

Major Projects

2025



Vision

A vibrant and thriving Sacramento region for all.

Mission


SACOG convenes and connects the region to advance an equitable, sustainable, and prosperous future.



THE ROLE OF SACOG

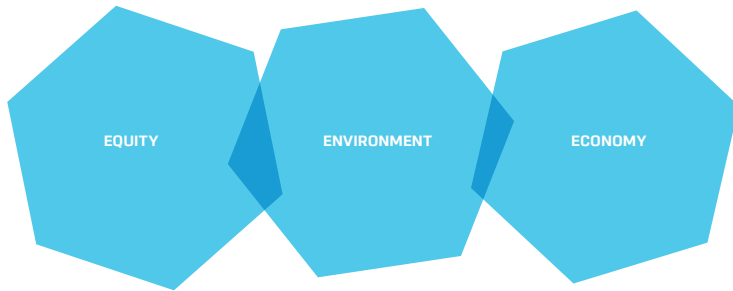
The Sacramento Area Council of Governments serves as a joint powers authority of city and county governments in El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties. As the only public agency with members from all 28 jurisdictions in the greater Sacramento region, SACOG plays a unique role as the place where local governments can come together to take on critical issues facing the region and to tackle problems that are too big for any one jurisdiction to solve on its own. SACOG is tasked by state and federal law with long-range planning for the region but also plays an important role in working with our local partners to advance more immediate solutions to some of the region's shared challenges of transportation, housing, air quality, climate change and the protection of the region's agricultural and natural resources.

Over the past few years, SACOG has been engaged in a series of strategic planning discussions, ranging from defining our vision and mission, integrating equity, economy and environmental goals into our work, and exploring how we might meet the needs of our communities today and in the future. Among other places, this work has shown up in board retreats, staff meetings, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, the development of SACOG's Racial Equity Action Plan, and the region's 2020 economic prosperity strategy developed with our civic and business partners. Informed through input from SACOG board members, staff and stakeholders, this Strategic Plan seeks to bring all of that work together in a simple and clear articulation of SACOG's purpose, goals, priorities, and approach.



"SACOG is the voice of the jurisdictions. Without it, nobody would hear us."
SACOG Board Member

OVERARCHING GOALS



Starting with the development of the 2024 Blueprint, SACOG has committed to three strategic goals of equity, economy, and environment. SACOG will use its analysis, board discussions, and recommendations to achieve all three goals. While equitable opportunity, economic prosperity, and environmental stewardship are often framed as in tension with one another, we believe pursuing all three as equally important and interconnected goals will create greater opportunity for all of the region's residents today and for generations to come.

EQUITY

SACOG seeks to help foster a just and inclusive region where government makes investments for and with historically marginalized communities so race can no longer be used to predict health or economic outcomes, and outcomes for all groups are improved. Residents living in our region face significant inequalities, resulting in disparities and divides that exist by race and



ethnicity, by income, and by urban and rural areas. Among other work, this commitment is embodied in our Racial Equity Action Plan.

ECONOMY

SACOG seeks to help foster a diversified regional economy in which all people have access to resources that give them the opportunity to realize their full potential. This future economy will also capitalize on key economic clusters where the region can achieve a competitive edge over our peers across the country, including agriculture and food, health sciences, and innovative mobility. Among other work, this commitment is embodied in our collaborative development of the Prosperity Strategy: Our Path Forward.



ENVIRONMENT

SACOG seeks to help foster a safe and resilient region for all residents, where natural resources and air quality are sustainably managed so people can thrive here for generations. We will continue to focus our work on decreasing carbon emissions, supporting climate adaptation and resiliency, cleaning our air, and promoting working landscapes. Among other work, this commitment is embodied in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy.



Green Means Go – Accelerating Infill Development and GHG Reduction Goals

Green Means Go is a regional effort to meet California housing goals, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles, and improve mobility by focusing on housing in the heart of communities. The program pairs investments in underground infrastructure (like sewer and water) with policy support and technical assistance to help cities and counties revitalize corridors and advance transportation priorities.

