



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Thursday, October 12, 2023  
12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

**Location for In-Person Participation:**  
Culver City Hall Mike Balkman Council Chambers  
9770 Culver Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232

**Remote Participation via Webex Link:**  
<https://culvercity.webex.com/culvercity/j.php?MTID=m7b5308ecf0e5a6cbe03c8333fe5d04b7>

**Livestream on YouTube:**  
[http://bit.ly/wscocg\\_livestream](http://bit.ly/wscocg_livestream)

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### MEETING INFORMATION AND ACCOMMODATION

The Westside Cities Council of Governments (WSCCOG) Regular Board meeting on **October 12, 2023** will be held in-person with remote public participation via Webex and livestreamed on YouTube. WSCCOG Board voting members are required to attend in-person to participate and vote on action items on the agenda. For any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Winnie Fong at [winnie@estolanoadvisors.com](mailto:winnie@estolanoadvisors.com) or (323) 306-9856.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment on any agenda item may be made during the consideration of that item. All comments on items not listed on the agenda may be made during the time allotted on the agenda to the public. Members of the public may comment by raising a hand and being recognized by the Chair. Speakers shall confine their comments to three minutes per speaker. Unless otherwise noted in the Agenda, the public may only comment on matters that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the WSCCOG or items listed on the agenda.

Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Board remotely are strongly encouraged to submit an email with their written comments limited to 1,000 characters to Riley O'Brien at [riley@estolanoadvisors.com](mailto:riley@estolanoadvisors.com) by no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. \*Note: E-Comments received after 12:00 p.m. will be forwarded to the Board and posted on the WSCCOG's website at [www.westsidecities.org/meeting](http://www.westsidecities.org/meeting) as part of the official meeting record. The email address will remain open during the meeting for providing public comment during the meeting. Emails received during the meeting will be read out loud at the appropriate time during the meeting provided they are received before the Board takes action on an item (or can be read during general public comment).

# AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS (2 min)

3. ACTION ITEMS (2 min)

A. [WSCCOG August 10, 2023 Board Meeting Notes](#)

**Recommended Action:** Approve the draft meeting notes for the WSCCOG Board meeting held on August 10, 2023.

4. [EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT](#) (10 min)

5. HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS UPDATE (40 min)

A. County Harm Reduction Syringe Exchange Service Program Presentation - Dr. Gary Tsai, LA County Department of Public Health

B. Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS) Presentation - Sara Harris, Economic and Community Development Deputy for Supervisor Holly Mitchell, LA County Supervisorial Second District

6. LEGISLATION (12 min)

A. [League of California Cities Update](#) - Jeff Kiernan, Regional Public Affairs Manager

B. [AB 761 Local Finance: Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts Update](#) - Hernan Molina, Governmental Affairs Liaison, City of West Hollywood

7. RECEIVE AND FILE (3 min)

A. [SCAG Update September 2023](#)

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS (3 min)

A. [Inaugural Southern California Municipal Summit](#)

9. FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

A. Thursday, December 14, 2023 at City of West Hollywood

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 min)

11. ADJOURN

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

## Instructions for Public Comments

You may submit public comments in three (3) ways:

1. **Provide public comments in-person:** Members of the Public may comment on matters on the agenda to the WSCCOG Board in person during the meeting at the location below:

Culver City Hall Mike Balkman Council Chambers  
9770 Culver Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232

2. **To listen and provide comments via remote participation on Webex Events:** To participate remotely on WebEx Event, use the link below:

<https://culvercity.webex.com/culvercity/j.php?MTID=m7b5308ecf0e5a6cbe03c8333fe5d04b7>.

3. **Submit written comments via email to:** Members of the Public who wish to comment on matters before the Board remotely are strongly encouraged to submit an email with their written comments limited to 1,000 characters to Riley O'Brien at [riley@estolanoadvisors.com](mailto:riley@estolanoadvisors.com) by no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. All written comments received after 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

**DRAFT MEETING NOTES**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023  
12:00 NOON

Beverly Hills City Hall  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Municipal Gallery  
455 N. Rexford Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Beverly Hills:** Vice Mayor Lester Friedman, Councilmember Sharona Nazarian. Staff: Gabriela Yap, Cindy Owens, Chris Paulson, Ernesto Dominguez, Enisha Clark, Nestor Otazu, Cameron Kesinger
- Culver City:** Councilmember Göran Eriksson (WSCCOG Chair), Councilmember Dan O'Brien\*, Vice Mayor Yasmin Imani-McMorrin\*, Councilmember Freddy Puza\*. Staff: Shelly Wolfberg, Larissa Hogan, Diana Chang\*, Lauren Wrenn\*
- Santa Monica:** Councilmember Oscar de la Torre (WSCCOG Vice Chair). Staff: Anuj Gupta, Josh Kurpies, Jason Kligier, Achée Stevenson
- West Hollywood:** Councilmember John Heilman\*, Councilmember Chelsea Byers\*. Staff: Hernan Molina
- City of LA:** Staff: Jeff Khau (Council District 11), Jarret Thompson (Council District 5)
- County of LA:** Staff: Austin Cyr, Justin Orenstein (Supervisory District 3), Semaj Hughes\*, Dana Pratt\*, Mary Safaryan\* (Department of Consumer and Business Affairs)
- WSCCOG:** Staff: Winnie Fong, Riley O'Brien. Legal Counsel: Lauren Langer.
- Other:** Jake Ettinger\* (Office of State Senator Ben Allen), Jeff Kiernan (League of California Cities), Erik Rodriguez (SCAG)

(\* Indicates virtual attendance)

**1. WSCCOG REGULAR BOARD MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Councilmember Göran Eriksson (WSCCOG Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

**2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS**

Voting members included Vice Mayor Lester Friedman (City of Beverly Hills); Councilmember Göran Eriksson (City of Culver City), Councilmember Oscar de la Torre (City of Santa

Monica); Austin Cyr (County of Los Angeles). Only Boardmembers participating in the meeting in-person were eligible to vote on items in this agenda.

### **3. ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. WSCCOG April 20, 2023 Board Meeting Notes**

Following a revision of the meeting notes to acknowledge the attendance of Larissa Hogan from Culver City, Vice Mayor Friedman (Beverly Hills) moved to approve the meeting notes, and Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) seconded the motion, which the Board approved unanimously (4-0).

#### **B. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Representative**

Councilmember Imani-McMorrin (Culver City) and Councilmember Brock (Santa Monica) expressed interest in the position. Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) nominated Councilmember Brock to the position, and Vice Mayor Friedman (Beverly Hills) seconded the nomination. The Board appointed Brock 3-0, with Austin Cyr (Los Angeles County) abstaining.

#### **C. SCAG Community, Economic & Human Development Committee Representative**

Councilmember Byers (West Hollywood) and Councilmember Puza (Culver City) expressed interest in the position. Councilmember Byers withdrew her nomination and spoke in support of Councilmember Puza in the position. Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) nominated Councilmember Puza, and Vice Mayor Lester Friedman (Beverly Hills) seconded the nomination. The Board appointed Councilmember Puza unanimously (4-0).

#### **D. FY 2022-23 WSCCOG Audit Engagement Letter**

Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) moved to approve the staff recommendation to execute the audit engagement letter, and Vice Mayor Friedman (Beverly Hills) seconded the motion, which the Board approved unanimously (4-0).

#### **E. Contract with the County for the FY 2023-24 Homelessness Regional Coordination and Local Solutions Fund**

Winnie Fong (WSCCOG Project Director) described how the WSCCOG Board approved an equal distribution of the Los Angeles County Local Solutions Fund to the four member cities (Beverly Hills, Culver City, Santa Monica, and West Hollywood) earlier this year, but did not have a final contract to review at that time. Fong also emphasized that the equal distribution of the funds under the contract only applies to the current fiscal year for FY 2023-24. Fong recommends that the Board delegate authority to WSCCOG legal counsel to review, negotiate, and execute the Local Solutions Fund contract with the County so that the member cities can access the funds for their programs as soon as possible.

Related to the topic of homelessness, Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) expressed concerns about the administration of Los Angeles County's needle distribution program within Santa Monica. Councilmember Eriksson suggested

discussing the needle distribution program during the October WSCCOG Board meeting, and WSCCOG staff agreed with that approach.

Following a clarification from Fong and Lauren Langer (WSCCOG Legal Counsel) regarding the contract execution process, Vice Mayor Friedman (Beverly Hills) moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) seconded the motion, which the Board approved 3-0, with Austin Cyr (Los Angeles County) abstaining.

**F. Funding Agreement Amendment with Metro and Contract w/ Fehr and Peers for Professional Services for the WSCCOG Multi-Year Subregional Program**

Fong described the two-part staff recommendation to (1) approve an amended Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) funding agreement with Metro, and (2) approve delegation of authority to WSCCOG Legal Counsel to negotiate and execute a contract with Fehr and Peers to continue assisting the COG with the MSP annual updates.

Vice Mayor Friedman (Beverly Hills) moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) seconded the motion, which the Board approved 3-0, with Austin Cyr (Los Angeles County) abstaining.

**4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Winnie Fong (WSCCOG Project Director) shared the WSCCOG's call for letters of interest for the Metro Technical Advisory Committee Streets and Freeways Subcommittee alternate representative. WSCCOG staff is accepting letters of interest for the alternate position through September 30, 2023. Fong also described recent activities involving the WSCCOG Transportation Working Group and WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group.

Fong shared with the Board the two final memos completed by consultant ECONorthwest for the Subregional Affordable Housing Program study under REAP 1.0, which was completed in July 2023. Fong noted a discrepancy in the pro forma analysis that Culver City does not own the building identified in the study, which changes the concepts and funding scenarios in the analysis. As ECONorthwest's contract has ended, Fong suggested exploring follow-up actions with the subregion's on-call consultant through SCAG's REAP 2.0 program.

**5. TRANSPORTATION UPDATE**

Riley O'Brien (WSCCOG Analyst) described various transportation updates related to Metro funds available to WSCCOG member jurisdictions. O'Brien noted that WSCCOG consultant Fehr and Peers prepared Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program annual update documentation from each jurisdiction and submitted the annual update to Metro. Following a required 60-day review, WSCCOG staff expects the Metro Board to approve the annual update request in October. O'Brien added that WSCCOG staff submitted a letter to Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins requesting that any accelerated Measure M Subregional Equity Program (SEP) funds be distributed equitably across subregions. In addition, O'Brien noted that Metro is no longer planning to use WSCCOG SEP funds to cover the Metro D Line (Purple) Extension project cost overruns. O'Brien concluded by describing WSCCOG staff

efforts to support member jurisdiction applications to Cycle 5 of Metro's Open Streets Grant Program, which provides funding for car-free street events such as CicLAVia.

## **6. HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS UPDATE**

Following a brief presentation from Winnie Fong (WSCCOG Project Director) describing a potential eviction crisis and associated increase in homelessness, Semaj Hughes from Los Angeles County's Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) provided a presentation on the Stay Housed LA Program, which includes partners with various organizations to provide counseling services and eviction protections to renters throughout the county. Based on the success of this program, Hughes noted, the LA County Board of Supervisors voted to adopt the Right to Counsel ordinance, which also aims to expand these protections to all incorporated cities countywide, and also explained how the program includes protections for smaller "mom-and-pop" landlords facing challenges due to tenant nonpayment of rent. After Hughes and colleague Dana Pratt of DCBA answered various clarifying questions from the WSCCOG Board, Fong announced that the WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group begin a peer exchange with the member cities on local eviction process and tenant protections.

## **7. LEGISLATION**

Jeff Kiernan (League of California Cities) described various legislative priorities in the final weeks of the legislative session. These priorities include AB 1679 (a sales tax to fund homeless services), which would serve as a Measure H replacement for Los Angeles County. Kiernan noted that the League of California Cities has concerns regarding the lack of local return and tax limitations involved in AB 1679 as written. Kiernan continued by describing the League's support of AB 33 (a fentanyl addition and overdoses task force), AB 67 (a pilot diversion program for homeless residents), SB 43 (a change in the definition of "gravely disabled" for unhoused residents resistant to services), and SB 363 (a real-time database of shelter and service availability for unhoused residents). Kiernan then described the League's opposition to AB 1484 (a requirement for temporary public employees to be included in the same bargaining unit as permanent employees) and AB 1637 (a requirement for local jurisdictions to enable a .gov website and email domain by 2029) due to an expected cost increase for cities.

Kiernan detailed additional legislative priorities and concerns related to housing, land use, zoning, and transportation. These include SB 584 (a short-term rental tax to fund workforce housing), AB 1490 (an exemption to local regulations for adaptive reuse of residential buildings), and SB 4 (an exemption to local regulations for housing projects on land owned by educational or religious institutions), all of which the League of California Cities oppose unless amended. Kiernan added that the League opposes SB 423 (an expansion to SB 35 housing production streamlining) and AB 825 (a requirement that cities allow bikes on sidewalks if no bike lane is available), and Kiernan concluded by describing the League's interest in feedback on AB 530 (a minimum age and licensing program for e-bike operation). Kiernan then answered various questions from WSCCOG Board Members regarding these bills.

**8. RECEIVE AND FILE**

Vice Mayor Friedman (Beverly Hills) moved to receive and file an update from SCAG. Councilmember Eriksson (Culver City) seconded the motion, which the Board approved unanimously (4-0).

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Eriksson (Culver City) announced Culver City's new safe camping site and a public engagement day on Saturday from 8am to 12pm. Councilmember de la Torre (Santa Monica) also announced the opening of a new affordable housing development in Santa Monica by the Community Corporation of Santa Monica.

**10. FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS**

The next WSCCOG Board Meeting will be on Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 12:00 pm in Culver City. The WSCCOG Board also agreed to add a discussion on Los Angeles County's needle distribution program to the October agenda.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No members of the public provided additional comments in-person or via email.

**12. ADJOURN**

Councilmember Eriksson (WSCCOG Chair) adjourned the meeting at 1:21pm.

