



Southern California Association of Governments  
Hybrid (In-Person and Remote Participation)  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700 - Policy A Meeting Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
March 3, 2022

**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022**

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) of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its regular meeting virtually (telephonically and electronically), given the declared state of emergency (pursuant to State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020) and local public health directives imposing and recommending social distancing measures due to the threat of COVID-19, and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A). A quorum was present.

**Members Present**

<b>Hon. David Pollock, Moorpark (Chair)</b>	<b>District 46</b>
<b>Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto (Vice Chair)</b>	<b>District 8</b>
Hon. Cindy Allen, Long Beach	District 30
Hon. Ana Beltran, Westmoreland	ICTC
Hon. Daniel Brotman, Glendale	AVCJPA
Hon. Margaret Clark, Rosemead	SGVCOG
Hon. Robert Copeland, Signal Hill	GCCOG
Hon. Ned Davis, Westlake Village	LVMCOG
Hon. Julian Gold, Beverly Hills	WSCCOG
Hon. Shari Horne, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon. Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates	SBCCOG
Hon. Dan Kalmick, Huntington Beach	OCCOG
Hon. Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach	District 20
Hon. Elaine Litster, Simi Valley	VCOG
Hon. Diana Mahmud, South Pasadena	SGVCOG
Hon. Cynthia Moran, Chino Hills	SBCTA
Hon. Oscar Ortiz, Indio	CVAG
Sup. Luis Plancarte	Imperial County
Hon. Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake	District 11
Sup. Carmen Ramirez	Ventura County



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Hon. Greg Raths, Mission Viejo	OCCOG
Hon. Richard Rollins, Port Hueneme	VCOG
Hon. Jesus Silva, Fullerton	President's Appointment
Hon. Sharon Springer, Burbank	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut, Buena Park	OCCOG
Hon. Edward H.J. Wilson, Signal Hill	GCCOG

**Members Not Present**

Hon. Maria Davila, South Gate	GCCOG
Hon. Rick Denison, Yucca Valley	SBCTA
Hon. Jonathan Ingram, Murrieta	WRCOG
Hon. John Valdivia, Signal Hill	GCCOG

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair David Pollock called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. Staff confirmed a quorum was present. Policy Committee Member, Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Chair Pollock 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 [EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:EECPublicComment@scag.ca.gov). Rachel Wagner, Regional Affairs Officer, acknowledged there were no written public comments received by email before or after the 5 p.m. deadline.

Seeing there were no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

**REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no requests to prioritize agenda items.

Chair Pollock noted that staff asked to move Item Number 3 to the end of the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting - January 6, 2022

A MOTION was made (Rollins) to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion was SECONDED (Plancarte) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Davis, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Moran, Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Ramirez, Rath, Rollins, Silva, Springer and Traut (21)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAINS:** None (0)

The Clerk received a message from Policy Committee member Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake, District 11, indicating his audio was not working and was not able to cast his vote in favor for the Consent Calendar in time. His vote is not reflected in the count.

**ACTION ITEM**

2. Transmittal to South Coast Air Quality Management District of Draft 2022 Air Quality Management Plan Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Transportation Control Measure

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Rongsheng Luo, Program Manager II, provided an overview of the Draft 2022 Air Quality Management District (AQMD) Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) Appendix IV-C and the next steps. He reported that the 2022 AQMP was being prepared primarily to attain the federal 2015 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard in the South Coast Air Basin. He explained that the 2022 AQMP was being jointly prepared by three agencies: the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), the lead agency, the California Air Resources Board (ARB), and SCAG. He noted that SCAG was responsible for the Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Transportation Control Measures (TCM), which includes an overview of the adopted Connect SoCal (2020 RTP/SCS), a list of committed TCM's in

the South Coast Air Basin, and an analysis of reasonably available TCM's. He further reported that staff was seeking approval from the EEC and Regional Council to transmit the draft Appendix IV-C to South Coast AQMD for inclusion in the Draft 2022 AQMP for public review. He reported that in May or June staff would return to the EEC and Regional Council for approval of the final Appendix IV-C which will be transmitted to the South Coast AQMD for inclusion in the final 2022 AQMP. Lastly, he noted that the 2022 AQMP is required to be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by August 3, 2022.

