SCAG conducted a "Racial Equity Baseline Conditions Report" in 2021 to gain deeper understanding of racial disparities within the SCAG region. Despite progress in reducing

economic inequality over the last decade, the report revealed significant disparities in employment outcomes, with job seekers and workers from communities of color experiencing some of the highest rates of unemployment. In light of these findings, the IERS recommended "addressing the barriers that preclude low-income workers' access to emerging economic opportunities" as one of the key strategies for equitable economic growth. After all, the whole region benefits when communities that have been marginalized are empowered to fully participate in our economy and are offered pathways to economic mobility. This is clearly shown in SCAG's "Economic Impacts of Equity" study, which reported that wage equity, or closing the gaps between the pay of white male workers and the various racial and gender groups, could increase the total gross domestic product (GDP) of the six-county SCAG region by up to 17 percent. Ultimately, a more inclusive workforce and economy also strengthens our region's resilience against future economic shocks and stressors. To this end, staff procured the services of Dalberg Advisors to develop the "Addressing Barriers to Economic Opportunities Report" to better understand the most significant barriers that are driving disparities for workers in our region.

Through a rigorous research and engagement process, the report identifies the most critical barriers that hinder access to job training and employment opportunities in the region. The research, analysis, and interviews with experts in the workforce development space brought to light the specific challenges faced by various communities and established a clear understanding of the factors that need to be addressed to promote equitable employment outcomes. In close alignment with Connect SoCal 2024 Priority Equity Communities, the analysis focused on impacts to communities with disparate employment outcomes, including low-income communities, people of color, women, vulnerable age groups (youth under 25 and older adults over 65), and people with disabilities. To ground truth the research, the project team facilitated community engagement workshops in five different SCAG counties to hear directly from workers about the top barriers they faced in their own career journeys and the impact these barriers have had on their economic mobility. Additionally, this work was conducted in parallel with the California Jobs First program, a statewide initiative aimed at creating high-quality jobs and fostering inclusive, sustainable economic growth. Given the potential for alignment between SCAG's work and California Jobs First, staff maintains close contact with all High Road Training Collaboratives in the region to ensure that both initiatives can leverage each other's strengths and resources.

The report identifies 13 barriers that are most relevant to workers in the SCAG region and categorizes them into four different levels: direct barriers, enabling support barriers, ecosystem barriers, and cross-cutting issues. Direct barriers are immediate obstacles individuals encounter along their employment or training journey, such as not having access to the right information or social networks and the skills mismatch between employers and job seekers. Enabling support barriers are defined as the lack of supportive resources that enable individuals to seek and maintain employment or training, such as not having access to financial resources, affordable child and family care, or reliable and affordable transportation. Ecosystem barriers are systemic challenges

individuals encounter rooted in broader societal structures and policies, such as not having access to stable and affordable housing. And finally, the overarching obstacle that underpins and intersects across all three levels of barriers are structural biases and norms that limit access to training and jobs for certain groups. For example, a job seeker might struggle with limited access to professional networks due to their race, be denied access to full banking services and therefore have limited savings for seeking a new career. Interventions targeting any of the barriers should also take into consideration the impact of these structural biases and norms.
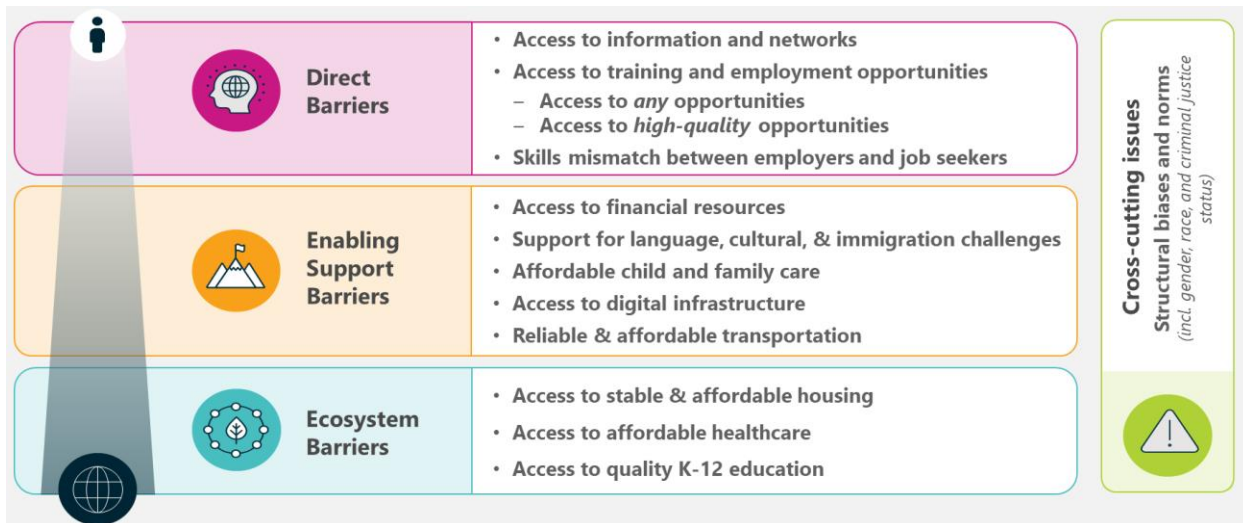
While all 13 barriers are real impediments to economic mobility across the SCAG region, SCAG sought to further understand the highest-need barriers amongst this longlist and applied four criteria to assess worker need and additionality based on quantitative and qualitative inputs:

- **Breadth:** We assessed how many people across the SCAG region might be impacted by each barrier to understand the scale of the barrier in the region.
- **Geographic Impact:** We assessed how many SCAG counties are significantly impacted by this barrier to understand the overall relevance of this barrier across the SCAG region. This criterion ensures that the needs analysis accounts for the variation of need across the six-county SCAG region; since some counties (e.g. Imperial) have a significantly lower population, this consideration might be otherwise overlooked with only a *breadth of impact* analysis.
- **Depth:** We assessed how deeply each barrier impacts communities of focus (e.g. low-income communities, people of color, women, people with disabilities) to understand whether communities of focus are disproportionately impacted.

- **Additionality:** We assessed whether there is a clear unmet need for coordination, convening, or new initiatives to address each barrier to understand the potential value add for relevant stakeholders.

Based on this analysis, eight barriers were identified as higher priority based on need. The table below provides a heatmap summary of this analysis. Each criterion assessment is color-coded: red indicates high impact or disparity, orange indicates medium impact or disparity, and yellow indicates low impact or disparity. The eight highest-need barriers were all assessed as high impact or disparity in at least two out of the four criteria, and as at least medium impact or disparity in all criteria. For example, "*Access to stable and affordable housing*" is a high impact barrier across three criteria and medium for additionality criteria, suggesting it has a broad, widespread, and deep impact with greater need for action.

Screening analysis *(sorted by highest to lowest overall scoring)*   Prioritization [High] [Medium] [Low]

Layer	Barrier	Breadth	Geographic Coverage	Average Depth [2]	Additionality
Higher priority based on need					
Direct	Access to information and networks	High	High	High disparity	High
Ecosystem	Access to stable & affordable housing	High	High	High disparity	Medium
Direct	Skills mismatch	High	High	High disparity	Medium
Enabler	Affordable child and family care	Medium	High	High disparity	High
Direct	Access to high-quality opportunities	Medium	Medium	High disparity	High
Cross-cutting	Structural biases and norms	High	Medium	High disparity	Medium
Enabler	Access to financial resources	Medium	Medium	High disparity	High
Enabler	Reliable & affordable transportation	Medium	High	High disparity	Medium
Lower priority based on need					
Enabler	Support for language & cultural barriers	Medium	High	Some disparity	Medium
Ecosystem	Access to quality K-12 education	Medium	Medium	High disparity	Medium
Direct	Access to any training & employment opps	Low	Medium	High disparity	Medium
Ecosystem	Access to affordable healthcare	Medium	Medium	Some disparity	Low
Enabler	Access to digital infrastructure	Low	Low	Some disparity	Low

All 13 barriers are significant and relevant to workers in the SCAG region, presenting challenges to varying degrees for different communities and workers. In reality, rarely does a single barrier prevent individuals from accessing training or jobs; more often, individuals encounter multiple compounding obstacles. This complexity underscores the necessity of a comprehensive approach to addressing these barriers, recognizing the interconnected nature of the challenges faced by job seekers.

Apprenticeships Best Practices Report

Project Context

In 2018, Governor Gavin Newsom laid out an ambitious goal to expand California's apprenticeship system to serve over 500,000 apprentices by 2029. With the skilled labor shortage in many industries, apprenticeships offer a solution to employers, while providing workers, especially

historically underrepresented populations, the opportunity to access high quality, living wage jobs. Quality jobs are the foundation for economic growth and resilience against economic downturns, disruptions, and external shocks. Pathways to high quality jobs lead to a more equitable and inclusive economy by building resilience among all workers and helping businesses be more competitive, particularly in tight labor markets.

Through the earn-and-learn model, apprenticeships reduce barriers that job seekers face to employment by providing them with paid training, networking opportunities, and work experience. In the United States, apprenticeships have traditionally been associated with the building and construction trades sector. However, there has been a notable shift in recent years, marked by increased interest and the emergence of apprenticeship programs in nontraditional sectors such as healthcare, arts and entertainment, information technology, and education.

Registered apprenticeship programs also serve as a promising solution for local governments. While private employers come to mind when discussing apprenticeship, public employment represents one of the largest career pathways across the state. In recent years, local government agencies have struggled to meet staffing needs as public sector job vacancy rates continue to climb. One study found that the County of Los Angeles experienced a vacancy rate of 14.8 percent at the end of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, compared to 11 percent the prior year, and is far from being the only local government agency to face staffing shortages in California.

Apprenticeships offer local governments access to pools of qualified candidates they may not have traditionally considered, particularly jobseekers from historically underserved communities. By hiring apprentices and sponsoring apprenticeship programs, local government agencies can play a role as an invested employer and talent developer in the community and accelerate progress toward the state's goal for serving 500,000 apprentices by 2029.

Project Overview

SCAG is developing a report that explores best practices and recommendations for expanding apprenticeship pathways to quality jobs in the region. The report highlights innovative apprenticeship programs and initiatives in the SCAG region, California, and nationwide, and features apprenticeship pathways in construction, goods movement, the public sector, and other industries. The report also explores how project labor agreements (PLAs) can play a role in ensuring local residents are participating in project construction and best practices around creating this outcome. The report is expected to be completed in winter 2025.

To further support our regional partners in this effort, SCAG is also a member of the Southern California Apprenticeships Network (SCAN), which builds partnerships across sectors to expand apprenticeship pathways not only within the construction industry but beyond to more nontraditional sectors (i.e. healthcare, arts and entertainment, cybersecurity). The SCAN network is diverse and includes public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

The two presentations to the CEHD Committee provide information on how the region can expand access to economic opportunities for workers and job seekers.

The first presentation on the "Addressing Barriers to Economic Opportunities" report will be made by Girish Pendse, Associate Partner at Dalberg Advisors, and Joe Dougherty, Partner at Dalberg Advisors, who led the development of the report. They will provide an overview of the context around barriers that limit economic mobility for workers in the SCAG region and findings from the research and engagement process.

The second presentation on public sector apprenticeships will be provided by Erica L. Manuel, CEO and Executive Director at the Institute for Local Government (ILG). In 2022, ILG received funding to support the expansion of public sector apprenticeships through its Public Sector Apprenticeship Initiative. As part of this initiative, ILG recently launched a pilot program to partner with 5-10 jurisdictions to develop apprenticeship programs, while also building out a statewide apprenticeship model that can be replicated by other local agencies. Local jurisdictions participating in the pilot program receive technical assistance, access to a community of practice, and access to implementation support.

Presenter Bios

Girish Pendse is an Associate Partner at Dalberg Advisors in the Justice Equity and Economic Mobility practice. Mr. Pendse's work is focused on inclusive economic and workforce development for local government sand nonprofits. Recent projects in California include: projects with the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity to (i) launch a $25M program to support BIPOC and women-owned small businesses, and (ii) develop a strategy to inclusively grow the life sciences industry. Outside of California, Mr. Pendse's recent projects include: supporting REDF in multiple engagements to increase support for social enterprises that hire individuals facing employment barriers and advising the Greater Phoenix Economic Council on launching a new regional inclusive innovation initiative. Prior to joining Dalberg, Mr. Pendse worked for the City of Chicago and Harvard Kennedy School.

