



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

DATE: **Thursday, November 19, 2020**
TIME: **10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
LOCATION : **Zoom Meeting at ICTC Offices**

Chairperson: County of Imperial

Vice-Chair: City of Brawley

Individuals wishing accessibility accommodations at this meeting, under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), may request such accommodations to aid hearing, visual, or mobility impairment by contacting ICTC offices at (760) 592-4494. Please note that 48 hours advance notice will be necessary to honor your request.

Due to the COVID-19 and Executive Order N-25-20, teleconferencing is recommended for the public, however measures will be taken to have access for those who wish to participate in person while still abiding by local, state and federal mandates. Following is teleconference information.

To join the Zoom Meeting by computer using video and audio, please click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/96732871822?pwd=S053L2MyR2VhcThlaHRSUFpFbHdQZz09>

The meeting ID and Password are below in the event you may need them.

To join by phone please dial (669) 900-9128
Meeting ID: 967 3287 1822#
Password: 049736#

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any member of the public may address the Committee for a period not to exceed three minutes on any item of interest not on the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Committee. The Committee will listen to all communication, but in compliance with the Brown Act, will not take any actions on items that are not on the agenda.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Introductions
2. Adoption of Minutes for October 22, 2020 *Action*
3. Regional Climate Action Plan Presentation 20 minutes
Presented by: Poonam Boparai from Ascent Environmental and Team
4. ICTC Updates / Announcements 10 minutes
Presented by ICTC Staff
 - a. Transit Planning Updates
 - b. Transportation Planning Updates
-CMAQ and STBG Call for projects

**CITIES OF BRAWLEY, CALEXICO, CALIPATRIA, EL CENTRO, HOLTVILLE, IMPERIAL, WESTMORLAND,
IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND COUNTY OF IMPERIAL**

- c. FFY 2019-20 Programmed Project Updates
 - d. LTA Bond Updates: 2012 & 2018
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- 5. SCAG Updates / Announcements / Informational Item 10 minutes
Information Item: 2020-2021 Sustainable Communities Program
Presented: SCAG
 - 6. Cities and County Planning / Public Works Updates 10 minutes
All
 - 7. Caltrans Updates / Announcements 10 minutes
Presented by Caltrans Staff
 - 8. General Discussion / New Business 5 minutes
All
 - 9. Adjournment

The next meeting of the ICTC TAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 17, 2020. For questions you may call Marlene Flores at (760) 592-4494 or contact by email at marleneflores@imperialctc.org



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TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

October 22, 2020

Present:

Guillermo Sillas	City of Brawley
Abraham Campos	City of El Centro
Veronica Atondo	County of Imperial
Isabel Garcia	City of Imperial
Lily Falomir	City of Calexico
George Galvan	City of Calipatria
Frank Fiorenza	IID

Others:

Marlene Flores	ICTC
David Salgado	SCAG
Gordon Gaste	City of Brawley
Manuel Cabrera	City of Brawley
Andres Miramontes	City of Brawley
Ana Gutierrez	City of Brawley
Javier Luna	City of El Centro
Christian Rodriguez	City of El Centro
Angel Hernandez	City of El Centro
Felix DeLeon	City of El Centro
Catherine Gutierrez	City of El Centro
Rachel Fonseca	City of Westmorland
Kariza Preciado	City of Holtville
Ben Guerrero	Caltrans
Kevin Hovey	Caltrans
Victor Garcia	Holt Group
Lorianne Esturas	SCAG
Kimberly Clark	SCAG
David Von Stroh	Cambridge Systematics
Reema Shakra	
Greig Asher	
Adriana Amezcua	

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The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. A quorum was present, and introductions were made. There were no public comments made.

1. Introductions
2. A *motion* was made to adopt the minutes for September 24, 2020 (**Galvan/Falomir**) **Motion Carried.**

3. **Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Presentation:** SCAG Climate Adaptation Framework (*Presented by: Lorianne Esturas, Assistant Regional Planner*)
SCAG and Consultant team provided an overview of the SoCal Climate Adaptation Framework to TAC members. SCAG shared new tools for local jurisdictions on communication and outreach strategies that can help local agencies and community-based organizations engage with residents to understand better how climate related hazards are affecting community members. As part of the overall Framework, SCAG will be working with local municipalities to assess the unique issues affecting the SCAG region, available planning tools and resources, scientific data, and messaging strategies. After the presentation, Q&A time was open for TAC members. Angel Hernandez from the City of El Centro requested an example of the General Plan Model Policies and other local agencies as well were interested.

SCAG will host a “Southern California Regional Climate Adaptation Framework” Toolbox on Tuesday, December 8th from 10:00-11:00a.m. The training will give a more in-depth walk-through of the Adaptation Framework tools and resources.

4. ICTC Updates / Announcements

(*Presented by ICTC Staff*)

- a. **Transit Planning Updates-** Marlene Flores provided a brief update on transit. Based on the current events surrounding the COVID-19 Pandemic, ICTC is still operating under COVID-19 requirements.
 - b. **Transportation Planning Updates (by Marlene Flores):**
 - **Regional Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update**
Marlene Flores provided a quick update on the Regional CAP. ICTC is in the process of conducting Stakeholder meetings to gain insights from local agencies and hear their ideas on how the greenhouse (GHG) reduction measures ICTC is considering can be most effective for the community.
The stakeholder meetings are scheduled for October 27th through November 5th for a one-hour meeting on one of those days. A Doodle Poll was created for stakeholders to provide their availability. ICTC encourages stakeholders to provide their available times no later than October 23, 2020.
 - c. **FFY 2019-20 Programmed Project Updates**
 - Beginning October 1, 2020 agencies are allowed to move forward with request for authorization (RFA) for CMAQ, STBG and ATP programmed in FY2020/2021. A list of projects is part of the agenda. Agencies provided a quick update on their projects. Ben Guerrero asked if we can provide the list of projects and he will add comments to each project.
 - d. **LTA Bond Updates: 2012 and 2018**
 - Brawley provided an update on their LTA Bond for 2012. Brawley completed the process to submit.
5. **SCAG Updates / Announcements (by David Salgado)**

- **The 11th Annual Southern California Economic Summit:** On Tuesday, Dec. 1, SCAG will host the Southern California Economic Summit virtually for the first time in its 11-year history. This annual conversation about the state of the region's economy comes at a time of unprecedented crisis. General admission tickets are \$50. The ticket fee may be waived for elected officials and city managers of SCAG's member jurisdictions. There will be no general admission refunds after Nov. 9. Online registration closes Nov. 30.
- **2020 SCAG Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) Grant Program:** SCAG has approved the 2020 SCP grant guidelines. The FY 2020/2021 program will fund projects in the following areas that support and implement the policies and initiatives of the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), Connect SoCal: Active Transportation & Safety; Housing and Sustainability; Smart Cities, Mobility Innovation & Transportation Demand Management; and Green Region.

6. Cities and County Planning / Public Works Updates:

- Local agencies gave an update on their local projects in progress.

7. Caltrans Updates / Announcements (By: Ben Guerrero)

Local Assistance: Ben Guerrero provided updates on local assistance.

Inactive Projects- As of October 9, 2020, the INACTIVE and Future Inactive list was updated. Action is required by the Imperial County Transportation Commission, as well as these cities: Brawley and El Centro. November 20, 2020 is the deadline to submit Inactive invoices. District 11 must receive accurate and complete invoices to prevent de-obligation of federal funds! Verify on the "Inactive" link shown below for Inactive Project dates.

November 2, 2020 – Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 10 Call for Projects (update) Caltrans Division of Local Assistance announced the local HSIP Cycle 10 Call-for-Projects on May 5, 2020. The application deadline is November 2, 2020.

November 2020 – New Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Call for Projects (due in April 2021) An announcement calling for new Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) projects is anticipated in November 2020. The deadline for "FLAPplications" is expected to be in April 2021. The outreach plan is to schedule webinars that assist tribal and local agencies, as well as Caltrans, with this process.

At-Risk Preliminary Engineering (PE) – Office Bulletin (OB) 20-03

Caltrans Division of Local Assistance released OB 20-03 on August 11, 2020, with these policy changes:

Except for projects with federal funds that require California Transportation Commission (CTC) allocation (Active Transportation Program, Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, State Transportation Improvement Program, etc.), local agencies may begin reimbursable Preliminary Engineering (PE) work prior to receiving federal authorization for such work, assuming the project and PE phase are included in a federally-approved Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) document or an FSTIP amendment prior to incurring costs. Programming projects in the FSTIP or starting reimbursed work prior to authorization does not necessarily ensure a project is eligible for federal aid reimbursement. National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) approval will not occur until subsequent Right of Way and Construction phases are identified as fully funded and programmed in the FTIP.

FHWA Virtual Tradeshow Resources- The Tribal, Rural and Local Road Safety Virtual Tradeshow is available via this FHWA website.

This Virtual Booth links to many safety resources (reports, brochures, videos, etc.) on the FHWA Safety website.

New Caltrans Architectural & Engineering (A&E) Oversight Videos Online- Now available are short videos about key topics on the A&E Resources.

Federal Aid Series Recordings Now Available for Project Contract Administration- Recording of a recently delivered class is now available online. Training focuses on both State and federal aid highway projects.

8. General Discussion / New Business

- A brief update for next TAC meeting. ICTC will have a presentation for the Regional Climate Action Plan.
- Next TAC meeting will be on November 19, 2020 via Zoom.

9. Meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.



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Memorandum

Date: November 13, 2020
To: ICTC Management Committee and Commission Members
From: Mark Baza, Executive Director
Re: Executive Director's Report

The following is a summary of the Executive Director's Report for the ICTC Management Committee and Commission Meetings on November 18, 2020

- 1) **IVRMA Program Report:** An IVRMA Program Report is attached to the agenda after the Executive Director report.
- 2) **Imperial Mexicali Binational Alliance Meeting:** The most recent IMBA meeting was held via Zoom on Thursday, August 12, 2020. The meeting provided updates on the following border infrastructure projects - Calexico East Port of Entry/Mexicali II Bridge Widening Project and the Calexico West Port of Entry/Mexicali Mexico Roadway/Bridge Improvements. *A second strategic planning meeting between Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signee representatives was held on November 12, 2020 via zoom. Committee members reviewed action plans and priorities along with strategic objectives for 2021. Next IMBA meeting will be January 21, 2020.*
- 3) **SR-78/Glamis Multiuse Grade Separated Crossing Feasibility Study:** The study will analyze and develop feasible design alternatives and locations for a Grade Separated Crossing (GSC) for Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use at or near SR-78 and the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) in Imperial County. The successful consultant will provide conceptual GSC design alternatives, analysis of site alternatives, public/stakeholder outreach and cost estimates for construction, operations and maintenance. The consultant selection process was completed on September 25th. The consultant selected was Kleinfelder. A kick-off meeting was held on Wednesday, October 9, 2019. The first technical working group meeting was held on October 24, 2019. The second technical working group meeting was held on December 10, 2019 at the ICTC office in El Centro. *A project page has been created on the ICTC website at <http://www.imperialctc.org/sr-78-glamis-crossing/>. As part of the outreach plan, an online survey was open to the public from January 1st through January 31st, where over 4,000 people completed the survey. A public outreach event was held in Glamis on January 18, 2020 from 9am to 3pm. The third technical working group (TWG) meeting was held on February 13, 2020 in San Diego at Caltrans District 11 offices. The fifth TWG meeting was held on July 19, 2020 where the consultant presented estimates for the short list alternatives. Two virtual public meeting were held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM and one on Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. There were near 50 participants at each meeting with many questions answered during each virtual meeting. Recordings of both meetings are posted on the project page of the ICTC website. Also, the public comment period ended on November 9, 2020. The draft final report will remain open for comments from the Technical Working Group until Thursday, December 10, 2020. A presentation of the Study will be presented to ICTC Management and Commission during the month of December. The draft study report can be found at <http://www.imperialctc.org/sr-78-glamis-crossing/>.*

- 4) **Calexico East Port of Entry Bridge Widening Project:** The Project proposes to widen the bridge over the All-American Canal at the U.S./Mexico border approximately 0.7 miles south of State Route (SR) 7. The project proposes to widen the existing structure by adding four-lanes: Two New Northbound Auto Lanes and Two New Northbound Commercial Vehicle Lanes. In May 2018, Caltrans and ICTC received \$3,000,000 from the California Transportation Commission and the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) to complete the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA/ED) for the project. In June 2018, Caltrans completed a Project Initiation Document (PID). In Fall of 2018, the PA/ED phase was initiated by Caltrans, technical studies for the National Environment Policy Act (NEPA) document under Caltrans as the NEPA lead are in progress and is scheduled for completion in May 2020. In December 2018, was awarded \$20 million under the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD discretionary grant program to complete the Design-Build construction phase. ICTC proposes to deliver the project under Design-Build process, with ICTC leading the Request for Qualifications in May 2020 and Request for Proposals in Summer 2020 for Design and Construction teams. Following the RFQ and RFP process, the Design-Build contract award is scheduled to begin in February 2021. The NEPA studies and final document were completed in April 2020. *ICTC successfully completed the authorization for the \$20 million BUILD funds. Currently the project is in the qualification phase of solicitation Request for Qualifications were due on September 11, 2020 to the ICTC offices. A short-list of bidders has been selected and are moving forward to the Design-Build Request for Proposals process that began Septemebr 21, 2020.*
- 5) **Imperial Valley Transit (IVT) FREE FARES PROGRAM:** On August 7, 2020, the Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC) announced the implementation of a **Free Fares Program** for various Imperial Valley Transit (IVT) services. Eligible services include IVT Fixed Route, IVT Circulators (Blue, Green and Gold Lines), IVT ACCESS and IVT RIDE (EL Centro, Imperial, Heber, Brawley, Calexico, Westshores). All passengers are eligible to benefit from the Free Fares Program. The fares are subsidized by a State of California grant and fare contributions to IVT RIDE passengers by the County of Imperial's Area Agency for the Aging (AAA). The Free Fares Program will remain in effect while the grant funds are available. All regular service eligibility requirements and restrictions remain in effect.
- 6) **Potential Bus Stop in Calipatria:** ICTC has evaluated all of its fixed route service routes to attempt to provide service to the east side of Calipatria. Staff conducted time trials as well utilized several types of buses to verify buses would not have issues with other existing stops within proposed routes. Potential stops for the area include a stop along Commercial Avenue and potentially another stop near Alexandria Street. Staff is proposing to utilize its IVC Express route to potentially service the area. Final location and infrastructure associated with the potential bus stop(s) is pending discussion with the city of Calipatria staff.
- 7) **State Route 86 (Northbound) Border Patrol Checkpoint:** In August 2017 following a year of coordination, Caltrans, the County of Imperial and ICTC met with CBP management and operations staff achieved consensus for a new conceptual alternative prepared by Caltrans. The LTA Board met on September 27, 2017, staff presented the Board with a fund request for \$1.3 million from the 5% Regional Highway Set-Aside from the Measure D allocations. A Consultant Agreement with AECOM for design and construction engineering was approved by the LTA on February 28, 2018. Currently design is underway. A draft of 35% plans were completed and submitted for review on October 12, 2018. *CBP Border Patrol has requested a design change and a draft MOU has been drafted to identify the the work to be completed by ICTC and Border Patrol. The draft MOU was approved by the Commission at the September 2020 meeting.*
- 8) **I-8 / Imperial Avenue Interchange Reconstruction:** Caltrans and construction team have been meeting with City of El Centro and ICTC to discuss details of construction phases and the public information campaign for both the Interchange Project and the Imperial Avenue Extension South Project. *Stage 1 of construction began on Monday, May 6, 2020. During the extended closure, motorists on eastbound I-8 will be detoured along 4th Street/State Route 86 (SR-86) located east of Imperial Avenue. On July 23rd closure of the I-8 was needed to demolish and remove the existing bridge. Crews have completed the demolition of the existing bridge at the I-8/Imperial Avenue Interchange. There were no reported incidents and detoured traffic was flowing with no major delays. Over the next month, the community will see crews performing general earthwork operations. There will be construction equipment, nose (including OSHA required backup alarms), dust and some minor traffic control.*

Stage 2 work on the northern portion of I-8 is anticipated to take four to six months to complete and could begin as early as December. During Stage 2, all I-8/Imperial Avenue on- and off- ramps will be fully closed. The interchange is expected to open to traffic by the end of 2022 with project completion by mid-2023.

- 9) **State Route 98 from Ollie to Rockwood:** As part of the Calexico West POE Expansion project, SR-98 and Cesar Chavez Boulevard were widened and improved to serve the expansion to the west. Caltrans' SR-98 work between VV Williams and Ollie Avenue was completed in March 2018, and the Cesar Chavez Blvd. Widening was completed in October 2019. Caltrans has completed the design and right of way phase for SR-98 Widening between Rockwood Avenue and Ollie Avenue. On June 24, 2020, CTC authorized construction funding. *The total project cost is estimated at \$6.33 million using a combination of 2016 Earmark Repurposing, Demonstration, and Traffic Congestion Relief funds. The project has a \$1.7 million funding shortfall for which Caltrans is requesting an ICTC contribution of \$200,000, the remaining \$1.5 million shortfall would be covered by various other State funds. At their meeting on September 23, 2020 the LTA Board approved the shortfall of \$200,000 from the 5% state set-aside fund.*
- 10) **FY 2019 Public Transit Fare Analysis:** The Request for Proposal for a consultant for the ICTC FY 2019 Public Transit Fare Analysis was released on March 1, 2019. The project is for professional services to develop a Public Transit Fare Pricing Analysis. This planning document is expected to provide recommendations for the current fares/fee structure and media for the four public transit services under the Imperial Valley Transit brand for the next three to five years. *The award recommendation was approved at the May 22, 2019 Commission meeting. AECOM was selected to complete the Analysis. A project kick-off meeting was held on June 20, 2019 and the study is underway. The first round of public outreach efforts was held on October 23-24, 2019. Outreach was held in various areas throughout the County including IVC. The fare analysis is in progress, when it is finalized, further outreach will be scheduled. Staff and the consultant team are currently review concepts for digital outreach platforms.*
- 11) **Funding for Phase II of the Calexico West Port of Entry:** As previously noted, Congress authorized \$98 million for Phase 1. The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) began construction for Phase 1 in December 2015 with completion now scheduled for July 2018. Phase 2A was awarded in the amount of \$191million and will include six additional northbound privately-owned vehicle (POV) inspection lanes, permanent southbound POV inspection, expanded secondary inspection and adding a pre-primary canopy, new administration building, and employee parking structure. *Funding for phase 2B is in the President's Budget Proposal in the amount of \$99.7million. Work for phase 2B will include demolition of the old port building and construction of the new pedestrian building. The total estimated cost for phases 2A plus 2B are \$276million. According to GSA Phase 2A is anticipated to be completed Spring 2023.*
- 12) **Federal Transit Administration (FTA) CARES Act Award for Imperial Valley Transit:** The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress with overwhelming bipartisan support and signed into law on March 27, 2020.

The Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC) is happy to announce the acquisition of a \$10.5 million CARES Act Grant as formally confirmed by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on June 24, 2020. The FTA CARES Act Grant were made available to public transit agencies to help to prevent, prepare for and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible uses include maintaining transit services and the associated operational expenses (only those normally eligible under FTA grant requirements), agency acquisition of personal protective equipment (PPE); safe distancing/sanitation practices; transit operations and lost revenues. The period to utilize the funds depends on our continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic. ICTC plans to utilize the grant to continue to provide IVT Fixed Route, IVT Access (ADA Paratransit Service) and IVT MedTrans (non-emergency transportation to San Diego to medical facilities) transportation services, acquire necessary PPE equipment, enhance cleaning protocols by increasing cleaning frequency, thoroughness and by acquiring CDC approved disinfectants and to offset revenue losses. ICTC hopes to increase service frequency as soon as the opportunity presents itself.

