



SGVCOG Homelessness Committee Approved Minutes

Date: October 7, 2020

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Zoom teleconference

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM

- 2. Roll Call

Members Present

- A. Verlato, Arcadia
- Y. Ruizesparza, Baldwin Park
- J. Leano, Claremont
- T. Paras-Caracci, Duarte
- K. Davis, Glendora
- M. Ortiz, Irwindale
- B. Shevlin, Monrovia
- W. Huang, Pasadena
- D. Holley, Pomona
- M. Clark, Rosemead
- F. Briones, LA County Dist. 1

Members Absent

West Covina

Guests

- R. Cole, SGVCOG Advisor on Housing and Homelessness
- P. Diller, Pallet
- D. Mendoza, Office of Senator Susan Rubio
- L. Reilly, Duarte
- T. Egan, Capital Representation Group

SGVCOG Staff

- M. Creter
- S. Matthews
- C. Sims
- B. McCullom
- P. Hubler

- 3. Public Comment: None

- 4. Changes to Agenda Order: No changes to agenda order.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 5. Homelessness Meeting Minutes

There was a motion to approve consent calendar item 5 (M/S: K. Davis/A. Verlato)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Glendora, Irwindale, Monrovia, Pomona, Rosemead, LA County Supervisorial District 1
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	West Covina, Duarte

PRESENTATIONS

- 6.** SB 1212: San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Governance – Danika Mendoza, Office of Senator Susan Rubio

D. Mendoza from the Office of Senator Susan Rubio presented on SB 1212, which recently passed the legislature and was signed by Governor Newsom. It waives the requirement that RHT Directors also serve on the Governing Board of the SGVCOG. It requires Board members be residents of different cities to increase diversity, provides staggered terms for the Board, and requires that the two Board members that serve as experts in homeless or housing policy have at least five years of experience in homeless or housing policy.

- 7.** Pallet Shelters – Patrick Diller, Director of Business Development, Pallet

P. Diller from Pallet presented on the tiny-home style “shelters,” they provide. These standalone structures contain a bed and shelving, have a locking door, and have electricity and climate control, as well as safety features. They are “turn-key” and are shipped to the site and assembled by Pallet. This product allows for the construction of non-congregate interim housing, reducing the risk of the spread of COVID-19. Construction is also likely to be faster than other interim housing models and may make smaller scale programs more feasible. Diller responded to questions, highlighting the shelters’ eligibility under many Federal funding programs, the assistance Pallet can provide with designing a shelter community, the more than ten year lifespan of the shelters, and the sometimes costly need to bring in electrical and plumbing infrastructure. Committee members expressed a desire to see the model Pallet shelter in Pasadena, to be coordinated by COG staff.

- 8.** Case Study: Ventura Riverbed Encampment – R. Cole, Advisor on Housing and Homelessness

R. Cole, Advisor on Housing and Homelessness to the SGVCOG presented on his experience as City Manager of Ventura, when that community faced challenges related to a large number of people experiencing homelessness in a riverbed which runs through the city. After engaging a broad group of stakeholders, the Ventura community was able to transition all the residents of the riverbed without making any arrests. His presentation intended to allow San Gabriel Valley communities to draw on this experience when handling similar concerns. Committee members suggested a smaller group to focus on related issues in the San Gabriel Riverbed.

UPDATE ITEMS

- 9.** SGVCOG Hygiene Program Report
B. McCullom provided an update about how in May, the COG received an allocation of funding to expand hygiene services in the region. The funding was split among eleven participating cities, allowing an estimated 500-600 people experiencing homelessness per day to use the restroom and wash their hands.
- 10.** Fiscal Year 2020-21 Measure H and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Funding

B. McCullom provided an update on the newly approved funding allocations for these two major homelessness funding sources. These are substantially similar to the prior year's recommendations, and largely reflect the allocation of ESG Coronavirus funding and State HHAP funding to prevent cuts otherwise necessary due to the estimated \$67 million sales tax shortfall caused by the pandemic.

11. Legislative Updates

B. McCullom provided an update on two significant pieces of legislation related to housing and homelessness which were enacted into law, SB 1212 and AB 3088, as well as four which were not, SB 1085, SB 1120, SB 795, and AB 2746.

12. Motions to Explore New Governance Models for LAHSA

B. McCullom provided an update how, in response to two Board of Supervisors motions aimed at revisiting the structure and function of LAHSA, the SGVCOG has convened a working group composed of staff from 11 member cities. The COG plans to push for San Gabriel Valley to be involved in this process and to produce a whitepaper to present, focusing on problems with the current system, potential solutions, and demonstrating commitment to quality services.

13. Project Roomkey, Project Homekey, and the LAHSA COVID-19 Recovery Plan

B. McCullom provided an update on these related efforts, reporting that LAHSA has allocated funding to provide a rental subsidy and case management for current residents of all 37 Project Roomkey (PRK) sites. Three PRK sites have been closed in the San Gabriel Valley. LAHSA reports that among all PRK sites that have closed, only 2% of participants have exited to unsheltered destinations. In September, the County was awarded nearly \$61 million through Project Homekey, which they are using to purchase eight properties. Three of these motels are in or near the San Gabriel Valley, one in Baldwin Park, one in Hacienda Heights, and one in unincorporated Whittier.

14. LA Alliance for Human Rights et al. v. City of Los Angeles et al.

B. McCullom provided an update on efforts related to this lawsuit, which thus far have been focused on the City of Los Angeles. The City's plan includes 111 proposed interventions with an estimated 8,204 beds to be completed within 18 months, 842 of which have already opened.

15. Safe Parking

B. McCullom presented on their work to assist LAHSA in locating a new site for a LAHSA-funded Safe Parking program in the San Gabriel Valley. This program aims to provide a secure, legal place for people living in their cars to sleep overnight and receive the services they need to end their homelessness.

LIAISON REPORTS

16. The Chair announced that the liaison reports were included in the agenda packet.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM