



**ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
Technical Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Date / Location**

**Tuesday, May 4, 2021  
9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

**Meeting Zoom Link:**

<https://yorbalinga.zoom.us/j/99506766630?pwd=cHg4MGpHa2QzUINNOzFWYkkwdjITQT09>

Meeting ID: 995 0676 6630

Passcode: 088229

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,99506766630# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,99506766630# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 995 0676 6630

Find your local number: <https://yorbalinga.zoom.us/j/99506766630>

**Agenda Item**

**Staff**

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**INTRODUCTIONS**

(Chair Nate Farnsworth,  
City of Yorba Linda)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

(Chair Farnsworth)

The agenda descriptions are intended to give members of the public a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. The posting of the recommended actions does not include what action will be taken. The Technical Advisory Committee may take any action which it deems appropriate on the agenda item and is not limited in any way by the notice of the recommended action.



At this time members of the public may address the TAC regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction, which are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion. NO action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Comments shall be limited to three minutes per person and an overall time limit of twenty minutes for the Public Comments portion of the agenda.

Any person wishing to address the TAC on any matter, whether or not it appears on this agenda, is requested to complete a "Request to Speak" form available at the door. The completed form is to be submitted to the TAC Chair prior to an individual being heard. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the TAC in writing and only pertinent points presented orally. A speaker's comments shall be limited to three minutes.

### ADMINISTRATION

- 1. **OCCOG TAC Meeting Minutes** (Chair Farnsworth) TAC 4
  - Draft OCCOG TAC minutes for the April 6, 2021 meeting

Recommended Action: Approve OCCOG TAC minutes for the April 6, 2021 meeting, as presented or amended

### PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS, REPORTS

- 2. **Center of Demographic and Research Update** (Deborah Diep, TAC 9
  - 2020 Housing Inventory System (HIS) Data Verification
  - OCP-2022 & 2024 SCAG RTP/SCS Timeline Update
 Center for Demographic Research (CDR))  
15 minutes

Recommended Action: Receive report. Discussion.

- 3. **REAP GIS Project Updates** (Executive Director Primmer and Tara Lakes, WSP) TAC 11  
30 minutes

Recommended Action: Receive report. Discussion.

- 4. **Subregional Delegation for the RTP/SCS** (Marnie Primmer, Executive Director) TAC 14
  - Staff report from the OCCOG Board
  - Next Steps
 20 minutes

Recommended Action: Receive report. Discussion.

- 5. **RHNA** (Chair Farnsworth) TAC 48  
10 minutes



Recommended Action: Receive report. Discussion

#### REPORT FROM CHAIR/VICE CHAIR

- HCD Housing Element Resources link  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ckag3nxvaxvif1g/AAAyIMPLCvh0QcoP2y242zCYa?dl=0>

#### REPORT FROM THE OCCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### MATTERS FROM OCCOG TAC MEMBERS

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM NON-MEMBERS

#### ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

#### IMPORTANT DATES OR UPCOMING EVENTS

May 5, 2021: SCAG Executive Administration Committee from 3:00 – 4:00pm

May 6, 2021: SCAG Regional Council Meeting from 9:00 – 10:00 am  
General Assembly from 10:00 – 12:00pm

May 18, 2021: Accessory Dwelling Units within the SCAG Region  
<https://scag.wufoo.com/forms/?formname=zk9m3x61949avd&field132=051821-ADU>

June 8 and 15, 2021: USC/SCAG 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Demographic Workshop, (Virtual, free) 1:30 – 4:45 PM

<https://scag.ca.gov/demographics>

**Adjourn to: JUNE 1, 2021**  
**LOCATION: TBA**



**ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
***Technical Advisory Committee***

**Draft Action Minutes**

Meeting of May 4, 2021

The Orange County Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee (OCCOG TAC) meeting of April 6, 2021, was called to order at 9:30 am by Vice Chair Justin Equina, City of Irvine. The meeting was held through video and telephone conferencing.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no public comments at this time.

**ADMINISTRATION**

**1. OCCOG TAC Meeting Minutes**

The OCCOG meeting minutes of March 2, 2021, were unanimously approved by the TAC as moved by Derek Bingham, City of Rancho Santa Margarita, and second by Jaime Murillo, City of Newport Beach.

**PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS, REPORTS**

**2. BEAM Global**

Mr. Andy Ike, Beam Global, gave a presentation about sustainable Electric Vehicle (EV) charging equipment. Mr. Ike introduced their flagship product, EV Autonomous Renewable Charger (ARC), which is an off-grid solar powered charger. The charger accommodates any electric vehicle and comes fully assembled and operational. Current clients include City of Long Beach and Cal Trans.

**3. Center for Demographic Research**

Ms. Deborah Diep, Director of Center for Demographic and Research, gave an update on the 2020 HIS Data Collection, OCP-2022 & 2024 SCAG RTP/SCS Timeline Update, and the 2021 American Community Survey Data User's Conference.



### **2020 Housing Inventory System (HIS) Data Collection**

July 1- December 31, 2020 housing construction and demolition data was due Friday, January 22, 2021. Submit data to CDR using the 2020 HIS form located at <http://www.fullerton.edu/cdr/HISform.xls> . The following jurisdictions have not submitted all or a portion of their 2020 data: Santa Ana, Villa Park, and Yorba Linda.

Verification forms for the 2020 HIS data are due back to CDR on Friday, April 16, 2021.

HIS submission forms were updated in 2020 to include additional sample entries, clarifications in the instructions, and an updated HIS unit flow chart to better explain how to record unit activity when attached ADUs are involved. This is similar to DOF's new housing survey flow chart DOF, but is tailored to CDR's 4 ADU types. For HIS questions, please contact Tania Torres at 657-278-3417 or [tatorres@fullerton.edu](mailto:tatorres@fullerton.edu).

### **OCP-2022 & 2024 SCAG RTP/SCS Timeline Update**

Due to the delay in the release of the 2020 Census data, the draft timeline for jurisdiction review of the draft 2022 Orange County Projections (OCP-2022) data has been modified. In recent iterations, the review of the base year data has been done separately and prior to the review of the projections data. With the official release of the 2020 Census data by September 30, 2021, it is expected that the jurisdictions' TAZ-level review of the 2019 base year data and the disaggregation of 2020 Census population and housing counts to the new 2021 traffic analysis zones (TAZs) will be combined with the review of the projections data in approximately March and April 2022. CDR plans to process the Legacy version of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file when it is released in mid- to late August 2021. In addition, the 2020 Census Count Question Resolution program will begin in fall 2021 and any errors identified by CDR or jurisdictions during the review of the draft OCP-2022 data will be flagged for submittal to the Census Bureau for correction and inclusion in the errata.

### **2021 American Community Survey Data User's Conference**

The Census Bureau has released a preliminary program for the 2021 American Community Survey Data User's Conference. The virtual Conference is scheduled to be held from 8 am PT to 2 pm PT daily on May 18-20. Registration will be free for all conference participants. Information about conference registration will be available soon. The draft program is attached.

<https://acsdatacommunity.prb.org/p/conferences>

## **4. Local Profiles**

Mr. Mike Gainor, SCAG, presented on the upcoming Local Profiles. The Local Profiles include a variety of demographic information, including population, education, housing, transportation, and



more. The Local Profiles help identify current and evolving demographic trends in the SCAG region.

The reports are usually released in May during SCAG's General Assembly; however, this year, there is a delay of about three months. This delay is largely because IT staff is working on an online application to support the Local Profiles.

Additionally, SCAG may propose additional topics in the report. Topics may include: equity, language spoken at home, and food insecurity. Below is a tentative project timeline:

- Data acquisition, processing, & analysis (on-going)
- Draft reports provided for local jurisdictional review & comment (June 2021)
- Draft report jurisdiction comment period (June-July 2021)
- Revise draft reports to incorporate jurisdictional comments & SCAG QA process (July-August 2021)
- Production of final reports (September 2021)
- Release of final 2021 Local Profiles reports & post on SCAG website (September 2021)

Comments were raised from the TAC requesting SCAG to work with local jurisdictions to obtain the data for this effort. SCAG should coordinate with jurisdictions to ensure the information is accurate and reflective of each city and county within the SCAG region.

## 5. Legislative Update Staff Report

Vice Chair Justin Equina informed the TAC members of the March 25, 2021, OCCOG Board Legislative Update Staff Report attached to the agenda. The staff report provides an overview of the federal coronavirus relief package and updates on legislation that are of interest to the Board. The Legislative Update keeps the OCCOG Board apprised of legislative and regulatory actions that address land use and housing, energy, mobility, air quality, and water issues.

### REPORT FROM CHAIR/VICE CHAIR

Vice Chair Justin Equina referred the TAC members to a dropbox link in the agenda that includes recordings and resources from the HCD TA meetings for the Housing Element.

HCD Housing Element Resources Link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ckag3nxyaxvif1g/AAAYIMPLCvh0QcoP2y242zCYa?dl=0>



## **THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Ms. Marnie Primmer, Executive Director, provided an update on REAP related activities. At the last meeting, there was a request to translate the videos in other languages. Those video translations should be available this week.

The next REAP RFP item will be ADU pre-approved plans, designs, model ordinances, and staff augmentation support. The item will be presented to the OCCOG Board approximately in May in order to take advantage of Phase II funding (when it becomes available).

Finally, Executive Director Primmer announced that the OCCOG General Assembly will be held on November 17, 2021.

## **MATTERS FROM OCCOG TAC MEMBERS**

There were no items to report from OCCOG TAC Members.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OCCOG TAC NON-MEMBERS**

There were no items to report from OCCOG TAC Non-Members.

## **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

There were no items discussed for next meeting.

## **IMPORTANT DATES OR UPCOMING EVENTS**

May 5, 2021: SCAG Executive Administration Committee from 3:00 – 4:00pm

May 6, 2021: SCAG Regional Council Meeting from 9:00 – 10:00 am  
General Assembly from 10:00 – 12:00pm

June 8 and 15, 2021: USC/SCAG 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Demographic Workshop, (Virtual, free) 1:30 – 4:45 PM

<https://scag.ca.gov/demographics>



## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Equina until Tuesday, May 4, 2021 via video and teleconferencing.

Submitted by:

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Justin Equina, City of Irvine  
OCCOG TAC Vice Chair

## **ATTENDANCE:**

Andy Ike, Beam  
Ben Zdeba, City of Newport Beach  
Belinda Deines, City of Dana Point  
Charles Guiam, City of Anaheim  
Dave Simpson, TCA  
David Lopez, City of La Habra  
Deborah Diep, CDR/CSUF  
Derek Bingham, City of Rancho Santa Margarita  
Erica Demkowicz, City of Tustin  
Jaime Murillo, City of Newport Beach  
Joanna Chang, County of Orange  
Marnie Primmer, OCCOG  
Melanie McCann, City of Santa Ana  
Mike Gainor, SCAG  
Rose Rivera, City of Aliso Viejo  
Roy Ramsland, City of La Habra  
Ruby Zaman, CDR/CSUF  
Steven Giang, County of Orange  
Virginia Gomez, TCA  
Warren Whiteaker, OCTA  
Wendy Starks, City of Rancho Santa Margarita





**Item 2: Center for Demographic Research (CDR) Updates**  
**Recommended Action:** Receive reports.

## Reports

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### 1. 2020 Housing Inventory System (HIS) Data Verification

July 1- December 31, 2020 housing construction and demolition data was due Friday, January 22, 2021. Verification forms for the 2020 HIS data were due Friday, April 16, 2021. The following jurisdictions have not submitted all or a portion of their 2020 data: Villa Park and Yorba Linda.