- 13) **Calexico Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC):** A new Intermodal Transportation Center in the City of Calexico has been part of ICTC's long range transit planning. The new Calexico ITC will serve as a regional

mobility hub that will accommodate bus bays for Imperial Valley Transit in addition to the City of Calexico's private transit operators, taxis and farm labor buses. ICTC received a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality federal program fund to complete the environmental and design plans of the new Calexico ITC. ICTC staff is in the process of completing the contract award for a consultant firm that will complete the environmental and design phase. Currently, ICTC staff is completing the Caltrans award review process with multiple Caltrans' departments. The ICTC Board adopted the agreement with Psomas on September 26, 2018. *Environmental phase is in progress with consultant team and agency partners, including the City of Calexico, Caltrans and ICTC. The environmental phase is in progress including studies. Next steps: Begin design and property (Right of Way) acquisition process.*

- 14) **LTA Bonds Refunding/Financing Effort:** Based on municipal market and sales tax revenue trends we will remain on pause until we have a better sense of phase 3 openings within the County. In addition to continued lifting of travel restrictions at the border as legal crossings are a significant part of Imperial County's economy. A positive tone in the municipal market continues. There is an increasing number of investors (i.e. cash available) and as they are facing a continuing light calendar we are seeing a compression (lowering) of both absolute yields and spreads. Our Underwriter team (Ramirez & Co., Inc.) will continue to keep an eye on the market and review the most opportune time to move forward with the bond rating and pricing of the bonds.
- 15) **Imperial County Regional Climate Action Plan:** Imperial County Regional Climate Action Plan: After the kick-off meeting on June 28, 2019, ICTC established Project Management Procedures and Communication Protocols with the Consultant as well as reviewing the Scope of Work and Schedule. *The consultant is working on the draft list of strategies; is finalizing the final pieces of inventory analysis; and, will begin the outreach plan, including stakeholder meetings by the end of October 2020.*
- 16) **Community of Niland Bus Stop Bench and Shelter Request:** The ICTC submitted a formal request to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 11 requesting their assistance in identifying a location for a bus stop bench and shelter in the Community of Niland along State Route 111 (SR-111). The shelter has been installed in an existing parking lot on the east side of SR-111. *ICTC and the County of Imperial Public Works are reviewing the possibility of relocating the bus stop to the location of the newly constructed fire station.*
- 17) **State and Federal funding Obligations:** *Projects programmed in programmed in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019/2020 were fully obligated according to Caltrans Local Assistance. Beginning October 1, 2020, agencies can move forward with request for authorization (RFA) for Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant program (STBG) programmed in FFY 2020/2021. Other state funding also included in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) include the Active Transportation Program (ATP). See complete project list attached.*
- 18) **2018 Trade Corridor Enhancement Program:** The Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP), created by Senate Bill (SB) 1 (Beall, Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017), provides approximately \$300 million annually for infrastructure improvements on federally designated Trade Corridors of National and Regional Significance, on the Primary Freight Network, and along other corridors that have a high volume of freight movement. ICTC in partnership with Caltrans and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) were successful in receiving TCEP funds for Advanced Technology Corridors at the California-Mexico Ports of Entry (POE). The goal project is to implement Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) strategies that will improve border travel delays. Some of the ITS strategies will include Bluetooth and Wi-Fi readers to help track vehicle delays, as well as implement changeable message signs on State Routes to inform border travelers of POE delays. Caltrans will serve as the implementing agency of this project and has an estimated completion date of early 2020. *Caltrans has initiated the environmental phase and preliminary design of the project. TCEP funds will be used in collaboration with the BUILD grant award for the design and construction phases.*
- 19) **State Legislation for Transportation Funding – SB 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA):** \$1.5 Billion annually will go to cities and counties for local road improvements. The following are projected annual revenues of RMRA for the FY 20/21. This list of projects for all cities and the county can also be found on the ICTC website at: <http://www.imperialctc.org/senate-bill-1/>

Below are the projected annual revenues for FY 2020/2021. All Imperial County cities and the county are required to submit their list of projects in order to be eligible for funding distribution.

Agency	RMRA Amount FY 2020-2021
Brawley	\$469,831
Calexico	\$725,242
Calipatria	\$132,423
El Centro	\$794,848
Holtville	\$116,508
Imperial	\$342,513
Westmorland	\$42,296
County of Imperial	\$8,185,798
TOTAL	\$10,809,459*

*Estimate source is from the California League of Cities dated May 15, 2020

<http://californiacityfinance.com/LSR2005.pdf>

- 20) **California-Baja California Binational Region:** A Fresh Look at Impacts of Border Delays: Building upon previous Caltrans, SANDAG, and ICTC studies, this project will refine the economic models developed to assess economic impacts of delays at the land ports of entry (POEs) between the San Diego and Imperial Counties region and Baja California, Mexico, on the border region economies. It will also estimate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of passenger and commercial vehicles due to northbound and southbound border delays at the six California POEs and propose strategies to reduce GHG emissions at the border region. Lastly, extensive outreach to government agencies, local border communities, and private sector stakeholders was conducted. *A final report is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2020.*
- 21) **State Legislation for Transportation Funding – SB 1 2018 Local Partnership Program (LPP):** Local Partnership Program is comprised of formulaic program and competitive programs. In FY2017/2018 total amount available statewide is \$200M and distribution is 50/50 for both formulaic and competitive programs. The formulaic program share distributions for the Local Partnership Program were presented at the CTC meeting in December 6-7, 2017. The Imperial County received \$1,632 of Local Partnership Formulaic Program (LPFP) funds in Cycle 1 (\$1,076) and Cycle 2 (\$556) for a total of \$1,632.

