



**NO. 667**  
**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Regional Council (RC) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held a regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

**Members Present**

**Sup. Curt Hagman, President**

**Hon. Ray Marquez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Hon. Art Brown, Imm. Past President**

Sup. Luis Plancarte

Sup. Don Wagner

Sup. Karen Spiegel

Sup. Vianey Lopez

Michael Goodsell

Hon. Jan Harnik,

Hon. Alan Wapner

Hon. Mike T. Judge

Hon. Gil Rebollar

Hon. Kathleen Kelly

Hon. Clint Lorimore

Hon. Damon L. Alexander

Hon. Acquanetta Warren

Hon. Rick Denison

Hon. John Gabbard

Hon. Wendy Bucknum

Hon. Carlos Leon

Hon. Joe Kalmick

Hon. Marty Simonoff

*Chino Hills*

*Buena Park*

*Brawley*

*Palm Desert*

*Eastvale*

*San Bernardino*

*Fontana*

*Yucca Valley*

*Dana Point*

*Mission Viejo*

*Anaheim*

*Seal Beach*

*Brea*

**San Bernardino County**

**District 10**

**District 21**

Imperial County

Orange County

Riverside County

Ventura County

ICTC

RCTC

SBCTA

VCTC

District 1

District 2

District 4

District 7

District 8

District 11

District 12

District 13

District 19

District 20

District 22



Hon. Jeff Wood	<i>Lakewood</i>	District 24
Hon. José Luis Solache	<i>Lynwood</i>	District 26
Hon. Suely Saro	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Andrew Lara	<i>Pico Rivera</i>	District 31
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32
Hon. Gary Boyer	<i>Glendora</i>	District 33
Hon. Thomas Wong	<i>Monterey Park</i>	District 34
Hon. Keith Eich	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Lauren Meister	<i>West Hollywood</i>	District 41
Hon. David J. Shapiro	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Laura Hernandez	<i>Port Hueneme</i>	District 45
Hon. Rocky Rhodes	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Steve Sanchez	<i>La Quinta</i>	District 66
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Marisela Nava	<i>Perris</i>	District 69
Hon. Larry McCallon		Air District Representative
Ms. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

**Members Not Present**

**Hon. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice President**

- Sup. Kathryn Barger
- Sup. Hilda Solis
- Hon. Trish Kelley
- Hon. Linda Krupa
- Hon. Zak Schwank
- Hon. Frank Navarro
- Hon. L. Dennis Michael
- Hon. Tammy Kim
- Hon. Lauren Kleiman
- Hon. Valerie Amezcua
- Hon. Jon Dumitru
- Hon. Marshall Goodman
- Hon. Frank Yokoyama
- Hon. Claudia Frometa
- Hon. Ali Saleh
- Hon. Mark E. Henderson
- Hon. Margaret E. Finlay
- Hon. Steve Tye

**Members Not Present**

***Long Beach***

- Hemet*
- Temecula*
- Colton*
- Rancho Cucamonga*
- Irvine*
- Newport Beach*
- Santa Ana*
- Orange*
- La Palma*
- Cerritos*
- Downey*
- Bell*
- Gardena*
- Duarte*
- Diamond Bar*

**Members Not Present**

**District 30**

- Los Angeles County
- Los Angeles County
- TCA
- District 3
- District 5
- District 6
- District 9
- District 14
- District 15
- District 16
- District 17
- District 18
- District 23
- District 25
- District 27
- District 28
- District 35
- District 37



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Hon. Tim Sandoval	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. James Gazeley	<i>Lomita</i>	District 39
Hon. Drew Boyles	<i>El Segundo</i>	District 40
Hon. Nikki Perez	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Ken Mann	<i>Lancaster</i>	District 43
Hon. Eunisses Hernandez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 48
Hon. Paul Krekorian	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 49/Public Transit Rep.
Hon. Bob Blumenfield	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 50
Hon. Nithya Raman	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Katy Young Yaroslavsky	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 52
Hon. Imelda Padilla	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 53
Hon. Monica Rodriguez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 54
Hon. Marqueece Harris-Dawson	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 55
Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 56
Hon. Heather Hutt	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Traci Park	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 58
Hon. John Lee	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 59
Hon. Hugo Soto-Martinez	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 60
Hon. Kevin de León	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 61
Hon. Tim McOsker	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Casey McKeon	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Elizabeth Becerra	<i>Victorville</i>	District 65
Hon. Celeste Rodriguez	<i>San Fernando</i>	District 67
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Brd.
Hon. Karen Bass	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-at-Large

**Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer  
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer  
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer  
Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer  
Michael Maurer, Board Counsel  
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel  
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board  
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

President Hagman thanked members for coming in and noted the importance of in person meetings which allowed for networking and meeting with several members from different counties and

cities. He explained that the Policy Committees would still have the remote option available and that both the Regional Council and Executive Administration Committee (EAC) would be all in person. He asked Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer, to note some policy changes that would allow members to stay the night before.

Mr. Chidsey explained that on the Consent Calendar there was a change to the travel policy which would reduce mileage from 75 to 50 to be eligible for a hotel stay. Additionally, EAC members who lived outside of Los Angeles County would also be eligible when there was a 9:00 a.m. meeting.

President Hagman further noted that there would be changes and that he wanted all the committees to do the heavy lifting. Additionally, he indicated they would hear from the Chair's on what happened at the Policy Committees, this way they could do their primary business first at the Regional Council and then dig deep into some more policy discussions. He explained that they would see more items on the Consent Calendar than they normally would but that was because they had already been presented at the Policy Committees.

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Hagman called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. and asked Regional Council Ray Marquez, Chino Hills, District 10, to lead the pledge of allegiance.

Michael Maurer, BBK Board Counsel, asked members who were participating in the meeting due to "just cause" to identify themselves and indicate why they were participating remotely.

Regional Council Member Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach, District 20, identified himself and indicated he was self-isolating at home with his wife due to a positive COVID 19 diagnosis.

Board Counsel Maurer also asked Regional Council Member Kalmick to identify if there was anyone else in the room who was 18 or older.

Regional Council Member Kalmick indicated his wife was also in the room with him.

Regional Council Member Kathleen Kelly, Palm Desert, District 2, expressed that she appreciated deeply all the President's remarks and was thankful that she could participate remotely on this day for essential family care. She indicated that there was no one in the immediate room with her.

Board Counsel Maurer asked Regional Council Members Kalmick and Kelly to leave their video on as it was a requirement under the "just cause" rule.

President Hagman noted that due to the observance of Rosh Hashanah there would be no EAC, Policy Committees or Regional Council meetings on October 3. As a result, he indicated they would have fewer meetings this fall and needed to make up for that, so they revised their schedule to include EAC, Policy Committees, and Regional Council meetings in December, a day traditionally reserved for SCAG's Economic Summit. He indicated they were not abandoning the summit only that they were reimagining their December Regional Council meeting to incorporate the economic summit alongside their SCAG regular business. He shared that the meeting would feature their annual economic reporting and allow for an in-depth discussion among Regional Council Members about the analysis.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Hagman opened the Public Comment Period for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda.

The Clerk of the Board acknowledged there were no public comments received before the 5:00 p.m. deadline.

Seeing no public comment speakers for items not listed on the agenda, President Hagman closed the Public Comment Period.

### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

David J. Shapiro, Community, Economy and Human Development Committee (CEHD) Chair, reported that at the CEHD Committee meeting they had three information items: 1) a SCAG 101 presentation for their new policy committee members; 2) discussion of the CEHD Agenda Outlook for the upcoming fiscal year; and 3) a presentation on the State's RHNA reform report, called the California's Housing Future 2040: the Regional Housing Needs Assessment. He further explained that SCAG staff presented on how HCD's report compares to SCAG's recommendations and provided an overview of other topics not covered in SCAG's recommendations. He noted they were all expecting there to be a lot of legislative interest in RHNA reform next year, and SCAG's legislation team would continue to monitor that and coordinate SCAG's response through SCAG's Legislative Committee. Lastly, he shared that SCAG sent a letter requesting the legislature's housing committees conduct a public hearing on HCD's report and noted that HCD had been invited to present its report at a future Regional Council meeting.

There were no comments on the CEHD Chair report.

