



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
SPECIAL JOINT POLICY COMMITTEES
(COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (CEHD);
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EEC); AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE (TC))
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE JOINT POLICY COMMITTEES. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

The Joint Policy Committees of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its meeting both in person and virtually (telephonically and electronically). A quorum was present.

CEHD Members Present:

Hon. David Shapiro (Chair)	<i>Calabasas</i>	District 44
Hon. Rocky Rhodes (Vice Chair)	<i>Simi Valley</i>	District 46
Hon. Cindy Allen	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 30
Hon. Wendy Bucknum	<i>Mission Viejo</i>	District 13
Hon. Don Caskey	<i>Laguna Hills</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Tanya Doby	<i>Los Alamitos</i>	OCCOG
Ms. Lucy Dunn	Business Representative	Ex-Officio
Hon. Keith Eich	<i>La Cañada Flintridge</i>	District 36
Hon. Shaunna Elias	<i>Glendora</i>	District 33
Hon. Bob Engler	<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	VCOG
Hon. Rose Espinoza	<i>La Habra</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Waymond Fermon	<i>Indio</i>	CVAG
Hon. Margaret E. Finlay	<i>Duarte</i>	District 35
Hon. Claudia M. Frometa	<i>Downey</i>	District 25
Hon. Victoria Garcia	<i>San Fernando, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Gary Gardner	<i>Desert Hot Springs</i>	District 2
Hon. Mike Goodsell		ICTC
Hon. John Grass	<i>Brawley</i>	ICTC
Hon. Mark Henderson	<i>Gardena</i>	District 28
Hon. Peggy Huang	<i>Yorba Linda</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Cecilia Hupp	<i>Brea</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Lynda Johnson	<i>Cerritos</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Megan Kerr	<i>Long Beach, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Sup. Matt LaVere	<i>Ventura County</i>	CoC



Hon. Jed Leano	<i>Claremont</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Anni Marshall	<i>Avalon</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Betty Martinez Franco	<i>Irvine, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Andrew Masiel, Sr.	<i>Tribal Gov't Reg'l Planning Rep.</i>	
Hon. John Mirisch	<i>Beverly Hills, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Sonny Santa Ines	<i>Bellflower</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Becky Shevlin	<i>Monrovia</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Helen Tran	<i>San Bernardino</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Valerie Vandever	<i>San Jacinto</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Jeff Wood	<i>Lakewood</i>	District 24
Hon. Tony Wu	<i>West Covina</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Frank Yokoyama	<i>Cerritos</i>	District 23

CEHD Members Not Present:

Hon. Valerie Amezcua	<i>Santa Ana</i>	District 16
Hon. Joe Baca	<i>Rialto</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Debbie Baker	<i>La Palma</i>	District 18
Hon. Drew Boyles	<i>El Segundo</i>	District 40
Hon. Debra Dorst-Porada	<i>Ontario, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Martin Fuentes	<i>Cudahy</i>	GCCOG
Hon. William Hussey	<i>Grand Terrace</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Geneva Mojado	<i>Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians</i>	
Hon. Joseph Morabito	<i>Wildomar</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Joseph Murphy	<i>Pechanga Band of Indians</i>	
Hon. Sharona Nazarian	<i>Beverly Hills</i>	WSCCOG
Hon. Misty Perez	<i>Port Hueneme, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Nithya Raman	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 51
Hon. Sheila Rossi	<i>South Pasadena</i>	AVCJPA
Hon. Mary Solorio	<i>San Fernando</i>	SFVCOG
Hon. Mark Waronek	<i>Lomita</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Acquanetta Warren	<i>Fontana</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Judy Woolsey	<i>Yucaipa</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Frank Zerunyan	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Jesse Zwick	<i>Santa Monica</i>	District 41

EEC Members Present:

Hon. Daniel Ramos (Vice Chair)	<i>Adelanto</i>	District 65
Hon. Ana Beltran	<i>Westmoreland</i>	ICTC
Hon. Daniel Brotman	<i>Glendale</i>	AVCJPA
Hon. Martha Cardenas-Singh		Imperial County
Hon. Margaret Clark	<i>Rosemead</i>	District 32



