



MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC). AN 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 regular meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

Members Present

Hon. Art Brown, President	<i>Buena Park</i>	District 21
Sup. Curt Hagman, 1st Vice President		San Bernardino County
Hon. Cindy Allen, 2nd Vice President	<i>Long Beach</i>	Los Angeles County
Hon. Jan Harnik, Imm. Past President	<i>RCTC</i>	Riverside
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC		Imperial County
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC	<i>VCTC</i>	Ventura County
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68
Hon. Clint Lorimore, President’s Appt.	Eastvale	District 4
Hon. Larry McCallon, President’s Appt.		Air District Representative
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26
Hon. Marshall Goodman, President’s Appt.	<i>La Palma</i>	District 18
Hon. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

Members Not Present

Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRP Representative
Hon. Tim McOsker, President’s Appt	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Deborah Robertson, Chair, EEC	<i>Rialto</i>	District 8
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director



Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Erika Bustamante, Deputy Director, Finance
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
Richard Lam, Deputy Legal Counsel
Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable Art Brown called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. President Brown asked First Vice President Curt Hagman, San Bernardino County, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Brown opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. He noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. He reminded the public to submit comments via email to ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel acknowledged there were no written public comments received before or after the deadline.

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

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

ACTION ITEM

1. 2024 Strategic Plan
(Kome Ajise Executive Director)

There were no public comments for Item 1.

Executive Director Kome Ajise provided members background information on SCAG's Strategic Plan. He explained SCAG had adopted a Strategic Plan in 2018 and six years later, they were bringing them an update to the plan. He stated he defined this as an update as some elements of it would stay the same because they were timeless. He shared the world had shifted and the definition of their roles and responsibilities at SCAG needed to be clarified. He stated that at the June 2023 EAC retreat, they had presented the beginnings of the work. He stated they had captured many pages of input from stakeholders, Regional Council members and EAC members. He shared there had been several work sessions internally with staff. He stated the Executive team spent a lot of time going through the input received and trying to sort them into priorities, such that it would make sense for the work SCAG did. Mr. Ajise shared they created several working groups within the organization and spent a good amount of time working through and refining what their role was. He shared with members that as they were going through the existing plan, [the process] validated some things they already knew. He shared that the Vision of the organization seemed timeless and not something they needed to change. He shared the Mission, was also something they did not think needed to change. Moreover, he shared SCAG's values were also validated during this process. He stated they felt like some of the actions and policy positions taken by the Regional Council as well as everything happening around the organization and region made them feel like they needed to be more expressive about being more inclusive. He stated that the idea of inclusivity was expressed in both the Vision and Mission of the organization as they both looked to serve all Southern Californians. He explained that the only thing that changed under SCAG's Values, was adding one more value [which was Cultivating Belonging]. Executive Director Ajise then went on to detail SCAG's roles. He clarified SCAG's role as a Metropolitan Planning Organization [MPO] under federal law and also as a Regional Transportation Planning Agency [RTPA] under state law. He also discussed SCAG's role as a regional convenor and capacity builder as well as its role as an advocate. He stated given they represented all cities and six counties in their region, advocacy became part of the role because they could speak with a voice collectively. Furthermore, he shared with members SCAG was a value-added membership organization as well as a data and information services resource. He also detailed SCAG's role as a thought leader and policy maker. Mr. Ajise then turned the presentation over to Chief Operating Officer, Darin Chidsey to discuss with the EAC what SCAG's Strategic Priorities were.

Chief Operating Officer Chidsey started by discussing that a goal at SCAG was about how they could articulate a group of strategic priorities that brought interconnectedness moving forward, figuring out how all these things come together and how they could shape them together. He shared that during this process they started with many more [priorities] but they landed in a good spot that they were presenting the [members] with five.

Before Mr. Chidsey continued with the presentation, First Vice President Curt Hagman stated they did such good work but thought they did not articulate it well outside of their immediate circles. He

shared his thoughts on SCAG doing more outreach in the press, to get the branding bigger. He shared he thought they might sometimes have to pick a fight rather than just lobbying. He stated this may mean they might have to take a stance that may not be popular with the state or federal legislature. He stated they had to push more because they had a lot of weight and they needed to swing it a little more.

Mr. Chidsey stated that was a good comment and shared SCAG was looking at how to develop a plan to be better at communicating the breadth of work that they had and being more meaningful when making or changing policy at the state and local levels. He then delved into the plan, explain that a new thing about the plan was the description of each one of the priorities. He stated a lot of time was spent describing what they were trying to accomplish within each priority. He then went into detail on some of the objectives listed under each of the five priorities. With the first priority, he explained it was directly related to their work in planning for the region. He stated that with the recent adoption of Connect SoCal, the plan had information of where the region was at and where they thought it needed to be. He stated that for the second priority, they knew it was a complex region and understood it was difficult to get the issues they cared about heard. He stated that being able to reach the various stakeholders and understand what was of interest to them could be challenging therefore moving forward they needed to understand the region better and be better listeners to be better leaders. He shared that under the third priority, they did so much work in data in understanding the region and helping to explain what is going on in the region. He explained they did this not just to share information but to hope they were providing opportunities to spur innovation at the local and community level. He stated this goal focused on their data work and the research in understanding the complexity in the region. He shared they did not think anyone else understood the region the way SCAG did as it related to housing, transportation, and air quality. He shared the fourth priority was about looking towards the future, not just about attracting but about maintaining the workforce. He stated this was about ensuring the workforce was unified around a culture around the mission of the organization and be able to represent the values that were discussed earlier. He stated they wanted to add some work around the pursuit of organizational excellence, because it was not just about having the right people, but having the systems that allow people to do their jobs in the most efficient and effective way. He stated the last priority, was an opportunity to think over the long term, what other types of funding SCAG might need to continue to provide the services they have been able to provide to the membership and the region and preserve the existing funding sources they currently had. He stated the goal of this [priority] was to maximize the resources they had, spend them well and think about how they could continue to expand the work they did.

Lucy Dunn, Business Representative, stated she liked that they included artificial intelligence [in the plan], because if they did not stay ahead or worked with it, they were already lost. Additionally, she stated that under priority 2, if they read it closely, they could interpret it as being an influential voice within their system. She stated she did not see anything specifically where they call out that

they wanted to be the regional voice for state and federal and maybe even international scene. She stated they should not just advocate within a closed system because in order to be more effective they had to be outside their system as well.

Executive Director Ajise addressed member Dunn's comments stating this was why they had to talk about this openly and this was helpful. He stated that looking at fourth bullet [under priority 2] might require them to be more explicit.

Patricia Lock Dawson, LCMC Chair, asked if they intentionally used the word 'cohesive' over 'unified' and if so, why.

Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government Affairs and Public Affairs Officer, responded saying she did not think it was intentional. She stated they had heard member Lock Dawson during interviews with Regional Council members as well as with the stakeholder group and they had heard that word a lot and it was picked up from there.

Member Lock Dawson shared she did not have an issue with it, but those words had different meanings to her. She stated cohesive meant to her that it could potentially be fragile and falling apart and they needed to keep everyone together. She stated they [did need to do that] sometimes and it did not always mean unified. She stated unified meant they were strong because they had one voice.

Immediate Past President Jan Harnik stated she too had some comments. She appreciated they had added "cultivate belonging" and the way it listed "embrace differences" to SCAGs values. She stated she always questioned [why] they had the museum of tolerance as it was so negative to her. She stated they should not be tolerating the differences but rather celebrating and embracing them. She stated she thought that adding [that value] was so important to the whole value system.

Mr. Chidsey thanked the members for all their comments. He stated that on that day, they were sharing the draft and hoping there would be support from it and they could take a vote and move it directly onto the Regional Council with some thought around the revisions that had been suggested. He stated this way they would be able to present it to the Regional Council in June. He stated that while that was an important step what was equally as important, was what came after that. He stated it was their commitment as staff, to sit down and identify how they would accomplish each objective but also how they would ensure there was a mechanism to understand clearly when the [objectives] had been met. He stated this was something as staff they would commit to working through over the summer and reporting back to the members. He stated they did not plan on having that as part of the plan because those changed, whereas the priorities and the objectives were locked in but certainly were integrated as part of the plan.



