

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

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (TC) THURSDAY, 7-"ky°k' 4, 2021

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

The Transportation Committee of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its 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. Sean Ashton, Downey District 25 Hon. Phil Bacerra, Santa Ana District 16 Hon. Ben Benoit, Wildomar South Coast AQMD Hon. Art Brown, Buena Park (Vice Chair) District 21 Hon. Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo OCTA Hon. Darrell Dorris, Lancaster NCTC Hon. John Dutrey, Montclair SBCTA District 39 Hon. James Gazeley, Lomita Hon. Curt Hagman San Bernardino County Hon. Ray Hamada, Bellflower District 24 Hon. Jan Harnik RCTC Hon. Lindsey Horvath, West Hollywood WSCCOG Hon. Mike T. Judge, Simi Valley VCTC Hon. Trish Kelley, Mission Viejo OCCOG Hon. Linda Krupa, Hemet WRCOG Hon. Richard Loa, Palmdale NCTC District 4 Hon. Clint Lorimore, Eastvale Hon. Steven Ly, Rosemead District 32 Hon. Steve Manos, Lake Elsinore District 63 Hon. Ray Marquez, Chino Hills District 10 Hon. Larry McCallon, Highland District 7 Hon. Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita District 67



Hon.	L. Dennis Michael, Rancho Cucamonga	District 9
Hon.	Fred Minagar, Laguna Niguel	District 12
Hon.	Carol Moore, Laguna Woods	OCCOG
Hon.	Ara Najarian, Glendale	AVCJPA
Hon.	Frank Navarro, Colton	District 6
Hon.	Hector Pacheco, San Fernando	District 67
Hon.	Ed Reece, Claremont	SGVCOG
Hon.	Crystal Ruiz, San Jacinto	WRCOG
Hon.	Tim Sandoval, Pomona	District 38
Hon.	Rey Santos, Beaumont	District 3
Hon.	Zak Schwank, Temecula	District 5
Hon.	Tim Shaw	OCTA
Hon.	Marty Simonoff, Brea	District 22
Hon.	Jeremy Smith, Canyon Lake	President's Appointment
Hon.	Ward Smith, Placentia	OCCOG
Hon.	Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood	District 26
Hon.	Karen Spiegel	Riverside County
Hon.	Cynthia Sternquist, Temple City	SGVCOG
Hon.	Jess Talamantes, Burbank	President's Appointment
Hon.	Steve Tye	District 37
Hon.	Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro (Chair)	District 1
Hon.	Don Wagner	Orange County
Hon.	Colleen Wallace, Banning	President's Appointment
Hon.	Alan Wapner	SBCTA
Hon.	Alicia Weintraub, Calabasas	LVMCOG
Mr.	Paul Marquez, Caltrans District 7	Ex-Officio Member
<u>Memb</u>	ers Not Present:	

Hon.	Kathryn Barger	Los Angeles County
Hon.	Lorrie Brown	Ventura, District 21
Hon.	Joe Buscaino, Los Angeles	District 62
Hon.	Jonathan Curtis, La Cañada-Flintridge	District 36
Hon.	Paul Krekorian	District 49
Hon.	Ali Saleh, Bell	GCCOG

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

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Hon. Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present.

## PUBLIC COMMENT



No members of the public requested to comment.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### Approval Items

1. Minutes of TC Meeting, January 7, 2021

### **Receive and File**

- 2. Resolution for SCAG to Bridge the Digital Divide in Underserved Communities
- 3. Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) Program Summary and Update
- 4. Election of TC Vice Chair

A MOTION was made (Ashton) to approve Consent Calendar Items 1, 2 and 3 and to receive votes for the election of Art Brown, Buena Park, District 21, as Vice Chair who is unapposed in the election. The motion was SECONDED (Benoit). The motion passed by the following votes and Hon. Art Brown, Buena Park, District 21 was elected as Vice Chair:

