



**SGVCOG Homelessness Committee Approved Minutes**

Date: June 3, 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
- K. Davis, Glendora
- B. Shevlin, Monrovia
- M. Clark, Rosemead
- F. Birones, LA County Dist. 1

**Members Absent**

- Duarte
- Irwindale
- Pasadena
- Pomona
- West Covina

**Guests**

- T. Zee, Pasadena
- A. Palermos, Montebello
- S. Olivas, Pasadena
- A. Jimenez, Pasadena

**SGVCOG Staff**

- M. Creter
- C. Sims
- T. Kirkconnell
- S. Matthews

- 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/ M. Clark)**  
**[Motion Passed]**

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|-----------------|--|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Glendora, Monrovia, Rosemead             |
| <b>NOES:</b>    |  |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> |  |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | Duarte, Irwindale, Pomona, West Covina, LA County Supervisorial District 1 |

**ACTION ITEMS**

**6. Pilot Program Recommendations**

T. Kirkconnell announced that an outside review panel evaluated the Pilot Program applications and made its recommendations to fund the following City’s programs: Arcadia, Claremont, Covina, La Verne, and Monrovia. The demand exceeded the initial pilot program allocation of \$300,000. With the high-quality of projects submitted, SGVCOG staff recommended that additional funding be allocated to support the submitted projects. Due to the implementation of Project Roomkey, the SGVCOG had doubts about the value of its relatively limited funds to support a Master Leasing Program. As such, staff recommends that up to \$310,000 from the Master Leasing Program be allocated to the Pilot Programs.

There was a clarification question on the application submitted by Baldwin Park, El Monte, and South El Monte. T. Kirkconnell discussed how the proposed project is similar to a recommendation that is being considered as a Regional Coordination Program project for a region-wide data effort. SGVCOG staff will work with staff from the participating cities to incorporate the relevant elements of the project into the regional data effort.

**There was a motion to recommend the Governing Board fund the pilot programs, re-allocate up to \$310,000 from the Master Leasing Program to the Pilot Programs, and re-allocate the remaining funding from the Master Leasing Program to the Regional Coordination Program (M/S: A. Verlato/ K. Davis)**

**[Motion Passed]**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Glendora, Monrovia, Rosemead, LA County Supervisorial District 1 |
| <b>NOES:</b>    |  |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> |  |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | Duarte, Irwindale, Pomona, West Covina   |

**PRESENTATIONS**

**7. Pasadena Outreach Response Team (PORT) – City of Pasadena (Frederick “Tony” Zee)**  
 T. Zee and A. Palermos presented on the development and implementation of the Pasadena Outreach Response Team (PORT). The program began when the Pasadena Public Health Department received a grant from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to implement a pilot program. PORT provides field-based support and advocacy for people experiencing chronic homelessness, acute mental illness, substance disorders, physical disabilities and/or chronic health conditions. The program staffing includes a fire fighter, a social worker/case manager, an outreach worker, and a public health nurse. The program’s philosophy of “meeting clients where they are at” helps create plans for clients that are more individualized and more successful. A. Palermos noted the importance of the work of the Fire Department in the implementation of the program.

**UPDATE ITEMS**

**8. L.A. Alliance for Human Rights et al v. City of Los Angeles et al – San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments**

T. Kirkconnell provided an update on this litigation regarding homelessness population in Los Angeles County. L.A. Alliance claims that the City and County of LA have failed to protect and provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness. On May 20, Judge Carter ordered City and County officials to move people away from freeways and ramps due to hazards. The order instructed officials to find over 7,000 beds for people experiencing homelessness to be moved into housing. Carter indicated the temporary injunction would go into effect on May 22 but a filing the same day by the Defendants postponed the implementation of the order until September. In a filing on May 29, 2020, attorneys requested that Judge Carter appoint a neutral arbitrator to help find a solution to the question of responsibility for costs.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

### **9. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)**

LAHSA continues to lead the COVID-19 response for the LA County Continuum of Care, includes Project Roomkey. As of June 1, 33 hotel/motel sites are online, serving over 3,000 individuals. 6 sites are located in SPA 3. LAHSA's outreach team continues to connect with people and has distributed 27,590 meals as part of their outreach efforts. The 2020 Homeless Count results are expected to be released in June.

### **10. United Way Everyone In**

Everyone In has been active in seeking community support for Project Roomkey sites in the SGV, has submitted letters to all SGV cities in support of Project Roomkey, and advocated in Rosemead, Monterey Park, South El Monte, Pasadena, San Dimas, and Walnut. They thanked Monterey Park Councilmember Henry Lo for consistently publicly supporting Project Roomkey and they asked other elected officials to do the same.

Some cities have seen their local eviction moratoriums sunset. The city of South Pasadena voted to not extend their local tenant protection ordinance in favor of adopting the County's. We anticipate other cities to make similar decisions as their local eviction moratoriums sunset. There have been rental assistance funds offered through CARES Act and CDBG monies on local city council agendas. The rental assistance funds are very welcomed since a recent report from UCLA entitled, UD Day: Evictions and Homelessness in Los Angeles. The report discusses the most optimistic assessment is that 365,000 renter households are in imminent danger of eviction. Unless less there is immediate action to forestall those evictions, the most optimistic assessment of those who will become homeless is 36,000 households, including 56,000 children, with possible numbers as high as 120,000 households, with 184,000 children.

### **11. San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness**

The Consortium's May meeting highlighted the Workforce system for LA County. A panel of representatives from Goodwill, WDACS, Hired Up, highlighted the key parts of the structure, programs and how they connect with Project Roomkey and the Homeless system in SPA 3. The Consortium has continued to forward much information from LA County in response to COVID-19 and mobilizing a letter support campaign throughout LA County,

to support Project Roomkey. The Consortium continues to desire to work closely with the COG to implement a Regional Homeless Strategy to prevent and end homelessness.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair announced the City of Monrovia's participation in the June 1 National Day of Mourning to recognize both the loss of life due to COVID-19 and the loss of George Floyd and the unrest that followed. Peaceful protests have taken place in the City.

The Chair announced that the July meeting will be cancelled, and the Committee will reconvene in August.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM