



Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
September 1, 2021

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2021**

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

The Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its special meeting telephonically and electronically, given public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Clint Lorimore, President	<i>Eastvale</i>	District 4
Hon. Jan Harnik, 1st Vice President		RCTC
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, 2nd Vice President		Ventura County
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Vice Chair, CEHD	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23
Hon. David Pollock, Chair, EEC	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 46
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Vice Chair, EEC	<i>Rialto</i>	District 8
Hon. Art Brown, Vice Chair, TC	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
Hon. Alan D. Wapner, Chair, LCMC		SBCTA
Hon. Peggy Huang, Vice Chair, LCMC		TCA
Hon. Kathryn Barger, President’s Appt.		Los Angeles County
Hon. Larry McCallon, President’s Appt.	<i>Highland</i>	District 7
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, President’s Appt.	<i>El Centro</i>	District 1
Hon. Donald P. Wagner, President’s Appt.		Orange County
Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-officio	<i>Lewis Group of Companies</i>	Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Sean Ashton, Chair, TC	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. Jorge Marquez, Chair, CEHD	<i>Covina</i>	District 33
Hon. Rex Richardson, Imm. Past President	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRPB Representative

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
Tom Philip, Acting Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning
Carmen Flores, Human Resources Director
Javiera Cartagena, Acting Director of Policy and Public Affairs
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Michael Houston, Chief Counsel, Director of Legal Services
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Clint Lorimore called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and asked Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Given the public health directives limiting gatherings due to COVID-19, President Lorimore announced the meeting was being held telephonically and electronically in compliance with the Governor's Executive Orders.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Lorimore opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments.

He reminded the public to submit comments via email to ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov. Staff acknowledged there were no public comments received by email.

Seeing no public comment speakers, President Lorimore closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy – Final Report and Recommendations

President Lorimore called on Executive Director Kome Ajise to introduce the item.

Executive Director Ajise reported that they were bringing the final Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy (IERS) report and recommendations to the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee and Regional Council for adoption. He stated the IERS was the first step towards identifying ways SCAG can foster economic prosperity and an inclusive economy. He indicated the plan reflects priorities and needs raised during stakeholder convenings and sets forth strategies and actions around four focus areas. He commented that the IERS and the related strategies and actions were a new area of focus for SCAG and acknowledged that there were many others working in this space, and were committed to continuing to support and collaborate with them as they lead on the regional front. He was also excited to share that with the support of Senator Rubio, the current state budget through Assembly Bill 129, included a one-time \$3.5M allocation to SCAG to implement some of the priorities that are recommended in this plan and that the budget allocation also included an additional \$1M carve out for the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and their workforce development programs. Lastly, he stated that in the coming weeks SCAG will be working with stakeholders on how to invest the resources and pursue new partnerships. He called on Jenna Hornstock, Deputy Director of Planning, Special Initiatives, to provide a report.

Ms. Hornstock provided a brief overview of the IERS plan. She stated that draft recommendations were presented to the Regional Council on May 6, followed by publishing the draft recommendations for public comment. She highlighted the IERS guiding principles and the five focus areas that were inter-connected and equally important. She indicated that the staff report had a much broader list of recommendations but would only be focusing on the top priorities. She emphasized the top priority recommendations as follows: Housing Production; Transportation and Infrastructure; Sector Based Strategies; and Human Capital, and briefly discussed what could be accomplished with existing SCAG resources and the use of partners and additional resources. She also reported that if adopted the next steps were to continue working with the IERS recommendations, integrating key concepts around economic growth into the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategies (RTP/SCS), tracking new State and Federal funding sources, and supporting subregional partners in securing funding.

Regional Council Member Huang, TCA, stated this was excellent work and expressed she was really excited to see that as part of the plan they were addressing the issue of building wealth for the lower income families.

2nd Vice President Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, congratulated Ms. Hornstock and staff on the work that was done.