Please submit data to CDR using the 2020 HIS form located at <http://www.fullerton.edu/cdr/HISform.xls>. Revisions to prior years may use either the new or old form. Please verify that the same data reported to CDR is also provided to DOF in their annual Housing Unit Change Survey. HIS submission forms were updated in 2020 to include additional sample entries, clarifications in the instructions, and an updated HIS unit flow chart to better explain how to record unit activity when attached ADUs are involved. This is similar to DOF's new housing survey flow chart DOF, but is tailored to CDR's 4 ADU types. An additional optional column was added "Building Permit Date Issued" to assist in compiling HIS, DOF and HCD APR data. For HIS questions, please contact Tania Torres at 657-278-3417 or [tatorres@fullerton.edu](mailto:tatorres@fullerton.edu).

### 2. OCP-2022 & 2024 SCAG RTP/SCS Timeline Update

Due to the delay in the release of the 2020 Census data, the draft timeline for jurisdiction review of the draft 2022 Orange County Projections (OCP-2022) data has been modified. In recent iterations, the review of the base year data has been done separately and prior to the review of the projections data. With the official release of the 2020 Census data by September 30, 2021, it is expected that the jurisdictions' TAZ-level review of the 2019 base year data and the disaggregation of 2020 Census population and housing counts to the new 2021 traffic analysis zones (TAZs) will be combined with the review of the projections data in approximately March and April 2022. Some key dates involving jurisdiction review and feedback are:

1. June 1, 2021- CDR request jurisdiction review of RSA-level growth assumptions & return feedback to CDR by June 23
2. September 7, 2021- CDR request jurisdiction feedback on draft housing growth totals by jurisdiction & return feedback to CDR by September 28, 2021
3. March 1, 2022- OCCOG TAC- CDR Overview & release of OCP-2022 jurisdiction review packets, includes both base year 2019 and all projection years, along with verification of 2020 Census counts.
4. March 2022- OCP jurisdiction meetings
5. End April 2022- OCP-2022 Feedback & approval from jurisdictions due to CDR

Contact: Ms. Deborah Diep, Director, Center for Demographic Research  
657/278-4596 [ddiep@fullerton.edu](mailto:ddiep@fullerton.edu)



Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG)  
3972 Barranca Parkway, Ste. J127  
Irvine, CA 92606

Orange County Council of Governments

[info@occog.com](mailto:info@occog.com)

Employment data: Ms. Ruby Zaman, Assistant Director, CDR  
657/278-4709 [ruzaman@fullerton.edu](mailto:ruzaman@fullerton.edu)

For GIS: Mr. Ian Boles, GIS Analyst, CDR  
657/278-4670 [iboles@fullerton.edu](mailto:iboles@fullerton.edu)

For HIS: Ms. Tania Torres, Demographic Analyst, CDR  
657/278-3417 [tatorres@fullerton.edu](mailto:tatorres@fullerton.edu)



**Item 3:** REAP GIS Project Updates  
**Recommended Action:** Receive reports.

### Reports

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OCCOG's GIS consultant, WSP, is currently working on the REAP GIS project called the Comprehensive Geospatial Planning Solution and 3-D Site Visualization Services tool. The purpose of the GIS tool is to provide support to member jurisdictions Housing Element workflow and future land use planning efforts.

A critical step to delivering the GIS tool is collecting local data in order to develop the RHNA Community Snapshot. At this time, local agencies are asked to provide 8 required datasets and 5 optional datasets. **Please plan to complete the data request by no later than Friday, May 14.** If a jurisdiction is unable to provide this information by the requested date, WSP will default to SCAG's data.

In addition, a Needs Assessment Survey was emailed to jurisdictions on April 26, 2021. The purpose of the survey is to understand how the tool will best meet each jurisdiction's needs. The survey includes one key question (Question #7) that jurisdictions are required to answer in order for OCCOG to receive REAP funding for this tool. Question #7 states: *Please indicate your agency's Housing Element progress and the status of coordination with HCD.*

Should you have any questions regarding the data submission process, please reach out to Suchi Lukes, [suchitra.lukes@wsp.com](mailto:suchitra.lukes@wsp.com) or (619) 525-8377.

Attachment: Data Request Cover Letter  
Survey Link: [Needs Assessment Survey](#)



April 23, 2021

To the members of the OCCOG TAC:

We are excited to kick off the Comprehensive Geospatial Planning Solution and Site Visualization Services project! The WSP and Esri team look forward to creating valuable tools to support your agency's housing element workflow. These tools will also help in land use planning for your city, beyond the housing element. A critical task to support the development of the RHNA Community Snapshot and subsequent tools is data gathering. **We request that your agency please do the following:**

1. **Review the data request spreadsheet and upload datasets by Friday, May 14.** At this time, local agencies are asked to provide 8 required datasets and 5 optional datasets. Please note the following:
  - a. Required datasets provide agency-specific information, such as prior Housing Element sites and development activity, that are also required by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).
  - b. If your agency is unable to provide this information by the requested date, your agency will be responsible for manually inputting this information later on in the process. Please also note that subsequent tools, such as the Site Inventory and Opportunity Finder and RHNA Reporting Dashboard, will be unable to analyze and report on development activity if this information is never provided.
  - c. In cases where a dataset is listed as optional, SCAG will be the default data provider. If a jurisdiction has an updated dataset that they would like to use instead, they may include it in their submission to the project team.
  - d. Please refer to "Local Agency Data" tab of Attachment A: "OCCOG Data Request.xlsx" for more detailed data submission instructions. Complete Column H to provide notes on your submission. Unless otherwise instructed, local agencies can submit their data to the project team in the following formats: shapefile (.shp), geodatabase (.gdb), or Excel (.xls or .xlsx). If submitting an Excel spreadsheet, be sure to include basic location information such as an address.
  - e. The project team is only scoped for data collection and will not create datasets for any agency.
  - f. Please upload your information to this OneDrive site ([link](#)), in your agency's folder. Currently, only TAC members have been granted access to this site. Once your agency has completed the needs assessment survey, sent under different cover, the additional staff noted in the survey will be granted access, as well. You may also add additional staff by contacting Suchi Lukes (information below).



2. **Plan to attend the TAC meeting on Tuesday, May 4, from 9:30AM-12PM with any technical staff that may be assisting with your data request.** The project team will provide an overview of the data request and submission process.

Please note that a number of countywide datasets are also being sourced for the RHNA Community Snapshot tool through a variety of data providers, including SCAG, the U.S. Census Bureau, Esri's Data Development team. A draft list is provided in "Countywide Data" tab of Attachment A: "OCCOG Data Request.xlsx". As datasets are finalized, more detailed metadata will be available. Should you have any comments on these datasets, please provide them to the project team by Friday, May 14, as well.

We are happy to address any questions that you may have with this request. Please contact Suchi Lukes at (619) 525-8377 or [Suchi.Lukes@wsp.com](mailto:Suchi.Lukes@wsp.com).

Thank you for your support and cooperation to facilitate this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tara Lake". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tara Lake  
WSP, Director  
Southern California Land Use Planning



## AGENDA ITEM #4

## RTP/SCS SUB DELEGATION

### SUBJECT

Review of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) and the Sub-regional Sustainable Communities Strategy Process

### SUMMARY

At the April 1, 2021 Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Community, Economic, and Human Development (CEHD) Policy Committee meeting, SCAG staff introduced the preliminary schedule for the 2024 RTP/SCS Cycle. This report includes a historic review of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) and sub-regional Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) process.

### BACKGROUND

In 2008, California State Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) was enacted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from automobiles and light duty trucks through integrated transportation, land use, housing, and environmental planning. To achieve the goal of reduced greenhouse gas emissions, SB 375 requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) throughout the state to include a new element in their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) called the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS).

SB 375 further authorizes the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to establish for each MPO in California, the greenhouse gas emissions reductions target that the MPOs Sustainable Communities Strategy should achieve for Year 2035.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the MPO encompassing the counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura. SCAG is responsible for preparing the RTP for the region with input from each of the counties and the county transportation commissions. SCAG is also responsible for developing the Sustainable Communities Strategy for the SCAG region, known as the SCAG Regional SCS. Further, in the SCAG region only, SB 375 allows for a sub-regional



council of governments and county transportation commission to work together to prepare a sub-regional SCS.

For the SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS, two of the sixteen SCAG sub-regions, the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, agreed to accept delegation to develop a sub-regional SCS in 2010. OCCOG had federal grant monies available that covered the cost of the OC SCS, and staff provided by OCTA to support the procurement of consultant services and to support the preparation of the SCS. Gateway COG assessed their member agencies fees to cover the costs of the Gateway COG SCS. Both efforts were approximately \$600,000.

The primary reason that OCCOG agreed to accept delegation to develop a sub-regional SCS was to maintain local control over the Orange County land use and growth forecast assumptions that would be integrated into SCAG's Regional SCS. As directed by SCAG's framework for accepting sub-regional delegation, the OC SCS was incorporated into the Regional SCS as submitted, with no charges from SCAG. Most importantly, Orange County's growth projections at the smaller geography of Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) level, and Orange County's local programs and local projects were included in the OC SCS without any modifications. In addition, OCCOG had grant money to pay for its SCS and SCAG agreed to indemnify OCCOG in the case of litigation.

The OC SCS was a collaborative effort between the OCCOG, OCTA, and multiple other partners. These partners included city agencies, the County of Orange, County special districts, the Center for Demographic Research (CDR) at California State University, Fullerton, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA), and many community organizations and members of the public. The OC SCS received great reviews and feedback and showcased what Orange County is currently doing in terms of sustainable planning.

For the SCAG 2016 and 2020 RTP/SCS, no sub-region accepted delegation to develop a sub-regional SCS, primarily due to the fact that the 2016 and 2020 Framework and Guidelines were modified to explicitly state that Traffic Analysis Zone level growth projections would not be protected, regardless of delegation. In addition, SCAG did not agree to indemnify sub-regions.



### NEXT STEPS

SCAG staff has not indicated the specific timeline for the development of the 2024 RTP/SCS Sub-regional Delegation Framework and Guidelines, but has indicated that it may be completed in summer 2021. The OCCOG Technical Advisory Committee will continue to coordinate with the OCCOG Executive Director to ensure that SCAG staff provides the 2024 RTP/SCS Framework and Guidelines in a timely manner to ensure the OCCOG has adequate time to make an informed decision on sub-regional delegation.

OCCOG technical staff does not believe SCAG will be willing to make any changes to the Framework and Guidelines.

### ATTACHMENTS

- A. Staff report and attachments from April 27, 2017, OCCOG Regular Board Meeting.

### STAFF CONTACT

Marnie O. Primmer  
OCCOG Executive Director  
949.698.2856  
marnie@occog.com





## ORANGE COUNTY

## COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

April 27, 2017

**Subject:** **Action Required Regarding the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2020 RTP/SCS) and the Potential Delegation to Develop an Orange County Sub-regional Sustainable Communities Strategy**

**Summary:** The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has completed the revisions to the Sub-regional Sustainable Communities Strategy Framework and Guidelines (Draft 2020 Framework and Guidelines) for use in developing the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2020 RTP/SCS). On April 5, 2017, the SCAG Regional Council approved the 2020 Framework and Guidelines. Per the 2020 Framework and Guidelines, a sub-region must notify SCAG by April 28, 2017 if they intend to exercise their option to develop their own sub-regional SCS. The issue of sub-regional SCS delegation was introduced at the OCCOG General Assembly on March 16, 2017 and a final decision on delegation will be made by the OCCOG Board of Directors on April 27, 2017. It is key to note that the 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) will be a part of the 2020 RTP/SCS process.

**Background:** In 2008, California State Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) was enacted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from automobiles and light duty trucks through integrated transportation, land use, housing, and environmental planning. To achieve the goal of reduced greenhouse gas emissions, SB 375 requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) throughout the state to include a new element in their Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) called the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS).

SB 375 further authorizes the California Air Resources Board (ARB) to establish for each MPO in California, the greenhouse gas emissions reductions target that the MPOs Sustainable Communities Strategy should achieve for Year 2020 and Year 2035. The California Air Resources Board is in the process of developing the Draft "2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update: The Proposed Strategy for Achieving California's 2030 Greenhouse Gas Target". The Draft 2017 Scoping Plan will influence the regional greenhouse gas targets that must be met by the 2020 RTP/SCS. The Draft 2017 Scoping Plan is tentatively scheduled for adoption in June 2017. ARB has indicated the draft regional greenhouse gas reduction targets will likely be proposed in early summer 2017, with final approval in autumn 2017.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the MPO encompassing the counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura. SCAG is responsible for preparing the RTP for the region with input from each of the counties and the county transportation commissions. SCAG is also responsible for developing the Sustainable Communities Strategy for the SCAG region, known as the SCAG Regional SCS. Further, in the SCAG region only, SB 375 allows for a sub-regional council of governments and county transportation commission to work together to prepare a sub-regional SCS.

For the SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS, two of the sixteen SCAG sub-regions, the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, agreed to accept delegation to develop a sub-regional SCS in 2010. OCCOG had federal grant monies available that covered the cost of the OC SCS, and staff provided by OCTA to support the procurement of consultant services and to support the preparation of the SCS. Gateway COG assessed their member agencies fees to cover the costs of the Gateway COG SCS. Both efforts were approximately \$600,000.

The primary reason that OCCOG agreed to accept delegation to develop a sub-regional SCS was to maintain local control over the Orange County land use and growth forecast assumptions that would be integrated into SCAG's Regional SCS. As directed by SCAG's framework for accepting sub-regional delegation, the OC SCS was incorporated into the Regional SCS as submitted, with no charges from SCAG. Most importantly, Orange County's growth projections at the smaller geography of Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) level, and Orange County's local programs and local projects were included in the OC SCS without any modifications. In addition, OCCOG had grant money to pay for its SCS and SCAG agreed to indemnify OCCOG in the case of litigation.

The OC SCS was a collaborative effort between the OCCOG, OCTA, and multiple other partners. These partners included city agencies, the County of Orange, County special districts, the Center for Demographic Research (CDR) at California State University, Fullerton, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA), and many community organizations and members of the public. The OC SCS received great reviews and feedback and showcased what Orange County is currently doing in terms of sustainable planning.

For the SCAG 2016 RTP/SCS, no sub-region accepted delegation to develop a sub-regional SCS, primarily due to the fact that the 2016 Framework and Guidelines were modified to explicitly state that Traffic Analysis Zone level growth projections would not be protected, regardless of delegation. In addition, SCAG did not agree to indemnify sub-regions.

**Analysis:**

*Framework and Guidelines for Sub-regional Delegation*

On April 6, 2017, the SCAG Regional Council (RC) approved for adoption the "Sub-regional Sustainable Communities Strategy Framework and Guidelines" (Framework and Guidelines). The Framework and Guidelines are intended to facilitate the specific sub-regional option to

develop the SCS (and Alternative Planning Strategy or APS if required) as described by SB 375. The Framework and Guidelines for the 2020 RTP/SCS are nearly identical to those developed for the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS.

The OCCOG TAC and the OCCOG Executive Director have been in contact with SCAG staff since the adoption of the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS in April 2016. The OCCOG Executive Director and the OCCOG TAC Chair met with SCAG staff in August 2016 to clarify some issues related to the Framework and Guidelines. SCAG's responses to questions posed by OCCOG and others is included as Attachment A. Furthermore, SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata, attended the February 26, 2017 OCCOG Board of Directors meeting to address any questions and concerns the 2020 Framework and Guidelines and the 2020 RTP/SCS process and timeline. Mr. Ikhata indicated that SCAG has provided ARB with the results of a stress test that indicates what the SCAG region can achieve in terms of greenhouse gas emission reductions beyond the reduction achieved in the 2016 RTP/SCS. Mr. Ikhata concluded that SCAG and the other three major MPOs (Bay Area, Sacramento, and San Diego) have requested that ARB set targets that are achievable, but current discussion at ARB meetings have indicated ARB may increase the targets significantly, by double or more.

#### Major Issues with the 2020 Framework and Guidelines

##### 1) No Protection of Data at the Local (TAZ) Level – Loss of Local Control

2016 SCS Process: According to the Framework and Guidelines for the 2016-2040 SCS, "Growth distributions and land use data for the 2016 RTP/SCS, including incorporated sub-regional SCSs, will be adopted at the jurisdictional level by the SCAG Regional Council...SCAG may develop and incorporate growth and land use assumptions for delegated sub-regions that differ from or go beyond what is submitted by delegated sub-regions. For incorporation in the regional RTP/SCS, SCAG may adjust sub-regionally submitted growth distributions and land use data at the sub-jurisdictional level for a number of reasons, including complying with statutory requirements, ensuring meeting a regional GHG target, or other regional performance objections, specified by the SCAG Regional Council."

2020 SCS Process: According to the Draft 2020 Framework and Guidelines, "In the even that SCAG must alter the location and distribution of population, household, and employment growth for delegated sub-regions at the sub-jurisdictional level, staff will work directly with delegated sub-regions to review any proposed revisions through a collaborative and iterative process. Feedback will be sought to gauge the availability of growth capacity at the local level, and adjustments will be made to the highest extent possible based on input received, with consideration of the goal to fulfill SCAG's regional performance and GHG reduction targets. Delegated sub-regions will need to seek input from local jurisdictions on any potential revisions to sub-jurisdictional growth estimates, and will need to keep communication logs of any and all feedback. Delegated sub-regions,

however, will not be required to revise their SCS to reflect any such revisions.”

Protection of the TAZ-level data, the primary reason for accepting delegation for the 2011 SCS, is not an option allowed by SCAG for the 2016 sub-regional SCS or the 2020 sub-regional SCS.

2) Increased Costs

It is expected that development of a SCS for the 2020 RTP/SCS cycle would exceed the cost of the 2011 Orange County SCS, which was approximately \$600,000. This is due to the substantial changes and required additions to the Framework and Guidelines for a sub-regional SCS. The OCCOG estimates the cost to develop and monitor the implementation of a sub-regional SCS would be double or triple the approximate \$600,000 spent on the 2011 OC SCS.

- a. Increased costs due to new monitoring requirements. SCAG’s stated goal for the 2020 RTP/SCS is monitoring the implementation of the 2012-2035 SCS and the 2016-2040 SCS. According to the Draft 2020 Framework and Guidelines, “sub-regions should track subsequent actions on policies and strategies included in the sub-regional SCS. Monitoring should be focused on policy actions taken or subsequent planning work performed. While sub-regions have substantial discretion within the overall goal of ascertaining progress of adopted plan policies and strategies, reporting should be done at least prior to the end of the 4-year planning period. SCAG staff plans to conduct implementation monitoring for the regions and local jurisdictions.” This means that OCCOG would likely have to provide monitoring throughout the RTP/SCS development period up through at least April 2020.
- b. Increased costs associated with expanded public participation and outreach. During the 2012 and 2016 RTP/SCS development process, many more advocacy groups participated and influenced the development process and policy decisions. These groups have now been made partners at the decision making table at both the regional and sub-regional levels. During the development of the 2011 OC SCS, there was a substantial effort in Orange County to increase public participation. This included expanding the OCCOG Board membership to include four additional non-voting ex-officio members representing interest groups. Following the increased participation at the regional level, an interest expressed at the sub-regional level, it is expected that an even more robust sub-regional public participation effort will need to be developed and implemented. In addition, the Framework and Guidelines specify that delegated sub-regions will need to keep communication logs of any and all feedback received from local jurisdictions and submit these to SCAG.
- c. Increased costs possibly associated with the development of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). Although Senate Bill 375 calls for an integrated process, sub-regions are not automatically required to take on RHNA delegation as described in state law if they prepare a sub-regional SCS.

However, SCAG encourages sub-regions to undertake both processes due to their inherent connections.

- d. Increased costs associated with the development of alternative scenarios. While not required, the Draft 2020 Framework and Guidelines states: “Sub-regions are encouraged to develop a range of scenarios integrating transportation, growth, land use, housing, and environmental planning. Should a sub-region choose to develop alternative scenarios, they should be considered and evaluated using comparative performance information.” This is yet another new element to the Framework and Guidelines for sub-regional SCS development and causes concern on for a number of reasons. First, if a sub-region decides to not develop a range of alternative scenarios, the risk of litigation may be increased. This is based on the fact that one of the three lawsuits against the SCS for the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) was filed on a similar argument. The development of any number of alternative scenarios would substantially increase the cost of the development of a sub-regional SCS. These costs would be in addition to the additional costs outlined above under expanded public participation and outreach.
- e. Increased costs of the unknown. As noted in the previous sub-sections, there are many unknowns remaining in the process. This includes the unknown requirements associated with the monitoring of the implementation of the SCS and the unknown requirements of the performance objectives. There are additional unknowns including the very likely possibility that the California Air Resources Board (ARB) will increase the greenhouse gas targets (GHG) for the SCAG region. It is expected that ARB will release draft targets in summer 2017 with approval of the targets in autumn 2017. In addition, a significant increase in the GHG reduction targets may result in SCAG being unable to meet those revised targets with a SCS. In that event, a sub-region may need to prepare an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) that would be incorporated into the SCAG Regional APS. According to the Draft 2020 Framework and Guidelines “in the event that the regional SCS does not meet the targets, sub-regions will be involved in the formation of an APS – either through their development of a sub-regional APS or through their participation and contribution in SCAG’s regional APS. SCAG will not require subregions to complete a sub-regional APS; delegated sub-regions opting to complete their own sub-regional APS must first complete a sub-regional SCS. Records of communication between local jurisdictions and delegated sub-regions on the development of a regional or sub-regional APS must also be submitted to SCAG.”

**Next Steps:**

The OCCOG Board of Directors is required to decide on sub-regional delegation at their April 27, 2017 to meet the SCAG deadline for notification on April 28, 2017. SCAG is allowing sub-regions that agree to accept delegation to reconsider the decision after the release of the ARB greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in autumn 2017. OCCOG Board of Directors that represent multiple jurisdictions are encouraged to

meet with their colleagues to discuss the sub-regional delegation decision to ensure that the process is not only transparent, but reflects the wishes of all Orange County Council of Governments member agencies.

Pursuant to SB 375 and the 2020 Framework and Guidelines, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) would need to be an equal partner in the decision to assume sub-regional delegation. In a letter dated April 6, 2017 and addressed to the OCCOG, OCTA does not plan to pursue sub-regional delegation and will not be taking the discussion to the OCTA Board of Directors. Instead, OCTA is comfortable with SCAG leading the development of the sub-regional information using the process that was successfully utilized for the development of the 2016 RTP/SCS. OCTA is supportive of a path where OCCOG works with SCAG and local partners to assure there is local consensus on Orange County information that is used to prepare the next RTP/SCS. The OCTA letter is included as Attachment B.

Attached is a sample fee structure that would be assessed for all Orange County jurisdictions and OCCOG member agencies. The \$600,000 is the minimum cost using the 2011 OC SCS as the baseline. With the additional requirements stated above, along with the potential litigation expenses, an estimated high end of the range was set at \$2,000,000. Since the ex-officio members of the OCCOG Board are non-due paying members, they would not be assessed a fee for sub-regional SCS development.

In the event, the majority of the OCCOG Board of Directors votes in the affirmative to accept sub-regional delegation, each OCCOG member agency is bound by the decision of the majority, irrespective of whether one or more object. Each OCCOG member agency would be assessed a fee and would be required to pay the fee. The only way to avoid the assessment would be for the agency or jurisdiction to withdraw their membership from OCCOG. The County of Orange, which is not a member, cannot be compelled to pay the assessment fee, however it should be noted that if sub-regional delegation is assumed, the County of Work would benefit from the actions by the others to take on sub-regional delegation.

Orange County has fifteen (15) Regional Council members and an addition twelve (12) representatives available for Orange County representation on the three SCAG Policy Committees (Transportation Committee, Energy and Environment Committee, and the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee). In the event the OCCOG Board of Directors votes not to accept sub-regional delegation, Orange County must remain diligent and continue to represent the best interests of the Orange County jurisdictions and OCCOG member agencies.

**Attachments:**

- A. Red Line Version of the Draft 2020 Framework and Guidelines for Sub-Regional Sustainable Communities Strategy (including all OCCOG questions and SCAG responses)
- B. April 6, 2017 Orange County Transportation Authority Letter Regarding Sub-Regional Delegation

C. Draft Sample Fee Structure

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### **Sub-regional Delegation of Preparation of Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS)**

**What is it:** SB 375 mandates that MPO's produce a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) every 4 years, as part of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). SB 375 allows sub-regional planning agencies like OCCOG to prepare the sub-region's SCS. This means that OCCOG would prepare the content of the County's SCS, a significant planning effort, and submit to SCAG for inclusion as our portion of the region's 2020 RTP/SCS.

**Overview:** OCCOG prepared the 2012 SCS for Orange County. All Orange County data was included in the final SCAG-submitted RTP/SCS intact. In the 2016 RTP/SCS cycle, OCCOG did not take delegation and instead convened a technical working group of member jurisdictions and stakeholders. Unlike 2012 cycle, data was not guaranteed to be protected. OCCOG and Center for Demographic Research (CDR) worked very closely with SCAG staff to ensure all County data was accurate and complete. In both cases, we used data provided by our local jurisdictions and prepared by CDR.

**Background:** In the 2012 RTP/SCS cycle OCCOG was one of two (out of 16) sub-regional planning agencies that took delegation of the preparation of our SCS. The cost was approximately \$600,000 to prepare the sub-region's SCS. At that time, OCCOG had funds from an FTA grant that were used to provide consultant support. OCTA staffed the OCCOG providing both Executive Director and administrative/procurement support. SCAG committed to protecting the data submitted by sub-regions, meaning that our data would not be modified even if SCAG did not attain the CARB-set GHG reduction targets; modifications would come from other parts of the region.

In the 2016 cycle, SCAG made changes to its Framework and Guidelines for sub-regions wishing to take delegation of SCS preparation. Data could no longer be guaranteed to be protected. Sub-regions would not be indemnified against legal challenges to a sub-regional SCS. Additional monitoring requirements were added. In addition, by the 2016 RTP/SCS the OCTA was no longer supporting the OCCOG in terms of staffing.

The OCCOG now operates with a part time contract Executive Director and limited administrative support from a contract clerk of the board, treasurer and counsel. Significant consultant support services would be required to prepare the sub-region's SCS. Funding from the FTA grant was allocated to preparing the Complete Street Handbook and Funding Toolkit in lieu of taking delegation in the 2016 cycle. These new planning tools help OCCOG member jurisdictions comply with State legislation mandating that General Plan updates include complete streets elements. FTA grant funds have now been fully expended, no current grant funding is available.

**The choice now:** Shall the OCCOG prepare a sub-regional SCS for the 2020 cycle, or shall the OCCOG act as a convener of local jurisdictions and stakeholders, and a watchdog for County data included in the SCAG-led RTP/SCS process, as was done in the 2016 cycle? Preparation of a SCS is anticipated to cost the OCCOG between \$600,000 and \$2,000,000 and would require a special assessment to be apportioned to jurisdictions on a basis similar to that used for OCCOG and CDR dues. The potential costs for each jurisdiction are included on the back of this handout. The OCCOG Board of Directors will be making the decision at our April 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, just ahead of the deadline to notify SCAG on April 28 of our intention. At this time no other sub-regions are contemplating taking delegation.



Draft updated December 12, 2016  
Preliminary version—subject to update based on  
feedback from stakeholders and legal review  
Proposed for RC adoption – March 2, 2017

Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)  
*Revised for use in developing the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable  
Communities Strategy (2020 RTP/SCS)*

**SUBREGIONAL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES  
STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND GUIDELINES**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Codified in 2009, California’s Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act (referred to as “SB 375”), calls for the integration of transportation, land use, and housing planning, and also establishes the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as part of the regional planning process. SCAG, working with the individual County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) and the subregions within the SCAG region, is responsible for complying with SB 375 in the Southern California region. The success in this endeavor is dependent on the collaboration of SCAG with a range of public and private partners throughout the region.

Briefly summarized here, SB 375 requires SCAG as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to:

- Submit to the State every four years, a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as part of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The SCS will meet a State-determined regional GHG emission reduction target, if it is feasible to do so.
- Prepare an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) that is not part of the RTP if the SCS is unable to meet the regional GHG emission reduction target.
- Integrate SCAG planning processes, in particular assuring that the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) is consistent with the SCS, at the jurisdictional level.
- Specific to SCAG only, allow for subregional SCS/APS development.
- Develop a public participation process involving all required stakeholders.

Unique to the SCAG region, SB 375 provides that “a subregional council of governments and the county transportation commission may work together to propose the sustainable communities strategy and an alternative planning strategy, if one is prepared pursuant to subparagraph (H), for that sub- regional area.” Govt. Code §65080(b)(2)(D). In addition, SB 375 provides that SCAG “may adopt a framework for a subregional SCS or a subregional APS to address the intraregional land use, transportation, economic, air quality, and climate policy relationships.” *Id.*

Finally, SB 375 requires SCAG to “develop overall guidelines, create public participation plans, ensure coordination, resolve conflicts, make sure that the overall plan complies with applicable legal requirements, and adopt the plan for the region.” *Id.* ~~Note that the Framework and Guidelines herein may be administratively amended subject to changes in applicable federal and/or state planning laws, regulations, and guidance.~~

The intent of this Framework and Guidelines for Subregional Sustainable Communities Strategy (also referred to herein as the “Framework and Guidelines” or the “Subregional Framework and Guidelines”) is to offer the SCAG region’s subregional agencies the highest degree of autonomy, flexibility and responsibility in developing a program and set of implementation strategies for their subregional areas while still achieving the goals of the regional SCS. This will enable the subregional strategies to reflect the issues, concerns, and future vision of the region’s collective jurisdictions with the input of the fullest range of stakeholders. This Framework and Guidelines establishes standards for the subregions’ work in preparing and submitting subregional strategies, while also laying out SCAG’s role in facilitating and supporting the subregional effort with data, tools, and other assistance. Note that the Framework and Guidelines herein may be administratively amended subject to changes in applicable federal and/or state planning

## laws, regulations, and guidance.

The Framework and Guidelines are intended to facilitate the specific subregional option to develop the SCS (and potential APS) as described in SB 375. SCAG supports the fullest possible participation and will work closely with all the subregions equally within the SCAG region (regardless if the subregion accepts subregional SCS delegation or not) to develop the regional SCS.

## II. ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION

The option to develop a subregional SCS (and APS, as ~~appropriate~~ appropriate) is available to any subregions recognized by SCAG, regardless of whether the organization is formally established as a “subregional council of governments.”

CTCs play an important and necessary role in the development of a subregional SCS. Any subregion that chooses to develop a subregional strategy will need to work closely with the respective CTC in its subregional area in order to identify and integrate transportation projects and policies. Beyond working with CTCs, SCAG encourages partnership efforts in the development of subregional strategies, including partnerships between and among subregions.

**For the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2020 RTP/SCS) cycle, subregional agencies should indicate to SCAG, in writing by Friday, April 28, 2017, if they intend to exercise their option to develop their own subregional SCS (see other major milestones for the 2020 RTP/SCS attached here as Appendix A.)**

Subregions that choose to develop an SCS for their subregional area shall do so in a manner consistent with the most current version of this Framework and Guidelines. The subregion’s decision to prepare the subregional SCS for their area must be communicated through formal action of the subregional agency’s governing board or the agency’s designee. Subsequent to receipt of any subregion’s decision to develop and adopt an SCS, SCAG and the subregion will develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The final executed version of the MOU shall be consistent with the Framework and Guidelines, and may be amended during the process, if necessary.

## III. FRAMEWORK

The Framework portion of this document covers regional objectives and policy considerations, and provides general direction to the subregions in preparing a subregional SCS (and APS, as appropriate if necessary).

### A. SCAG’s Goals

SCAG's goals for complying with SB 375 include:

- Update the 2020 RTP/SCS with an emphasis on documenting the region’s

progress in implementing the strategies and actions described in the 2016-2040 SCS.

- Achieve the regional GHG emission reduction targets for 2030 and 2035<sup>1</sup> for cars and light trucks as determined by the California Resources Board (ARB) through an SCS.
- Fully integrate SCAG’s planning processes for transportation, growth, intergovernmental review, land use, housing, and the environment.
- Seek areas of cooperation that go beyond the procedural statutory requirements, but that also result in regional plans and strategies that achieve co-benefits.
- Build trust by providing an interactive, participatory and collaborative process for all stakeholders. Provide, in particular, for the robust participation of local jurisdictions, subregions and CTCs in the development of the SCAG regional SCS and implementation of the subregional provisions of the law.
- Assure that the SCS adopted by SCAG and submitted to ARB is a reflection of the region’s collective growth strategy and the shared vision for the future.
- Demonstrate continued reasonable progress in implementing the [2016 RTP/SCS](#)<sup>previous</sup> RTP/SCS.
- Develop strategies that incorporate and are respectful of local and subregional priorities, plans, and projects.

## B. Flexibility, Targets and Adoption

Subregions may develop an appropriate strategy to address the region’s greenhouse gas reduction goals and the intent of SB 375. Subregions may employ any combination of land use policy change, transportation policy, and transportation investment, within the specific parameters described in the Guidelines.

SCAG will not issue subregional GHG or any other subregional performance targets.

Growth distribution and land use data for the 2020 RTP/SCS, including incorporated sub-regional SCSs, will be adopted at the jurisdictional level by the SCAG Regional Council.

## C. Outreach Effort and Principles

In preparing a subregional SCS, subregions are required to conduct an open and participatory process that allows for [public and](#) stakeholder input. A more detailed discussion on outreach effort and principles can be found in Section IV.A(3).

## D. Communication and Coordination

Subregions developing their own SCS are strongly encouraged to maintain regular communication with SCAG staff, the respective CTC, their jurisdictions and other stakeholders, and other subregions if necessary, to review issues as they arise and to assure close coordination. Mechanisms for ongoing communication should be established in the early phases of strategy development.

## E. Planning Concepts

<sup>1</sup> SB32 requirements and other years which may be determined by ARB through the GHG target updating process.

SCAG, its subregions, and member cities have established a successful track record on a range of land use and transportation planning approaches up through and including planning approaches that are reflected in the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS. The subregional SCS should consider the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS and build off [off from](#) its policies and concepts, including emphases on: (1) compact development, (2) developing transit-oriented, mixed use, walkable and bike-able communities, (3) concentrating on destinations/attractions and vehicle technology in concert with land use, and (4) providing for a mix of housing and jobs, among others. These are further discussed in Section IV.A(1).

## IV. GUIDELINES

These Guidelines describe specific parameters for the subregional SCS/APS effort under SB 375, including process, deliverables, data, documentation, and timelines. As described above, the Guidelines are created to ensure that the SCAG region can successfully incorporate strategies developed by the subregions into the regional SCS, and that the region can comply with its own requirements under SB 375. Failure to proceed in a manner consistent with the Guidelines could result in SCAG not accepting a subregion's submitted strategy.

### A. Subregion Role and Responsibilities

#### (1) Subregional Sustainable Communities Strategy

Subregions that choose to exercise their optional role under SB 375 will develop and adopt a subregional Sustainable Communities Strategy. That strategy must contain all of the required elements, and follow all procedures, as described in SB 375 and outlined below:

- (i) identify the general location of uses, residential densities, and building intensities within the subregion;
- (ii) identify areas within the subregion sufficient to house all the population of the subregion, including all economic segments of the population, over the course of the planning period of the RTP taking into account net migration into the region, population growth, household formation and employment growth;
- (iii) identify a transportation network to service the transportation needs of the subregion;
- (iv) gather and consider the best practically available scientific information regarding resource areas and farmland in the subregion as defined in subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 65080.01;
- (v) consider the state housing goals specified in Sections 65580 and 65581;
- (vi) set forth a forecasted development pattern for the subregion, which, when integrated with the transportation network, and other transportation measures and policies, will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles and light trucks to achieve, if there is a feasible way to do so, the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets approved by the ARB; and
- (vii) allow the RTP to comply with Section 176 of the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 7506).

[Government Code §65080(b)(2)(B).]

In preparing the subregional SCS, the subregion [and respective CTC](#) should consider

feasible strategies, including local land use policies, transportation infrastructure investment (e.g., transportation projects), and other transportation policies such as Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies (which includes pricing), and Transportation System Management (TSM) strategies. Subregions need not constrain land use strategies considered for the SCS to current General Plans. In other words, the adopted strategy need not be fully consistent with local General Plans currently in place. If the land use assumptions included in the final subregional SCS depart from General Plans, it is recommended that subregions include a finding as part of their adoption action (e.g., adopting resolution) that concludes that the land uses are feasible and may be implemented. Technological measures may be included if they can be demonstrated to exceed measures captured in other state and federal requirements (e.g., AB 32).

Subregions are encouraged, but not required, to develop a range of scenarios integrating transportation, growth, land use, housing, and environmental planning. Should a sub-region choose to develop alternative scenarios, they should be considered and evaluated using comparative performance information. If scenarios are prepared, subregions may choose to work with SCAG for further guidance. Tools that can allow for a process [to develop alternative scenarios](#) similar to that used at the regional level will be provided.

The regional RTP/SCS, of which the SCS is a component, is required to be internally consistent. Therefore, for transportation investments included in a subregional SCS to be valid, they must also be included in the corresponding RTP/SCS. Further, such projects need to be scheduled in the ~~2019 current~~ Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) for construction completion by the target years in order to demonstrate any benefits as part of the SCS. As such, subregions will need to collaborate with the respective CTC in their area to coordinate the subregional SCS with future transportation investments.

SCAG will accept and incorporate the subregional SCS, unless (a) it does not comply with SB 375, (b) it does not comply with federal law, or (c) it does not comply with SCAG’s Subregional Framework and Guidelines. SCAG may adjust subregionally submitted growth distribution and land use data at the sub-jurisdictional level if the compiled regional SCS does not meet GHG targets established by ARB or other performance objectives specified by the Regional Council. More information on this contingency is included below in Section IV.C.(4) “Incorporation/Modification.”

The regional SCS, including incorporated subregional SCSs, are subject to a standard public review process as well as the review and adoption by the SCAG Regional Council.

## (2) Subregional Alternative Planning Strategy

~~At this time, SCAG does not intend to prepare a regional APS for the 2020 Plan update. SCAG also does not anticipate that a sub-regional APS scenario will be appropriate for the 2020 Plan update. Nevertheless, SB 375 provides regions and subregions the option to further develop an APS, according to the procedures and requirements described in SB 375, if the combined regional SCS does not meet greenhouse gas emission reduction targets established by ARB. In the event that the regional SCS does not meet the targets, subregions will be involved in the formation of an APS - either through their development of a subregional APS or through their participation and contribution in SCAG's regional APS. SCAG will not require subregions to complete a subregional~~

~~APS; delegated subregions opting to complete their own subregional APS must first complete a subregional SCS. Records of communication~~ Written records reflecting the feedback between local jurisdictions and delegated subregions on the development of a regional or subregional APS must also be submitted to SCAG. ~~If SCAG prepares an APS, SCAG reserves the right to require delegated subregions to prepare an APS in addition to a Sustainable Communities Strategy.~~

Subregions are encouraged to focus their efforts on feasible measures that can be included in an SCS. Any timing or submission requirements for a subregional APS will be determined based on further discussions. In the event that a subregion ~~opts is required~~ to prepare an APS, the content of a subregional APS should be consistent with state requirements (See Government Code §65080(b)(2)(H)), as follows:

- (i) Shall identify the principal impediments to achieving the subregional SCS.
- (ii) May include an alternative development pattern for the subregion pursuant to subparagraphs (B) to (F), inclusive.
- (iii) Shall describe how the alternative planning strategy would contribute to the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction target, and why the development pattern, measures, and policies in the alternative planning strategy are the most practicable choices for the subregion.
- (iv) An alternative development pattern set forth in the APS shall comply with Part 450 of Title 23 of, and Part 93 of Title 40 of, the Code of Federal Regulations, except to the extent that compliance will prevent achievement of the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction targets approved by the ARB.
- (v) For purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code), an APS shall not constitute a land use plan, policy, or regulation, and the inconsistency of a project with an alternative planning strategy shall not be a consideration in determining whether a project may have an environmental effect.

### (3) Subregional SCS Outreach

SCAG will fulfill all of the statutory outreach requirements under SB 375 for the regional SCS/APS, which will include outreach regarding any subregional SCS/APS. SCAG's adopted Public Participation Plan incorporates the outreach requirements of SB 375, integrated with the outreach process for the 2020 RTP/SCS development. See Section IV.C(2) below for more information on SCAG's regional outreach plan.

In preparing a subregional SCS, subregions are strongly encouraged to design and adopt their own outreach processes that mirror the requirements imposed on the region under SB 375. Subregional outreach processes should reinforce the regional goal of full and open participation, and engagement of the broadest possible range of stakeholders.

Subregions that elect to prepare their own SCS are encouraged to present their subregional SCS (and potential APS), in coordination with SCAG, at all meetings, workshops and hearings held by SCAG in their respective counties. Additionally, the subregions are encouraged to either provide SCAG with their mailing lists so that public notices and outreach materials may also be posted and sent out by SCAG; or coordinate with SCAG to distribute notices and outreach materials to the subregions' stakeholders. Additional outreach may be performed by subregions.

#### (4) Subregional SCS Approval

The governing board of the subregional agency and the respective CTC board (at their option) shall approve the subregional SCS prior to submission to SCAG. SCAG recommends that the governing board of the subregion adopt a resolution approving the subregional SCS with a finding that the land use strategies included in the subregional SCS are feasible and based upon consultation with the local jurisdictions in the respective subregion. Subregions should consult with their legal counsel as to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In SCAG’s view, the subregional SCS (and potential APS) is not a “project” for the purposes of CEQA; rather, the RTP which will include the regional SCS is the actual “project” which will be reviewed for environmental impacts pursuant to CEQA. As such, the regional SCS, which will include the subregional SCSs, will undergo a thorough CEQA review. Nevertheless, subregions approving subregional SCSs should consider issuing a notice of exemption under CEQA to notify the public of their “no project” determination and/or to invoke the “common sense” exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3).

In accordance with SB 375, subregions are strongly encouraged to work in partnership with the CTC in their area. SCAG can facilitate these arrangements if needed.

#### (5) Data Standards

Subregions and jurisdictions are strongly encouraged, but will not be required, to use the Scenario Planning Model (SPM) tool or other tools for developing and evaluating the subregional SCSs and to submit subregional SCSs in SPM, or other compatible, GIS-based, format. This will enable SCAG to better integrate subregional submissions with the regional SCS and will allow subregions to prepare alternative scenarios if they so choose. SCAG will provide the SPM tool, and necessary training, free of charge for subregions and jurisdictions. This service is available at the request of local jurisdictions currently, and will be formally released in fall 2017. See Section IV.CHC(11) “Tools” below for more information on the SPM tool. Growth distribution and land use data for the 2020 RTP/SCS, including incorporated subregional SCSs, will be adopted at the jurisdictional level.

SCAG will distribute data to subregions and local jurisdictions via the region-wide shared vision local review and input process for the 2020 RTP/SCS. More information on shared vision, data, and the local review input process can be found below in Section IV.C(10).

#### (6) Documentation

Subregions are expected to maintain full and complete records related to the development of the subregional SCS, and to use the most recent local general plans and other locally approved planning documents. Subregions should also keep records of all electronic, in-person, and written communication feedback from local jurisdictions related to the development of the socioeconomic estimates and projections for the SCS and, along with the base land use data<sup>2</sup> required for consideration in the

<sup>2</sup> “Base land use data” consists of local general plan land use, zoning, existing land use, planned entitlements, recent



development of the [SCS-subregional SCS \(and APS as appropriate\)](#).

#### (7) Implementation Monitoring

Delegated subregions for the 2020 Plan will be required to provide progress reporting on the implementation of policies included in their subregional SCS. SCAG will, likewise, monitor implementation of the regional SCS. This information will assist SCAG in preparing future plan updates, and is consistent with SCAG's intended approach for developing the 2020 RTP/SCS, which will emphasize progress reporting, monitoring and updating. The intent is for SCAG to ensure that progress and success for our subregions and local jurisdictions are documented and recognized.

To monitor implementation, subregions should track subsequent actions on policies and strategies included in the subregional SCS. Monitoring should be focused on policy actions taken (e.g., General Plan updates) or subsequent planning work performed.

While subregions have substantial discretion within the overall goal of ascertaining progress of adopted plan policies and strategies, reporting should be done at least prior to the end of the 4-year planning period. SCAG staff plans to conduct implementation monitoring for the region, including a local implementation survey, and will lead the effort for any data-intensive exercise and technical analysis, with assistance from subregions and local jurisdictions.

Further guidance on implementation monitoring including required format and timing will be developed through further discussion and documented in MOUs with delegated subregions.

#### (8) Timing

An overview schedule of the major milestones of the subregional process and its relationship to the regional 2020 RTP/SCS is attached herein as Appendix A, which may be further delineated or adjusted in MOUs with delegated subregions.

#### (9) Relationship to Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Housing Element

Although SB 375 calls for an integrated process, subregions are not automatically required to take on RHNA delegation as described in state law if they prepare a subregional SCS. However, SCAG encourages subregions to undertake both processes due to their inherent connections.

SB 375 requires that the RHNA allocated housing units be consistent with the development pattern included in the SCS. See Government Code §65584.04(i). [At the regional level](#), population and housing demand ~~ought to~~ ~~must also~~ be proportional to employment growth. The subregional SCS should consider the state housing goals specified in Sections 65580 and 65581, and should describe how these goals are addressed. Subregions that develop and adopt a subregional SCS should also note that the growth forecast of jurisdictional level population, household and employment as part of the SCS will form the basis of the methodology for allocation of housing need as part of

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demolitions, and other resource areas datasets required for consideration in the development of an SCS as described in section 65080 of SB 375

the RHNA process. Further, regional SCS development requires integration of elements of the RHNA process, including assuring that areas are identified to accommodate the first eight years of housing need, and that housing not be constrained by certain types of local growth controls as described in state law.

