



Southern California Association of Governments  
Remote Participation Only  
**September 30, 2020**

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC)  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES IS A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (EAC). A VIDEO AND 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 special 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 Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

**Members Present**

<b>Hon. Rex Richardson, President</b>	<b><i>Long Beach</i></b>	<b>District 29</b>
<b>Hon. Clint Lorimore, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	<b><i>Eastvale</i></b>	<b>District 4</b>
<b>Hon. Jan Harnik, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>		<b>RCTC</b>
<b>Hon. Bill Jahn, Imm. Past President</b>	<b><i>Big Bear Lake</i></b>	<b>District 11</b>
Hon. Jorge Marquez, Chair, CEHD	<i>Covina</i>	District 33
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Vice Chair, CEHD	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23
Hon. David Pollock, Chair, EEC	<i>Moorpark</i>	District 46
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, Chair, TC	<i>El Centro</i>	District 1
Hon. Steven Hofbauer, Vice Chair, TC	<i>Palmdale</i>	District 43
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Chair, LCMC	<i>Lynwood</i>	District 26
Hon. Peggy Huang, Vice Chair, LCMC		TCA
Hon. Margaret Finlay, President’s Appt.	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Kim Nguyen, President’s Appt.	<i>Garden Grove</i>	District 18
Hon. David Ryu, President’s Appt.	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-officio	<i>Lewis Group of Companies</i>	Business Representative

**Members Not Present**

Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Vice Chair, EEC	<i>Oxnard</i>	District 45
Hon. Deborah Robertson, President’s Appt.	<i>Rialto</i>	District 8
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Pechanga Dev. Corp.</i>	TGRPB Representative

**OUR MISSION**

*To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.*

**OUR VISION**

*Southern California’s Catalyst for a Brighter Future*

**OUR CORE VALUES**

*Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous*

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**Staff Present**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer  
Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer  
Justine Block, Acting Chief Counsel/Acting Director of Legal Services  
Ruben Duran, Board Counsel  
Sarah Jepson, Director of Planning  
Art Yoon, Director of Policy and Public Affairs  
Basil Panas, Chief Financial Officer  
Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer  
Peter Waggoner, Office of Regional Council Support  
Maggie Aguilar, Office of Regional Council Support

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honorable Rex Richardson called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and asked Second Vice Chair Jan Harnik, RCTC, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Given the public health directives limiting gatherings due to COVID-19, President Richardson announced the meeting was being held telephonically and electronically in compliance with the Governor's Executive Orders.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Richardson opened the Public Comment Period.

He reminded the public to submit comments via email to [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov). Staff acknowledged there were no public comments received by email.

President Richardson closed the Public Comment Period.

**REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no prioritization of agenda items.

**ACTION/DISCUSSION**

1. Resolution No. 20-624-2 Approving Amendment 2 to the FY 2020-21 Overall Work Program (OWP)

President Richardson asked Chief Financial Officer Basil Panas to provide the report.

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Mr. Panas reported this was the second amendment to the current year budget; the proposed amendment totaled \$248,000 and increased the budget from \$89.2 million to \$89.5 million. He stated the amendment does four things: 1) adds the \$400,000 grant for the Interstate 710 North Mobility Hubs plan, which came from FY 21 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant program; 2) increases by \$131,000 the FY 21 SB-1 Sustainable Communities Grant program in accordance with the final allocation SCAG received; 3) it decreases by \$339,000 Transportation Development Act consulting work for the Electric Vehicle Study project, which is now being funded by the SB-1 Sustainable Communities Formula Grant; and 4) includes a minor adjustment to the third-party participation in the amount of \$56,000.

A MOTION was made (Finlay) to adopt Resolution No. 20-624-2, approving Amendment 2 to the FY 2020-21 (FY21) Overall Work Program (OWP) and authorizing the Executive Director, or his designee, to submit the necessary documentation to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Motion was SECONDED (Jahn). The motion passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Finlay, Harnik, Hofbauer, Huang, Jahn, Lorimore, Marquez, Nguyen, Pollock, Richardson, Solache, Viegas-Walker and Yokoyama (13)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Special Meeting – June 22, 2020
2. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Center for Demographic Research
3. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract Nos. 19-052-C1 through 19-052-C10, Information Technology (IT) Technical Project Resources
4. Contract \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 19-066-C02, Aerial Imagery and Related Products and Services - County of Los Angeles
5. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contact No. 19-066-C03, Aerial Imagery and Related Products and Services – County of Riverside
6. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contact No. 20-050-C01, El Monte Vision Zero Action Plan

