

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of November 4, 2019

- **Executive Committee:** On Monday, the Executive Committee held its monthly meeting. The SGVCOG Treasurer Renee Graves of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP presented the Quarterly Treasurer Report for the period ending June 30, 2019. The report found no instances of concern regarding the quarterly reports prepared by ACE and COG. Additionally, the Committee received an update on the planned funding allocations of the \$5,625,000 in funding provided for homeless programs for the San Gabriel Valley to be administered by the SGVCOG, as well as allocation of the County innovation funds. These funding recommendations will be presented at the Governing Board for approval at the November 21 meeting.
- **Homeless Committee:** On Wednesday, the Homeless Committee held its monthly meeting. Tina Cherry, Community Services Director for the City of Monrovia, provided an overview of Monrovia's Housing Displacement Response Plan. The City provides funding to a local church to administer the program, which provides interim and temporary funding to eligible Monrovia residents that are in danger of being displaced from their homes. The Committee also received an update on the planned funding allocations of the \$5,625,000 in funding provided for homeless programs in the San Gabriel Valley to be administered by the SGVCOG, as well as allocation of the County innovation funds. These funding recommendations will be presented at the Governing Board for approval at the November 21 meeting.
- **Regional Housing Trust Update:** On Wednesday, the fourth Regional Housing Trust joint powers agreement negotiation focused on operations, funding, and staffing - was held. The group had a lively discussion regarding a potential Regional Housing Trust work plan, a potential start-up and operations budget, different staffing models that the Regional Housing Trust could use, and potential funding options. These conversations on the operations, funding, and staffing of the Regional Housing Trust will continue. The next negotiation meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, and will focus on the powers of the joint powers authority, as defined in the joint powers agreement. The SGVCOG has also begun its stakeholder meetings to collect stakeholder input. The first stakeholder meeting was held on Thursday night, and the next stakeholder meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 12, from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the City of Glendora Public Library.** The SGVCOG is also holding targeted stakeholder focus group meetings on Thursday, November 14, Monday, November 18, and Tuesday, November 19. There will be a series of 7 meetings over these 3 days, each with a different stakeholder audience. There will be a series of 7 meetings, each with a different stakeholder audience. These include faith-based organizations, homeless services providers, school districts, financiers, affordable housing developers, and businesses. More information about the stakeholder meetings and the focus group meetings can be found [here](#). We encourage you to invite any stakeholders who may be interested!

- **City Managers' Steering Committee:** On Wednesday, the City Managers' Steering Committee held its monthly meeting. The Committee received an update on the planned funding allocations of the \$5,625,000 in funding provided for homeless programs for the San Gabriel Valley to be administered by the SGVCOG, as well as allocation of the County innovation funds. Additionally, the Committee was presented with proposed funding startup allocations for the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Fund using Measure H funds from various cities. Both these funding recommendations will be presented at the Governing Board for approval at the November 21 meeting.
- **SCAG:** On Thursday, SCAG held its monthly meeting of its policy committees and Regional Council. After review and recommendation by the SCAG Joint Policy Committees, the Regional Council recommended the release of the draft *ConnectSoCal* - the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) - for public comment. The Regional Council also authorized staff to release the draft program environmental impact report (PEIR) for public comment during the month of November. The public comment period for *ConnectSoCal* and the *ConnectSoCal* PEIR will end on January 24, 2020. The Regional Council also considered the draft proposed Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) methodology. The proposed methodology recommended by the RHNA Subcommittee and SCAG's Community, Economic, and Human Development (CEHD) Committee allocated existing housing need based on housing growth forecast between 2030-2045 (weighted 50%), job accessibility (weighted 25%), and accessibility to high quality transit (weighted 25%). After a lengthy and lively discussion, the Regional Council ultimately recommended an alternative methodology that allocates existing housing need based on an equal consideration of job accessibility (weighted 50%) and accessibility to high quality transit (weighted 50%). For the San Gabriel Valley, the methodology advanced by the Regional Council will increase the Region's share of RHNA from 5.4% to 6.6%. The total RHNA for the SCAG Region is approximately 1.3 million units. SCAG staff will now submit the methodology to HCD, which has 60 days to review and accept the proposed methodology.
- **HI Budget Funding Summit:** On Thursday, Benita DeFrank (City of Pomona) and I represented the San Gabriel Valley at the County of Los Angeles' Homeless Initiative Policy Summit. This is the 7th in a series of summits, and the focus was on partnerships with cities. Topics of discussion included the following:
 - Current successful city efforts;
 - Supported needed by cities to scale up successful efforts;
 - Opportunities to optimize encounters between law enforcement and homeless individuals;
 - Barriers to the development of affordable housing; and
 - Potential collective legislative advocacy efforts related to homelessness.
 Feedback from all of the policy summits will be used to provide input on the allocation of Measure H funding for FY 2020-2023.
- **Measure H Public Input Sessions:** The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and the Homeless Initiative team will hold a public input session on Wednesday, November 13, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., to give participants the