Green Zones at the Heart of Communities

26 of the region's 28 local jurisdictions have adopted Green Zones, which are key areas that have infill capacity but face market or other barriers to development. By pairing transportation planning and housing investments together in Green Zones, the region is building more complete communities where residents can meet their daily needs more holistically within their neighborhoods.

History of Green Means Go

Green Means Go was spurred by a requirement set by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) that set a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 19 percent in the region (SB 375). SACOG was the only region in the state to have its target conditioned on the successful implementation of a pilot. GMG formed through extensive outreach to regional partners and policymakers and has been a major focus for the agency and the region over the last seven years.

The GMG program is a critical implementation component of the region's long-range plan and vision for a vibrant community. First described in the 2020 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/ Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) which helps the region work towards its goal to have one third of all homes built in centers, corridors, or established communities.

\$50 Million in State and Federal Funding

GMG has received state funding through the Regional Early Action Planning Grant (REAP) and federal funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Reconnecting Communities Grant, totaling more than \$55 million in new infrastructure and planning investments in rural, suburban, and urban communities across the region.

Program Timeline

2018

- SB 375 sets a 19 percent GHG emissions reduction target.
- Outreach and development of GMG pilot begins.

2020

- GMG key component of 2020 MTP/SCS

2021

- \$38M allocated to SACOG for GMG through REAP and SB 170.

2022

- GMG partners with ULI to provide technical assistance to four Green Zones.
- Board approves \$3.2 million in 'Early Activation' grant awards.

2023

- Board approves \$31.3 million in planning and capital infrastructure funding.
- Housing accelerator program in two communities

2024

- GMG Received \$22.5 million Reconnecting Communities Grant from U.S. DOT.
- GMG Workshop with state leaders on program framework.
- REAP funding secured after budget cut threats through advocacy from SACOG and regional leaders.

2025 & Beyond

- Certificate or leadership academy on infill development. Details coming soon.
- Potential PRO Housing grant award

Green Means Go in Action

City of Auburn Form-Based Code

The grant produced a comprehensive vision for Auburn's central commercial core (Old Town and Downtown) which includes higher intensity uses including an array of housing types and mixed-use developments.

City of Citrus Heights Sunrise Tomorrow Infrastructure Support

The GMG award funds preliminary engineering of backbone infrastructure to support the redevelopment of the Sunrise Mall, a transformation of the 100-acre site into a mixed-use, transit-oriented village comprised of 2,200 residential units, 480 hotel rooms, 320,000 SF retail, 960,000 SF office, 450,000 SF community/ institutional uses, and 25 acres of open and green space. The award will also support evaluation of infrastructure financing opportunities for the site.

City of Folsom 300 Persifer Street

The City of Folsom and partner Habitat for Humanity's 300 Persifer Street project has developed ten affordable for-sale housing units in a high opportunity and high resource area. The GMG award supported water, sewer, drainage, and non-transportation dry utility infrastructure needs.

City of Lincoln Downtown Green Zone

The City of Lincoln is developing a specific plan and urban design standards for the Lincoln Blvd downtown Green Zone. The work will evaluate the feasibility of adopting an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District to upgrade the zone's utility infrastructure while also providing an ongoing source of funding for affordable housing.

City of Rancho Cordova Mills Crossing

The Mills Crossing transit-oriented development is a mixed-use, mixed-income community hub including over 100 multifamily and townhouse units, 2+ acres of public parks and plazas, and approximately 100,000 square feet of community arts, culture, and wellness facilities. GMG funding has advanced civil and utility engineering technical studies as well as non-transportation capital infrastructure.

City and County of Sacramento San Juan Apartments by Mutual Housing-Offsite Improvements

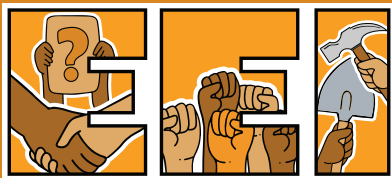
San Juan Apartments by Mutual Housing is a 113- unit affordable housing development (including a childcare facility and 2,500 SF of commercial space) located at 5700 Stockton Boulevard, to serve families with incomes between 30 and 60 percent of the area median. The GMG award funded offsite improvements, including the extension of domestic water and sewer and stormwater services, as well as undergrounding of power lines that run through and adjacent to the site.

City of Sacramento Del Paso Blvd

GMG has funded a sewer system upgrade in the Del Paso area to enable denser infill development and eliminate infiltration into the collection system from heavy rain events. The program also funded associated storm drainage modeling in the area.

Project Contact

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Engage, Empower, Implement Program Catalyzes Community-Driven Projects

The Engage, Empower, Implement (EEI) funding program invests in a community-based approach to plan projects within the six-county Sacramento region. The goal of the program is to elevate community-based planning by providing funding for city and county partnerships with community-based organizations (CBOs) to create a pipeline of equitable, safe, and sustainable projects within historically marginalized and disinvested communities. Through this process, the region will be able to create and identify community-driven projects that can more readily qualify for future federal and state funding sources.

A Framework for Community-Led Planning

This investment has a specific focus on meaningful community engagement in disinvested communities and is a significant component of SACOG's commitment to its Race, Equity and Inclusion initiative. The EEI Program Framework establishes a set of community-led planning and design principles, which were developed through engagement with and guidance from the region's CBOs, cities, and counties.

EEI Program Funding Awards

In 2024, the SACOG Board of Directors approved \$3.8 million in funding for 11 projects across the region. The approval was after an EEI Review Committee made up of leaders from across the six-county region reviewed and scored applications based on the EEI Framework.

Awarded Projects Include:

- Marysville Chinatown Blueprint, City of Marysville - \$498,049
- Yolano Donnelly Neighborhood Reinvestment, City of Woodland + New Hope Community Development Corporation - \$500,000
- Food Literacy Urban Farm Community Action Plan, City of Sacramento + Food Literacy Center - \$498,743

- Yuba/Sutter Industry Assessment & Workforce Development Strategy, Sutter County & Yuba County + Yuba-Sutter Economic Development, \$500,000
- Invest Health Data Challenge, City of Roseville + Health Education Council, \$200,000
- North Sacramento Forward Together, City of Sacramento + Mutual Assistance Network, CLTR & Greater Sacramento Urban League - \$500,000
- Engage and Empower North Highlights/Foothill Farms, Sacramento County + Mutual Assistance Network, \$500,000
- Engaging Yolo County Youth, Children, and Families, Yolo County + Rise Inc, + Health Education Council, \$277,619
- El Dorado County Housing Assessment and Taskforce Outreach, El Dorado County + El Dorado Community Foundation, \$205,000
- Placer County Planning Department, Latino Leadership Council - \$80,000
- UWCCR Parkway South Sacramento Resource Center Analysis Project, United Way - \$80,000

Investment in community-led planning processes is a strategy that will result in the development of projects that positively impact the region's most disinvested communities and can help implement the 2025 Blueprint's triple bottom line initiatives of Equity, Environment, and Economy.

Timeline

2021

- SACOG Board of Directors allocates \$3 million in funding for program implementation.

2022

- Program framework developed in partnership with CBOs, cities, and counties.
- Board of Directors allocates additional \$800,000 in funding to increase to six-county funding program.

2023

- Program framework finalized and adopted by SACOG Board of Directors.

2024

- \$3.8 million in funding awarded to 11 projects.

2025 - 2027

- Project implementation

Project Contacts

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FUNDING PROGRAM



Funding at SACOG - Investing in Our Region

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) receives funding from federal, state, and local sources. It is the responsibility of SACOG to work with cities, counties, transit agencies, and partners within the six-county region to create sustainable long-range plans on how to strategically invest in our communities. The work is focused around determining how to use funding to help meet air quality goals, maintain the existing transportation system, support cities and counties working on projects that cross jurisdictional boundaries, and how to expand the system to meet the demands of the growing region all working within what is predicted to be available over the next four to six years.

Regional Funding Programs

SACOG's Regional Funding Program has recently been redesigned to better align with funding sources to make our funding decisions clearer. Programs are designed to better articulate our goals that have been established by the Board of Directors and to make the Sacramento region more competitive for funding at the state and federal level. The framework for the Regional Funding Program balances regulatory requirements, needs of jurisdictions, and alignment with state and federal priorities.

Four-County State Funding Program

The Four-County State Funding Program includes Sacramento, Yolo, Yuba, and Sutter counties which SACOG serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency. Funding is determined by the state driven funding allotments from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and includes both competitive and pooled funding elements. This structure provides for known funding amounts and consistency and provides opportunity to meaningfully support regional prioritized projects.

Six-County Federal Funding Program

The Six-County Federal Funding Program is funded by the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG). There are several requirements and guiding themes that projects need to meet to be considered. Generally, applications can fall into one of the funding programs including: Next Generation Solutions and Clean Air Program, System Performance Program, System Preservation Program, or one of SACOG's Priority Programs.

Priority Programs

Priority programs are sub-programs that are designed to achieve one specific regional priority. These focused programs traditionally have smaller budgets and generally provide funding to projects that are not centered on capital investments as explicitly. These programs include:

- Engage, Empower, Implement (EEI)
- Sustainable Mobility
- Sacramento Emergency Clean Air Transportation Program (SECAT)
- Spare the Air
- Regional Pavement Management Program
- Freeway Service Patrol

Program Timeline

October 2024

- Board of Directors approves Regional Funding Round program guidelines.

February 2025

- Fund estimate for state funding.

March 2025

- State Transportation Improvement Program call for projects.

June 2025

- Submit list of projects for award recommendations for board approval.

August 2025

- Submit Regional Transportation Improvement Plan to Caltrans.

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Mobility Zones Advances Clean, Shared, and Active Transportation Investments in Communities

The Mobility Zones project is a three-year effort to advance clean, shared, and active transportation in 10 neighborhood sized 'zones' across the region. The project uses a co-creation model and place-based approach to improve transportation with the Sacramento region's diverse communities. The project is being co-led with the regional nonprofit, Civic Thread, and will help define what vibrant and inclusive places look like in different parts of the region.

A New Paradigm for Community Partnership and Planning

The Mobility Zones project's co-creation structure empowers community members as experts in the transportation needs of their neighborhood. The project has appointed 35 community leaders from across the six counties who have direct decision-making power on the projects in their neighborhoods. Mobility Zones also fosters community-government partnership by bringing those community leaders together with city, county, and partner agency staff to guide the direction of the project.

What's Next for Mobility Zones

Using the Mobility Zones prioritization methodology, we have identified 23 areas that could be Mobility Zones. Working with the project's community leaders, stakeholder agencies, and the SACOG board, we will be narrowing down that list to the final 10 Mobility Zones.

A Grassroots Prioritization

Most recently, Mobility Zones project team has been focused on creating a methodology to select the 10 neighborhoods that will be the focus of the project. The methodology—developed in partnership with local agency staff and community leaders—involves layering map-based data to understand where equity and transportation needs are clustered in our region. Unlike state and federal mapping tools, Mobility Zones' methodology was developed from the bottom up to reflect the unique and diverse needs of the region's communities.

Timeline

2022

- SACOG awarded a \$5 million RAISE Grant for Mobility Zones project.

2023

- Project team and consultants onboarded.

2024

- Define project vision and goals.
- Developed seven project Advisory Committees.
- Board approved Equity Priority Community.

2025

- Board approved Mobility Zones.
- Existing conditions analysis of each Mobility Zone
- Prioritized project list for each Mobility Zone

2026

- Develop implementation toolkits for each Mobility Zone
- Implementation of six high priority projects
- Develop vision for next phase of Mobility Zones

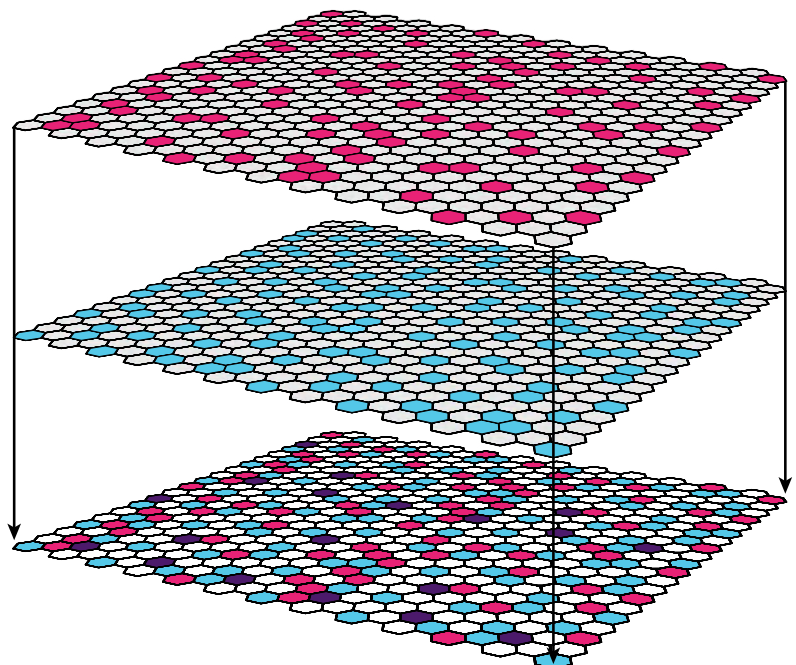
Project Contact

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Areas with equity needs

Areas with transportation needs and opportunities

Areas that could be a Mobility Zone



2025 Blueprint – The Region's Long-Range Plan

The 2025 Blueprint, to be finalized later this year, is a strategic long-range plan for building a connected region that includes future transportation investments, affordable housing for the region's growing population, and equitable investments that give all community members access to a safe and healthy region. Officially known as the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, or MTP/SCS, the plan is required to be updated every four years and provides a map for how the region will grow over the next 10-25 years.

Linking Land Use and Transportation for a Growing Region

SACOG projects that the region will grow by nearly 600,000 people, will add just over 260,000 new jobs, and 278,000 new homes by the year 2050. With guidance from the Board of Directors, SACOG uses these projections, along with adopted land use assumptions, to guide transportation investments across the region. With limited funding, it's critical to be strategic in how the region connects residents to where they live, work, and play to enjoy vibrant communities across cities and counties.

A Reflection of the Community's Vision for the Region

To guide the priorities and projects that go into the final plan, SACOG conducts extensive outreach to residents and elected officials in every city and county in the region. The input gathered provides the board and staff with an understanding of the values of and vision the community members have for their region. This research was then developed into a set of Outreach Themes, informed by community members to guide the final plan.

2025 Blueprint: Public Input Themes

1. Ensure access and opportunity for all residents.
2. Provide housing options for all incomes and life stages.
3. Invest in existing communities.
4. Create complete communities.
5. Support safe and convenient transportation options.
6. Prepare for natural disasters to protect people and property.
7. Protect and conserve open space and agriculture.



2025 Blueprint Timeline

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2022

- Board of Directors adopted Blueprint Policy Framework and the Regional Growth Projections.

2023

- Community outreach, survey, focus groups, and the 2025 Blueprint Workshop took place to gather community input to inform the final plan.

2024

- Board of Directors adopted the Land Use Assumptions and the Draft Final Transportation Project List.

2025

- Board of Directors are scheduled to release the Draft 2025 Blueprint Plan in late May of 2025.
- Board of Directors anticipate adopting the Final 2025 Blueprint Plan in November of 2025



Monitoring Transportation, Housing, and Economic Impacts in the Region

SACOG regularly monitors data trends in the Sacramento region that provide valuable insights and changes across key areas such as economic growth, development, travel, and more. The online Regional Indicators Dashboard organizes over 70 indicators based on SACOG's four strategic priorities, and each year SACOG publishes an Annual Progress Report that analyzes changes over the last 12 months.

Progress in SACOG's Four Strategic Priorities

By assessing progress and identifying new trends within the set of SACOG's strategic priority areas, this monitoring sheds light on whether the six-county region is moving in the right direction to meet its shared goals. Examples of tracked topics and trends in each priority areas include:

Build Vibrant and Inclusive Places

- **Jobs:** Job growth and access are crucial to creating a more aligned, prosperous, and resilient region. The monitoring program tracks overall job growth, industry specific economic breakdowns, and economic output.
- **Education:** An educated workforce helps connect a broader set of workers to in-demand occupations while unlocking future growth and higher wages. Monitoring indicators track educational attainment, degrees, and completions in the Sacramento region.

Foster the Next Generation of Mobility Solutions

- **Transit:** An effective transit system is a cornerstone of meeting air quality, mobility and economic prosperity goals. Indicators track service hours and boardings across transit systems in the region.
- **Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT):** VMT is one of the most important commonly used metrics in transportation planning, as it impacts greenhouse gas emissions, air

quality and congestion. SACOG is tasked with monitoring 'passenger vehicles' VMT on a per capita basis and trends.

Build and Maintain a Safe, Equitable, and Resilient Transportation System

- **Safety:** SACOG tracks the number and location of vehicle collisions in the region. The tracked indicators focus on fatalities resulting from motor vehicle collisions as well as serious injuries.
- **Congestion:** The various measures help shed light on how much users are impacted by congestion, and the reliability of travel in the region.

Modernize the Way We Pay for Transportation Infrastructure

- SACOG staff are working on tracking indicators for this priority and will incorporate them over time as initiatives progress.

Data Resources for the Region

SACOG creates and maintains a tremendous quantity of data about the region at multiple geographies. Such data helps support information-based decision making. Data is available to partners, cities, and counties to support informed decision making for programs, policies, funding, or other initiatives. Reach out to SACOG's data team for more information.

Project Contact

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Remote work opportunities are not shared by all. Interestingly, the shift to work from home before the pandemic had only slight difference by income category. Since then, workers in high-income households are more likely to work from home compared to low-income workers.

Work from home by income level: Five year averages

Microdata Sample (PUMS) of five years average up to 2016, and likely Community Development

Dashboard on [Race and Income](#) in Sacramento

2024 Regional Progress Report

What's New in the Sacramento Region: Key Indicators and Emerging Trends in the Six-County Area

8

WHAT'S NEW: Drop in Travel, though VMT is rebounding

Not surprising given the shift to more remote work and a sharp drop in travel demand, household vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita fell sharply in the Sacramento region in 2020 compared to 2019. VMT is one of the most used metrics in transportation planning.

VMT per capita in the Sacramento region has started to increase again, though it still sits lower than pre-pandemic levels. Measuring VMT in practice is difficult, so the indicator averages estimate from three different sources that draw on observed data such as traffic counts, detectors, or mobile data.

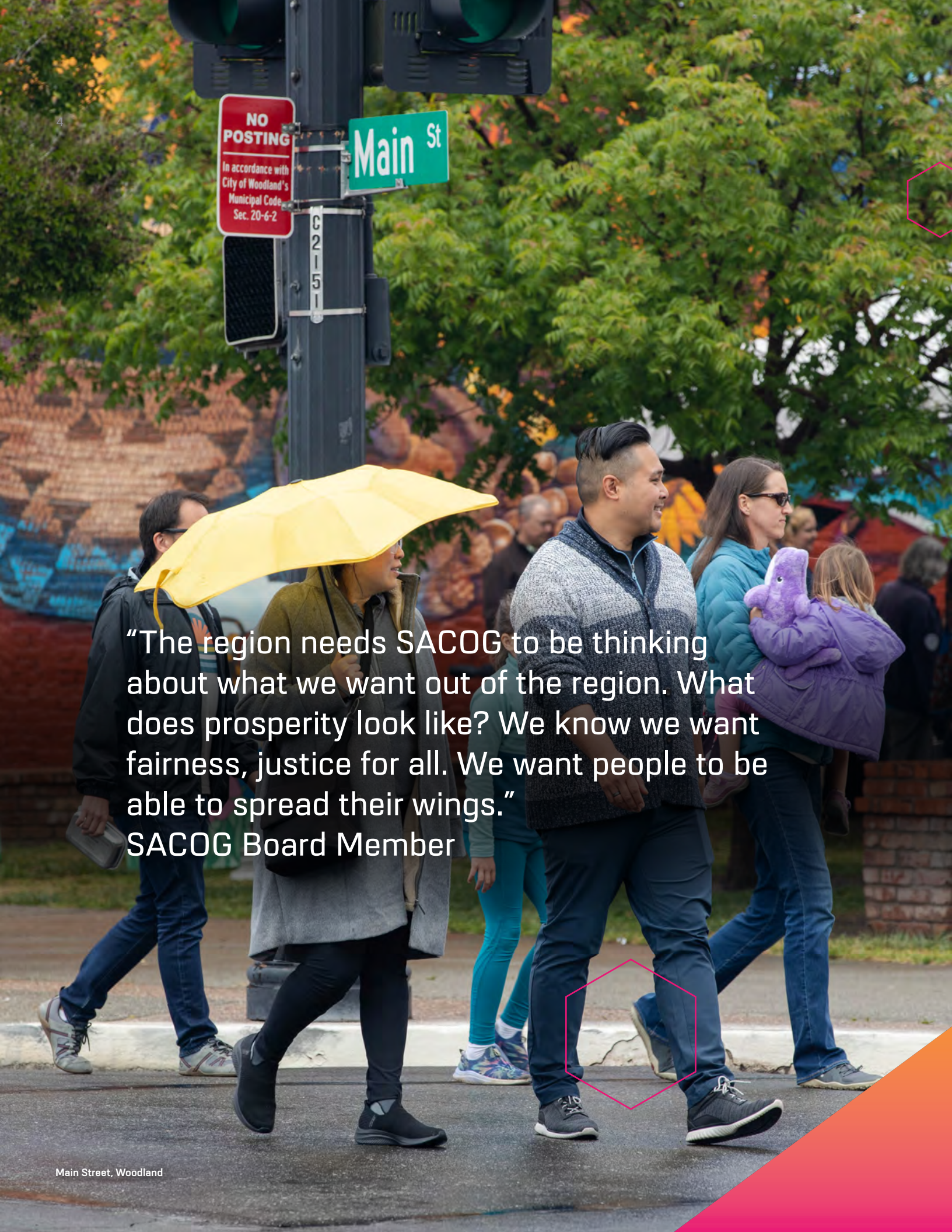
Household-generated daily VMT per capita: Six-county Sacramento region

Year	Household-generated daily VMT per capita
2019	22.2
2020	19.2
2021	19.3
2022	19.1

Source: Average of Caltrans HPMS, SBISO and Replica VMT estimates. No Replica data available for 2020.

Want to learn more? Access dashboard travel data to:

- Track [connection and reliability](#) in the Sacramento region
- Compare VMT in the Sacramento region to [other large California regions](#)



"The region needs SACOG to be thinking about what we want out of the region. What does prosperity look like? We know we want fairness, justice for all. We want people to be able to spread their wings."
SACOG Board Member