Luis Plancarte, Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) Chair, reported that at the EEC Committee meeting they had two action items and four information items. He noted that the two action items, the Recommendation to Adopt Addendum 1 to the Connect SoCal 2024 Final Program Environmental Impact Report and the Transportation Conformity Determinations of Proposed Final Transportation Improvement Program and Proposed Final Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 1, were both on Consent Approval. He shared that the information items were: 1) an update on the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program; 2) discussion of the EEC Agenda Outlook for this fiscal year; 3) a presentation on available federal and state grant programs related to climate adaptation and mitigation, and 4) a presentation providing a contextual overview of SB 375 in advance of the CARB target and guidelines update process.

There were no comments on the EEC Chair report.

Mike Judge, Transportation Committee (TC) Vice Chair, reported that at the TC meeting they approved two items and received four information items. He noted that one of the approved items on the Consent Calendar was the Amended ATP Cycle 7 Regional Guidelines and 2024 SCP Active Transportation and Safety Guidelines and the other item was Approval of the 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Amendment 1 to Connect SoCal 2024. He shared that the information items were: 1) review of the TC Agenda Outlook for this fiscal year; 2) a presentation on the Broadband Permit Streamlining Report and Model Ordinance; 3) an update on preparations for the Comprehensive Sustainable Regional Freight Plan (On the Move), as well as on the progress of the Southern California Zero Emissions Truck Infrastructure (ZETI) Study; and 4) a presentation on transportation trends.

There were no comments on the TC Chair report.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

***Action Item 1 and the Consent Calendar were acted upon together. The roll call vote is reflected below.***

1. 2024 California Clean Air Day Proclamation

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that the action before the Regional Council was for them to approve a proclamation pledging SCAG's support for California Clean Air Day which was on October 2. He indicated that it was an opportunity to encourage individuals and organizations to do their part in cleaning the air. He shared that last year they had more than 16,500 individuals and more than 125,000 clean air pledges; with 22 transit agencies providing free rides on buses, trains,

bike share programs, and ferries; and 121 California Clean Air Day events that were held virtually and in-person. He indicated that SCAG was encouraging its 197 member jurisdictions to explore actions and pledges that encourage Clean Air Day pledges. He further noted that SCAG was encouraging staff to take the pledge. Lastly, he informed the Regional Council that earlier in the day, the EAC had recommended approval of this proclamation.

There were no public comments on Item No. 1.

President Hagman asked for a motion.

Regional Council Member Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood, District 26, made the motion to approve item No. 1 and was seconded by Regional Council Member Larry McCallon, Air District Representative.

President Hagman indicated they would hold off on the vote until they did the Consent Calendar because they had a couple of remote members. He asked if there was any public comment on the Consent Calendar.

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

President Hagman asked if anyone wanted to pull anything from Items 2 through 10.

Regional Council Member Donald Wagner, Orange County, asked to pull Item No. 9.

President Hagman indicated they would have the report on Item No. 9 before taking the motion on the Consent Calendar.

Kevin Gilhooley, State and Federal Legislative Affairs Manager, reported Item No. 9 was a recommendation from the Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee to support Senate Bill 960 by Senator Scott Weiner. He explained that under current law, Caltrans was required to improve and to maintain the State's highways. He indicated that it does so through a variety of State programs to plan and to fund for their development, construction and repair, including the State Highway Operation and Protection Program, or SHOPP. He further explained that SB 960 would require Caltrans to consider the incorporation of complete streets elements into SHOPP funded projects.

President Hagman suggested holding Item No. 9 for a separate vote since there had been some EAC members that voted no on the item. He proceeded to ask for a motion on the remainder of the Items 2 through 8, 10 and Receive and File Items 11 through 16. *(The motion makers were not clear but later in the meeting the Clerk confirms.)*

Board Counsel Maurer indicated that they could do one round of calling the votes and if anyone was going to vote no, they could be kept separate.

President Hagman reconfirmed that they could just state they were a no vote on a particular item when the roll call vote got to them.

The Clerk reconfirmed that they were taking an action on Item 1, the Consent Calendar, and the Receive and File Items.

