



Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority

DATE: February 3, 2022
TO: Governing Board
FROM: Dan Brotman, Council Member, City of Glendale
SUBJECT: SCAG Energy & Environment Committee Report for AVCJPA Meeting

RECOMMENDATION:

This report is being provided as information only.

BACKGROUND:

Since the last meeting of the AVCJPA, SCAG's Energy & Environment Committee (EEC) met on January 6, 2022 (no December meeting).

The EEC took action on the following action item:

- Recommend that the Regional Council (RC) approve transmittal to the South Coast Air Quality Management District of the Draft 2022 Air Quality Management Plan Appendix IV-C Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and Transportation Control Measures

Additionally, the following information items were provided to the EEC during the meeting:

- 2021 Student Showcase
 - Staff provided a briefing on the results of the 2021 Student Showcase, which is a virtual StoryMap competition with two award categories: Innovation and Planning.
 - Eleven projects from nine different colleges and universities were received, and four winners were selected:
 - PLANNING CATEGORY
 - 1st Place – \$2,000 Prize – Reagan Murphy – University of Southern California: Surviving SoCal's Streets: The Case for Vision Zero
 - 2nd Place – \$1,000 Prize – Lacy Gugliemino – Crafton Hills College: To Reach It, We Have to Teach It!
 - INNOVATION CATEGORY
 - 1st Place – \$2,000 Prize – Irene Farr** – University of California, Los Angeles: Identifying Hidden Open Spaces
 - 2nd Place – \$1,000 Prize – Adam Doyle* – California State University, Long Beach: Gas to Green

- ICARP 2021 State Climate Adaptation Strategy & Natural Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy
 - The State of California recently released these two important strategies related to climate change.
 - SCAG provided comment letters to the State on behalf of Southern California on how each strategy could be tailored to suit the needs of the region.
 - Staff from the California Natural Resources Agency provided the EEC an overview of both documents and the opportunities they present for Southern California.

- Cooling Long Beach – Urban Heat Island Mitigation
 - The Cooling Long Beach project is one of several projects the City of Long Beach is working on to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - This project specifically helps to implement measures that are identified in the Long Beach Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and General Plan, such as policies aimed at creating a more resilient and sustainable community.
 - The City of Long Beach partnered with SCAG, Alta, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles, and the Washington Neighborhood Association to study the impacts of extreme heat on the Washington Neighborhood and develop a toolkit of strategies to cool its sidewalks, streets, and alleyways.
 - Funding for this project was awarded by SCAG as part of the Sustainable Communities Program.

- SCAG Climate Action Resolution Quarterly Update
 - On January 7, 2021, SCAG’s Regional Council adopted Resolution 21-628-1 affirming a climate change crisis in Southern California and called on SCAG and other local and regional partners to join together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve regional resilience, and reduce hazards from a changing climate.
 - This action will help to promote climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience in the SCAG region.
 - Quarterly updates are provided to the EEC on the agency’s progress in addressing the action steps of the resolution.
 - Over the last year, SCAG has been working to:
 - Develop a regional resilience framework to help the region plan and prepare for a changing climate and other potential near-and long-term disruptions to Southern California;
 - Initiate a regional climate planning network that will provide technical assistance for local climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives;
 - Provide resource support and technical assistance for local jurisdictions to integrate climate planning in their local planning activities;
 - Initiate a Regional Advanced Mitigation Program (RAMP) as described in the Connect SoCal Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR);
 - Develop a work plan to advance the Accelerated Electrification strategy envisioned in Connect SoCal;
 - Evaluate the economic and job creation benefits of climate adaptation and mitigation practices for inclusion in regional planning efforts; and

- Develop climate adaptation and mitigation analysis and strategies for the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS).
- Additionally, SCAG will continue to develop programs and outreach strategies to support near- term adaptation to address regionally significant vulnerabilities and long-term regional resilience planning.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.