



City of Alhambra Veterans Memorial

**SGVCOG**  
**Valley Voice**  
The Pulse of the  
San Gabriel Valley

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 6

June 2017

## Governor Brown Signs SB1 To Provide \$5.2 Billion Annually For Transportation

City	Amount (Millions)
Alhambra	\$19.86M
Arcadia	\$13.86M
Azusa	\$11.32M
Baldwin Park	\$17.25M
Bradbury	\$0.26M
Claremont	\$8.29M
Covina	\$11.28M
Diamond Bar	\$13.06M
Duarte	\$5.07
El Monte	\$26.06M
Glendora	\$11.98M
Industry	\$0.10M
Irwindale	\$0.33M
La Canada Flintridge	\$4.70M
La Puente	\$9.27M
La Verne	\$7.60M
Monrovia	\$8.59M
Montebello	\$14.63M
Monterey Park	\$14.04M
Pasadena	\$32.27M
Pomona	\$35.61M
Rosemead	\$12.64M
San Dimas	\$7.81M
San Gabriel	\$9.25M
San Marino	\$3.10M
Sierra Madre	\$2.52M
South El Monte	\$4.76M
South Pasadena	\$5.96M
Temple City	\$8.39M
Walnut	\$6.90M
West Covina	\$24.69M
LA County	\$173M(STIP) + \$1.405B (County Roadshare)

Governor Brown Signed SB1 in April, which will result in \$5.2 Billion in new funding annually for transportation. Funding will come from a 12 cent per gallon increase in the gas tax and increases in vehicle registration fees. In addition to funding for various statewide programs and projects, the bill will provide \$15 billion for "Fix-It-First" local road repairs.

An additional \$11.5 billion of the revenues, over the next ten years, would be dedicated for local expenditures such as infrastructure improvements and \$200 million for "local partnerships" for local agencies that have adopted local sales tax measures for transportation purposes. The San Gabriel Valley is expected to receive approximately \$351.45 million in funding. For anticipated allocations by city please see Table 1.

### Also in the issue...

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Executive Director Phil Hawkey Receives Bill Baughman Award



60/57 Interchange Diamond Bar

Table 1. SGV Cities SB 1 New Revenues

## Nogales St. Roadway Underpass Tapped As The Top Safety Project At Transportation Awards Event

The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) recognized the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Nogales Street rail-highway grade separation project as the 2016 Safety Project of the Year. The award was announced at the annual CTF Transportation Awards Luncheon in Sacramento. This event recognized the foremost California public and private sector transportation projects from all regions of the state.

Before being closed in 2014 for the construction of a roadway underpass and railroad bridge, the Nogales Street crossing ranked as the third most hazardous in the nation and the most hazardous crossing in California, with ten crossing collisions recorded over ten years, according to Federal Railroad Administration records.



*from left: Norman Tondares, Project Manager, Griffith Company; Charles Tsang, Senior Project Manager, ACE Construction Authority; Kevin Lai, Resident Engineer, WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff; Hilton Yee, AECOM*

## Update on SCAG'S Inter-County Transit and Rail Planning Study

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), in cooperation with the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), is currently undertaking a transit and rail planning study for the corridor connecting the eastern San Gabriel Valley in Los Angeles County with the western San Bernardino Valley in San Bernardino County.

The study's objectives are to:

- Understand the market for transit and rail travel in the corridor, including travel to and from Ontario International Airport (ONT),
- Estimate the potential benefits and costs associated with different transit and rail improvement options for the corridor, and
- Recommend a path forward for cost-effective transit and rail improvements, with a focus on coordinating plans for the Metro

Gold Line, Metrolink, and access to ONT.

The Inter-County Study will evaluate the current and future travel needs in the corridor and will make recommendations concerning the optimum mix of different services, including commuter rail, light rail transit, bus rapid transit, and express bus service on the Interstate 10 carpool and ExpressLanes facilities.

Currently, the options being evaluated are as follows:

- **No-Build Alternative:** This option would leverage existing infrastructure from Metrolink, Gold Line, and dedicated BRT lanes for the West Valley Connector.
- **Transportation Systems Management Alternative:** Improve existing bus and rail service in the study area by improving the frequency on many existing bus routes and on the Metrolink Riverside and San Bernardino Lines. Extend

some existing routes to better connect with other transit services and major activity centers.