Regional Council Member Jan Harnik, RCTC, indicated that they should have a discussion on Item 9 as Regional Council Member Wagner and Regional Council Member Wendy Bucknum, Mission Viejo, District 13, had comments on the Item.

Regional Council Member Wagner stated that on behalf of OCCOG they had taken an oppose position on SB 960 due to concerns that it would add additional burden to SHOPP. He indicated that Caltrans was already having some difficulties doing what it was instructed to do under this program and under State law. He urged a no vote on this Item as it was an additional burden on this program at this time that was not need.

Regional Council Member Bucknum indicated that she did speak on this item at the EAC. She indicated that this truly felt like overkill and would want to get input specifically to this body from their County Transportation Commission before they support a bill like this, which is why she would be voting no.

President Hagman asked if they had a motion and a second on the Consent Calendar.

The Clerk indicated they had a motion by Regional Council Member Solache and a second by Regional Council Member McCallon.

Board Counsel Maurer indicated they had one point of clarification that they needed to add for the record, and he asked Chief Counsel to announce it.

Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel, noted for the record that they were approving Consent Calendar Item No. 5, which was adopting Addendum 1 to their PEIR prior to considering and approving Items 6 and 7, which revolved around amending Connect SoCal 2024.

President Hagman sought clarification on what this meant and if they needed a separate vote.

Chief Counsel Elder indicated they could do all of this under the same vote, they were just acknowledging that they considered it and approved it.

Board Counsel Maurer confirm that it was ok that they do the vote altogether as they were simply putting it on the record that they were considering Addendum 1 before Items 6 and 7. He reminded members if they were voting no on Item 9 to just state it.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approval Items

2. Minutes of the Meeting – June 6, 2024
3. Amendment to Lodging Reimbursement Policy in the Regional Council Policy Manual
4. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 24-037-C01 through 24-037-C06, Temporary Worker Services
5. Recommendation to Adopt Addendum 1 to the Connect SoCal 2024 Final Program Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No.: 2022100337)
6. Transportation Conformity Determinations of Proposed Final 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Proposed Final Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 1
7. Approval of 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Amendment 1 to Connect SoCal 2024
8. Amended ATP Cycle 7 Regional Guidelines and 2024 SCP Active Transportation and Safety Guidelines
9. SB 960 (Wiener) - Transportation: Complete Streets Facilities: Transit Priority Facilities
10. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

11. September 2024 State and Federal Legislative Update
12. 2024 Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) Retreat Update
13. Transportation Trends Update
14. Broadband Permit Streamlining Report and Ordinance

15. Purchase Orders, Contract and Amendments below Regional Council's Approval Threshold

16. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Solache) to approve **Item No. 1:** Approve and adopt proclamation in support for and declaration of 2024 California Clean Air Day; **Consent Calendar Items:** 2 through 10; and Consent Calendar Items 11 through 16. Motion was SECONDED (McCallon). Item 1, Consent Calendar Items 2 through 8, 10, and Receive and File Items 11 through 16 passed, and Item 9 failed by the following roll call votes.

**AYES:** Alexander, Boyer, Brown, Bucknum, Clark, Crosswhite, Denison, Eich, Gabbard, Goodsell, Hagman, Harnik, L. Hernandez, Judge, J. Kalmick, Kelly, Lara, Leon, Lock Dawson, Lopez, Lorimore, Manos, Marquez, McCallon, Meister, Nava, Plancarte, Rebollar, Rhodes, S. Sanchez, Saro, Shapiro, Simonoff, Solache, Spiegel, Wagner, Wapner, Warren, Wong, and Wood (40)

**NOES:** **Item 9:** Boyer, Brown, Bucknum, Clark, Eich, Gabbard, Goodsell, Judge, Kalmick, Kelly, Lorimore, Manos, McCallon, Nava, Rhodes, S. Sanchez, Simonoff, Spiegel, Wagner, Wapner, and Wood (21)

**ABSTAIN:** **Item 9:** Lara (1)

#### **INFORMATION ITEM**

17. Presidential Priority: Transit Recovery & Technology

President Hagman reported that at the June EAC Retreat, board leadership established Presidential Priorities and Objectives for Fiscal Year 2024-25. He indicated that among the priorities established was a focus on transit recovery and clean transportation technology with an emphasis on optimizing emerging technologies. He explained that their long-range plan, Connect SoCal 2024, envisioned a future in which transit was the backbone of their mobility ecosystem, enabling seamless and efficient travel without automobile ownership. He emphasized that frequent, reliable, and convenient transit was vital for advancing both the state and region's vision of more livable and equitable communities. Nonetheless, he noted that the future of transit was at a crossroads. He noted that overall, their region's bus ridership was currently 13 percent below where it was pre-pandemic and Metrolink's rail ridership was currently 45 percent lower than pre-pandemic. He indicated that these conditions were not unique to Southern California and across the nation and California, transit was still in the process of recovering from early impacts of the pandemic and the enduring changes to travel patterns.

Executive Director Ajise explained that this was one of the Presidential priorities that they had for the year to discuss transit recovery and technology. He introduced Darren Kettle, Metrolink's Chief Executive Officer, Kristin Warsinski, Riverside Transit Agency's Chief Executive Officer, and Jennifer Nguyen, Riverside Transit Agency's Planning Director who would provide a presentation on transit across the region.

Darren Kettle, Metrolink Chief Executive Officer, briefly introduced himself and provided an overview of the Metrolink system which serves six counties, seven lines, 545 miles, 67 stations, and operates 142 trains. He also noted that in March 2020 ridership changed, and they had to modify their service levels because people were working from home. He indicated that they had five member counties that supported them which were the counties of San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, Los Angeles and Ventura. He shared information on ridership levels since the pandemic and indicated they had made some progress over the last three years; however, it was still fundamentally different than where they were four years ago. Nonetheless, he indicated they were seeing progress and that they couldn't keep doing business the way they had been doing business. He shared that the Metrolink Board and their member agencies have said that they were going to have to change their business model. He also shared information about the commuter rail sector in the United States and what their sister agencies were doing. He explained that several were still struggling to increase ridership. He highlighted that MBTA in Boston had done such a great job in these last few years because they had already adapted to what they consider the new normal of changing their business model away from being about commuters. He shared that the Metrolink Board and their member agencies this last year made a full commitment to change their business model, and they called it Metrolink Reimagined. He highlighted the system's transformation from a commuter-focused service to a more flexible, regional rail approach, with an optimized schedule offering more trains throughout the day, including evenings and weekends. This change aims to improve connections between lines, reduce wait times for transfers, and provide more convenient options for riders.

Kristin Warsinski, Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) Chief Executive Officer, explained they were the RTA for Western Riverside County and had a 2,500 square mile service area, the second largest in the nation, with a lot of challenges trying to figure out how to serve the area. She thanked SCAG and Regional Council for their support as they recently received REAP funding in the amount of \$2.3 million through a partnership with RCTC for their micro-transit pilot program. She presented on the agency's micro transit pilot program, which was developed to improve efficiency and save costs in their service area. She shared that the program, launched in October 2020, was designed to complement the core network by removing three underperforming routes and adding a new circulator route. She explained that the circulator served 80% of the ridership, while microtransit was used to complement the core network. She indicated that the microtransit service zone has been successful, with an average of over five passengers per hour, and has saved over \$2 million

annually compared to 2019. She also noted a shift from dial-a-ride to microtransit, which was cheaper and offered more flexibility to passengers. She also noted that the program, which involved administrative and executive level staff teaching riders at bus stops, was successful in preparing riders for the new changes.

Jennifer Nguyen, Riverside Transit Agency's Planning Director, provided a comparison of the GoMicro Ridership totals from 2023 and 2024 and noted that there had been a growth in the use of their program since its inception. Her presentation also included information regarding on-time performance, passengers per vehicle hour, and program enhancements to improve efficiency by optimizing school trips, adding automatic booking limitations, looking at wait time increase and variation, improving driver schedules, and making some fixed route booking restrictions. She also provided information about their new and existing ridership totals. She outlined future plans which included continued monitoring of the system, potential integration with Google Maps, and the introduction of multimodal trip planning within the Go Micro app. She also introduced the micro-transit app, which allows users to reserve trips up to seven days in advance.