opportunity to provide input on the additional state funding to address homelessness. The meeting will be held at Emante (formerly Citrus Valley) Queen of the Valley (Room A & B) (1115 S. Sunset Ave; West Covina, CA 91790). The meeting will go over the new state funding and Measure H. These meetings will provide an opportunity to weigh in on what's working well in the system, what gaps exist, and the most effective ways to use funding. Providers, community members, people with lived experience of homelessness, government partners, and all stakeholders are welcome and encouraged to attend. You can view this information on the LAHSA website [here](#).

- **Results of Association of Local Government Auditors Peer Review:** On Wednesday, the Association of Local Government Auditors completed a peer review of the SGVCOG Audit Department's internal quality control system. The review included conducting tests in order to determine whether the Audit Department's internal quality control system is adequately designed and operating effectively to provide reasonable assurance of compliance with Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the US and applicable legal and regulatory requirements. The SGVCOG received a rating of "pass," which is the highest rating possible to receive.



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of November 11, 2019

- **LACBOS HI Innovation Funding:** On Tuesday, the County Board of Supervisors approved the framework for the Homeless Initiative Innovation Funding, which will provide \$6 million in carry-over funds to the COGs in the County. Based on the San Gabriel Valley's 2019 homelessness count, the SGVCOG will receive approximately \$1.5 million. The approved framework allows the SGVCOG to determine how its funding should be expended, provided that it advances the County's Priority Area 1 - increasing the supply of permanent and interim housing for people experiencing homelessness - and Priority Area 2 - enhancing County service systems for those experiencing and/or at risk of homelessness. All funding must be expended by June 30, 2021. A proposed funding allocation has been discussed and recommended by the COG's Homelessness Committee, City Managers' Steering Committee, and the Executive Committee. The Governing Board will consider approval of this proposed allocation at its meeting next week.
- **San Gabriel Valley Interim Shelter:** On Tuesday, the County Board of Supervisors also passed a motion directing the Homeless Initiative to work with the County's Departments of Mental Health, Health Services, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, LAHSA, and the Army Corps of Engineers to report back on the feasibility of building a 75-100 bed, year-round interim housing shelter that would provide basic medical and mental health services at the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. The report back - which is required in 30 days - will also identify the ongoing funding for the costs associated with the shelter. The proposed shelter would be similar to the Hope for Home project constructed in the City of Pomona.
- **SoCalRen Meeting:** On Tuesday, I participated in the Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) Advisory Committee. This group includes leadership from various public agencies across Southern California and its purpose is to provide input to Los Angeles County as it administers the SoCalREN program. SoCalREN provides various energy efficiency offerings to residents and public agencies. Topics of discussion included the following:
 - Overview of SoCalREN Programs
 - Regulatory Update; and
 - Planned Outages & Community ResiliencyFor more information, visit <https://socalren.com/>.
- **Construction Network Presentation:** On Wednesday, Mark Christoffels and I participated in a panel hosted by the Construction Network focused on Los Angeles County COGs. This provided all of the COGs to speak directly to construction industry leaders about planned transportation and infrastructure in the region. Topics discussed included the following:
 - The role of Metro and COGs in funding projects;
 - Project approval process;
 - Distinctions between the various COGs, including how they operate and what types of activities they undertake;
 - Types of projects funded through Measure R and M; and

- Technical needs of cities in their region
- This event presented an excellent opportunity to showcase the unique work of the SGVCOG and garner interest in bidding on our projects in the future.



