



City of Alhambra's Chinese New Year Celebration

January 2019

SGVCOG Receives B.E.S.T. Award from APWA

SGVCOG was recently given a 2018 Major construction activities began in "Building Excellence Shaping Spring 2014, following an extensive Tomorrow" (B.E.S.T.) award from the American Public Works Association (APWA) for the San Gabriel Trench Grade Separation Project.

The 2.2-mile San Gabriel Trench Grade Separation Project resulted in the lowering of a 1.4-mile section of Union Pacific railroad track in a 30-foot-deep, 65-foot-wide trench through the City of San Gabriel with bridges constructed at Ramona Street, Mission Road, Del Mar Avenue, and San Gabriel Boulevard, thereby allowing vehicles and pedestrians to pass over the tracks.

This project reduces emissions and improves public safety by eliminating an estimated 1,744 vehicle-hours of delay for nearly 90,000 motorists traveling each day on the four grade-separated streets. Ten collisions had been recorded at the four crossings prior to the launch of this grade separate project. Additionally, it is projected that rail traffic would increase from 18 trains per day to 61 trains per day by 2025 if a second track is installed. Aside from eliminating locomotive horn and crossing bell noises, this project allows emergency responders to respond more quickly to calls on both sides of the tracks. Overall, the project directly employed 1,211 workers, including 133 residents from the San Gabriel Valley.



Officials held a dedication ceremony at the site on September 10, 2018 to celebrate a grand milestone that reduces traffic and prevents collisions between trains, vehicles, and pedestrians. The completion of the project marked the first time in 143 years that trains would not frequently interrupt the silence at the historic San Gabriel Mission.

SGVCOG representatives received the award at the APWA Southern California Chapter's Awards Luncheon on December 12th at the Centre at Sycamore Plaza in Lakewood, CA. For more information on the San Gabriel Trench Grade Separation Project, please visit theaceproject.org.



Valley Voice

The Pulse of the
San Gabriel Valley



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

Inside This Issue:

Mobility on Demand: El Monte Pilot Program	2
Measure M MSP Funding Update	2
L.A. County Voters Approve Measure W	3
Homelessness Initiatives Update	3
News in Brief	4
Holiday Tree Lighting Highlights	6
RMC's Prop. 68 Grant Announcement	7



Mobility on Demand: El Monte Pilot Program

Metro, in partnership with on-demand rideshare company Via, is launching a one-year pilot program to offer services to-and-from three transit stations in Los Angeles County. The three selected transit stations are located in Artesia, El Monte, and North Hollywood. This pilot program will launch later this month and will operate for at least one year. It is funded by a \$1.35-million Mobility On Demand (MOD) Sandbox Demonstrations grant from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

The service will match passengers with other riders going their way to the same transit station. The cost of the ride should be less than a similar privately-operated and funded service. Metro will provide a call center that allows customers to request a ride without using a smartphone. Customers who use wheelchairs or require additional support getting into and out of vehicles will also be able to request rides that meet their individual needs. Additionally, customers

without bank accounts will have options for payment, such as paying with pre-paid debit cards. Residents that frequent the El Monte transit station will be able to utilize the rideshare service in any location that is within the catchment area (shown below). The service will be available to customers on Monday through Friday 6:00am to 8:00pm. For questions, please contact Emma Huang at (213) 922-5445.



Measure M MSP Funding Update

At its most recent meeting on November 15, 2018, the SGVCOG Governing Board approved of the SGVCOG's Measure M MSP 5-Year Plan projects and funding proposal. As a result of the Governing Board's action, each SGVCOG member agency which submitted a project for MSP funding consideration will be receiving funding for its top priority active transportation or first-last mile project. The recommended projects totals a combined amount of \$31.8 million. Please reference the tables for their respective funding amounts.

By the end of January 2019, SGVCOG staff will work with Metro staff and the cities which have been selected for funding to draft master funding agreements for each of the projects. The SGVCOG looks forward to seeing these projects get constructed over the next few years, projects which will provide additional safe and sustainable active transportation and first-last mile options and infrastructure throughout San Gabriel Valley!

