



**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY – ANNUAL BUSINESS SESSION**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023**

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

The General Assembly of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its Business Session at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa, Sinatra Ballroom, 74-855 Country Club Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260. A quorum was present.

Delegate and/or Alternate Representatives from the following Cities, Counties and County Transportation Commissions were in attendance:

**Imperial County:** Brawley, Calexico, Calipatria, El Centro, Holtville, Imperial, and the County of Imperial

**Los Angeles County:** Agoura Hills, Azusa, Bell, Bell Gardens, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Cudahy, Diamond Bar, Downey, Duarte, Gardena, Glendora, Hermosa Beach, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, Lakewood, Lomita, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Manhattan Beach, Maywood, Montebello, Monterey Park, Norwalk, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Fernando, San Marino, Santa Clarita, Santa Fe Springs, Santa Monica, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South Gate, South Pasadena, Temple City, Torrance, Vernon, Walnut, West Hollywood, and Westlake Village

**Orange County:** Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Dana Point, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, La Habra, La Palma, Lake Forest, Los Alamitos, Mission Viejo, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, San Juan Capistrano, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, and the County of Orange

**Riverside County:** Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Cathedral City, Coachella, Corona, Desert Hot Springs, Eastvale, Hemet, Indian Wells, Indio, Jurupa Valley, Lake Elsinore, La Quinta, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Palm Desert, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, and Wildomar



**San Bernardino County:** Adelanto, Apple Valley, Big Bear Lake, Chino, Chino Hills, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Montclair, Needles, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Rialto, Twentynine Palms, Upland, Victorville, Yucca Valley, and the County of San Bernardino

**Ventura County:** Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Ventura, and the County of Ventura

**County Transportation Commissions:** Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC), Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) and Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC)

**Staff Present**

- Kome Ajise, Executive Director
- Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
- Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
- Carmen Flores, Chief Human Resources Officer
- Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
- Sarah Jepson, Chief Planning Officer
- Javiera Cartagena, Chief Government and Public Affairs Officer
- Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
- Michael Houston, Chief Counsel/Director Legal Services
- Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
- Maggie Aguilar, Clerk of the Board
- Cecilia Pulido, Deputy Clerk of the Board

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

SCAG President Jan C. Harnik, representing RCTC, called the meeting to order at 11:26 a.m. President Harnik welcomed attendees to SCAG’s Annual General Assembly meeting.

President Harnik asked Supervisor Curt Hagman, representing the County of San Bernardino, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Harnik opened the Public Comment Period and outlined instructions for public comments. She noted this was the time for persons to comment on any matter pertinent to SCAG’s jurisdiction that were not listed on the agenda. She reminded the public to submit comments via email to [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov).

The Clerk of the Board acknowledged there no written public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

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

### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEM/S**

There was no reprioritization of agenda items.

### **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-24 General Fund Budget and Membership Assessment Schedule

There were no public comments on Item No. 1.

Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer, provided a report on the Fiscal year 2023-24 General Fund Budget and Membership Assessment schedule. She indicated that the general fund budget, while relatively small in terms of dollars which was \$3.1 million, was large in the sense of the importance of the work that it's funds. She reported that the general fund supports the work of the Regional Council and its subcommittees, pays for their regional legislative and lobbying efforts, and funds a portion of this regional conference and General Assembly event. She indicated that the general fund supports these efforts predominantly through the membership dues of its participating agencies. Additionally, she noted that the SCAG by laws dictate the manner in which the assessments are calculated and are allocated amongst the agencies, and that the membership schedule before them was in complete compliance with those guidelines. She explained that by adopting the resolution before them the General Assembly was also authorizing the Executive Administration Committee to amend the General Fund budget, if needed, with no impact to the membership assessments.

Laurie Stone, City of Murrieta, stated that she noticed that the sponsorship costs in fiscal year 2022 was \$99,540 and the budget request is \$165,000. She asked why such an increase given that the actual cost was lower and also asked the projected sponsorship costs for fiscal year 2023.