A MOTION was made (Ramirez) to recommend that the Regional Council adopt the Final Report and Recommendations. Motion was SECONDED (Pollock) and passed by the following votes:



AYES: Barger, Brown, Huang, Lorimore, McCallon, Pollock, Ramirez, Robertson, Viegas-Walker, Wagner, Wapner and Yokoyama (12)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

2. Minutes of the Meeting – June 2, 2021
3. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-017-C01, Supporting Infrastructure for Zero Emission Heavy Duty Vehicles
4. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-005-C01, Information Technology Research and Advisory Services
5. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 22-007-C01, Primary Internet Connections
6. Contracts Amendment Greater Than \$75,000 and Greater Than 30% of the Contract’s Original Value: Contract No. 19-006-C01, Amendment 6, OnBase Maintenance and Support Licenses
7. Amendment \$75,000 or Greater or 30% or more of the Original Contract’s Value: Contract No. 17-024-C1 Amendment 10, High Quality Transit Area (HQTA) Analysis
8. Amendment \$75,000 or Greater or 30% or More of the Original Contract’s Value: Contract No. 21-028-C01 Amendment 1, Safe and Resilient Streets Strategies and Mini-Grants
9. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

10. Purchase Orders \$5,000 - \$199,999; Contracts \$25,000 - \$199,999 and Amendments \$5,000 - \$74,999
11. CFO Monthly Report



Immediate Past President Alan Wapner, SBCTA, requested to pull Agenda Items No. 3 and No. 5 of the Consent Calendar.

President Lorimore called on staff to provide a brief report on Agenda Items No. 3 and No. 5.

Immediate Past President Wapner stated that Agenda Item No. 3 indicated the contract was for about \$1.1 million and only showed funding for \$593,000. He asked how they were going to pay for the remainder. Leyton Morgan, Contracts Manager, stated that they would be budgeting for the balance of the project in next year's budget. With respect to Agenda Item No. 5, Immediate Past President Wapner stated that the contract was for \$315,000 and showed this year's budget at \$111,000 with additional funding, if available. He asked what would happen if funding was not available. Mr. Morgan stated that if funding was not available, then they would be cancelling the contract. Mr. Morgan further clarified that they would be starting the contract now and would be budgeting out the amount in the next years. He also indicated that there were deliverables associated with each amount of funding, so that they don't spend funding and get nothing in return.

A MOTION was made (Brown) to approve Consent Calendar, Items 2 through 9; Receive and File Item 10 and 11. Motion was SECONDED (Robertson) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Barger, Brown, Harnik, Huang, Lorimore, McCallon, Pollock, Ramirez, Robertson, Viegas-Walker, Wagner, Wapner and Yokoyama (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CFO REPORT

Tom Philip, Acting Chief Financial Officer, reported that they had sent out the FY 2022 membership invoices and were in the process of preparing for the year-end close and audit. He also stated they collaborated with the public affairs and policy group and made several improvements related to the invoicing and collections process of membership dues and anticipated that this would result in timely collections this fiscal year. He reported they also collaborated with the Office of Regional Council Support group and made some improvements to processing stipend payments, specifically payments would no longer be lumped together into one payment, but rather broken out individually, which allows them to attach the description for each payment. Lastly, he indicated that one of the key benefits to making this change was that they were able to convert more vendors to electronic payments, which had been one of their primary goals since the pandemic.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lorimore reported that the EAC members participated in a strategic planning session to discuss his plan for the year, which included discussion on goal setting. Lastly, he reminded the EAC members that August was a dark month and that the next meeting of the EAC was scheduled for Wednesday, September 1 at 3:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Ajise reported that on June 23, they met with Executive Directors of the Subregional Councils of Governments (COG) to share information on SCAG programs. He stated SCAG was now hosting bi-monthly meetings to improve communications and coordination with the subregions. He reported that they touched upon a number of items like an update on the Regional Early Actin Plan (REAP), SCAG resources available to support COGs, and the re-launch of SCAG's technical working group, as they begin to develop the 2024 plan.

He also provided an update on the Connect SoCal Implementation Strategy and reported that staff was working on a full report to the Policy Committees and Regional Council for the meeting in September, which will include an update on the progress made on the activities outlined in the implementation strategy and a series of new studies aimed at advancing the "Key Connection" strategies in the plan. He indicated that they were anticipating a significant amount of one-time resources being available to expand upon the Connect SoCal Implementation Strategy. He reported that the Governor's California Comeback Plan and budget bill, both support the creation of a new program that provides funding to metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to support planning and implementation activities to meet the goals under each region's SCS and at this point knew that the main budget bill included \$600 million for a state-wide program to accomplish this work. Lastly, he stated they had already started the dialogue with their partners in the Subregions and at the County Transportation Commissions about the prospect of these resources coming to the region and anticipate having more information by September.

