
News Release

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Connect SoCal targets 215 transportation investments for Ventura County over the next 25 years

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has identified 215 transportation improvement projects for Ventura County as part of the draft Connect SoCal 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy released in early November.

Connect SoCal 2024 provides a long-term vision for transportation investments throughout the six-county SCAG region—one of the most vibrant and diverse economies in the United States. SCAG planners spent four years analyzing data and working with local communities to develop this regional vision to improve mobility, meet air-quality goals, create economic opportunities and enhance quality of life. Notable in this plan update are new strategies for addressing the housing crisis, adapting to climate change and investing in underserved communities.

Connect SoCal 2024 identifies \$750 billion in transportation improvements for the six counties over the next quarter-century. For Ventura County, 215 projects are included, among them:

- The widening and replacement of Harbor Boulevard (\$130 million)
- A multimodal transportation center in Downtown Ventura (\$50 million)
- Road widening in Pleasant Valley (\$596 million)
- Green Port Locomotive Project (\$500 million)

“Making sure projects that enhance our transportation infrastructure are funded and built is critical to the future of Ventura County and Southern California as a whole, connecting communities, creating new business opportunities and sustaining a quality of life we cherish,” said Jenny Crosswhite, member of SCAG’s Regional Council and Santa Paula city councilmember.

Connect SoCal 2024 projects that Ventura County’s population will grow by 3,000 people over the next quarter century, to 852,000 by 2050. The mobility improvements included in the plan would reduce travel commuter delays and generate 8,100 jobs in Ventura County—directly and indirectly—each year, while improving health outcomes. If implemented across Southern California, the 25-year plan would net 11.4% reduction in overall vehicle miles traveled, more than 480,000 jobs created per year and a return of \$2 for every \$1 spent on transportation improvements.

SCAG updates this long-range planning document every four years to respond to challenges, plan for emerging trends and meet federal and state planning requirements. Following the public review period, a final version of Connect SoCal 2024 is expected to be presented to SCAG’s Regional Council for approval in spring 2024.

“This plan incorporates local input more so than in past cycles,” said Art Brown, SCAG Regional Council president and Buena Park mayor. “This can help us move together as a region toward improving our transportation network and meeting our sustainability goals.”

The draft Connect SoCal 2024 is available for public comment and review until Jan. 12, 2024. To learn more and submit your comments, visit www.connectsocial.org.

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About SCAG

SCAG is the nation's largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 191 cities and nearly 19 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG's regional efforts, please visit www.scag.ca.gov.