Ms. Giraldo stated that the actual costs incurred in fiscal year 2022 was actually quite a bit lower at \$99,000 and that was because they were just coming out of COVID and there was actually less opportunities to provide those sponsorships. She indicated that the budget had actually remained the same, there was no increase, it was budgeted at \$165,000 in fiscal year 2023, and was proposed to remain at that same level in fiscal year 2024.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

A MOTION was made (Hagman, County of San Bernardino) that the General Assembly: 1) Adopt the Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY 2023-24) General Fund Budget and Membership Assessment Schedule; and 2) Authorize the Executive Administration Committee to make administrative amendments to the FY 2023-24 General Fund Budget that do not impact the Membership Assessment Schedule, including amending the General Fund Budget approved by the General Assembly, when such exceedance is necessary to execute or implement the operational activities and the exceedance can be covered by the Unassigned General Fund balance. Motion was SECONDED (Shapiro, Calabasas) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** **Imperial County:** G. Nava, Brawley; Garcia, Calexico; Luellen, Calipatria; Cardenas-Singh, El Centro; Goodsell, Holtville; Amparano, Imperial; and Plancarte, County of Imperial; **Los Angeles County:** Anstead, Agoura Hills; Beckwith, Azusa; Saleh, Bell; Barcena, Bell Gardens; Mirisch, Beverly Hills; Shapiro, Calabasas; Hilton, Carson; Yokoyama, Cerritos; Leano, Claremont; Fuentes, Cudahy; Low, Diamond Bar; Frometa, Downey; Finlay, Duarte; Henderson, Gardena; Boyer, Glendora; Jackson, Hermosa Beach; M. Ortiz, Irwindale; Eich, La Cañada Flintridge; Zezula, La Habra Heights; Sarega, La Mirada; Pe, Lakewood; Waronek, Lomita; Allen, Long Beach; Richardson, Long Beach; Harris-Dawson, Los Angeles; Park, Los Angeles; Solache, Lynwood; Franklin, Manhattan Beach; de la Riva, Maywood; Melendez, Montebello; Wong, Monterey Park; Ramirez, Norwalk; Delgadillo, Paramount; Camacho, Pico Rivera; Cruikshank, Rancho Palos Verdes; Zerunyan, Rolling Hills Estates; M. Clark, Rosemead; Ebner, San Dimas; Rodriguez, San Fernando; Chou, San Marino; McLean, Santa Clarita; Martin, Santa Fe Springs; Brock, Santa Monica; Lowe, Sierra Madre; Copeland, Signal Hill; Rios, South Gate; Braun, South Pasadena; Sternquist, Temple City; Griffiths, Torrance; Merlo, Vernon; Tragarz, Walnut; Meister, West Hollywood; and Davis, Westlake Village; **Orange County:** Aitken, Anaheim; Simonoff, Brea; Brown, Buena Park; Reynolds, Costa Mesa; Minikus, Cypress; Gabbard, Dana Point; Harper, Fountain Valley; Jung, Fullerton; Burns, Huntington Beach; Espinoza, La Habra; Goodman, La Palma; Cirbo, Lake Forest; Doby, Los Alamitos; Bucknum, Mission Viejo; Kleiman, Newport Beach; Dumitru, Orange; Smith, Placentia; Campbell, San Juan Capistrano; Kalmick, Seal Beach; Shawver, Stanton; L. Clark, Tustin; Pitts, Villa Park; and Wagner, County of Orange; **Riverside County:** Wallace, Banning; Martinez, Beaumont; Molina, Calimesa; Welty, Canyon Lake; Lamb, Cathedral City; Delgado, Coachella; Speake, Corona; Betts, Desert Hot Springs; Lorimore, Eastvale; Krupa, Hemet; Reed, Indian Wells; Ortiz, Indio; Berkson, Jurupa Valley; Manos, Lake Elsinore; Evans, La Quinta; Cabrera, Moreno Valley; Levell,

Murrieta; Bash, Norco; Kelly, Palm Desert; M. Nava, Perris; Edwards, Riverside; Ruiz, San Jacinto; Schwank, Temecula; and Morabito, Wildomar; **San Bernardino County:** Ramos, Adelanto; Bishop, Apple Valley; Putz, Big Bear Lake; Lucio, Chino; Marquez, Chino Hills; Navarro, Colton; Cothran, Fontana; Hussey, Grand Terrace; Martinez, Montclair; Jernigan, Needles; Dorst-Porada, Ontario; Scott, Rancho Cucamonga; Saucedo, Redlands; Robertson, Rialto; Klink, Twentynine Palms; Breitling, Upland; Jones, Victorville; Denison, Yucca Valley; and Hagman, County of San Bernardino; **Ventura County:** Broggie, Fillmore; Groff, Moorpark; Stix, Ojai; Hernandez, Port Hueneme; Crosswhite, Santa Paula; Rhodes, Simi Valley; Adam; Thousand Oaks; Sanchez-Palacios, Ventura; and Lopez, County of Ventura; **County Transportation Commissions:** Nava-Froelich, ICTC; Goodell, OCTA; Harnik, RCTC; Dutrey, SBCTA; and Judge, VCTC (140)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

2. Ratification of 2023-24 Slate of Elected SCAG Officers and the Honorific Title of President In Memoriam for Former First Vice President Carmen Ramirez

There were no public comments on Item No. 2.

Ruben Duran, Board Counsel, provided a report on the annual election of SCAG's Officers per the procedures noted in the Bylaws. He noted the slate of officers as follows:

- For the position of President: Art Brown, representing Buena Park RC District 21;
- For the position of First Vice President: Curt Hagman, representing San Bernardino County; and
- For the position of Second Vice President: Cindy Allen, representing Long Beach RC District 30.

He confirmed that each of these individuals met the qualification as laid out in the bylaws. He explained that the Nominating Committee presented this slate of officers to the Regional Council at its April meeting and the Regional Council voted unanimously in favor. He also reported that the Regional Council also recommended that the General Assembly bestow the honorific title on the late Carmen Ramirez of Regional Council President In Memoriam for the 2023-2024 term.

The comprehensive staff report was included in the agenda packet and posted on the SCAG website. The meeting video is also available on the SCAG website.

A MOTION was made (Solache, Lynwood) to ratify the Regional Council's: 1) election of the 2023-2024 SCAG officers; and 2) conferring the honorific title of President *In Memoriam* upon former First Vice President Carmen Ramirez. Motion was SECONDED (Yokoyama, Cerritos) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** **Imperial County:** G. Nava, Brawley; Garcia, Calexico; Luellen, Calipatria; Cardenas-Singh, El Centro; Goodsell, Holtville; Amparano, Imperial; and Plancarte, County of Imperial; **Los Angeles County:** Anstead, Agoura Hills; Beckwith, Azusa; Saleh, Bell; Barcena, Bell Gardens; Mirisch, Beverly Hills; Shapiro, Calabasas; Hilton, Carson; Yokoyama, Cerritos; Leano, Claremont; Fuentes, Cudahy; Low, Diamond Bar; Frometa, Downey; Finlay, Duarte; Henderson, Gardena; Boyer, Glendora; Jackson, Hermosa Beach; M. Ortiz, Irwindale; Eich, La Cañada Flintridge; Zezula, La Habra Heights; Sarega, La Mirada; Pe, Lakewood; Waronek, Lomita; Allen, Long Beach; Richardson, Long Beach; Harris-Dawson, Los Angeles; Park, Los Angeles; Solache, Lynwood; Franklin, Manhattan Beach; de la Riva, Maywood; Melendez, Montebello; Wong, Monterey Park; Ramirez, Norwalk; Delgadillo, Paramount; Camacho, Pico Rivera; Cruikshank, Rancho Palos Verdes; Zerunyan, Rolling Hills Estates; M. Clark, Rosemead; Ebiner, San Dimas; Rodriguez, San Fernando; Chou, San Marino; McLean, Santa Clarita; Martin, Santa Fe Springs; Brock, Santa Monica; Lowe, Sierra Madre; Copeland, Signal Hill; Rios, South Gate; Braun, South Pasadena; Sternquist, Temple City; Griffiths, Torrance; Merlo, Vernon; Tragarz, Walnut; Meister, West Hollywood; and Davis, Westlake Village; **Orange County:** Aitken, Anaheim; Simonoff, Brea; Brown, Buena Park; Reynolds, Costa Mesa; Minikus, Cypress; Gabbard, Dana Point; Harper, Fountain Valley; Jung, Fullerton; Tran, Garden Grove; Burns, Huntington Beach; Espinoza, La Habra; Goodman, La Palma; Cirbo, Lake Forest; Doby, Los Alamitos; Bucknum, Mission Viejo; Kleiman, Newport Beach; Smith, Placentia; Campbell, San Juan Capistrano; Kalmick, Seal Beach; Shawver, Stanton; L. Clark, Tustin; Pitts, Villa Park; and Wagner, County of Orange; **Riverside County:** Wallace, Banning; Martinez, Beaumont; Molina, Calimesa; Welty, Canyon Lake; Lamb, Cathedral City; Delgado, Coachella; Speake, Corona; Betts, Desert Hot Springs; Lorimore, Eastvale; Krupa, Hemet; Reed, Indian Wells; Ortiz, Indio; Berkson, Jurupa Valley; Manos, Lake Elsinore; Evans, La Quinta; Cabrera, Moreno Valley; Levell, Murrieta; Bash, Norco; Kelly, Palm Desert; M. Nava, Perris; Edwards, Riverside; Ruiz, San Jacinto; Schwank, Temecula; and Morabito, Wildomar; **San Bernardino County:** Bishop, Apple Valley; Putz, Big Bear Lake; Lucio, Chino; Marquez, Chino Hills; Navarro, Colton; Cothran, Fontana; Hussey, Grand Terrace; Martinez, Montclair; Jernigan, Needles; Dorst-Porada, Ontario; Scott, Rancho Cucamonga; Saucedo, Redlands; Robertson, Rialto; Klink, Twentynine Palms; Breitling, Upland; Jones, Victorville; Denison, Yucca Valley; and Hagman, County of San Bernardino; **Ventura County:** Broggie, Fillmore; Groff, Moorpark; Stix, Ojai; Hernandez, Port Hueneme;