 AYES: ASHTON, BENOIT, BROWN, CHUN, DORRIS, DUTREY, GAZELEY, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HORVATH, JUDGE, KELLEY, KRUPA, LOA, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MICHAEL, MINAGAR, MOORE, NAVARRO, PACHECO, REECE, RUIZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAW, SIMONOFF, SMITH J., SMITH W., SPIEGEL, STERNQUIST, TALAMANTES, TYE, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WALLACE, WAPNER, WEINTRAUB (44)
NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

## **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

## 5. <u>2020/2021 Sustainable Communities Program – Smart Cities & Mobility Innovations Call for</u> <u>Applications</u>

Marisa Laderach, SCAG staff, reported on the 2020/2021 Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) – Smart Cities & Mobility Innovations Call for Applications. Ms. Laderach noted the SCP allows SCAG to partner with member agencies to provide direct technical assistance with a focus on active transportation, multimodal planning efforts, sustainability, land use and planning for affordable housing. In addition, SCP seeks to promote efforts in shared mobility, mobility as a service, smart cities, job centers and curb space management.





Ms. Laderach noted that cities have been struggling with curb space issues, so an effort is being made to asses curb space to inform future solutions. The effort seeks to support mobility and the local economy, while enhancing public spaces. She noted analysis of curb space will include understanding the needs of local businesses who use them. Additionally, equity is examined including use of transit and transportation network companies. She noted the focus areas include curb space data collection and inventory, technology assessment and plan, parking management plan and permitting process evaluation. She reviewed eligible agencies and the Call for Applications schedule following its approval by the Regional Council.

A MOTION was made (Harnik) to recommend that the Regional Council approve the 2020/2021 Smart Cities & Mobility Innovations Guidelines and authorize staff to release the Call for Applications. The motion was SECONDED (Navarro) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: ASHTON, BENOIT, BROWN, CHUN, DORRIS, DUTREY, GAZELEY, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HORVATH, JUDGE, KELLEY, KRUPA, LOA, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MICHAEL, MINAGAR, MOORE, NAVARRO, PACHECO, RUIZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAW, SIMONOFF, SMITH J., SMITH W., SPIEGEL, STERNQUIST, TALAMANTES, TYE, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WALLACE, WAPNER, WEINTRAUB (43) NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

## 6. Adoption of 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program

John Asuncion, SCAG staff, reported on the adoption of 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). Mr. Asuncion stated that on November 5, 2021, the Regional Council released the Draft 2021 FTIP for a 30-day public review and comment period from November 6, 2020 through December 7, 2020. During this time staff received 26 comments, 9 general, 12 project-specific and 5 related to funding/financial plan. The comments were for the most part technical in nature and do not raise issues that affect conformity. He noted staff is seeking the committee's recommendation to the Regional Council that it approve the proposed final 2021 FTIP at the March 4, 2021 Regional Council meeting.

A MOTION was made (Harnik) to recommend the Regional Council approve the 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). The motion was SECONDED (Michael) and passed by the following votes:



AYES: ASHTON, BENOIT, BROWN, CHUN, DORRIS, DUTREY, GAZELEY, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, JUDGE, KELLEY, KRUPA, LOA, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MICHAEL, MINAGAR, MOORE, NAVARRO, PACHECO, REECE, RUIZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SHAW, SIMONOFF, SMITH J., SMITH W., SPIEGEL, STERNQUIST, TALAMANTES, TYE, WAGNER, WALLACE, WAPNER, WEINTRAUB (42) NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

### 7. Magway, a High Capacity Delivery System

Huw Thomas, Development Director, Magway, reported on their efforts in providing sustainable zero-emissions solutions for goods movement. Mr. Thomas stated a trend toward more populous cities and increased goods movement activities now require an examination of the impacts of emissions and a need for a cleaner, more sustainable goods movement infrastructure. Further, COVID has accelerated the process through increased online ordering. He noted Magway proposes an underground and above ground network using mini tunnels transporting pods of goods directly to the end retailer or customer cutting down on the impacts of large and medium sized trucks on roadways and their emissions. He noted the pods are powered by small motors utilizing magnetic propulsion.

