

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of October 7, 2019

- **SB 751:** We are very excited to announce that on Wednesday, Governor Newsom signed SB 751. Senator Susan Rubio’s bill authorizes the creation of the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust, a joint powers authority, and allows communities within the jurisdiction of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) to fund housing to assist the homeless and persons of extremely low, very low, and low income. It also allows the trust to receive public and private financing and funds for this purpose. We are extremely appreciative of Senator Rubio’s efforts for the region and look forward to working with the Senator’s staff and cities to advance this exciting effort!
- **RHNA Subcommittee:** On Monday, SCAG held a RHNA Subcommittee Meeting to discuss and recommend a final RHNA methodology. SCAG staff had previously released 3 alternative methodologies for public comment. Ultimately, SCAG staff developed and recommended a fourth methodology, based on public feedback. This methodology allocates units based on projected and existing need using the following elements:

Projected Need	Existing Need
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Household growth: 2020-2030 growth projected in the 2020 Connect SoCal growth forecast - Future vacancy need: additional units needed to increase vacancy rate) - Future replacement need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Household growth from 2030-2045 - Transit Accessibility: Regional share of High Quality Transit Area (HQTA) Population - Job Accessibility: Regional share of jobs within a 30-mile drive radius

There is some additional existing need beyond the projected household growth. This “residual need” will be distributed to those jurisdictions that have high transit and job accessibility. Those jurisdictions that are identified as “low resource,” as identified by the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC), will not receive any “residual need” units, even if they are located in high transit and job accessible areas. SCAG staff is also recommending a higher social equity adjustment - which helps to ensure that housing for all income types is spread throughout the region - for both “low resource” and “high resource” communities, as identified by the TCAC. After significant discussion and public comment, the RHNA Subcommittee recommended staff’s proposed methodology to the CEHD Committee. The CEHD Committee will hold a special meeting on October 21, 2019, to consider the methodology and recommend a position to the Regional Council (RC). The RC will consider the item at its November meeting. The allocations for San Gabriel Valley cities based on the recommended methodology are found below:

City	Proposed Methodology
Alhambra	3,325
Arcadia	2,258
Azusa	3,035
Baldwin Park	2,000
Bradbury	30
Claremont	1,647
Covina	1,193
Diamond Bar	2,588
Duarte	708
El Monte	8,500
Glendora	2,029
Industry	8
Irwindale	120
La Canada Flintridge	343
La Puente	339
La Verne	660
Monrovia	1,666
Montebello	2,794
Monterey Park	3,023
Pomona	11,529
Rosemead	3,129
San Dimas	182
San Gabriel	2,846
San Marino	43
Sierra Madre	211
South El Monte	577
South Pasadena	1,211
Temple City	2,652
Walnut	454

West Covina	4,130
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- **Executive Committee:** On Monday, the Executive Committee held its monthly meeting. The Committee reviewed and concurred with staff’s recommendation to approve a 5% CPI adjustment to the SGVCOG staff health insurance benefits. The cost of this increase was already approved as part of the adopted SGVCOG’s FY 2019-2020 budget. The October Governing Board meeting will also include a legislative session recap and a presentation on SBCTA’s Gold Link Hybrid Rail project.
- **Water Committee:** On Tuesday, the SGVCOG Water Committee convened its October Meeting. The Committee heard a presentation by Ken Sansone of SL Environmental Law Group, which represents several San Gabriel Valley communities and other water systems in lawsuits against manufacturers who have caused water contamination. One major contaminant is PFAS, a class of thousands of different chemicals that have water- and stain-resistant properties, and it is extremely expensive to treat. Several cities across the country have brought lawsuits against large corporations, including 3M and Dupont, to recover these treatment costs, alleging that they made and profited from products containing PFAS while knowing of the environmental and human health related risks. The Committee also discussed the recent court judgement in the case the City of Duarte v. State Water Resources Control Board in favor of the City of Duarte. The Writ commanded that any and all provisions in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) MS4 Permit that pertain in any way to the Numeric Effluent Limits be set aside. Attorneys of the City of Duarte are scheduled to present on the case at the November Governing Board Meeting.
- **RHTF Update:** The first negotiation meeting to develop the SGV Regional Housing Trust joint powers agreement was held on Wednesday. Staff from 16 cities attended the meeting to develop the “Recitals” for the agreement. Recitals provide background and an opportunity to identify issues of common agreement between the participating parties and can reflect the mission and vision of the organization. Staff also conducted the first stakeholder input session at the San Gabriel Valley Consortium Meeting on Wednesday, collecting input from participants on how the RHTF will support their efforts to address homelessness in the region. The next negotiations meeting for the joint powers agreement will be held on Wednesday, October 23, and will focus on liability.
- **SGV Consortium Meeting:** The SGV Consortium on Homelessness met on Wednesday. The meeting featured a presentation on LAHSA’s Community Engagement Faith-Based Initiatives. Steven Yu, LAHSA Supervisor of Community Engagement, provided an overview of LAHSA’s outreach efforts over the last two years to better understand faith-based organizations’ concerns and efforts related to addressing homeless issues. LAHSA has developed a program proposal that would bring more faith-based organizations into the coordinated entry system and help them become LAHSA contractors that are eligible for public funding. There was also a presentation on the Monrovia Housing Displacement Program, a program run by the Mountainside Communion Church of the Nazarene in the City

of Monrovia. Pastor Sonia Luginbohl provided an overview of the program, which helps its congregants and neighbors navigate and overcome their housing crises. The City of Monrovia has provided funding for the program, which has expanded to include pastors all over the City. This funding is used to help prevent individuals and families facing displacement from losing their homes. Finally, SGVCOG staff provided a presentation on the RHTF and sought feedback from those at the meeting. Attendees provided input on what they saw as the opportunities and challenges for the RHTF. .

- **LACoC Meeting:** The LA Continuum of Care Board, which is responsible for evaluating and making recommendations on LA Continuum of Care policies, met on Wednesday. LAHSA staff provided a presentation on the newly-created Homeless Count Advisory Board (HCAB), which will review and provide feedback on the implementation of the 2020 Point-in-Time Count. The LACoC Board will provide recommendation on all components of the Count in order to ensure that adequate community input is collected and the Count is in compliance with HUD guidelines. The LACoC Board also began deliberations on the program performance evaluation methodology that will be used for the 2020 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

The logo for SGVCOG features a stylized sunburst or starburst design composed of multiple triangular segments in shades of light blue and teal, radiating from a central white point. Below the graphic, the letters "SGVCOG" are displayed in a light blue, sans-serif, uppercase font.

SGVCOG

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of October 14, 2019

- **Safe Clean Water Program Call-for-Projects:** On Tuesday, the Safe Clean Water Program, which was approved by Los Angeles County voters in November 2018 to fund projects, programs, and infrastructure to capture, treat, and recycle rainwater, announced the first call-for-projects for fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. The program is currently soliciting applications in the following categories:
 - infrastructure,
 - technical resources, and
 - scientific studies.

Deadline for consideration for projects in fiscal year 2020-2021 is set for December 15, 2019 and July 31, 2020 for projects in fiscal year 2021-2022. Additional information regarding the call-for-projects, as well as instructions on submitting an application, can be found on the Safe Clean Water Program website [here](#).

