

# C/CAG

## City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County

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## MEETING AGENDA

### C/CAG Legislative Committee

**\*\*\*HYBRID MEETING - IN-PERSON AND BY VIDEOCONFERENCE\*\*\***

<b>Date:</b> Thursday, May 8, 2025	<b>Join by Webinar:</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86940533347?pwd=7qP6fNCJYI2vET1hWqkhIZRKa6FEb3.1">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86940533347?pwd=7qP6fNCJYI2vET1hWqkhIZRKa6FEb3.1</a>
<b>Time:</b> 5:30 p.m.	
<b>Primary Location:</b>  1250 San Carlos Ave. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Auditorium San Carlos, CA 94070	<b>Webinar ID:</b> 869 4053 3347  <b>Password:</b> 050825  <b>Join by Phone:</b> (669) 900-6833

**Chair:** Gina Papan **Vice Chair:** Stacey Jimenez

**Members:** Eddie Flores, Anders Fung, Lisa Gauthier, Elizabeth Lewis,  
Andrea Pappajohn, Adam Rak (C/CAG Chair), Michael Salazar (C/CAG Vice Chair), Greg Wright

This meeting of the Legislative Committee will be held in person and by teleconference pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e). Members of the public will be able to participate in the meeting remotely via the Zoom platform or in person at the location above. The Committee welcomes comments, including criticism, about the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the Board and committees. Speakers shall not disrupt, disturb, or otherwise impede the orderly conduct of a Board meeting. For information regarding how to participate in the meeting, either in person or remotely, please refer to the instructions at the end of the agenda.

## Meeting Agenda

1.	Call to Order	Papan	
2.	Roll call	Sternkopf	
3.	Public comment on items not on the agenda.	Papan	
4.	Review and approve the Legislative Committee meeting minutes from the meeting held on April 10, 2025.	Action Sternkopf	Pages 1-4
5.	Review legislative update and, if appropriate, recommend approval of C/CAG legislative policies, priorities, or positions. (A position may be taken on any legislation, including legislation not previously identified in the legislative update. Action is only necessary if recommending approval of a policy, priority, or position.)	Possible Action Robinson/Antwih/Shaw Papan	Pages 5-13
6.	Adjournment	Papan	

**Next Meeting: June 12, 2025**

**PUBLIC NOTICING:** All notices of C/CAG regular Board meetings, standing committee meetings, and special meetings will be posted at the San Mateo County Courtyard, 555 County Center, Redwood City, CA, and on C/CAG's website at: <http://www.ccag.ca.gov>.

**PUBLIC RECORDS:** Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular Board meeting, standing committee meeting, or special meeting are available for public inspection. Those public records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to a regular Board meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members, of the Board. The Board has designated the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG), located at 555 County Center, 5th Floor, Redwood City, CA 94063, for the purpose of making public records available for inspection. Such public records are also available on C/CAG's website at: <http://www.ccag.ca.gov>. Please note that C/CAG's office is temporarily closed to the public; please contact Mima Crume at (650) 599-1406 to arrange for inspection of public records. **ADA REQUESTS:** Persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids or services to participate in this meeting should contact Mima Crume at (650) 599-1406 or [mcrume@smcgov.org](mailto:mcrume@smcgov.org) by 10:00 a.m. prior to the meeting date.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION DURING HYBRID MEETINGS:** During hybrid meetings of the C/CAG Board, members of the public may address the Board as follows:

**WRITTEN COMMENTS:** Written comments should be emailed in advance of the meeting. Please read the following instructions carefully:

1. Your written comment should be emailed to [dsternkopf@smcgov.org](mailto:dsternkopf@smcgov.org).
2. Your email should include the specific agenda item on which you are commenting or note that your comment concerns an item that is not on the agenda.

3. Members of the public are limited to one comment per agenda item.
4. If your emailed comment is received at least 2 hours prior to the meeting, it will be provided to the Committee members, made publicly available on the C/CAG website along with the agenda. Emails received less than 2 hours before the meeting will be provided to the Committee members and included in the administrative record of the meeting as soon as practicable.