The presenters and Regional Council engaged in discussions. Questions were raised about the appeal of buses and the potential for expansion of services. Ms. Warsinski also mentioned a study planned for the next year to explore the potential of expanding their services to suburban areas in Riverside County. There was also discussion on creating an app with small business to support micro transit which would lead to economic development. The presenters were also encouraged to work towards a common app for transit systems, integrating Google Transit and other technologies. Mr. Kettle briefly touched upon security and safety on public transit and the confusion between LA Metro and Metrolink. There was also mention of a new hydrogen fuel cell, zero-emission multiple unit that would be piloted on a 9-mile stretch between San Bernardino and Redlands, with the potential for wider implementation throughout California and the US. Discussion was also had on attracting new ridership and providing more information on how to access transit.

### **BUSINESS REPORT**

Regional Council Member Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, noted that her business report was on page 289 of the packet. She reported that they were anticipating a rate increase on September 17 of about 25 basis points. She also noted that offsetting the interest rate cut, was the likelihood of more job losses coming. She also reported that new home sales were really being helped by lots of incentives to home buyers from the home builders. She also shared that in her report there were several links to President Biden's White House released comprehensive reports on how CEQA among other things is hurting housing production and notes for local government to look at from HUD on pathways to removing obstacles. She reported that BizFed LA was hosting a forum on September 12 with Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara and that fire insurance was still the top issue. She indicated that the building industry doesn't believe that real relief will come for two

years, but that there were progress steps. She also reported that the GLUE Council would be meeting on September 30 at 10:00 a.m. and they were opening their meeting with President Curt Hagman who would be providing a presentation on priorities so that the business community knows where SCAG was going this coming year. Lastly, she briefly touched on AB 98, a bill that the business community was upset about. She indicated that it really undercuts local land use planning on warehousing and their whole goods movement strategy. She noted that the business community was asking the Governor to veto this bill.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Hagman welcomed Regional Council Members Michael Goodsell from Holtville, ICTC Representative, and Andrew Lara from Pico Rivera. He provided a brief update on the SCAG sponsored bill AB 2485 which would increase transparency in the Regional Housing Needs Assessment determination process. He indicated the bill was held in suspense and did not move forward. He thanked everyone who was involved in the legislative process. He also reported that they attended a Ventura County Mobile Tour with several SCAG members and got a tour of Port Hueneme. Lastly, he reminded members that the next meeting of the Regional Council was scheduled for November 7.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Ajise reported that the issues with the U.S. EPA had been resolved amicably and as result there was no longer the threat of highway sanctions. He also shared that they were able to secure the largest U.S. EPA grant for the region through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program in the amount of \$500 million and that SCAG was going to use \$50 million of that to invest in the Last Mile Freight Program. He briefly touched upon the Paris Observation Tour where SCAG staff observed behind the scenes of the Paris Olympics in preparation for the 2028 Olympics. He indicated there would be more updates to come. He also provided a status update on the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) which was submitted to the California Air Resources Board (CARB). He shared that the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) had been approved by both the State and Federal Government within two weeks of being submitted. He explained that CARB was still reviewing the SCS, and they were getting information that it was not looking favorable. He shared that he had a meeting scheduled with the Director of CARB and were continuing to work with them. He expressed that he thought there was a bit of a disagreement on some technical points, and they were hoping to work through that. He also explained that they had been pushing back on CARB about resetting the SB 375 discussion and noted that it was an ongoing conversation amongst the four largest MPO's in the state and would keep the board posted on those discussions. He also provided an update on AB 98 and noted that by the time the bill got through, they were done with their LCMC process and so they didn't have a chance to bring it back to LCMC.



