

VALLEY VOICE

*The official newsletter of the **San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments***



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SGVCOG Launches JPA Negotiations for Regional Housing Trust Fund

Since last year, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) has been working with cities and stakeholders to explore the possibility of forming a San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Fund. A Regional Housing Trust Fund (RHTF) would create a vehicle for the region to receive and distribute funding to support the planning and construction of affordable housing and homeless housing in the San Gabriel Valley.

At the request of SGVCOG, Senator Susan Rubio introduced SB 751 to allow San Gabriel Valley cities to form a joint powers authority to receive and disperse both public and private funding and financing for the planning and construction of affordable and homeless housing. SB 751 is expected to be approved by Governor Newsom. Once enrolled as law, the RHTF could form as early as January 1, 2020.

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SGVCOG Launches JPA Negotiations for Regional Housing Trust Fund (Cont.)



SGVCOG launched the joint powers authority (JPA) negotiations with a kick-off meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2019. The JPA meetings, which provide cities with the opportunity to influence the Trust's authorities, administration, membership, organization, and funding, will continue through December.

Any interested jurisdictions in the San Gabriel Valley can participate in these negotiation meetings. SGVCOG is requesting that each interested jurisdiction designate a delegate and alternate that can consistently participate in the negotiation meetings. For more information, please contact SGVCOG Principal Management Analyst, Caitlin Sims, at csims@sgvcog.org.

A table that showcases the JPA negotiation meeting schedule can be found below.

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT NEGOTIATION SCHEDULE

Joint Powers Agreement Recitals	October 9, 2019
Liability	October 23, 2019
Organization, Funding, and Staffing	November 6, 2019
Powers and Administration of the JPA	November 20, 2019
Board Composition and Membership	December 4, 2019
RHTF Stakeholder Priorities	December 11, 2019
Final Joint Powers Agreement	December 18, 2019

Los Angeles County Approves Allocation of \$6 Million for Cities to Combat Homelessness

On Tuesday, September 10, 2019, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Hilda Solis to allocate \$6 million to equip cities with tools to implement plans to combat homelessness in their communities.

Using Measure H funds that were directed to councils of governments (COGs), the initiative will enable cities to support activities that align with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' Homeless Initiative Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness.

This motion also provides for a return of \$6 million in tax-generated funds to the cities and directs the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Board of Supervisors within 45 days with a framework to provide funding for COGs to distribute to their respective cities.

Funding will be directed at activities that support **two** priority areas:

1. To increase the supply of supportive and interim housing for individuals experiencing homelessness; and,
2. To enhance the effectiveness of Los Angeles County service systems for those experiencing and/or at-risk of homelessness.

This funding will ensure that cities in Los Angeles County have more flexibility when implementing their homeless plans. It is anticipated that the funding will be divided between the COG based on results from the 2019 Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count. The San Gabriel Valley is expected to receive approximately \$1.5 million out of the \$6 million allocation.



626 Golden Streets: Streets and Treats Overview



After hosting the Mission-to-Mission Golden Streets event earlier in May, ActiveSGV is organizing another open streets event in the San Gabriel Valley in partnership with the SGVCOG and the Cities of El Monte and South El Monte. 626 Golden Streets: Streets and Treats is scheduled to be on Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 9:00am to 4:00pm. This car-free event allows residents to walk, run, bike, and explore San Gabriel Valley across 4.5 miles of open streets in El Monte and South El Monte.



The route will connect ActiveSGV's office at the Jeff Seymour Family Center in El Monte, the annual Dia de los Muertos Festival on Main Street, the Children's Day Parade, and zigzags its way to the South El Monte Civic Center. Three major festival hubs will be placed along the route to provide attendees with places to rest and relax. Residents are encouraged to volunteer for the event and additional information can be found on www.626goldenstreets.com.



SGVCOG Capital Project and Construction Committee Hosts Tour of ACE Projects

In August, the SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee held a tour of completed and ongoing Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) construction projects in the San Gabriel Valley. The ACE Project is a comprehensive program of constructing grade separations to increase safety, improve air quality, foster economic vitality, and enhance mobility. To date, ACE has completed 14 rail-roadway grade separations. 3 grade separations are under construction with another 2 grade separations and 8 crossing safety projects in their design phases.

The tour consisted of various ACE project site visits. Committee members visited the completed Orange Avenue railroad bridge, Nogales Street (L.A. Subdivision) underpass project, Puente Avenue underpass, SR-60 Lemon Avenue Interchange, and Sunset Avenue railroad bridge in the Cities of Diamond Bar and Industry and the unincorporated communities of Avocado Heights and Rowland Heights.