Active Transportation Program Projects		
Implementing Agency	Project Name	Recommended Funding through FY 21-22
City of Alhambra	Lit Crosswalk Traffic Control Devices	\$640,000
City of Industry	City of Industry East-West Bikeway Project	\$1,500,000
Los Angeles County	Huntington Drive Bike Lanes	\$4,300,000
City of Monrovia	Monrovia Active Community Travel Vinculum	\$4,000,000
City of Pomona	San Jose Creek Multi-Use Bikeway	\$1,400,000
City of Rosemead	Mission Drive: Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon System	\$390,000
Temple City	Eaton Canyon Wash Bike Trail	\$2,000,000
City of El Monte	El Monte Class II Bike Lane / Sharrows Project	\$585,000
TOTAL:		\$14,815,000
First Last Mile & Complete Streets Program Projects		
Implementing Agency	Project Name	
City of Arcadia	Gold Line Station Ped. Access Corridors	\$1,750,000
City of Baldwin Park	Baldwin Park Transit Center FLM	\$656,000
City of Claremont	College Avenue Ped. and Bike Improvements	\$690,000
City of Covina	Citrus Ave. Complete Streets Enhancements	\$1,750,000
City of Diamond Bar	Diamond Bar Blvd. Complete Streets Project	\$3,000,000
City of Duarte	Duarte Gold Line Station Pedestrian Access and Bicyclist Safety Improvements	\$1,600,000
City of La Verne	Gold Line Transit Oriented Development Pedestrian Bridge	\$900,000
City of San Dimas	San Dimas Ave. Pedestrian & Bikeway Improvement Project from Gold Line Station to Avenida Loma Vista	\$900,000
City of South El Monte	Santa Anita Avenue Walkability Project	\$5,700,000
TOTAL:		\$16,946,000
COMPREHENSIVE TOTAL:		\$31,761,000

Los Angeles County Voters Approve Measure W

Measure W, known as the Safe Clean Water Parcel Tax, was approved by Los Angeles County voters in the November elections. Results show that around 69.45% of residents voted in favor of the measure. It required 66.7% to pass.

The measure will trigger a special parcel tax of 2.5 cents per square foot of impermeable surface area on private properties in the Los Angeles County Flood Control District across Los Angeles County. It is estimated that the tax would lead to an increase of approximately \$83 per year for the median Angeleno home. Publicly-owned parcels, including schools, are exempt under existing state law. Credits for property owners who have

installed stormwater capture devices are also exempted from this tax. Additionally, qualifying low-income seniors and nonprofit organizations are eligible for exemption.

Measure W provides the funding needed to clean up polluted water and reduce the region's reliance on imported water. The revenue generated will also be used to pay for regional and municipal projects that improve water quality. In addition, the funding can be used to increase water supply and provide community benefits, such as parks or wetlands. Ten percent of the revenue will go to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District for administration purposes.

The parcel tax will raise an estimated \$300 million annually for Los Angeles County and is scheduled to be imposed beginning next fiscal year, which starts on July 1st, 2019. More details on Measure W can be found on safecleanwaterla.org.



Individuals Facing Homelessness Enter New Year-Round Shelter in Pomona

On December 5th, homeless people who had been staying at the aged Pomona Park Armory spent their first night at the new **Hope for Home** Shelter. The move-in was possible thanks to the work of over 140 community members who gathered at the new site the day after Thanksgiving to assemble 208 beds and furniture and put together 150 hygiene kits. The shelter was designed in coordination with San Gabriel Valley service organizations that gave input into what was need on-site and how to best provide the services. The shelter will be operated by Volunteers of America of Greater Los Angeles (VOALA).

Some funding for the shelter was brought to the program by Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, who secured over \$3M in State OATH (Officers Assisting the Homeless) program dollars for the program. Development of the shelter carries out a key element of the homeless plan adopted by the Pomona City Council. While construction of the Hope for Home shelter was underway, the County's Winter Shelter program was converted to a year-round shelter after receiving several extensions.

Walk-in requests for shelter are allowed; however, a phone call should precede prior to arrival to ensure that space is available. Those wishing to enter the shelter can access the courtyard at 4:00pm. There is a restriction of personal belongings to two small bags. If the Home for Hope Shelter is full, there are other

options available, such as the East San Gabriel Valley Coalition Rotating Church Winter Shelter. For more information, please call the Winter Shelter Hotline at [\(909\) 593-4796](tel:(909)593-4796). A bus pick-up schedule for the Winter Shelter is listed below.