- **Subregional ED Meeting:** On Tuesday, I participated in a meeting of subregional executive directors across the SCAG region. One of the primary topics of discussion was the draft RHNA methodology. As indicated last week, SCAG staff's recommended methodology is being recommended by the RHNA subcommittee and will be forwarded to CEHD Committee next month. However, participants indicated that advocates will likely participate heavily in that meeting and advocate for an alternative that would fully remove local input from the methodology. Additionally, Abundant Housing LA has hired legal counsel and has indicated that they plan to file an appeal or even a lawsuit against SCAG if the recommended methodology is approved.
- **Homeless Count Seminar:** On Wednesday, Supervisor Solis sponsored the San Gabriel Valley Homeless Count 2020 Learning Seminar coordinated by LAHSA. The City of El Monte's Housing Manager, Carol Averell, and Pomona's Homeless Programs Supervisor, Donyielle Holley, made presentations highlighting best practices for city and community mobilization. USC programmers and statistical leads provided deep detail on the data analysis. The 2020 Homeless Count will take place on January 21st.
- **EENR Committee:** On Wednesday, the SGVCOG Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee convened at the Monrovia Community Center for its October meeting. Lyana Murillo, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)'s Supervisor, provided a presentation on the background of beverage recycling in California, the impact of China's new recyclable contamination limits on the State's recycling operations. Ms. Murillo encouraged cities to support and partner with businesses and nonprofits to open recycling centers in their local jurisdictions as California's largest recycling redemption business, known as RePlanet, ceased operations this year due to increased operating costs. Cities are recommended to launch recycling programs in schools to raise awareness amongst the children in the community. Additionally, Elijah Carder from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works provided

a summary of solid waste legislation that were introduced this year. A list of bills that may impact residents, businesses, and local governments relating to solid waste management in Los Angeles County can be found [here](#). Furthermore, the committee received an update on poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS have been used extensively in consumer products, such as carpets, clothing, fire-fighting foams, and other materials designed to be waterproof, stain-resistant, or non-stick. PFAS are no longer manufactured in the United States; however, other countries still make products that contain these substances, which may be imported into the United States. It was reported that water supply wells that exceed the PFAS standard (70 parts-per-trillion) have either resolved the issue through treatment or removed the water source from service. The committee is scheduled to reconvene on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 1:00pm at the Monrovia Community Center to discuss wildfire prevention strategies and next year's legislative priorities.

- **Southern California Legislative Roundtable:** The COG hosted the monthly meeting of the Southern California Legislative Roundtable at the Irwindale offices on Tuesday. The roundtable convenes a working group of legislative staff for the region's transportation agencies, from Ventura County in the north to the San Diego region in the south, to discuss items of mutual interest. The group discussed, among numerous topics, the outcome of the state legislative session as well as developments relating to the federal SAFE Vehicles Rule which would rescind California's waiver allowing it to enforce stricter tailpipe emissions standards. Items of interest include the following:
 - Governor's signing into law AB 1486 (Ting) which amends provisions in the Surplus Land Act intended to promote the use of surplus public land for affordable housing projects. The bill was sponsored by Bay Area affordable housing organizations and opposed by numerous associations of special districts and public agencies, including the Three Valleys Municipal Water District and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County.
 - Governor's veto of SB 277 (Beall) which would have set new distribution requirements for the \$200 million made available each year through the existing SB 1 Local Partnership Program. Specifically, the bill would have required 85% of the funds to be distributed via formula, and 15% set aside for a statewide competitive program for smaller agencies.
- **Upcoming Transportation and Open Streets Twitter Chat:** Next Tuesday at 12:00pm, SGVCOG staff will be holding a discussion with several other agencies and community organizations on Twitter to discuss transportation issues and how communities can encourage new riders to utilize public transportation. Participants include ActiveSGV, CicLAVia, City of El Monte, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, and Metrolink. Cities are welcome to join the discussion by following #ConnectSGV 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.
- **Community Outreach - Walnut Family Festival:** This past Saturday, SGVCOG staff attended the Walnut Family Festival at Suzanne Park to educate residents and vendors on energy-saving tips. The festival, which attracted hundreds of local

residents and families, provided an opportunity for SGVCOG to engage with residents, businesses, nonprofits, and community organizations on the importance of saving and conserving energy. Residents received valuable information on existing rebate and financing opportunities for residential energy efficiency projects and obtained free energy efficiency kits at the SGVCOG booth. SGVCOG will continue its community outreach efforts by participating in the upcoming 626 Golden Streets: Streets and Treats event on Saturday, October 26, 2019 and Diamond Bar's America Recycles Day on Saturday, November 16, 2019.