**SPOKEN COMMENTS:** Members of the public who wish to speak on matters not on the agenda will be given an opportunity to address the Committee during the agenda item titled “Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda.” Members of the public who wish to speak on a matter on the agenda will have two minutes each to address the Committee on that agenda item unless a different time limit is established by the Chair. No speaker who has already spoken on an item will be entitled to speak to that item again. At the call of the Chair, public comments will be taken in-person and remote. Public comments will be taken first by speakers in person followed by via Zoom. If you have documents you wish to distribute to the Committee and include in the official record, please hand it to the C/CAG Staff who will distribute the information to the Committee members and staff. \*Those participating remotely will:

1. Access the meeting through Zoom at the online location or via phone as indicated at the top of this agenda.
2. Download the Zoom client or connect to the meeting using an internet browser. If using your browser, make sure you are using a current, up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain functionality may be disabled in older browsers including Internet Explorer.
3. Enter an email address and name. We request that you identify yourself by your name as this will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
4. Click on “raise hand” when the C/CAG Clerk or Chair calls for the item on which you wish to speak. The Clerk will activate and unmute speakers in turn. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called on to speak. If calling in via phone, press \*9 to raise your hand and when called upon press \*6 to unmute.
5. When called, please limit your remarks to the time allotted. If you have any questions about this agenda, please contact C/CAG staff:

If you have any questions about this agenda, please contact C/CAG staff:

**Executive Director: Sean Charpentier:** [scharpentier@smcgov.org](mailto:scharpentier@smcgov.org)

**Senior Stormwater Program Specialist:** Dan Sternkopf at [dsternkopf@smcgov.org](mailto:dsternkopf@smcgov.org)

**Clerk of the C/CAG Board:** Mima Crume (650) 599-1406

## C/CAG AGENDA REPORT

Date: May 8, 2025

To: City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County Legislative Committee

From: Sean Charpentier, Executive Director

Subject: Review and approve the Legislative Committee meeting minutes from the meeting held on April 10, 2025.

(For further information, contact Dan Sternkopf at [dsternkopf@smcgov.org](mailto:dsternkopf@smcgov.org))

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### RECOMMENDATION

That the Legislative Committee review and approve the Legislative Committee meeting minutes from the meeting held on April 10, 2025.

### ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft C/CAG Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2025

**CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Draft Meeting Minutes  
April 10, 2025 Meeting**

**Staff and Guests Attending:**

C/CAG Staff:

Sean Charpentier, Reid Bogert, Mima Crume, Kaki Cheung, Dan Sternkopf

Legislative Consultants:

Matt Robinson

Andrew Antwih

Others Attending:

None

**1. Call to Order.**

Chair Papan called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m.

**2. Roll call.**

C/CAG staff conducted roll call, and a quorum of seven were present. Member Fung joined the meeting at 5:41 p.m. Member Rak attended remotely as a member of the public.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>In Person</b>	<b>Remote AB 2449</b>
Atherton	Elizabeth Lewis	X	
Burlingame	Andrea Pappajohn	X	
Foster City	Stacy Jimenez	X	
Millbrae	Anders Fung	X	
Millbrae	Gina Papan (Chair)	X	
Pacifica	Greg Wright	X	
San Bruno	Michael Salazar	X	
San Carlos	Adam Rak		
San Mateo County	Lisa Gauthier		
South SF	Eddie Flores		

**3. Public comment on items not on the agenda.**

There were no written or public comments.

**4. Review and approve the Legislative Committee meeting minutes from the meeting held on March 13, 2025.**

The Committee voted on approval of the minutes of the March 13, 2025 meeting with the condition that the minutes are modified to reflect that Vice Chair Jimenez called the meeting order, with a motion from Member Pappajohn, seconded by Vice Chair Jimenez. A vote was taken, and the motion passed (6,0,0). Member Fung was not present for this vote.

