



# **Western Riverside Council of Governments Planning Directors Committee**

## **AGENDA**

**Thursday, April 9, 2026  
9:30 AM**

**Western Riverside Council of Governments  
1955 Chicago Avenue, Suite 200  
Riverside, CA 92507**

### **Remote Meeting Locations:**

**Corona City Hall  
400 S. Vicentia Avenue  
Planning & Development Conference Room  
Corona, CA 92882**

**County of Riverside  
4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor  
Riverside, CA 92501**

**March Joint Powers Authority  
March Inland Port Airport  
17405 Heacock Street  
Moreno Valley, CA 92551**

**City of Perris  
City Hall  
101 N D Street  
Perris, CA 92570**

**Norton Younglove Senior Center  
Map Room  
908 Park Avenue  
Calimesa, CA 92320**

**Members of the public are welcome to participate remotely from any location. Committee member participation is limited to locations that are listed on the published agenda.**

**[Public Zoom Link](#)**

**Meeting ID: 831 7685 5997**

**Passcode: 872456**

**Dial in: 669 444 9171 U.S.**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in the Planning Directors Committee meeting, please contact WRCOG at (951) 405-6706. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting. In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting which are public records relating to an open session agenda item will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting at 1955 Chicago Avenue, Suite 200, Riverside, CA, 92507.

In addition to commenting at the Committee meeting, members of the public may also submit written comments before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment to [lfelix@wrcog.us](mailto:lfelix@wrcog.us). To ensure distribution to Committee members prior to the meeting, please submit comments no later than two hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin. Public comments will also be accepted in person and via Zoom during the meeting.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting in light of this announcement shall contact Lucy Felix at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at (951) 405-6706 or [lfelix@wrcog.us](mailto:lfelix@wrcog.us). Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

The Committee may take any action on any item listed on the agenda, regardless of the Requested Action.

**1. CALL TO ORDER (David Chantarangsu, Chair)**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

At this time members of the public can address the Committee regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee that are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Committee in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Committee, any public comments on any of the Consent Items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Committee request specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar.

**A. Action Minutes from the February 12, 2026, Planning Directors Committee Meeting**

**Requested Action(s):**

1. Approve the Action Minutes from the February 12, 2026, Planning Directors Committee meeting.

**6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**

Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion.

**A. Housing Implementation Tool Update**

**Requested Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

**B. I-REN Energy Fellowship 2026/2027 Program Service Year Activities Update**

**Requested Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

**C. Future Meeting Topics**

**Requested Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

**7. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Chris Gray

**8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for discussion at future Committee meetings.

**9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Members are invited to announce items / activities which may be of general interest to the Committee.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

The next Planning Directors Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., in WRCOG's office at 1955 Chicago Avenue, Riverside.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

# Planning Directors Committee

## Action Minutes

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the WRCOG Planning Directors Committee meeting was called to order by Chair David Chantarangsu at 9:36 a.m. on February 12, 2026, in WRCOG's office.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Chantarangsu led Committee members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. ROLL CALL

- City of Banning - Mark Staples\*
- City of Beaumont - Steven Jones
- City of Calimesa - Kelly Lucia
- City of Corona - Danny Castro
- City of Hemet - Monique Alaniz-Flejter
- City of Lake Elsinore - Damaris Abraham
- City of Menifee - Orlando Hernandez
- City of Moreno Valley - Julia Descoteaux
- City of Murrieta - David Chantarangsu (Chair)
- City of Norco - Colby Cataldi
- City of Perris - Kenneth Phung
- City of Riverside - Judy Eguez
- City of San Jacinto - Kevin White
- City of Temecula - Brandon Rabidou
- City of Wildomar - Robert Flores
- Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) - Jennifer Nguyen
- March IPAA - Cindy Camargo

\*Arrived after Roll Call

Absent:

- City of Canyon Lake
- City of Eastvale
- City of Jurupa Valley
- County of Riverside
- Western Water

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	San Jacinto
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Murrieta
<b>AYES:</b>	Beaumont, Calimesa, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar, RTA
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	Banning, Norco

**A. Action Minutes from the December 11, 2025, Planning Directors Committee Meeting**

**Action:**

1. Approved the Action Minutes from the December 11, 2025, Planning Directors Committee meeting.

**6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION**

**A. Socio-Economic Data Update for Riverside County Transportation Analysis Model**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**B. Screening Criteria for Vehicle Miles Traveled Impacts on Small Projects**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**C. Emergency Evacuation Network Resilience Study**

**Action:**

1. Received and filed.

**7. REPORT FROM THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Chris Gray, Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Gray reminded Committee members to RSVP for upcoming Committee meetings to assist administrative staff with planning and ensure efficient use of time, and further reported that remote participation is available with advance notice.

