

Marcia Brown

From: Peggy Huang
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2022 10:07 PM
To: Marcia Brown
Subject: Fwd: Regional Council Spotlight, November 2022

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SPOTLIGHT

SCAG REGIONAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



ABOUT

The Regional Council is the governing board of the Southern California Association of Governments and consists of 86 elected officials representing 191 cities, six counties, county transportation commissions, transportation corridor agencies, tribal governments and air districts in Southern California.

AGENDA

[Click here](#) for current and archived Regional Council meeting agendas.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEETING



ACTION

REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING (REAP) 2.0 COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (CTC) GUIDELINES AND CALL FOR PROJECTS & PROGRAMS TO ACCELERATE TRANSFORMATIVE HOUSING (PATH) PROGRAM APPROVED

The Regional Council today approved and adopted the [REAP 2.0 CTC Guidelines](#) and CTC Partnership Program Call for Projects, as well as the [REAP 2.0 PATH Program](#).

REAP 2.0 CTC Guidelines and Call for Projects

SCAG developed [guidelines for the CTC Partnership Program](#), funded by REAP 2.0. Today the Regional Council approved the guidelines, which were

open for a three-week public comment period, from Sept. 21, to Oct. 12, 2022. The Regional Council today also approved opening the CTC Call for Projects in early 2023, pending final approval from the California Department of Housing and Community Development on SCAG's REAP 2.0 application. The CTC Partnership Program will provide immediate benefit to the region by supporting transformative planning activities aligned with key connection strategies identified in Connect SoCal, which will be implemented quickly to advance new concepts for reducing vehicle miles traveled, while simultaneously achieving other program goals for REAP 2.0. The final CTC Program will be updated to reflect any feedback received once SCAG's full REAP 2.0 funding application is approved by the State.

REAP 2021 PATH Program

The Regional Council today approved the PATH Program and authorized its implementation. The PATH program, which was formerly named the Housing Supportive Infrastructure Program, is one of the three major funding areas in SCAG's [REAP 2.0 Program Development Framework](#). The [program guidelines](#) outline the program's components, requirements, eligible applicants and actions, and application process, as well as, the staff recommendation that \$88.835 million of SCAG's REAP 2.0 funding be set-aside to support the program. The PATH program supports actions that accelerate infill development that facilitates housing supply, choice and affordability; affirmatively furthers fair housing; and reduces vehicle miles traveled through a Notice of Funding Available and two pilot programs designed to bring housing production to scale across the Southern California region to meet the 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation.

For more information on REAP 2.0, visit: scag.ca.gov/reap2021.

ACTION

REGIONAL COUNCIL APPROVES PROJECTS SEEKING TRADE CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (TCEP) FUNDING AND APPLICATION COORDINATION

SCAG's Regional Council today approved the recommended regional TCEP project nominations and authorized staff to proceed with a TCEP grant application in coordination with Caltrans and TravelCenters America.

TCEP is a grant program created to fund infrastructure improvements on federally designated trade corridors on California's portion of the National Highway Freight Mobility Plan. SCAG, as the region's metropolitan planning organization, is tasked with compiling project nominations from its respective agencies to send to the California Transportation Commission.

Multiple agencies across the SCAG region have nominated [16 projects](#) for TCEP consideration. Additionally, SCAG will partner on a Caltrans-led TravelCenters of America TCEP application. The TravelCenters of America project is seeking to deploy microgrid-enabled, electric charging equipment for

heavy-duty trucks at existing TravelCenters of America and Petro travel centers in the region.

INFORMATION

2022 RACIAL EQUITY BASELINE CONDITIONS REPORT RELEASED

The [2022 Racial Equity Baseline Conditions Report](#) was released today. In July 2020, SCAG's Regional Council adopted a [resolution](#) affirming its commitment to advancing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout Southern California and subsequently adopted the [Racial Equity Early Action Plan \(EAP\)](#) in May 2021, outlining goals, strategies and actions to advance equity. The EAP included a Racial Equity Baseline Conditions Report that highlighted past transportation and housing policies and provided a preliminary baseline assessment of racial equity in the region. The newly released version of this report is updated to include 2020 data, new equity indicators, and county narratives. **For more information on SCAG's commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Awareness, visit: scag.ca.gov/IDEA.**

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT



GO HUMAN MINI-GRANT REPORT

President Harnik gave an update on the SCAG [Go Human](#) Mini-Grants Program, which concluded in September 2022. The program funds community-based organizations, non-profits and social enterprises to implement innovative traffic safety and community engagement projects. SCAG awarded over \$350,000 to 26 projects representing all six counties in the region. Projects included demonstrations of safety infrastructure, public art to encourage safe driving, walk audits, community bike rides and other outreach events.

COMOTION PARTNER EVENT

CoMotion LA is taking place Nov. 15-17. A new horizon is emerging with historic opportunities for the public and private sectors. Political shifts in the United States are ushering in a new and unprecedented focus on cities, zero-emission technologies, mobility and transit systems of the future. You will get hear from SCAG's Executive Director, Kome Ajise, and other key public and private leaders about the future of mobility. **Learn more and register here:** comotionla.com.

NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



CONNECT SOCAL PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (PEIR) NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP)

SCAG released a [Notice of Preparation \(NOP\) of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report \(PEIR\) for Connect SoCal 2024](#). Release of the NOP formally kicks off the environmental review process, in accordance with the California Environment Quality Act, for the upcoming Connect SoCal 2024. The NOP is under the required 30-day public review and comment period from Oct. 17, to Nov. 16, 2022. **Additionally, SCAG is hosting two virtual public scoping meetings for the NOP on Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 6 to 8 p.m., and Thursday, Nov. 10, from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, visit:** scag.ca.gov/peir.

HOUSING-SUPPORTIVE GRANT UPDATES: CHANGE TO NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR APPLICATIONS

The deadline for all SCAG jurisdictions to have compliant housing elements was Oct. 15. Non-compliance triggers a number of impacts, including potential ineligibility for critical funding resources. Staff will continue to monitor funding sources and requirements to advocate on behalf of the cities and counties in

our region to ensure residents have the greatest access to funding resources.

On Oct. 7, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) issued an amendment to the Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) guidelines that extended the application deadline to Nov. 30, and clarified that jurisdictions without compliant housing elements may apply if their housing element is compliant by the date of the funding award. HCD plans to award PLHA funds by February 2023.

SCAG will be offering PLHA application assistance, as well as technical assistance for jurisdictions and Tribal Governments to prepare and submit applications for other housing-supportive funding. HCD and other public agencies are releasing several notices of funding availability for grants. SCAG is offering expert assistance on a rolling basis to help selected recipients prepare and submit applications for these funds and grants. Applications for assistance are available on SCAG's [housing webpage](#) and can be submitted to SCAG until program funds are expended. **For more information, email housing@scag.ca.gov.**

RECAP OF REGIONAL ADVANCE MITIGATION PLANNING (RAMP)/SOCAL GREENPRINT WORKSHOP

In October, SCAG held a virtual workshop for public stakeholders to share an update and gather input on the [Draft Regional Advance Mitigation Planning \(RAMP\) Policy Framework](#) and the process for developing the [SoCal Greenprint](#) tool. Moving forward, we will be revising the draft RAMP framework according to the feedback we received, before bringing it back to the RAMP Advisory Task Group and later the Regional Council.

The full November Executive Director's Report is available here: scag.ca.gov/edr-nov-22.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

NOVEMBER

- 8th Toolbox Tuesday: Equity Resource Guide Series
Kickoff: Baseline Conditions Report
- 9th Virtual Scoping Meeting #1 – Notice of Preparation
- 10th Virtual Scoping Meeting #2 – Notice of Preparation
- 10th Last Mile Freight Program Phase 2 Virtual Listening
Session 2
- 10th Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) Call 4:
Virtual Information Session 1
- 15th Legislative/Communications and Membership

Committee

- 15th Housing Legislation Forum
- 16th Next Generation Infrastructure Subcommittee
- 16th Regional Advance Mitigation Planning – Advisory Task Group (RAMP-ATG)
- 16th SCP Call 4: Virtual Information Session 2
- 17th Racial Equity and Regional Planning Subcommittee
- 17th Technical Working Group
- 21st Resilience and Conservation Subcommittee
- 21st Toolbox Tuesday/Money Monday: Securing Federal Funding from the IJJA and IRA
- 22nd Transportation Conformity Working Group
- 23rd Modeling Task Force
- 30th Executive/Administration Committee

DECEMBER

- 1st The 13th Annual Southern California Economic Summit
- 20th Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee



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CONNECT WITH US



Termites

Status

-
- Structural Pest
-
-
- No health threat



Western Subterranean Termites
Reticulitermes hesperus

Introduction

Termites are small soft-bodied insects with large heads and pear-shaped bodies. All species are social and live in colonies that may host thousands of individuals. They feed on dead wood or fungi; the colony is either housed in dead wood or in soil. They are important as food for many other animals, their tunnels serve to aerate soil which aids plant growth, and their wood-eating is part of the natural decomposition process that returns nutrients to soil. Unfortunately, they also feed on wood that makes up our homes and other buildings. There are about 2,800 known species of termites in the world, 44 in North America, and 15 in California.

Most termites that you might encounter are pale, soft-bodied workers, which are often mistaken for ants, sometimes nicknamed “white ants.” Termites have a broad connection between thorax and abdomen (“waist”); ants have a very narrow “waist.” The antennae of termites is thread-like and made up of tiny bead-like segments; antennae of ants is elbowed and made up of cylindrical segments. The reproductive stages of both termites and ants have four membranous wings, however all four wings of termites are nearly identical and very long, while the front wings of ants are larger than the hind wings.

Swarming

During certain times of year and weather conditions, particularly after rainfall followed by warm weather, young reproductive termites exit the colony and fly away in search of a partner. This mass exodus may consist of dozens to hundreds of individuals, all flying away from their parent’s colony together. Birds such as phoebes, kingbirds, and other flycatchers are very fond of termites and are seen performing comical acrobatics to catch and devour them out of the air.

