



AGENDA ITEM 1

REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
October 1, 2025

MINUTES OF THE MEETING EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC) WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

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. Cindy Allen, 1st Vice President	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Ray Marquez, 1st Vice President	<i>Chino Hills</i>	District 10
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, 2nd Vice President	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Sup. Curt Hagman, Imm. Past President		San Bernardino County
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair CEHD	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair CEHD	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Daniel Ramos, Vice Chair EEC	<i>Adelanto</i>	District 65
Hon. Mike Judge, Chair, TC	<i>VCTC</i>	Ventura County
Hon. Thomas Wong, Vice Chair, TC	<i>Monterey Park</i>	District 34
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Margaret Finlay, Vice Chair LCMC	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13
Hon. Mike Goodsell, President's Appt.	<i>ICTC</i>	Holtville
Hon. Jan Harnik, President's Appt.	<i>RCTC</i>	Riverside

Members Not Present

Hon. Rick Denison, Chair EED	<i>Yucca Valley</i>	District 11
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	Member-At-Large
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRP Representative
Hon. Lucy Dunn		Business Representative

Staff Present

Kome Ajise, Executive Director
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer



Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer
Michael Maurer, Assistant Board Counsel
Jeffery Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Cindy Allen called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and asked Hon. Ray Marquez, Chino Hills, District 10, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Allen opened the Public Comment Period.

The Clerk of the Board acknowledged there were no written public comments received.

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

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

ACTION ITEM

1. 2025 California Clean Air Day Proclamation

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, reported that this resolution was a recommendation for the Regional Council to approve and adopt a proclamation in support of the 2025 California Clean Air Day. He noted that in the past years, they had prepared a proclamation for the Regional Council to pledge SCAG's support for the annual California Clean Air Day, which this year was on October 1. He further noted that in previous years, tens of thousands of Californians had taken the pledge, 22 transit agencies in the region provided free rides, and 121 California Clean Air Day events were held. He stated that they hoped their cities would leverage this observance to engage in actions that help improve the air in their region. He indicated that SCAG signed the California Clean Air Day organizational pledge and encouraged staff and member jurisdictions to sign the pledge as well. He explained that SCAG's regional policies, strategies, and programs, as reflected in Connect SoCal 2024 and in the 2025 FTIP, all played an important role in achieving clean air in their region. He indicated that this effort really was in support of what was already the stated policy of this

organization. He expressed that they honored the region's resilience in the aftermath of this year's wildfires, and that they were committed to cleaner air in the region as they began to prepare and develop the next update to the regional plan and continue this important work.

There were no Public Comments on Item 1.

A MOTION was made (Lock Dawson) to recommend that the Regional Council approve and adopt proclamation in support for and declaration of 2025 California Clean Air Day. Motion was SECONDED (Ramos) and passed by the following roll call votes.

AYES: Allen, Crosswhite, Finlay, Goodsell, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Marquez, Ramos, Rhodes, Shapiro, and Wong (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

2. Resolution No. 25-675-1 Approving Amendment 1 to the FY 2025-26 Comprehensive Budget, including the Overall Work Program (OWP)

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, reported that they were recommending the adoption of the resolution approving the first budget amendment to their fiscal year 25-26 comprehensive budget. She explained that this amendment incorporated an additional \$7 million in federal funding, increasing their overall work program from \$408.5 million to \$415.5 million. She further explained that on July 30, 2025, Caltrans awarded SCAG \$7 million in Federal Highway Planning Funds to support two key initiatives: 1) a resiliency and readiness planning study; and 2) a regional coordinated marketing and communications campaign to support transportation demand management strategies in support of the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. In summary, she reported that this amendment leverages new federal funding to enhance SCAG's planning efforts and regional coordination, helping ensure they prepare for future resilience needs, as well as regional demands in support of the 2028 Games.

There were no Public Comments on Item 2.

A MOTION was made (Ramos) that the Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) recommend that the Regional Council adopt Resolution No. 25-675-1 approving a first amendment (Budget Amendment 1) to the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Comprehensive Budget including the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Overall Work Program (FY 2025-26 OWP) Budget in the amount of \$7 million, increasing the FY 2025-26 OWP Budget from \$408,497,515 to \$415,497,515. Motion was SECONDED (Finlay) and passed by the following roll call votes.