Crosswhite, Santa Paula; Rhodes, Simi Valley; Adam; Thousand Oaks; Sanchez-Palacios, Ventura; and Lopez, County of Ventura; **County Transportation Commissions:** Nava-Froelich, ICTC; Goodell, OCTA; Harnik, RCTC; Dutrey, SBCTA; and Judge, VCTC (139)

**NOES:** **Orange County:** Dumitru, Orange (1)

**ABSTAIN:** None (0)

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Approval Item

3. Minutes of the Meeting of the General Assembly – May 5, 2022

A MOTION was made (Simonoff, Brea) to approve Consent Calendar Item No. 3. Motion was SECONDED (Finlay, Duarte) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** **Imperial County:** G. Nava, Brawley; Garcia, Calexico; Luellen, Calipatria; Cardenas-Singh, El Centro; Goodsell, Holtville; Amparano, Imperial; and Plancarte, County of Imperial; **Los Angeles County:** Anstead, Agoura Hills; Beckwith, Azusa; Saleh, Bell; Barcena, Bell Gardens; Mirisch, Beverly Hills; Shapiro, Calabasas; Hilton, Carson; Yokoyama, Cerritos; Leano, Claremont; Fuentes, Cudahy; Low, Diamond Bar; Frometa, Downey; Finlay, Duarte; Henderson, Gardena; Boyer, Glendora; Jackson, Hermosa Beach; Eich, La Cañada Flintridge; Zezula, La Habra Heights; Pe, Lakewood; Waronek, Lomita; Allen, Long Beach; Richardson, Long Beach; Harris-Dawson, Los Angeles; Park, Los Angeles; Solache, Lynwood; de la Riva, Maywood; Melendez, Montebello; Delgadillo, Paramount; Cruikshank, Rancho Palos Verdes; Zerunyan, Rolling Hills Estates; M. Clark, Rosemead; Ebiner, San Dimas; Rodriguez, San Fernando; McLean, Santa Clarita; Martin, Santa Fe Springs; Brock, Santa Monica; Lowe, Sierra Madre; Copeland, Signal Hill; Rios, South Gate; Braun, South Pasadena; Sternquist, Temple City; Griffiths, Torrance; Tragarz, Walnut; Meister, West Hollywood; and Davis, Westlake Village; **Orange County:** Simonoff, Brea; Brown, Buena Park; Minikus, Cypress; Gabbard, Dana Point; Harper, Fountain Valley; Tran, Garden Grove; Espinoza, La Habra; Goodman, La Palma; Cirbo, Lake Forest; Doby, Los Alamitos; Bucknum, Mission Viejo; Dumitru, Orange; Smith, Placentia; Campbell, San Juan Capistrano; Kalmick, Seal Beach; Shawver, Stanton; L. Clark, Tustin; Pitts, Villa Park; and Wagner, County of Orange; **Riverside County:** Wallace, Banning;