**5. Review and approve draft C/CAG Legislative Policies for 2025.**

This item was moved on the agenda to come after Item 6. Staff shared the most recent version of the C/CAG Legislative Priorities for 2025. Legislative Committee Chair, Gina Papan provided minor feedback regarding project specific language in the Policies. The Committee chose to move finalizing and approving the Policies to the May meeting. No action was taken.

**6. Review legislative update and, if appropriate, recommend approval of C/CAG legislative policies, priorities, or positions. (A position may be taken on any legislation, including legislation not previously identified in the legislative update. Action is only necessary if recommending approval of a policy, priority, or position.)**

C/CAG Legislative Consultant, Matt Robinson from Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmeltzer & Lange (SYASL) provided an update to the Committee, based on their monthly report provided in the agenda packet. Robinson updated the committee on various topics, including the legislative session calendar, governor priorities, budget, and election outcomes.

Approximately 2,350 bills have been introduced across the two houses of the State Legislature in this first year of the 2025-2026 Legislative Session. Many of these bills start out as “spot” bills and will need to be amended before they can be heard in the Legislature’s policy committees. The Assembly required spot bills to be amended by March 17 and the Senate by March 26. Already, pursuant to the Assembly deadline, there has been substantive language amended into many spot bills; there will be additional substantive amendments over the coming weeks. The deadline for policy committees to meet and hear bills with a fiscal impact in the first house is May 2 (May 9 for non-fiscal). For information about key legislative and budget deadlines, please see the 2025 Legislative Calendar available [here](#).

Robinson provided overviews for the Bay Area Regional Measure, as well as the Senator Arreguin and Assemblymember Mark Gonzalez-led effort to secure additional funding for transit.

Robinson then presented on bills with positions. These bills included SB 239 (Arreguín) Brown Act Teleconferencing Advisory Bodies, and AB 259 (Rubio) Brown Act Teleconferencing.

Robinson then presented on bills of interest. These bills included SB 71 (Wiener) CEQA Exemptions for Clean Transportation Projects, SB 79 (Wiener) Transit Oriented Development, SB 417 (Cabaldon) Affordable Housing Bond, SB 445 (Weiner) Sustainable Transportation Permit Streamlining, SB 457 (Becker) Housing Element Compliance, SB 707 (Durazo) Brown Act Reform, AB 736 (Wicks) Affordable Housing Bond, and AB 939 (Schultz) Transportation Bond.

The Committee voted to recommend a SUPPORT position on SB 71 (Weiner) – CEQA

Exemptions for Clean Transportation Projects. A motion was made by Member Lewis, seconded by Vice Chair Jimenez, and the motion passed (6,0,0). Member Fung was not present for this vote.

The Committee voted to recommend a SUPPORT position on SB 457 (Becker) – Housing Element Compliance. A motion was made by Member Wright, seconded by Member Salazar, and the motion passed (7,0,0).

The Committee voted to recommend a SUPPORT position on AB 650 (Papan) – Planning and zoning: housing element: regional housing needs allocation. A motion was made by Member Salazar, seconded by Member Lewis, and the motion passed (7,0,0).

The Committee agreed to continue to maintain a WATCH on SB 707 (Durazo) – Brown Act Reform without taking a position until further revisions to the bill are made. No action was taken by the Committee.

The Committee voted to recommend a WATCH consideration for SB 63 (Weiner) – Regional Transportation Funding Measure. A letter to the authors was proposed with the watch position. Though the Committee does not typically vote on WATCH considerations, the Committee agreed it was warranted to demonstrate to the bill's authors that C/CAG is thoughtfully engaged in the development of the legislation. A motion was made by Chair Papan, seconded by Member Fung, and the motion passed (7,0,0).

## **7. Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:28 P.M.

**Next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2025.**

## C/CAG AGENDA REPORT

Date: May 8, 2025

To: City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County Board of Directors

From: Sean Charpentier, Executive Director

Subject: Review legislative update and, if appropriate, recommend approval of C/CAG legislative policies, priorities, or positions. (A position may be taken on any legislation, including legislation not previously identified in the legislative update. Action is only necessary if recommending approval of a policy, priority, or position.)