AYES: Allen, Crosswhite, Finlay, Goodsell, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Marquez, Ramos, Rhodes, Shapiro, and Wong (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

3. Minutes of the Meeting – July 2, 2025
4. Amendment to Regional Council Policy Manual
5. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: 25-026-C01, State Advocacy Services
6. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: 26-001-C01, Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri), Inc. Enterprise License Agreement
7. Contracts \$500,000 or Greater: 26-006-C01, Southern California Airport Passenger Surface Transportation Study
8. Contract Amendment: 19-065-C01, 457 (b) Deferred Compensation Plan Services
9. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorships

Receive and File

10. Economic Roundtable Third Quarter Update
11. 2025 Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) Retreat Update
12. Purchase Orders, Contracts and Contract Amendments below Regional Council Approval Threshold
13. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Marquez) to approve Consent Calendar Items 3 through 9 and Receive and File Items 10 through 13. Motion was SECONDED (Finlay) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: Allen, Bucknum, Crosswhite, Finlay, Goodsell, Hagman, Harnik, Judge, Lock Dawson, Marquez, Ramos, Rhodes, Shapiro, and Wong (13)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

CFO REPORT

Ms. Giraldo reported that this month's report included their quarterly update charts and a look at their preliminary financial numbers for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. She reported that Eide Bailey was continuing their audit field work through October, and their hope was to bring the final fiscal year 25 ACPR to the board in December. She also reported that in addition to working on year-end close, they were also busy preparing the next budget amendment, which would be coming to them in November, as well as the fiscal year 27 budget, which would be coming to them in a very short six months. Lastly, she provided a quick update on the ERP discovery project and noted they had been working with GFOA to complete the current state and future state process maps with the goal of identifying both effective and efficient processes to move forward with. She noted that these documents would yield the requirements that will be included in the RFP documents when they go out to select a new ERP system. She reported that they would be coming back with a more formal update, as well as a request for funding to be able to complete the RFP selection and implementation of the project. She stated that the goal was to release the RFP towards the end of the current calendar year, around December-January timeframe, with an implementation timeline of about a year following that.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Allen provided an update on the Demographic Workshop and keynote speaker. She reminded members to register for the 2025 Southern California Demographic Workshop on October 1, which would be at SCAG's downtown office and livestreamed. She reported that this year's topic, "Revisiting the Intergenerational Contract," looked at shifting connections between population groups in the 21st century. She also noted that this year's workshop would feature a keynote by event co-founder Professor Dowell Myers who was director of the Population Dynamics Research Group at the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy. She indicated that his keynote would address how intergenerational "lifecycle sharing" contributes to future economic success as California responds to the new population growth realities – the topic of last year's workshop. She noted that the full program and panel line-up was available on SCAG's website and that registration

would close on September 26. She also reported that they had been dark since the Executive/Administration Committee retreat in July and wanted to remind them all about the changes they made to the regular schedule for meetings. She noted that the meetings of the Executive/Administration Committee had been moved back to Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. and would be conducted in person and online. She also noted that on Regional Council meeting days, the first Thursday of every month, policy committee meetings would begin at 9:30 a.m. online and in person. For Regional Council meetings, they would start at 11:45 a.m. and would be conducted in person. She also reported that each Regional Council member would be permitted one instance of remote participation over the next year. She also reminded them about how holidays would impact their schedule again this year. She reported that they would be dark again in October in observance of the Jewish High Holidays, and January, in observance of the New Year. She explained that to make up for the time lost during these months, they would have a December meeting again this year. She noted that in December, they would convene a Joint Policy Committee for the annual Economic Update presentation from the Economic Roundtable. She indicated that they would be hearing about the roundtable's quarterly report at the Regional Council meeting the next day. She also reported that Item 11 of the agenda packet was the EAC Retreat Update which had the Regional Council Outlook of planned topics and actions for the year ahead. Lastly, she reported that the next meeting of the Executive/Administration Committee was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 1 at 3:00 p.m. She noted that staff would follow up with members to confirm the need for this meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ajise reported that the California Transportation Secretary Toks Omishaken announced the creation of a cross-sector Sustainable Communities Task Force to recommend policies to better support implementation of regional Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS). He noted that SCAG Chief Planning Officer Sarah Jepson was appointed to the task force alongside 29 leaders from across the state representing state and regional agencies, local government, transit agencies, community-based organizations, housing and environmental advocates, and academic institutions. He indicated that the task force would prepare a final report in November 2026 outlining recommendations for legislative, regulatory and budgetary action to further SCS implementation toward reductions in greenhouse gases and vehicle miles traveled. He also noted that over the past year, SCAG and other Metropolitan Planning Organizations, had been engaged on concerns related to SCS development and evaluation, and the need to revisit Senate Bill 375 to better support SCS implementation. With respect to REAP 2.0, he indicated they were working diligently with grantees to successfully deliver the \$231.5 million program. He explained that since restarting REAP 2.0 after a pause during 2024 state budget negotiations, they evaluated project feasibility with grantees and made significant progress. He reported that at the end of August, 86% of the MOUs were executed and 9% were in the process of being executed. He explained that several grantees adjusted their project scope of work for feasible delivery, and a handful withdrew from the program. He further