To allow sufficient time to conduct the 6th cycle of the RHNA, subregions opting for SCS delegation will be required to submit the draft base land use data, and jurisdictional/sub-jurisdictional population, household, and employment estimates and forecasts in May 2018. The final datasets must be submitted by the end of September 2018, and must be accompanied with (1) a detailed memo that explains how the subregional SCS will consider the state housing goals specified in Sections 65580 and 65581, and (2) copies of all electronic, in-person, and written communication with feedback from jurisdictions for on the development of the final socioeconomic estimates/projections and base land use data required for consideration in the development of the SCS.

## B. County Transportation Commissions' Roles and Responsibilities

Subregions that develop a subregional SCS will need to work closely with the CTCs in their respective subregional area in order to coordinate and integrate transportation projects and policies as part of the subregional SCS, as it is the role of CTCs to make transportation planning decisions. As discussed above (under “Subregional Sustainable Communities Strategy”), any transportation projects identified in the subregional SCS must also be included in the associated RTP/SCS in order to be considered as a feasible strategy. SCAG can help to facilitate communication between subregions and CTCs.

## C. SCAG Roles and Responsibilities

SCAG’s roles in supporting the subregional SCS development process are as follows:

### (1) Preparing and adopting the Framework and Guidelines

SCAG will update and have the SCAG Regional Council adopt these Framework and Guidelines each RTP/SCS cycle in order to assure regional consistency and the region’s compliance with law.

### (2) Public Participation Plan

SCAG will assist the subregions by developing, adopting and implementing a Public Participation Plan and outreach process with stakeholders. This process includes consultation with congestion management agencies, transportation agencies, and transportation commissions; as well as holding public workshops and hearings. SCAG will also conduct informational meetings in each county within the region for local elected officials (members of the board of supervisors and city councils), to present the draft SCS (and APS, as appropriate if necessary) and solicit and consider input and recommendations.

### (3) Methodology

As required by SB 375, SCAG will adopt and regularly update a methodology for

measuring greenhouse gas emission reductions associated with the strategy.

#### (4) Incorporation/Modification

SCAG will accept and incorporate the subregional SCS, unless (a) it does not comply with SB 375 (Government Code Section 65080 et seq.), (b) it does not comply with federal law, or (c) it does not comply with SCAG's Subregional Framework and Guidelines.

~~Further~~Further, given that one of SCAG's goals is achieve the regional GHG reduction targets from ARB through an SCS, SCAG may develop and incorporate growth and land use assumptions for delegated subregions that differ from or go beyond what is submitted by delegated sub- regions. For incorporation in the regional RTP/SCS, SCAG may adjust subregionally submitted growth distribution and land use data at the sub-jurisdictional level for a number of reasons including complying with statutory requirements, ensuring that SCAG's regional SCS meets the regional GHG targets or other regional performance objectives specified by the SCAG Regional Council. Performance considerations other than the GHG targets that may prompt adjustments to subregional land uses would be specified prior to regional public workshops and included in the regional scenario options discussed at public workshops as required under SB 375. Any necessary modifications of subregionally submitted growth forecast, distribution and land use data for the 2020 RTP/SCS will be made at the sub-jurisdictional level. Growth forecast, distribution and land use data for 2020 RTP/SCS subregional SCS submittals will be held constant at the jurisdictional level.

The intent of this provision is to maintain flexibility in assembling the regional SCS if such flexibility is needed to meet federal or State requirements. Any adjustment to sub-regionally submitted growth distribution and land use data will be an iterative process, in close collaboration with the subregion and affected jurisdictions. SCAG staff will also work closely with subregions prior to the finalization and submittal of the subregional SCS to address potential adjustments.

The development of a subregional SCS does not exempt the subregion from other regional GHG emission reduction strategies not directly related to land use included in the regional SCS. An example from the adopted 2016-2040 RTP/SCS is regional TDM. All regional measures needed to meet the regional target will be subject to adoption by the SCAG Regional Council.

SCAG will develop an MOU with each subregion to define a process and timeline whereby subregions would submit a draft subregional SCS to SCAG for review and comments, so that any inconsistencies may be identified and resolved early in the process.

#### (5) Modeling

SCAG currently uses a Trip-Based Regional Transportation Demand Model and ARB's EMFAC model for emissions purposes. SCAG is also in the process of developing an Activity Based Model for use which may be used in 2020 RTP/SCS development and evaluation.

SCAG will compile and disseminate performance information on the preliminary

regional SCS and its components in order to facilitate regional dialogue.

(6) Regional Performance Measures.

As discussed above (Section IV.C.(4)), SCAG may make adjustments to subregionally submitted land use data in order to meet the GHG targets or to achieve other performance objectives. The process for finalizing formal Performance Measures will inform any potential adjustments. Below is a general description of the process for developing and finalizing formal Performance Measures.

SCAG is in the process of compiling two complete lists of performance measures and monitoring: one will be used for evaluating regional-level scenarios in support of development of the 2020 RTP/SCS. The other will be used for monitoring implementation of the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS. The monitoring of implementation may include, for example, tracking local general plan updates, specific plan adoption in Transit Priority Areas, active transportation plan adoption, and housing element compliance. Building on the foundation of the performance measures developed in support of the 2016 RTP/SCS, the 2020 RTP/SCS performance measures will also include the set of federally designated MAP-21 performance measures scheduled for adoption by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 2017 and associated target-setting in coordination with the California Department of Transportation, as well as any other updates adopted by the SCAG Regional Council. Most update related activities for the 2020 RTP/SCS performance measures will be expected to occur between January 2018 and May 2019. These updates will be addressed through discussions with the SCAG Technical Working Group, regional stakeholders, and the SCAG Policy Committees.

(7) Adoption/Submission to State

After the incorporation of subregional strategies, the Regional Council will finalize and adopt the 2020 RTP/SCS. SCAG will submit the regional SCS, including all subregional SCSs, to ARB for review as required in SB 375.

(8) Conflict Resolution

SCAG must develop a process for resolving conflicts, as required by SB 375. As noted above, SCAG will accept the subregional SCS unless ~~it is inconsistent with SB 375, federal law, or the Sub-regional Framework and Guidelines. In the event that growth and land use assumptions in a sub-regional SCS must be modified, the process will be collaborative, iterative and in close coordination among SCAG, sub-regions and their respective jurisdictions and CTCs. SCAG may establish a conflict resolution process as part of the MOU between SCAG and the sub-region-~~ (a) it does not comply with SB 375, (b) it does not comply with federal law, or (c) it does not comply with SCAG's Subregional Framework and Guidelines. SCAG may adjust subregionally submitted growth distribution and land use data at the sub-jurisdictional level if the compiled regional SCS does not meet GHG targets established by ARB or other performance objectives specified by the Regional Council.

In the event that SCAG ~~must alter~~ alters the location and distribution of population, household, and employment growth for delegated subregions at the sub-jurisdictional level, staff will work directly with delegated subregions to review any proposed revisions through a collaborative and iterative process. Feedback will be sought to ~~gage~~ gauge the availability of growth capacity at the local level, and adjustments will be made to the highest extent possible based on input received, with consideration of

the goal to fulfill SCAG’s regional performance and GHG reduction targets. Delegated subregions will need to seek input from local jurisdictions on any potential revision to sub-jurisdictional growth estimates and projections, and will need to keep communication logs/records of any and all feedback on these figures or the base land use data for the 2020 RTP/SCS. Delegated subregions, however, will not be required to revise their SCS to reflect any such revisions.

SCAG will establish a conflict resolution process as part of the MOU between SCAG and the subregion. This process will be the same for all delegated subregions.

#### (9) Funding

Funding for subregional SCS/APS activities is not available at this time. Any specific parameters for future funding are speculative. SCAG does not anticipate providing a share of available resources to subregions if funding were to become available. While there are no requirements associated with potential future funding at this time, it is advisable for subregions to track and record their expenses and activities associated with these efforts.

#### (10) Data

SCAG will distribute data to subregions and local jurisdictions via the region-wide shared vision and local review and input process for the 2020 RTP/SCS. Shared Vision involves a bottom-up approach for developing the base land use data, policy growth forecast, and scenarios for the 2016 RTP/SCS, and also integrates SCAG’s other efforts (e.g., plan implementation, performance monitoring) to improve local jurisdictions’ competitiveness for funding that helps put our region’s “shared vision” for growth on the ground.

SCAG will work with delegated subregions during the MOU process, and before the official kickoff of the local input process, to outline responsibilities for generating and refining the datasets required for consideration under SB 375. It is anticipated that the delegated subregion will take a leadership role in both outreach to local jurisdictions and data development, with SCAG offering support as needed.

#### (11) Tools

SCAG is developing a SPM tool for subregions and local jurisdictions to analyze land use ~~impact~~impacts. The use of this tool is not mandatory and is at the discretion of the subregion. SPM is a web-based tool that can be used to analyze, visualize and calculate the impact of land use changes on greenhouse gas emissions, auto ownership, mode use, vehicle miles of travel (VMT), and other metrics in real time. Users will be able to estimate transportation and emissions impacts by modifying land use designations within their community. SPM can be used by subregions in a technical setting for developing and evaluating alternative scenarios and in outreach settings for visualizing and communicating planning options and potential outcomes. SPM can also be used to collect, organize and transmit data.

Other planning tools that SCAG maintains or has access to (e.g., REVISION application) will, likewise, be made available to subregions for the subregional SCS development effort. SCAG will consider providing guidance and training on additional

tools based on further discussions with subregional partners.

(12) Resources and technical assistance

SCAG will assist the subregions by making available technical tools for scenario development as described above. SCAG staff can participate in subregional workshops, meetings, and other processes at the request of the subregion, and pending funding and availability. SCAG's legal staff will be available to assist with questions related to SB 375 or SCAG's implementation of SB 375. Further, SCAG will prepare materials for its own process in developing the regional SCS, and will make these materials available to subregions.

D. Milestones/Schedule

- Deadline for subregions to communicate intent to prepare a subregional SCS – April 28, 2017
- CARB issues Final Regional Targets – Summer 2017
- Subregional SCS development – Spring 2017 through early 2019
- Release Draft 2020 RTP/SCS for public review – Fall 2019
- Regional Council adopts 2020 RTP/SCS – Spring 2020

For more detail on the process schedule and milestones, refer to the attached Appendix A. If other milestones are needed, they will be incorporated into the MOU between SCAG and the subregion.

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## APPENDIX A

### SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES FOR FOR SUBREGIONAL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGIES

#### SCS

The key milestones and related schedule for the Regional SCS are as follows:

- CARB issues Final Regional Targets - Summer 2017
- Regional SCS Workshops – mid-2019
- Release Draft 2020 RTP/Regional SCS for public review – Fall 2019
- Regional Council adopts 2020 RTP/SCS – Spring 2020

#### Subregional SCS

The key milestones and related schedule required as part of the development of the Sub-regional SCS are as follows:

1. Deadline for subregions to communicate intent to prepare a subregional SCS – April 28, 2017
2. Draft Subregional Dataset/Delivery to SCAG – May 2018
3. Final Subregional Dataset/Delivery to SCAG, including memo on state housing goals and [communication-log/feedback records](#), and CTC preliminary input on all planning projects – September 2018
4. Status report on Preliminary Subregional SCS – September 2018
5. Preliminary Regional SCS / for purposes of preparing PEIR project description (intended to be narrative only project description that describes intended strategies or strategy options that are likely to be incorporated into the final Subregional SCS) – January 2019
6. Status report on Draft Subregional SCS – January 2019
7. Draft Subregional SCS (containing all components described above) to be incorporated into draft Regional SCS – February 2019
8. Iterative process, if necessary to meet target – January through March 2019
9. Status report on final Subregional SCS – February 2019
10. Final Subregional SCS for incorporation into Regional SCS – March 2019
11. CTC final input on planned projects from the CTCs – April 2019
12. Regional SCS adoption – April 2020

## APPENDIX B

**Q & A on SUBREGIONAL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES  
STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND GUIDELINES**

Note: The Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) requested written responses to a number of questions on the 2020 RTP/SCS Subregional Framework &and Guidelines. SCAG is sharing these responses, which were provided to OCCOG on August 18<sup>th</sup> 2016 and further refined in discussions with stakeholders in Fall 2016, as a resource to other subregions.