(For further information, contact Dan Sternkopf at [dsternkopf@smcgov.org](mailto:dsternkopf@smcgov.org))

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### RECOMMENDATION

C/CAG staff recommend that the C/CAG Board of Directors review the legislative update and, if appropriate, recommend approval of C/CAG legislative policies, priorities, or positions. (A position may be taken on any legislation, including legislation not previously identified in the legislative update. Action is only necessary if recommending approval of a policy, priority, or position.)

### FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

### SOURCE OF FUNDS

N/A

### BACKGROUND

The C/CAG Legislative Committee receives monthly written reports and oral briefings from C/CAG's State legislative advocate, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange (Consultant). Important legislative topics and any votes on positions taken or other actions recommended by the Legislative Committee to the C/CAG Board are reported to the full C/CAG Board through this item.

At Legislative Committee meetings, held prior to the Board meetings, the Committee will mainly receive updates from the Consultant on State budget and any additional information from Sacramento on bills discussed in the attached C/CAG Legislative Update. In addition, the consultant may discuss transportation or other program funding and changes in legislative leadership and committee assignments.

The newly elected legislature initially convened on December 2, 2024 and reconvened on January 6, 2025 for the continuation of the 2025-26 Regular Legislative Session. Legislators had until February 21 to introduce bills for consideration in the first year of the two-year session and are limited to 35



bills, a significant reduction from 50 bills in the previous two-year session. In all, approximately 2400 bills were introduced. The 2025 Legislative Calendar can be found here: [2025 Legislative Calendar](#), and list of bills being tracked by SYASL on C/CAG's behalf can be found here: [C/CAG Bill Tracking](#).

The attached report (Attachment 1) from the Consultant may include various updates from Sacramento with respect to the legislative timelines, State Budget, changes in leadership and committee rosters and chairs, State grant programs, recent committee hearings, and bill progress of interest to C/CAG since the Committee and Board last met. At the May 8, 2025 meeting, the Board will receive an update on bills of interest to C/CAG.

At the April 10, 2025 meeting, with recommendations from the Legislative Committee, the C/CAG Board voted to take the following positions: SUPPORT on SB 71 (Weiner) – CEQA Exemptions for Clean Transportation Projects; SUPPORT on SB 457 (Becker) – Housing Element Compliance; SUPPORT on AB 650 (Papan) – Planning and zoning: housing element: regional housing needs allocation. The Committee agreed to continue to maintain a WATCH on SB 707 (Durazo) – Brown Act Reform without taking a position until further revisions to the bill are made. Lastly, with the recommendation of the Committee, the C/CAG Board voted to WATCH SB 63 (Weiner) – Regional Transportation Funding Measure. A letter to the authors was proposed with the watch position. Though the Committee and Board do not typically vote on WATCH considerations, the Committee agreed it was warranted to demonstrate to the bill's authors that C/CAG is thoughtfully engaged in the development of the legislation.

See Attachment 3 for position letters on the \$2 billion transit budget request, SB 63, and AB 650.

### **Regional Transportation Measure**

State Senators Weiner and Arreguín have introduced SB 63. Regional Measure SB 63 is now a fully written bill and in print, the link to which is provided as Attachment 2 to this staff report. The bill was heard in the Senate Transportation Committee on April 22, passing the committee on an 11-3 vote, and the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee on April 23, passing the committee on a 4-1 vote. The Legislative Committee will further discuss SB 63 (Weiner and Arreguín) Regional Measure under consideration of bills of interest. Staff will update the Legislative Committee and the Board at the May 8, 2025 meeting with the most recent information. On April 21, C/CAG, the San Mateo Transit District and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority submitted a joint comment letter documenting feedback from the Legislative Committee and the C/CAG Board on the proposed Regional Measure, especially regarding the desire for local countywide transportation authority control of revenue, revenue allocation structures and the need for appropriate accountability measures (Attachment 3). Staff will provide an update on SB 63 at the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **UPDATE ON STATE AND FEDERAL C/CAG BUDGET REQUESTS**

C/CAG, with support from Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange and Ken Brown Strategic consulting, has prepared five budget requests for a total of \$8.2M through the Fiscal Year 2025 State and Federal earmark process. C/CAG submitted all five budget requests to the San Mateo State Delegation and four to the Federal Senator Schiff and Federal Senator Padilla in early April. The table below provides a summary of the budget requests.

<b>Project</b>	<b>\$\$\$</b>	<b>Submitted To</b>
Strengthening Coastal Resilience	\$1,500,000	Asm. Berman, State Senator Becker, Federal Senator Padilla, Federal Senator Schiff
Roadway Safety Improvements, Capital Improvements	\$1,000,000	Asm. Papan, State Senator Becker
Colma El Camino Real Bike/Ped Project	\$3,700,000	Asm. Catherine Stefani, State Senator Weiner, Federal Senator Padilla, Federal Senator Schiff
Countywide One Watershed Strategic Plan	\$1,500,000	Asm. Papan, State Senator Becker, Federal Senator Padilla, Federal Senator Schiff
Drought Conservation – Laundry to Landscape	\$590,000	Asm. Papan, State Senator Becker, Federal Senator Padilla, Federal Senator Schiff
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,290,000</b>	

Since submitting the funding requests, C/CAG staff and consultants have met with staff and/or representatives from the offices of U.S. Senator Padilla and Senator Schiff, Congressional Representative Licardo, as well as State Assemblymember Stefani. Staff have been notified that Congressman Mullin is resubmitting proposals from Fiscal Year 2024 rather than soliciting new proposals for Fiscal Year 2025.

## **EQUITY IMPACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS**

The C/CAG Legislative Committee considers equity in its positions on legislation and has included equity language in the annual Legislative Priorities document for C/CAG Board review and approval. Decisions made in relation to transportation, housing, stormwater, and climate resilience have the potential to impact our most vulnerable communities in San Mateo County.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. C/CAG Legislative Update, April 30, 2025 from Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange
2. Link to SB 63 (Wiener and Arreguín) – Regional Transportation Measure:  
[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202520260SB63](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB63)
3. Position letters on the \$2 billion transit budget request, SB 63, and AB 650 are available under #7 Communications on the C/CAG website (*See “Additional Agenda Materials” for the May 2025 Board Meeting*) at: <https://ccag.ca.gov/committees/board-of-directors-2/>

Below are informational links:

- [Recent Joint ABAG MTC Legislation Committee Agendas](#)
- [California State Association of Counties \(CSAC\) bill positions and tracking](#)
- [California Associations of Councils of Government \(CALCOG\) bill tracking](#)
- Full Legislative search is available for specific bills at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
- [2025 California State Calendar of Legislative Deadlines](#)

## San Mateo County Delegation

- [Legislation from Assemblymember Marc Berman](#)
  - [Legislation from Assemblymember Diane Papan](#)
  - [Legislation from Assemblymember Catherine Stefani](#)
  - [Legislation from Senator Josh Becker](#)
  - [Legislation Senator Scott Wiener](#)
- 
- Bill Tracker for C/CAG by SYASL: [C/CAG Bill Tracking](#)
  - Current client roster for Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange - <https://syaslparkers.com/clients/>



1415 L Street  
Suite 1000  
Sacramento  
CA, 95814  
916-446-4656

April 30, 2025

To: Board of Directors  
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County

From: Matt Robinson, Andrew Antwih and Silvia Solis Shaw  
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange

Re: **STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – May 2025**

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### ***Legislative Update***

The Legislature adjourned for Spring Recess on April 10 and reconvened on April 21. Upon its return to Sacramento, the Legislature immediately held a series of policy committee hearings to meet the first house deadline. The deadline for policy committees to meet and hear bills with a fiscal impact is May 2 for bills in the first house (May 9 for non-fiscal bills). Most bills that pass policy committees are referred to the appropriations committees. Bills determined to have a fiscal impact on the state are referred to the appropriations committees' suspense files. The deadline for the fiscal committees to move bills to the floor of each house is May 23, therefore we expect the appropriations committees' suspense file hearings to be held May 22. For information about key legislative and budget deadlines, please see the 2025 Legislative Calendar available [here](#).