Staff has developed an AI tool that reviews City Council agendas and Planning Commission reports to compile a regional summary of development projects that have been recently approved or are currently in process. This tool is intended to support comprehensive tracking of regional development activity and provide additional visibility into projects occurring in neighboring jurisdictions.

WRCOG's General Assembly is scheduled for June 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Pechanga Resort Casino. Professional skateboarder and video game personality Tony Hawk will serve as the guest speaker.

Cameron Brown, WRCOG Program Manager, reported that the Construction Cost Index (CCI) fee increase was approved in December and the fee increase will take effect on July 1, 2026; ordinances

should be completed by approximately April to accommodate the typical 60-day delay between council approval and implementation. The goal is for all agencies to have the CCI fee increase in effect by July 1. WRCOG is available to attend jurisdictional meetings.

Mr. Gray reported that, as part of the WRCOG General Assembly, Community Service Awards will be presented to recognize community groups and nonprofit organizations. Eligible nominees must be private entities and not public agencies, elected officials, or public employees. The nomination application will be opening soon and is typically submitted by staff or city officials.

## **8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Chair Chantarangsu would like an update on the information SCAG is sharing regarding RHNA.

## **9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no general announcements.

## **10. NEXT MEETING**

The next Planning Directors Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., at WRCOG's new office.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.



# Western Riverside Council of Governments Planning Directors Committee

## Staff Report

**Subject:** Housing Implementation Tool Update

**Contact:** Taylor Libolt Varner, Amplify Communities, Policy Specialist,  
[tliboltvarner@amplifycommunities.org](mailto:tliboltvarner@amplifycommunities.org), (909) 639-1857

**Date:** April 9, 2026

### **Recommended Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

### **Summary:**

Taylor Libolt Varner from Amplify Communities will provide an update on the launch of WRCOG's Housing Implementation Tool. Developed in partnership with member agencies, the tool is designed to support member agency housing planning and implementation efforts.

### **Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:**

The purpose of this item is to present a method to assist member agencies with implementing housing-related legislation. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #5 (Develop projects and programs that improve infrastructure and sustainable development in our subregion).

### **Discussion:**

### **Background**

WRCOG has provided legislative updates in recent years to ensure members are aware of legislation that may affect their respective agencies. However, with the proliferation of housing-related legislation, several member agencies have requested guidance that goes beyond a simple summary of the legislation.

### **Present Situation**

The Planning Directors Committee will receive an update on the launch of the WRCOG Housing Implementation Tool (HIT), marking the release of the resource that has been developed in collaboration with member agencies over the past year. The HIT is a regional platform designed to help planners navigate and implement California's evolving housing laws by providing shared structure, reference points, and practical implementation tools. The update will include an overview of the platform and how agencies can continue providing feedback as the resource evolves. The HIT is intended to function as a

living tool that will continue to grow with additional guidance, resources, and regional examples.

**Prior Action(s):**

None.

**Financial Summary:**

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

**Attachment(s):**

None.



# Western Riverside Council of Governments Planning Directors Committee

## Staff Report

**Subject:** I-REN Energy Fellowship 2026/2027 Program Service Year Activities Update  
**Contact:** Tyler Masters, Program Manager, [tmasters@wrcog.us](mailto:tmasters@wrcog.us), (951) 405-6732  
**Date:** April 9, 2026

### **Recommended Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

### **Summary:**

The Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN) Energy Fellowship Program host agency application process is open March 19, 2026, through May 14, 2026.

### **Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:**

The purpose of this item is to share information on the success of the I-REN Energy Fellowship Program over the past three years, as well as to provide information on the upcoming program years' application process. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #6 (Develop and implement programs that support resilience for our region).

### **Discussion:**

### **Background**

The I-REN Energy Fellowship Program, a partnership with CivicSpark, an AmeriCorps Program, has a goal to place up to 27 Fellows within public agencies in the Inland Empire. Fellows are college or university students / alumni with at least an associate's degree who have submitted an application, been interviewed, and ultimately selected by interested public sector agencies in the I-REN subregion. Fellows are placed with a public sector agency full-time for 11 months to provide energy efficiency project support, at no cost to the agency. While participation comes at no cost to public sector agencies, these Fellows are provided a living stipend of \$37,000 annually. This stipend is covered by I-REN on behalf of the agency that is receiving the support.

The Fellowship Program launched in 2023 with a total of 11 Fellows deployed at 11 separate agencies throughout the subregions of all three local I-REN COG partners. The first cohort of Fellows were able to participate in a trip to the ESRI Campus in the City of Redlands, as well as the 15th Annual California Climate and Energy Collaborative Forum, as part of their energy efficiency and networking skill building. One of the main recommendations from the Fellows for future Program improvement was to increase

opportunities in energy efficiency education, professional growth, and networking experiences, within the field. The Workforce Education & Training (WE&T) team responded to that feedback by developing a robust schedule focused on tours and educational experience for the 2024 Fellowship cohort and beyond.