Mr. Thomas noted Magway has established a test facility and raised funding to develop the system. He reviewed the technology as well as the tunneling system stating standard utility piping can be used for the tunnels which would connect from warehouses to the end user. He reviewed a proposed segment in West London and noted a system such as this creates efficiency, lowers emissions and saves costs compared to over-the-road truck transport.

Hon. Carol Moore, Laguna Woods, OCCOG, asked about the easement used. Mr. Thomas responded that easements under public control are being examined as potential tunnel locations such as existing road and rail corridors.

Hon. Darrell Dorris, Lancaster, NCTC, asked if this system would experience conflict with the existing shipping industry and trucking network. Mr. Thomas responded that the evolution of goods movement is global and driven by a societal need that is larger than any single enterprise and Magway sees their core skill as technology that can assist urban areas with their goods movement needs.

### 8. Mobility Innovations & Pricing Project Overview

Jaimee Lederman, SCAG staff, reported on the Mobility Innovations & Pricing (MIP) project. Ms. Lederman stated the project focuses on the potential equity implications of road pricing



and other innovative transportation policies at SCAG. It combines stakeholder engagement, technical analysis and communications strategy to elevate equity considerations as a touchstone in planning for road pricing in the region. She noted road user pricing is key to congestion reduction, financial and environmental strategy in Connect SoCal, however; without an examination of equity those policies can exacerbate impacts on underrepresented communities. Additionally, the MIP project provides access to information, data and resources to help community members participate in key decisions for equitable transportation. She reviewed the different concepts including road pricing, congestion pricing, zero-emission areas and mitigation efforts.

Ms. Lederman stated the core of the project involved engaging Community Based Organizations (CBOs) as they reflect on local activity and have the greatest ability to engage their communities. She reviewed the three workshops, sharing learning activities and community-led events undertaken. Ms. Lederman reviewed Transportation Equity Zones (TEZs) as a tool to evaluate transportation impacts and she examined work destinations of residents in specific TEZs. It was further noted that communities have diverse travel needs and face consistent barriers to access. Understanding these needs and challenges is a crucial first step in implementing transportation strategies that are equitable. She revied next steps and noted a final report is due March 2021.

Hon. Larry McCallon, Highland, District 7, asked why rail was not a significant commuting mode option in the TEZs examined. Ms. Lederman responded that proximity to rail as well as cost of commuter rail were identified as probable causes.

Hon. Alan Wapner, SBCTA, noted that studies on road charging indicated that those in disadvantaged areas benefit from it as they often drive older cars and a per mile charge is more equitable to them than a gas tax. Additionally, a larger objective in regional planning is to bring jobs and housing closer together so the need for longer commutes by those in disadvantaged areas is reduced.

## 8. <u>Emerging Mobility Patterns During COVID-19</u>

Tiffany Chu, Remix, reported on the emerging neighborhood-centric mobility patterns seen during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Chu introduced the concept of the 15-minute community and noted it is a strategic design whereby residents can access everything the need within 15 minutes by foot, bike or public transit. She noted the approach is to put careful planning at the neighborhood-level to work with each community's characteristics so neighborhoods can support residents' full life, including jobs, food, recreation, greenspace, housing and small businesses. Further, several cities like Paris and Melbourne



have adopted this design approach. Ms. Chu stated that current societal design grew out of a need to separate housing from the effects of manufacturing which caused reliance on private vehicles for living needs including long commutes to reach jobs.

Ms. Chu stated that COVID-19 is more prevalent in areas with overcrowded homes and less where homes are not crowded. Further, it is important to see the difference between overcrowding and density. Overcrowding occurs when too many people occupy a home and density is a strategy where there are enough homes for all residents without a need to overcrowd homes due to lack of housing or affordability. She noted COVID has brought forth the need to accommodate and invest in the neighborhood trip, but today's transportation system largely emphasizes trips to job centers at peak commute times. Ms. Chu noted COVID has brought forth the benefits of opening streets to pedestrians, sidewalk dinning, pop-up bikes lanes and parklets. She reviewed the health, financial and community benefits provided by a 15-minute community and noted this emergence is community-driven and it encourages cities to explore its possibilities.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Hon. Art Brown, Buena Park, District 21 (Vice Chair-elect), adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