Additionally, the committee toured the planned Turnbull Canyon project in the City of Industry and the unincorporated community of Hacienda Heights. This project is expected to begin construction in the next few months. Finally, the committee toured the construction sites of the Durfee Avenue project in City of Pico Rivera and the Fairway Drive and Fullerton Road projects in the City of Industry and the unincorporated community of Rowland Heights.

Groups or individuals that are interested in touring ACE project sites can contact SGVCOG Chief Engineer, Mark Christoffels, at (626) 962-9292 or mchristoffels@sgvcog.org. Additional information on completed, planned, and ongoing ACE construction projects can be found on theaceproject.org. ACE's project helpline is also available at (888) ACE-1426.



SGVCOG Chief Engineer Mark Christoffels Receives Distinguished Public Service Award



The San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership (SGVEP) held its 16th annual Awards Gala at the Pasadena Rose Bowl on Saturday, September 21, 2019 to recognize individuals and organizations for their extraordinary achievements to the San Gabriel Valley. SGVCOG's Chief Engineer, Mark Christoffels, was honored with the Distinguished Public Service Award through his contributions and work on the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Project.



Mr. Christoffels has been working with the SGVCOG since ACE Project's formation and played a critical role in developing a successful foundation for the organization. His contributions and leadership resulted in ACE and the SGVCOG having a stellar reputation at the state and federal levels. Mr. Christoffels has been widely-recognized as a transportation expert in the San Gabriel Valley region and his expertise has benefited not only the SGVCOG, but many other partner organizations.



Other award recipients at the event include:

- **Oak Crest Institute of Science** for the Excellence in Workforce Readiness Award
- **Lawrence Equipment** for the Business of the Year Award
- **Union Pacific Railroad** for the Golden Spike Award
- **China Airlines** for the International Business of the Year Award



The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments congratulates Mr. Christoffels for his achievements and thanks him for his continuous dedication and commitment to enhance the San Gabriel Valley region. A summary and recap of the Awards Gala can be found on the SGVEP website at <https://sgvpartnership.org/SGV-Awards-Gala>.

SGVCOG Partners with Energy Coalition to Promote SoCalREN Public Agency Program

The SGVCOG Governing Board approved a contract with the Energy Coalition (TEC) to provide funding to the SGVCOG to support regional public agency engagement for the Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) on Thursday, September 19, 2019. SGVCOG staff will collaborate with TEC to facilitate engagement of San Gabriel Valley public agencies, including cities, counties, water agencies, school districts, and other special districts, for the SoCalREN Public Agency Program.



This program has led to the implementation of 599 energy and/or water efficiency projects in publicly-owned facilities throughout Southern California since 2013. Currently, the SoCalREN Public Agency Program serves 120 public agencies, including 15 cities located in the San Gabriel Valley.



SGVCOG Featured Staff: Kathleen Mitchell

This month, our SGVCOG featured staff member is **Kathleen Mitchell**. Kathleen serves as our **Project Assistant** and we've had a chance to catch up recently:

What do you love most about working at SGVCOG?

I've always wanted to work in local government, which is why I returned to school to get a Master's in Planning. When the opportunity arose to work at the COG, I knew this would be the best place to get a glimpse into how a number of different cities operate. Being a part of an organization that allows me to tap into a variety of projects that fall within my interests, as well as actively participate in community engagement, makes the COG a fulfilling place to work.



Please share one interesting fact about yourself.

My family home has always been filled with animals, and I've never gone a single day of my life without a pet. Most of them have been rescues, and we've had dogs, hamsters, a tortoise, and many fishes. I plan to keep up the tradition in my own home in the future, starting with my favorite breed of dog - a pug.



Committee Meeting Dates:

SGVCOG is governed by a Governing Board that dictates the policies for the organization. Additionally, there are policy committees and technical advisory committees (TACs) that provide guidance to the Governing Board on important matters. To learn more about SGVCOG committees, please visit sgvcog.org.

HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 8:30am
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

CITY MANAGERS' STEERING COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 12:00pm
100 S. Vincent Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Monday, October 7, 2019 at 12:00pm
1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91801

WATER COMMITTEE:

Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 10:00am
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016

EENR COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 12:30pm
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

PLANNERS TAC:

Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 12:00pm
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 3:00pm
1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010

GOVERNING BOARD:

Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 5:30pm
100 S. Vincent Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

Monday, October 28, 2019 at 12:00pm
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

Upcoming Events:



**SGVCOG
Transportation
& Open Streets
Twitter Chat**

12:00 PM
#ConnectSGV

Join @SGVCOG and other community organizations to discuss first/last mile connections, open streets events, and other transportation topics.



**11
19
19**

SAVE THE DATE

CITY STAFF ENERGY WORK GROUP
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
ENERGY WISE PARTNERSHIP

MONROVIA COMMUNITY CENTER
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM

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