



Southern California Association of Governments
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90017
October 1, 2020

**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2020**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC). A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Energy and Environment Committee (EEC) 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 recent Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark (Chair)	District 46
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard (Vice Chair)	District 45
Hon. Daniel Brotman, Glendale	AVCJPA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	SGVCOG
Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village	LVMCOG
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley	VCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena	SGVCOG
Hon. Toni Momberger, Redlands	SBCTA
Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills	SBCTA
Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio	CVAG
Sup. Linda Parks	Ventura County
Hon. Jeannine Pearce, Long Beach	District 30
Sup. Luis Plancarte	Imperial County
Hon. Greg Raths, Mission Viejo	OCCOG
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto	District 8
Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City	District 41
Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank	SFVCOG

Members Not Present

Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland	ICTC
Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate	GCCOG
Hon. Jordan Ehrenkranz, Canyon Lake	WRCOG

OUR MISSION

To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.

OUR VISION

Southern California’s Catalyst for a Brighter Future

OUR CORE VALUES

Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous

Hon. Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa	OCCOG
Hon. Greg Morena, Santa Monica	WSSCOG
Hon. James Osborne, Lawndale	SBCCOG
Hon. Miguel Pulido, Santa Ana	OCTA
Hon. Richard Rollins, Port Hueneme	VCOG
Hon. Rhonda Shader, Placentia	President's Appointment
Hon. Jesus Silva, Fullerton	President's Appointment
Hon. John Valdivia, San Bernardino	SBCCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Bonnie Wright, Hemet	WRCOG

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair David Pollock called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and confirmed that a quorum was present. Chair Pollock and asked Supervisor Luis Plancarte, Imperial County, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair David Pollock provided instructions for public comment and opened the Public Comment Period.

SCAG staff announced that public comments received prior to 5pm on Wednesday, September 1, 2020 were posted to the website and transmitted to members. SCAG staff read into record two comments received after 5pm on Wednesday, September 1 from Michael Hughes, Hills for Everyone; and Kevin C. Shin, Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition. Supervisor Linda Parks, Ventura County, responded to Michael Hughes' comment and provided remarks on wildlife conservation overlay zones in Ventura County.

Seeing there were no further public commenters, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Final Connect SoCal Technical Refinements and PEIR Addendum

Mr. Roland Ok, Senior Regional Planner, provided a presentation on the Connect SoCal PEIR

Addendum. Mr. Ok began with a recap of May 7, 2020 meeting, when the Regional Council adopted Resolution 20-621-1 which approved the PEIR and Plan for federal conformity purposes but postponed full adoption of the Plan to consider impacts of COVID-19, to work with local jurisdictions for refinement of Plan's Growth Forecast in relation to entitlements and to identify differences between the Sustainable Communities Strategy and locally-approved General Plans. He reviewed outreach activities conducted and results of this outreach, both in terms of COVID-19 and technical refinements to the Growth Forecast.

He outlined and addressed comment letters received from the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD). He stated that clarification and additional information requested by CBD does not affect the impact analysis, allowing for an addendum. Furthermore, technical refinements resulted in minimal impacts to Plan performance, and the Plan still achieves federal air quality conformity and meets the State's greenhouse gas reduction targets. Mr. Ok then reviewed contents of the PEIR Addendum chapters and two standalone documents. He closed with next steps, including adoption of Resolution No. 20-624-1 and submittal of the Plan to the California Air Resource Board.

Vice Chair Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard, District 45, thanked Mr. Ok for his presentation and asked for a link to the PEIR Addendum.

2. California Climate Investments (CCI) 2020 Update

Mario Cruz, Climate Investments Branch Chief, California Air Resources Board (CARB), provided a presentation on California Climate Investments (CCI) program. The CCI initiative implements billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars towards workforce, public health and environmental improvements, focused within disadvantaged communities. Funding implemented by CCI is generated as covered entities are required to reduce emissions on purchased allowances to emit pollution. When allowances are auctioned, a portion of funds are redirected to electricity ratepayers and remainder of funds goes into the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF). The State Legislature sets requirements for GGRF and administering State Agencies develop guidelines for implementation. CARB has an oversight role over administering agencies, and CARB also administers programs itself. New programs in 2019 including safe drinking water programs, fluorinated gas emission reduction and sustainable transportation equity projects.

As of 2020, \$12.7 billion have been appropriated through CCI, and \$6.4 billion across over 450,000 individual projects have been implemented. Cumulative project outcomes include land preservation, affordable housing production and deployment of zero-emission vehicles. Mr. Cruz explained CCI's focus on priority populations and investment minimums, as defined by CalEPA, SB 535 and subsequently AB 1550. In the SCAG Region, which has received 30 percent of implemented funds, 78 percent of projects have benefitted priority populations.

Mr. Cruz provided a county-by-county breakdown of projects and implemented funds. He highlighted projects within the SCAG region, including Mission Heritage Plaza project, creating 71 energy-efficient homes in downtown Riverside, alongside new bike lines and tree plantings. He also featured the Volvo Low Impact Green Heavy Transport Solutions project, connecting the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles with zero-emission battery electric trucks and off-road battery electric tractors, and providing charging equipment. Finally, he showcased the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources project, a demonstration project in Ventura County regionally suitable cover crops and healthy soils.