List of projects for Imperial County:

Local Partnership Program (LPP) Programing for FY19/20						
Agency	Project Name	LPP Formulaic Funds	Local Match	Total Cost	Project Implementation Fiscal Year	Proposed CTC Programming Date
Brawley	2020 Legion Street Improvements	\$ 209,000	\$ 209,000	\$ 418,000	2019-2020	1/30/2020
Calexico	Scaroni Road Improvements	\$ 305,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 855,000	2019-2020	5/16/2019
Calipatria	Calipatria Date Street Sidewalk Improvement Project	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000	\$ 82,000	2019-2020	5/16/2019
County	Overlay of Picacho Road from Winterhaven Road to Quechan Drive	\$ 523,000	\$ 523,000	\$ 1,046,000	2019-2020	5/16/2019
Imperial	Aten/Clark Road Improvements	\$ 154,000	\$ 327,000	\$ 481,000	2019-2020	5/16/2019

Local Partnership Program (LPP) Programing for FY20/21						
Agency	Project Name	LPP Formulaic Funds	Local Match	Total Cost	Project Implementation Fiscal Year	Proposed CTC Programming Date
Holtville	Orchard Road/Cedar Avenue	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 120,000	2020-2021	Jun-20
El Centro	Dogwood Road from Villa Road to Commercial Avenue	\$ 339,000	\$ 339,000	\$ 678,000	2020-2021	Jun-20

The following is the link to the 2019 Local Partnership Program guidelines:

http://catc.ca.gov/programs/sb1/lpp/docs/062719+Amended_LPP%20Guidelines.pdf

22) Partnerships with IVEDC:

- a) **Southern Border Broadband Consortium (SBBC):** *For FY 2020/2021. SBBC continues to work with local stakeholders to identify, prioritize and advance broadband infrastructure and improvement projects; facilitate and promote broadband education community wide using survey data; work with the Boys and Girls Club of IV and the Workforce Development Board to create Digital Literacy Centers throughout Imperial County; and develop a preferred scenario for 98% deployment in Imperial County and present to the California Advanced Service Fund and the CPUC in 2020. Recent updates to SBBC's role in the region include a partnership with local healthcare organizations including ECRMC, Pioneers Hospital and Alliance Healthcare to identify telemedicine broadband needs and funding opportunities in Imperial County; working with the California Emerging Technology Fund and the Inland Empire Regional Broadband Consortium as part of a SCAG project to identify transportation broadband strategies to reduce VMT and greenhouse emissions; and working with local internet services providers including AT&T to assist successful applications for funding opportunities with the CPUC in locations such as north County, central Imperial and the Imperial Business Park by end of July 2020.*
- b) **The Brawley Transit Corridor Brownfield Assessment:** ICTC in partnership with IVEDC received a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Communitywide Assessment Grant award of \$300,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Assessment Program. This assessment will be focused along the transit circulator route within the 13-mile Imperial Valley Transit's (IVTs) Brawley Gold Line Transit Route and the Brawley Transit Center that serves as the IVTs North Imperial County transfer terminal. The commercial corridors in the target assessment area include over 100 known commercial properties and suspected historical gas station sites with known or suspected underground tanks in the target area. ICTC will be the fiscal agent and has developed an MOU which will define roles and responsibilities (Audits, Administration and Project Management) or ICTC and IVEDC. SCS Engineers have initiated early Tasks that include the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and project management plan as required by EPA.
 - (1) ***The Finnell Property*** has 3 parcels. It received DTSC approval on March 8, 2019. Phase 1 and Phase 2 reports have been finalized and 3 underground storage tanks have been excavated and disposed of no further action is required.
 - (2) ***The Chai Property*** has 2 parcels. It received DTSC approval on March 28, 2019. Phase 1 report completion occurred on October 15, 2019 and no further action is required.
 - (3) ***The Lesicka Property*** has 2 parcels. It received DTSC approval on August 29, 2019 and Phase 1 and Phase 2 reports have been finalized and no further action is required.
 - (4) ***The Dek Property*** has 1 parcel. It received DTSC approval on April 22, 2020. Phase 1 was improperly completed by a previous engineering firm. 95% of the re-development was completed when the contractor discovered concerning amounts of underground contamination on site. We stepped in and completed a phase 2 and we are currently assessing the situation while collecting additional soil samples and pending laboratory results.

(5) ***The Pioneers Property*** has 3 parcels. It received DTSC approval on May 11, 2020. Phase 1's were completed on all parcels. 1 parcel which is the site of a former Chevron station closed on 1975 will require a phase 2. The Field Sampling Plan was approved and is underway.

23) Meetings attended on behalf of ICTC:

- October 14, 2020: AB 617 Steering Committee Meeting: El Centro-Heber-Calexico Corridor Zoom Meeting
- October 21-22, 2020: California Transportation Commission Virtual Meeting
- October 22, 2020: ICTC TAC was held at the ICTC offices via Zoom Meeting
- October 22, 2020: Calalexico East Port of Entry Bridge Widening Project Proposers One-on-One Virtual meetings #2
- October 28, 2020: ICTC Commission was held at the ICTC offices via Zoom Meeting.
- November 4, 2020: ICTC SSTAC was held at the ICTC offices via Zoom Meeting
- November 5, 2020: Project Update Meeting: I-8/ Imperial Avenue Interchange Project
- November 12, 2020 – IMBA Strategic Meeting #2 and IMBA Meeting held via Zoom Meeting

FY2020/2021 Project List

Updated on 11/13/2020

State and Federal funding Obligations: Beginning October 1, 2020, agencies are allowed to move forward with request for authorization (RFA) for Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) and Active Transportation Program (ATP) programmed in FY 2020/2021

Agency	Project ID	Project Name	Funding Type	Phase	Federal Amount in FY 2020/21	Local Match	Total Phase Cost	Ben Guerrero's Comments	Status
Brawley	IMP190701	Pedestrian and street improvements (paving of dirt road) on Legion Street between State Route 86 and Western Avenue	CMAQ	CON	\$797,000	\$103,000	\$900,000	No submittal	E-76
Brawley	IMP190702	Construct street improvements (paving of dirt road) along Western Avenue from Legion Street to Wildcat Drive	CMAQ	Engineering/Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E)				No submittal	E-76
Brawley	IMP190708	Street improvements (repavement) along Legion Street from East of Kelley Ave. to West St. deflection point near West City limits	STBG	CON				No submittal	E-76
Brawley	IMP190709	Street improvement (repavement) along K Street from Highway 86 to 8th St.	STBG	Engineering/Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E)				No submittal	E-76
Calexico	IMP191001	Weakley Street between Scaroni Blvd. and Portico Blvd. (unpaved street)	CMAQ	CON	\$291,000	\$40,000	\$331,000	No submittal	
Calipatria	IMP190703	Date Street between HWY 111/Sorenson Ave. and Railroad Ave. pedestrian improvements	CMAQ & STBG	CON				No submittal	E-76 Pending
El Centro	IMP190704	Traffic Signal Synchronization Dogwood Avenue and 8th Street	CMAQ	CON	\$367,000	\$48,000	\$415,000	No submittal	E-76/Council approval
El Centro	IMP190710	Imperial Avenue Extension Phase II	STBG	CON	\$700,000	\$91,000	\$791,000	No submittal	
Holtville	IMP190705	Cedar Avenue Sidewalk Improvements	CMAQ	CON	\$193,000	\$25,000	\$218,000	Submitted to FHWA for approval 5174(030)	Ready to submit RFA on OCT 1st
Holtville	IMP190706	9th Street Sidewalk Improvements from Beale Avenue to Oak Avenue	CMAQ	CON				5174(031) - Remove from this list since it was a FFY 19/20 and E76 was completed	Turned in RFA CON in June 2020
Holtville	IMP190711	Orchard Road from Alamo River Bridge to 4th Street	STBG	CON				5174(032) - Remove from this list since it was a FFY 19/20 and E76 was completed	Turned in RFA CON in June 2020
Imperial	IMP190707	Class I & Class II Bike Facility along the North side of Aten Blvd. from Dogwood Road to Puerto Vallarta Avenue	CMAQ	CON				No submittal	E-76
Imperial	IMP190301	2nd Street Rehabilitation and Reconstruction from Old SR-86 to P Street	STBG	CON	\$1,841,000	\$1,181	\$3,022	No submittal	Design Phase
County	IMP190713	Improvements on Main Street Such as widening of existing road t add bike lane, sidewalks, shoulder, curb and gutter from Highway 111 to Clark Road	CMAQ	Engineering/Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E)	\$107,000	\$14,000	\$121,000	No submittal	
County	IMP190714	Road Improvements from Wahl Road to 0.5 miles north of SR-98	STBG	CON				No submittal	
						Regional Total FY 2020/21	\$2,779,022		