He reported that on June 23, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the MPO component of the 2021 Active Transportation Program (ATP), including 23 projects totaling \$93.4 million for the SCAG region, which were approved by the Regional Council back in May and submitted to the CTC. He highlighted that the State Budget Act of 2021, as approved by the Senate and the Assembly, includes an additional \$500 million to ATP, subject to approval by the Governor. He stated that once this ATP augmentation is approved as part of the State Budget, they expect 40% for MPO augmentation, which could result in \$105 million for SCAG's region. Additionally, he indicated that staff will continue to coordinate with the CTC's to develop MPO component recommendations to present in September to meet the CTC's schedule.

Lastly, he provided a brief report on the State Budget and reported that on June 28, the State Legislature adopted a budget bill junior, which includes \$6 billion for broadband infrastructure and \$3.5 million for the IERS. He also highlighted advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C. and stated that Congress was working to reauthorize the surface transportation policy bill that authorizes all the nation's surface transportation programs.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Regional Councilmember Art Brown, Buena Park, District 21, stated he read an article on the convergence on housing and the drought, and requested a future presentation on this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Orange County Council of Governments v. Gustavo Velasquez, Interim Director of Dept. of Housing and Community Development; California Dept. of Housing and Community Development; Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 21STCP01970 [Note: Southern California Association of Governments is named as a "real party in interest"]

President Lorimore asked if there were any public comments on the closed session. Seeing none, he closed the public comment period.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, announced Closed Session discussion on Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1), *Orange County Council of Governments v. Gustavo Velasquez, Interim Director of Dept. of Housing and Community Development; California Dept. of Housing and Community Development; Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 21STCP01970* [Note: Southern California Association of Governments is named as a "real party in interest"]

Regional Councilmember Brown asked if he needed to recuse himself from closed session.

Chief Counsel Michael Houston stated that Regional Councilmember Brown did not need to recuse himself and that his service as a public official with respect to OCCOG does not rise to the level of a conflict of interest under Political Reform Act or Section 1090, at this point, or with respect to the common law doctrine and conflict of interest.

Discussion ensued by the EAC members with respect to Regional Councilmember Brown not needing to recuse himself from the Closed Session.

President Lorimore recessed the EAC into Closed Session.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

President Lorimore reconvened the meeting of the EAC.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, reported that EAC members met in closed session and there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Lorimore adjourned the Regular Meeting of the EAC at 4:17 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

2021-22																
MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	JUN	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	Total M Attend To Date	
Hon. Clint Lorimore, President	Eastvale	District 4	1	1	D A R K										2	
Hon. Jan Harnik, Chair, 1st Vice Chair		RCTC	1	1												2
Sup. Carmen Ramirez, 2nd Vice Chair		Ventura County	1	1												2
Hon. Rex Richardson, Imm. Past President	Long Beach	District 29	1	0												1
Hon. Jorge Marquez, Chair, CEHD	Covina	District 33	1	0												1
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Vice Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 23	1	1												2
Hon. David Pollock, Chair, EEC	Moorpark	District 46	1	1												2
Hon. Deborah Roberston, Vice Chair, EEC	Rialto	District 8	1	1												2
Hon. Sean Ashton, Chair, TC	Downey	District 25	1	0												1
Hon. Art Brown, Vice Chair, TC	Buena Park	District 21	1	1												2
Hon. Alan Wapner, Chair, LCMC		SBCTA	1	1												2
Hon. Peggy Huang, Vice Chair, LCMC		TCA	1	1												2
Sup. Kathryn Barger, President's Appt.		Los Angeles County	1	1												2
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.	Highland	District 7	1	1												2
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, President's Appt.	El Centro	District 1	1	1												2
Sup. Donald P. Wagner, President's Appt.		Orange County	1	1												2
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	1	0												1
Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-Officio Member	Lewis Group of Companies	Business Representative	1	1												2
			18	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Attachment: EAC Attendance Sheet 2021-22 (Minutes of the Meeting - June 30, 2021)