



2020 Highlights

Given the challenges our nation and region have faced in 2020, many people would like to close the book on this year and never say its name again. It has been an especially trying year for elected officials, who have had to confront the health and economic ravages of Covid-19 and the associated recession, widespread protests over racial injustice, California’s worst wildfire season in history, and a turbulent election season. But there has been good news in 2020 and in that spirit, here are selected highlights of the year for SACOG.

Vibrant Places

The **Rural Main Streets** program brought timely expertise and technical assistance to 11 rural and suburban districts in five counties — Antelope, Colfax, Galt, Isleton, Live Oak, Loomis, Marysville, Meadow Vista, Orangevale, Placerville, and Yuba City — including about 30 workshops. In Orangevale, [five workshops](#) examined different strategies for reviving Greenback Lane and in Marysville, a series of retail workshops led to a [playbook](#) of Covid-era retail strategies that would help any commercial district.



23 jurisdictions nominated Green Zones, readying them for potential state investment from the [Green Means Go](#) program. A year’s worth of lobbying and outreach included about 20 meetings with state officials, two press conferences, two op-eds published, and a presentation to Governor Newsom’s Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery. The effort resulted in many **new partnerships and expanded influence** for SACOG.

The [Commercial Corridors Task Force toolkit](#) distilled a year’s worth of investigation and lessons learned to **help jurisdictions revive commercial corridors**.

The [Transit-Oriented Development Action Plan](#) laid out a map for how to **intensify development around transit stations**. Work done in in partnership with SacRT,

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Economic Prosperity

Our Path **FORWARD:** *The Prosperity Strategy*

Regional economic plan, “Our Path Forward: the prosperity strategy,” a response to the 2018 Brookings Institution’s economic competitiveness report, released in partnership with Sacramento Metro Chamber, GSEC, and Valley Vision.

PROGRAMMING AND PROJECT DELIVERY

SACOG board adopted a [2020 funding round framework](#) that will see **\$193 million awarded to member projects** in the categories of maintenance and modernization, transformative projects, community design and, for the first time, a dedicated fund to develop a pipeline of projects in disadvantaged communities.

SACOG **helped three multi-jurisdictional projects win over \$145 million** worth of [SB1 grants](#) that will support lower congestion, freight efficiency, and multimodal infrastructure in the region.

Quick action and strong regional partnerships helped SACOG **expedite \$112 million in CARES Act funding** to 8 transit agencies, [reaching an agreement](#) just 10 days after the act was signed into law.

Our project delivery team earned **\$26 million in free Obligation Authority**, doubling our 2019 record of \$12.7 million. This makes our region second in the state — only to Los Angeles —which

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Connected Communities

Board chair Lucas Frerichs led the 2020 relaunch of the [MegaRegion Working Group](#), which brought leaders from three neighboring MPOs — MTC, SACOG, and SJCOG — together to **address key issues facing the wider region**. The group developed an MOU between MPOs, a shared legislative platform, shared staff working groups, and brought together the region’s business groups.

SACOG board formed a 14-person [working group on race, equity, and inclusion](#) to help the agency more directly **tackle the region’s racial inequities in transportation and land use**. A [racial equity audit](#) helped inform a framework for ongoing work within the agency and for the board.



30 youth graduated from the second year of SACOG’s [Youth Leadership Academy](#) in July and another 50 have been selected from the 110 applicants for the third year, due to begin in January 2021.

The [Replica “big data” pilot](#) leveraged sources including mobile location, Census, and land use data to **generate quarterly mobility/demographic snapshots** of the Sacramento region, in collaboration with CARB and Caltrans.

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Vibrant Places

City of Sacramento, Sacramento County, Rancho Cordova, Folsom, and Elk Grove.



11 projects representing nearly 1,600 housing units and more than 200,000 square feet of commercial, office, or other uses have looked to SACOG's [Sustainable Communities Strategy](#) for consistency as a way to open pathways to **CEQA streamlining benefits** or as an additional layer of protection against legal challenges.

After SACOG worked alongside CALCOG to pass AB 101, our region is receiving about [\\$13.5 million in funding](#) to **support and increase housing through planning**. It includes about \$6.7m coming to SACOG through REAP to support RHNA and increased housing.



The [Civic Lab Housing Series](#) of four workshops brought **expert technical advice to members' staff** on how to boost local housing production in their communities.

Economic Prosperity

gets five times our annual share but only won \$30 million. The bonus enables our region to program \$26 million more of federal funds.

SACOG led the [Ready for Recovery](#) effort involving about 50 jurisdictions and agencies to **develop an infrastructure stimulus list for the region**, priming us for potential federal investments.



SACOG developed a [Regional Telework Pilot Initiative](#) that will work with 14 employer participants to **encourage long-term telework**. The goal of this pilot is to both increase the rate that workers substitute their commute for telework and reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on days they commute to the office.



WHAT IS SACOG?

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments is an association of local governments in the six-county Sacramento region. Its members include the counties of El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba, and the 22 cities within.

SACOG provides transportation planning and funding for the region and serves as a forum for the study and resolution of regional issues. In addition to preparing the region's long-range transportation plan, SACOG approves the distribution of affordable housing in the region and assists in planning for transit, bicycle networks, clean air, and airport land uses.

Its work advances its three goals:
Connected Communities, Vibrant Places, and Economic Prosperity.



SACOG

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