A MOTION was made (Huff) to approve the transmittal to the South Coast Air Quality Management District of the Draft 2022 Air Quality Management Plan Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Transportation Control Measures. Motion was SECONDED (Silva) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Allen, Beltran, Brotman, Clark, Copeland, Davis, Gold, Horne, Huff, D. Kalmick, J. Kalmick, Litster, Mahmud, Moran, Ortiz, Plancarte, Pollock, Ramirez, Rath, Robertson, Rollins, Silva, Springer, Traut, and Wilson (25)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAINS:** None (0)

The Clerk received a message from Policy Committee member Randall Putz, Big Bear Lake, District 11, indicating his audio was not working and was not able to cast his vote in favor for Item Number 2 in time. His vote is not reflected in the count.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

*Agenda Item 3 was moved to the end of the agenda. Also, Agenda Item 6 was taken first as the presenter for Item 4 had not arrived to the meeting. Agenda Items have been reorganized to reflect the order of presentations.*

#### **6. SCAG Climate Action Resolution Quarterly Update**

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Kimberly Clark, Program Manager I, provided a quarterly update on SCAG's climate action resolution which was adopted by the Regional Council on January 7, 2021, and established priority work areas that can help promote resilience, reduce the regions contribution to greenhouse gas

emissions and promote adaptation to a changing climate. She stated that this action also included establishing a regional resilience framework, a climate planning network, Regional Advanced Mitigation Program, a work plan for accelerated electrification, including climate considerations in the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy, and including a climate adaptation and mitigation analysis and strategies in the 2024 Connect SoCal Plan. She further noted that SCAG would pursue partnerships to secure resources for local jurisdictions to establish climate action plans, urban heat mitigation plans, and other adaptation and mitigation plans. She also provided an update of the outreach activities staff engaged in and highlighted that SCAG also launched a new resource to help jurisdictions update general plan safety elements and local hazard mitigation plans to address climate adaptation and resilience strategies in compliance with SB 379.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

Policy Committee Member Diane Mahmud, South Pasadena, thanked Ventura County Supervisor and former EEC Chair Linda Parks who first recommended that SCAG adopt this policy. She also encouraged SCAG staff to continuously engage with the respective Council of Governments as she thought it was a really effective way to communicate all that SCAG offers in this regard.

Policy Committee Member Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates, stated she was very impressed with the amount of support being provided to local cities. She asked how the one-on-one sessions that are available to local jurisdictions worked. Ms. Clark stated the sessions were about one to two hours long, via Zoom, where they walked people through the SB 379 guide and also link them to available data applications to help form vulnerability assessments.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County, expressed concern for vulnerable communities impacted by heat and noted they need to pay attention to this because it had huge health consequences.

Policy Committee Member Elaine Litster, Simi Valley, asked if all local jurisdictions had received SCAG's SB 379 guide or if it was something that needed to be requested. Ms. Clark stated it was available online, had advertised the resource through a special workshop with the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative, and also made presentations at the other regional collaboratives. She stated that for the Climate Adaptation Framework, they had made presentations at every subregional Council of Governments who were able to have them on their agenda.

#### 4. ICARP 2021 State Climate Adaptation Strategy and Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy

Ms. Clark introduced Amanda Hansen from the California Natural Resource Agency.

Ms. Hansen provided an overview of the 2021 Climate Adaptation Strategy and the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, as well as opportunities presented for Southern California. She addressed the overarching goals of the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy and noted that the strategy includes the following key content: definitions of California's eight natural and working landscapes; descriptions how these lands can deliver on our climate change goals; priority nature-based climate solutions to address the climate crisis; opportunities for regional climate smart land management; options to track nature-based climate action and measure progress; and almost 200 opportunities to scale climate smart land management across regions and sectors in California. With respect to the Climate Adaptation Strategy, she reported that the state was statutorily required to develop and update a comprehensive state strategy every three years. She noted that the key goals of the strategy were to: set strategic direction and identify needed outcomes; unify efforts across all sectors and regions; and help all Californians understand and contribute to California's climate resilience. Additionally, the strategy is organized around six outcome-based priorities, each with a list of goals that include specific actions, timeframes, success metrics, and responsible agency(s).

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

Policy Committee Member Mahmud asked if there has been any effort to quantify the cost of achieving the various outcomes and where the revenue to achieve them will come from. Ms. Hansen stated there was nothing in this strategy that was not an existing state commitment and everything in the strategy was currently underway.

