

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE 2012-2035 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

DATE: December 30, 2011

Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
818 West Seventh Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017-3435

The Southern California Association of Governments has prepared a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), SCH# 2011051018, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act for the 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (2012-2035 RTP/SCS, Plan or Project). The 2012-2035 RTP/SCS is a long-range regional transportation plan that provides a blueprint to help achieve a coordinated and balanced regional transportation system in the SCAG region. The SCAG region is comprised of six counties: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura.

The **Proposed 2012-2035 RTP/SCS** provides land use and transportation recommendations to help achieve a coordinated balance of land uses and transportation improvements such that vehicle trips and vehicle trip lengths are reduced and land is used efficiently and sustainably, thereby minimizing energy and water consumption. The 2012-2035 RTP/SCS contains transportation and urban form strategies that encourage compact growth, increased jobs/housing balance and transit-oriented development, where feasible, in all parts of the region. The following alternatives are addressed:

1. The **No Project Alternative** includes only those transportation projects that are included in the first year of the previously conforming transportation plan and/or TIP, or have completed environmental review by December 2010. The No Project Alternative also includes projects undergoing right-of-way acquisition or under construction. These reasonably foreseeable projects fulfill the definition of the mandated CEQA No Project Alternative (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(e)).
2. The **2008 Modified RTP Alternative** is an update of the adopted 2008 RTP to reflect the most recent growth estimates and transportation planning decisions and assumptions. This alternative does not include the urban form strategies included within the RTP/SCS.
3. The **Envision 2 Alternative** builds on the enhanced density and transit orientation of the SCS and goes further. It includes more aggressive densities than the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS and limits the single-family housing that would be built in the region.

The Program EIR finds that implementation of the 2012-2035 RTP/SCS could result in significant impacts to the following issue areas: Aesthetics; Air Quality; Biological Resources and Open Space; Cultural Resources; Geology, Soils and Mineral Resources; Greenhouse Gases; Hazardous Materials; Land Use and Agricultural Resources; Noise; Population, Housing and Employment; Public Services and Utilities; and Water Resources.

The Draft PEIR is available on SCAG's website at www.scag.ca.gov/peir. Hard copies are available for review at SCAG's office in downtown Los Angeles (at the address above) and at major public libraries in the region (contact SCAG for specific locations). The review period for the Draft 2012-2035 RTP/SCS begins on **December 30, 2011. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on February 14, 2012.**

Please direct written comments to Jacob Lieb at lieb@scag.ca.gov or at the address shown above or visit our website at <http://www.scag.ca.gov>. Please include a return address and the name of a contact person in your agency, if appropriate.