	<b>Question</b>	<b>Preliminary Response</b>
1	What is the review and approval process for the 2020 RTP/SCS Framework and Guidelines (F&G) for Subregional Delegation? When will the Framework and Guidelines for Subregional Delegation for the 2020 RTP/SCS cycle be adopted by the Regional Council? (This would need to be completed by the end of 2016 to ensure subregions have adequate time to discuss delegation, acquire funding to develop the SCS, and complete procurement for the SCS consultant)	The draft Subregional Framework <u>&amp;and</u> Guidelines is planned for presentation to SCAG's Technical Working Group (TWG) in September 2016 and will be updated this Fall/Winter. As ARB's preliminary GHG reduction targets update is anticipated in Spring 2017, the final draft will be presented to Policy Committees and Regional Council for approval thereafter.
2	Will the draft F&G be presented to the SCAG subregions and the Technical Working Group for review and comment prior to SCAG policy committee and SCAG Regional Council review and actions?	Yes. The TWG will review the draft Subregional Framework <u>&amp;and</u> Guidelines this Fall/Winter.
3	Does SCAG intend to update the principles/policies/guidelines within the current document or simply change the referenced dates to be consistent with the 2020 cycle?	Yes. The Framework & Guidelines will be updated to include more direction on RHNA.
4	Will subregional SCS greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets (in addition to a SCAG region wide target) be a possible requirement within the Framework and Guidelines?	No.



<p>5</p>	<p>Will sub-jurisdictional data (Traffic Analysis Zone or smaller geographic level data) be protected as submitted by the local jurisdictions/subregion, or will SCAG be able to modify the sub-jurisdictional data?</p>	<p>Similar to the 2016 RTP/SCS process, SCAG will accept and incorporate the subregional SCS, unless (a) it does not comply with SB 375, (b) it does not comply with federal law, or (c) it does not comply with SCAG’s Subregional Framework <u>&amp;and</u> Guidelines. SCAG reserves the right to adjust subregionally submitted growth distribution and land use data at the sub-jurisdictional level if the compiled regional SCS does not meet GHG targets or other performance objectives specified by the Regional Council.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Under what circumstances will SCAG be able to modify the sub-jurisdictional data? Please provide all known circumstances? I.e. targets are not met; data is not consistent with adopted SCAG policies.</p>	<p>As noted before, reasons for modifications may include complying with statutory requirements and ensuring that the SCAG region meets regional GHG targets and/or other regional performance objectives specified by the Regional Council. Performance considerations other than the GHG targets that may prompt adjustments to subregional land uses would be specified prior to regional public workshops and included in the regional scenario options discussed at public workshops. Any necessary modifications of subregionally submitted growth distribution and land use data for the RTP/SCS will be made at the subjurisdictional level. Growth distribution and land use data subregional SCS submittals will be held constant at the jurisdictional level.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Please describe in detail the role of the Scenario Planning Model (SPM) for the development of the 2020 RTP/SCS? If a subregional SCS delegation is pursued, will the subregion be required to utilize the SPM in their individual SCS?</p>	<p>For our process, the SPM will play a role in collecting and maintaining data from local jurisdictions (through the data management site, which <del>will be</del> was released <u>Summer/in</u> Fall 2016, and is optional), and will likely serve as a foundation for the scenario planning requirement for the SCS (through the scenario planning site, which will be released Summer of 2017). Similar to SCAG's approach, subregions and jurisdictions are encouraged, but will not be required, to use the Scenario Planning Model (SPM) tool for developing and evaluating the subregional SCSs and to submit subregional SCSs in SPM, or other</p>

		compatible, GIS-based, format. This will enable SCAG to better integrate subregional submissions with the regional SCS and will allow subregions to prepare alternative scenarios if they so choose. SCAG will provide the SPM tool, and necessary training, free of charge for sub-regions and jurisdictions.
8	What is the “shared vision” growth forecast that continues to be referenced by SCAG staff for the 2020 RTP/SCS? Is this a bottom-up process or a top-down driven process? Provide as much detail as possible on the “shared vision” growth forecast. How is it different from local input? What will be the jurisdiction’s role? What is SCAG’s role in developing the “shared vision”?	Shared Vision involves a bottom-up approach for developing the base data, policy growth forecast, and scenarios for the 2016 RTP/SCS, and also integrates SCAG’s other efforts (e.g. plan implementation, performance monitoring) to improve local jurisdictions’ competitiveness for funding that helps put our region’s “shared vision” for growth on the ground.
9	If a subregion accepts delegation, will it also be expected to accept RHNA delegation?	No; however also accepting RHNA delegation may make planning sense for the subregion. Therefore, we would not discourage this recognizing that the rules for RHNA delegation are different than SCS delegation.
10	Will the requirement for the 4-year implementation monitoring included in the 2016 RTP/SCS Framework and Guidelines be carried over into the 2020 RTP/SCS Framework and Guidelines? This was not a requirement for the 2012 RTP/SCS. What are the expectations for the 4-year implementation monitoring? Is this a statutory requirement, and if so, could the citation be provided? Is this reported annually? Twice a year? Monthly?	We would expect that the 4-year monitoring requirement would be continued with the 2020 Plan, as performance monitoring has evolved into a key element of the planning processes. OCCOG should monitor its SCS implementation policies or strategies that were taken over the 4-year planning period. Reporting should be done at least prior to the end of the 4-year planning period. SCAG staff plans to conduct implementation monitoring for the region, including a local implementation survey, and would like to collaborate with subregions that decide to take subregional delegation.
11	Will SCAG indemnify subregions taking delegation?	No.
12	Will subregions be required to do any individual environmental review or will the environmental review for the subregional SCS be incorporated into the regional EIR?	No. In SCAG’s view, the subregional SCS is not a “project” for the purposes of CEQA; rather, the RTP which will include the regional SCS is the actual “project” which

		<p>will be reviewed for environmental impacts pursuant to CEQA. As such, the regional SCS, which will include the subregional SCSs, will undergo a thorough CEQA review. Nevertheless, subregions approving subregional SCSs should consider issuing a notice of exemption under CEQA to notify the public of their “no project” determination and/or to invoke the “common sense” exemption pursuant to CEQA Guidelines § 15061(b)(3).</p> <p>(This item was modified on September 15, 2016, and is more detailed than the version provided to OCCOG on August 19, 2016).</p>
<p>1 3</p>	<p>When will subregions need to provide SCAG with the draft subregional SCS and an adopted subregional SCS for incorporation into the regional SCS?</p>	<p>Please <del>refer to</del> see <a href="#">Appendix A</a>, along with the Draft Schedule for Subregional SCS Development <del>as of December 2016</del> on the next page.</p> <p>(This item was updated <del>on December 12, 2016</del> and is different than the version provided to OCCOG on August 19, 2016)</p>
<p>1 4</p>	<p>Will delegated subregions have to provide feedback to SCAG on SCS implementation at least once during the four year cycle (if and after they opt for subregional delegation on the SCS)?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>

~~Note: These preliminary responses to questions are subject to modification based on input received from stakeholders in the lead up to the adoption of the Subregional Framework & Guidelines by SCAG's Policy Committees and the Regional Council in Spring 2017.~~ Note: Similar to the 2016 RTP/SCS process, SCAG also reserves the right to revisit the Framework &and Guidelines with Regional Council in the event that new state and federal guidelines necessitate a revision.

### SCAG's DRAFT Schedule for Subregional Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) Development as of March 2017

Note: Preliminary Version is Subject to Review, Revisions and Approval of SCAG Management, RC/Policy Committees, and Provided for Purposes of Facilitating Subregion SCS Delegation, Consideration and Decision Making

2016	2017	2018	2019
Basic Approach/Framework and Program Set up	Establishing Technical Bases and Data Collection	Focus on Major Policy Directions	Establishing the Plan and Engaging the Public
<p><b>June - December 2016 / January 2017</b> Final statewide RTP Guidelines adopted by California Transportation Commission (CTC) (will not affect schedule based on staff assessment of Sept. version of Guidelines)</p> <p><b>October 2016 - March 2017</b> Revise and finalize SCAG's Subregional SCS Framework &amp; Guidelines</p>	<p><b>January 2017</b> SCAG provides recommendations to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) regarding targets for the 2020 RTP/SCS</p> <p><b>March 2017</b> Preliminary regional GHG targets from ARB released</p> <p><b>April 2017</b> (1) Subregions sign letter of intent to accept SCS delegation and submit this document to SCAG (2) RC approves SCAG's Subregional SCS Framework &amp; Guidelines</p> <p><b>May 2017</b> California Department of Finance (DOF) releases 2017 estimates for population and households at the jurisdictional level</p> <p><b>June 2017</b> SCAG and delegated subregions enter into Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining responsibilities and timeline</p> <p><b>July 2017</b> Establishment of MAP-21 performance targets for transit asset management (additional MAP-21 performance measures and targets are anticipated for this cycle and are pending final rulemaking by FHWA and FTA)</p> <p><b>August 2017</b> (1) ARB releases regional GHG targets for the 2020 RTP/SCS (2) Caltrans establishes Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) targets</p>	<p><b>May 2018</b> Delegated Subregions submit draft growth forecast (jurisdictional and subjurisdictional totals)</p> <p><b>September 2018</b> (1) Deadline for input from local jurisdictions on growth forecast and scenarios (2) Delegated subregions submit final growth forecast (jurisdictional and subjurisdictional totals)</p> <p><b>October - December 2018</b> (1) SCAG seeks policy input/direction from Policy Committees and Regional Council on potential RTP/SCS strategies and the preliminary contents and approaches to the environmental assessment for the Plan (2) Update SCAG's Public Participation Plan</p> <p><b>November 2018</b> (1) Growth forecast, land use patterns, and preliminary financial assumptions for the RTP/SCS to be completed and presented to Policy Committees and Regional Council (2) Deadline for County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) to provide preliminary input on all planned projects to SCAG for the RTP/SCS (3) SCAG issues Notice of Preparation for the Draft PEIR</p> <p><b>December 2018</b> (1) SCAG submits its technical methodology for the 2020 Plan to ARB for their review and comment (2) SCAG evaluates pursuing an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS), as needed</p> <p><b>December 2018 - March 2019</b> Development of alternatives for achieving SCAG's regional GHG reduction targets, as set by ARB, and demonstrating transportation conformity</p>	<p><b>January - March 2019</b> Conduct county-specific Draft 2020 RTP/SCS planning workshops to fulfill SB 975 outreach requirements (6 workshops minimum, including extensive outreach for public participation)</p> <p><b>March 2019</b> Delegated Subregions complete their Sustainable Communities Strategies and submit their plans to SCAG</p>
<b>LEGEND</b>			
Public Outreach and Input from Local Jurisdictions	(1) Kick-off of the Integrated Bottom Up Local Review and Shared Vision Process, including one-on-one meetings with local jurisdictions to refine data, and train local staff to develop scenarios (i.e. shared vision) using web tools and other materials		
SCS Development for Delegated Subregions	(2) Brief Policy Committees and Regional Council on kickoff and initiate Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Subcommittee to inform the Integrated Bottom Up Local Review and Shared Vision Process		
Staff Actions in Relation to Policy/Plan Development	(3) Roll-out of web tools (e.g. SPM - Scenario Planning Site) and hand copy materials for use in reviewing RTP/SCS base data by local jurisdictions		
Regional Council Policy Committees/Subcommittees Milestones			
Coordination with State and Federal Agencies			



*AFFILIATED AGENCIES*

*Orange County  
Transit District*

*Local Transportation  
Authority*

*Service Authority for  
Freeway Emergencies*

*Consolidated Transportation  
Service Agency*

*Congestion Management  
Agency*

*Service Authority for  
Abandoned Vehicles*

**April 6, 2017**

**Ms. Marnie Primer  
Executive Director  
Orange County Council of Governments  
1 Civic Center Plaza  
Irvine, CA 92606**

**Dear Marnie:**

As you are aware, SB 375 (Chapter, 728, Statutes 2008) allows for subregional council of governments and county transportation commissions to work together to propose a subregional Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). With the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/SCS, the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) took a lead role with the development of a subregional SCS. The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) was pleased to partner with OCCOG and other stakeholders in that successful effort.