• **Four Build Alternatives:**

- Light Rail Transit,
- Commuter Rail,
- Hybrid Rail, and
- Bus Rapid Transit.

The project team will conduct public open houses in the City of Claremont and provide a second online survey for public input. For more information please visit : <http://www.scag.ca.gov/programs/Pages/InterCountyTransitRail.aspx>



*Metrolink Passengers*



## Governing Board Elects Officers for FY 17-18



President Cynthia Sternquist

Cynthia was first appointed to City Council in 2009, and continues her efforts to improve the quality of life for all residents.

Cynthia is a retired educator and literacy coach and continues to engage residents in planning for the future. She served as a City Parks and Recreation Commissioner for nearly two decades.



1st Vice President Margret Clark

Margaret was first appointed to the Rosemead City Council since March 1991, including six terms as Mayor.

In addition to her council responsibilities, Margaret served as president for the League of California Cities (LA County Division) and has been a member of the California Contract Cities Association executive board.



2nd Vice President Joe Lyons

Joe was first appointed to the City of Claremont City Council in 2011 and was elected to a second term in 2015.

Joe has been a Claremont resident since 2002 and lives in a committed relationship with his beloved life partner, Sharyn Webb—between them they have nine grandchildren.



3rd Vice President Becky Shevlin

Becky was appointed to the Monrovia City Council in 2009, elected to a four year term in 2011, named Mayor Pro Tem in 2013 and re-elected in 2015.

She has served on the Community Services Commission for 11 years prior to being elected to the City Council. Becky has called Monrovia home for the past 21 years.

## The LA County Board of Supervisors Directs LACDPW to Develop a Strategic Implementation Plan for the San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network

At its May 15th meeting, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (BOS) instructed the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW), in consultation with the Healthy Design Workgroup, the Watershed Conservation Authority, and the SGVCOG, to develop a strategic implementation plan for the San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network.

The goal is to develop a strong community engagement and education outreach plan that informs, empowers, and builds capacity among local and regional community-based organizations and stakeholders to increase awareness, and inclusion of community needs along the greenways. Additionally, the BOS instructed the LACDPW to come back in 90 days with a preliminary timeline, necessary staffing levels, funding strategy, and budget considerations.

The proposed Greenway Network Plan

would build upon the successful, existing 17-mile network of Class I protected walking and biking paths along the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Rivers. Existing, unused rights-of-way along County flood control channels, washes and creeks would become linear parks connecting communities and neighborhoods across the San Gabriel Valley to the larger LA County bikeway system, while improving

local connections to transit, jobs, and schools.

Currently, the SGVCOG, through the ATP Cycle 1, is starting a feasibility study on Class I bike paths along the over 150 miles of undeveloped storm channels and washes that crisscross the San Gabriel Valley.



Supervisor Solis, First District Staff and Greenway Network Advocates

# San Gabriel Valley News In Brief

## SGV Municipal Facility Database

In early May, the SGV Energy Wise Partnership previewed its comprehensive SGV city facility database effort currently being developed. The database was created to identify and track city-owned facilities. The list of data points being collected include:

- Building square footage
- Year built
- Building property type
- 12 month gas and electric data usage

This database encourages city staff to perform energy benchmarking using ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager and to identify facilities with the highest energy usage. These benchmarking results will help to identify opportunities for energy savings. Working with Edison and SoCalGas, the Energy Wise Partnership will work to conduct energy benchmarking on city facilities. The goal will be to provide benchmarking on at least one facility in each city.

## The SGVEP To Market The San Gabriel Valley-So CAL's Golden Opportunity:

As an effort to unify and strengthen the San Gabriel Valley's regional presence at national and statewide retail conferences and trade shows, the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership and its member cities have worked together to design and produce an exhibit booth.

The San Gabriel Valley-So CAL's Golden Opportunity exhibit will market the many strengths and attractions of the region. The exhibit will highlight existing and planned multi-modal transit lines including the Metro Gold Line and MetroLink routes.

## President Trump Issues Executive Order To Review Recently Designated National Monuments:

President Donald Trump signed an executive order, on April 26, 2017, directing the Secretary of the Interior to review all National Monuments established under the Antiquities Act over the past 21 years where the designation covers more than 100,000 acres which includes San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

On May 18, the SGVCOG Governing Board adopted a resolution to support the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument designation as currently configured.