Joe Dougherty is a Partner at Dalberg Advisors and Former Global Managing Partner and Director of Dalberg Americas. Mr. Dougherty served as a trusted advisor to government agencies, foundations, nonprofits, and corporations for over 25 years. Mr. Dougherty is currently working to support two

California Jobs First collaboratives (Kern County and Southern Border) to develop regional inclusive economic development strategies and is co-leading the development of a statewide health equity plan for the Department of Public Health. Previous projects in California include leading engagements with the cities of Richmond and Sunnyvale to design and launch Guaranteed Income programs, with San Jose to advance digital inclusion, and in San Francisco to support gender equity and human rights. Prior to joining Dalberg, Mr. Dougherty worked at Deloitte, A.T. Kearny, Citibank, and UC Berkeley.

About Dalberg: For over 20 years, Dalberg has worked to build a more inclusive and sustainable world where all people, everywhere, can reach their fullest potential. Dalberg partners with communities, governments, nonprofits, and philanthropic funders, providing an innovative mix of services–advisory, investment support, communications, and human centered design–to create impact at scale. Dalberg has maintained a strong presence in California since 2010, working with city, county, and state government agencies as well as leading foundations, nonprofits and corporations across the state.

Erica Manuel is the CEO and Executive Director of the Institute for Local Government (ILG), the nonprofit affiliate of the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, and the California Special Districts Association. ILG empowers local government leaders by delivering real-world expertise to help them navigate complex issues, increase their capacity, and build trust in their communities. Ms. Manuel has over 20 years of experience helping public, private and nonprofit organizations implement innovative policies to advance climate resilience, support economic development, engage communities, and drive positive change. She has worked in various industries, including agriculture, healthcare, education, energy, and technology. Ms. Manuel also serves as Chair of the Interagency Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (IACA) Public Sector Subcommittee.

FISCAL IMPACT:
Work associated with this item is included in the FY 2024-25 Overall Work Program in 320-4902.01 (Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy (IERS) Implementation Grant).

ATTACHMENT(S):
1. PowerPoint Presentation - IERS Update

Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy (IERS) Update: Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities

CEHD Committee
November 7, 2024

SCAG

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Staff has provided a series of updates on IERS implementation to the CEHD Committee.

SCAG
INNOVATING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

An Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy for the SCAG Region
Final Report & Recommendations

July 2021

visit us at scag.ca.gov
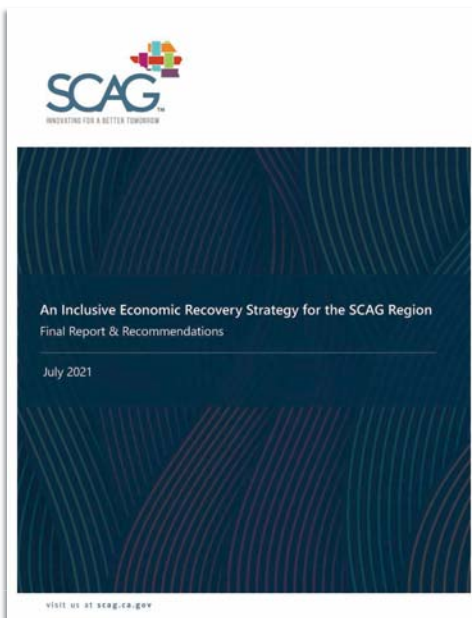
Meeting	Topic
July 2022	IERS Update
June 2023	IERS Update
October 2023	Inclusive Contracting Toolkit
April 2024	Job Quality Index Tribal Data Needs Assessment
November 2024	IERS Update – Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities

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Addressing Barriers to Economic Opportunities

CEHD Committee

November 2024

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1	Introductions and project background
2	Findings on key barriers
3	Q&A

Introducing the Dalberg team on the call today

Girish Pendse

Associate Partner; Justice Equity and Economic Mobility

- Focused on inclusive economic and workforce development for local governments and nonprofits. Recent projects include:
- In California: Projects with the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity to (i) launch a $25M program to support BIPOC and women owned small businesses, and (ii) develop a strategy to inclusively grow the life sciences industry
- Outside of California: Supported REDF in multiple engagements to increase support for social enterprises that hire individuals facing employment barriers; Advised the Greater Phoenix Economic Council on launching a new regional inclusive innovation initiative
- *Previously: City of Chicago; Harvard Kennedy School*

Joe Dougherty

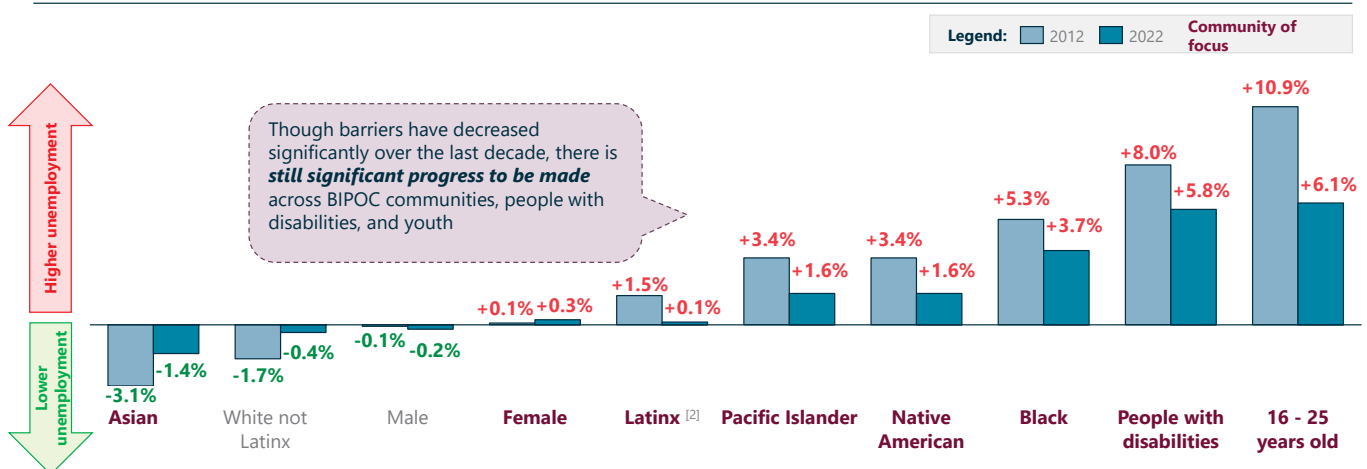Partner; Former Global Managing Partner and Director of Dalberg Americas

- Trusted advisor to government agencies, foundations, nonprofits, and corporations for 25+ years. Recent projects include:
- Current work in California: Supporting two California Jobs First Collaboratives (Kern, Southern Border) to develop regional inclusive economic development strategies; Co-leading the development of a statewide health equity plan for the Department of Public Health
- Past work in California: Led engagements with the cities of Richmond and Sunnyvale to design and launch Guaranteed Income programs, with San Jose to advance digital inclusion, and in San Francisco to support gender equity and human rights
- *Previously: Deloitte, A.T. Kearney, Citibank, UC Berkeley*

Despite some progress over the last decade, there are still significant disparities in employment outcomes across Southern California

Employment outcomes for communities of focus and comparative populations: percentage point difference from total unemployment rate, 2012 vs. 2022 [1]

Legend: 2012 | 2022 | **Community of focus**

Higher unemployment ↑

Lower unemployment ↓

Though barriers have decreased significantly over the last decade, there is *still significant progress to be made* across BIPOC communities, people with disabilities, and youth

	Asian	White not Latinx	Male	Female	Latinx [2]	Pacific Islander	Native American	Black	People with disabilities	16 - 25 years old
2012	-3.1%	-1.7%	-0.1%	+0.1%	+1.5%	+3.4%	+3.4%	+5.3%	+8.0%	+10.9%
2022	-1.4%	-0.4%	-0.2%	+0.3%	+0.1%	+1.6%	+1.6%	+3.7%	+5.8%	+6.1%

Note: (1) 1-year estimates used where available, otherwise 5-year estimates. Also, census provided labor force estimates by race and age for population 16 and over, but by gender and disability status for population 20 and over; and (2) Latinx may overlap with other race categories. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 ACS; U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS.

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In addition to employment disparities, many communities also face large disparities in access to *high-quality* jobs that pay a living wage

Working poor by race: workers living in poverty [1] as a % of full-time workers, 2012 vs. 2022 [2]

Although overall Asians demonstrate lower levels of disparities, **certain Asian communities** *(e.g., Hmong, Cambodian)* **have disproportionate levels of poverty**, demonstrating that the Asian community is not a monolith.[3]

	2012	2022
White not Latinx	8.7%	9.0%
Asian	14.1%	13.0%
Male	18.5%	15.9%
Pacific Islander	15.5%	16.0%
Black	14.7%	17.0%
Female	21.7%	19.6%
Native American	24.2%	22.9%
Latinx [4]	32.5%	24.7%

◄ 20%
◄ 17%

Note: (1) Calculated by based on population earning <~200% of the federal poverty line for individuals, based on the closest ACS income threshold; (2) 1-year estimates used where available, otherwise 5-year estimates. Similar data was not available to estimate working % for people with disabilities and people 16 – 25 years old; (3) PRRI and AAPI Data, Asian American and Pacific Islander California Workers Survey, 2019 and (4) Latinx may overlap with other race categories. Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 ACS; U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS.

SCAG commissioned this report to understand what barriers to training and jobs are driving disparities and explore solutions to address them

- As the prior slide shows, despite various ongoing state and regional initiatives which have improved employment outcomes, **many low-income communities and communities of color across the SCAG region continue to face entrenched barriers to economic mobility**

- Therefore, SCAG commissioned this report to **better understand what specific barriers** to accessing training and jobs are driving disparities and **explore solutions to address them**. This included:

1. **Identifying barriers to job training and employment** in Southern California

2. **Prioritizing the 'highest need' barriers** to focus in this report

Focus of today's presentation

3. **Exploring two barriers in more detail** to validate barriers and identify potential solutions

Attachment: PowerPoint Presentation - IERS Update [Revision 1] (IERS Update – Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities)

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1	Introductions and project background
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2 | Findings on barriers

Barriers to economic mobility and potential solutions were identified through a highly inclusive process

Literature review	Expert interviews	Community Engagement workshops
100+ sources	*13 experts*	*5 workshops with 30 residents across 5 counties*

Evaluation of relevance to Southern California

13 barriers which limit economic mobility in Southern California

8 highest need barriers based on worker need and ecosystem additionality

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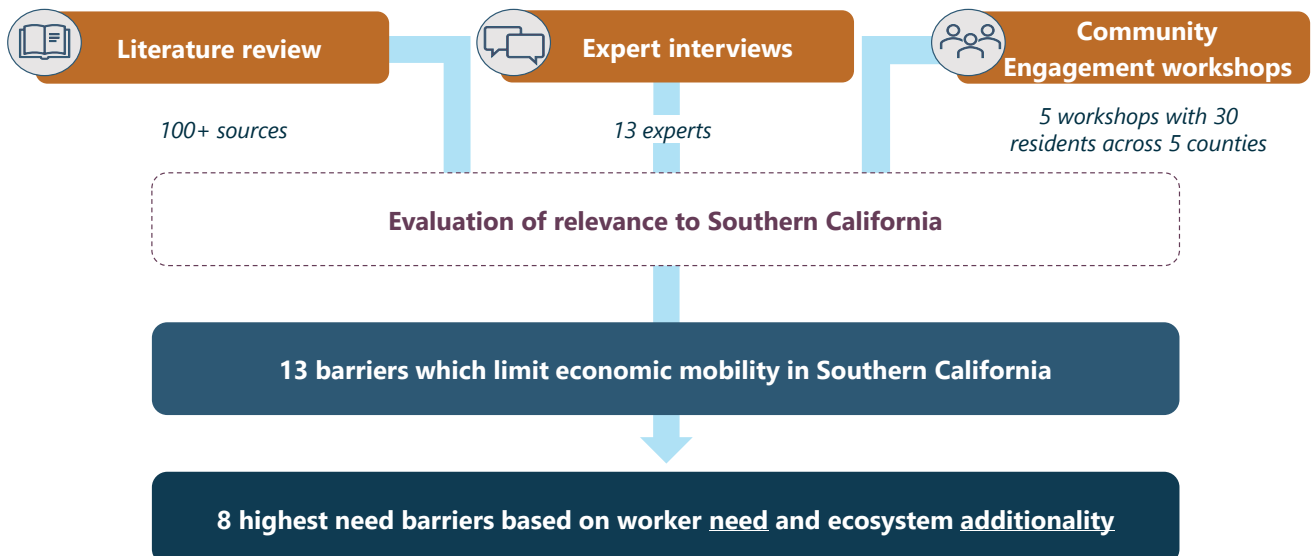
Thirteen barriers were identified that are most relevant to workers in the SCAG region – particularly those in SCAG's communities of focus

Direct Barriers
- Access to information and networks
- Access to training and employment opportunities
  - Access to *any* opportunities
  - Access to *high-quality* opportunities
- Skills mismatch between employers and job seekers