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7. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 20-052-C01, La Puente Safe Routes to School Master Plan
  8. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 20-074-C01, Palmdale Avenue Q from Sierra Highway to 20th Street East Complete Streets Project
  9. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 20-076-C01, Cities of Pasadena and Azusa Pedestrian Master Plans
  10. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 20-082, City of Cerritos Remote Services Enhancement Project
  11. Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-012-C01, Microsoft Enterprise Software License Agreement
  12. Contract Amendment \$75,000 or Greater: Contract No. 18-028-C01, Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Implementation and Technical Assistance Services, Amendment No. 4
  13. Contract Amendment Greater Than 30% of the Contract's Original Value: Contract No. 20-037-C01, Go Human Advertising & Engagement Campaign, Amendment No. 3
  14. SCAG Memberships and Sponsorship
  15. Legislative Platform Mid-Year Update

Receive and File

16. Housing Production Study
17. September State and Federal Legislative Update
18. Purchase Orders \$5,000 - \$199,999; Contracts \$25,000 - \$199,999 and Amendments \$5,000 - \$74,999
19. CFO Monthly Report

A MOTION was made (Marquez) to approve the Consent Calendar, Items 2 through 16; Receive and File Items 17 and 20. Motion was SECONDED (Solache) and passed by the following votes:

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- AYES:** Finlay, Harnik, Hofbauer, Huang, Jahn, Lorimore, Marquez, Nguyen, Pollock, Richardson, Solache, Viegas-Walker and Yokoyama (13)
- NOES:** None (0)
- ABSTAIN:** Pollock (due to a conflict of interest, abstained only with respect to Item 12, Contracts \$200,000 or Greater: Contract No. 21-012-C01, Microsoft Enterprise Software License Agreement)

President Richardson reported that Mr. Panas was retiring, and this would be his last month with SCAG and Regional Council meetings tomorrow.

### **CFO MONTHLY REPORT**

Chief Financial Officer Basil Panas reported that on August 12, 2020, SCAG received a final letter of resolution concerning the Caltrans cost audit. He reported the letter stated that SCAG had provided adequate documentation to demonstrate implementation of the corrective action plan, that Caltrans had received the \$339,000 of costs that were disallowed by the division of local assistance and that SCAG had submitted documentation supporting SCAG's repayment of \$1.8 million in disallowed costs by cost substitution. Of the \$4.4 million that were disallowed by Caltrans between the two audits, SCAG repaid \$339,000 and the rest was forgiven because SCAG had shown it had spent that amount and more in local funds on qualified federal projects. With respect to the external financial audits, Mr. Panas stated that field work would commence later in the month and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Audit report and Auditors report would be issued in December. Lastly, with respect to dues, Mr. Panas reported that as of September 1, 2020, 116 cities and four counties had renewed their memberships, 64 of which had taken advantage of the 20% dues waiver that the Regional Council approved. He stated 61 percent of the assessment had been collected and that left 72 cities and two counties yet to renew and three cities being recruited for membership.

President Richardson asked if the membership numbers were normal. Mr. Panas stated it was in line with prior year activity. President Richardson requested a breakout by region and how they typically received renewals. Staff acknowledged the President's request.

Second Vice Chair Jan Harnik asked if 61 percent was customary in every other fiscal year. Mr. Panas stated that it was.

Councilmember Margaret Finlay, Duarte, District 35 asked if the cities and counties had given any reasons for not paying membership dues. Mr. Panas stated that cities who had instituted processes paid their dues before October when SCAG staff sent out the reminder. He stated that between October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> usually everybody pays.

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**BUSINESS REPORT**

Mr. Randall Lewis reported that the housing market was still very strong, but that lumber costs had gone up incredibly in the last three months, adding pressure on house prices. He reported that rentals were still very strong, and people weren't moving. Additionally, he stated that collections were beginning to go down and it was going to put some stress on the market and landlords. He reported there was fear amongst the developers, especially in California, what with the potential of rent control or more taxes. With respect to the retail side, he reported that good tenants were doing well, and bad tenants were struggling. Mr. Lewis also reported that there was a lot of discussion on whether the recovery was going to be a "v, w or woosh." He stated he noticed that people were saying that maybe all those models on the recovery were wrong and they were using the phrase "it's going to be a K recovery." He clarified that this meant it was not going to be a uniform recovery and that there were certain segments that were going to keep getting better from a business point of view and others that would continue to get worse. Mr. Lewis also reported that he was seeing a lot more on how to analyze land use as a fiscal tool. He stated that Eastvale and Rancho Cucamonga were using new models that they were studying and being exposed to. He reported that the traditional way was to look at fiscal use, especially in terms of density. He stated that some of this new modeling implied that previous assumptions were wrong. Mr. Lewis also reported on the housing front and expressed disappointment that housing legislation had not moved forward this session. He stated that if they were going to get some housing built in California, he thought they were going to have to work with the legislature and get them some help to come up with bills that were still respectful of local control so that they could give the tools to the cities to get some housing built.

Councilmember Margaret Finlay, Duarte, District 35, asked if the lumber mills were operating at diminished capacity and why that would be the case.

Mr. Lewis indicated the reasons he had heard were that: 1) do it yourself projects were taking off, as evidenced by home improvement retailers' success; 2) with respect to hurricanes and floods, it was expected that there was going to be a lot of rebuilding, so the future markets would go up; and 3) tariffs. Lastly, he stated a lot of the lumber mills had shut down during the pandemic and would have to retool again. He reported they were hearing reports of people saying that not only was it the highest it's ever been in history, but it may be higher by a 50 percent margin. He stated that homebuilders have expressed concern about prices.

Councilmember Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, District 1, indicated there was a lot coming out from both sides with respect to the ballot split and Proposition 13 and asked Mr. Lewis what he had heard with respect to the economic data on outcomes.

Mr. Lewis reviewed Propositions 13 and 15. He discussed reasons for and sources of both support and opposition.

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Councilmember Ryu, Los Angeles, District 51, noted that he was present at the meeting.

First Vice President, Clint Lorimore, Eastvale, District 4, thanked Mr. Lewis for the recognition of their city manager. He also stated the presentations Mr. Lewis made were so valuable to this organization and he personally found them extremely valuable.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Richardson thanked the members for participating in the EAC Retreat. He stated it was a good time to sit down and have some follow up conversations individually with members. He stated they had a pretty clear idea of the work they had cut out for them and that it would all start tomorrow with the adoption of Connect SoCal, which was the foundation for the economic recovery. He stated they would begin talking, charting, mapping out and working through the process of shaping, to help drive their economic recovery across the region. He indicated a part of this was going to be their 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Economic Summit. He reported it would take place on December 1<sup>st</sup>, and for the first time it was going to be held online because they were still dealing with the pandemic. He stated as they worked to recover from the unprecedented impacts of the virus, this summit would bring together voices in business, planning and academia to help define strategies for building a strong, inclusive resilient Southern California economy.

President Richardson reported that tomorrow they were going to be considering Connect SoCal for final adoption. He stated it was an incredibly important plan, and this was the conclusion of the 120-day period established to be able to finetune and work with stakeholders to ensure the Plan was right and considers all local input. He reported that members should have already received letters from stakeholders in support.

President Richardson also reminded everyone of tomorrow's meeting schedule, with Policy Committee meetings at 9:00 a.m., the Joint Meeting of the Policy Committees at 10:30 a.m. and the Regional Council meeting at 1:00 p.m.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Kome Ajise stated they were looking forward to tomorrow as it was a culmination of work that they all had been doing together for the last two plus years. He stated they were going to have Policy Committee meetings because there were some items that they felt the policy committees needed to hear, specifically in the EEC as the PEIR was being presented there again. He stated there would be a housing program discussion at CEHD and a Sustainable Communities Program Guidelines presentation at TC. He reported that they decided to have a Joint Policy Committee (JPC) because it made more sense to have one discussion on Connect SoCal. He stated the elements that would be in front of them at the JPC and ultimately go to the RC, was the

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work they had been doing over the last four months to update and make some technical refinements, which basically was updating some of their growth information that they had in terms of entitlements. He reported that there was an addendum to the PEIR, which was to reconfirm the environmental status of the document itself, the setting of the document, and based on some feedback they got from some of the stakeholders, updated some of the technical results and statistical reports that they had in the PEIR. He stated this ensured that they were taking notes and input during the 120-day period. He reported that staff would also be presenting an implementation plan and an emerging issues outlook document that would accompany the Connect SoCal document for consideration at the RC. He expressed that they felt like they were able to collectively, both staff and stakeholders, use the time given to them, and learned some things on the process going forward as they move ahead in updating the plan.

Mr. Ajise recognized Chief Financial Officer Basil Panas. He informed the EAC members that they had a resolution for Mr. Panas, who had worked with SCAG for the last 14 plus years as the Chief Financial Officer and was retiring. He reported that Mr. Panas had taken the agency through major milestones and various improvements. Mr. Ajise presented a resolution, recognizing Mr. Panas for his exemplary career and thanking him for his dedicated service to SCAG. He stated Mr. Panas wanted to see SCAG through the resolution of the audit and stayed through that. As addressed in Mr. Panas's report, SCAG had resolved all the audit issues. On behalf of the executive team, Mr. Ajise congratulated Mr. Panas on his retirement.

Chief Financial Officer Basil Panas stated he had been with SCAG since 2006. He provided remarks and thanked members for the privilege of serving the region as SCAG's CFO.

Councilmember Margaret Finlay, Duarte, District 35, thanked Mr. Panas for his commitment to SCAG, to the Regional Council and to the region.

First Vice President, Clint Lorimore, Eastvale, District 4, stated Mr. Panas was a consummate professional, but more than that he was an amazingly kind gentleman.

Immediate Past President, Bill Jahn, Big Bear Lake, District 11, stated last year when SCAG was going through the audit, he was comfortable with the work that Mr. Panas was doing and knew he was going to see them through it. Like the previous speakers, he proceeded to congratulate him.

President Richardson thanked Mr. Panas and congratulated him for an incredible career and leaving SCAG in great standing and very high regard.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM/S**

There was no request for future agenda items.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT/S**

There were no announcements.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Lastly, President Richardson took a moment to acknowledge Councilmember Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood, District 26, whose mother, Maria Luz Solache, had recently passed away. President Richardson stated that Mr. Solache was an incredible public servant and student body president in college, which inspired him to be student body president in college. President Richardson closed the meeting in honor of his mother, offering this as a token and an extension of their condolences in support for him and his family.

There being no further business, President Richardson adjourned the Special Meeting of the EAC in honor of Maria Luz Solache at 3:46 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE EAC]

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Executive / Administration Committee Attendance Report

2020-21

MEMBERS	CITY	Representing	JUN (Sp. Mtg.)	JULY	AUG (Retreat)	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	Total Mtgs Attended To Date
Hon. Rex Richardson, President	Long Beach	District 29	1			1									2
Hon. Clint Lorimore, 1st Vice Chair	Eastvale	District 4	1			1									2
Hon. Jan Harnik, Chair, 2nd Vice Chair		RCTC	1			1									2
Hon. Bill Jahn, Imm. Past Chair	Big Bear Lake	District 11	1			1									2
Hon. Jorge Marquez, Chair, CEHD	Covina	District 33	1			1									2
Hon. Frank Yokoyama, Vice Chair, CEHD	Cerritos	District 23	1			1									2
Hon. David Pollock, Chair, EEC	Moorpark	District 46	1			1									2
Hon. Carmen Ramirez, Vice Chair, EEC	Oxnard	District 45	1			0									1
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, Chair, TC	El Centro	District 1	1			1									2
Hon. Steve Hofbauer, Vice Chair, TC	Palmdale	District 43	1			1									2
Hon. José Luis Solache, Chair, LCMC	Lynwood	District 26	1			1									2
Hon. Peggy Huang, Vice Chair, LCMC		TCA	1			1									2
Hon. Margaret Finlay, President's Appt.	Duarte	District 35	1			1									2
Hon. Kim Nguyen, President's Appt.	Garden Grove	District 18	1			1									2
Hon. Deborah Robertson, President's Appt.	Rialto	District 8	1			0									1
Hon. David Ryu, President's Appt.	Los Angeles	District 51	0			1									1
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	Pechanga Dev. Corporation	Tribal Government Regional Planning Board	0			0									0
Mr. Randall Lewis, Ex-Officio Member	Lewis Group of Companies	Business Representative	1			1									2