

SCAG Regional Council Report from Mark Henderson SCAG District 28 & Gardena City Council

Letter From Incoming Chair Rex Richardson to the Regional Council:

Just over a week ago, we held our first virtual General Assembly in SCAG's history, highlighting an unprecedented and critical time for our region. I was humbled and encouraged to see many cities represented as we prepare to redefine and reimagine what an inclusive recovery looks like for our local governments and the economy.

I am pleased to share this year's Executive/Administration Committee (EAC) that will be responsible for carrying out important policy recommendations with all of you. There are three principles that guided my decisions in assembling this leadership team: **Diversity, Experience, and Cultivating New Leadership**

Diversity - This is a leadership team that reflects the full breadth of the SCAG region's diverse communities and geography.

Experience - Three past presidents strengthen the lineup with their experience and institutional knowledge.

New Leadership - We are also taking the opportunity to cultivate future leadership, bringing in newer voices like Kim Nguyen and Jose Luis Solache. I am pleased to say that the City of Los Angeles is also represented on this committee, with Councilmember David Ryu joining us as an important partner in our work toward a regional recovery.

Lastly, as part of the listening phase of my work plan, ***I invite you to join us for a virtual townhall meeting on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.***, to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on your community and help us learn how Connect SoCal can contribute to recovery. To register for the townhall meeting, click on link here: <https://scag.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpfuqsqzwrE91IB1ktzz6EEAKyAPViFiME>. Shortly thereafter, you will receive an email confirmation containing information about joining the meeting.

Councilman Henderson is a new member of the Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee and attended his first meeting Tuesday, June 16 at 8:30am.

- a. The discussion centered around ensuring that the LCMC remained within its area of purview.
- b. There was discussion regarding the inclusion of broadband and economics into the legislative platform. Additional discussion will ensue.
- c. The recording will be made available shortly.
- d. Introduction of the state and federal consultants.

SCAG received a letter this past Monday from the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) finding that Connect SoCal (the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy) has demonstrated air quality conformity. The letter, which signifies a joint approval of Connect SoCal from both the FHWA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), is a major milestone for the agency, indicating that Connect SoCal meets all provisions as defined under the federal Clean Air Act.