



SGVCOG Homelessness Committee Approved Minutes

Date: September 2, 2020

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Zoom teleconference

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

- 1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 8:31 AM
- 2. Roll Call

Members Present

- A. Verlato, Arcadia
- Y. Ruizsparza, 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

Members Absent

- LA County Dist. 1
- West Covina

SGVCOG Staff

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

- 3. Public Comment:
Rachel Barbosa, City Manager of South El Monte thanked the committee members for their long-term commitment, and supported further efforts for the San Gabriel Valley to independently manage Measure H funding.
- 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, Duarte, Glendora, Irwindale, Monrovia, Pomona, Rosemead
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	LA County Supervisorial District 1, West Covina

PRESENTATIONS

6. Eugene, Oregon CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets) Program – Ben Adam Climer, Consultant, CAHOOTS

B. A. Climer presented on the work of CAHOOTS, a mobile crisis intervention service that provides first response to people experiencing mental health, substance use, and homelessness related crises in Eugene, Oregon. He highlighted several aspects of the effectiveness of the program for those it serves and emphasized the program's advantages over other specialized crisis response models. The program works alongside the Eugene Police Department (EPD) and handles eight to ten percent of all calls to the EPD. CAHOOTS staff provided an estimated cost per resident per year of \$17 to implement the services across the San Gabriel Valley, compared to the cost of cities' police departments of up to \$422 per resident per year. The Committee indicated interest in exploring implementing this model in the San Gabriel Valley.

7. Housing For Health (HFH) Program – Elizabeth Boyce, Director Of Access, Referral and Engagement, Housing For Health (HFH), Department Of Health Services (DHS), LA County

E. Boyce highlighted the broad array of services that HFH provides through contracted community-based organizations as well as the work they are doing to lead to the COVID-19 response across the homeless services system. HFH staff offered a willingness to partner with cities to bring more services, such as a sobering center or recuperative care, to the San Gabriel Valley, but stated they had no available funding of their own to expand services at this time.

UPDATE ITEMS

8. Project Roomkey

S. Matthews provided an update on claims that Project Roomkey discriminates against people with disabilities. The Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition (LAAAC), an advocacy group for elderly and disabled residents, maintains that LAHSA is violating federal and state laws in its exclusion of Project Roomkey residents who are unable to manage self-care because of physical disabilities. It calls on LAHSA to end this policy and integrate personal care services.

9. CEO Status Report on Funding Plan to Support LAHSA COVID-19 Recovery Plan

S. Matthews provided an update on the County's Funding Plan to support the COVID-19 Recovery Plan related to people experiencing homelessness. The July 2, 2020 Funding Plan had proposed allocations from the following four County-administered funding sources totaling \$308.6 million: 1) Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF); 2) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV); 3) Measure H; and 4) Medicaid (federal reimbursement).

10. Homeless Initiative Technology Innovation Challenge

S. Matthews provided an update on the Homeless Initiative's Technology Innovation Challenge, which was created to invest in technology to modernize homeless services and create positive outcomes for people experiencing homelessness. The winners, announced July 30, will split \$1.375 million in funding, with each firm receiving \$200,000 to \$500,000, to create innovative solutions to improve homeless services in four solution areas.

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

S. Matthews provided an update on this lawsuit filed in March by a group of business owners and residents called the LA Alliance for Human Rights. An agreement must be reached by the City and County to find alternate shelter for nearly 7,000 people living near freeways and under freeway overpasses in the City of Los Angeles and in unincorporated areas of the County. On August 7, City Council members provided updates on their Districts' plans to move anyone living near a freeway into housing. While some Council members demonstrated progress, notably in North Hollywood where tiny homes known as "pallet shelters" with 264 beds are to be constructed in two parks, other Council members, like those who represent West Los Angeles and the northwest San Fernando Valley, were unable to identify projects.

LIAISON REPORTS

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

CHAIR'S REPORT

13. The Chair raised the question of when to hold elections, given the disruption due to COVID-19. J. Leano, T. Paras-Caracci, and K. Davis all expressed their agreement that elections should be postponed until May, with Becky Shevlin to remain as Chair and Margaret Clark as Vice Chair.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 AM