

## REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR CALIFORNIA HOUSING SUMMIT

On Oct. 11, SCAG, along with 34 partners representing business and community leaders, developers and stakeholders, will host the California Housing Summit at the L.A. Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. The summit, "The Cost of Not Housing," will address the issue of housing affordability across the state and its impact on local, regional and statewide economies. The summit program will look at the root causes of the housing crisis and focus on actionable strategies for stakeholder partnerships that will ultimately lead to "YES" to housing. Registration is free for elected officials and \$50 for general admission. To register and for more information, visit [www.scag.ca.gov/housingsummit](http://www.scag.ca.gov/housingsummit).

## GO HUMAN EVENTS ROLLING OUT ACROSS THE REGION

In partnership with local agencies and community groups, SCAG is hosting a series of 20 free bike safety workshops and group rides across the region as part of the Go Human campaign. The workshops will educate participants on bicycle safety and group bicycle rides will explore existing and planned complete streets infrastructure in cities across the region. For more information and to RSVP, visit the [Go Human Events calendar](#).

Go Human is also continuing its series of regional open streets events and active transportation infrastructure demonstration projects. On July 30, SCAG and the City of Fontana hosted one such event in conjunction with the Fontana Arts Festival, attracting an estimated 8,000 people. Participant feedback, which will be considered in the development of the city's Active Transportation Plan, indicated overwhelming support for making the demonstrated temporary street improvements permanent. The next Go Human open streets event will be in the City of Long Beach on Oct. 1. Visit the [Go Human Events page](#) for more information.

## SCAG TO SHARE KNOWLEDGE AT CALIFORNIA ADAPTATION FORUM

On Sept. 7-8, the State of California and the Local Government Commission will host the second California Adaptation Forum in Long Beach. SCAG is proud to be a sponsor of the forum. SCAG President Michele Martinez and board member Pam O'Connor from the City of Santa Monica are scheduled to speak on the panel "Looking to the Future: Creating Equitable, Post-Carbon Communities" and discuss how to create equitable, sustainable communities in the face of climate change. Additionally, three SCAG CivicSpark Fellows will present at the forum's Tools Salon on Sept. 7, where they will share their Green Region Initiative Sustainability Indicators Map. For more information or to register, visit the event website at <http://www.californiaadaptationforum.org/>.

## SOUTH COAST ATTAINS 1997 FEDERAL AIR QUALITY STANDARDS FOR FINE PARTICULATE MATTER

On July 25, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a final rule in the Federal Register determining that the South Coast Air Basin has attained the 1997 fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National Ambient Air Quality Standards. This determination is based upon ambient air quality monitoring data since the 2011–2013 monitoring period. As a result of the EPA action, effective Aug. 24, 2016, certain Clean Air Act requirements that had applied to the South Coast region no longer apply (e.g., submittal of attainment-related air plans) so long as the area continues to attain the 1997 PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards. However, transportation conformity requirements continue to apply to our regional transportation plans and federal transportation improvement programs under those standards. Although the attainment represents a significant milestone in improving air quality in the region, the South Coast remains a nonattainment area under the two more recent and more stringent 2006 and 2012 PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards and is subject to all applicable Clean Air Act requirements. To view the Federal Register Notice, visit <http://bit.ly/2bPA8k>.

## TOOLBOX TUESDAY WORKSHOP HELD ON IMPLEMENTING FIRST/LAST MILE ACCESS

On Aug. 30, SCAG held the Toolbox Tuesday workshop "Funding & Implementing First/Last Mile Access at Metrolink and Other Transit Stations" for planning professionals across sectors. The morning session covered active transportation access strategies to Metrolink and other rail stations throughout the region, with presentations from practitioners at Metrolink, Orange County

Transportation Authority, Caltrans and San Bernardino Associated Governments. The afternoon session covered funding sources for active transportation plans as well as opportunities for transit oriented development and other sustainable planning initiatives. More than 70 individuals participated, both in-person at SCAG's downtown office and through videoconferencing. Toolbox Tuesdays provide free classes for staff of SCAG-member local governments and other partners and offer a range of practical skills and knowledge on timely planning issues. For more information about future Toolbox Tuesday workshops, please visit: <http://sustain.scag.ca.gov/Pages/ToolboxTuesdayTraining.aspx>.

## **SCAG GIS SERVICES INITIATES PILOT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

This summer, SCAG initiated a pilot internship program to bring additional GIS services and resources to member agencies. The new program sends SCAG-sponsored interns to assist and work directly at selected jurisdictions, supporting local geographic information needs and planning projects. SCAG selected 24 jurisdictions based on a previous survey of GIS Services Program participants. Both staff and interns are now working to create a GIS-based pavement management system in Baldwin Park; a street signage geodatabase in La Puente; a general plan update mapping in Jurupa Valley; a geodatabase of city assets in San Fernando; and a 2040 General Plan Update in Santa Paula. In the coming weeks, SCAG staff will visit other jurisdictional partners to develop additional projects.

## **SCAG PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL CEQA LITIGATION STUDY**

SCAG recently provided GIS spatial analysis and mapping support in an update to law firm Holland & Knight's study of potential litigation abuse under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in the SCAG region. The 2015 study, "In the Name of the Environment," was the first comprehensive statewide report of all lawsuits filed under CEQA. With SCAG support, Holland & Knight completed an update to this report detailing CEQA lawsuits that targeted housing projects within the SCAG Region for the three-year period of 2013-2015. Staff geocoded these CEQA litigated housing projects and produced maps, charts and tables for Holland & Knight's study. The new report is available at <http://bit.ly/2byFTJb>.

## **SCAG SHARES KNOWLEDGE AT TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD CONFERENCES**

In early August, SCAG staff participated and presented at the 2016 Transportation Research Board (TRB) Summer Conference on Transportation Planning and Air Quality in Minneapolis, Minnesota. This year's conference theme was "The Changing Landscape of Transportation and Air Quality: Confronting the Challenges at the Global, Regional and Local Scales." Two staff members were invited to present at a podium session related to "Impacts of Urban Form and Travel Demand on Air Quality and Climate Change." The presentation's title was "LPPT-VMT: A Simulation Tool Measuring Transportation Use in an Aging City." SCAG staff was also invited to present at TRB's Conference on Use of Scenario Planning in Transportation Planning in Portland, Oregon, on Aug. 14-17. SCAG staff shared its award-winning poster, 3D GIS Visualization Tool for Scenario Planning, at the conference's Tools Exhibit and Reception.

## **SCAG CONTINUES INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

On July 22, SCAG hosted a seminar on regional planning and local governance for a delegation of Incheon National University (INU) students and professors. INU is one of SCAG's partner agencies in Korea. Staff provided the delegation with a presentation on SCAG's 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and the agency's GIS, Public Health and internship programs. SCAG also hosted INU students Yu-Kyung Lim and Yu-Ri Kim as visiting researchers for six weeks. In August, SCAG welcomed Yi Wang, General Director of the Institute of Policy and Management at the China Academy of Sciences and his key staff visiting SCAG. The Institute of Policy and Management is SCAG's primary partner in China. SCAG's Executive Director Hasan Ikhata and Huasha Liu, Director of Land Use and Environmental Planning, hosted a meeting where the two agencies shared their latest developments, as well as areas for continued collaboration including sharing knowledge on SCAG's integrated planning/modeling process for greenhouse gas reduction.