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He indicated that they talked about it and felt that it fit within the platform that was already set by the LCMC which gave them an opportunity to be able to submit a veto letter from SCAG.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future agenda items.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Regional Council Member Suely Saro, Long Beach, District 29, noted that the closing ceremony of the Olympics was in Long Beach and not Venice Beach.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Hagman adjourned the meeting of the Regional Council at 1:57 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL]

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**Regional Council Attendance Report**

2023-2024

MEMBERS	Representing	2023-2024													Total Mtgs Attended To Date	
		Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May			
Alexander, Damon L.	San Bernardino, RC District 7	0			1											1
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, RC District 30	1			0											1
Amezcuca, Valerie	Santa Ana, RC District 16	0			0											0
Barger, Kathryn	Los Angeles County	0			0											0
Bass, Karen	Los Angeles, (Member at Large)	0			0											0
Becerra, Elizabeth	Victorville, RC District 65	0			0											0
Blumenfield, Bob	Los Angeles, RC District 50	0			0											0
Boyer, Gary	Glendora, RC District 33	0			1											1
Boyles, Drew	El Segundo, RC District 40	1			0											1
Brown, Art	Buena Park, RC District 21	1			1											2
Bucknum, Wendy	Mission Viejo, RC District 13	1	D	D	1											2
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, RC District 32	1			1											2
Crosswhite, Jenny	Santa Paula, RC District 47	1			1											2
de Leon, Kevin	Los Angeles, RC District 61	0			0											0
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, RC District 11	1			1											2
Dumitru, Jon	Orange, RC District 17	1			0											1
Dunn, Lucy	Business Representative	1			1											2
Eich, Keith	La Cañada Flintridge, RC District 36	1			1											2
Finlay, Margaret E.	Duarte, RC District 35	1	A	A	0											1
Frometa, Claudia M.	Downey, RC District 25	1			0											1
Gabbard, John	Dana Point, RC District 12	0			1											1
Gazeley, James	Lomita, RC District 39	1			0											1
Goodman, Marshall	La Palma, RC District 18	1			0											1
Goodsell, Mike	ICTC Representative				1											1
Hagman, Curt	San Bernardino County	1			1											2
Harnik, Jan C.	RCTC Representative	1			1											2
Harris-Dawson, Marqueece	Los Angeles, RC District 55	0			0											0
Henderson, Mark E.	Gardena, RC District 28	1			0											1
Hernandez, Eunisses	Los Angeles, RC District 48	0			0											0
Hernandez, Laura	Port Hueneme, RC District 45	1			1											2
Hutt, Heather	Los Angeles, RC District 57	0	R	R	0											0
Judge, Mike T.	VCTC Representative	1			1											2
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, RC District 20	1			1											2
Kelley, Trish	TCA Representative	1			0											1
Kelly, Kathleen	Palm Desert, RC District 2	1			1											2
Kim, Tammy	Irvine, RC District 14	1			0											1
Kleiman, Lauren	Newport Beach, RC District 15	1			0											1
Krekorian, Paul	Los Angeles, RC District 49/Public Transit Rep	0			0											0
Krupa, Linda	Hemet, RC District 3	1	K	K	0											1
Lara, Andrew	Pico Rivera, RC District 31				1											1
Lee, John	Los Angeles, RC District 59	0			0											0
Leon, Carlos A.	Anaheim, RC District 19	0			1											1
Lock Dawson, Patricia	Riverside, RC District 68	0			1											1
Lopez, Vianey	Ventura County	0			1											1
Lorimore, Clint	Eastvale, RC District 4	1			1											2
Mann, Ken	Lancaster, RC District 43	1			0											1
Manos, Steve	Lake Elsinore, RC District 63	1			1											2
Marquez, Ray	Chino Hills, RC District 10	1			1											2
Masiel, Andrew	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians Tribal Gov. Reg. Plng. Brd.	0			0											0
McCallon, Larry	Air District Representative	1			1											2
McKeon, Casey	Huntington Beach, RC District 64	1			0											1
McOsker, Tim	Los Angeles, RC District 62	1			0											1
Meister, Lauren	West Hollywood, RC District 41	1			1											2
Michael, L. Dennis	Rancho Cucamonga, RC District 9	0			0											0
Nava, Marisela	Perris, RC District 69	1			1											2
Navarro, Frank J.	Colton, RC District 6	1			0											1
Padilla, Imelda	Los Angeles, RC District 53	0			0											0
Park, Traci	Los Angeles, RC District 58	0			0											0
Perez, Nikki	Burbank, RC District 42	0			0											0
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1			1											2

Attachment: RC Attendance Sheet 2024-25 (Minutes of the Meeting - September 5, 2024)