6TH CYCLE RHNA APPEALS PROCESS UPDATE

The window for cities to appeal their draft Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation closed on Oct. 26. A total of over 50 appeals were filed by local jurisdictions. Following the Regional Council's adoption of Connect SoCal in its entirety on Sept. 3, SCAG distributed the draft allocations to local jurisdictions on Sept. 4. The appeals process follows steps laid out in the adopted RHNA Appeals Procedures. All appeals received by SCAG have been posted on SCAG's [RHNA webpage](#). Local jurisdictions and the State Department of Housing and Community Development may now provide comments on the appeals submitted to SCAG. Comments should be sent to housing@scag.ca.gov before 5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10.

SCAG staff will contact the jurisdictions that filed or are subject to appeals to share the date of their RHNA Appeals Hearings. The hearings are scheduled to take place between Dec. 11, 2020, and Jan. 10, 2021, but may also be extended until Feb. 9, 2021 if necessary. For questions or comments about RHNA, please contact housing@scag.ca.gov.

RELEASE OF DRAFT 2021 FTIP FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENTS

SCAG is preparing to release the Draft 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Plan (FTIP) for a 30-day public review and comments. Every two years, SCAG is required by federal law to update the FTIP, a list of capital improvement projects to be implemented over a six-year period. The FTIP implements the transportation investments identified in Connect SoCal. Over the past year, staff has worked in consultation and close coordination with Caltrans, our county transportation commissions, and other transit operators to develop the Draft 2021 FTIP, which is expected to be released for public review in early November pending approval by the Regional Council. Staff will review and respond to comments received during the comment period and return to the Transportation Committee in February 2021 and the Regional Council in March 2021 for adoption of the 2021 FTIP. Please visit the [FTIP webpage](#) for more details.

REGISTER FOR SCAG'S SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT

On Tuesday, Dec. 1, SCAG will host the Southern California Economic Summit virtually for the first time in its 11-year history. Join civic and business leaders from across Southern California for this vital conversation centered around "Charting an Inclusive Regional Recovery." In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Southern California's cities, families and cornerstone industries have all been seismically impacted and face enormous challenges on the road to recovery. Hear from leading voices in business, industry, planning and academia as they define strategies for building back a strong, inclusive Southern California economy. General admission tickets are \$50. The ticket fee may be waived for elected officials and city managers of SCAG's member jurisdictions – [reserve your seat today](#).

GO HUMAN UPDATES

GO HUMAN OTS GRANT KICK-OFF

Earlier this year, SCAG was awarded a \$1.25 million grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to fund continued work through *Go Human*, SCAG's regional active transportation safety and encouragement program. The new OTS grant kicked off on Oct. 1 and funds will allow *Go Human* activities through Sept. 30, 2021, including:

- *Go Human's* Community Safety Ambassador Cohort Program, a participatory and experiential planning and leadership series.
- Resilient Streets Strategies to implement street activations that address safety and resiliency in response to the pandemic.
- Safety Mini-Grants, which fund local projects led by community-based organizations.
- Sub-Regional Safety Peer Exchange Program, a series of community-informed virtual sessions for stakeholders and practitioners addressing traffic safety.

- Co-Branded Safety Advertisements, print and digital graphics provided at no cost to jurisdictions who have committed to the *Go Human* Safety Pledge.

To strategically shape these programs in alignment with local community needs, and in response to the impacts of the pandemic, *Go Human* held a Community Listening session on Oct. 19 to provide the public with an opportunity to give their input. More than 27 representatives from across the region provided feedback, which has directly informed upcoming strategies. *Go Human* will continue to facilitate similar listening sessions in the future. Please visit the [Go Human webpage](#) for details on future activities and events.

SCAG SAFETY PLEDGES CONTINUE TO GROW!

Jurisdictions continue to sign the [SCAG Safety Pledge](#), committing to strategies and policies that improve traffic safety in local communities. The months of September and October 2020 saw more than 10 jurisdictions sign on, reaching 52 safety pledges across the region. Cities can choose to participate in a variety of ways, from hosting a pop-up safety demonstration to implementing a safety outreach campaign or adopting a Vision Zero policy. Many thanks to recent pledges from the cities of Claremont, Culver City, Downey, Glendora, Ojai, Ontario, Palm Desert, Riverside, Temecula, and Wildomar. *Go Human* will continue to collect pledges throughout the year.

SCAG SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM – ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY (AT&S) CALL FOR APPLICATIONS WEBINARS AND APPLICATION COACHING

After the Regional Council approved the Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) Guidelines and released the Active Transportation & Safety Call for Applications in September, SCAG hosted two Application Webinars in October, engaging more than 200 participants. Staff have also offered one-on-one application coaching with applicants as part of the program's targeted outreach strategy and have engaged more than 15 local agencies with this approach. SCAG will continue to release subsequent SCP Calls for Applications, including the Housing and Sustainable Development Call that is expected to launch at the November Regional Council meeting. Other calls will focus on smart cities, mobility innovation and transportation demand management, and green regions throughout FY 2020-21. More details about the Active Transportation & Safety project types and the overall program can be found on the [SCP webpage](#), including links to the online applications, program guidelines and fact sheet, a toolkit for local champions, and other resources for applicants.

