

**State of California  
AIR RESOURCES BOARD**

**Executive Order G-20-239**

**Southern California Association of Governments'  
(SCAG)  
2020 Sustainable Communities Strategy  
CARB Acceptance of GHG Quantification Determination**

WHEREAS, SB 375 (Steinberg, Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008), also known as the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act, aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from passenger vehicle travel through improved transportation and land use planning at the regional scale;

WHEREAS, SB 375 requires each of the State's 18 federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), including the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), to develop a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) or an Alternative Planning Strategy that meets the regional GHG emissions reduction targets for automobiles and light trucks set by the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board);

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2010, the Board set targets for the SCAG region of an 8 percent per capita reduction by 2020, and a 13 percent per capita reduction by 2035 relative to 2005 levels;

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2012, CARB accepted SCAG's quantification of GHG emissions reductions for automobiles and light trucks as meeting the applicable targets in its first SCS, adopted by the SCAG Regional Council on April 4, 2012;

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2016, CARB accepted SCAG's quantification of GHG emissions reductions for automobiles and light trucks as meeting the applicable targets in its second SCS, adopted by the SCAG Regional Council on April 7, 2016;

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2018, the Board set targets for the SCAG region of an 8 percent per capita reduction by 2020 and a 19 percent per capita reduction by 2035 relative to 2005 levels;

WHEREAS, in preparation for its 2020 SCS, SCAG staff engaged the public via advisory committee meetings, stakeholder working group meetings, public workshops, and public hearings between September 2018 and September 2020;

WHEREAS, in November 2019, SCAG published its draft 2020 SCS, which was available for public review through January 2020;

WHEREAS, on September 3, 2020, SCAG's Regional Council adopted the final 2020 SCS, known as the Connect SoCal 2020 - 2045 Regional Transportation

Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, with a determination that the SCS would achieve the region's GHG target of an 8 percent per capita reduction by 2020 and a 19 percent per capita reduction by 2035 relative to 2005 levels;

WHEREAS, SCAG submitted the final 2020 SCS to CARB on September 11, 2020, as required by California Government Code section 65080, subdivision (b)(2)(J)(ii), and completed its submittal of supporting information on October 9, 2020;

WHEREAS, CARB staff performed an evaluation of the 2020 SCS's quantification of the GHG emissions reductions the strategy would achieve and the technical methodology used to obtain that result based on CARB's November 2019 document entitled *Final Sustainable Communities Strategy Program and Evaluation Guidelines*;

WHEREAS, CARB staff's evaluation indicated that SCAG appropriately included a determination as to whether its 2020 SCS meets the 2020 GHG emissions reduction target, however, CARB staff found that the determination was made relying on modeled evidence only, without consideration of observed data and performance indicators as called for in CARB's SCS evaluation guidelines, which prevented CARB from performing an evaluation of the 2020 target determination;

WHEREAS, CARB staff's evaluation indicated that SCAG used technical methodologies that would reasonably quantify GHG emissions reductions from the 2020 SCS for 2035;

WHEREAS, CARB staff's evaluation indicated that SCAG's 2020 SCS included strategies, key actions, and investments to support its stated GHG emissions reductions for 2035;

WHEREAS, CARB staff's evaluation showed SCAG's 2020 SCS, when implemented, would meet the applicable GHG emissions reduction target that the Board established for the region for 2035;

WHEREAS, CARB staff's technical evaluation of SCAG's GHG emissions reduction determination is included in Attachment A, Evaluation of the Southern California Association of Governments' SB 375 2020 Sustainable Communities Strategy, October 2020;

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 65080, subdivision (b)(2)(J)(ii), calls for CARB to accept or reject an MPO's determination that the Sustainable Communities Strategy submitted would, if implemented, achieve the GHG emissions reduction targets established by the Board;

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code sections 39515 and 39516 delegate to the Board's Executive Officer the authority to act on behalf of the Board in this manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that under California Government Code section 65080, subsection (b)(2)(J)(ii), the Executive Officer hereby accepts SCAG's determination that the SCS adopted by the SCAG Regional Council on September 3, 2020, would, when implemented, achieve the applicable GHG emissions reduction target for automobiles and light trucks of 19 percent per capita reduction by 2035,

relative to 2005 levels, as established by CARB for the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, CARB staff is directed to forward this executive order to the SCAG Executive Director.

Executed at Sacramento, California this 30th day of October 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. W. C.", with a checkmark-like flourish at the end. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Richard W. Corey

Executive Officer