explained that in November, they planned to provide a complete update on the program, including a revised project list and recommendations for reprogramming any surplus funds. He noted that their reprogramming approach needed to be approved by HCD. He also noted that their priority was to: 1) ensure the original awardees who had shown good faith in advancing projects could deliver their projects in full; 2) restore funds to ready-to-go regional programs impacted by the state budget cuts; and 3) direct any additional funds to support the overall program goal to serve the region's diverse needs. He also reported that on the Surface Transportation Block Grant program (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program (CMAQ), the Regional Council would be making project selection on the \$1.2 billion programming package in December. He noted that the call for project nominations application period for this cycle ended on May 16. He also reported that the six county transportation commissions reviewed and prioritized applications which had been submitted to SCAG on August 1. He noted that in total they had received 257 applications with a total funding request for more than \$3 billion. He indicated that a list of submissions could be found on SCAG's website. He also indicated that SCAG staff would present recommendations to the Transportation Committee in November for final Regional Council action in December. With respect to Transportation Conformity Challenges, he reported that on June 12, 2025, California's Clean Air Act waivers were revoked. He noted there was an active lawsuit filed by 11 states. He explained that what the cancellation of the waivers does to them was that it basically negates some of the stricter emission standards that they have set that were subject to waivers from the EPA. He further explained that due to the revocation of the waivers, California and the entire SCAG region, were currently under a transportation conformity lockdown—meaning no new regional transportation conformity determinations could be made until the lockdown was lifted. He indicated that they were mindful this lockdown could have a significant impact on investments throughout the SCAG region because SCAG cannot add new projects or make certain changes to existing projects under the lockdown. He emphasized that if a solution was not in place by spring 2026, it would impact timing of SCAG's 2027 FTIP and Connect SoCal 2024 Amendment 2, including projects associated with the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games needing new conformity analyses. He shared that they still had no sense of clarity on how this lockdown could be resolved. He indicated that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) was developing a solution. He indicated this issue was between CARB and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Lastly, he congratulated the Finance Team who recently received the Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.

There were no public comments for the CFO report, President's report, or the Executive Director's report.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hon. Margaret Finlay, Duarte, District 35, thanked Cindy Giraldo, Carmen Flores, and Jame Ramirez from staff for attending the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority meeting. She noted that SCAG had the best workers' comp from 128 entities that had been considered. She also asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Deborah Massey Ikhata who sadly passed away the week before.

Hon. Daniel Ramos, Adelanto, District 65, also recognized the Finance department. He reported that the City of Adelanto received a grant from SCAG's Go Human Campaign. He indicated SCAG would be out in the city handing out kits and that they would be having medium refuge islands, artistic crosswalks, curb extensions, in addition handing out 100 kid bicycle safety helmets, to promote traffic safety and bicycle safety. He noted the event was taking place on September 12. He also reported that he attended the Greenport Harbor Tour on August 21 which was hosted by the President.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Allen adjourned the Meeting of the Executive/Administration Committee at 3:32 p.m. in memory of Deborah Massey Ikhata who was the beloved wife of the former CEO, Hassan Ikhata. She reported that not only was she a wonderful wife and a mother, but a gracious host who welcomed so many of them into her home. She noted that her generosity and unwavering support for her family would leave a lasting mark on every single person that knew her. She expressed their deepest condolences to Hassan, and his family.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

2025-26																	Total Mtgs: Attended To Date
MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	5-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
Hon. Cindy Allen, President, Chair	Long Beach	District 30	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Ray Marquez, 1st Vice Chair	Chino Hills	District 10	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Jenny Crosswhite, 2nd Vice Chair	Santa Paula	District 47	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Curt Hagman, Imm. Past President		San Bernardino County	1	0	0	1		1									3
Hon. David J. Shapiro, Chair, CEHD	Calabasas	District 44	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Rocky Rhodes, Vice Chair, CEHD	Simi Valley	District 46	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Rick Denison, Chair, EEC	Yucca Valley	District 11	1	1	0	0		0									2
Hon. Daniel Ramos, Vice Chair, EEC	Adelanto	District 65	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Mike T. Judge, Chair, TC		VCTC	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Thomas Wong, Vice Chair, TC	Monterey Park	District 34	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair, LCMC	Riverside	District 68	1	0	0	1		1									3
Hon. Margaret Finlay, Vice Chair, LCMC	Duarte	District 35	0	1	1	1		1									4
Hon. Karen Bass, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	Member-At-Large	0	0	0	0		0									0
Hon. Wendy Bucknum, President's Appt.	Mission Viejo	District 13	1	1	0	1		1									4
Hon. Mike Goodsell, President's Appt.		ICTC	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Jan Harnik, President's Appt.		RCTC	1	1	1	1		1									5
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	1	0	0	0		0									1
Ms. Lucy Dunn, Ex-Officio Member	Lucy Dunn Strategic Issues Mar	Business Representative	1	1	1	0		0									3
			16	14	12	14	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	70

Attachment: EAC Attendance Sheet 2025-26 (Minutes of the Meeting - September 3, 2025)