SCAG HOSTS HOUSING PRODUCTION ROUNDTABLE

On Oct. 29, SCAG hosted the first of three virtual roundtable meetings to discuss ways the region can accelerate housing production for households of all income levels. This first meeting involved 36 local government practitioners, including seven representing our subregional partners. After SCAG kicked off the event, the facilitated discussion by Richard France of Estolano Associates explored how subregional partnerships can help meet our region's diverse housing needs. The meeting featured several speakers from across the state who are exploring cross-jurisdictional partnerships to meet shared housing goals. SCAG invited representatives from five jurisdictions to share best practices, gather feedback, and discuss housing priorities for their communities. A primary goal of these meetings is to equip local governments and subregional entities with the tools they need to ensure that Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) and Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) dollars are deployed in a manner that addresses local needs, advances regional priorities, and fosters innovation and collaboration. In addition to identifying useful housing production strategies, SCAG is also looking for opportunities to support the related goals of preserving existing affordable housing and protecting households facing displacement pressures.

SCAG PRESENTS THE SOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION FRAMEWORK ACROSS THE REGION AND PUBLISHES THE SOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANNING GUIDE

Over the month of October, SCAG continued to share tools and resources from the Southern California (SoCal) Climate Adaptation Framework through presentations to partner agencies across the region such as the Orange County Council of Governments, Gateway Cities Council of Governments, Ventura County-Cities Planning Association, and Imperial County Transportation Commission. SCAG will continue to present on the SoCal Climate Adaptation Framework through the end of the year, culminating with a launch of the framework by the end of December 2020. In advance of this, the subregional presentations provide an opportunity for SCAG to share some of the tools ready for use by jurisdictions. These include general plan model policies to assist jurisdictions with updates to safety elements, [communication and outreach strategies and templates](#) to help with climate messaging, and the recently published SoCal

[Climate Adaptation Planning Guide](#) to help guide jurisdictions through the adaptation planning process from beginning to end. More information on the framework can be [found here](#).

SCAG PARTICIPATES IN MIT POLICY HACKATHON

SCAG staff recently participated in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Policy Hackathon, an event held by the Institute for Data, Systems, and Society in MIT's Technology and Policy Program. The Hackathon aims to address relevant societal challenges through data and policy analysis, and students work in teams to develop creative policy solutions and compete for cash prizes. Participants came from a wide range of backgrounds and topics this year included COVID-19, internet policy, environmental justice, planning, and transportation. SCAG participated as the Transportation Challenge Sponsor, crafting a challenge to better understand the potential impact of new bicycle infrastructure on neighborhood change and displacement in the SCAG region. SCAG's Mobility Planning and Management department staff assisted students and judged each team's presentations and policy memorandums. The student teams presented thoughtful research, analysis, and policy strategies, ultimately providing SCAG with meaningful guidance on this important issue. The closing ceremony and final presentations have been posted on the [MIT Policy Hackathon YouTube page](#).

LEONARD TRANSPORTATION CENTER REGIONAL DIALOGUE MOBILITY SERIES – ACHIEVING EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN TRANSPORTATION

On Oct. 20, I, along with Matt Click, the National Congestion Pricing Practice Leader at HNTB, spoke on equity in transportation for the California State University San Bernardino's Leonard Transportation Center (LTC) Regional Dialogue Mobility Series. As part of the event, we also provided responses and feedback for numerous presentations on transportation equity from the LTC research challenge group.

The LTC Research Group Challenge Project seeks to find creative solutions to difficult questions surrounding the Inland Empire transportation system. More information about the program and the research challenge group can be found on the [LTC website](#).

NATURAL & FARM LANDS CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP MEETS

On Oct. 15, SCAG hosted the Natural & Farm Lands Conservation Working Group. Since 2014, this group has provided a forum for stakeholders to share best practices and develop recommendations for natural and agricultural land conservation throughout the region and has been instrumental in the formation and implementation of Connect SoCal's conservation policies and strategies. This most recent meeting featured presentations on Connect SoCal's Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) conservation-related mitigation measures, an update on the SoCal Greenprint, an overview of the South Coast Wildlands Project, and an update on the San Bernardino and Antelope Valley Regional Conservation Investment Strategies. For more information about the group and to attend future meetings, please contact India Brookover at brookover@scag.ca.gov.

IMPERIAL COUNTY AIR PLAN RECEIVED APPROVAL BY U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

On Sept. 18, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published in the Federal Register a final rule to approve the state implementation plan for Imperial County to address the federal coarse particulate matter (PM₁₀) ambient air quality standards. SCAG staff had previously worked with the staff of the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District and the California Air Resources Board in developing the air plan including the associated new transportation conformity budgets. Effective Oct. 19, Imperial County has achieved attainment and fulfilled all air quality planning requirements for the federal health-based PM₁₀ standards. Failure to meet the required federal air quality planning requirements could lead to serious consequences that impact the regional transportation plan, program, and projects. In addition, the new PM₁₀ transportation conformity budgets in the air plan will apply to Connect SoCal, FTIP, and their respective amendments. For additional information, please view the [Federal Register notice for this final rulemaking](#).

Memorandum

Date: November 18, 2020
To: ICTC Joint Management and Committee Meeting
From: David Salgado, Regional Affairs Officer (RAO)
Re: Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) Report

The following is a summary of the SCAG Executive Director's Report and/or Federal and State Legislature Staff Report for the Imperial County Transportation Commission's joint Management and Committee meeting for the month of November 2020.

- 1. The 11th Annual Southern California Economic Summit:** On Tuesday, Dec. 1, SCAG will host the Southern California Economic Summit virtually for the first time in its 11-year history. This annual conversation about the state of the region's economy comes at a time of unprecedented crisis. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Southern California's cities, families and cornerstone industries have all been seismically impacted and face enormous challenges on the road to recovery. SCAG is very pleased to announce **three-time Pulitzer Prize winner and New York Times columnist Tom Friedman** as the keynote speaker.

We hope you will join us, along with Southern California's civic and business leaders, for this vital conversation on the region's economic future. The ticket fee may be waived for elected officials and city managers of SCAG's member jurisdictions. Online registration closes Nov. 30. For more information, please contact Linda Jones at (213) 236-1912 or by email at jonesl@scag.ca.gov.

- 2. 2020 SCAG Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) Grant Program:** SCAG has approved the 2020 SCP grant guidelines. The FY 2020/2021 program will fund projects in the following areas that support and implement the policies and initiatives of the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), Connect SoCal: Active Transportation & Safety; Housing and Sustainability; Smart Cities, Mobility Innovation & Transportation Demand Management; and Green Region. The first Call prioritizes Active Transportation & Safety projects, and the second Call prioritizes efforts to increase housing production. **The open SCP Active Transportation Call for projects application deadline has been extended to Friday December 11, 2020.**

Housing & Sustainable Development Call for Applications: *SCAG is pleased to announce the 2020-2021 Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) – Housing & Sustainable Development Call for Applications is now open to eligible applicants.* The SCP provides planning resources and technical assistance to local agencies to support the implementation of Connect SoCal, a long-range vision for transportation and land use planning for the region. The SCP Housing & Sustainable Development Call for Applications includes three specific project types, each with a unique application, to fund planning and implementation projects that result in the development of supportive housing policies and programs. Check out the SCP Housing & Sustainable Development fact sheet for more information.