## [MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE]

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2020- 21													Total Miter			
MEMBERS	СІТҮ	Representing	JUN (GA)	JUL	AUG	SEP	ост	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	ΜΑΥ	JUN	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Ashton, Sean	Downey	District 25		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Bacerra, Phil	Santa Ana	District 16		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Barger, Kathryn		Los Angeles County								1						1
Benoit, Ben		Air District Representative		1			1	1		1	1					5
Brown, Art	Buena Park	District 21		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Brown, Lorrie	Ventura	District 47														
Buscaino, Joe	Los Angeles	District 62				1										1
Chun, Ross	Aliso Viejo	ΟCTA		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Curtis, Jonathan	La Cañada Flintridge	District 36					1									1
Dorris, Darrell	Lancaster	NCTC									1					1
Dutrey, J. John	Montclair	SBCTA		1		1	1			1	1					5
Gazeley, James	Lomita	District 39	-	1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Hagman, Curt		San Bernardino County	-	1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Hamada, Ray	Bellflower	Bellflower		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Harnik, Jan	Palm Desert	RCTC		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Horvath, Lindsey	West Hollywood	WSCCOG	-							1	1					2
Judge, Mike	Simi Valley	VCTC	-			1	1	1		1	1	1				5
Kelley, Trish	Mission Viejo	OCCOG		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Krekorian, Paul	Public Transit Rep	District 49, Public Transit Rep														
Krupa, Linda	Hemet	WRCOG		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Loa, Richard	Palmdale	NCTC		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Lorimore, Clint	Eastvale	District 4		1		1	1			1	1					5
Ly, Steven	Rosemead	District 32		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Manos, Steve	Lake Elsinore	District 63	-	1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Marquez, Paul	Caltrans District 7	Ex-Officio	-	1			1	1		1	1					5
Marquez, Ray	Chino Hills	District 10	-	1		1	1	1		1	1					6
McCallon, Larry	Highland	District 7		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
McLean, Marsha	Santa Clarita	NCTC	-	1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Michael, L. Dennis	Rancho Cucamonga	District 9	-	1		1		1		1	1					5
Minagar, Fred	Laguna Niguel	District 12	-				1	1			1					3
Moore, Carol	Laguna Woods	OCCOG	-	1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Najarian, Ara	Glendale	SFVCOG	-	1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Navarro, Frank	Colton	District 6	-			1		1		1	1					4
Pacheco, Hector	San Fernando	District 67		1		1	1			1	1					5
Reece, Ed	Claremont	SGVCOG		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Ruiz, Crystal	San Jacinto	WRCOG		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Saleh, Ali	City of Bell	GCCOG		1			1			1						3
Sandoval, Tim	Pomona	District 38		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Santos, Rey	Beaumont	District 3		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Schwank, Zak	Temecula	District 5		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Shaw, Tim		ΟCTA		-		-	-	-		-	1					1
Simonoff, Marty	Brea	District 22		1			1	1		1	1					5
Smith, Jeremy	Canyon Lake	President's Appointment		1		1	1	1		1	1					6
Smith, Ward	Placentia	OCCOG		1		1	-	1		1	1					5

Solache, Jose Luis	Lynwood	District 26			1		1	1			3
Spiegel, Karen		Riverside County	1	1	1	1	1	1			6
Sternquist, Cynthia	Temple City	SGVCOG		1	1	1	1	1			5
Talamantes, Jess	Burbank	President's Appointment		1	1	1	1	1			5
Tye, Steve	Diamond Bar	District 37	1	1	1	1	1	1			6
Viegas-Walker, Cheryl	El Centro	District 1	1	1	1	1	1	1			6
Wagner, Don	Orange County	Orange County	1	1	1	1	1	1			6
Wallace, Colleen	Banning	President's Appointment		1	1	1	1	1			5
Wapner, Alan		SBCTA	1	1	1	1	1	1			6
Weintraub, Alicia	Calabasas	LVMCOG	1	1	1	1	1	1			6