Martinez, Beaumont; Molina, Calimesa; Lamb, Cathedral City; Delgado, Coachella; Speake, Corona; Betts, Desert Hot Springs; Lorimore, Eastvale; Krupa, Hemet; Reed, Indian Wells; Ortiz, Indio; Berkson, Jurupa Valley; Manos, Lake Elsinore; Evans, La Quinta; Cabrera, Moreno Valley; Levell, Murrieta; Bash, Norco; Kelly, Palm Desert; M. Nava, Perris; Edwards, Riverside; Ruiz, San Jacinto; Schwank, Temecula; and Morabito, Wildomar; **San Bernardino County:** Bishop, Apple Valley; Putz, Big Bear Lake; Lucio, Chino; Marquez, Chino Hills; Navarro, Colton; Cothran, Fontana; Hussey, Grand Terrace; Martinez, Montclair; Jernigan, Needles; Dorst-Porada, Ontario; Scott, Rancho Cucamonga; Robertson, Rialto; Breitling, Upland; Denison, Yucca Valley; and Hagman, County of San Bernardino; **Ventura County:** Broggie, Fillmore; Groff, Moorpark; Stix, Ojai; Hernandez, Port Hueneme; Crosswhite, Santa Paula; Rhodes, Simi Valley; Adam; Thousand Oaks; and Lopez, County of Ventura; **County Transportation Commissions:** Nava-Froelich, ICTC; Goodell, OCTA; Harnik, RCTC; Dutrey, SBCTA; and Judge, VCTC (122)

**NOES:** None (0)

**ABSTAIN:** **Orange County:** Jung, Fullerton; Burns, Huntington Beach (2)

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Harnik shared that on behalf of the Regional Council she was pleased to share that they had produced a report covering the accomplishments of the agency over the past year. She noted that the President's Report – Year in Review for 2022-2023 was available on the SCAG website.

#### **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING PRESIDENT JAN C. HARNIK**

Kome Ajise, Executive Director, expressed that it was a great time for them to reflect on the past year and noted that it had been a busy 12 months but a rewarding 12 months, nonetheless. He indicated that they had accomplished quite a bit this past year, which was due to the tireless efforts of their leadership, the Regional Council members, all of them and staff. He stated that they were practicing what they preached, truly innovating for a better tomorrow. He thanked the outgoing President for helping them move the ball forward. (A video was play highlighting the year in review, which also provided a glimpse into what they had been up to the past 12 months.) Executive Director Ajise expressed that they spent this past year building on the momentum of being able to come together in person and collaborate on many vital projects. He stated they were going out and about visiting cities throughout the region and leading the charge was President Harnik who spent countless hours and traveled several miles -- through Southern California, Sacramento and Washington -- working to advocate for this agency. He further expressed that President Harnik had been a champion for SCAG and Southern California and that her work was a testament to the leadership and a desire to serve the 90 million people of their region.

President Harnik was presented a proclamation on behalf of the Regional Council.

President Harnik stated that it had been an amazing year. She thanked Executive Director Ajise for really being there for her and answering her questions. She expressed that the staff was amazing, the team that has been there to support Regional Council and all the Policy Committees. She thanked everyone who was present. She stated this has been one of those experiences in her lifetime that she will never forget. She expressed that serving Southern California and, in this capacity, has been incredible in the 12 short months. She stated that one of her biggest goals when she first stepped into this position was to continue the energy from the past two presidencies. She indicated that they went through tough times with COVID and thought that everybody was just ready to leave it behind. She indicated that sometimes they were unfortunately defined by their differences and really what made them strong was when they focused on the qualities that they shared. She stated that when they stop and listen to each other they build that foundation of caring and kindness which makes them stronger and able to do great things for their community and for this region. She expressed that when they come together, they build greatness, and they build the ability to do the right things for each other. She indicated that by working together they can build that mobility network that they need and can get broadband which is one of those magic things that brings them together. She congratulated the new President Art Brown and recognized past Presidents who were present. Lastly, she noted that staff at SCAG had been so supportive and made the work that much easier with their knowledge, their comfort and their ability to share information had made things great. She thanked them all and expressed that it was a great honor to serve this region.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, outgoing President Jan Harnik adjourned the General Assembly meeting at 12:07 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY]

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