Hon. Jenny Crosswhite	<i>Santa Paula</i>	District 47
Hon. Ned Davis	<i>Westlake Village</i>	LVMCOG
Hon. Carmen Hernandez	<i>Barstow</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Shari Horne	<i>Laguna Woods</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Britt Huff	<i>Rolling Hills Estates</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Joe Kalmick	<i>Seal Beach</i>	District 20
Hon. Elaine Litster	<i>Simi Valley</i>	VCOG
Hon. Patricia Lock Dawson	<i>Riverside</i>	District 68
Hon. Yasmine-Imani McMorris	<i>Culver City</i>	WCCOG
Hon. Suely Saro	<i>Long Beach</i>	District 29
Hon. Jennifer Stark	<i>Claremont</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Ali Taj	<i>Artesia, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Stephanie Virgen	<i>Coachella</i>	CVAG
Hon. Dale Welty	<i>Canyon Lake</i>	WRCOG

EEC Members Not Present:

Hon. Rick Denison (Chair)	Yucca Valley	District 11
Hon. Art Bishop	<i>Apple Valley</i>	SBCTA
Hon. Robert Copeland	<i>Signal Hill</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Steven Leash	<i>Cahuilla Band of Indians</i>	
Hon. Vianey Lopez		Ventura County
Hon. Cory Moss	<i>Industry, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios	<i>Ventura</i>	VCOG
Hon. Patty Senecal	<i>Seal Beach</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Tamala Takahashi	<i>Burbank</i>	SFVCOG
Hon. Connor Traut	<i>Buena Park</i>	OCCOG

TC Members Present:

Hon. Mike T. Judge (Chair)		VCTC
Hon. Thomas Wong (Vice Chair)	Monterey Park	District 34
Hon. Zeel Ahir	<i>Artesia</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Ryan Balius	<i>Anaheim</i>	District 19
Hon. Brian Berkson	<i>Jurupa Valley, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Jonathan Dumitru	<i>Orange</i>	District 17
Hon. John Dutrey	<i>Montclair</i>	District 9
Hon. John Gabbard	<i>Dana Point</i>	District 12
Hon. Jason Gibbs	<i>Santa Clarita</i>	NCTC
Hon. William Go	<i>Irvine</i>	District 14
Hon. Curt Hagman		San Bernardino County
Hon. Laura Hernandez	<i>Port Hueneme</i>	District 45
Hon. Lauren Hughes-Leslie	<i>Lancaster</i>	NCTCJPA



Hon. Fred Jung	<i>Fullerton</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Trish Kelley		TCA
Hon. Lauren Kleiman	<i>Newport Beach</i>	District 15
Hon. Linda Krupa	<i>Hemet</i>	District 3
Hon. Andrew Lara	<i>Pico Rivera</i>	District 31
Hon. Carlos A. Leon		OCTA
Hon. Clint Lorimore	<i>Eastvale</i>	District 4
Hon. Ken Mann	<i>Lancaster</i>	NCTC
Hon. Steve Manos	<i>Lake Elsinore</i>	District 63
Hon. Ray Marquez	<i>Chino Hills</i>	District 10
Hon. Larry McCallon		Air District Representative
Hon. Marsha McLean	<i>Santa Clarita, Pres. Appt.</i>	District 67
Hon. Carol Moore	<i>Laguna Woods</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Zizette Mullins	<i>Burbank</i>	AVCJPA
Hon. Muñoz-Guevara	<i>Lynwood</i>	GCCOG
Hon. Frank Navarro	<i>Colton</i>	District 6
Hon. David Ready	<i>Palm Springs</i>	CVAG
Mr. Marlon Regisford	<i>Caltrans District 7</i>	Ex-Officio Member
Hon. Gabriel Reyes	<i>Adelanto, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Crystal Ruiz	<i>San Jacinto</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Ali Saleh	<i>Bell</i>	District 27
Hon. Marty Simonoff	<i>Brea</i>	District 22
Hon. Wes Speake	<i>Corona</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Cynthia Sternquist	<i>Temple City</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. William Uphoff	<i>Lomita</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Wallace, Colleen	<i>Banning</i>	WRCOG
Hon. Zhen Wu	<i>San Clemente</i>	OCCOG