Draft





**DATE:** October 9, 2023

**TO:** Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

**FROM:** Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report

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### **WSCCOG Appointed Representatives**

#### **Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Streets and Freeway Committee Alternate Representative**

On August 10, 2023, the WSCCOG issued a call for candidates for the Alternate Representative to the Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Streets and Freeway. WSCCOG did not receive any candidacy letters due on September 29, 2023. The WSCCOG will extend the deadline to November 30, 2023 to consider the candidates at the next regular board meeting held in December. Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest to WSCCOG Project Director Winnie Fong at [winnie@estolanoadvisors.com](mailto:winnie@estolanoadvisors.com).

### **WSCCOG Working Group Updates**

WSCCOG staff convened the Transportation and Homelessness Working Groups in August and September. Refer to [Attachment A](#) and [Attachment B](#) for the agenda items discussed in the meeting.

### **Transportation Updates**

#### ***Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program***

The Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program provides grants to states, local governments, tribes, and territories to develop and implement ambitious plans for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other harmful air pollution. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) on September 20, 2023 for \$4.3 billion available in competitive grant funding to eligible applicants implementing GHG reduction programs, policies, projects, and measures. Applications are due on April 1, 2024. WSCCOG staff will review the grant application and consult with SCAG—one of the regional agencies leading the program—and the WSCCOG Transportation Working Group members to determine potential transportation-related GHG reduction projects and programs for this grant.

#### ***Metro and LA28 Olympics Transportation Update***

In September, Metro and LA28 staff presented their existing plan and vision for transportation during the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Four Games venues are located within the

WSCCOG boundary, including Santa Monica Beach, Riviera Country Club in Pacific Palisades, Pauley Pavilion on the UCLA campus, and the Athletes' Village on the UCLA campus. LA28 staff noted that they expect 10 million to 15 million spectators to attend the Olympics, which could potentially double transit ridership across Los Angeles County. Metro staff described their goal to enable spectators and workers to reach Olympic venues via transit, walking, and biking, and Metro staff shared through their efforts to obtain federal grant funding for additional transit infrastructure. However, LA28 staff did not commit to allowing public transit vehicles to use the "Games Route Network" of bus-only lanes throughout the region.

### ***Metro I-405 ExpressLanes***

On October 3, 2023, WSCCOG staff attended a briefing by Metro describing recent developments in the environmental review process for the I-405 ExpressLanes. Through this process, Metro is evaluating alternatives that would convert existing high-occupancy vehicle (HOV or "carpool") lanes to high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes, also known as "ExpressLanes" in Los Angeles County. During the briefing, Metro staff noted that they had removed one alternative from consideration to avoid property acquisition through right-of-way expansion. Metro staff also clarified that they are not currently planning to construct bus rapid transit stations along the I-405 ExpressLanes due to engineering challenges.

## **Housing Updates**

### ***Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program***

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) recently released the [Round 8 draft guidelines](#) of the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Program. The purpose of the AHSC Program is to reduce GHG emissions through projects that implement land use, housing, and transportation and agricultural land preservation practices to support infill and compact development. SGC will be accepting public comments on the guidelines through Tuesday, October 24, 2023. SGC will also hold a public workshop in the Southern California region on Monday, October 23, 2023 (RSVP [here](#)). Following the adoption of the guidelines in December 2023, SGC will release a \$650 million Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in January 2024. The AHSC Program will also be offering no-cost Capacity Building and Technical Assistance to eligible applicants. Interested applicants (e.g., local jurisdictions, public agencies, and developers) are encouraged to complete the SGC's [Technical Assistance Intake Form](#).

### ***Metro Joint Development Opportunities***

In September 2023, Metro released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to establish a bench of developers to partner with Metro on 20 new development opportunity sites (10k Sites) to increase the supply of high-quality housing with a goal to achieve 10,000 units by 2031 ([10,000 Home Commitment](#)) – 5,000 of which will be income-restricted. A total of three sites identified in the 10k Sites are located within the WSCCOG boundaries, which include the following:

- 17<sup>th</sup> St/SMC Station (E Line) – City of Santa Monica
- Century City/Constellation Station (D Line) – City of Los Angeles
- Wilshire/La Brea Station (D Line) – City of Los Angeles

Local jurisdictions can support Metro in this effort by facilitating needed zoning changes, expedited permitting, and share local connections to collaboratively address the affordable housing crisis. A [recent memo](#) prepared for the WSCCOG by ECONorthwest also found that the high cost of land in the Westside subregion presents a challenge for affordable housing projects. Because Metro relies on long-term ground leases to develop its property, this will provide a financially viable opportunity for affordable housing development in the subregion.

	<p><b>17th St/SMC Station</b>  Address: 1619 17th St, Santa Monica, CA 90404  APN(s): 4283-010-903, 4275-022-901, 4275-023-902, 4275-022-900, 4275-022-902  Size: 2.3 acres  Current Zoning: Mixed Use Blvd Low Zone (MUBL)  Metro Infrastructure: At-Grade Rail Station; Park &amp; Ride</p>
	<p><b>Century City</b>  Address: 1940 Century Park E, Los Angeles, CA 90067  APN(s): 4319-001-905  Size: 0.7 acres  Current Zoning: Commercial Zone (C2)  Metro Infrastructure: Below-Grade Rail Tunnel</p>
	<p><b>Wilshire/La Brea Station</b>  Address: 711 S La Brea Av, Los Angeles, CA 90036  APN(s): 5089-001-900, 5089-001-905, 5508-007-900  Size: 1.8 acres  Current Zoning: Commercial Zone (C4)  Metro Infrastructure: Below-Grade Rail Station</p>

## WSCCOG Transportation Working Group

### Agenda for Tuesday, August 22, 2023

#### 1. WSCCOG Updates

- a. Bus Lane Enforcement
- b. Automated Vehicle Implementation
- c. Metro Streets and Freeways Subcommittee Alternate Needed
- d. Mobility Study Update and MSP/SEP Programming Process
  - i. Contract Update
- e. Sustainability Coordination
- f. Boundary Map Update
- g. Future TWG Agenda Items

#### 2. Funding Opportunities

- a. Metro
  - i. **Due August 29** - Open Streets Grant Program Cycle 5 Applications Open
    1. WSCCOG letter(s) of support
- b. California Air Resources Board
  - i. **Due September 8** - Sustainable Transportation Equity Project
- c. Caltrans
  - i. **Due September 20** - Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards (RC:H2B) Call for Communities
- d. USDOT
  - i. **Due October 10** - Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant NOFO
  - ii. **Due October 10** - Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning NOFO
- e. SCAG Grant Opportunities Overview

#### 3. Recurring Items

- a. Active Transportation Strategic Plan
  - i. Final community meeting on August 29th via Zoom
- b. Westside/Central Service Council Meeting Recap
- c. Sepulveda Transit Corridor
- d. Crenshaw Northern Extension
  - i. Community meetings expected later this summer

#### 4. Upcoming Meetings

- a. WSCCOG Transportation Working Group Meeting - September 26, 2023
  - i. Virtually through Zoom
- b. WSCCOG Board Meeting - October 12, 2023
  - i. 12-1:15 pm in Culver City

## **Agenda for Tuesday, September 26, 2023**

### **1. Presentation**

- a. Metro and LA28 - 2028 Olympics Update

### **2. WSCCOG Updates**

- a. Metro Streets and Freeways Subcommittee Alternate Needed
  - i. No letters received as of September 21
  - ii. Accepting letters of interest through September 30
- b. Mobility Study Update and MSP/SEP Programming Process
  - i. Contract Update
  - ii. Timeline Update
  - iii. SEP Programming Process
- c. Boundary Map Update
- d. Future TWG Agenda Items