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of November 18, 2019

- **AECE Awards:** The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) selected two ACE Projects to receive awards at the Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet on February 13, 2020. The Puente Avenue Grade Separation project will receive a Merit Award and the San Gabriel Trench Grade Separation project will receive an Honor Award. Additionally, the San Gabriel Trench Project is also in the running for the Golden State Award, which is the ACEC's highest-level award. The winner of this award will be announced during the awards ceremony in February.
- **NextGen Bus Study:** On Monday, I participated in Metro's NextGen Bus Study working group. At the meeting, Metro staff reviewed the draft concepts that are intended to address these goals:
 - Faster service;
 - Frequent service throughout the day;
 - More reliable service;
 - Better network connectivity;
 - Accessibility to key destinations; and
 - Improved security

Depending on the proposed level of investment, various improvements could result in ridership increases of 5-10%, 15-20%, or 25%. The proposed improvements could also increase the number of riders with walking access to high-frequency service from 900,000 to +2M through various efficiencies without requiring an increase in hours of revenue service. The proposed implementation plan is as follows:

- January 2020: Metro Board approves release of draft service plan for review
- February 2020: Public Workshops
- June 2020: Public Hearings
- September 2020: Board Approval of Final Service Plan Changes
- December 2020: New Service Plan begins (Phase 1)

For more information, visit <https://www.metro.net/projects/nextgen/>.

- **Public Works TAC:** On Monday, the SGVCOG Public Works Technical Advisory Committee met and heard updates on solid waste legislation review updates and an overview of job order contracting. Representatives from Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) provided a summary of solid waste legislation that was introduced during this year's legislative cycle. LACDPW will continue to closely monitor two-year solid waste bills, such as AB 1080 (Bloom)/SB 54 (Allen) and AB 1509 (Mullin), and provide relevant updates to the committee. SGVCOG Project Manager, Edward Villanueva, and representatives from Gordian provided an overview of job order contracting (JOC). Additionally, the committee discussed the possibility of establishing a regional transportation vehicle miles of travel (VMT) analysis model to comply with upcoming SB 743 mandates for cities to adopt VMT thresholds by July 1, 2020. SGVCOG Chief Engineer, Mark

Christoffels, mentioned the effectiveness of cities combining efforts to establish regional VMT analysis models and cited examples from the Western Riverside Council of Governments and cities in northern Orange County. The estimated cost of developing a VMT analysis model for the San Gabriel Valley region is approximately \$200,000. The committee recommended this item be re-visited at the next meeting for further discussion. The Public Works TAC is scheduled to reconvene on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 12:00pm at the Monrovia Community Center.

- **RHTF Update:** On Monday and Tuesday, staff held focused stakeholder group meetings to collect input on the Regional Housing Trust. On Monday, staff held focused meetings targeted towards financiers and affordable housing developers, and on Tuesday, staff held an online webinar targeted towards businesses. Attendees discussed best practices and provided recommendations for project types and other ideas for the Regional Housing Trust. On Wednesday, staff facilitated the fourth Regional Housing Trust joint powers agreement negotiation meeting. The meeting focused on defining those powers that the joint powers authority (JPA) would and would not have. The next negotiation meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, at 10:00 a.m. at the West Covina City Hall, and will be focused on Board composition and membership.
- **City Staff Energy Work Group:** On Tuesday, the SGVCOG City Staff Energy Work Group convened at the Monrovia Community Center to discuss energy efficiency projects in the San Gabriel Valley, recognize cities for their 2019 energy efficiency achievements this year, and receive updates from SoCalGas and ICLEI. SoCalGas Vendor Outreach Consultant, Carmen Oliver, provided a presentation on the company's rebate opportunities on food service appliances. Rebate opportunities are available for cities to upgrade or purchase kitchen appliances such as ovens, griddles, fryers, broilers, and dishwashers. ICLEI Program Officer, Calyn Hart, provided another presentation on the ICLEI ClearPath Tool and Beacon Awards Program. Currently used by over 230 California jurisdictions, the ICLEI ClearPath tool allows cities to manage energy and greenhouse gas emissions at both local government operations and community scales. Cities can also apply for the Beacon Program Awards and be recognized for voluntary efforts to lower energy consumption, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and adopt policies and programs that promote sustainability. The City Staff Energy Work Group is expected to reconvene at the Monrovia Community Center in early 2020.
- **EENR Committee:** On Wednesday, the SGVCOG Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee gathered at the Monrovia Community Center and discussed various wildfire prevention strategies and reviewed the proposed 2020 EENR legislative priorities. Representatives from the Los Angeles County Fire Department provided a presentation on the department's wildfire prevention efforts and recommendations for cities and residents to conduct brush clearance checks around their structures. Southern California Edison representatives also spoke on the company's wildfire prevention strategies, public safety power shutoff procedures, and wildfire mitigation plans. Additionally, SGVCOG staff provided a brief presentation on the proposed EENR legislative priorities for 2020. The proposed priorities centered around the topics of air quality,