A MOTION was made (Hagman) to approve SCAG’s 2024 Strategic Plan, including its Vision, Mission, Values, Strategic Priorities, and Objectives. Motion was SECONDED (Solache) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brown, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, McCallon, Plancarte, Shapiro, Solache and Yokoyama (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

2. Resolution No. 24-665-1 Approving the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Final Comprehensive Budget
(Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer)

There were no public comments for Item 2.

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, provided a brief overview of the budget. She reported that on March 6, the EAC and the Regional Council respectively approved the draft comprehensive budget which included the overall work program and the general fund budget. She stated staff had been authorized to release the draft overall work program for public comment. She stated the public comment period closed on April 8, and no comments were received. She shared with members the budget had been prepared to comply with SCAGs primary responsibility, which was to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy, the Federal Transportation Improvement Program along with the air quality management plans. She shared the draft overall work program had been submitted to Caltrans, FHWA and FTA for their review and all comments received were addressed. She explained that because their budget development process began so early in the fiscal year, there were changes that were incorporated between the draft presented in March and the final budget before them that day. She stated that in total, the budget stood at \$403.7 million which was \$26.3 million more than the budget presented in March. She explained the increase could be attributed to two factors, the first being \$13.6 million for the adjustment of project carryover budgets based on updated status of fiscal year 24 approved projects that would continue into their next fiscal year. She stated that of the \$13.6, \$13.2 million was for the Last Mile Freight program. She stated subrecipients were completing their projects with closeout anticipated in fiscal year 25. She stated the second factor was the incorporation of three new grants awarded to SCAG and all three combined totaled \$12.6 million. Additionally, she stated the federal grants, Safe Streets and Roads for All grant and a fourth-year grant, from the Department of Energy, both totaled to \$12.1 million. She stated they also included a third state grant, \$500,000 awarded from the Agricultural Lands and Conservancy Program. She stated these three grants, along with the carryover of the Last Mile Freight Program totaled \$25.8 million of the \$26.3 million increase in the budget with the balance related to carryover adjustments to various other approved projects. She shared a complete

breakdown of those adjustments were provided in attachment 3 of the staff report. Lastly, she reminded the committee that the budget before them included the estimated carryover for the full funding of REAP 2021. She stated once they had certainty on what impact if any, the state budget will have on this funding, they would prepare a budget amendment which would be presented to the EAC and the Regional Council for any adjustments needed to the budget.

A MOTION was made (Hagman) that the Executive Administration Committee recommend that the Regional Council: 1) Adopt Resolution No. 24-665-1 approving the Fiscal Year 2024-25 (FY2024-25) Final Comprehensive Budget, subject to approval of the General Fund Budget and Membership Dues Assessment by the SCAG General Assembly; 2) Authorize the Executive Director, or his designee, to submit the FY 2024-25 Overall Work Program (OWP) to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA); and 3) Authorize the Executive Director, or his designee, to submit the FY2024-25 Indirect Cost Rate Proposal (ICRP) and the FY2024-25 Fringe Benefits Cost Rate Proposal to the FTA. Motion was SECONDED (Yokoyama) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brown, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, McCallon, Plancarte, Shapiro, Solache and Yokoyama (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Regular Meeting – April 3, 2024
4. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 24-027-C01, eFTIP Software as a Service (SaaS) Application
5. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: Contract No. 24-030-C01, Transportation Safety Predictive Modeling & Analysis Platform
6. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

- 7. Purchase Orders, Contracts and Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
- 8. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Hagman) to approve the Consent Calendar Items 3 through 6; and Receive and File Items 7 through 8. Motion was SECONDED (Yokoyama) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Brown, Goodman, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Lorimore, McCallon, Plancarte, Shapiro, Solache and Yokoyama (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CFO REPORT