### **3. Funding Opportunities**

- a. USDOT
  - i. **Due October 10** - Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant NOFO
  - ii. **Due October 10** - Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development Planning NOFO
- b. SCAG Grant Opportunities Overview

### **4. Recurring Items**

- a. K Line (Crenshaw) Northern Extension
  - i. Open house in West Hollywood on Tuesday, September 26, 5-7pm
  - ii. Two additional open houses hosted recently
    - 1. Virtual on Tuesday, September 19, 12-1:30pm
    - 2. Baldwin Hills on Saturday, September 23, 10am-12pm
- b. Sepulveda Transit Corridor
  - i. I-405 ExpressLanes Briefing on Monday, October 2, 2-3pm
  - ii. Sepulveda Transit Corridor Briefing on Monday, October 23, 2-3pm
- c. Active Transportation Strategic Plan
  - i. Draft plan available online
  - ii. StoryMap also available online
- d. Westside/Central Service Council Meeting Recap

### **5. Upcoming Meetings**

- a. WSCCOG Board Meeting - October 12, 2023
  - i. 12-1:15 pm in Culver City
- b. WSCCOG Transportation Working Group Meeting - October 24, 2023
  - i. Virtually through Zoom

## WSSCOG Homelessness Working Group

### Agenda for Wednesday, August 23, 2023

1. WSSCOG August Board Meeting Recap
  - a. Local Solution Funds Contract Update
  - b. Board request for a presentation on the County's needle exchange program in future COG Board agenda
  - c. LA County DCBA Stay Housed LA and Right to Counsel Presentation
2. Eviction Defense Program and Tenant Protection Policies/Ordinance Presentation and Q&A
  - a. City of Santa Monica
3. Next Steps
  - a. Presentations from West Hollywood in September
  - b. Other items

### Agenda for Wednesday, September 27, 2023

1. County CEO-HI Update
  - a. Measure H budget funding recommendations process
  - b. WSSCOG funding agreement update
2. Eviction Defense and Tenant Protection Peer Learning Presentation
  - a. City of West Hollywood
3. Upcoming Meetings
  - a. WSSCOG Hybrid Board Meeting in Culver City (Thursday, October 12, 2023 @ 12pm)
    - i. Presentation and Discussion
      1. LA County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS) – County SD 2 Staff
      2. County Harm Reduction Syringe Exchange Service Programs – LA County Department of Public Health (Dr. Tsai and Dr. Hurley)
  - b. WSSCOG Homelessness Working Group Meeting (Wednesday, October 25, 2023 @ 9am)
    - i. Eviction Defense and Tenant Protection Peer Learning Presentations
      1. City of Beverly Hills (Confirmed)
      2. City of Culver City (TBD)



TO: WESTSIDE CITIES COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 FR: JEFF KIERNAN, LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES  
 RE: CAL CITIES UPDATE FOR 10/13/2023 MEETING (AS PREPARED OCT 3)

### **END OF SESSION ADVOCACY UPDATE**

Below is information on the votes taken by legislators from my region on priority legislation before the end of session. Sample sign/veto letters are available on the Cal Cities website and, for the purposes of this briefing, *only bills on the Governor's desk are included below.*

#### **Community Services**

##### **AB 531 (Irwin) The Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2023 -- Concerns**

Would place a \$4.68 billion bond measure on the March 2024 ballot to finance grants for the construction and rehabilitation of community-based treatment settings and residential care settings for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Assembly Votes: AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

Senate Votes: AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

*\*Last minute amendments mean Cal Cities is not recommending cities seek the Governor's signature on this bill*

##### **AB 1215 (Carrillo) Pets Assistance with Support Grant Program: Homeless Shelters: Domestic Violence Shelters: Pets -- Support**

Would create a grant program for homeless and domestic violence shelters to accommodate pets.

Assembly Votes: AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

Senate Votes: AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

##### **SB 43 (Eggman) Behavioral Health -- Support**

Would update California's 1967 conservatorship law by expanding the definition of "gravely disabled" to include conditions that result in a substantial risk of serious harm to an individual's physical or mental health.

Assembly Votes: Unanimous AYES except Zbur not voting

Senate Votes: Unanimous AYES

#### **Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations**

##### **AB 504 (Reyes) State And Local Public Employees: Labor Relations: Disputes -- Oppose**

Would make sympathy striking a human right. It would also allow local public employees to refuse to enter property that is the site of a primary labor dispute, perform work for an employer involved in a primary labor dispute, or go through or work behind a primary picket line.

Assembly Votes: **AYEs** – Bryan, Gipson, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur. Not Voting: Bryan

Senate Votes: **AYEs** – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

##### **AB 557 (Hart) Open Meetings: local agencies: teleconferences -- Support**

Eliminates the January 1, 2024, sunset on the provisions of the Brown Act that provided additional flexibility for local agencies looking to meet remotely during an emergency while still maintaining public access and transparency under AB 361 (R. Rivas, 2021). The bill would also extend the renewal period for resolutions declaring the use of AB 361 to 45 days (up from 30 days). By doing so AB 557 would provide accommodation for those agencies regularly meeting on a fixed date every month.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except 1 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES

**[AB 764 \(Bryan\) Local Redistricting. Amended on 9/7/23 & Opposition Removed - Neutral](#)**

Would update the procedures local agencies must follow when adjusting the boundaries of the districts used to elect members of their governing bodies.

**[AB 1484 \(Zbur\) Temporary public employees, as amended 5/18/23 -- Oppose](#)**

Requires inclusion of temporary employees in the same bargaining unit as permanent employees and that the wages, hours, plus terms of condition of employment for both temporary and permanent employees must be bargained together in a single memorandum of understanding.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur.

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern. Not Voting: Allen

**[SB 411 \(Portantino\) Open meetings: teleconferences: neighborhood councils, as amended 4/24/23 -- Support](#)**

Allows teleconference capability for Neighborhood Councils in the City of Los Angeles.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**[SB 799 \(Portantino\) Unemployment insurance: trade disputes: eligibility for benefits -- Oppose](#)**

Would provide employees who remain on strike for more than two weeks with Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur. Not Voting: Irwin

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern.

- **VETOED on 9/30/2023**

**[Housing](#)**

**[AB 309 \(Lee\) Social Housing Act 2023 -- Oppose](#)**

Would create the California Housing authority with a mission to produce and acquire social housing developments for the purpose of eliminating the gap between housing production and regional housing needs assessment targets and to preserve affordable housing. Amended and limited to 5 sites statewide (*none in our region*).

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**[AB 519 \(Schiavo\) Affordable Housing Finance Workgroup: Affordable Housing: Consolidated Application Process -- Support](#)**

Would create an Affordable Housing Finance Workgroup to create a consolidated application for affordable housing developers to use to access state housing funding programs and a coordinated review process for the application. Would also require the workgroup, on or before July 1, 2026, to report recommendations on implementing a coordinated review process.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for one absent member



**AB 1490 (Lee) Affordable Housing Development Projects: Adaptive Reuse – Oppose Unless Amended**

Would make 100 percent affordable housing projects that adaptively reuse existing residential buildings an allowable use, regardless of any inconsistencies between the project and any local plans, zoning, or regulations, and limits local governments from imposing maximum density or floor area ratio requirements, and any requirement to add additional parking or open space.