energy, open space, and solid waste. After a thorough discussion, the committee directed staff to include additional organics recycling priorities and recommended this item to be re-visited at the next meeting for a possible recommendation to the SGVCOG Governing Board to review and adopt the proposed 2020 EENR legislative priorities. The EENR Committee is expected to reconvene on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 1:00pm at the Monrovia Community Center.

- **Transportation Committee:** The SGVCOG Transportation Committee convened at the Foothill Transit Building on Thursday to review the proposed 2020 Transportation legislative priorities and discuss the San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Implementation. SGVCOG staff provided a presentation on the proposed legislative priorities and solicited feedback from committee members. After a brief discussion, the committee requested SGVCOG staff include advocacy for specific capital and transportation projects, such as the SR-57/60 Chokepoint Relief Project, the SR-60 alignment of the Eastside Gold Line Extension Project, and the SR-71 Extension Project, in the priorities and voted to recommend these legislative priorities to the SGVCOG Governing Board. Additionally, representatives from Los Angeles County Department of Public Works provided an overview of the San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Implementation Plan. The plan strives to transform the existing Los Angeles County Flood Control District right-of-way into a world-class greenway network. The committee is expected to reconvene in mid-January for its next meeting.
- **AQMP Advisory Group:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff participated in South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Air Quality Management Plan Advisory Group meeting in Diamond Bar, CA. The advisory group reviewed the AQMD Contingency Measure Plan for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard and provided feedback to Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) 2020 Regional Transportation Plan. SGVCOG staff emphasized the need for AQMD to partner with cities and counties and provide additional resources for local jurisdictions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Southern California region. The advisory group will reconvene in early 2020 to discuss the development of the 2022 Air Quality Management Plan.
- **Public Outreach - Diamond Bar America Recycles Day:** This past Saturday, SGVCOG staff attended the City of Diamond Bar's America Recycles Day to educate residents and businesses on energy-saving tips. The event attracted hundreds of local residents and families and provided an opportunity for SGVCOG to engage with the public on the importance of conserving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Attendees received valuable information on existing rebate and financing opportunities for residential and commercial energy efficiency projects and obtained free water conservation kits at the SGVCOG booth. SGVCOG will continue its community outreach efforts by participating in other upcoming major events in the San Gabriel Valley.
- **Senator Portantino's Homelessness Roundtable:** On Thursday, staff attended Senator Portantino's roundtable on homelessness, which brought together City staff and representatives from LAHSA and the State Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC). The event featured an update by Senator Portantino on important housing-related legislation that passed during the last legislative

session and presentations from LAHSA on Measure H Funding and the State Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) on the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) funding . The HHAP funding will be dispersed to the State’s continuums of care (which is LAHSA for the San Gabriel Valley), counties, and the State’s largest cities. LAHSA is currently holding listening sessions to help inform how HHAP funding will be distributed. The event also featured presentations from the city of Monrovia on their Monrovia Housing Displacement Response Plan and the city of Pasadena on all of their homeless services. COG staff also presented on the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust.