The 2024-2025 Program service year saw a marked increase in both interest from potential Fellows as well as agencies interested in utilizing Fellows' support. A total of 14 Fellows were recruited and placed across 12 agencies. This cohort started in September 2024. Five agencies agreed to continue hosting a Fellow and six new agencies applied for assistance. There were also four, second-year Fellows within the 2024 cohort who continued to work in their prior agency. To provide additional professional growth opportunities, the WE&T team had scheduled six energy efficiency excursions for the Fellows and invited them to attend multiple conferences, workshops, and additional events in an effort to increase networking opportunities, as well as educational and professional growth. Each event was coordinated by a WE&T team member and by a current Fellow working within WRCOG whom had taken on a lead role in managing these events. Every Fellow was provided an opportunity to grow not only in their energy efficiency experience but also gain access to better understand how public agencies function, budget, plan, and even manage issues on a daily basis. Agencies that host a Fellow were provided support and capacity to implement energy efficiency projects at no cost to the host agency. Throughout the year in 2025, seven Fellows utilized their experience and were hired on at associated agencies throughout the region.

The 2025-2026 Program service year saw remarkable success in the fall with 24 Fellows starting their service year in 17 various agencies within the Inland Empire. As of January 2026, the Program recently on-boarded an additional 8 Fellows, serving 8-month terms, at six agencies within the Inland Empire. In total, there are 32 Fellows serving at 23 public sector agencies within the region. This is the largest cohort of I-REN Energy Fellows and Public Sector agencies who have participated in our Fellowship Program since inception.

### **Present Situation**

The 2026-2027 application period for agencies is open March 19 through May 14, 2026. Agencies interested in hosting a Fellow for the upcoming service year can fill out their applications at [Host Site Interest Form](#). The WE&T team is expected to see continued marked growth in the number of agencies that apply and want to participate. Multiple marketing strategies have been discussed, and outreach is expected to be even more effective based on current results of the Fellowship Program. Once applications have been completed, each host agency will have the opportunity to interview and select from highly qualified candidates whose interests and expertise align with local host agency projects. Fellows will start at their selected location in September 2026.

The latest data has shown that Fellows have supported 21 projects in the Public Sector Cash for Kilowatts Incentive Program. This amounts to \$2.2M in incentives and a lifetime utility bill savings of \$7.4M. The Fellowship Program is not only providing valuable support for agencies within the region but is also providing an avenue to increase energy savings and participation in the Public Sector project pipeline. The host sites are receiving no-cost project management and potential energy savings through their involvement.

As a whole, the Fellowship Program was designed to place highly engaged individuals into public sector positions to gain experience and an opportunity to practice energy-related work, but the end result has

impacted both the site agencies and the energy efficiency landscape in a much more meaningful way. The correlation between the sectors has resulted in a synergy that allows the WE&T Sector to realize actual energy efficiency savings which further encourages the need for more Fellows to be placed within the region.

The WE&T team is continuing to collaborate with consultants and various outside groups, educational institutions, and workforce organizations to continue to pursue higher involvement from both sides of the application process.

**Prior Action(s):**

**March 19, 2026:** The Technical Advisory Committee received and filed.

**Financial Summary:**

Activities related to I-REN are included under the I-REN Fund (Fund 180) in the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 budget. Fellows are currently being programmed and included in the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 budget.

**Attachment(s):**

None.



# Western Riverside Council of Governments Planning Directors Committee

## Staff Report

**Subject:** Future Meeting Topics  
**Contact:** Matthew Burris, Burris Planning Group, [matthew@burrisplanninggroup.com](mailto:matthew@burrisplanninggroup.com), (909) 260-7015  
**Date:** April 9, 2026

### **Recommended Action(s):**

1. Receive and file.

### **Summary:**

WRCOG would like to be more proactive in support of the Committee with emergent planning issues. An annual survey from the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI) may be a good basis to be more proactive and find planning issues that may be applicable to the Committee. The goal of this presentation is further pursue opportunities for WRCOG to provide assistance to its members.

### **Purpose / WRCOG 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal:**

The purpose of this item is to provide an overview of the LCI Annual Planning Survey. This effort aligns with WRCOG's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan Goal #5 (Develop projects and programs that improve infrastructure and sustainable development in our subregion).

### **Discussion:**

The Governor's Office of LCI conducts its Annual Planning Survey of local governments in California to collect information about the status of each jurisdiction's planning efforts, and explore the policies that jurisdictions are implementing to address issues of statewide concern. The goal of this survey is to identify areas of local leadership and develop tools and guidance for jurisdictions to address these challenges.

WRCOG believes this survey may be a good basis to be more proactive and find challenges that may be applicable to the Committee. This presentation will provide an overview of the responses of the survey, the input provided by the respondents, what is applicable to the subregion, and how WRCOG may assist.

### **Prior Action(s):**

None.

**Financial Summary:**

This item is for informational purposes only; therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

**Attachment(s):**

None.