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Subject: SCAG Liaison Report June 2025

To: Board of Directors

From: Erik Rodriguez, SCAG Government Affairs Officer

ACTION

REGIONAL COUNCIL ADOPTS RESILIENCE RESOLUTION

On June 5, the SCAG Regional Council adopted the Resilience Action Resolution, outlining several ongoing and upcoming SCAG efforts to increase resilience and support a thriving and prosperous region. The Regional Council adopted the Resilience Action Resolution in response to an increasing number of events and natural disasters impacting the region's communities, infrastructure, economy, and natural environment. To read more about SCAG's new Regional Action Resolution, read the [June staff report](#).

The June Regional Council meeting also featured a panel discussion (pictured above) on advancing local and regional resilience. The panel featured speakers actively working to advance planning and implementation efforts that strengthen community and infrastructure resilience to hazards:

- Lisa Colicchio, Director of Sustainability, Metrolink
- Mason Thurmond, Programs Manager, Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council

The panel discussion focused on lessons learned, funding strategies, and collaborative models advancing resilience in the region. More information about the panel presentation is also available in the [June staff report](#).

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

SCAG VISITS THE NATION'S CAPITAL FOR LOBBY DAY

President Cindy Allen led a small delegation of SCAG leadership to Washington, D.C., on May 19-22, to advocate for [SCAG's federal legislative priorities](#), including dedicated funding for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, critical housing programs, resiliency efforts, and [Regional Council-adopted](#) Surface Transportation Reauthorization priorities.

President Allen was joined by Second Vice President Jenny Crosswhite (Santa Paula) and Regional Council members Jan Harnik (Palm Desert) and Thomas Wong (Monterey Park).

The trip began with a series of meetings with members of SCAG's Congressional delegation and staff, and concluded with SCAG's annual California Transportation Reception, co-hosted by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. The time-honored event, held in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Room, brings together California's transportation leaders and stakeholders in the nation's capital to network and discuss issues of importance to California's transportation and infrastructure needs. The reception drew more than 200 attendees, including members of California's Congressional delegation and legislative and committee staff. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Ranking Member Rick Larsen (D-Washington State) joined as guest speaker

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONNECT SOCAL 2024 UPDATE: CARB ACCEPTS SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

On May 7, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) informed SCAG that it had accepted SCAG's determination that the [Connect SoCal 2024](#) Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) meets CARB's greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets. CARB's acceptance ensures transportation projects in the SCAG region remain eligible for Senate Bill 1 funding programs.

However, the lengthy review process highlights SCAG's concerns about the need to revisit Senate Bill 375 to better support SCS implementation. On May 21, CARB hosted a statewide workshop on updating the GHG targets for the next RTP/SCS cycle. SCAG submitted a joint public comment letter reiterating concerns about the applicability of the scoping plan scenario to metropolitan planning organization (MPO) targets and the need for clarity on the technical assumptions guiding both target-setting and SCS evaluation. SCAG and other MPOs have requested CARB maintain current targets. Given economic and demographic challenges, along with restrictions on crediting electric vehicle transition, MPOs face growing difficulties meeting current targets.

CARB plans to release a draft target report in fall 2025, followed by a final report and environmental assessment in spring 2026. Updated targets will apply to SCAG's next SCS,

expected in 2028. SCAG will continue to engage with CARB throughout the process and provide updates to policy committees after releasing the draft report.

[Subscribe online](#) to stay informed about key developments and upcoming opportunities as we collaborate to implement Connect SoCal 2024.

SCAG HOSTS INAUGURAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT FORUM TO PREPARE FOR LA28 GAMES

On May 7, SCAG hosted its first Regional Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Forum at SCAG's Downtown Los Angeles office and via Zoom.

Working with the Games Mobility Executive (GME) partners—including the Los Angeles Mayor's Office, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Caltrans, and Metrolink—SCAG is leading the GME TDM Subcommittee to coordinate TDM initiatives across the region for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games.

TDM encompasses a range of strategies designed to reduce demand for roadway travel, particularly by single-occupancy vehicles, by encouraging more efficient transportation options, such as biking, walking, public transit, carpooling, and vanpooling. SCAG is also advancing freight TDM strategies to reduce the effect of event-related congestion on local logistics operations, as well as employing strategies to reduce the effects of last-mile delivery on access to and around venue locations.

The LA28 Games will be an opportunity to rethink transportation networks in Southern California. Recognizing the need to engage regional partners in this work, SCAG established this Regional TDM Forum to begin the significant coordination required for a successful LA28 Games. Topics of discussion included LA28 Games's mobility framework, existing conditions, and partner efforts.

The Regional TDM Forum will be an advisory group, coordinating and collaborating on planning, development, and implementation of regionwide TDM strategies for the LA28 Games. TDM can contribute to a cohesive regional strategy to optimize transportation options, reduce congestion, and enhance mobility across the region during the LA28 Games and support enduring modal shifts and emissions reductions.

Future forum discussions will cover partnership and funding opportunities, regional partner planning and pilot project updates, and steps toward regional TDM coordination.

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JUNE

17th Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee

24th Transportation Conformity Working Group

JUNE

2nd Executive/Administration Committee

3rd Regional Council and Policy Committees Postponed

4th Independence Day (SCAG Offices Closed)

15th Housing Working Group

22nd Transportation Conformity Working Group

23rd Modeling Task Force

30th Regional Transit Technical Advisory Committee