Enabling Support Barriers
- Access to financial resources
- Support for language, cultural, & immigration challenges
- Affordable child and family care
- Access to digital infrastructure
- Reliable & affordable transportation

Ecosystem Barriers
- Access to stable & affordable housing
- Access to affordable healthcare
- Access to quality K-12 education

Cross-cutting issues
Structural biases and norms
(incl. gender, race, and criminal justice status)

California Jobs First Collaborative findings from across the SCAG region corroborate these 13 barriers

Summary of findings related to barriers experienced by workers

Items in **bold** align with thirteen identified barriers

Central Coast[1]	Inland Empire	Los Angeles County	Orange County	Southern Border Coalition[1]
• **Lack of quality jobs** • **Lack of financial resources** • **High housing costs** • **Lack of broadband** • **Transportation insecurity** • **Lack of affordable child and elder care** • **Language proficiency**	• Access to **high-quality jobs** • **Educational attainment** • **Career navigation** • **Access to financial resources to address childcare and transportation** • **Discrimination** • **Language barriers** • Environmental challenges (heat and unpredictable weather)	• **Lack of childcare** • **Lack of affordable housing** • **Discrimination** • **Level of health** • **Skills mismatch** • **Educational attainment**	• **Quality of jobs** • Impact of instability (**secure housing and mental health**) • Interrupted support networks (for **childcare, language classes, financial education, and information on rights**) • Policy regulations (responsiveness to community needs) • **Training cost (either direct or indirect)**	• **Language** • **Educational attainment** • **Technology** • **Childcare** • Insufficient resources from employers • **Discrimination (gender and age)** • **Access to training** • **Career navigation**

(1): Includes counties outside of the SCAG region

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SCAG applied four criteria to assess barriers on their level of worker need and additionality based on quantitative and qualitative inputs

1 *Worker Need*

Criteria	Definition	Prioritization
Breadth	How many people might be impacted by this barrier?	• **High**: **High breadth** = 30%+ of SCAG's population impacted or qualitative inputs indicating high impact[1] • **Medium**: **Medium breadth** = 10-30% of SCAG's population impacted or qualitative inputs indicating medium impact • **Low**: **Low breadth** = <10% of SCAG's population impacted by barrier or qualitative inputs indicating low impact
Geographic Coverage	How many SCAG counties are impacted by this barrier?	• **High**: **Most (5) counties** are higher than national or CA average impacted population • **Medium**: **Some (3-4) counties** are higher than the national or CA average • **Low**: **Few (0-2) counties** are higher than the national or CA average
Depth	How deeply does this barrier impact communities of focus? [2]	For each community of focus, compared to overall population outcomes: • **High**: **High disparity** = Severe/acute levels of disparity • **Medium**: **Some disparity** = Disparity seen but no strong evidence of high levels • **Low**: **Parity** = No strong evidence that disparity is persistently worse

2 *Additionality*

Additionality	Is there a potential value add in terms of coordination, convening, or more initiatives for this barrier?	• **High**: **Strong need** for coordination or clear gap in investment / service • **Medium**: **Moderate need** for coordination or additional investment / service • **Low**: **Low need**; there are many players in the space and/or a convener already

Note: (1) Qualitative inputs are from experts and workshop participants (2) Communities of focus include: People of Color with lower employment outcomes, Vulnerable Age Groups (Below 25), People with Disabilities, and Women

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Example evaluation of 'Depth' | Depth analyzes the impact on communities of focus, highlighting areas of higher disparity

Depth	We assessed how deeply each barrier impacts communities of focus to understand what groups experience the barrier more acutely.

Spotlight on *access to high-quality training & employment opps*

Demographics of workers earning a living-wage in SCAG Region

White	91% — *Baseline*
Asian / Pacific Islander	87%
Black	83% — *Worse than baseline*
Native American	77%
Latinx	75%

Additional insights on other communities of focus

- **The living wage gap is worse for women of color:** For instance, Native American women in California earn a monthly median income of $5,652, while the median for all men in CA is $7,648

- A Latinx participant noted the **lack of flexibility in minimum wage service jobs,** and how this **limits the jobs that are available to them:**

  > "I've had so many interviews with local restaurants that have gone well. But I haven't heard back from a lot because they demand strict availability. My son is away at school from 9-6 so I can only work then, but many want you to work evenings, and weekends. I wish restaurants were willing to be more flexible." – LA County resident

- A Black participant under 25 has been **working at a low-wage service job** while trying to secure a desired position:

  > "I want to become a counselor for high schoolers. But it's getting harder to retire so people aren't leaving their jobs, and I can't find an opening." – Riverside County resident
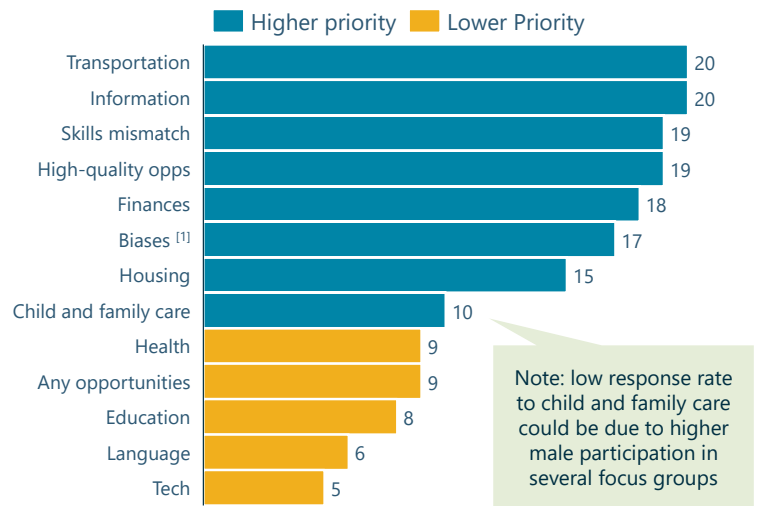
Sources: U.S. Census, ACS 2022; California Department of Human Resources, "2021 Women's Earnings Report", 2021; CalMatters, "Though critical to the economy, California's young workers toil in low-wage work?", 2023; and Dalberg analysis.

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Deep-dive on community engagement workshops | Workshop details and summary of barrier prioritization

Workshop details

Community-based organization host	Primary workshop demographics
United Way Orange County (UpSkill)	• **Participants of United Way's UpSkill OC** workforce development program • **Clients of Chrysalis,** a nonprofit serving individuals with barriers to employment
Los Angeles Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)	• **Clients of LA CEO,** a reentry employment provider for justice-involved individuals • **Many participants were men** who were formerly incarcerated
Inland Empire Labor Institute (IELI)	• **Residents of Victorville,** a city in the High Desert in San Bernardino County • **Many participants or their family members were justice-involved** and expressed a strong feeling of neglect and marginalization by the justice system
Youth Action Project (YAP)	• **Residents of Riverside County** (and some from San Bernardino County), including a mix of younger (<25) and older (55+) individuals
Imperial County Workforce & Economic Development	• **Residents of Imperial County** who are working with the Workforce & Economic Development or related agencies

Number of workshop participants that prioritized each barrier

■ Higher priority   ■ Lower Priority

Barrier	Value
Transportation	20
Information	20
Skills mismatch	19
High-quality opps	19
Finances	18
Biases [1]	17
Housing	15
Child and family care	10
Health	9
Any opportunities	9
Education	8
Language	6
Tech	5

Note: low response rate to child and family care could be due to higher male participation in several focus groups

Note: (1) Responses around structural discrimination may be higher than norm due to the composition of our workshop participants (higher percentage of justice-involved individuals).

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Deep-dive on community engagement workshops | Key community input shared across the job seeking journey (1 of 3)

① Picking a career path

⑤ Advancing career & navigating change

② Working on skills and credentials

④ Getting the job

③ Finding job opportunities

① Uneven access to information and difficulties with career navigation: Participants expressed that life could have turned out differently had they been exposed to more opportunities growing up, since they didn't know about many options when they were finishing high school. Once they received access to career support resources later in life, they were quickly able to discover a cascade of opportunities with the support of nonprofits, community colleges, etc. For some, the sheer quantity of supporting resources and options can feel like a black hole to navigate.

> "You have to understand that I didn't have anyone to talk to when I was 17, I didn't know anything about what was available to me - so, I spent [redacted] years in prison..."   - LA County resident

> "You need to advocate for yourself even with a career coach, because they might not be helping you in the way you need. I had to call around a lot of places and that's how I found out about internships." – OC resident

Note: Some quotes have been redacted or edited to preserve workshop participant identities and confidentiality.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Attachment: PowerPoint Presentation - IERS Update [Revision 1] (IERS Update – Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities)

Deep-dive on community engagement workshops | Key community input shared across the job seeking journey (2 of 3)

1 Picking a career path

5 Advancing career & navigating change

2 Working on skills and credentials

4 Getting the job

3 Finding job opportunities

2 **The skills gap (or skills mismatch) appeared to be a stronger challenge than quality K-12 education.** Most participants emphasized difficulties meeting requirements for desired jobs, with some pointing to a lack of vocational training beyond the K-12 system.

"I got 2 Associates degrees and a trades certificates and a janitorial apprenticeship. But I don't know why, with all my degrees, I didn't get any jobs. [...] Maybe it's because I don't have the soft skills, like I've taken computer classes, but they are all out of date..." – LA County

3 **Lack of quality, flexible, and accessible jobs that meet people where they are.** Participants emphasized how difficult it is to find a job that they can reach via available transportation options, that pays enough for their needs and that can accommodate their other life commitments.

"It's hard to find a job out here in Imperial unless you like to work in the field. When I first came out here, I had to go out to the field for a few weeks and it was too hard [...] But I haven't found a good stability." – Imperial County resident

Note: Some quotes have been redacted or edited to preserve workshop participant identities and confidentiality.
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

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Deep-dive on community engagement workshops | Key community input shared across the job seeking journey (3 of 3)

1 Picking a career path

5 Advancing career & navigating change

2 Working on skills and credentials

4 Getting the job

3 Finding job opportunities

4 **Significant impact of discrimination:** Many workshop participants who have been involved with the justice system faced acute challenges in gaining employment and meeting their basic needs.

"I never had a record before. I worked in security, I used to go to college. I was charged with [redacted] because I was around people. And now with the charge I'm homeless. I can't work in security anymore, I can't even work for a warehouse." - San Bernardino

5 **Barriers are deeply intersectional, and any one can be a 'tipping point' into precarity;** Many participants described how one small problem led to a cascading series of challenges that resulted in them losing their careers and the ability to support themselves and their families.

"I had a business for a long time. But then I started [experiencing health issues] and I lost the business, and then I was homeless." – Riverside County resident

Note: Some quotes have been redacted or edited to preserve workshop participant identities and confidentiality.
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18

Attachment: PowerPoint Presentation - IERS Update [Revision 1] (IERS Update – Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities)

Based on these quantitative and qualitative inputs, eight barriers were prioritized as highest-need

Screening analysis *(sorted by highest to lowest overall scoring)*

Prioritization: High / Medium / Low

Layer	Barrier	Breadth	Geographic Coverage	Average Depth [2]	Additionality
Higher priority **based on need**					
Direct	Access to information and networks	High	High	High disparity	High
Ecosystem	Access to stable & affordable housing	High	High	High disparity	Medium
Direct	Skills mismatch	High	High	High disparity	Medium
Enabler	Affordable child and family care	Medium	High	High disparity	High
Direct	Access to high-quality opportunities	Medium	Medium	High disparity	High
Cross-cutting	Structural biases and norms	High	Medium	High disparity	Medium
Enabler	Access to financial resources	Medium	Medium	High disparity	High
Enabler	Reliable & affordable transportation	Medium	High	High disparity	Medium
Lower priority **based on need**					
Enabler	Support for language & cultural barriers	Medium	High	Some disparity	Medium
Ecosystem	Access to quality K-12 education	Medium	Medium	High disparity	Medium
Direct	Access to any training & employment opps	Low	Medium	High disparity	Medium
Ecosystem	Access to affordable healthcare	Medium	Medium	Some disparity	Low
Enabler	Access to digital infrastructure	Low	Low	Some disparity	Low

Key considerations for elected officials and practitioners as they look to address barriers and advance inclusive economic mobility

- **Prioritization of barriers:** Community members, experts, and the data collectively suggest that the following eight barriers present the **greatest impediments** to inclusive economic mobility across the SCAG region
  - **Direct (3):** Information and networks, skills mismatch, high-quality opportunities
  - **Enabler (3):** Child and family care, financial resources, transportation
  - **Ecosystem (1):** Housing
  - **Cross-cutting (1):** Structural biases and norms