SGM National Monument

## ATP Cycle 4 To Be Released:

Caltrans anticipates the California Transportation Commission (CTC) will soon approve the Cycle 4 ATP Guidelines. The Cycle 4 Call for Projects is scheduled for early 2018 and will include \$650 million in funding for FY 21-22 and FY 22-23.

For further information please visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/index.html>

## SGVCOG Executive Director Phil Hawkey Receives Award:

On May 22nd, Executive Director Phil Hawkey was presented with the Will Baughman Chapter Development Award from the American Society for Public Administration. This award is given to a member who has made a significant or sustained contribution to Public Administration in Southern California.



Phil Hawkey receives his award



SGVEWP Golden Opportunity Exhibit





Metrolink riders

**Metro Bike Share Is Asking for Input:**

Metro Bike Share is expanding this summer to Venice, the Port of Los Angeles and the City of Pasadena!

Now Metro Bike Share is looking for input on where it should expand to in the future. Metro plans to create a region-wide system totaling 4,000-plus bicycles. As part of that effort, Metro is working with cities and communities on a feasibility study on where to expand within L.A. County.

If you would like to suggest a Bike Share location in your neighborhood please visit <http://wikimapping.com/wikimap/LA-County-Map.html>

**Metro Updates La Verne & San Dimas Residents on Commuter Rail Study:**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) invited residents of San Dimas and La Verne to learn about a study to potentially add a second track along the Metrolink San Bernardino Line.

The project is evaluating the possible addition of a 3.9 mile track between Lone Hill Avenue and White Avenue to enhance safety, improve Metrolink commuter rail service and upgrade 12 street crossings to make them safer and reduce collisions between trains and motor vehicles.

The Regional Rail team at Metro is responsible for planning, programming, and implementing projects in L.A. County along Metro owned railroad rights-of-way. This team is involved with all passenger rail activities in the County, including Metrolink, Amtrak, and high speed rail. Over the coming year the Regional Rail team will be advancing projects that improve Metrolink operations and service.

For more information visit: <https://www.metro.net/projects/regionalrail/>

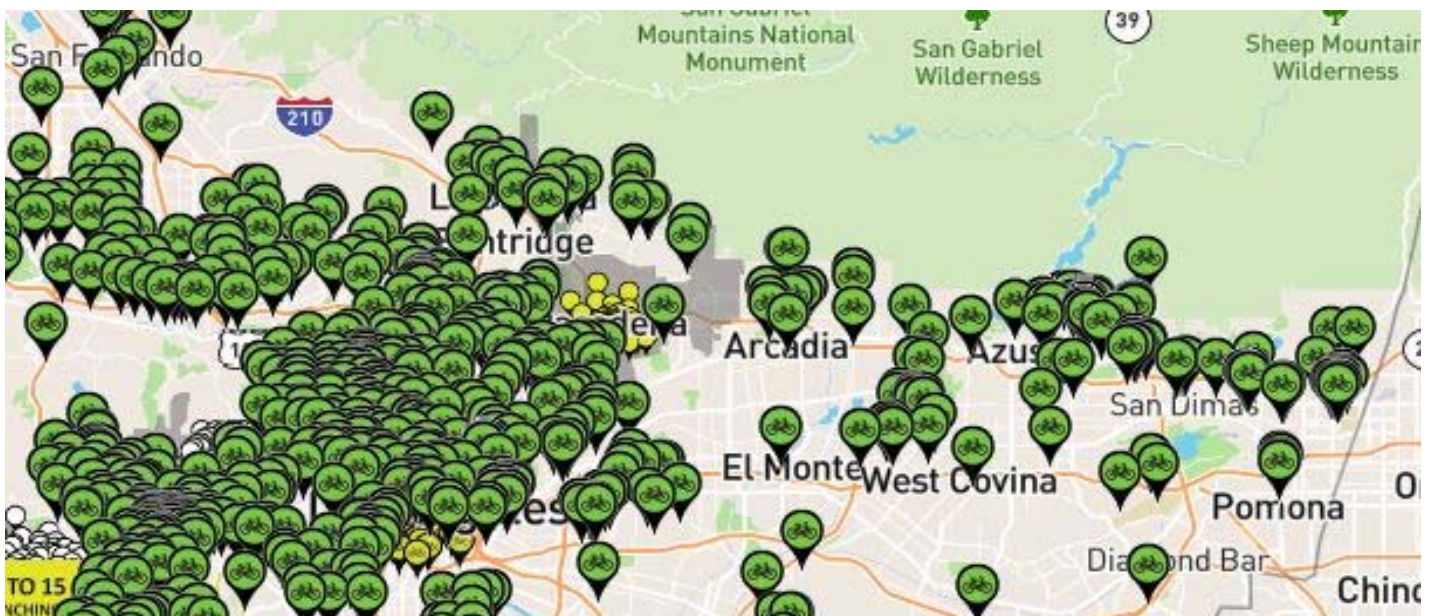
**Representatives From ACE Board of Directors Visit Washington D.C. In Support Of Federal Funding:**