Assembly Votes: **AYEs** – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. Not Voting: Muratsuchi

Senate Votes: **AYEs** – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**SB 4 (Wiener) Housing Development: Higher Education Institutions and Religious Institutions – Support if Amended**

Would require that a housing development project be a use by right on land owned by an independent institution of higher education religious institution if the development satisfies specified criteria.

Assembly Votes: **AYEs** – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

Senate Votes: **AYEs** – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**SB 423 (Wiener) Land use: streamlined housing approvals: multifamily housing developments, as amended 5/18/23 -- Oppose**

Expands SB 35 (Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) provisions and eliminates the January 1, 2026 sunset date, permanently requiring cities to ministerially approve certain housing projects without public input or environmental review.

Assembly Votes: **AYEs** – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. **NOs** - Muratsuchi

Senate Votes: **AYEs** – Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern. Not Voting: Allen

**Public Safety**

**AB 33 (Bains) Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force, as amended 5/18/23 -- Support**

Establishes the Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force, consisting of law enforcement, public health officials, and healthcare providers to coordinate an effective response to the fentanyl crisis. The task force will focus on a number of different strategies, including increasing access to overdose-reversing drugs, improving substance use disorder treatment and recovery support, and crafting strategies to reduce the availability of illicit fentanyl.

Assembly Votes: Unanimous **AYEs**

Senate Votes: Unanimous **AYEs** except 2 not voting

**AB 40 (Rodriguez) Emergency medical services as amended 5/18/23 -- Support**

Requires procedures and standards to improve ambulance patient offload time (APOT).

Assembly Votes: Unanimous **AYEs** except 6 not voting

Senate Votes: **AYEs** – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**AB 436 (Alvarez) Vehicles -- Oppose**

Repeals the authority given to local authorities to prohibit cruising. This bill would also remove a provision prohibiting a common modification made to cars used in cruising to have the vehicles ride low to the ground roadway.

Assembly Votes: **AYEs** – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi. Not Voting: Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): **AYEs** – Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas. Not Voting: Allen, Stern

**[AB 474 \(Rodriguez\) State Threat Assessment Center: transnational criminal organizations, as introduced – Support](#)**

Requires the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to prioritize cooperation with state and local efforts to illuminate, disrupt, degrade, and dismantle criminal networks trafficking opioid drugs and to support state and local interagency task forces to combat illegal opioid trafficking, including preparing and disseminating intelligence products for public safety entities.

[Assembly Votes](#): **Unanimous AYES** except 2 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): **AYEs** – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**[AB 701 \(Villapudua\) Controlled substances: fentanyl, as introduced -- Support](#)**

Increases the penalty and fine for trafficking controlled substances containing heroin, cocaine base, and cocaine to fentanyl.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for 2 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for 2 not voting

**[AB 1526 \(Asm. Nat Resources\) Solid Waste – Support](#)**

Would provide cities the mechanism to be reimbursed under SB 54 (single use plastic law).

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for 2 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for 1 absent member

**[SB 19 \(Seyarto\) Anti-Fentanyl Abuse Task Force -- Support](#)**

Would establish the Anti-Fentanyl Abuse Task Force to undertake various duties including collecting data on the extent of fentanyl abuse in California and increasing public awareness.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for 1 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES

**[SB 602 \(Archuleta\) Trespass, as amended 3/20/23 -- Support](#)**

Extends the effective duration of Letters of Agency from 30 days to 12 months and the operative timeframe of trespass authorization letters from 12 months to 3 years for the purpose of removing graffiti and mitigating other public nuisances on private property visible from public rights of way.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for 4 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES

**Environmental Quality**

**[AB 50 \(Wood\) Energy Utility Communication -- Support](#)**

Would aim to address situation delays with connecting projects to the grid, including housing projects.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except 6 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES

**Transportation, Communications and Public Works**

**[AB 400 \(B. Rubio\) Public Contracts: Design Build – Support/Sponsor](#)**

Would extend the January 1, 2025 sunset to 2031.

[Assembly Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except 4 not voting

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except 3 not voting

**[AB 825 \(Bryan\) Vehicle: Bicycles on Sidewalks -- Oppose](#)**

Would prohibit a local authority from prohibiting the operation of a bicycle on a sidewalk adjacent to a highway or corridor that does not include a dedicated bikeway.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. NOs - Muratsuchi

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**[AB 1637 \(Irwin\) Local government: internet websites and email addresses. As amended 6/29/23 – Oppose](#)**

Requires cities and counties to secure and utilize their website through a new .gov or ca.gov domain no later than January 1, 2029. It would also require all employee email addresses to reflect the updated domain within the same time frame.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Zbur. Not Voting: Muratsuchi

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**[SB 706 \(Caballero\) Public Contracts: Progressive Design Build – Support/Sponsor](#)**

Would remove the cap and would authorize all cities, counties, city and counties, or special districts to use the progressive design-build process for other projects in addition to water-related projects.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi, Zbur. Not Voting: McKinnor

[Senate Votes](#): Unanimous AYES except for 3 not voting, including Stern

**[Revenue and Taxation](#)**

**[ACA 1 \(Aguiar- Curry\) Local Government Financing: Affordable Housing and Public Infrastructure: voter approval -- Support](#)**

Would place a constitutional amendment on the ballot to reduce the voter threshold from 2/3rds to 55% for revenue measures related to affordable housing and infrastructure projects.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**[ACA 13 \(Ward\) Voting Thresholds -- Support](#)**

Would require any statewide initiative that seeks to raise a voting threshold, also pass by that same voting threshold.

[Assembly Votes](#): AYES - Bryan, Gipson, Irwin, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Zbur

[Senate Votes](#): AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

**[Regional: Los Angeles County Division Bills Not Already Above](#)**

**[AB 1679 \(Santiago\) Transaction and use taxes: County of Los Angeles: homelessness, as amended 6/19/23 -- Concerns](#)**

[AB 1679](#) would authorize the County of Los Angeles to impose a transaction and use tax of up to .50% if approved by county voters for homeless services, homeless prevention and affordable housing. The Division is supportive of ongoing funding to address our growing homeless crisis, however our members remain concerned with the current Measure H model and would suggest stake holders discuss alternative revenue sources. The Division's Board have sent a letter requesting that any replacement for Measure H include the following considerations:

- Any new countywide revenue stream for homelessness must have a 40% dedicated local return to assist cities currently spending General Fund revenues to provide homeless services and shelters.
- A Transaction and Use Tax that Exceeds the State Cap is Unwarranted and Unequitable.

Assembly Votes: AYES – Bryan, Gipson, Lowenthal, McKinnor. Not Voting: Irwin

Senate Votes: AYES – Allen, Bradford, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern

### **POLICY COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN – DEADLINE TO APPLY IS OCTOBER 13**

The League of California Cities is accepting applications for all seven policy committees now through Oct. 13. Cal Cities' seven policy committees meet 3 to 4 times each year to review and recommend positions for bills and regulatory proposals. These recommendations are then forwarded to the Cal Cities Board of Directors for consideration. If approved, these positions are official Cal Cities policy and become [part of Cal Cities' compilation of existing policy](#).

All Cal Cities members are eligible to apply for a division, department, caucus, or presidential appointment through a [single online form](#). The [2024 policy committee schedule is HERE](#), please note the March meeting will be in-person at the Burbank Marriott. The 4<sup>th</sup> committee meeting will only take place in the event of a qualifying resolution germane to that committee qualifies for the 2024 annual conference in Long Beach.

Each committee meets at least three times annually — January, March, and June — and for a policy committee orientation in January. One meeting will be in person and will require travel. Cal Cities does not reimburse committee members for travel expenses associated with attending policy committee meetings. A summary of each committee and the policy areas they oversee are below:

- **Community Services:** Reviews issues related to homelessness, child care, parks and recreation, libraries, emergency/disaster preparation and response, cultural arts, and community and human services programs.
- **Environmental Quality:** Reviews issues related to air, water, and water quality, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), solid waste and recycling, hazardous materials, coastal issues, utilities, and wildfires.
- **Governance, Transparency, and Labor Relations:** Reviews issues related to transparency, technology (open data), healthcare, elections and political reform, pensions, and workers' compensation reform, as well as other labor-related issues.
- **Housing, Community, and Economic Development:** Reviews issues related to general plans and zoning, housing, rent control, land use regulation, and development fees.
- **Public Safety:** Reviews issues related to law enforcement; fire and life safety policies, including emergency communications; and emergency services, including ambulance and disaster preparedness.
- **Revenue and Taxation:** Reviews issues related to finance administration, taxation reform, revenue needs, and revenue sources at the federal, state, and local levels.
- **Transportation, Communication, and Public Works:** Reviews issues related to transportation planning, technology, funding, construction, public works, telecommunications, and other related areas.


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## AB-761 Local finance: enhanced infrastructure financing districts. (2023-2024)

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AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2023–2024 REGULAR SESSION

### ASSEMBLY BILL

### NO. 761

Introduced by Assembly Member Friedman

~~(Principal coauthor: Senator Gonzalez)~~

February 13, 2023

~~An act to add and repeal Section 13979.3 of the Government Code, relating to transportation. An act to amend Section 53398.63 of the Government Code, relating to local finance.~~

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 761, as amended, Friedman. ~~Transit Transformation Task Force. Local finance: enhanced infrastructure financing districts.~~

*Existing law establishes enhanced infrastructure financing districts to finance public capital facilities or other specified projects of communitywide significance. Existing law provides for the membership of the governing body of the district, referred to as the public financing authority. Existing law authorizes the legislative body of a city or a county to designate a proposed enhanced infrastructure financing district by adopting a resolution of intention to establish the proposed district which, among other things, is required to state that an enhanced infrastructure financing district is proposed and describe the boundaries of the proposed district. Existing law requires the public financing authority to direct the preparation of and adopt an infrastructure financing plan consistent with the general plan and any relevant specific plan, and consisting of, among other things, a financing section. Existing law requires that the financing section include a plan for financing the public facilities, a limit on the total number of dollars of taxes that may be allocated to the district pursuant to the plan, and a date, either not more than 45 years from the date on which the issuance of the bonds is approved for the plan on which the district will cease to exist, by which time all tax allocation to the district will end, or, where the district is divided into project areas, a date on which the infrastructure financing plan will cease to be in effect and all tax allocations to the district will end and a date on which the district's authority to repay indebtedness with incremental tax revenues will end, as specified.*

*This bill, for plans proposed on or after January 1, 2024, would specify that for the purpose of development and construction of passenger rail projects in the County of Los Angeles where at least 75% of the revenue from the district is used for debt service on a federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan, the*

*date on which the district will cease to exist shall not be more than 75 years from the date of the issuance of bonds or approval of a loan, as specified.*

*This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for specified districts enacted primarily for the purpose of development and construction of zero-emission mass transit projects.*

~~Existing law establishes the Transportation Agency, which consists of various departments and state entities, including the California Transportation Commission and the Department of Transportation. Under existing law, the agency is under the supervision of an executive officer known as the Secretary of Transportation, who is required to develop and report to the Governor on legislative, budgetary, and administrative programs to accomplish comprehensive, long-range, and coordinated planning and policy formulation in the matters of public interest related to the agency.~~

~~Existing law provides for the funding of public transit, including under the Transportation Development Act.~~

~~This bill would require the secretary, on or before July 1, 2024, to establish and convene the Transit Transformation Task Force to include representatives from the department, the Controller's office, various local agencies, academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and other stakeholders. The bill would require the task force to develop a structured, coordinated process for early engagement of all parties to develop policies to grow transit ridership and improve the transit experience for all users of those services. The bill would require the secretary, in consultation with the task force, to prepare and submit a report of findings based on the task force's efforts to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature on or before January 1, 2025. The bill would require the report to include a detailed analysis of specified issues and recommendations on specified topics. The provisions of the bill would be repealed on January 1, 2028.~~

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: **yes** Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** *Section 53398.63 of the Government Code is amended to read:*

**53398.63.** After receipt of a copy of the resolution of intention to establish a district, the official designated pursuant to Section 53398.62 shall prepare a proposed infrastructure financing plan. A plan shall be proposed for the district ~~which~~ *that* shall include any project areas, if proposed, within the district. The infrastructure financing plan shall be consistent with the general plan, and specific plan, if applicable, of the city or county within which the district is located and shall include all of the following:

(a) A map and legal description of the proposed district, which may include all or a portion of the district designated by the legislative body in its resolution of intention.

(b) A description of the public facilities and other forms of development or financial assistance that is proposed in the area of the district, including those to be provided by the private sector, those to be provided by governmental entities without assistance under this chapter, those public improvements and facilities to be financed with assistance from the proposed district, and those to be provided jointly. The description shall include the proposed location, timing, and costs of the development and financial assistance.

(c) If funding from affected taxing entities is incorporated into the financing plan, a finding that the development and financial assistance are of communitywide significance and provide significant benefits to an area larger than the area of the district.

(d) A financing section, which shall contain all of the following information:

(1) A specification of the maximum portion of the incremental tax revenue of the city or county and of each affected taxing entity proposed to be committed to the district for each year during which the district will receive incremental tax revenue. The portion need not be the same for all affected taxing entities. The portion may change over time.

(2) A projection of the amount of tax revenues expected to be received by the district in each year during which the district will receive tax revenues, including an estimate of the amount of tax revenues attributable to each affected taxing entity for each year.

(3) A plan for financing the public facilities to be assisted by the district, including a detailed description of any intention to incur debt.

(4) A limit on the total number of dollars of taxes that may be allocated to the district pursuant to the plan.

(5) Either of the following:

(A) A date on which the district will cease to exist, by which time all tax allocation to the district will end.

