



June 8, 2011

Attn: Charlie Larwood, Chair
Plans and Programs Technical Advisory Committee
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
818 W. Seventh Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Re: 2012 RTP: addressing Safety for all roadway users

Dear Committee Chair and Members of the P&P TAC;

I am writing to you on behalf of over 100 organizations and individuals that are supportive of more increased planning and investments for active transportation in the SCAG Region.

SCAG's last Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), adopted in 2008, was an over \$530 Billion dollar plan that unfortunately allocated less than **0.5% of all funding** toward supporting walking and bicycling projects.¹ In light of the fact that **Twelve percent of all trips** in the SCAG region are done via walking and/or bicycling², and **tragically 25% of all roadway injuries and fatalities** in the region are pedestrian and bicyclists³ we find these stats very troubling.

In light of those inequities both in investments and ensuring safety for all roadway users, we strongly encourage SCAG and the Regional Council members to ensure the 2012 RTP performance measures and/or indicators include measuring the reduction and/or increase in roadways collision and injuries for our most vulnerable users, those out walking and/or bicycling.

In April 2011, SafeTrec released the Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS). We applaud the State of California for providing an impressive and critical tool to help regions and local jurisdictions prioritize investments to address safety first, we want to make sure you know about this tool and are looking at ways to have it benefit Regional Transportation Planning in the SCAG Region.

TIMS has been established by researchers at the [Safe Transportation Research and Education Center \(SafeTREC\)](#) at the University of California, Berkeley to provide data and mapping analysis tools and information for traffic safety related research, policy and planning. TIMS is online tool that contains geocoded SWITRS collision data, a web-based data query and download application was developed with the ability to display pin maps in Google Map.

¹ 2008 SCAG RTP, Non-Motorized Supplemental Report

² 2001 SCAG Regional Household Travel Survey

³ 2008 SWIRTS Data

Safe Routes to School – Southern California Network
(A project of the [Safe Routes to School National Partnership](#))
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We kindly request that the P&P TAC discuss how this impressive and valuable tool can be used in SCAG 2012 RTP. We encourage this tool to be shared with all policy committees and sub regional coordinators to help get the word out in the Region of this tool as soon as possible. It can help prioritize investments in a time of limited fiscal resources as well as ensure cities have the tools to compete successfully for funding – such as the Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) and federal and state Safe Routes to School funding.

At May's P&P TAC meeting, RTP Program Manager Naresh Amatya stated that "90% of the 2012 RTP is already written." We kindly request a meeting on how the remaining 10% of the RTP will be developed as we see this as a key opportunity for the RTP to address Active Transportation and going far beyond less than 0.5% of a regional investment in supporting walkable and bikeable neighborhoods. The over 100 plus growing list of groups and individuals we are working with, are sincerely interested in participating in that conversation.

Sincerely,



Jessica Meaney, California Policy Manager

cc: Hon. Pam O'Connor, SCAG President 2011-2012
Hon. Greg Pettis, Chair SCAG Transportation Committee
Hon. Margaret Clark, Chair SCAG Energy and Environment Committee
Hon. Bill Jahn, SCAG Chair Community, Economic and Human Development Committee
Michael Morris, FHWA
MoveLA
Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition
Climate Plan