SCP Housing and Sustainable Development Application Webinar: Learn more about the SCP Housing & Sustainable Development Call for Applications at our Application Webinar on Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. – noon. This webinar will assist agencies in preparing applications, provide a forum to answer questions, and provide additional information and examples for each project type.

3. THE DRAFT 2021 FTIP OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT/REVIEW

The Draft 2021 FTIP is available for public review on the SCAG website at <http://ftip.scag.ca.gov/Pages/2021/draft.aspx>

SCAG will be holding two (2) virtual public hearings regarding the Draft 2021 FTIP on the following dates and time:

1) Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Zoom info: <https://scag.zoom.us/j/98210332117>

2) Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 3 p.m.

Zoom info: <https://scag.zoom.us/j/96169275448>

COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor's recent Executive Order N29-20, the hearings will be held virtually via Zoom. One may participate in the public hearings via live-stream, and phone conferencing. If you will need a translator, a request can be submitted to gutierre@scag.ca.gov prior to the public hearing. Please visit our website for the public hearing instructions and video conference information www.scag.ca.gov/FTIP.

The purpose of the hearings is to receive public input and comments regarding the Draft 2021 FTIP, which may be used to facilitate changes where appropriate. SCAG encourages the public and all interested parties to submit written comments and/or written information at the public hearings and

no later than the close of the public comment period. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on December 7, 2020 and may be submitted electronically to gutierre@scag.ca.gov, or by U.S. mail as follows:

Southern California Association of Governments
Attention: Pablo Gutierrez
900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700
Los Angeles, CA 90017

4. **Connect SOCAL Approval:** The Regional Council of Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) on Thursday September 3, 2020 formally adopted a 25-year plan to meet the mobility needs of one of the most robust population and economic centers in the United States.

The plan, Connect SoCal, had previously been approved for conformity purposes by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). With Thursday's action, the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy provides a roadmap for sensible ways to expand transportation options, improve air quality and bolster Southern California's long-term economic viability. The press release is attached to the back up for this agenda for your reference.

5. **2020 Local Early Action Planning Grant (LEAP) Program:** **The Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grant program's deadline has been extended to January 31, 2021! You still have time to apply! Jurisdictions who did not apply:** For cities and counties that were not able to meet the July 1, 2020 deadline, you still have more time! You now have until January 31, 2021, to apply for LEAP funding. Remember, LEAP funding is non-competitive, flexible funding to help cities and counties plan for housing in their communities. **Jurisdictions who did apply:** If you have already applied for the LEAP program, you can still make modifications and adjustments to your application. HCD can make adjustments to the application during the review process or even after awards. HCD has dedicated an individual to assist cities in Imperial County.

Sample eligible projects include but are not limited to:

- Rezoning and encouraging development through updating ordinances and plans
- Establishing Prohousing policies
- CEQA
- Updating housing elements
- Updating ordinances to comply with state housing laws (e.g. ADU ordinances)
- Developing specific plans and other plans focused on housing
- Implementing processes that streamline the application process for housing developments
- and much more!

For technical assistance such as help with brainstorming eligible activities, reviewing draft applications, adjusting existing applications, and answering questions, please contact me or earlyactionplanning@hcd.ca.gov.

6. **Broadband and Closing the Digital Divide:** SCAG, the California Emerging Technology Fund and the Inland Empire Regional Broadband Consortium are spearheading a study to facilitate broadband planning and deployment as part of transportation projects in the region. Improved broadband deployment, particularly in disadvantaged communities and unserved/underserved rural and urban areas, will support increased use of online learning, telehealth/telemedicine, telecommuting, e-commerce, and e-government, reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gas emissions. This is in addition to other regional efforts to bridge the critical digital divide that has been further exasperated by the onset of teleworking and other localized emergencies which could benefit from increased access to connectivity on the ground and throughout the region.
7. **SCAG Aerial Imagery Project 2020 Update:** After numerous meetings to discuss the potential for SCAG to facilitate a new Aerial Imagery Flyover Project, the County of Imperial has agreed to facilitate a public procurement process. This will allow for more funds to be applied to the project to support the procurement. SCAG has set aside \$250,000 for the project and will increase the support by \$50,000 for a total of \$300,000. The County of Imperial has received proposals and will be moving forward with recommendations to the Board of Supervisors this month.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS

Safe, Resilient & Locally Grown: Building Partnerships & Generating Support Thursday, Nov. 19, 10 – 11:30 a.m. This is the second session in the virtual [safety series](#) hosted by SCAG and its *Go Human* team, in partnership with AAA of Southern California. This session will illustrate how collaborations between key stakeholders can help communities make inroads in reducing serious traffic safety collisions. This session will lead a discussion on creative, strategic safety efforts that community-led efforts rooted in resiliency. Panelists will share lessons learned from successful programs and projects that brought together community groups, policymakers, local officials and local businesses in the pandemic environment. [Register here](#) to attend.

Overview

The Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) is a technical assistance program that provides valuable resources for jurisdictions and agencies to support local planning, and serves as a key implementation tool of [Connect SoCal](#), SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The SCP strengthens local partnerships and implements strategies outlined in Connect SoCal to promote healthy, connected, and equitable communities.

The SCP will consist of multiple funding opportunities across several program areas to support local jurisdictions and agencies with resources for strategies related to active transportation, safety, housing production and integrated land use, smart cities, mobility innovation and Transportation Demand Management (TDM), among others. The second Call for Applications focused on Housing & Sustainable Development (H&SD) was released in **November 2020**. More details and guidelines for subsequent Calls was released as they become available.

Program Goals & Community Benefits

Encourage development and preservation of diverse housing types in areas that are supported by multiple transportation options.

Competitiveness for state funding programs by increasing the number of cities with "pro-housing local policies" focusing on location efficient development and increased access to opportunities.

Integrate and align housing goals with the region's adopted Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), prioritizing better management of the transportation network, while expanding mobility choices by locating housing, jobs and transit together.

Example Housing & Sustainable Development Project Types

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) Plans & Programs

Workforce Housing Opportunity Programs

Parking Innovation

Streamlined Housing Programs

Housing Sustainability Programs

Housing Supportive Tax Increment Financing Programs

Pro-housing Designation Programs



To learn more, visit SCAG's [SCP website](#).

For questions, please contact Hannah Brunelle, brunelle@scag.ca.gov.