~~The~~

*(i) For plans proposed on or after January 1, 2024, for districts enacted primarily for the purpose of development and construction of passenger rail projects in the County of Los Angeles, where at least 75 percent of the revenue from the district is used for debt service on a federal Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan, the date shall not be more than 75 years from the date on which the issuance of bonds is approved pursuant to Section 53398.77, or the issuance of a loan is approved by the governing board of a local agency pursuant to Section 53398.87. Starting 45 years after the issuance of the TIFIA loan, incremental tax revenue received shall only be used for the purposes of the TIFIA loan repayment, including debt service.*

*(ii) For all other districts, the date shall not be more than 45 years from the date on which the issuance of bonds is approved pursuant to Section 53398.77, or the issuance of a loan is approved by the governing board of a local agency pursuant to Section 53398.87.*

(B) If the district is divided into project areas, a date on which the infrastructure financing plan will cease to be in effect and all tax allocations to the district will end and a date on which the district's authority to repay indebtedness with incremental tax revenues received under this chapter will end, not to exceed 45 years from the date the district or the applicable project area has actually received one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in annual incremental tax revenues under this chapter. After the time limits established under this subparagraph, a district or project area shall not receive incremental tax revenues under this chapter. If the district is divided into project areas, a separate and unique time limit shall be applicable to each project area that does not exceed 45 years from the date the district has actually received one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in incremental tax revenues under this chapter from that project area.

(6) An analysis of the costs to the city or county of providing facilities and services to the area of the district while the area is being developed and after the area is developed. The plan shall also include an analysis of the tax, fee, charge, and other revenues expected to be received by the city or county as a result of expected development in the area of the district.

(7) An analysis of the projected fiscal impact of the district and the associated development upon each affected taxing entity.

(8) A plan for financing any potential costs that may be incurred by reimbursing a developer of a project that is both located entirely within the boundaries of that district and qualifies for the Transit Priority Project Program, pursuant to Section 65470, including any permit and affordable housing expenses related to the project.

(e) If any dwelling units within the territory of the district are proposed to be removed or destroyed in the course of public works construction within the area of the district or private development within the area of the district that is subject to a written agreement with the district or that is financed in whole or in part by the district, a plan providing for replacement of those units and relocation of those persons or families consistent with the requirements of Section 53398.56.

(f) The goals the district proposes to achieve for each project financed pursuant to Section 53398.52.

**SEC. 2.** *The Legislature finds and declares that a special statute is necessary and that a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the unique timelines of districts enacted primarily for the purpose of development and construction of zero-emission mass transit projects.*

~~SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:~~

~~(a) Nearly 50 percent of the state's greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation sector.~~

~~(b) According to the State Air Resources Board's 2022 scoping plan adopted pursuant to Section 38561 of the Health and Safety Code, the transition to zero-emission vehicles is not enough to meet the state's climate goals, with the state needing to also reduce vehicle miles traveled. Increasing the use of public transportation is critical to success.~~

~~(c) Transit use has been on the decline in California, both prior to, and concurrent with, the COVID-19 pandemic~~

~~due to various factors:~~

~~(d)The Legislature temporarily suspended performance metrics under the Transportation Development Act (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 99200) of Part 11 of Division 10 of the Public Utilities Code) and Congress provided short-term emergency funding relief to transit agencies to address the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on fare revenue and local funding support. However, the state has not developed new metrics to monitor the performance of public transit or new strategies to help transit agencies stabilize and ultimately grow public transit ridership.~~

~~(e)California transit agencies need additional funding to maintain a state of good repair, expand service, and grow transit ridership. State oversight is needed to ensure transit operators are providing a high-quality, reliable service.~~

~~SEC. 2. Section 13979.3 is added to the Government Code, to read:~~

~~13979.3.(a)On or before July 1, 2024, the secretary shall establish and convene the Transit Transformation Task Force.~~

~~(b)The task force shall include, but is not limited to, representatives from transit operators, both urban and rural, the Department of Transportation, the Controller's office, local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation planning organizations, transportation advocacy organizations with expertise in public transit, labor organizations, academic institutions, and other stakeholders, as appropriate, at the discretion of the secretary.~~

~~(c)The task force shall develop a structured, coordinated process for early engagement of all parties to develop policies to grow transit ridership and improve the transit experience for all users of those services.~~

~~(d)The secretary shall, in consultation with the task force, prepare and submit a report of findings based on the task force's efforts to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature on or before January 1, 2025.~~

~~(e)The report shall include, but is not limited to, a detailed analysis of the following issues:~~

~~(1)The services provided by transit agencies and the demographics of transit ridership, with detail on services provided, including persons with disabilities, or specific populations like low-income individuals and students.~~

~~(2)Existing funding sources for transit with a breakdown of funding available for capital and operations, including any constitutional and statutory limitations on these existing funding sources.~~

~~(3)The use of state transit funding for other modes, such as streets and roads.~~

~~(4)The cost to operate, maintain, and provide for the necessary future growth of transit systems for the next 10 years.~~

~~(5)The costs and operational impacts associated with federal, state, and local mandates including, but not limited to, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132) and the State Air Resources Board's Innovative Clean Transit regulations (Article 4.3 (commencing with Section 2023) of Chapter 1 of Division 3 of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations).~~

~~(6)Workforce recruitment, retention, and development challenges, impacting transit service.~~

~~(7)Existing policies on state and local metrics to measure transit performance.~~

~~(8)State and local policies that impact service efficiency and transit ridership including, but not limited to, transit prioritization on roads, land use, housing, and pricing policies.~~

~~(9)State departments and agencies that have responsibility for transit system oversight, grant administration, and reporting.~~

~~(f)The report shall also include, but is not limited to, recommendations on the following:~~

~~(1)How to improve mobility and increase ridership on transit, including, but not limited to:~~

~~(A)Service and fare coordination or integration between transit agencies.~~

~~(B)Coordinated scheduling, mapping, and wayfinding between transit agencies.~~



~~(C)Ensuring a safe and clean ride for passengers and operators:~~

~~(D)Increasing the frequency and reliability, through strategies that include, but are not limited to, the sharing of real-time transit information such as arrival and departure times and predictions, service alert data, and transit prioritization on roads:~~

~~(2)Changes to land use, housing, and pricing policies that could improve public transit use:~~

~~(3)Strategies to address workforce recruitment, retention, and development challenges:~~

~~(4)Replacing fare box recovery ratios and efficiency criteria required under the Transportation Development Act (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 99200) of Part 11 of Division 10 of the Public Utilities Code) with performance metrics that better measure transit operations, including usage, cost efficiency of operations, and service quality:~~

~~(5)The appropriate state department or agency to be responsible for transit system oversight and reporting:~~

~~(6)New options for state revenue sources to fund transit operations and capital projects to meet necessary future growth of transit systems for the next 10 years and to address mandates:~~

~~(7)The potential of transit-oriented development and value capture of property around transit stations as a source of sustainable revenue for transit operations:~~

~~(g)The task force may consult with the California Transportation Commission to use its work on the needs assessment prepared pursuant to Section 14518 of the Government Code regarding the identification of future transit capital and operational needs:~~

~~(h)This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2028, and as of that date is repealed.~~



Subject: SCAG Update September 2023

From: Erik Rodriguez, SCAG Sr. Government Affairs Officer;  
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**ACTION**

**UPDATES ON CONNECT SOCAL 2024 & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

This month, SCAG’s Joint Policy Committee recommended the draft Connect SoCal 2024 Plan to the Regional Council for approval to release for circulation in November. The committee heard a presentation previewing the contents of the Plan, which showcased key policies and strategies to be included in the draft Plan to address existing and emerging challenges facing the region. The presentation also showed how the Plan is based on the best available information and rooted in local planning and policy actions.

In anticipation of the draft Plan release, SCAG staff continue to engage key stakeholders and provide standing updates at SCAG’s policy committees and working groups. Further discussions, along with other necessary engagement and consultation with tribal governments, elected official briefings and public hearings, will occur during the public review period.

Following the public review and comment period, including a concurrent review and comment period for the program environmental impact report, the final Connect SoCal Plan is expected to be put forward for approval in April 2024. For the latest details on Connect SoCal 2024 development, visit [connectsocial.org](http://connectsocial.org).

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- Transportation  
Tim Sandoval, Pomona

**ACTION:**

**REGIONAL COUNCIL APPROVES RHNA REFORM RECCOMENDATIONS**

In September, the Regional Council approved the release of SCAG’s recommendations on the reformation of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process. These recommendations will be provided to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in a formal letter to be included in a report of recommendations to the California State Legislature.

On Aug. 16, SCAG staff presented a total of thirteen recommendations at a special meeting of the Community, Economic and Human Development Committee, with changes to the regional determination, methodology and appeals processes. The committee acted to recommend the draft recommendations be moved to the Regional Council for further action.

Some recommendations will also require legislation to implement changes while others will be evaluated as part of the 7th RHNA cycle. The Legislative/Communications & Membership

Committee will now use the recommendations to prepare multiple proposals for potential SCAG-sponsored bills and to advocate for bills containing high-priority RHNA reform concepts. SCAG will continue to monitor and report on HCD's process and explore ways to implement the approved recommendations.

As part of its statewide RHNA reform effort, HCD is soliciting comments until Sept. 15. For more information on SCAG's RHNA program, visit [scag.ca.gov/rhna](http://scag.ca.gov/rhna).

### **ACTION:**

#### **REGIONAL COUNCIL APPROVES UPDATES TO PATH GUIDELINES, RUSH CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

At its September meeting, the Regional Council approved updates to the Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing (PATH) guidelines, setting up the release of the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) Pilot Program Call for Applications this fall. This represents \$35 million from the Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) 2.0 Program that will be focused on funding utility infrastructure planning and shovel-ready capital improvements that will help meet housing production goals.

These updates incorporate input from the RUSH forum earlier this year and are part of ongoing work to distribute the \$237 million awarded to SCAG from the California Department of Housing & Community Development for the REAP 2.0 Program. SCAG staff continue work to launch funding programs focused on accelerating infill development, connecting infill housing to daily services and increasing travel options, and building capacity for planning innovation through data-driven decision-making tools. For more information, visit [scag.ca.gov/reap2021](http://scag.ca.gov/reap2021).

### **News from the President**

#### **DEMOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP PROGRAM NOW AVAILABLE**

Registration is open for the 34th annual Demographic Workshop, "The Seismic Generational Shift," hosted by SCAG and the USC Price School of Public Policy on Sept. 20. This event will take place at the SCAG Main Office in downtown Los Angeles, with an online broadcast for virtual viewing.

Workshop panels will explore continuing trends with the latest data, the state's new housing data infrastructure and generational change through the lens of the region's housing and jobs. Attending in person includes access to the full workshop program, including roundtable discussions with experts, networking, Q&A with the keynote speaker and full AICP credits.

To see the full program and register, visit [scag.ca.gov/demographics](http://scag.ca.gov/demographics).

### **News from the Executive Director**

#### **REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING 2.0 UPDATE**

In July, the HCD approved SCAG's full REAP 2.0 application, formally awarding \$246 million to the SCAG region. SCAG has issued Calls for Applications for five programs to sub-allocate a significant portion of the REAP 2.0 funds to eligible entities in the SCAG region. In July, the Regional Council approved the projects for the County Transportation Commission Partnership

Program. The Regional Council will consider the approval of awards for the Sustainable Communities Program, Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands Pilot Program and Notice of Funds Available for Lasting Affordability this fall. For more information, visit [scag.ca.gov/reap2021](https://scag.ca.gov/reap2021).

## **SCAG CLEAN CITIES REDESIGNATION**

SCAG Leadership met remotely last month with leadership from the Department of Energy's Clean Cities Coalition redesignation committee. SCAG Regional Council Second Vice President Cindy Allen, Immediate Past President Jan Harnik and Regional Council member Oscar Ortiz attended and shared their support for the program along with members of the SCAG Executive team who shared the importance of this work, as well as the California regulatory drivers and the need for more funding in this area.

SCAG staff provided a detailed presentation outlining SCAG's coalition structure, recent accomplishments, and activities and future work plan, highlighting the Passenger Electric Vehicle Atlas, the Zero Emission Truck Infrastructure Study and the Last Mile Freight Program. Stakeholder outreach and engagement were also demonstrated by participation from Clean Cities Coalition collaborators. A formal letter of redesignation is forthcoming. To learn more about SCAG's Clean Cities Coalition, visit [scag.ca.gov/clean-cities](https://scag.ca.gov/clean-cities).

## **GREENPRINT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE SECOND MEETING**

SCAG held the second meeting of the SoCal Greenprint Technical Advisory Committee on Aug. 28. The meeting included a discussion of potential draft data standards for identifying, evaluating and selecting data. This work supports the TAC's purpose of ensuring the future SoCal Greenprint tool is aligned with policy objectives identified in the approved Regional Advanced Mitigation Planning policy framework. The final TAC meeting is scheduled for Sept. 25 and will include discussions on revisions to the draft data standards, tool functionality and beta testing. After this final meeting, SCAG will continue to integrate committee input into staff recommendations for further development of the Greenprint tool, which will be brought to the Energy and Environment Committee in November for consideration.

**The full Executive Director's Report is available here:** <https://scag.ca.gov/edr-sep-23>

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

### SEPTEMBER

- 12th** Safe and Active Streets Working Group
- 19th** Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee
- 21st** Technical Working Group
- 25th** SoCal Greenprint Technical Advisory Committee
- 26th** Transportation Conformity Working Group
- 27th** Modeling Task Force

### OCTOBER

- 4th** Executive/Administration Committee
- 5th** Community, Economic and Human Development Committee
- 5th** Energy and Environment Committee
- 5th** Transportation Committee
- 5th** Regional Council
- 17th** Housing Working Group
- 24th** Transportation Conformity Working Group



# Calling All Southern California Municipal Elected Officials!

Join Us For The Inaugural Southern California Municipal Summit!

As we chart the course for Southern California, we will identify common issues and work to find solutions through unscripted conversations.

**Saturday, October 14, 2023**

12:00pm – 2:00pm

**Recreation Park – City of Long Beach**

4900 East 7th Street  
Long Beach, CA 90804

**RSVP to Dorina Mohan**

at [dmohan@beverlyhills.org](mailto:dmohan@beverlyhills.org) by 10/9/23

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**This event is a collaboration across multiple organizations including:**

CCCA President Julian Gold, M.D.

ICA President-Elect Richard Montgomery

Westside COG Chair Goran Eriksson

Gateway COG Chair Ariel Pe