

# SCAG: Meeting Regional Housing Needs

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Jenna Hornstock - Deputy Director of Planning, Land Use

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#### What Is an MPO?

- A metropolitan planning organization (MPO) is, by federal law, designated by the governor of each state for every urban area with at least 50,000 residents.
- MPOs develop solutions to regional transportation problems and address other important issues such as land use, air quality, energy, economic development, commerce, and quality of life.

# The SCAG Region

191

6 COUNTIES

19.1M
RESIDENTS



**36,618** SQUARE MILES

\$1.2T REGIONAL GDP

**15TH** 

LARGEST ECONOMY WORLDWIDE

48.1%

OF STATE POPULATION

# Primary Roles & Responsibilities

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP)

- 4 REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT (RHNA)
- **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY (SCS)**
- 5 REGIONAL DATA & INFORMATION CENTER
- FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FTIP)
- 6 FORUM FOR ISSUES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE



## **Housing Program Overview**

Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Regional Early
Action Planning
Program (REAP)
1.0

**REAP 2.0** 

Housing Working Group

Housing Policy Development

#### RHNA Process: State

Projects
future
population
and jobs

Estimates
total need
for new
housing
units

Distributes
housing
needs
among
state's
regions

### RHNA Process: Region

당 Gives COG Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Identify criteria and method for distributing housing need

Distributes
housing
needs by
locality
according to
various
factors

## RHNA Process: Locality

Distributes
housing
needs by
locality
according to
various
factors

Update housing element to ensure capacity to meet needs, identify other policies

Develop new housing according to community needs, demands, and financing

## Comparison of Regional Determination by Cycle

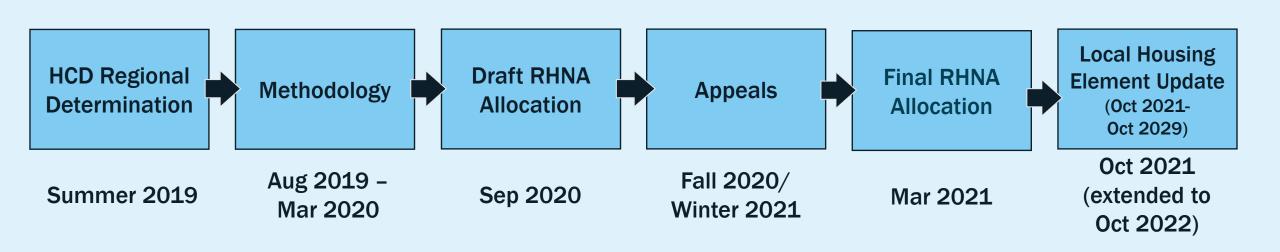






# 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle RHNA Timeline

The SCAG 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle RHNA methodology departed from prior cycles to connect regional plans & regional needs



#### **Guiding Principles for RHNA Methodology**



"This is about more than just counting housing units: it also carries forward our regional plan for sustainable development, improved mobility, and increased access to jobs, housing, and amenities."

- Kome Ajise, SCAG Executive Director

# SCAG Region RHNA Methodology: Allocating 1,341,827 units



Share of household growth



Job accessibility



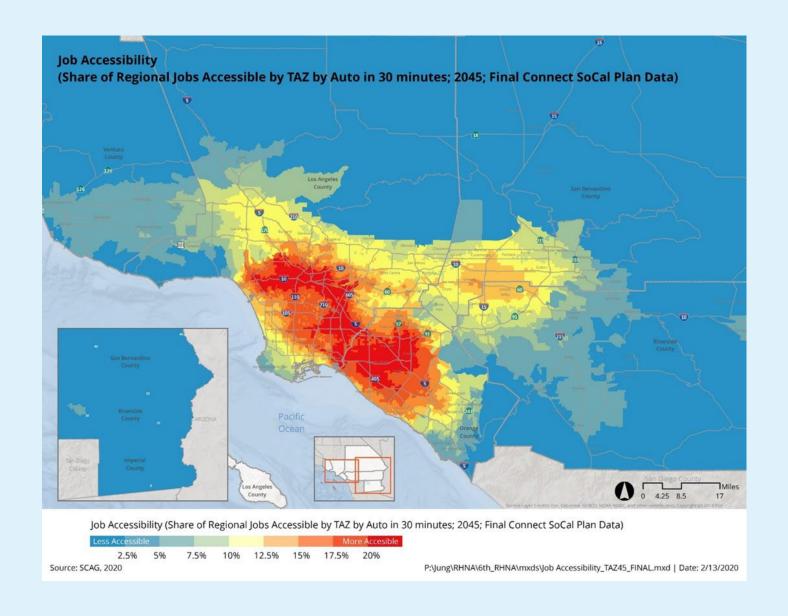
**Transit accessibility** 



#### **Social equity adjustment**

- Household income distribution
- Other indicators of resources: environment, education, economy, etc.

# SCAG Region RHNA Methodology: Allocating 1,341,827 units



# What's in a Housing Element?



**Updated every 8 years, requires HCD approval** 



List and map of sites where new units can be built



Data on housing needs, employment trends, and other community statistics



Goals, policies, and programs to help produce and preserve housing of all types



Analysis of development standards to mitigate constraints



**Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing** 

# Why Has Meeting Housing Need Been So Hard?



The 6th RHNA allocation was **MORE THAN TRIPLE** the 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle



Number of recent **CHANGES TO HOUSING LAW** mid-cycle mean housing elements must demonstrate stronger ability to produce housing



AFFH GUIDANCE RELEASED IN APRIL 2021 LEAVING SCAG jurisdictions with LITTLE TIME TO INTERPRET, ENGAGE COMMUNITIES & PRODUCE COMPLIANT HOUSING ELEMENTS

# Why Has Meeting Housing Need Been So Hard?



The pandemic meant jurisdictions were short staffed and had urgent priorities such as emergency rental assistance



SB2, LEAP, REAP and 6<sup>th</sup> cycle housing elements = new funding for housing and land use planning



Consultant market was overwhelmed and there have been challenges in procuring consultants to do the work

# Why Has Meeting Housing Need Been So Hard?



All these factors have come together at the same time....like an Everything Bagel!

#### **Balance** is Needed

**COMPLIANCE** 

**LACK OF COMPLIANCE** 

78

of our jurisdictions
meeting the
FULL COMPLIANCE
REQUIREMENT

Continual **BACK AND FORTH**with the State to

prove compliance

LESS ABILITY
TO SECURE
FUNDING
for housing



# THANK YOU!