- **Intersectionality:** Ultimately, all thirteen barriers are still important, and any one of them could be the '**tipping point**' that prevents any individual worker from accessing quality job training and employment opportunities

- **Going forward:** While specific interventions should be tailored to individual community needs, in general, economic and workforce development programs should <u>at a minimum</u> account for these eight barriers in their design, to **ensure that programs are broadly accessible** to low-income communities and communities of color across the SCAG region

Attachment: PowerPoint Presentation - IERS Update [Revision 1] (IERS Update – Expanding Access to Economic Opportunities)

Packet Pg. 49

THANK YOU AND Q&A

APPRENTICESHIPS BEST PRACTICES REPORT

Expanding Access to High Quality Jobs

Apprenticeship Best Practices Report

- Develop recommendations and best practices for **expanding apprenticeship pathways** to quality jobs in high-growth sectors
  - Construction
  - Goods Movement
  - Public Sector
- Highlight **innovative apprenticeship programs and initiatives** across the region, state, and nation

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

ILG INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT℠

Tackling the Public Sector Labor Shortage with Registered Apprenticeships

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024

SCAG™
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

ABOUT
THE INSTITUTE
FOR LOCAL GOV'T

Erica L. Manuel
CEO & Executive Director
&
Chair, Public Sector
Committee, Interagency
Council on
Apprenticeships (IACA)

Rafael Aguilera
Program Director,
Workforce Development,
Apprenticeships & Career
Pathways

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO…

- **Non-profit**, **non-partisan** and committed to supporting **Local Government**

- The only training and education affiliate **connected to all three** statewide local government associations

- Serving all **2,500+ local agencies** – cities, counties and special districts

- Delivering **practical training and easy-to-use resources** so local agencies can effectively implement policies on the ground

LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**

CSAC

**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together
CSDA

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HELPING LOCAL GOV'T IMPLEMENT POLICY ON THE GROUND

Program Areas
Leadership & Governance
Workforce Development & Civics Education
Public Engagement
Sustainability

Services
Education & Training
Technical Assistance
Capacity Building
Convening

Our mission is to help local government leaders **navigate complexity**, **increase capacity** & **build trust** in their communities

WHY DOES ILG CARE ABOUT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT?

CONSCIOUS COUNSEL

EQUITY

DIVERSITY

OPENING DOORS INTO THE PUBLIC SECTOR

REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY

VACANCIES CONTINUE TO RISE

*Contributed by
hard-to-fill occupations
& retirements*
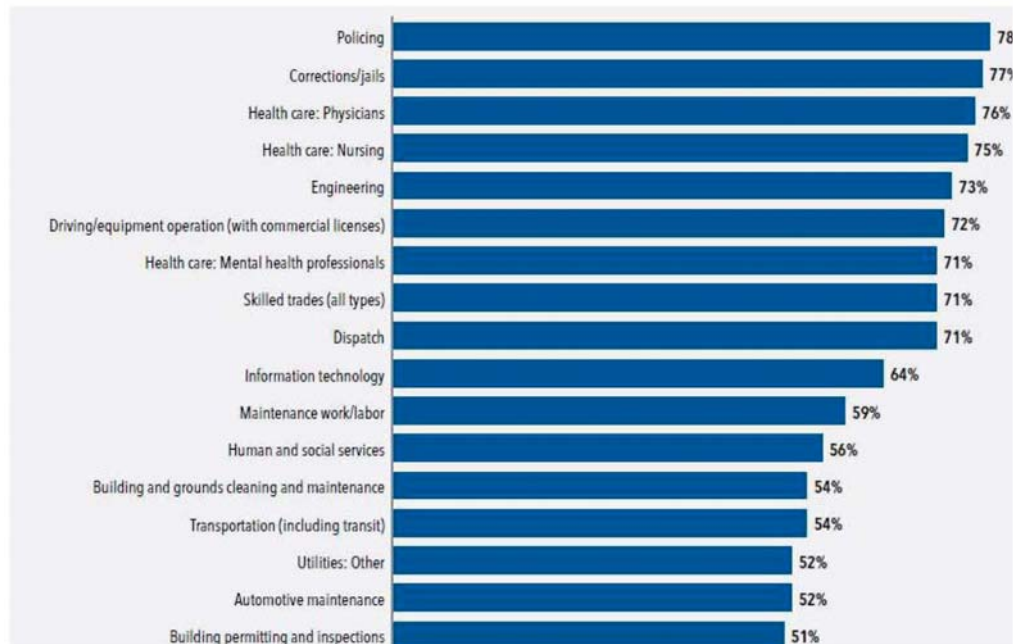
Source: Mission Square Research Institute. State and Local Gov't Employment Trends (2023)

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INCREASING RESIGNATIONS AND SEPARATIONS

Figure 4 **Regarding changes in the size of your government's workforce in the past year...** (n = 245)
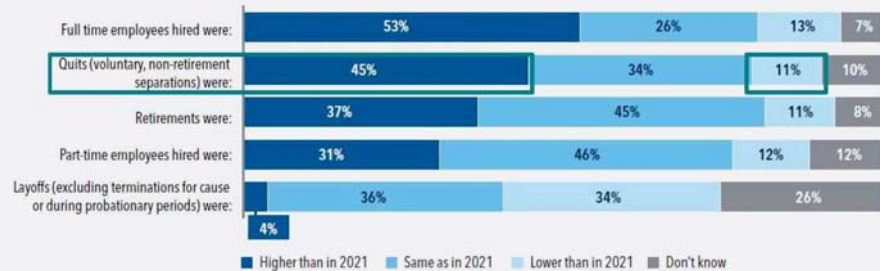
45%

saw an increase in voluntary quitting

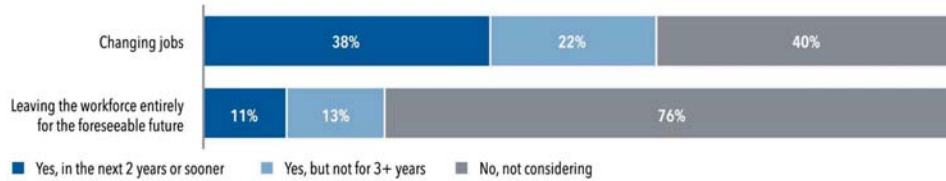*Source: Mission Square Research Institute. State and Local Gov't Employment Trends (2023)*
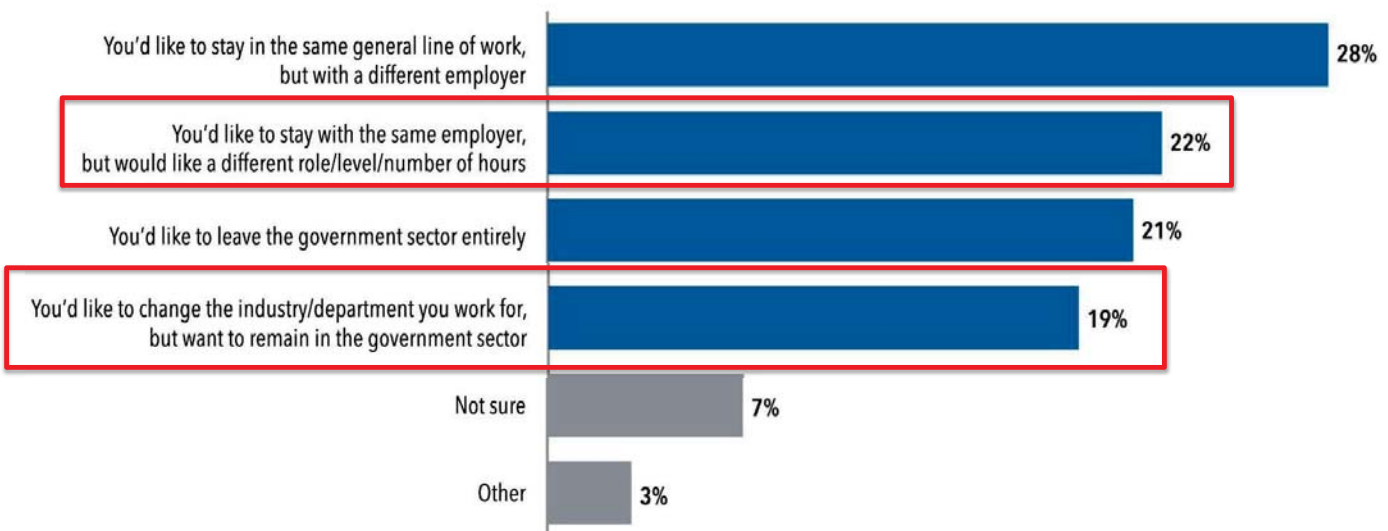
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GENERATIONAL SHIFTS WILL IMPACT RETENTION LEVELS

6 in 10 workers age 35 and under are considering a job change in the near future

Figure 31 **Job Changes You Are Considering in the Near Future**

	Yes, in the next 2 years or sooner	Yes, but not for 3+ years	No, not considering
Changing jobs	38%	22%	40%
Leaving the workforce entirely for the foreseeable future	11%	13%	76%

Source: Mission Square Research Institute. 35 and Under in the Public Sector, Why They Stay and Don't. (2023) ILG

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES WITH JOB CHANGES

You'd like to stay in the same general line of work, but with a different employer	28%
You'd like to stay with the same employer, but would like a different role/level/number of hours	22%
You'd like to leave the government sector entirely	21%
You'd like to change the industry/department you work for, but want to remain in the government sector	19%
Not sure	7%
Other	3%

Source: Mission Square Research Institute. 35 and Under in the Public Sector, Why They Stay and Don't. (2023) ILG

ILG'S NEW APPRENTICESHIP INITIATIVE FOR LOCAL GOV'T

With funding from

The James Irvine Foundation

the eli and edythe broad foundation

HIGH ROAD TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

WHY APPRENTICESHIPS & WHY NOW?

BUZZ IS GROWING

Lots of buzz about apprenticeships in the private sector with additional programs coming online every day. There is **stiff competition** for qualified talent.

LOCAL GOV'T WORKFORCE IS STRUGGLING

Poaching, recruitment and retention are all growing concerns for local agencies. It's time for local government to think differently about upskilling, re-skilling, career pathways.

UNIONS CAN BE ALLIES IN THIS EFFORT

Many labor unions are excited about the prospects of new members – especially for non-traditional occupations -- but **unions can and should be at the table** from the start.

UNPRECEDENTED FUNDING

State and Federal **funding is at unprecedented levels**, and public employers can take advantage of new grants.

WHAT IS A REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP?

A **Registered Apprenticeship** is a program that combines **paid work experience** with **classroom instruction** to prepare workers for skilled occupations.

Apprenticeships are often associated with the trades and public safety carers, but are now being explored in non-traditional sectors like:

Mental & Behavioral Health ▸ Human Resources ▸ Advanced Manufacturing
▸ Agriculture ▸ Education ▸ Cybersecurity ▸ Green Energy
▸ Accounting ▸ Healthcare ▸ Information Technology ▸
Telecommunications ▸ Transportation ▸ and more…

*Governor Newsom has an ambitious goal to reach **500,000 non-traditional** registered apprenticeships by 2030. He has identified the **public sector** (both state and local government) as a key industry focus area to achieve that goal*

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THE REGISTERED APPRENTICSHIP MODEL

Registered apprenticeship is an "earn and learn" model
that combines education with paid on-the-job training

- **An Employer**
  - At least one employer to provide on-the-job training
- **A Local Education Agency (LEA)**
  - At least one LEA to either provide or sanction the educational curriculum
- **The Apprentice**
  - You only need one apprentice to "earn and learn"
- **Registration Agency (DAS and DOL)**
  - Help construct standards and registration with CA and the Department of Labor simultaneously

Key Stakeholders

Registered Apprenticeship Program

■ Registration Agency ■ Employer ■ LEA ■ Apprentice/s

ILG

WHERE DOES ILG FIT IN?