TC Members Not Present:

Hon. Javier Amezcua	<i>Calipatria</i>	ICTC
Hon. Adele Andrade-Stadler	<i>Alhambra</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Phil Bacerra	<i>Santa Ana, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Kathryn Barger		Los Angeles County
Hon. Austin Bishop	<i>Palmdale</i>	District 43
Hon. Jeanette Burns	<i>Morongo Band of Mission Indians</i>	
Hon. Denise Delgado	<i>Coachella, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Bryan Fish	<i>Culver City</i>	WCCOG
Hon. Jan Harnik		RCTC
Hon. Heather Hutt	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 57
Hon. Bridgett Lewis	<i>Torrance, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Linda Molina	<i>Calimesa, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large



Hon. Tim McOsker	<i>Los Angeles</i>	District 62
Hon. Ara Najarian	<i>Glendale</i>	SFVCOG
Hon. Nikki Perez	<i>Burbank</i>	District 42
Hon. Gil Rebollar	<i>Brawley</i>	District 1
Hon. Ed Reece	<i>Claremont</i>	SGVCOG
Hon. Steve Sanchez	<i>La Quinta</i>	District 66
Hon. Tim Sandoval (Chair)	<i>Pomona</i>	District 38
Hon. Zak Schwank	<i>Temecula</i>	District 5
Hon. Emma Sharif	<i>Compton</i>	District 26
Hon. Asam Sheikh	<i>Torrance</i>	SBCCOG
Hon. Jeremy Smith	<i>Canyon Lake, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Ward Smith	<i>Placentia</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Hilda Solis		Los Angeles County
Hon. Karen Spiegel		Riverside County
Hon. Butch Twining	<i>Huntington Beach</i>	District 64
Hon. Steve Tye	<i>Diamond Bar</i>	District 37
Hon. Michael Vargas	<i>Perris, Pres. Appt.</i>	Member at Large
Hon. Scott Voigts	<i>Lake Forest</i>	OCCOG
Hon. Don Wagner		Orange County
Hon. Alan Wapner		SBCTA/SBCOG
Hon. Alicia Weintraub	<i>Calabasas</i>	LVMCOG

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
- Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
- Jefferey Elder, Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services
- Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
- Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
- Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Allen called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and asked the Honorable John Gabbard, Dana Point, District 12, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was confirmed.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, stated they had two members of the policy committees who would like to request participation via the Just Cause exemption under Brown Act. He noted that once

they had the quorum in the room, he would make the announcement.

Regional Council Member Margaret Finlay, Duarte, District 35, requested that they adjourn the meeting in memory of Carlene Adams, President Allen's mother, who passed away on November 10.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Allen opened the Public Comment Period for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG's jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, acknowledged there were no public comments.

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

REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS

There was no reprioritization of items.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Items

1. Minutes of the Meeting – February 6, 2025

A MOTION was made (Marquez) to approve Consent Calendar Item 1. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro). The motion passed by the following roll call votes:

AYES: **(CEHD)** Allen, Bucknum, Doby, Eich, Elias, Espinoza, Fermon, Finlay, Frometa, Goodsell, Grass, Henderson, Huang, Hupp, Kerr, Leano, Martinez Franco, Masiel, Mirisch, Rhodes, Santa Ines, Shapiro, Shevlin, Vandever, Wood, T. Wu, Yokoyama; **(EEC)** Brotman, Cardenas-Singh, Clark, Crosswhite, Davis, C. Hernandez, Horne, Huff, Johsz, Kalmick, Litster, Lock Dawson, McMorrin, Ramos, Saro, Stark, Taj, Virgen, Welty; **(TC)** Ahir, Balius, Berkson, Dumitru, Dutrey, Gabbard, Gibbs, Go, Hagman, L. Hernandez, Hughes-Leslie, Judge, Jung, Kelley, Kleiman, Krupa, Leon, Lorimore, Mann, Manos, Marquez, McCallon, McLean, Moore, Mullins, Navarro, Ready, Reyes, Ruiz, Saleh, Simonoff, Speake, Uphoff, Wallace, and Wong (81)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: (TC) Z. Wu (1)

Board Counsel Duran stated that they had the required in-person quorum in the room so that two of the policy committee members could participate via Just Cause under the Brown. He noted for the record that the Just Cause exemption under the Brown Act could be used for child care or caregiving need of a child, parent, or grandparent, a contagious illness that prevents attending in person, a need related to a physical or mental disability not otherwise accommodated by SCAG, travel while an official business of the legislative body, the member has an immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, or other member of the family.