### ***May Revise***

As a reminder, on January 10, Governor Newsom released his proposed [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2025-26 budget](#), projecting a balanced \$322.3 billion budget. The actions taken as part of the FY 2024-25 budget process improved economic conditions and successfully addressed the then-projected deficits, leaving the proposed FY 2025-26 budget with a modest \$363 million surplus, \$16.9 billion in reserves, and no projected deficit. However, due to several factors – including the stock market's significant dip, the Los Angeles wildfires, the impacts of federal tariffs, and the potential for lost federal revenues – the budget picture may become much bleaker. In response to the wildfires, the state authorized several billion dollars in relief. Affected residents were also given until October 15, 2025 to file their 2024 taxes – further obfuscating the state's budget picture. In addition, the stock market's significant dip may also have an outsized effect on California's finances, due to their strong correlation with capital gains tax revenue. This revenue makes up a large part of California's General Fund. Finally, the Trump Administration is threatening to withhold billions of dollars from California which could require the state to fund additional services and/or further support local governments. The Governor is expected to release his updated budget – the May Revise – on or around May 14.

### ***Bay Area Regional Measure***

The effort to generate additional revenue to support the Bay Area's public transit systems by way of a regional transportation measure is now included in SB 63 (Wiener and Arreguin). The bill was heard in the Senate Transportation Committee on April 22, passing the committee on an 11-3 vote, and the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee on April 23, passing the committee on a 4-1 vote. The bill would authorize a citizens' initiative, which may only require a simple majority vote, for a sales tax of one half cent in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, and up to one cent in San Francisco. These taxes would be applied for 10-15 years. As noted, the bill is currently a three-county measure (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco), but provides a path for San Mateo and Santa Clara counties to opt-in before July 2025. After administrative costs, the bill would allocate remaining revenues to AC Transit, BART, Caltrain, and Muni, and may only be used for transit operations. The measure would also provide up to 10 percent of the revenues for transit transformation. Any remaining funds could be used for East Bay bus operators that provide feeder service to BART. The bill will also require performance audits of the four major transit systems facing fiscal cliffs (AC Transit, BART, Caltrain, SF Muni), and an operational cost-sharing analysis, as well as provisions for stronger regional network management. The bill also authorizes a regional network manager to implement the network management framework in exchange for access to SB 63 funds.

### ***Governor, Legislative Leaders Announce Update to Cap-and-Trade Re-Authorization***

On April 15, Governor Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Mike McGuire and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas officially announced they will work to extend California's Cap-and-Trade program in 2025. The program is currently set to sunset in 2030, but some argue extending the program sooner rather than later will offer the market greater certainty and stability. This announcement comes on the heels of the Trump Administration's threats to further roll back climate action, including the Cap-and-Trade program. Revenues from Cap-and-Trade provide key funding for transit and other greenhouse-gas reducing projects.

### ***Governor Newsom Appoints New CARB Member***

On April 25, Governor Newsom announced the appointment of Riverside Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson to the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Dawson will serve as the board's member from the South Coast Air Quality Management District, replacing attorney Gideon Kracov, who stepped down from CARB and SCAQMD earlier this month. Dawson was picked by cities in Riverside County to represent their region on SCAQMD in March 2023. She previously ran a consulting firm and was a wildlife biologist at the Bureau of Land Management.

### ***Bills with Positions***

#### **SB 71 (Wiener) CEQA Exemptions for Clean Transportation Projects – SUPPORT**

This bill would extend indefinitely the current January 1, 2030 sunset date established by SB 922 (Wiener, 2022) for statutorily authorized CEQA exemptions for transit and transportation projects, add additional project-types to the list of exemptions (transit operational analysis, bus stops, bus shelters), and make substantive procedural changes surrounding board actions (i.e. board process for establishing a project's cost estimate).

**SB 239 (Arreguín) Brown Act Teleconferencing Advisory Bodies – SUPPORT REQUEST AMENDMENTS**

This bill would authorize a subsidiary body to use alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation. The bill would require the subsidiary body to post the agenda at the primary physical meeting location. The bill would require the members of the subsidiary body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform and would require the subsidiary body to list a member of the subsidiary body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location in the minutes of the meeting. The bill would require the legislative body that established the subsidiary body electing to use teleconferencing pursuant to these provisions to establish the subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action to make specified findings by majority vote, before the subsidiary body uses teleconferencing for the first time and every 12 months thereafter. The bill would require the subsidiary body to approve the use of teleconference by two-thirds vote before using teleconferencing. Elected officials serving on a subsidiary body would be required to post their location and open the location to the public when participating remotely.

**SB 457 (Becker) Housing Element Compliance – SUPPORT**

This bill would prevent the misuse of the Builder's Remedy, which prohibits a local government from denying a housing development project that includes a percentage of units set aside for affordable housing for 55 years for rental units, and 45 years for ownership. SB 457 would ensure that agencies are treated equitably and that their exposure to the Builder's Remedy does not depend on the California Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) review timelines. Currently, a housing element is not considered compliant until the date it is deemed compliant by HCD or a court, even without any change in substance before the date, placing the agency at the mercy of HCD's workload and timeline for reviewing housing elements. This bill will ensure that agencies are not penalized after they have committed to a compliant housing element and that they can enforce the policies contained in their compliant housing element. Additionally, this bill would clarify that the Builder's Remedy is available only to developers who demonstrate a serious commitment to a Builder's Remedy project by requiring a complete application to be filed before the agency adopts a housing element later determined to be compliant by HCD or a court. ***This bill is not moving forward in 2025.***

**AB 259 (Rubio) Brown Act Teleconferencing – SUPPORT**

Existing law authorizes local agencies to use teleconferencing for board/council members under certain circumstances (illness, caring for others, travel, etc.) as long as a quorum of the members participate in person from the same location identified on the agenda and that the location is open to the public and is within the local agency's jurisdiction. Existing law establishes limits on the number of meetings members may participate in via teleconference to two meetings per year if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less. These provisions sunset on January 1, 2026. This bill would remove the sunset date and extend the alternative teleconferencing procedures indefinitely.

**AB 650 (Papan) Housing Element Compliance – SUPPORT**

AB 650 proposes a three-pronged approach: start the RHNA process earlier, allowing cities to begin planning sooner; require HCD to provide clear feedback and guidance; and offer relief to good actor cities in the form of a stay on the builder's remedy while they are awaiting a response from HCD. By bolstering clarity in the housing review process, local jurisdictions will be able to develop housing plans

on time that comply with California's complex laws, thus readying themselves for much-needed housing production.

### ***Bills of Interest***

#### **SB 79 (Wiener) Transit Oriented Development – WATCH**

This bill would require that a residential development proposed within one-half or one-quarter mile of a transit-oriented development stop be an allowed use on any site zoned for residential, mixed, commercial, or light industrial development. A transit-oriented development stop is defined as a site with an existing rail or bus rapid transit station, a ferry terminal, or the intersection of two or more high frequency bus stops. SB 79 also requires that the development be eligible for streamlined, ministerial approval.

In addition, SB 79 exempts residential, commercial, and mixed-use projects on land owned by a public transit agency from CEQA. The bill further exempts from CEQA projects for rail facilities, including the construction or rehabilitation of stations and facilities which will be exclusively used by zero-emission or electric trains. If a project done pursuant to this exemption requires the construction of off-site storage and maintenance facilities distinct from the principal project site, the project would be separate and not exempt.