Members of the Board of Directors of the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority (ACE) traveled to Washington, DC, to urge for federal funding for nationally significant trade gateways and corridors, including the ACE rail-highway improvement program in Southern California.

El Monte Councilwoman Victoria Martinez, Vice Chair of the ACE Board, and Montebello Councilman Jack Hadjinian, the immediate past ACE Chair, met with members of Congress and U.S. Department of Transportation administrators during Infrastructure Week, from May 15-19.

In addition to public safety and quality-of-life benefits, investment in freight infrastructure provides an economic boost in the San Gabriel Valley.

Applications seeking \$50 million in federal FASTLANE freight grant funding for both the Pico Rivera Durfee Avenue and Montebello Maple Avenue projects have been submitted to the U.S. Department of Transportation.



Metro Bike Share Suggested Stations.

## Draft Report On Future of COG and ACE To Be Discussed At June 15th Governing Board Meeting

The ACE/Large Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee was appointed in June 2016, by SGVCOG President Gene Murabito to study the relationship between SGVCOG and ACE (Alameda Corridor East Construction Project) to explore combining the COG and ACE into one organization that could both plan and implement capital projects.

In February 2017, SGVCOG Governing Board voted to expand the COG's organizational capacity by creating a transportation planning division and hiring a transportation planner/ program manager to coordinate the implementation of Measure M transportation programs in the San Gabriel Valley. Additionally, the Ad Hoc Committee recommended that the SGVCOG develop a plan for integrating ACE as an integral part of the COG to allow for the potential of the newly configured organization to construct capital projects throughout the San Gabriel Valley as may be specifically approved by the Governing Board. The ACE/Large Capital Projects Ad Hoc Committee will submit its Final Report to the SGVCOG Governing for discussion and direction at its June Board meeting, and it

is expected that action will be taken by the SGVCOG Governing Board at its July 2017 meeting.

The Draft Report includes the following Key recommendations:

- **Keep ACE:** The Ad Hoc Committee recognizes the success of ACE over the past 18 years in planning, funding and constructing over \$1.6 billion in grade separation improvements.
- **Expand ACE's jurisdiction so it can undertake projects throughout the SGV:** Any new project would require the approval of the majority of the Governing Board.
- **Modify the existing ACE Board:** The new ACE Board would include one representative from each of five districts in the SGV (the same districts as used by the City Manager TAC), the president of the SGVCOG and one county supervisor. Existing Board members will continue on the ACE Board as long as ACE projects are under construction in their cities.
- **The new ACE Board will report to the Governing Board:** As is current practice, the ACE Board would report regularly to the SGVCOG Governing

Board and communicate activities to the Executive Committee.

- **ACE construction management will be maintained as a separate management unit:** ACE would operate under the authority of a Chief Executive Officer, who would report to the ACE Board.
- **Transfer the all non-project staff (i.e. administrative staff) of ACE to become SGVCOG staff:** All current ACE staff that is not directly involved with project management will transfer to be employees of the COG and report to the COG Executive Director.
- **Review the organizational structure and responsibilities in 18 months:** After operating for 18 months with a split administration of COG and ACE, the Governing Board will review the organizational structure and determine if ACE and COG should be combined into one organization with a single Executive Director.