CITY	ADDRESS	PICK-UP TIME
EL MONTE	11647 Garvey Avenue, El Monte, CA 91732 (Lot across from Victory Motel)	5:00pm – 5:10pm
COVINA	Southwest Corner of Grand and Arrow Highway	5:00pm – 5:10pm; 6:00pm – 6:10pm
EL MONTE	El Monte Metro Station Bay 3	5:20pm – 5:30pm
BALDWIN PARK	Big Dalton Behind the Walmart between Merced and the 10 Freeway	5:50pm – 6:00pm
WEST COVINA	444 S. Glendora Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790 (At the former Big O Tires)	5:30pm – 5:40pm
LA PUENTE	La Puente Park in the Parking Lot near the Southeast Corner of Hacienda Blvd. and Temple Ave.	5:00pm – 5:10pm; 6:00pm – 6:10pm

News in Brief

City of Covina Receives Energy Leader Recognition

Recently, the City of Covina was recognized for achieving the Platinum tier in Southern California Edison's Energy Leader Program (ELP). Under the ELP, cities are categorized under four tiers: Valued, Silver, Gold, and Platinum, with Platinum being the highest possible tier level. Cities can advance to the next tier by completing additional energy upgrade and efficiency projects.

The City of Covina has achieved 1,778,323 in kilowatt-hour savings and received \$552,224 in rebate incentives since 2006. Last month, SGVCOG representatives attended the Covina City Council meeting to congratulate city officials for their extraordinary efforts in conserving energy. SGVCOG congratulates and recognizes the City of Covina for their extraordinary efforts in energy efficiency. To learn more about the Southern California Edison's Energy Leader Program, please visit SGVEWP website at sgvenergywise.org.



Gold Line Scoping Meeting

On December 10th, the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority (Construction Authority) hosted a Public Scoping Meeting for an upcoming Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) at the La Verne Community Center. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss a proposed modification to the possible phasing of construction and operation for the 12.3-mile, six-station Glendora to Montclair Project, as well as a proposed modification to the location of the future parking facility at the future Pomona North Station. Due to bids that came in higher than anticipated, the Construction Authority is proposing to modify the construction in four separate phases instead of just two. Under this proposal, the Glendora to La Verne phase would be completed in November 2024, the La Verne to Pomona phase would be completed in August 2025, and both the Pomona to Claremont phase and the Claremont to Montclair phase would be completed in August 2028. The Construction Authority states that this new timeline will reduce costs. The SEIR is needed to evaluate the potential for significant impacts that may result from the new construction schedule. At the Public Scoping Meeting, Construction Authority staff members were available to City staff, elected officials, and members of the public to hear their concerns and answer their questions, and attendees were also able record official comments with a Court Reporter. The Construction Authority anticipates that the Final SEIR will be completed and published in June 2019.

San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership's Merry Mingle Highlights



News in Brief

2019 SGVCOG Strategic Plan Update

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) strives to maximize resources and advocate for regional and member interests to improve the quality of life in the San Gabriel Valley. To do so, SGVCOG utilizes a Strategic Plan to identify the priorities of the COG and the actions that the COG will undertake to address these priorities. The Strategic Plan is intended to improve the organization and refocus the activities of the SGVCOG to best meet the needs of its member agencies. The latest update to the Strategic Plan was adopted by the SGVCOG Governing Board on April 21st, 2016. Initial input on the proposed revised goals and proposed areas of focus is currently being gathered via an online survey. This survey was sent to all Governing Board members and City Managers. Next, a comprehensive Strategic Plan workshop will be held as part of the January Governing Board meeting. The purpose of this workshop will be to present the results of the survey, as well as provide an engaging forum for discussing important topics. The January Governing Board meeting is scheduled to be on Thursday, January 17th at 5:30pm at 602 Huntington Drive, Suite B, Monrovia, CA 91016. The survey can also be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8WPB8QD>.



Metro Presents:

626 BIKE, WALK, RUN, SKATE, DANCE, PLAY GOLDEN ART, MUSIC, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT STREETS

OPEN STREETS
MADE POSSIBLE BY

M Metro FREE EVENT

MISSION-TO-MISSION

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

FAMILY-FRIENDLY - NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

WWW.626GOLDENSTREETS.COM

f i t #626GoldenStreets #ActiveSGV

SGVCOG Featured Staff: Yanin Rivera

This month, our COG featured staff member is Yanin Rivera. Yanin serves as our Administrative Assistant and we've had a chance to catch up recently:

What is your typical day like at work?

My typical day consists of assisting the Project Managers. I also keep track of all project-related correspondence and ensure that they are archived properly and distributed as needed. I also participate in bid conferences with the Contracts Department and work with utility companies in assisting all necessary procedures for our projects to move forward. I oversee our document control area and see all the documentation that is required from the beginning to the end of our projects.

Tell us one fun fact about yourself.

Something fun about myself, not much. Just a mom with two kids: A 9-year-old and a 12-year-old. As a family, we enjoy watching our team play every Sunday during the football season "Go Pats!" and even more when our team makes it to the Super Bowl. Every summer, we try to visit national parks and go hiking. So far, we have visited the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Sequoia National Parks. Spending time with my family and visiting new places with them is something that will stay with them for life, and I want them to have good memories from when they were kids and spent time with mom and dad.

San Gabriel Valley: Holiday Tree Lighting Highlights



RMC's Proposition 68 Grant Announcement

Proposition 68, known as the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, was approved by California voters in the June 2018 elections. The proposition authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds to finance a water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. Proposition 68 aims to develop urban recreation or habitat protection projects, provide workforce education and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities, and create new partnerships to expand access to diverse populations.

The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) was given a total of \$30 million from Proposition 68 funding. The Conservancy plans on distributing the funds as grants to eligible applicants. Eligible applicants include municipalities, public agencies, joint powers authorities, public utilities, Federally recognized Indian tribes, state Indian tribes, mutual water companies, and nonprofit organizations. Based on the guidelines that were passed by the voters in June, RMC must distribute at least 20%

of the funds for projects serving severely disadvantaged communities, up to 10% of the funds for technical assistance to disadvantaged communities, up to 5% of the funds for community access projects, and up to 10% of the funds to support planning-related applications. Entities that are interested in seeking Proposition 68 funds must seek to restore balance between natural and human systems and abide to RMC's Environmental Justice and Tribal Consultation Policies. Entities that receive funding must complete their projects by June 30th, 2022 and must submit quarterly reports within 30 days of the preceding quarter.

Currently, a draft of RMC's Proposition 68 Guidelines can be found on RMC's website at www.rmc.ca.gov. Staff members of RMC stated that the guidelines will be finalized and presented to the RMC Board for consideration for approval. Once approved, a call-for-projects announcement will follow in February 2019. Additional details and resources can be found on the RMC website at www.rmc.ca.gov and questions can be directed to Prop68@rmca.ca.gov.



SGV Go Green Leader: Los Angeles County 211

SGVCOG, in collaboration with the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP), manages and implements the SGV Go Green Program. The SGV Go Green Program aims to promote sustainability and energy-conscious behaviors in the Greater San Gabriel Valley Region and help businesses and organizations integrate environmental responsibility into their operations.

In November, the SGVCOG conducted a Go Green Assessment at Los Angeles County 211's office in Alhambra, CA. The organization is Los Angeles County's central source for providing information and referrals for all health and human services within Los Angeles County. 211 has implemented many consequential and substantive actions that positively impact the environment. Management of Los Angeles County 211 recycles waste, encourages employees to carpool or bike, and recently upgraded their lighting to

CFL and LED bulbs. Additionally, the company installed a "cool roof," which is a special type of roofing material that reflects most of the sun's UV rays and heat away from the building. Its office also has many ENERGY STAR appliances.

Due to its incredible dedication to promoting environmental sustainability in both the nonprofit sphere and in the SGV community, along with its commitment to continue its sustainable practices well into the future, Los Angeles County 211 has been certified as a SGV Go Green Leader. The SGVCOG commends the organization for the leadership in sustainability that it has exhibited. It is clear that Los Angeles County 211 sets a great example of how a commercial office can remain efficient while also implementing environmentally-friendly practices and projects. To learn more about the SGV Go Green Program, please visit sgvenergywise.org.



Committee Meetings

Wednesday, January 2, 12:00 p.m.
City Managers Steering Committee
100 S. Vincent Ave #200, West Covina

Tuesday, January 8, 10:00 a.m.
Water Committee
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia

Tuesday, January 8, 1:00 p.m.
Coyote Management Task Force
1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra

Wednesday, January 16, 12:30 p.m.
EENR Committee
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia

Thursday, January 17, 4:30 p.m.
Transportation Committee
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia

Thursday, January 17, 6:00 p.m.
Governing Board
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia

Thursday, January 24, 12:00 p.m.
Planners TAC
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia

Monday, January 28, 12:00 p.m.
Public Works TAC
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia

Monday, January 28, 12:00 p.m.
Capital Projects Committee
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina

Valley Voice

The Pulse of the San Gabriel Valley

1000 S. Fremont Ave.
Bldg A-10N, Suite 10-210
Alhambra, CA 91803

Newsletter Editor:
Alexander Fung
afung@sgvcog.org



City of San Gabriel's Chinese New Year Performance

**SAVE
the
DATE**


SGVCOG
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY 2019**
Building Sustainable Solutions

Wednesday
APRIL 10, 2019