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of November 25, 2019

- **SGV Economic Partnership Merry Mingle Invitation:** On December 12, 2019, the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership will be hosting the 17th annual Merry Mingle, a classic Partnership holiday event co-sponsored by Citrus Valley Association of Realtors, San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, and Regional Chamber of Commerce San Gabriel Valley. [RSVP here.](#)
- **Extension of SB 2 Planning Grants Application Deadline:** The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has extended the due date for the SB 2 Planning Grants Program applications to Friday, December 20, 2019. The SB 2 Planning Grants Program provides funding and technical assistance to all local governments in California to assist cities and counties prepare, adopt, and implement plans and process improvements that streamline housing approvals and accelerate housing production across the state. Through this program, cities and counties can apply for non-competitive funding for various activities that allow for an increase in housing production in their respective jurisdictions. Eligible activities and projects include:
 - Updates to General Plans, Community Plans, Specific Plans, Local Coastal Plans, Zoning Ordinances;
 - Local planning related to implementation of sustainable communities strategies;
 - Environmental analyses that eliminate the need for project-specific review; and,
 - Local process improvements that expedite and streamline processes related to local planning and permitting.For more information, please visit the SB 2 Planning Grants Technical Assistance webpage [here.](#)
- **Upcoming Emergency Preparedness and Response Twitterchat:** SGVCOG staff will be hosting a Twitterchat event with several other agencies next Tuesday at 12:00pm to discuss local jurisdictions' emergency response efforts and share best practices that residents can implement to prepare for emergencies. Participants include several San Gabriel Valley cities, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, and the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District. Cities and agencies are welcome to join the discussion by following #PrepareSGV during the scheduled Twitterchat. Additionally, cities are also recommended to follow the COG on Twitter at [@SGVCOG](#) to receive updates and event notices around the San Gabriel Valley.
- **Glendora Go Human Arrow Highway Event:** On Friday, November 22, in partnership with the Glendora Holiday Stroll and Tree Lighting Festival, SCAG's Go Human program allowed participants to test various pedestrian/bike

improvements, including a parking protected separated bikeway, curb extensions, wayfinding signage, and a parklet. These improvements are being considered as part of the Multimodal Regional Corridor Plan for Arrow Highway and the recent Metro Gold Line First/Last Mile Plan. For information, visit <https://eastsgvconnect.com/>.

- **Governing Board Recap:** The SGVCOG Governing Board met last Thursday. Below is a brief summary of major actions that were taken.
 - **Revised ACE Budget Estimates:** The Governing Board adopted a revised cost estimate for the ACE Project to \$1.8B. The most cost estimate of \$1.4B was adopted in 2007. Significant factors that have impacted the cost estimate include construction cost inflation; real estate cost increases; and additions to the project scope.
 - **Contract with SoCalGas (SCG):** The Governing Board authorized the Executive Director to execute a contract with SoCalGas to continue the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership through 2020. This program is funded by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Local Government Partnerships Program and is co-managed by Southern California Edison (SCE) and SCG. The annual budget for 2020 is \$100,930 and the energy savings goal is 20,000 therms. All other terms and conditions remain the same.
 - **State Homeless Funds and Measure H Innovation Funding Programming Recommendations:** On June 27, 2019, Governor Newsom signed the 2019 Budget Trailer bill which contained \$5,625,000 in funding for homeless programs for the San Gabriel Valley to be administered by the SGVCOG. On September 10, 2019, the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved a motion by Supervisors Barger and Solis directing the LA County Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to provide a framework for the allocation and administration of \$6,000,000 in Measure H funding for the County’s Councils of Governments, with \$1,541,876 of that going to the SGVCOG. Based on input from city staff, the Homeless Committee, and the City Managers’ Steering Committee, the Governing Board programmed the funding as follows:

Category	State Funds	Innovation Funds	TOTAL
Regional Housing Trust (Capital)	\$1,000,000	\$350,000	\$1,350,000
Regional Housing Trust (Operations)		\$200,000	\$200,000
Cities’ Homeless Plans (Implementation)	\$3,300,000		\$3,300,000
Cities’ Homeless Plans (Development)	\$50,000		\$50,000
Landlord Education/Outreach and Incentive Program	\$400,000		\$400,000

Other Regional Work	\$400,000		\$400,000
Homelessness prevention and diversion programs	\$50,000	\$400,000	\$450,000
Pilot Programs	\$35,000	\$265,000	\$300,000
Master Leasing	\$100,000	\$250,000	\$350,000
Administration	\$290,000	\$76,876	\$366,876
TOTAL	\$5,625,000	\$1,541,876	\$7,166,876

Staff is now working with the County to develop an approved workplan for the HI funds; developing a formula for the funds that will be distributed to cities; and drafting procurement timelines, and scopes of work for any work that will require consultants.