There was no CFO report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Brown provided an update on legislative activity for Fiscal Year 2024. He reported SCAG sponsored Assembly Bill 2485, authored by Assemblymember Juan Carrillo, chair of the Assembly Committee on Local Government and a former member of the SCAG Regional Council. He stated AB 2485 would establish procedures for the California Department of Housing and Community Development to publicize data sources, analyses and methodology used in the development of a region's Regional Housing Needs Determination. He shared that over the past year, SCAG representatives met with California State Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas and State Assemblymember Juan Carrillo to share legislative and budgetary priorities, such as support for ongoing statewide investments in active transportation and infill infrastructure grant programs, as well as the funding and implementation of the Regional Early Action Planning 2.0 program. He also reported that a delegation of SCAG leaders visited the state capitol for the agency's annual Sacramento Summit on March 19-20 to discuss protecting the REAP 2.0 grant program; supporting Assembly Bill 2485; and honoring promises made to the Active Transportation Program and Infill Infrastructure Grant program. Lastly, he reported the next regular meeting of the EAC was scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 3 p.m.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that the Caltrans Internal Audits Office informed SCAG they would be performing an audit of costs on all Caltrans-administered funds. He stated the audit would determine whether SCAG's costs were adequately supported and incurred in accordance

with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and contract provisions. He informed the members the audit was underway, and SCAG staff was working to provide all requested information and documentation. Additionally, Mr. Ajise reported Governor Newsom and legislative leaders reached a deal to tackle part of California’s estimated deficit as negotiations continued before the June 15 deadline to pass a budget. He explained AB 106, the early action budget bill that was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Newsom on April 15 included \$17 billion in cuts. He stated it also provides the authority for the Department of Finance to “freeze” certain one-time, General Fund spending from the 2021, 2022, and 2023 Budget Years. He stated they were committed to their advocacy efforts to protect REAP funding as these conversations continued. Furthermore, he provided members with a REAP 2.0 update. He shared with members that in order to stabilize the REAP 2.0 program amid budget uncertainty, SCAG staff was preparing a phased expenditure plan to prioritize available funding. He stated funding priority would be based on the program's core objectives and guiding principles, as defined in an updated version of the REAP 2.0 Framework. Moreover, he stated SCAG staff would host two information sessions, on Tuesday, May 14 at 10:00 a.m. and the second on Wednesday, May 15 at 1:00 p.m. He stated that with Regional Council approval, the phased expenditure plan would allow some work to restart during the summer while efforts continued to restore the full budget. Mr. Ajise also provided an update on Connect SoCal 2024. He reported staff submitted the plan and its transportation conformity determination to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, which in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will review it to make a final transportation conformity determination by June 5. He informed members that later this summer, SCAG would submit Connect SoCal 2024 to the California Air Resources Board for review. He shared SCAG staff was already working to advance Connect SoCal 2024 Implementation Strategies. He stated that in June, SCAG would launch the Sustainable Communities Program Active Transportation and Safety call for projects to fund implementation efforts in local communities across the region. Lastly, Mr. Ajise shared some remarks thanking President Brown for his leadership in the last year, he stated he had been a pleasure and a delight to work with.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Brown adjourned the Meeting of the Executive Administration Committee at 3:55 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	2023-24													Total M Attend To Da
			31-May	29-Jun	30-Jun	JULY	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
Hon. Art Brown, President, Chair	Buena Park	District 21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
Hon. Curt Hagman, 1st Vice Chair		San Bernardino County	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	12
Hon. Cindy Allen, 2nd Vice Chair	Long Beach	District 30	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	10
Hon. Jan Harnik, Chair, Imm. Past President		RCTC	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	12
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Vice Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 44	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
Hon. Deborah Roberston, Chair, EEC	Rialto	District 8	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	6
Hon. Luis Plancarte, Vice Chair, EEC		Imperial County	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Chair, TC	Pomona	District 38	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	7
Hon. Mike Judge, Vice Chair, TC		VCTC	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	10
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Vice Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	9
Hon. Marshall Goodman, President's Appt.	La Palma	District 18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	12
Hon. Clint Lorimore, President's Appt.	Eastvale	District 4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13
Hon. Larry McCallon, President's Appt.		Air District Representative	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Hon. Tim McOsker, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	District 62	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Ms. Lucy Dunn, Ex-Officio Member	Lucy Dunn Strategic Issues Ma	Business Representative	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	12
			16	15	13	15	16	16	15	13	15	15	9	13	14	

Attachment: EAC Attendance Sheet 2023-24 May (Minutes of the Meeting - May 1, 2024)