#### **SB 417 (Cabaldon) Affordable Housing Bond – WATCH**

This bill proposes the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, which would authorize \$10 billion in bonds to address California's housing needs if approved by voters in the June 2, 2026, statewide election. The funds would support affordable rental housing and homeownership programs, including the Multifamily Housing Program, CalHome Program, and Joe Serna Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program. Specific allocations include \$5.25 billion for multifamily housing, \$1.75 billion for supportive housing with operating subsidies, \$800 million for portfolio reinvestment programs, \$1 billion for homeownership opportunities, and additional funds for wildfire-impacted housing markets, tribal housing grants, and disaster rehabilitation. The bill is designed as an urgency statute to enable immediate implementation upon voter approval. ***This bill is not moving forward in 2025.***

#### **SB 601 (Allen) Waste Discharge – WATCH**

This bill would require dischargers from regulated industries to demonstrate enrollment in with applicable National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) or the Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) permits when applying for local business licenses or building/construction permits. The bill also expands the NPDES/WDR permits to cover previously unregulated waterways as defined by the Clean Water Act, now including "nexus waters" to essentially mean any waters of the state not designated as navigable under federal law. The bill would thereby significantly increase the types and number of regulated waterways and the associated types and number of regulated industries that would be required to demonstrate enrollment in NPDES/WDR permits compared to existing law. It would also expand citizen suit provisions under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act applicable to all newly regulated nexus waters.

#### **SB 707 (Durazo) Brown Act Reform – WATCH**

This bill would make a number of changes to the Brown Act, while also covering elements of the legislation C/CAG is supporting. This bill would authorize the legislative body of a local agency to use

teleconferencing during a proclaimed state of emergency or local emergency if certain conditions are met, including that it determines that meeting in person during the emergency would present health and safety risks. This bill also includes similar remote participation authority for just cause as constituted by AB 2449 (Rubio), but unlike AB 259 (Rubio), sunsets this authority in 2030. This bill would also create a process for subsidiary bodies to meet remotely, similar to the requirements for AB 2449 meeting. However, certain members participating remotely can count toward the in-person quorum requirements (ADA, under 18, etc.). This bill contains several other provisions related to the Brown Act.

#### **AB 736 (Wicks) Affordable Housing Bond – WATCH**

This bill proposes the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, which seeks to authorize \$10 billion in bonds to address California's housing crisis. If approved by voters during the June 2, 2026 statewide election, the funds would support a range of affordable housing initiatives, including rental housing programs, homeownership assistance, farmworker housing grants, and tribal housing projects. Specific allocations include \$5.25 billion for multifamily housing programs, \$1.75 billion for supportive housing with operating subsidies, \$800 million for portfolio reinvestment programs, and \$1 billion for homeownership opportunities through existing programs like CalHome. Additional funding would target energy efficiency improvements, acquisition and rehabilitation of unrestricted housing units with affordability restrictions, and tribal community rebuilding efforts. The act is designed as an urgency statute to enable immediate implementation and preparation for bond issuance upon voter approval.

#### **AB 939 (Schultz) Transportation Bond – WATCH**

This bill would enact the Safe, Sustainable, Traffic-Reducing Transportation Bond Act of 2026 which, subject to voter-approval, would authorize \$20 billion in General Obligation bonds to finance transit and passenger rail improvements, local streets and roads and active transportation projects, zero-emission vehicle investments, transportation freight infrastructure improvements, and grade separations and other critical safety improvements. The bill still needs additional substantive amendments, but it sets aside \$6 billion for transit capital improvements, \$3.5 billion for local streets and roads, \$4 billion for intercity, regional, and commuter passenger rail improvements, and \$3 billion for zero-emission vehicle investments, including rolling stock, battery electric technology vehicles, and hydrogen technology vehicles, \$1 billion for grade separations. ***This bill is not moving forward in 2025.***

#### **AB 1085 (Stefani) License Plate Obstruction – RECOMMEND SUPPORT**

Existing law prohibits a person from obstructing a license plate that inhibits the plate's recognition by an electronic device in connection with a toll road, high-occupancy toll lane, toll bridge, or other toll facility. Existing law also prohibits the sale of a product or device that obscures a license plate. This bill would further expand on the list of obscuring devices to include a shade or tint that obstructs the reading or recognition of a license and would increase the penalty for the manufacture of these products from \$250 to \$2,500.

***For a full list of bills we are tracking for C/CAG, please click [here](#).***