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of October 21, 2019

- **Public Works TAC:** On Monday, the Public Works Technical Advisory Committee (Public Works TAC) convened at the Monrovia Community Center for its October meeting. The committee's first presentation was on the SB 901 Utility Wildfire Mitigation Plans. CPUC Program Manager, Anthony Noll, provided the first presentation on the CPUC's involvement in developing wildfire prevention strategies and regulating electric utilities' wildfire mitigation plans. The plans were submitted by the electric utilities in February 2019 and were subsequently approved by the CPUC in May 2019. Phase 2 of the proceeding began in June 2019 and focused on metrics to evaluate the plans and process for handling next year's wildfire mitigation plans. Additional information regarding the approved wildfire mitigation plans can be found on the CPUC website [here](#). Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Deputy Director, Dan Lafferty, provided the second presentation on the updates of the Safe Clean Water Program. The program, which was approved by Los Angeles County voters in November 2018, announced the first call-for-projects for fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. Information on the program's call-for-projects can be found [here](#). Additionally, Clean Power Alliance Community Programs Manager, Christian Cruz, provided an update regarding the Alliance's proposed distributed energy resources (DER) pilot programs. Proposed programs include smart thermostats, solar and storage, and electric vehicle charging. Each of these customer segments will be offered incentives to allow the CPA to utilize their equipment for demand response and/or wholesale market participation. Funds will be made available for the purchase and/or installation of new equipment on a limited basis. Furthermore, the committee formally recommended the SGVCOG Governing Board to appoint:
 - Joshua Nelson (Industry) as the SGVCOG Delegate to the Metro TAC;
 - Frank Lopez (Monterey Park) as the SGVCOG Alternate to the Metro TAC; and,
 - Robert Delgadillo (Azusa) as the SGVCOG Delegate to the Metro TAC's Streets and Freeways Subcommittee.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2019 at 12:00pm at the Monrovia Community Center. The committee is expected to receive presentations on solid waste legislative review and job order contracting.

- **Streets & Treats Reminder & Preview:** This Saturday, tomorrow, 626 Golden Streets – Streets and Treats is finally here! The route will connect the cities of El Monte and South El Monte. 4-miles of streets will be closed to cars and open to bikes, runners, skaters, pedestrians, strollers and all forms of people-powered transportation. This is a family-friendly, free event open to all ages. No registration required and show up anywhere along the route!
 - [Getting to the Route](#)
 - By Bike: Rio Hondo or San Gabriel River Trails - The class I paths comes within 0.5 miles of the event route. Exit the San Gabriel

Highway Specific Plan, and summary of SB 2 planning grants program. SGVCOG Principal Management Analyst, Caitlin Sims, provided the first presentation on the ongoing progress of the establishment of a regional housing trust fund for the San Gabriel Valley. The SGVCOG will be receiving \$5.6 million from the State to fund homelessness programs and recommendations for this funding is currently being considered by the Governing Board in November. The SGVCOG will also be receiving \$1.5 million as part of an innovation fund from Los Angeles County to increase the supply of permanent and interim housing for individuals experiencing homelessness and enhancing County service systems for those experiencing and/or at-risk of homelessness. Committee members that are interested in providing comments and ideas regarding specific projects that can benefit from this funding are welcome to contact Ms. Sims as csims@sgvcog.org. Jeff Kugel, City of Glendora's Community Development Director, provided the second presentation of the meeting on the City's Arrow Highway Specific Plan. The plan identifies the long-term vision and objectives for land development and public improvement along the 2.73-mile portion of Arrow Highway in the City. The document also establishes site planning, building, parking, architectural, open space standards, and guidelines for developments along the corridor. Alexander Fung, SGVCOG's Management Analyst, provided the last presentation of the meeting on SB 2 grant programs. Mr. Fung covered the background and details of the grants program and solicited feedback from committee members regarding their interest in applying for funding. A majority of the committee members indicated that their cities are in progress of submitting an application. Other committee members indicated that new housing bills that were recently signed by Governor Newsom created additional barriers and hindered their progress in submitting the application. The next Planners' TAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 5, 2019 at 12:00pm at the Monrovia Community Center.