Remote Participation

Marsh McLean: Just Cause – Caregiving Needs

Lucy Dunn: Just Cause – Contagious Illness

INFORMATION ITEM

2. 2025 Southern California Economic Update and LA28 Games Economic Impacts

President Allen reported that SCAG’s annual regional economic report, developed in partnership with a team of economic experts, would be presented at the Joint Policy Committee meeting. She noted that the 2025 Southern California Economic Update included both a regional and county-level analysis, as well as a special section on the economic opportunities associated with the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. She shared that the expert panel would present their findings, followed by an in-depth discussion with committee members. President Allen also thanked SCAG staff Kevin Kane and Echo Zheng from the Demographics and Growth Vision team for their contributions to this year’s report.

Dr. Kevin Kane, SCAG Planning Supervisor, clarified an issue on page 33 of the agenda packet. He noted that the economic impact was measured in billions, not millions.

President Allen introduced former Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti as the moderator for the presentation and discussion. She noted that prior to becoming mayor, Garcetti served on the Los Angeles City Council, including four terms as Council President. As the 42nd Mayor of Los Angeles, he led major initiatives, including the passage of the nation’s largest local infrastructure program, and played a key role in securing the city’s successful bid to host the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. She also highlighted his service as U.S. Ambassador to India following his two mayoral terms.

Mayor Garcetti highlighted Southern California’s global economic significance and framed the LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Games as a historic opportunity. He discussed LA’s unique Olympic legacy

and the region's diversity, creativity, and readiness for LA28. He also addressed the need for regional unity and proactive leadership amid economic uncertainty and technological disruption.

Wallace Walrod, Founder and Managing Partner with Tech Coast Consulting Group, provided an analysis of the Economic Impacts of the LA28 Olympic Games, highlighting that the region's existing venues would avoid massive construction costs, leveraging a mature tourism industry and a \$160 million youth sports investment since 2018. He explained that the analysis modeled economic impacts from 2024-2029, projecting between \$14 billion to \$18 billion in new economic activity, with LA County receiving the largest share, but 33% of benefits flowing to other SCAG counties. He emphasized that visitor spending was projected at \$1.9B–\$2.4B, with Olympic visitors spending twice as the typical tourist. He shared that in 2028 the Olympics would create about 75,000 jobs but the total from 2024 to 2029 would create between 115,000 to 150,000 jobs. Mr. Walrod noted that while the analysis captured direct impacts, longer-term benefits like regional branding and legacy effects were not fully quantified.

Mark Schniepp, Director of California Economic Forecast, provided an overview of the regional economy. He discussed the current state of California's economy, focusing on labor market trends, job creation, and industry-specific challenges. Key points in his presentation included the impact of AI on various sectors, particularly in technology and manufacturing, leading to job losses in entry-level positions. He noted that Healthcare emerged as a bright spot, with record-high employment and continued growth. He also reported that the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach remained stable despite tariff policy chaos, and tourism saw a slight decline due to fewer international visitors, particularly from Canada. He concluded with a forecast of modest economic growth in 2026, driven by a diminishing impact of recent policy changes and lower interest rates.

Michael Bracken, Managing Partner and Chief Economist of the Development Management Group, Inc., provided a detailed analysis of Imperial County, emphasizing its significant agricultural production and renewable energy capabilities, while also discussing challenges such as water scarcity and the closure of a sugar processing plant, which will result in job losses. He concluded with optimism about future economic investments in geothermal and lithium extraction facilities, as well as potential data center projects.

Shannon Sedgwick, Senior Director of the Institute for Applied Economics for the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, presented an overview of Los Angeles County's economy, highlighting its resilience despite challenges like wildfires, tariffs, and immigration enforcement. She noted that employment recovered quickly, with healthcare leading job growth, while sectors like manufacturing and construction faced pressures. She also noted future housing supply concerns with rising prices and a decline in multifamily permits. She shared that the 2026 outlook indicated modest job growth and that the Olympics would accelerate planning activity but was not the main economic driver.

Mr. Walrod provided an update of Orange County. He described the County as a strong economic performer with low unemployment, a highly educated workforce, and a rapidly aging population. He indicated the region was facing housing affordability challenges, but that it was also investing in innovation sectors like life sciences, semiconductors, and AI, with venture capital flowing into this area.

Manfred Keil, Chief Economist of the Inland Empire Economic Partnership and Claremont McKenna College and Robert Kleinheinz, Director of the Office of Economic Research at California State University Long Beach, presented on the economic conditions of Riverside and San Bernardino counties, highlighting their status as the 12th largest metropolitan statistical area in the United States with significant commuting patterns to coastal regions. They discussed the region's economic reliance on three sectors: local government, health, and logistics, with San Bernardino County having 20% of its employment in logistics. They noted that while the Inland Empire's economy showed 1.5% job growth year-to-date through August, this was below the long-term average of 2.8%, with unemployment rates around 6.3% and sectors like healthcare, logistics, and government facing potential risks from policy decisions.

Mr. Schniepp provided a report on Ventura County's economic conditions, noting limited job growth but a stable unemployment rate. He highlighted population decline since 2016, interrupted by a modest increase in 2024, and discussed the impact of tariffs on the Port of Hueneme's automotive sector.

Beth Tamayose, Research Director at the University of California, Riverside School of Public Policy, presented economic opportunities in healthcare occupations, emphasizing the industry's growth but noting disparities in job quality and pay between healthcare practitioners and support occupations. She suggested that policymakers and educational institutions consider creating clearer pathways for career advancement in healthcare to promote more equitable job growth.

David Roland-Holst, Managing Director of Berkeley Economic Advising and Research provided a presentation on sustaining Olympic benefits for Los Angeles and the SCAG Region. He highlighted that long-term Olympic benefits hinge on sustainability and transparent measurement, urging the region to track impacts through a public-facing scorecard. He emphasized how sustainable infrastructure can boost long-term productivity, public trust, and community-wide economic gains beyond the Games themselves.

Former Mayor Garcetti noted that the panel provided both a regional economic overview and county-by-county insights, while also framing the broader conversation about the Olympic and Paralympic Games. He emphasized that this moment presented both economic opportunity and technological disruption, especially with AI and automation reshaping industries. He encouraged policymakers to shift from analysis to action, offering guidance on how local leaders can shape the future economy—particularly around healthcare, logistics, and workforce impacts from

automation—rather than reacting to it. He asked the panelist what advice they would offer to the policymakers in the room.

The panel addressed concerns about AI and automation by emphasizing that the future would be shaped not by replacing people, but by replacing tasks—making human-centered skills, education, and adaptability essential. The panel stressed that AI would augment more jobs than it eliminates, but local leaders must prepare by improving workforce training, aligning landuse decisions with emerging tech needs, and ensuring regions, especially those with lower educational attainment, can attract the industries of the future. Panelists warned that CEQA-related delays could hinder necessary facility upgrades and encouraged regional planning to match workforce capabilities with evolving AI-driven industries.

Regional Council Member Jeff Wood asked whether Olympic related jobs, especially in hospitality, would disappear immediately after the Games. Mr. Walrod acknowledged a small economic dip in 2029 but emphasized that most hospitality facilities and jobs would remain because the region’s tourism infrastructure wouldn’t vanish after the Games. He indicated that the Olympics were expected to create a long-lasting boost in visitation if cities welcome guests, which would help sustain employment beyond 2028.

President Allen thanked all the presenters and reminded the audience that the full “2025 Southern California Economic Update” report was available by scanning the QR code on the slide or by visiting the SCAG website. She indicated that it would also be shared by email and asked that they take the survey as they would like to hear about their experience.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Allen adjourned the Joint Policy Committee meeting in memory of Carlene Adams at 11:33 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE JOINT POLICY COMMITTEES]

//