Body Forms and Reproduction

Termites have four body forms (castes) that have different functions within the colony. Workers are cream-colored sterile males and females that never grow wings. They perform the day-to-day work of the colony: chew wood, make tunnels, maintain the nest, tend the young, and feed other termites. Soldiers are sterile males and females that have enlarged hardened heads, often equipped with large mandibles for defending the colony. Reproductives are usually tan to dark brown and have functional wings. Both male and female forms are fertile. When mature, they fly from their parent’s colony, locate a partner, find a secluded place, drop their wings, mate, and start their own colony. A mated female is called a queen, a mated male is a king. The pair produces offspring that develop to become members of their colony. Since the colony is made up of descendants of a single pair of termites, it is a family unit. Some colonies are made up of multiple pairs of reproductives, making those colonies multi-family units. Subreproductives resemble reproductives but have only wing stubs and can never fly. They are essentially sterile but if the king and/or queen die or are removed from the colony, they become fertile and can reproduce. They are then called a secondary king or queen. The original (primary) queen of some species is known to lay up to 2,000 eggs per day and live up to 45 years.

Management

Since termites can damage wood and wood products, care should be taken to prevent them from colonizing structures. Most termite inspection and control should be carried out by a licensed professional pest control company. However, there are some things that homeowners can do to discourage termite infestation and reduce their impact.

- Termites enter small cracks and holes in wood to start a new colony. Seal up cracks and holes in buildings to prevent their entry.
- Watch for swarms of termites flying from their colonies in soil or wood. The exit point reveals the location of the colony.
- Routinely inspect buildings for termite colonies and damage. As they produce and accumulate solid waste (“fecal pellets”), termite workers make holes to the outside and push the pellets out. Look for accumulation of fecal pellets at the base of posts and on the ground.
- As termites feed and hollow out wood, a tap on the wood will sound hollow and may crush inward, revealing the colony’s tunnels. Tap suspect wood and listen for the sound.
- Termites often invade firewood piles, especially those stored directly on soil. Stack firewood on a stand to keep the wood at least 18 inches above the ground.



Formosan Termites Confirmed in Two New Southern California Locations

PEST CONTROL TECHNOLOGY, Published on: October 7, 2022



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RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Formosan subterranean termites (*Coptotermes formosanus*) continue to be on the radar of pest management professionals in Southern California following confirmation of two more infestations — one from a house in La Verne, Calif., and the other from a house in Hollywood Hills, Calif. The findings were confirmed by Dr. Chow-Yang Lee and researchers from his lab at the University of California, Riverside Department of Entomology.

As previously reported by PCT, Formosan subterranean termites (FSTs) are not native to Southern California nor the United States. Still, in California they have been confirmed in pockets, and many entomologists and pest management professionals believe they may be underreported in the Golden State.

The recent FST discovery in La Verne came after ProCraft Pest Control, Upland, Calif., was called by one of its customers about a large termite swarm. It turned out the swarm was coming from the next-door neighbor's home. That homeowner, who owns a lumber company, built his home with numerous railroad ties. ProCraft owner Mike Furlong theorizes that some of the railroad ties may have been transported from a location that does have Formosan subterranean termites.

Furlong was alerted to potential FSTs by ProCraft service technician Luke Miller, who services the home. "I decided to send it in (to UCR) because it didn't match," Furlong said. "Just a lighter color throughout, and that doesn't fit drywoods and other subs we see. And the wings looked off. The coloration was off substantially."

Lee was out of the country, but his lab technician, Sen Miao, performed the measurement and molecular identification. Lee then checked the outcome of the ID and confirmed that they were Formosan subterranean termites. "Basically, what we did was examine the morphology of the sample under the microscope and then carried out analysis of 16S ribosomal RNA," Lee said.

Furlong said that his customer's home was immaculate and also built on a slab (no crawlspace), so he did not find any damage, but that ProCraft will be closely monitoring that property for FSTs in the future.

In addition to the Formosan termites found in La Verne, an FST infestation was confirmed in a Hollywood Hills home. The termites were sent to UC Riverside by the homeowner after first identified by Orkin technician Isela Munoz and then by Orkin inspector José Ernesto Aguilar. After receiving the sample, Dr. Siavash Taravati from the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) visited the home, where he found more dead Formosan termites in the storage area in the loft. However, no signs of active infestations were evident during a visual inspection or when he used Termatrac, a device that detects tiny movements in the wood using microwaves technology.

"It's an all-wood old house with [Formosan subterranean termites] first found flying in a loft around a standing light near a storage door," Taravati said.

Taravati said that some minor damage was found in the landscape on the buried portion of the fence downslope, "but we don't know if they are from Western subterranean termite or Formosan. On the upslope, dense cover plants were found but the wooden retaining walls were intact. The house also has many small damages from drywood termites based on their shape and presence of hexagonal fecal pellets."

Taravati added that he inspected the crawlspace of the Hollywood Hills home and found no evidence of FST damage and that the nearby landscape soil was relatively dry, except for a few spots near sprinklers. — Brad Harbison