As the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) develops the 2020 RTP/SCS, OCTA is comfortable with SCAG leading the development of the subregional information using the process that was successfully utilized for the development 2016 RTP/SCS. OCTA is supportive of a path where OCCOG works with SCAG and local partners to assure there is local consensus on Orange County information that is used to prepare the next RTP/SCS. Such an effort would be based on the latest Orange County projections information and will lead to a plan that can be supported by Orange County interests.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (714) 560-5741.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kia Mortazavi', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

**Kia Mortazavi  
Executive Director, Planning**

**KM:ds**

**c: Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, SCAG**



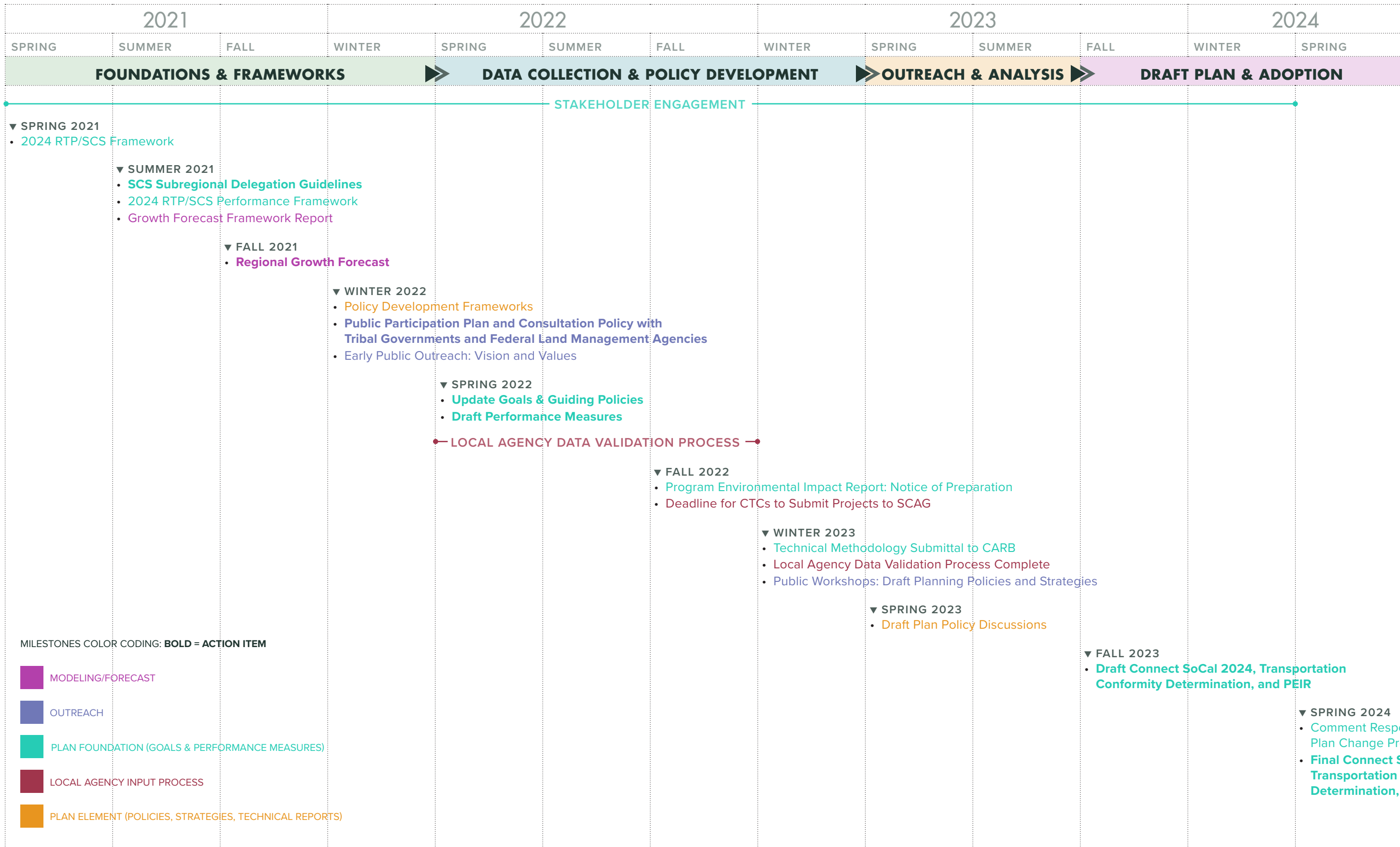
Draft Proposed Fee Structure Range for 2020 OC SCS

Member Agency Name	Min: \$600,000	Est. Max. \$2,000,000
1 Aliso Viejo	\$10,616	\$35,388
2 Anaheim	\$44,827	\$149,423
3 Brea	\$9,860	\$32,868
4 Buena Park	\$14,268	\$47,561
5 Costa Mesa	\$17,744	\$59,147
6 Cypress	\$10,531	\$35,104
7 Dana Point	\$8,715	\$29,052
8 Fountain Valley	\$11,307	\$37,688
9 Fullerton	\$20,842	\$69,472
10 Garden Grove	\$24,717	\$82,390
11 Huntington Beach	\$26,708	\$89,028
12 Irvine	\$33,734	\$112,446
13 Laguna Beach	\$7,626	\$25,420
14 Laguna Hills	\$8,411	\$28,038
15 Laguna Niguel	\$12,355	\$41,183
16 Laguna Woods	\$6,803	\$22,675
17 La Habra	\$11,901	\$39,672
18 Lake Forest	\$14,331	\$47,770
19 La Palma	\$6,785	\$22,617
20 Los Alamitos	\$6,305	\$21,016
21 Mission Viejo	\$15,753	\$52,511
22 Newport Beach	\$14,371	\$47,903
23 Orange	\$20,726	\$69,088
24 Placentia	\$10,812	\$36,038
25 Rancho Santa Margarita	\$10,395	\$34,649
26 San Clemente	\$12,366	\$41,221
27 San Juan Capistrano	\$9,012	\$30,041
28 Santa Ana	\$43,136	\$143,786
29 Seal Beach	\$7,788	\$25,961
30 Stanton	\$9,420	\$31,400
31 Tustin	\$14,198	\$47,327
32 Villa Park	\$5,661	\$18,870
33 Westminster	\$15,461	\$51,537
34 Yorba Linda	\$12,521	\$41,737
<b>Subtotal for OC Cities</b>	<b>\$510,009</b>	<b>\$1,700,030</b>
Agencies (Cost is equal to average city cost)		
35 COUNTY	\$14,999	\$49,995
36 OCTA	\$14,999	\$49,995
37 AQMD	\$14,999	\$49,995
38 TCA	\$14,999	\$49,995
39 OCSD	\$14,999	\$49,995
40 ISDOC	\$14,999	\$49,995
<b>Subtotal for Other Member Agencies</b>	<b>\$89,991</b>	<b>\$299,970</b>
Ex officio agencies		
Anaheim Transit Network	\$0	\$0
Private Sector (OC BIA)	\$0	\$0
OC LAFCO	\$0	\$0
ACC-OC	\$0	\$0
University Community (UCI)	\$0	\$0
Health Care/Hospitality Industry	\$0	\$0
Housing Community (Non-Profit)	\$0	\$0
Business Community (OCBC)	\$0	\$0
LOCC OCD	\$0	\$0
<b>Subtotal for Ex-Officio Agencies</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>
Share of total for OC Cities	85%	85%
Share of total for other member agencies	15%	15%
Share of total for Ex-officio agencies	0%	0%
City Average	\$89,991	\$299,970

Please let us know your thoughts:



# 2024 RTP/SCS PRELIMINARY MILESTONES



MILESTONES COLOR CODING: **BOLD** = ACTION ITEM

- MODELING/FORECAST
- OUTREACH
- PLAN FOUNDATION (GOALS & PERFORMANCE MEASURES)
- LOCAL AGENCY INPUT PROCESS
- PLAN ELEMENT (POLICIES, STRATEGIES, TECHNICAL REPORTS)



Orange County Council of Governments

Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG)  
3972 Barranca Parkway, Ste. J127  
Irvine, CA 92606

info@occog.com

**Item 5:** **RHNA**  
**Recommended Action:** Receive reports.

### **Reports**

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On March 22, 2021, HCD approved SCAG's 2021-2029 RHNA Plan. Attachment 1 is a copy of the letter from HCD. It is important to note that HCD states, "Local governments may take RHNA credit for new units approved, permitted, and/or built beginning from the state date of the RHNA projection period, June 30, 2021." SCAG has also updated their Final RHNA Allocation Calculator at the following link: <https://scag.ca.gov/sites/main/files/file-attachments/scag-rhna-6th-final-allocation-04mar21.xlsx?1616463008>.

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Attachment 1: March 22, 2021 Letter from HCD Approving SCAG's RHNA Plan



**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF HOUSING POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

2020 W. El Camino Ave  
Sacramento, CA 95833-1829  
(916) 263-2911 FAX: (916) 263-7453  
www.hcd.ca.gov



March 22, 2021

Kome Ajise, Executive Director  
Southern California Association of Governments  
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Executive Director Ajise:

**RE: Review of Adopted 2021-2029 Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) Plan**

Thank you for submitting the adopted Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) Sixth Cycle Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) Plan. Pursuant to Government Code Section 65584.05(h), the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) is required to review RHNA plans for consistency with statutory requirements.

HCD completed its review and is pleased to approve SCAG's adopted RHNA Plan, upon finding it consistent with HCD's October 15, 2019 regional housing need determination of 1,341,827 housing units. Please distribute the RHNA Plan to inform all local governments of their share of new housing need to address their sixth cycle Housing Element by October 15, 2021. In updating their Housing Elements, local governments may take RHNA credit for new units approved, permitted, and/or built beginning from the start date of the RHNA projection period, June 30, 2021.

HCD is committed to assisting SCAG's local governments prepare and implement updated Housing Elements to effectively address the region's housing need. Local governments are encouraged to develop local land-use strategies to maximize land resources and encourage affordable housing and a variety of housing types, thus furthering the state's economic, fair housing, and environmental objectives.

We appreciate SCAG's efforts in completing the RHNA process. If HCD can provide any additional assistance, or if you, or your staff, have any questions, please email me at [megan.kirkeby@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:megan.kirkeby@hcd.ca.gov); or contact Tom Brinkhuis, Housing Policy Specialist, by email at [tom.brinkhuis@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:tom.brinkhuis@hcd.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Megan Kirkeby".

Megan Kirkeby  
Deputy Director