- **Transportation and Open Streets Twitter Chat:** On Tuesday, SGVCOG staff held a discussion on Twitter regarding transportation and open streets events with ActiveSGV, CicLAvia, City of El Monte, City of South El Monte, Foothill Gold Line, Go Human SoCal, Metrolink, Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, and Southern California Association of Governments. Agencies and organizations shared some of the biggest challenges that cities face to address first/last mile challenges in the San Gabriel Valley and best practices for cities to better collaborate with community organizations to develop solutions to existing issues. Discussion posts from the Twitterchat session reached more than 114,000 users and made more than 414,000 impressions on Twitter within the first hour of the chat. A recap of the discussion can be found [here](#).
- **Community Outreach - ACE Project:** COG staff made a presentation about the Turnbull Canyon Road grade separation project to the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association at their monthly meeting on Monday, October 21. The presentation focused on the public safety and community access elements of the project.

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of October 28, 2019

- **Capital Projects & Construction Committee (CPCC):** The CPCC met Monday and took the following actions:
 - *Election of Officers:* The Committee elected Tim Sandoval (Pomona) to serve as Chair and Nancy Lyons (Diamond Bar) to serve as Vice-Chair.
 - *Resolution of Necessity - Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation Project (2 parcels):* The Committee conducted public hearings on two proposed Resolutions of Necessity, finding and determining that the public interest, convenience and necessity require the acquisition of certain property interests for public purposes. They authorized the commencement of eminent domain proceedings so as to acquire for construction purposes. Both parcels are owned by Southern California Edison.
 - *Approval of Selection of Construction Management Consultant for the At-Grade Safety Improvement Projects in Pomona and Montebello:* The Committee authorized the Chief Engineer to negotiate a construction management (CM) services contract with Ghirardelli Associates for the At-Grade Crossings Safety Improvement project. This project includes the construction of safety improvements at six existing at-grade crossings in the cities of Pomona and Montebello on the Los Angeles and Alhambra Subdivisions of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR). The five crossings in Pomona include Hamilton Boulevard, Park Avenue, Main Street, Palomares Street, and San Antonio Avenue, and in Montebello include Vail Avenue. The safety improvements include modified crossing gates, pedestrian gates, improved ADA access, medians, new paving, striping, signage, and traffic signal modifications.
 - *Approval of Amendment with CWE for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design Services for the Load Reduction Strategy Projects for the Rio Hondo River and Tributaries:* The Committee authorized the Chief Engineer to execute an amendment to Task Order No. 1 on the design services contract with California Watershed Engineering Corporation (CWE) for preliminary design services (Phase 1) for the Load Reduction Strategy (LRS) Projects for the Rio Hondo River and Tributaries in the amount of \$40,350 for a total contract amount of \$289,744. A preliminary design report was submitted to the participating agencies this past summer. The initial direction from the member agencies was to design a system that would divert dry weather flows in the Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD) system for treatment. Several major issues have come up as a result of this preliminary study. They are as follows:
 - The annual LACSD cost for the treatment is \$574,000
 - The annual cost for the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to maintain the diversion pumps and related facilities is \$600,000
 - 2000 acre feet of water will be diverted from an adjudicated basin at an annual replenishment cost of \$1,680,000.

Based on these very high annual costs, the participating agencies are requesting that the design consultant look at an onsite treatment and release alternative for each location. Funding for this contract is provided by the participating agencies.