As an Intermediary and Program Sponsor, ILG can provide a variety of services that may be helpful to your apprenticeship program... **plus unique awareness of local government processes**

ENTITIES	Wrap Around Services	Funding Applications	Talent Sourcing
INTERMEDIARY – ILG	✔	✔	✔
EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PANEL (ETP)	---	✔	---
COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION (CBO)	✔	---	✔
FEDERAL GRANTS/PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS	---	✔	---
LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD	✔	✔	✔
COMMUNITY COLLEGE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE (CCCCO)	---	✔	✔

MULTI-YEAR GRANT FUNDING WITH ROBUST SUPPORT

Partial list

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ABA 2 GRANT AWARD

- 4-year grant (2024-2028)
- $6 Million total
- Partnership with **Next Gen Policy** & **Clover Agency**
- Regional HUB Model
- Focus on local government and school RAPs

WORKPLAN OVERVIEW

Planning	Pilot	Implementation
• JAC Launch • Partnership Development • Pilot Framework • Digital Resource Library • Needs Assessment Research • New Creative & Branding • Intermediary Structure	• 5-10 Jurisdictions • 5-10 Occupations Registered or Expanded • Technology Integration	• Expansion of pilots based on funding • Addition of K-12 schools

AS AN INTERMEDIARY & PROGRAM SPONSOR FOR LOCAL GOV'T APPRENTICESHIPS…

ILG Can Help Local Agencies …

- ✓ Gather Workforce Data
- ✓ Create Workforce Plan
- ✓ Identify Relevant Occupations
- ✓ Select Desired Apprenticeship Occupation(s)
- ✓ Assess Competencies
- ✓ Navigate Higher Education, Union and Labor Relationships
- ✓ Manage Apprenticeship Implementation
- ✓ Juggle a Complex Effort

ILG Can Spearhead …

- ✓ Communication with Department of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS)
- ✓ Development of Apprenticeship Program
- ✓ Registering Apprenticeship & Occupations with DAS and DOL
- ✓ Finding Funding Opportunities
- ✓ Building Collaborative Partnerships
- ✓ Promoting Program & Recruit Apprentices
- ✓ Sharing Technology Solutions to Streamline Program Management

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TARGET OCCUPATIONS

A recent ILG poll of local governments indicated these are the **high demand occupations** among our local jurisdictions.

Mental & Behavioral Health ▶ **Human Resources** ▶
▶ **Education** ▶ **Cybersecurity** ▶ **Green Jobs** ▶
Court Admins & Clerks ▶ **Accounting** ▶ **Public Health** ▶
Information Technology ▶ **Telecommunications** ▶
Electric Transportation ▶ **Water** ▶ **and more…**

Our pilot goal is to launch 5-10 occupations with the highest demand and simplify the process so the program can be scaled statewide. Our pilot communities will be the leaders in public sector workforce innovation and a model for the state and nation.

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NEW PILOT PROGRAM LAUNCHING NOW

01
Deep **technical assistance**, including registration of standards/occupations, plus possible fast track options for certain occupations

02
Access to a **community of practice** for public sector apprenticeship practitioners

03
Access to technology solutions, marketing assistance, implementation support & some funding for community partners

Direct technical assistance at NO COST to jurisdictions!

PILOT PROGRAM CRITERIA

- Currently accepting **5-10** jurisdictions
- Up to **10** apprenticeship occupations, possibly more with new DOL funding
- Limited to **cities, counties** and **special districts**
- Must have elected leadership support in addition to executive staff
- Space is limited and pilot will sell out

ILG

HOW TO PARTNER WITH US

IF AN AGENCY WANTS TO EXPLORE THE PILOT

What we'd do next …

1. Have informational meeting(s) with CEO/CM/GM, staff and key leadership

- Ensure internal alignment on goals, priorities and desired outcomes
- Identify key stakeholders that should also be consulted (e.g. unions, CBOs, other elected)

2. Discuss short- and long-term occupational needs

- Determine if non-traditional registered apprenticeships will provide the staffing solution they need
- Consider if pre-apprenticeships or other work-based learning programs are a better fit
- Understand hiring projections in various departments
- Confirm interest in moving forward

3. Formalize partnership

- Develop MOU that summarizes partnership, program goals and details
- Draft resolution
- Announce pilot participation publicly
- Begin planning and customizing approach

Target Date: Program Launch & Announcement, November 2024

LOTS OF WAYS TO ENGAGE IN THIS EFFORT

Help promote our apprenticeships pilot to local government agencies and/or help inform its development	Share your regional workforce priorities, opportunities and challenges	Partner with our team on shared funding applications
Share your success stories – we'll spread the word about their good work!	Participate in IACA meetings	Join our community of practice!

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STAY CONNECTED AND STAY INFORMED

58 Counties → 483 Cities → 2,500+ Special Districts → 30,000+ Local Agency Leaders

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CONTACT US ANYTIME!

Erica L. Manuel
CEO & Executive Director
emanuel@ca-ilg.org

THANK YOU!

Southern California Association of Governments
November 7, 2024

To: Energy & Environment Committee (EEC)
Transportation Committee (TC)
Community, Economic and Human Development Committee (CEHD)

From: Camille Guiriba, Senior Regional Planner
(213) 236-1809, guiriba@scag.ca.gov

Subject: Connect SoCal 2024: Implementation Strategies Update

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL

Kome Ajise

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Information Only – No Action Required

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:
This item supports the following Strategic Priority 1: Establish and implement a regional vision for a sustainable future.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
In April 2024, the Regional Council adopted Connect SoCal 2024, SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). Connect SoCal 2024 included Implementation Strategies which identify ways SCAG will Lead, Partner, or Support other responsible parties. This report summarizes the progress to date of these implementation activities for which methods vary from collaborative policy leadership, research, or resource roles.

BACKGROUND:
As required by federal and state law, SCAG prepares a long-range Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) every four years which provides a vision for integrating land use and transportation for increased mobility and more sustainable development. The Regional Council adopted the latest RTP/SCS, Connect SoCal 2024, in April 2024. SCAG led an extensive planning and visioning process in developing Connect SoCal 2024, including meetings with 164 jurisdictions in the region to review their growth forecasts, an extensive public outreach process, and policy discussions with elected leaders from around the region. The plan identifies a series of outcomes including increased transit ridership; an emphasis on Priority Development Areas that bring housing, jobs and mobility options closer together; safe and efficient goods movement; and streets that prioritize people and safety.

CONNECT SOCAL 2024 IMPLEMENTATION
Direct implementation of Connect SoCal 2024 primarily relies on the actions and decisions of other transportation agencies, local jurisdictions, and actors in the private sector to operate transit

service, install new bike paths, approve new land uses, or build new housing. SCAG has an increasingly significant role for Plan implementation which rests on collaboration with other agencies and stakeholders, policy leadership, our role as an information hub, through research—and, lastly, by providing resources to local agencies or jurisdictions to advance their efforts or implementation.

Regional Planning Policies: Connect SoCal 2024 includes Regional Planning Policies which provide guidance for integrating land use and transportation planning to realize the vision of Connect SoCal. The policies have been refined over several planning cycles to promote multimodal transportation investments and local development that align with the regional growth vision. The policies also incorporate recent direction from SCAG's Regional Council, Policy Committees, and special subcommittees.

Implementation Strategies: The Implementation Strategies articulate priorities for SCAG efforts in fulfilling or going beyond the related Regional Planning Policies. Generally, successful implementation of Connect SoCal 2024 relies on many actors and decision makers beyond SCAG. These strategies represent near term efforts where SCAG will lead, partner, or support other responsible parties and are further specified as part of SCAG's Overall Work Program development process.

Chapter 3.4 of Connect SoCal 2024 provides the complete list of Implementation Strategies. The Implementation Strategies are organized by Regional Planning Policy categories within the four Connect SoCal goal areas of Mobility, Communities, Environment, and Economy.

Since adoption of Connect SoCal 2024, SCAG has made progress on 71 of the 93 Implementation Strategies. The attached report details the actions or milestones that have occurred since adoption of Connect SoCal 2024 in April 2024. Several additional strategies have made internal progress with initial research or drafting of Scopes of Work. As those projects progress, they will be included in future Connect SoCal Implementation Strategy Progress Reports.

Regional Leadership: SCAG's role in implementing Connect SoCal 2024, detailed in many of the Implementation Strategies, is in four primary ways: collaboration and policy leadership, funding administration, research, and resources. The following highlight some of the significant activities and milestones completed since Connect SoCal 2024 adoption:

Collaboration and Policy Leadership
- Executive Director Kome Ajise is serving on the Transit Transformation Task Force meeting with stakeholders at the state level on transformative changes to transit, including transit priority treatments.

- President Curt Hagman participated as a panelist at the ITS World Congress in Dubai in September 2024 speaking to leveraging Connected and Automated Vehicle technology to improve fuel economy.
- SCAG staff are participating in the statewide Strategic Highway Safety Plan Steering Committee and Working Group and Executive Director Ajise serves on the Executive Committee.
- SCAG partnered with the Big 4 MPOs to initiate and is participating in dialogue with other MPOs and state agencies in a holistic review of the SB 375 framework.
- First Vice President Cindy Allen and SCAG staff participated in a transportation electrification international study trip, in partnership with the Los Angeles Clean Technology Incubator, to engage with policy leaders in London, Oslo, and Munich. Potential areas for further exploration within the SCAG region context include zero-emission zones for testing clean technologies, regulatory policy, enforcement, and resources for charging/fueling infrastructure reliability and maintenance, and partnerships with original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) to alleviate supply chain bottlenecks.
- SCAG staff have established ongoing engagement with the four Caltrans Districts within the region regarding quick-build active transportation strategies, to share information, discuss challenges and potential projects/partnerships, and other related topics. These efforts create a strong foundation for quick-build implementation such as those funded through the Active Transportation Program and SCAG's Sustainable Communities Program, as discussed in a subsequent section of this report.
- In support of the 2024 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP), SCAG is responsible for compiling the region's nominations and confirming consistency with Connect SoCal 2024. This involves close coordination with Caltrans, the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), county transportation commissions, cities, the ports (Los Angeles, Long Beach, and Hueneme), and private companies. In particular, staff have leveraged insights gained from SCAG's Last Mile Freight Program (LMFP) to advise the state on best practices to ensure successful partnerships with private companies to support the transition to zero-emission vehicles and supporting infrastructure.

Federal Funding Administration
- SCAG approved the final transportation conformity analyses for 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 1 in September 2024.
- SCAG approved the selection of transportation projects to be funded with nearly $280 million of combined Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), and Surface Transportation Block Program (STBG) federal funding. The next call for project nominations is in the development phase, with upwards of $1 billion in federal funding available for transportation projects that advance Connect SoCal and federal performance measures.

Data Collection, Analysis and Research

- SCAG released numerous data and best practices resources.
    - SCAG published the Regional Dedicated Transit Lanes interactive mapping tool[1] this past spring. The map provides a summary of transit priority treatments in the SCAG region and final recommendations identified in the "Regional Dedicated Transit Lanes Study". The map is the culmination of recommendations finalized through collaboration with transportation agency stakeholders throughout the region, including county transportation commissions, councils of governments, transit operators, and community-based organizations, through various stakeholder meetings and the project Technical Advisory Committee.
    - Staff completed the broadband Permit Streamlining Report and Ordinance and presented it to the Transportation Committee in September 2024. It was also received and filed by Regional Council. Based on recommendations from the SoCal Transformation Working Group, the Report and Ordinance reflect valuable insights into the challenges faced at the local level and current best practices for streamlined permitting with the aim to reduce barriers and promote the rapid expansion of wireless infrastructure.
- SCAG is identifying priority corridor projects for conceptual design as part of the Highways to Boulevards Regional Study.
- SCAG staff are currently developing Mobility Hubs Local Jurisdiction Guidance and is partnering with agencies to develop a limited number of mobility hub conceptual designs across the region.

Local Technical Assistance Resources

- SCAG issued the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects this summer. This call for applications will fund community plans, areawide plans, and quick-build projects that encourage active transportation (e.g., walking, biking, and transit) and improve roadway safety to help achieve the mobility goals, planning policies, strategic investments, and implementation strategies of Connect SoCal 2024. SCAG anticipates awarding between $6.3 million and $8.2 million.
- SCAG conducted GIS trainings, Streetlight Insight trainings, and hosted seven Toolbox Tuesday sessions. Toolbox Tuesday sessions provide a range of planning knowledge and technical skills for local planners at no cost. It is a forum for SCAG to provide technical assistance and share best practices on emerging planning topics such as equity, environmental justice, traffic safety, housing, transportation, sustainability, spatial analytics, programming language, and data literacy.
- The board established the Regional Pilot Initiative program as part of REAP 2, now proposed to be funded with Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds, to be an incubator for pilot projects

---

[1] SCAG Regional Dedicated Transit Lanes Interactive Map:
https://maps.scag.ca.gov/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=808cca6fb1b747d19f52ad6dd30f13c1&page=home

that have regional scalability and can be used to inform future Calls for Projects and/or funding opportunities. SCAG is developing several Regional Pilot Initiatives including an open-loop payment demonstration project with Metrolink and an e-bike lending library with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles.