Policy Committee Member Sharon Springer, Burbank, expressed that it was important to keep universal design moving forward.

Policy Committee Member Litster asked Ms. Hansen to expand on some of the potential contradictions when they talk about the need for green in their communities, but then tell people to cut back on water because of the water shortages. Ms. Hansen acknowledged the request and stated that when they looked at the Climate Smart Strategy it was very clear that they were talking about water wise plants. She stated that part of the rationale was that when you invest in nature-based solutions for cooling communities, a lot of times those costs were significantly less than the cost of more technological solutions.

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

## 5. Cooling Long Beach - Urban Heat Island Mitigation

Ms. Clark introduced Kristyn Vega-Payne, Sustainability Analyst with the Office of the City Manager in Long Beach.

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Ms. Vega-Payne provided an overview of the Cooling Long Beach Urban Heat Island Reduction Toolkit. She explained that the Cooling Long Beach project identifies sustainable design strategies to cool temperatures; improve walking, biking, connections to transit, and key community destinations; an increase the climate resiliency and wellbeing of a Long Beach neighborhood. She noted this project was funded by SCAG and led by the City of Long Beach. She stated that the location chosen for this project was the Washington Neighborhood, which was centrally located in their city, and was an area that was identified as important to address extreme heat impact. She stated this project was driven by an inclusive community engagement and noted the community partnership with the Washington Neighborhood Association and Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles. She also reported that they were extremely excited about the community navigators, a pilot program designed to provide outreach training and skills to residents. She noted five cooling tools which included street trees, green infrastructure, shade structures, cool hardscapes and pavement, and cooling amenities. Lastly, she reported next steps for implementing this project were to secure funding.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

Policy Committee Member Huff asked if cooling amenities included cooling centers. Ms. Vega-Payne clarified that the cooling amenities they were referring to consisted of water fountains, misters, and splash pads, which were quick cool downs for people when it was extremely hot.

Policy Committee Member Jesus Silva, Fullerton, asked if they had received any feedback in regard to street closures in a community that relies on the ability to be able to use those streets to get to work. Ms. Vega-Payne stated that the closing to traffic would be only temporary during construction projects in order for the cooling to happen. She stated the feedback they had received from the community was mostly due to parking.

Policy Committee Member Mahmud asked if they were actively promoting the use of federal funds that are available for home insulation and if they were directing any of their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds towards this purpose. Ms. Vega-Payne stated they were not

currently directing CDBG funds for this purpose, but the conversations had started. In terms of the federal funds, she stated these were the weatherization funds that were run through a local non-profit, Long Beach Community Action Partnership. She thanked Policy Committee Member Mahmud for bringing this up.

Second Vice President Ramirez expressed concern over the use of AstroTurf and asked if this was addressed in their strategy. Ms. Vega-Payne stated that what they promote in their office was native plant habitat.

Policy Committee Member Cindy Allen, Long Beach, asked what the plans were on expanding this pilot program. Ms. Vega-Payne stated the first part was expanding internal education for other city staff and other departments about the cooling strategy so that they can start incorporating them into projects outside of the Washington neighborhood.

### 3. 2021 Student Showcase

Lyle Janicek, Associate Regional Planner, reported that SCAG invited college and university students in the region to conceptualize, create, and submit ArcGIS StoryMaps using SCAG's open data. He stated it was a meaningful way to provide insight, showcase plans, and projects, engage supporters and stakeholders, illustrate the possibilities of data, and highlight the usefulness of open data at the regional level. He described that the 2021 Student Showcase was a virtual StoryMap competition with two award categories in innovation and planning. He explained that the 2021 competition received eleven projects from nine different colleges throughout the SCAG region. He also noted there was a group of SCAG planning professionals that evaluated the projects and selected four winners. He noted pending Covid-19 protocols, they hoped to have the finalists from the 2022 competition present their work at the General Assembly and Regional Conference in May. He introduced Irene Farr, UCLA student, who won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the innovation category for her StoryMap titled: Identifying Hidden Open Spaces.

Ms. Farr shared an overview of her StoryMap which was an exploration of open space easements in unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Second Vice President Ramirez asked Ms. Farr to define conservation easements because as she was understanding it, this meant that the landowner had agreed to conserve in exchange for some benefit.