Mr. Cruz closed with implementation updates, discussing appropriations and the Legislature's deferred action during this year's session. He shared the 2020 Annual Report, containing further details on CCI, and the funding wizard tool, which exhibits current funding opportunities.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meeting - July 2, 2020

Receive and File

4. 2020/2021 Sustainable Communities Program Guidelines - Active Transportation & Safety Call for Applications

5. Housing Production Study

A MOTION was made (Robertson) to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion was SECONDED (Sahli-Wells) and passed by the following votes:

AYE/S: Brotman, Clark, Davis, Horne, Litster, Mahmud, Momberger, Moran, Ortiz, Parks, Pearce, Plancarte, Pollock, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Sahli-Wells and Springer (18)

NOE/S: None (0)

ABSTAIN/S: None (0)

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair David Pollock announced that EEC's next meeting is on October 1, 2020; however, there is a Joint Meeting of the Policy Committees immediately following today's meeting.

STAFF REPORT

Grieg Asher, SCAG Staff, announced that six CivicSpark Fellows for a new service year have begun work with SCAG on climate issues and housing programs. The cohort includes three returning fellows.

Chair Pollock asked if the EEC has previously involved a student committee member in its membership. Mr. Asher stated that this may require a change to Bylaws, but he will inquire with SCAG legal staff.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilmember Elaine Litster, Simi Valley, VCOG, expressed concern about recent power outages and possible health consequences, and asked for a future report for the Committee to understand how environmental policies can affect outages.

Regional Councilmember Megan Sahli-Wells, Culver City, District 41, commented on the CivicSpark Fellow program, spoke to the benefits of the program to local jurisdictions and invited fellow members to apply for Fellows through the Local Government Commission. Regional Councilmember Sahli-Wells also spoke to comments received regarding Connect SoCal and asked EEC to consider comments regarding active transportation, environmental justice and equity.

Regional Councilmember Deborah Robertson, Rialto, District 8, acknowledged SCAG staff's work to address Connect SoCal comments and concerns expressed. She discussed a scoping meeting for a rail project in San Bernardino County and its environmental impacts. Finally, she provided background on the Rialto Bioenergy Facility, a large organic waste-to-energy processing plant and asked that it be agendized in the future.

Supervisor Luis Plancarte, Imperial County, asked for a future presentation on the Salton Sea restoration, given ongoing health and environmental impacts and recent state budget commitments to the effort.

Councilmember Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena, SGVCOG, commented that Governor Newsom had ordered an investigation into recent power shutoffs, so a presentation on causes should follow the investigation's conclusion and results.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Councilmember Daniel Brotman, Glendale, AVCJPA, announced that the City of Glendale had hired a Chief Sustainability Officer, and the Glendale City Council had voted to create a Sustainability Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Pollock adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 9:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Waggoner
Energy and Environment Committee Clerk

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

2020-21

MEMBERS	Date Appointed if after 6/4/20	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Beltran, Ana		Westmoreland, ICTC	0		0										0
Brotman, Daniel		Glendale, AVCIPA	1		1										2
Clark, Margaret		Rosemead, SGVCOG	1		1										2
Copeland, Robert		Signal Hill, GCCOG	1		0										1
Davila, Maria		South Gate, GCCOG	0		0										0
Davis, Ned		Westlake Village, LVMOG	1		1										2
Ehrenkranz, Jordan		Canyon Lake, WRCOG	0		0										0
Genis, Sandra		Costa Mesa, OCCOG	1		0										1
Horne, Shari		Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1		1										2
Litster, Elaine		Simi Valley, VCOG	1		1										2
Mahmud, Diana		So. Pasadena, SGVCOG	1		1										2
Momberger, Toni		Redlands, SBCTA	1		1										2
Moran, Cynthia		Chino Hills, SBCTA	1		1										2
Ortiz, Oscar		Indio, CVAG	1		1										2
Osborne, Jim		Lawndale, SBCCOG	0		0										0
Parks, Linda		Ventura County	1		1										2
Pearce, Jeannine		Long Beach, District 30	1		1										2
Plancarte, Luis		Imperial County	1		1										2
Pollock, David (CHAIR)		Moorpark, VCOG	1		1										2
Pulido, Miguel		Santa Ana, OCTA	0		0										0
Ramirez, Carmen (Vice Chair)		Oxnard, RC District 45	1		1										2
Raths, Greg		Mission Viejo, OCCOG	1		1										2
Robertson, Deborah		Rialto, RC District 8	1		1										2
Rollins, Richard		Port Hueneme, VCOG	1		0										1
Sahli-Wells, Meghan		Culver City, RC District 41	1		1										2
Shader, Rhonda		Placentia, President's Appointment	1		0										1
Silva, Jesus		Fullerton, President's Appointment			0										
Springer, Sharon		Burbank, SFVCOG	1		1										2
Valdivia, John		San Bernardino, SBCCOG	1		0										1
Wilson, Edward H.J.		Signal Hill, GCCOG	1		0										1
Wright, Bonnie		Hemet, WRCOG	0		0										1