NEXT STEPS:

The above highlights as well as the actions and milestones in the attached report are limited to activities by SCAG staff and leadership. As noted above, successful implementation of Connect SoCal 2024 relies on many actors and decisions makers beyond SCAG. Many strategies have ongoing or upcoming work that staff will continue to report on in future updates. While generally SCAG collects a comprehensive summary of progress as part of the next RTP/SCS development cycle, SCAG staff will provide highlights of progress by external agencies on a semiannual basis.
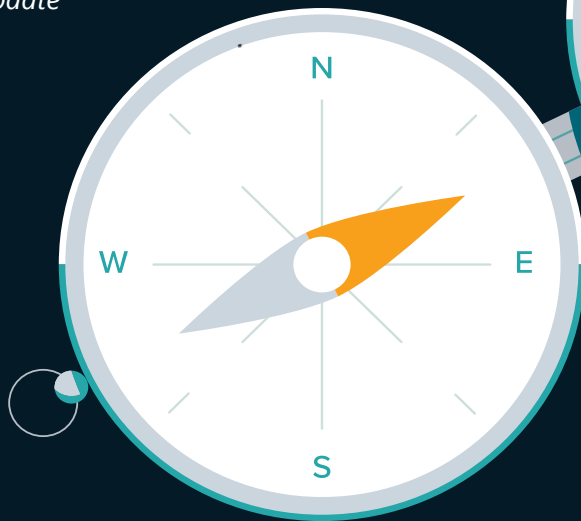
FISCAL IMPACT: Work associated with this item is included in the FY 24-25 Overall Work Program (310.4874.01).

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. PowerPoint Presentation - Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Update (November 2024)
2. Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Report (November 2024)

Connect SoCal 2024

Implementation Strategies Update

November 7, 2024

SCAG

The Southern California Association
of Governments' 2024–2050
Regional Transportation Plan/
Sustainable Communities Strategy

Our Role in the Region

SCAG

Vision and Goals

SCAG leads the region by defining where we want to go and outlining strategies to get us there.
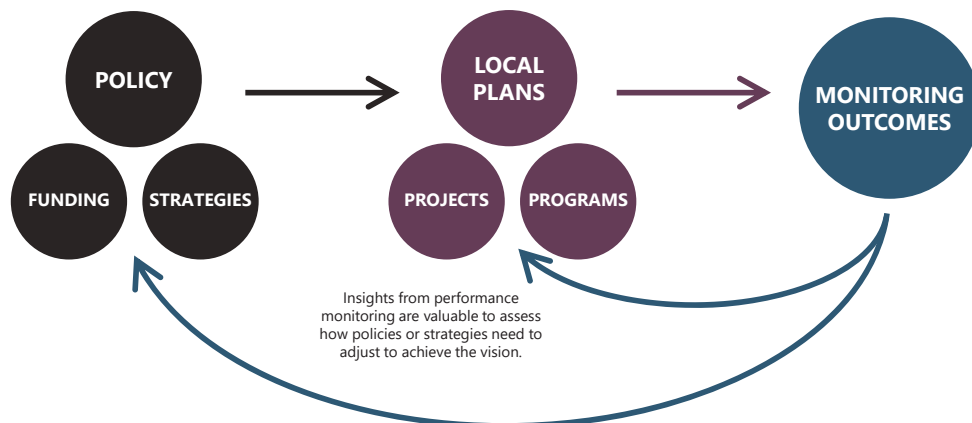
Leadership

SCAG works with local jurisdictions, transportation commissions, state and federal agencies and various stakeholder groups to identify how we will work together to achieve the regional vision.

Implementation

Jurisdictions take action at the local level to implement work that moves toward achieving this regional vision. SCAG can support implementation by providing policy leadership, research or targeted resources.

Evaluation

Measurement of implementation work and outcomes acts as a benchmark on progress toward achieving the vision.

POLICY → **LOCAL PLANS** → **MONITORING OUTCOMES**

FUNDING **STRATEGIES**

PROJECTS **PROGRAMS**

Insights from performance monitoring are valuable to assess how policies or strategies need to adjust to achieve the vision.

Plan Impact: Implementation

SCAG

Regional Leadership

Collaboration and Policy Leadership

Federal Funding Administration

Data Collection, Analysis and Research
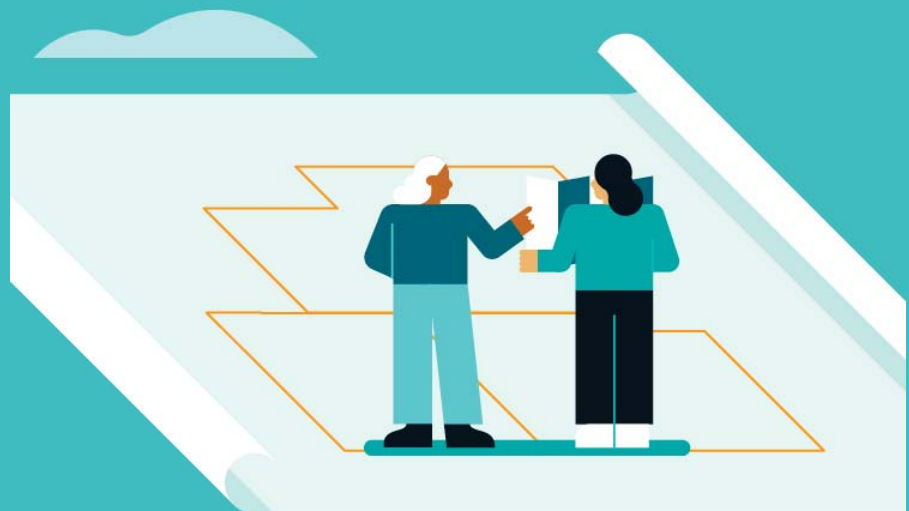
Local Technical Assistance Resources

3

Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Progress

SCAG

November 2024 Update

- Progress made on **71 of 93** Implementation Strategies

- First semi-annual progress update since adoption of Connect SoCal 2024 in April

4

Vision and Goals

"A Healthy, Prosperous, Accessible and Connected Region for a More Resilient and Equitable Future"

MOBILITY
Build and maintain an integrated multimodal transportation network

ENVIRONMENT
Create a **healthy** region for the people of today and tomorrow

COMMUNITIES
Develop, connect and sustain **livable and thriving** communities

ECONOMY
Support a sustainable, efficient and productive regional environment that provides **opportunities for all** people in the region

5

Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Progress

Mobility

Communities

Environment

Economy

Complete Streets and Safety

- Issued the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects this summer

Transit and Multimodal Integration

- Launched the Regional Dedicated Transit Lanes interactive mapping tool this spring, showing final recommendations from Regional Dedicated Transit Lanes Study.

6

Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Progress

Mobility

Communities

Environment

Economy

Priority Development Areas

- Funded five grant programs, a total of 100 projects, through REAP 2.0, that support housing planning and development along with transportation investments in infill areas

Housing the Region

- Awarded $35M to 12 projects as part of the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) program

---

Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Progress

Mobility

Communities

Environment

Economy

Clean Transportation

- First Vice President Cindy Allen and SCAG staff participated in a transportation electrification international study trip, in partnership with the Los Angeles Clean Technology Incubator, to engage with policy leaders in London, Oslo, and Munich.

Climate Resilience

- SCAG is continuing in its leadership role for the U.S. Department of Energy designated Southern California Clean Cities Coalition. In that role, SCAG staff began short- and long-term planning alignment for Clean Cities' FY25 objectives, existing Clean Technology projects, grant applications, and research opportunities.

Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Progress

Mobility

Communities

Environment

Economy

Workforce Development

- Published two resources including the Economic Impacts of Equity Report (March 2024) and Job Quality Index Framework Report (May 2024)

Broadband

- Completed the broadband Permit Streamlining Report and Ordinance and presented it to the Transportation Committee in September 2024

THANK YOU!

For more information, please visit:

www.scag.ca.gov

The Southern California Association
of Governments' 2024–2050
Regional Transportation Plan/
Sustainable Communities Strategy

Connect SoCal 2024: Implementation Strategies Update, November 2024 (71 of 93 strategies)

SCAG's role in implementing Connect SoCal 2024 rests on collaboration with other agencies and stakeholders, policy leadership, our role as an information hub, through research—and, lastly, by providing resources to local agencies or jurisdictions to advance their efforts. Below are key actions and milestones that have taken place over the last six months under those four categories:

- **Collaboration and Policy Leadership**
  - Executive Director Kome Ajise is serving on the Transit Transformation Task Force meeting with stakeholders at the state level on transformative changes to transit including transit priority treatments.
  - President Curt Hagman participated as a panelist at the ITS World Congress in Dubai in September 2024 speaking to leveraging Connected and Automated Vehicle technology to improve fuel economy.
  - First Vice President Cindy Allen and SCAG staff participated in a transportation electrification international study trip, in partnership with the Los Angeles Clean Technology Incubator, to engage with policy leaders in London, Oslo, and Munich.
- **Federal Funding Administration**
  - SCAG approved the final transportation conformity analyses for 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 1 in September 2024.
  - SCAG approved the selection of transportation projects to be funded with nearly $280 million of combined Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), and Surface Transportation Block Program (STBG) federal funding.
- **Data Collection, Analysis and Research**
  - SCAG released numerous data and best practices resources, such as the Regional Dedicated Transit Lanes interactive mapping tool, the "Broadband Permit Streamlining Report," the Broadband Permit Streamlining Ordinance, the "Economic Impacts of Equity Report," and the "Job Quality Index Framework Report."
- **Local Technical Assistance Resources**
  - SCAG issued the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects this summer.
  - SCAG conducted GIS trainings, Streetlight Insight trainings, and hosted seven Toolbox Tuesday sessions providing a range of planning knowledge and technical skills for local planners at no cost.

The tables on the following pages provide additional progress detail for 71 of 93 Implementation Strategies by each of the four Connect SoCal 2024 goal pillars: Mobility, Communities, Environment, and Economy.

MOBILITY

Category	Strategy	Status	Action or Milestone
System Preservation and Resilience	Per federal requirements, establish and monitor regional targets for pavement conditions, bridge conditions and transit/rail assets, in coordination with Caltrans	Ongoing	SCAG staff monitors pavement conditions, bridge conditions and transit/rail assets on an ongoing basis. Staff provided updates for the Performance Monitoring section of the 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) adopted in September 2024 and there have been no further updates to these metrics/targets since the adoption of Connect SoCal 2024 in April.
System Preservation and Resilience	Repair, operate, maintain and preserve the SCAG region's transportation assets in a state of good repair	Ongoing	SCAG maintains metropolitan planning agreements in place with the County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) and transit providers that were updated in 2018 to incorporate provisions for data sharing and the coordinated development of transit performance targets. SCAG also maintains a Transit Asset Management (TAM) database portal, where transit agencies upload data to manage asset life cycle, asset funding, planning and forecasting, and mapping and reporting.
System Preservation and Resilience	Collaborate to work toward a regional asset management approach	Ongoing	SCAG maintains metropolitan planning agreements in place with the County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) and transit providers that were updated in 2018 to incorporate provisions for data sharing and the coordinated development of transit performance targets. SCAG also maintains a Transit Asset Management (TAM) database portal, where transit agencies upload data to manage asset life cycle, asset funding, planning and forecasting, and mapping and reporting.
System Preservation and Resilience	Evaluate projects submitted for inclusion in the FTIP and RTP/SCS according to contributions in achieving system performance targets	Ongoing	SCAG secured consultant support to upgrade both the FTIP and the Connect SoCal transportation project list to track contribution to performance measures. On June 1, 2023, SCAG adopted updated STBG/CMAQ program guidelines with an emphasis on implementing Connect SoCal and achieving performance-based targets.

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Complete Streets	Support implementation of Complete Streets demonstrations (including those addressing curb space management) to accommodate and optimize new technologies and micromobility devices, first/last mile connections to transit and last-mile deliveries	In Progress	SCAG issued the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects on July 8, which closed on September 27, 2024. SCAG staff are currently evaluating applications in partnership with regional partner evaluators, including county transportation commission staff. SCAG staff are preparing materials for a Regional Safety Action Plan request for proposals (RFP).
Complete Streets	Support community-led Complete Streets plans and projects, including those that take into account how to mitigate or adapt to climate change impacts (e.g., extreme heat)	In Progress	SCAG issued the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects on July 8, which closed on September 27, 2024. SCAG staff are currently evaluating applications in partnership with regional partner evaluators, including county transportation commission staff. SCAG staff are preparing materials for a Regional Safety Action Plan RFP.
Complete Streets	Encourage data-driven approaches to inform Complete Streets policies	In Progress	SCAG staff are preparing materials for development of a Regional Safety Action Plan RFP. SCAG staff migrated the SCAG Active Transportation Database to UC Berkeley SafeTREC in Spring 2024 and attended the first Project Advisory Committee meeting.
Complete Streets	Develop a Complete Streets network and integrate Complete Streets into regional policies and plans, including consideration of their impacts on equity areas	In Progress	SCAG staff are preparing materials for a Regional Safety Action Plan RFP, which will take into account Complete Streets.
Complete Streets	Engage regional stakeholders in Complete Streets policy and plan development, implementation and evaluation	In Progress; Ongoing	SCAG staff are preparing materials for a Regional Safety Action Plan RFP. SCAG staff convened Safe and Active Streets Group in March, June, and September 2024. SCAG staff held a Toolbox Tuesday focused on quick builds in September 2024.

