



2020-2021

# Sustainable Communities Program

## ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY TOOLKIT

### How to Use this Toolkit

This toolkit provides an overview of the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) 2020-2021 Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) and provides information for eligible applicants to learn about project types and program areas for upcoming funding opportunities through SCAG, as well as a suite of resources to learn how this program can benefit your community.



### Program Overview

The SCP is a technical assistance program through SCAG that provides direct resources for jurisdictions and agencies for local planning and serves as a key implementation tool for [Connect SoCal](#), SCAG's 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The SCP strengthens local partnerships with land use and transportation agencies, implements strategies outlined in Connect SoCal to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and motorized vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and promotes healthy, connected, and equitable communities.

The fiscal year 2020/2021 program will fund projects in the following areas that support and implement the policies and initiatives of Connect SoCal: Active Transportation & Safety; Housing and Sustainable Development; Smart Cities, Mobility Innovation & Transportation Demand Management; and Green Region. The first Call for Applications will be released in September 2020, prioritizes active transportation and safety (AT&S) related projects. More details and guidelines for subsequent Calls will be released as they become available.

### Example 2020-2021 AT&S Project Types

- » Quick Build Projects
  - Interim capital improvement project (pilot infrastructure), identified through an existing plan and responding to an immediate community safety need.
- » Network Visioning & Implementation
  - Envision and plan a safe, robust active transportation network and develop an implementation phasing plan using quick build project delivery.
- » Community Wide & Area Plans
  - This category includes active transportation and safety focused plans, including city-wide active transportation plans, pedestrian master plans, bicycle master plans, safe routes plans, local road safety plans or safe systems plans.

Additional details related to project types for subsequent supplemental Calls will be released as they become available.



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## Example Past Projects

Explore past project examples to learn what the SCP can fund and understand how funding from this program can benefit your community. SCAG is also introducing new project categories this year to meet emerging community needs to prioritize recovery and resiliency.



Go Human is an active transportation safety and encouragement program, designed to engage communities on active transportation infrastructure and safe streets, towards the goal of creating healthy and equitable communities.

**Applicants for 2020-2021 are encouraged to include *Go Human* resources into their scope of work to support community engagement.**



The Active San Bernardino Dynamic Data Story is a platform for regional data, maps, and resources to drive decision-making for transportation and the built environment.

**Applicants are encouraged to include data-driven approaches as part of project applications.**



The comprehensive plan provides safer, walkable streets for residents that are dependent on walking or bicycling for transportation every day in Santa Ana. The recommended actions support and increase walking and bicycling, to enhance multimodal travel in the community.

**This project provides an example of robust community engagement strategies applicable to a disadvantaged community.**



Calexico, Gateway to Mexico project assisted in the City's efforts to create a specific plan and circulation analysis to improve mobility at the Port of Entry, while providing connectivity and revitalization strategies to the downtown district, focused on infill and mixed-use development.

**This project provides an example of innovative integration of mobility and land use strategies.**



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## Project Visualization Tool

Visit the [interactive project mapping tool](#) to visualize and explore how your proposed project area overlaps with SCAG's definitions of disadvantaged communities (DAC) to maximize your opportunities for funding and assist with project prioritization. To learn more about scoring and weighting for DACs, please view the scoring criteria, located in the SCP AT&S Program Guidelines on the [SCP website](#). By using this tool, you can also explore how your proposed project overlaps with SCAG's Priority Growth Areas, defined on pages 50-52 in [Connect SoCal](#), including job centers, transit priority areas, high quality transit areas, neighborhood mobility areas, livable corridors, and spheres of influence.

The definitions include the following, and can be found on the information tab on the mapping tool:

- » Environmental Justice Areas
- » SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities
- » Communities of Concern
- » Native American Tribal Lands

To learn more about SCAG's definitions of DACs, please visit page 2 of the [Environmental Justice Technical Report to Connect SoCal](#).

## Communications Templates for Local Champions to Share with Potential Applicants

### Email

**Subject:** SCAG's 2020-2021 Sustainable Communities Program: Apply Now!

SCAG is now accepting applications for the first of multiple Calls for Applications for the 2020-2021 Sustainable Communities Program (SCP). The SCP is a technical assistance program that provides planning resources to local jurisdictions and agencies and promotes healthy, connected communities. The first Call for Applications includes project types with a focus on active transportation and safety.

Apply now to receive funding to support local planning and encourage strategies to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and increase your competitiveness for federal and state funds. SCAG is offering multiple opportunities for resources throughout fiscal year 2020-2021 to support jurisdictions and agencies. Additional details and guidelines for subsequent Calls will be released as they become available. To learn more, visit the [SCP website](#) to register for upcoming program webinars.

### Talking Points

- » Why apply to the SCP? Your community can benefit in the following ways:
  - Receive direct technical assistance and planning strategies to reduce motorized vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, particularly in areas with the highest need for air quality improvements.
  - Address public health disparities in land use and transportation and invest in historically disinvested communities.
  - Support resiliency that looks to climate adaptation and public health preparedness as key strategies to address community prosperity, safety and economic recovery.
  - Increase your competitiveness for federal and state funds, including the California Active Transportation Program and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds.

### Learn More

Visit SCAG's [SCP website](#) for more information and to register for upcoming program webinars. For questions, please contact Hannah Brunelle, [brunelle@scag.ca.gov](mailto:brunelle@scag.ca.gov).