- *Approval of Selection and Award of On-Call Right of Way Support, Property Acquisition and Relocation Assistance Services Contracts:* The Committee approved selection of Paragon Partners and HDR for “on-call” contracts for right of way support, property acquisition and relocation assistance services. The services may be requested for current projects and prospective projects undertaken by the SGVCOG. Current projects include the State Route 57-60 Confluence Chokepoint project and remaining Alameda Corridor-East projects. Potential future projects may include, but are not limited to, stormwater mitigation, general infrastructure, and active transportation projects.
- *Approval of an Amendment to the Construction Contract with OHL USA, Inc. for the Fairway Drive Grade Separation Project:* The Committee authorized the Chief Engineer to execute a second construction contract amendment with OHL USA, Inc. for the construction of the Fairway Drive Grade Separation Project in an amount not to exceed \$33,048,185 for a new contract total of \$123,233,538. As work has progressed on this project, staff and the contractor have encountered a variety of issues that have unfortunately significantly delayed the project. These issues included soil conditions and delays in gas line relocation. However, the most significant and costly and time-consuming issue was related to the mainline track. When the plans were originally developed, it was agreed between the agency and UPRR that the project would be constructed in three phases within the Union Pacific’s right of way. During the three-part process, the existing mainline track would be taken out of service one area of track at a time and no shoofly (temporary tracks) would be needed. Thereafter as construction progressed, UPRR noted that having the contractor’s crews working between their live tracks was going to cause a safety issue for their ongoing rail operations. As a result, UPRR requested design changes, and ACE staff had to put the track construction of the project on hold and re-design the plans to add a temporary shoofly and modify the entire track work portion of the project. In addition, UPRR no longer had crews available to perform the work normally done by the UPRR, such as track removal, and requested that this work be shifted to our contractor. These issues have resulted in over two years of delay and significant construction cost increases. The additional \$33 million as well as previously authorized project contingencies for this second contract amendment, will be paid for using savings from previous projects, proceeds from excess property sales, and additional allocations of Proposition C and Measure R funds.
- **MS-4 Meeting:** On Monday, staff from several cities and the COG participated in a facilitated meeting with a representative from the Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding the upcoming MS4 stormwater Permit. The group had the opportunity to provide input on challenges that cities have faced in implementing projects to comply with the existing MS4 permit and to provide recommendations as the Board considers its next Permit. The group particularly focused on the importance of

implementing the financial capability assessment, which would require consideration of the cities' and its residents' financial burdens as part of the Permit implementation. The COG sponsored legislation that would require the Regional and State Water Resources Control to incorporate financial capability assessment into future Permits. Unfortunately, the legislation was vetoed by Governor Newsom. The COG looks forward to continued dialogue with the Regional Board and the State Board.

- **ACE Project Briefing Trip:** On Wednesday staff traveled to Sacramento to brief San Gabriel Valley legislative staff and California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) freight policy staff on Alameda Corridor-East Program progress; inclusion of ACE projects in the California Freight Mobility Plan; the FY 20 state budget and revised construction phase costs and funding needs for Turnbull Canyon Road and Montebello Corridor. As a part of this trip, meetings were held with the following individuals:
 - Ms. Avital Barnea, Deputy Secretary for Transportation Planning, CalSTA;
 - Ms. Voleck Taing, Transportation Deputy, Assembly Majority Leader Ian Calderon; Mr. John Ackler, Legislative Director, Senator Bob Archuleta;
 - Mr. Alex Hirsch, Policy Consultant, Senator Susan Rubio; and
 - Mr. Daniel Folwarkow, Legislative Aide, Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio.
- **Measure W Regional Oversight Committee Meeting:** On Monday, staff attended the first meeting of the Measure W Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) meeting. As Measure W is implemented, the ROC is a 9-member Board that is responsible for assessing whether the goals of the Safe Clean Water Program are being met. They'll also review the Stormwater Investment Plans that will be submitted by each Watershed Area Steering Committee. The ROC selected its committee leadership at the meeting: co-chairs Barbara Romero (City of Los Angeles) and Shelley Luce (Heal the Bay) and vice-chair Lauren Ahkiam (LAANE). Staff will continue to follow the activities of the ROC as Measure W is implemented.
- **Freight Working Group:** On Tuesday, staff participated in a LA County Goods Movement Strategic Plan working group meeting at the Port of Long Beach. 30 attendees representing government agencies and the private sector participated. A state perspective on goods movement was provided by Avital Barneo, Deputy Transportation Secretary for CalSTA. Other discussions included a presentation on the I-710 clean trucks initiative, and establishing guiding principles for the strategic plan.