Ms. Farr explained that the county's planning department had these open space and conservation easements. She noted that in the past decades, the county had not documented the exact parcel numbers because they just did not have the inventory set up to filter where these easements were located. She stated that when she was an intern at the county her effort was to initiate this process

and though she was not able to map all the other easements that she found in Los Angeles County, they limited this to the pilot area for the map she was displaying. She noted that this was something that the county was moving forward with so that they can fully build this map out for people to reference to.

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Mr. Janicek introduced Lacy Gugliemino, Crafton Hills College student, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the planning category for her StoryMap titled: To Reach It, We Have to Teach It.

Ms. Gugliemino shared an overview of her StoryMap which was about implementing community gardens in public schools as a way to help fight food insecurity and teaching sustainability.

Mr. Janicek closed by stating they were hoping to release the 2022 Student Showcase Competition flyers and information later in the month where competitors will be asked to prepare StoryMaps once again on planning challenges.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet. A recording of the meeting, including the presentations, can be found on SCAG's website.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Pollock opened the Public Comment Period.

Seeing no public comment speakers, Chair Pollock closed the Public Comment Period.

Chair Pollock stated that the presentations they had seen at this meeting were demonstrating their commitment to climate action, which was a goal of his from the beginning. He stated they had been traditionally focused on environmental quality, which was important, but climate change was becoming a bigger issue.

### **STAFF REPORT**

Rachel Wagner reported that the last day to apply for SCAG's Leadership Housing Policy Academy was January 10. She noted that the Housing Policy Leadership Academy engages emerging and established community leaders in a free, 10-session virtual workshop focused on best practice housing policy. She noted that sessions explore how policy shapes our housing ecosystem, the fundamentals of housing policy and legislation, and opportunities to advance pro-housing policy in



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our communities and regionwide. She reported that the monthly Academy sessions would begin in February, and they could visit SCAG's website for more information at [www.scag.ca.gov/hpla](http://www.scag.ca.gov/hpla).

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Policy Committee Member Springer requested an item on universal design and climate resilience.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Pollock adjourned the Energy and Environment Committee meeting at 11:23 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EEC]

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**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**2021-22**

MEMBERS	Representing	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Allen, Cindy	Long Beach, District 30	1	1		0	1	1		1					5
Beltran, Ana	Westmoreland, ICTC	1	0		0	1	0		1					3
Brotman, Daniel	Glendale, AVCJPA	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Clark, Margaret	Rosemead, SGVCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1					5
Copeland, Robert	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Davila, Maria	South Gate, GCCOG	0	0		0	0	0							0
Davis, Ned	Westlake Village, LVMCOG	1	1		1	0	1		1					5
Denison, Rick	Yucca Valley, SCBTA	1	1		0	1	0							3
Gold, Julian	Beverly Hills, WSCCOG	1	1	D	1	1	1	D	1	D				6
Horne, Shari	Laguna Woods, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Huff, Britt	Rolling Hills Estates, SCBCOG	1	1	A	1	1	1	A	1	A				6
Ingram,Jonathan	Murrieta, WRCOG				1	1	1							3
Kalmick, Dan	Huntington Beach, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Kalmick, Joe	Seal Beach, District 20	1	1	R	1	1	1	R	1	R				6
Litster, Elaine	Simi Valley, VCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1					5
Mahmud, Diana	So. Pasadena, SGVCOG	1	0	K	1	1	1	K	1	K				5
Moran, Cynthia	Chino Hills, SBCTA	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Ortiz, Oscar	Indio, CVAG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Plancarte, Luis	Imperial County	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Pollock, David (CHAIR)	Moorpark, VCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Putz, Randall	Big Bear Lake, District 11	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Ramirez, Carmen	Oxnard, RC District 45	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Raths, Greg	Mission Viejo, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Robertson, Deborah	Rialto, RC District 8	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Rollins, Richard	Port Hueneme, VCOG	1	1		1	0	0		1					4
Silva, Jesus	Fullerton, President's Appointment	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Springer, Sharon	Burbank, SFVCOG	1	0		1	1	1		1					5
Traut, Connor	Buena Park, OCCOG	1	1		1	1	1		1					6
Valdivia, John	San Bernardino, SBCCOG	0	1		1	0	1							3
Wilson, Edward H.J.	Signal Hill, GCCOG	1	1		0	1	1		1					5

Attachment: EEC Attendance Sheet 2021-22 (Minutes of the Meeting - January 6, 2022)