## Foothill Transit To Study Electric Bus Service Along Ramona Blvd

Currently, Foothill Transit provides local service between El Monte and Covina along Ramona Boulevard and Badillo Street using compressed natural gas (CNG) buses on Line 190. This corridor has been identified as a viable candidate for Electric Bus Rapid Transit (eBRT) service that would involve dedicated bus lanes for rapid travel between high ridership stops along the corridor using electric buses.

On May 27, the Foothill Transit Executive Board Authorized the agency to serve as the lead on a technical study focusing on the Ramona Boulevard segment between El Monte Bus Station and the Baldwin Park Transit Center as a demonstration phase of the San Gabriel Valley Mid-Valley eBRT Project.



*Foothill Transit Electric Bus*



## Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies in the Los Angeles Region

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) heard public comments regarding their proposed revisions to the 303(d) list. The list includes all “impaired” waterbody segments in the county. Placement on the list generally triggers the establishment of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standard that must be met through any number of various means to clean up the pollutant. The list is revised every six years. In 2010, there were 189 waterbody-pollutant combinations on the list. The 2016 list proposes to add 65 new listings for the county and delist 34 waterbody-pollutant pairings.

The Water Board received over 30 comment letters in response to the posted list. Most were from city or

county agencies disputing specific segments included in the list. Agencies provided evidence and argued that segments should not be on the list for various reasons, including:

- Evidence shows that the reach has already attained water quality standards,
- There is no established water quality standard against which to measure the pollutant or data is unreliable, and
- Concrete-lined channels should not be treated with the same measurement as natural channels.

After making revision based on these comments the list has been forwarded to the State Water Quality Control Board

where it is expected to be reviewed and released for public comment on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The state intends to formally adopt the final 2016 list by this fall.



*Trail Canyon Falls San Gabriel Mountains*

## Measure H Planning Group’s Consensus On Funding Recommendations

Voters in March passed Measure H, a quarter-cent sales tax increase to combat the homelessness crisis in Los Angeles County. The tax hike is set to go into effect in July and it is expected to provide \$355 million annually for the next 10 years. A Measure H Planning Group was convened to provide funding recommendations to the LA County Board of Supervisors (BOS) for the twenty-one eligible strategies, outlined in the BOS ordinance, that would receive funds from Measure H. The group included representatives from County departments, LAHSA, COGs, homeless services agencies, the faith community, and persons with lived experience and met five times, beginning in March, to discuss funding recommendations for all the eligible strategies. The final recommendations were made on May 10<sup>th</sup> and will be considered by the BOS on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

The SGVCOG participated in the Measure H Planning group and based on those discussions submitted a comment letter to the BOS highlighting areas of concern and provided recommendations as follows:

- Allocate a portion of Measure H funds to be used to allow interested COG’s to hire/create an in-house COG Regional Homeless Coordinator,
- Provide a portion of Measure H funds for local police departments, and transit agencies to provide similar services within their jurisdictions,
- Provide a portion of Measure H funding for each of the continuum of care’s (CoC’s) so that they may support the County’s overall homeless reduction efforts,
- Increase funding to allow city police departments to participate and to

- provide in-reach services to city jails, and
- Provide additional funds to be allocated to allow funding for temporary employment programs with durations of employment extended as needed.

The SGVCOG is hopeful that it can play a significant role in coordinating, leveraging and enhancing the work of cities and service providers to combat the homelessness crisis once Measure H funds are made available.



*Measure H Planning Group*

## Upcoming Meetings

**Monday, June 5, 4:00 p.m.**

Executive Committee  
1000 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra

**Wednesday, June 7, 12:00 p.m.**

City Managers Steering Committee  
1444 W Garvey Ave, West Covina

**Thursday, June 15, 4:00 p.m.**

Transportation Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Thursday, June 15, 6:00 p.m.**

Governing Board  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Wednesday, June 21, 10:00 a.m.**

Water Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Wednesday, June 21, 12:30 p.m.**

EENR  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Thursday, June 22, 12:30 p.m.**

Homelessness Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia



*City of South Pasadena Gold Line Station*

**Valley Voice**  
*The Pulse of the San Gabriel Valley*

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# SAVE THE DATE General Assembly

Wednesday, October 25, 2017  
Pacific Palms Resort  
One Industry Hills Parkway City  
of Industry, CA 91744