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Complete Streets	Provide leadership at the state and regional levels to promote Complete Streets, including involvement on the statewide Complete Streets Advisory Committee and the Active Transportation Technical Advisory Committee	In Progress; Ongoing	SCAG staff are preparing materials for a Regional Safety Action Plan RFP. SCAG staff attended several statewide meetings: State Active Transportation Program Technical Advisory Committee (July 2024), California Walk and Bike Technical Advisory Committee (August 2024), and Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Bicyclist & Pedestrian Challenge Area (August 2024).
Transit and Multimodal Integration	All Modes. Increase multimodal connectivity (e.g., first/last mile transit and airport connections), which includes planning for and developing mobility hubs throughout the SCAG region	In Progress	SCAG staff are currently developing Mobility Hubs Local Jurisdiction Guidance and is partnering with agencies to develop a limited number of mobility hub conceptual designs across the region.
Transit and Multimodal Integration	All Modes. Enable a more seamless mobility experience through the implementation of Mobility as a Service (MaaS). This may include leveraging Cal-ITP's support, initiate open-loop payment demonstrations, and test shared product systems and post-payment solutions.	In Progress	Through the Regional Pilot Initiatives (RPI), staff is developing an open-loop payment demonstration project with Metrolink.
Transit and Multimodal Integration	All Modes. Test, deploy and scale new and shared mobility services, including micromobility (e.g., bike share, e-scooters, etc.) and microtransit pilot projects.	In Progress	Through RPI, SCAG is developing an e-bike lending library with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) in Watts. With REAP 2.0 grants awarded July 6, 2023, SCAG is providing funding for projects such as to LA Metro for bikeshare and Riverside Transit Agency for microtransit.
Transit and Multimodal Integration	Transit/Rail. Expand the region's dedicated lanes network—including new bus rapid transit, dedicated bus lanes, express bus service on managed and express lanes—as well as the region's urban and passenger rail network and transit/rail signal priority treatments. Improve transit/rail frequency, reliability, and fare and scheduling integration across operators.	In Progress	SCAG published the Regional Dedicated Transit Lanes interactive mapping tool in March 2024 to support transit agencies planning/envisioning transit priority treatments. SCAG continues to monitor progress on implementations across the region and potential proposed/planned work on transit priority treatments. SCAG is also following closely the work of the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) Transit Transformation Task Force currently meeting with stakeholders at the state level on transformative changes to transit including transit priority treatments. Executive Director Kome Ajise is a Task Force member.

Transit and Multimodal Integration	Transit/Rail. Improve transit/rail safety and security for riders, including promoting best practices through SCAG advisory committees and working groups	In Progress	SCAG is monitoring closely the work of the transit agencies to support safety and security and restore confidence in transit riders. SCAG continues to bring discussions to the Regional Transit TAC and updates to the Transportation Committee on issues related to safety and security. Most recently, staff shared recommendations from the Transit Target Setting process and key highlights from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Transit Asset Management and Transit Safety Peer Exchange Program with the RTTAC in May 2024. SCAG is also following closely the work of the CalSTA Transit Transformation Task Force currently meeting with stakeholders at the state level to develop policy recommendations for transformative changes to transit including safety and security.
Transit and Multimodal Integration	Transit/Rail. Through land use planning, support residential development along high-frequency transit corridors and around transit/rail facilities and centers	In Progress	SCAG completed a Regional Rail Housing Analysis which identifies Metrolink stations that are best suited for transit-oriented development (TOD). Staff presented findings to the Community, Economic and Human Development Policy Committee in June 2024. Staff will continue to monitor progress on implementations from the study. SCAG continues to monitor progress on land use developments along transit/rail corridors including the Riverside County Transportation Commission Core Capacity Innovative Study, and other efforts LA Metro and Metrolink.
Transit and Multimodal Integration	Active Transportation. Support community-led active transportation and safety plans, projects and programs (e.g., Safe Routes to Schools). Partner with local jurisdictions on demonstrations and quick-build projects through SCAG's Go Human initiative	In Progress	SCAG issued the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects on July 8, which closed on September 27, 2024. SCAG staff are currently evaluating applications in partnership with regional partner evaluators, including county transportation commission staff.
Transit and Multimodal Integration	Active Transportation. Expand the region's networks of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This includes creating more low stress facilities, such as separated bikeways and bike paths, slow streets, and open streets	In Progress	SCAG issued the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects on July 8, which closed on September 27, 2024. SCAG staff are currently evaluating applications in partnership with regional partner evaluators, including county transportation commission staff.

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Transit and Multimodal Integration	Streets and Freeways. Reconnect communities by removing, retrofitting or mitigating transportation facilities such as highways or railways that create barriers to community connectivity	In Progress	SCAG is identifying priority corridor projects for conceptual design as part of the Highways to Boulevards Regional Study concluding in Summer 2025.
Transportation System Management	Evaluate projects submitted for inclusion in RTP/SCS and FTIP for progress in achieving travel-time reliability in the SCAG region	Ongoing	SCAG secured consultant support to upgrade both the FTIP and the Connect SoCal transportation project list to track contribution to performance measures. On June 1, 2023, SCAG adopted updates to STBG/CMAQ program guidelines with an emphasis on implementing Connect SoCal and achieving performance-based targets.
Technology Integration	Develop a Smart Cities Strategic Plan, and periodically revise the Technology Guiding Principles to inventory existing policies, evaluate emerging technologies, recommend best practices, implement Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) priorities, assess current trends and research, identify pilot opportunities and improve transportation system safety and efficiency	In Progress	Staff is currently working with SCAG Contracts staff to post an RFP and complete procurement Q2 FY25.
Technology Integration	Provide local technical assistance grants in support of innovative technology solutions that reduce VMT and GHG emissions. Pursue funding and partners to continue the testing and deployment of emerging technologies	Ongoing	Staff is currently tracking potential grant opportunities to provide grant funding to local jurisdictions and share through SCAG's weekly Money Mondays mailing list.
Technology Integration	Implement ITS priorities to improve the safety and efficiency of the current transportation system	Ongoing	SCAG updated the Regional ITS Architecture in March 2024 to comply with the most recent federal ARC-IT standards.
Technology Integration	Further develop a Regional Configuration Management process among CTCs, Caltrans districts, ports and local governments to ensure consistent and compatible integration of ITS technologies and interoperable operations	Ongoing	SCAG updated the Regional ITS Architecture in March 2024, SCAG staff continue to participate in regional ITS stakeholder working groups.

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Technology Integration	Conduct regional assessment of current and planned Connected and Automated Vehicle (CAV) implementation in the SCAG region to determine opportunity zones for future deployments and develop toolkits and best practices for local jurisdictions	Ongoing	Staff provided support to SCAG President Curt Hagman who participated as a panelist at the ITS World Congress in Dubai in September 2024. President Hagman spoke about leveraging CAV to improve fuel economy. Staff will evaluate CAVs under the smart cities plan.
Safety	Promote implementation of data-driven approaches to guide transportation safety and security investment decision-making, including development of High Injury Networks and innovative safety modeling tools.	In Progress	SCAG anticipates releasing the Community Safety Tool at the end of the calendar year, after concluding consultant work in June 2024. Staff kicked off development of the Transportation Safety Predictive Modeling Platform in July 2024.
Safety	Provide leadership at the state and regional levels to promote transportation safety and security planning, including involvement on the statewide Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Steering Committee and Executive Leadership Committee.	Ongoing	Staff have continued to represent MPOs at monthly meetings of the SHSP Steering Committee and SHSP Bike and Pedestrian Challenge Area Working Group meetings.
Safety	Evaluate projects submitted for inclusion in RTP/SCS and FTIP for their progress in achieving safety targets in the SCAG region.	Ongoing	SCAG has secured consultant support to upgrade both the FTIP and the Connect SoCal transportation project list to track contribution to performance measures. On June 1, 2023, SCAG adopted updates to STBG/CMAQ program guidelines with an emphasis on implementing Connect SoCal and achieving performance-based targets.
Safety	Work with local, state and federal partners to advance safer roadways, including reduced speeds to achieve zero deaths and reduce GHG.	Ongoing	Staff conducted a training for use of the Safety Predictive Modeling Platform on October 9-10, 2024.
Funding the System/User Pricing	Coordinate with local, regional, state and national partners to support transition to a mileage-based user fee	Ongoing	SCAG staff developed a session on transition to a mileage-based user fee system at the General Assembly and Regional Conference held in May 2024. SCAG staff continued to track the California Transportation Commission (CATC) Road Charge TAC and coordinate with MPOs across the state and nationally on user

			pricing efforts. SCAG continues to actively participate and work with the Mileage Based User Fee Alliance (MBUFA), a national coalition of public and private entities working to support the transition to a mileage-based user fee. Recently, SCAG also submitted application for funding to initiate a regional study under the federal Strategic Innovation for Revenue Collection (SIRC) grant program.
Funding the System/User Pricing	Support local and regional partners on implementation of dynamic and congestion-based pricing programs, including facilitation of regional coordination	Ongoing	SCAG staff is participating in the Caltrans District 12 I-5 Managed Lanes project development team exploring express lane deployment. SCAG, in partnership with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), completed work on a Caltrans Sustainable Planning Grant to focus on a common framework for future work on road user charging. SACOG was the administrative lead on this grant.
Funding the System/User Pricing	Continue to coordinate with regional partners to support build-out of regional express lanes network	Ongoing	SCAG continues to coordinate partner agencies (Caltrans Districts and County Transportation Commissions) in support of regional express lanes build-out. Recently convened expert panel to address SB 743 and the continued build out of express lanes. SCAG staff participating in Caltrans District 12 I-5 Managed Lanes project development team exploring express lane deployment.
Funding the System/User Pricing	Study and pilot transportation user-fee programs and mitigation measures that increase equitable mobility	Ongoing	SCAG, in partnership with SANDAG and SACOG, completed work on a Caltrans Sustainable Planning Grant to focus on a common framework for future work on road user charging. SACOG was the administrative lead on this grant. Staff is currently assessing how best to apply the framework for future pilot studies. Recently, SCAG also submitted application for funding to initiate a regional study under the federal Strategic Innovation for Revenue Collection (SIRC) grant program.
Funding the System/User Pricing	Conduct education and outreach work to support the public acceptance of user fees	Ongoing	SCAG staff developed a session on transition to a mileage-based user fee system at the General Assembly and Regional Conference held in May 2024. SCAG staff continued to coordinate with MPOs across the state and nationally on user fee efforts.

COMMUNITIES

Category	Strategy	Status	Action or Milestone
Priority Development Areas	Support the development of housing in areas with existing and planned infrastructure and availability of multimodal options, and where a critical mass of activity can promote location efficiency	Ongoing	SCAG funded five grant programs, a total of 100 projects, through REAP 2.0, that support housing planning and development along with transportation investments in infill areas to support improved connectivity and reduced vehicle miles travelled.
Priority Development Areas	Support local jurisdictions and implementing agencies' strategies to promote plans and projects within PDAs by providing awards, grants and technical assistance	Ongoing	SCAG provided REAP 2.0 funding to 54 grantees with many projects located in PDAs that support housing production and reduced vehicle miles travelled and affirmatively furthering fair housing.
Housing the Region	Provide technical assistance for jurisdictions to complete and implement their housing elements and support local governments and Tribal Entities to advance housing production	In Progress	SCAG highlighted successful housing element preparation efforts and best practices from several jurisdictions at Housing Working Group meetings. Also showcased were tools and technical assistance to advance housing production that were developed under the REAP 1.0 program.
Housing the Region	Identify and pursue partnerships at the local, regional, state and federal levels to align utility, transit and infrastructure investments with housing development and equitable outcomes across the region	In Progress	SCAG awarded $35M to 12 projects as part of the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) program. The 12 projects will advance systemwide utility infrastructure planning and capital projects that support housing production.
Housing the Region	Research and explore innovative homeownership models that can reduce costs and increase housing production in the region. Explore strategies to engage households of color and communities that are underrepresented as homeowners	In Progress	SCAG awarded $45M towards the REAP 2.0 funded Notice of Funding Availability for Lasting Affordability that will support accelerating affordable housing production, including in some cases homeownership. In addition, in June 2024, SCAG hosted a homeownership panel at the Community, Economic & Human Development Committee.

Housing the Region	Research community stabilization (anti-displacement) resources that can be utilized to address displacement pressures, such as preservation and tenant protections for communities across the region and Affirmatively Further Fair Housing	Ongoing	SCAG prepared a White Paper with a proposed comprehensive preservation strategy and developed a cost-benefit analysis tool.
Equitable Engagement and Decision-Making	Develop an Equity Assessment Tool that can be utilized by SCAG in program development and delivery, and develop a complementary tool that can be incorporated into local assistance/subrecipient programming and delivery	In Progress	A draft Equity Planning Tool has been developed and will undergo internal review.

ENVIRONMENT

Category	Strategy	Status	Action or Milestone
Sustainable Development	Research the availability of resources that can support the development of water and energy-efficient building practices, including green infrastructure		At the September 2024 Energy & Environment Committee meeting, staff gave a presentation on federal and state funding programs. A substantial number of these programs are relevant to this strategy.
Air Quality	Coordinate with local, regional, state and federal partners to meet federal and state ambient air-quality standards and improve public health	Ongoing	Staff played a critical role in resolving Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) action on South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Contingency Measure Plan to address the 1997 federal ozone standard. Staff transmitted to South Coast AQMD 1) the Final 2025 PM2.5 State Implementation Plan Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and 2) the Transportation Control Measures and Transportation Control Measure Reasonably Available Control Measures Analysis for Inclusion in the 2024 Coachella Valley Extreme Ozone Nonattainment Area State Implementation Plan. SCAG approved the final transportation conformity analyses for 2025 FTIP and Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 1 in September 2024. SCAG Regional Council signed on to the 2024 California Clean Air Day Proclamation. SCAG staff hosted monthly Transportation Conformity Working Group

			meetings and processed at least eight project-level PM hotspot interagency reviews. In addition, staff conducted intensive interagency consultation that has resulted in either temporary or permanent relief from 15 highway sanction clocks in the region.
Air Quality	Support local and regional partners by identifying funding opportunities that will help achieve greenhouse gas emission reduction and provide technical assistance and resources, when available	Ongoing	Staff continued coordination and collaboration with South Coast AQMD in support of work on SCAG's Last Mile Freight Program that has received $50 million of critical federal funding and will benefit air quality. In the last six months, SCAG hosted seven Toolbox Tuesday sessions many of which are related to GHG reduction. More information related to these sessions can be found at https://scag.ca.gov/toolbox-tuesday From May to July 2024, staff conducted GIS trainings focusing on local and regional planning, which promote GHG reduction strategies through spatial analytics. GIS training recordings are located at https://hub.scag.ca.gov/pages/planners-corner
Clean Transportation	Maintain a robust Clean Technology Program that focuses on planning, research, evaluation, stakeholder support and advocacy	Ongoing	Staff began short- and long-term planning alignment for Clean Cities' FY25 objectives, existing Clean Technology projects, grant applications, research opportunities, etc. The Clean Cities Coalition is a DOE-funded project focusing on support, education, and technical assistance relative to clean and alternative fuel technologies.
Clean Transportation	Share information and provide technical assistance to local jurisdictions and operators on opportunities to upgrade their fleets and accelerate deployment of supporting infrastructure	Ongoing	Staff began short- and long-term planning alignment for Clean Cities' FY25 objectives, existing Clean Technology projects, grant applications, research opportunities, etc. Support and alignment with the Zero Emission Truck Infrastructure (ZETI) project and project stakeholders (truck fleet operators) to develop a blueprint and action plan for a future network of zero emission truck charging and fueling infrastructure.

Clean Transportation	Investigate how zero-emission vehicles can strengthen resilience through vehicle to-grid technologies or other opportunities where batteries can be used to enhance capacity of renewable energy sources	Ongoing	Staff began short- and long-term planning alignment for Clean Cities' FY25 objectives, existing Clean Technology projects, grant applications, research opportunities, etc. Support and alignment with the ZETI project and project stakeholders (fleets).
Clean Transportation	Assist local jurisdictions in developing an incentive program to further adoption of zero-emission passenger vehicles	In Progress	Staff is developing this alongside the RFP package for the Smart Cities Strategic Plan efforts to integrate EV charging and vehicle incentive program, with emphasis on multiunit dwellings and high-density residential areas.
Clean Transportation	Facilitate development of EV charging infrastructure through public-private partnerships	In Progress	Staff is currently working with SCAG Contracts staff to post an RFP and complete procurement Q2 FY25.
Natural and Agricultural Lands Preservation	Identify and leverage resources for research, policies and programs to conserve and restore natural and agricultural lands	In Progress	Since awarded a Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation (SALC) grant from the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) in December 2023 grant, staff has developed a preliminary action plan, completed scope of work, and developed RFP materials to procure a consultant.
Natural and Agricultural Lands Preservation	Explore opportunities to increase and quantify the carbon sequestration potential and resilience benefits of natural and agricultural lands—and pursue funding for implementation and demonstration projects	In Progress	Since awarded the the SALC grant in December 2023, staff has developed a preliminary action plan, completed scope of work, and developed RFP materials to procure a consultant.
Natural and Agricultural Lands Preservation	Work with implementation agencies to support, establish or supplement voluntary regional advance mitigation programs (RAMP) for regionally significant transportation projects to mitigate environmental impacts, reduce per-capita VMT and provide mitigation opportunities through the Intergovernmental Review Process	In Progress	SCAG approved Greenprint Data Standards in February 2024. Staff has engaged in discussions with state agencies on partnerships.

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Natural and Agricultural Lands Preservation	Continue efforts to support partners in identifying priority conservation areas—including habitat, wildlife corridors, and natural and agricultural lands—for permanent protection	In Progress	SCAG approved Greenprint Data Standards in February 2024. Staff has engaged in discussions with state agencies on partnerships.
Natural and Agricultural Lands Preservation	Support the integration of nature-based solutions into implementing agency plans to address urban heat, organic waste reduction, protection of wetlands, habitat and wildlife corridor restoration, greenway connectivity and similar efforts	In Progress	Since awarded a Sustainable Agricultural Land Conservation (SALC) grant in December 2023, staff has developed a preliminary action plan, completed scope of work, and developed RFP materials to procure a consultant.
Climate Resilience	Develop partnerships and programs to support local and regional climate adaptation, mitigation and resilience initiatives	In Progress	SCAG has renewed its membership in the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative, which brings together local agencies, universities, and community-based organizations to support partnerships for grant applications and collaborative projects. SCAG will also be a member of the Inland Southern California Climate Collaborative (ISC3), which provides the same partnership opportunities.
Climate Resilience	Research existing and potential options to fund the climate resilience efforts of implementation agencies	Complete	SCAG presented an overview of grant opportunities from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and the California State Budget in the areas of climate resilience, water resilience, and conservation at the September 2024 meeting of the Energy & Environment Committee. SCAG Staff also presented at the Regional Planning Working Group on conservation and urban greening grant opportunities in May 2024.
Climate Resilience	Collaborate with partners to foster adoption of systems and technologies that can reduce water demand and/or increase water supply, such as alternative groundwater recharge technologies, stormwater capture systems, urban cooling infrastructure and greywater usage systems	In Progress	SCAG recently launched Phase 1 of the Water Action Resolution's Water White Paper, which is identifying emerging issues and challenges in the water management ecosystem. This effort will help to assess how SCAG can partner with various agencies and provide value-added services that can help reduce water demand and/or increase water supply.

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Climate Resilience	Support use of systems-based risk-management methods and tools to help implementation agencies identify and reduce resilience risks for vulnerable communities	In Progress	SCAG is developing the SoCal Greenprint web mapping application which will help local agencies identify climate impacts for vulnerable communities through a systems approach with the inclusion of layers related to "Environmental Justice, Equity, and Inclusion" as well as "Climate Vulnerabilities".
Climate Resilience	Provide local and regional partners with resources, education and trainings to identify and protect areas vulnerable to climate effects and other resilience shocks and stressors, particularly for low-income communities and communities of color	In Progress	As part of the Regional Resilience Framework, SCAG recently finished an exploratory scenario process that featured input from various stakeholders on scenario design. Feedback from these engagements will help inform deliverables such as the Regional Resilience Toolkit for local and regional partners, which will be disseminated through channels such as Toolbox Tuesdays and other opportunities.
Climate Resilience	Support implementing agencies' efforts to include climate-ready home-hardening strategies in new construction as well as the retrofitting of existing structures to minimize the potential loss of housing units stemming from climate-related hazards	In Progress	SCAG is maintaining existing partnerships and developing new partnerships with convening bodies, conferences, and events focused on the dissemination of climate resilience best practices, policies and strategies, and funding opportunities.
Climate Resilience	Support integration of climate vulnerability assessments into infrastructure planning and delivery for implementing agencies	In Progress	SCAG will leverage findings from the Regional Resilience Framework to support integrating climate vulnerability considerations into infrastructure planning and delivery for the Connect SoCal 2028 plan.

ECONOMY

Category	Strategy	Status	Action or Milestone
Goods Movement	Leverage the Last Mile Freight Program to develop and implement operational concepts with a core focus on last-mile delivery strategies across urban and rural communities	In Progress	Through Last Mile Freight Program (LMFP) Phase 1, SCAG has 22 active projects that have been awarded funding with 21 projects completed their MOUs. Three projects received reimbursement from SCAG/MSRC, the rest of the projects are in various stages of implementation and/or progress reporting. SCAG is in scope and procurement development for Phase 2 and will incorporate the Freight TDM planning and operational pilot demonstration testing and implementation for the 2028 Summer Olympics. Lastly, SCAG was successful in partnering with the South Coast AQMD on the recently $500 million CPRG (EPA) award where $50 million in award monies will be incorporated into the LMFP Phase 1 component of the program.
Goods Movement	Manage the implementation and transition to near-zero and zero-emission technologies for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and supporting infrastructure	In Progress	SCAG is wrapping up the technical analysis stages of the ZETI study. The analysis focuses on charging demand simulations and location prioritization for future charging/fueling locations. Next steps include individual site assessments, holding the remaining two Technical Advisory Committee sessions, and preparing the final report, Regional ZEV Infrastructure Blueprint, and a local agency primer. Additionally, SCAG continues to manage multiple MOUs as part of the LMFP for both near-zero and zero-emission technologies that are being implemented through the South Coast Air Basin.
Goods Movement	Facilitate the development of integrated rail partnerships between passenger/commuter rail, private rail operators and public agencies to advance investment opportunities	In Progress	SCAG staff continue to develop freight rail analysis tools to better inform key stakeholders for partnership opportunities.

Goods Movement	Continue to coordinate with federal and state partners on goods movement planning efforts, including the Last Mile Freight Program, to position the SCAG region for further funding opportunities	In Progress	SCAG hosted quarterly Goods Movement Regional Partner Agency Meeting and Caltrans HQ/District Meeting as part of coordination with regional agency partners and the State. Additional coordination regularly occurs monthly with Caltrans HQ and SANDAG.
Broadband	Implement "Dig-Once Dig-Smart" policies to install broadband, EV charging stations and Smart Cities related infrastructure whenever highway/roadway improvements occur	Ongoing	Staff is integrating the Scope of Work into Smart Cities Strategic Plan RFP.
Broadband	Promote the use of a regional or statewide universal permit, ordinance and fee for expedited broadband and Smart Cities infrastructure deployment	Ongoing	Staff completed the Permit Streamlining Report and Ordinance and presented it to the Transportation Committee in September 2024. I was also received and filed by the Regional Council. As a next step, staff will work towards wide scale distribution, participation in panels, coordination with state/federal/local agencies and training via Toolbox Tuesdays.
Broadband	Secure grant funding for underserved local jurisdictions for broadband infrastructure development	Ongoing	SCAG selected three communities for technical services (Ontario, Port Hueneme, Avalon). SCAG is moving forward with execution of an MOU and beginning a technical report. SCAG also provided support letters to local jurisdictions for various grant funding opportunities from federal and state (e.g., California Public Utilities Commission, National Telecommunications and Information Administration).
Workforce Development	Encourage the growth of, and equitable access to, living-wage jobs throughout the region	In Progress	Staff is completing the Addressing Barriers to Economic Opportunities Report which is planned to be released in Spring 2025. Staff has also drafted an Apprenticeships Best Practices Report.
Workforce Development	Develop resources for understanding, analyzing and communicating complex regional economic and workforce data	In Progress	SCAG published the Economic Impacts of Equity Report (March 2024). SCAG also published Job Quality Index Framework Report (May 2024). Staff is currently drafting a Tribal Data Needs Assessment Report.

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| Tourism | Initiate and organize regular meetings between agencies that manage travel and tourism in the region and state to better inform planning efforts and align with travel and tourism needs—particularly with upcoming, large-scale events that include the 2026 FIFA World Cup and 2028 Summer Olympics | In Progress | Staff is developing a contact list for federal, California, regional, county, and local, and nonprofit, travel and tourism, parks and recreation, and Olympics and World Cup, agencies and organizations. |

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