



*Mt. Wilson Observatory*



**SGVCOG**

# Valley Voice

The Pulse of the  
San Gabriel Valley

**VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3**

March 2018

## CNRA Releases Grant Guidelines And Application For the Urban Greening Program

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) recently announced the open solicitation period for the Urban Greening Grant Program. The application deadline for this grant is April 11, 2018. The CNRA grant program supports projects within disadvantaged communities that create, enhance, or expand community parks and green spaces. A total of \$24.7 million will be available, for this cycle. Eligible projects must do one of the following:

- Sequester and store carbon by planting trees,
- Reduce building energy use by strategically planting trees to shade buildings, or
- Reduce vehicle miles traveled by constructing bicycle paths, bicycle lanes or pedestrian facilities that provide safe routes.

Last year two eligible projects in the San Gabriel Valley were awarded funds under this grant. The City of Pomona was awarded \$1.3 million to supplement the construction of a \$3.9 million park in a high density disadvantaged neighborhood. Additionally, the City of El Monte received \$3.7 from the Urban Greening Program to add native plants and native trees to Zamora Park. Both of these projects add green spaces, walkability and connectivity to bikeways; and introduce plants and trees that restore native habitat and reduce energy consumption.

For those who are interested in the grant, the CNRA will be hosting two local workshops, on the following dates:

- **March 8, 2018:** 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. San Diego Unified Port District, 3165 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101
- **March 12, 2018:** 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. De Anza Community and Teen Center, 1405 S Fern Avenue, Ontario, CA 91762

Grant guidelines are available at <http://resources.ca.gov/grants/urban-greening/>.

The guidelines include, important information on project eligibility, evaluation criteria and submission requirements.

### Also in the issue...

Homelessness Coordination .....	2
News in Brief .....	3



*Zamora Park in the City of El Monte*

## Safe, Clean Water Committee Update

In February, the Water Committee reviewed the work of the Safe Clean Water (SCW) subcommittee and commented on the following issues:

- Governance:** After considering several governance structures and authorities, such as IRWMPs, E/WMPs, Committee members recommended that the SGVCOG advocate for governance at the subregional level, similar to how

Measure M funds are administered.

- Project Selection:** Committee members reiterated, that the vast majority of money go toward capital projects, especially those identified in approved stormwater plans. At the same time, they understood that flexibility must be retained to allow for updating project lists with less-costly alternatives.

- Credits, Rebates, and**

**Incentives:** Committee members discussed the relative benefits versus the administrative burden of incentives and rebates. Members favored leaving such programs up to cities to implement as they determine.

Staff will continue to attend the SCW meetings and convey the comments by the committee, and the position of the SGVCOG.

## SGVCOG Developing Construction Project Review Process

In January, ACE and SGVCOG staff developed a project development review process. The review process is differentiated based on whether a proposed project is fully funded or unfunded/partially funded. The objective of the review process is to provide a framework of management procedures and practices for the evaluation and selection process for projects to be managed by the SGVCOG. This includes construction management and project development activities, such as identifying and securing funding and conceptual planning. There are five project review components, and they are as follows:

**Threshold Criteria:** This initial step requires a letter of interest (LOI) to be submitted, which includes: Project

description, benefits, and statement of need. Once a LOIs is received the Executive Director will submit a report to Governing Board summarizing the project.

**Review:** If a project meets all requirements, the Chief Engineer assigns the project to a project manager for review. The Project Manager and Director of Community & Government Relations will meet to gather additional information related to project status, potential funding, and other constraints. Upon completion of this meeting, a recommendation will then be made to the SGVCOG Executive Director.

**Negotiation:** If the project is moved forward by the Executive Director to the negotiation phase, a draft MOU will be developed. At this point, a contract review meeting will be arranged, and the

Project sponsor would be asked to provide a letter of commitment allowing the SGVCOG to manage the project.

**Programming:** The Director of Government & Community Relations and Executive Director will compile a 5-year workplan, for the project. This workplan will then be presented to the Governing Board for final approval.

**Annual updates:** Once approved by the Governing Board, there will be an annual project review each year, in early Spring. If there are any significant changes to the project, the Executive Director will provide an update to the Governing Board.

It is expected that a full application and application review process for project review will be ready by April, and the Governing Board will consider it in May.



## Homelessness Coordination Update

This past month, LeSar Consultants completed all introductory calls with participating cities. With the completion of the introductory calls LeSar consulting has now began to host local input sessions within the participating cities. To date, the following sessions have been completed:

- City of South El Monte, with the Community Services Commission;
- City of El Monte, with the Homelessness Task Force; and
- City of South El Monte, with the City Council.

In addition to these meetings, LeSar has conducted lived experience interviews with people experiencing homelessness in La Puente and Irwindale. It is expected that all input sessions and interviews with the participating cities will conclude by mid-March.

These meetings serve as a way to enable increased coordination among key stakeholders, city departments, local and regional service providers, faith-based groups, and other non-profits.



South El Monte Community Services Commission

## San Gabriel Valley News In Brief

### SGVCOG and ACE will Host Washington, D.C. Legislative Trip:

In March, the SGVCOG and ACE will be hosting a joint Washington D.C. trip to discuss legislative developments and concerns.

This trip will allow SGVCOG and ACE representatives to meet with leaders from the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus and discuss issues as they pertain to stormwater, transportation and other areas of interest for the San Gabriel Valley.

In addition, the SGVCOG and ACE will host a reception on March 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Rayburn House Office Building.

**When:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018

**Where:** Rayburn House Office Building Room 2253, Washington, D.C.

**Time:** 5:00 P.M.—7:00 P.M.

**Registration:** rchoi@theaceproject.org



Homeless Initiative Conference SPA 3 Representatives



**Alameda Corridor-East Project**  
cordially invites you to attend a  
**Dedication Ceremony**  
to commemorate the opening of the  
**PUENTE AVENUE  
GRADE SEPARATION**  
**Friday, April 6, 2018**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Ceremony Location:**  
**121 N. Puente Avenue**  
**City of Industry, CA 91746**

\*Road closed on Puente Ave. at Valley Blvd. Enter via Nelson Ave.\*

**Celebratory luncheon to follow across the street at:**  
**Classic Distributing & Beverage Group**  
**120 N. Puente Avenue, City of Industry**

Please RSVP your attendance to Ricky Choi by March 23, 2018  
at (626) 373-2686 or by email to rchoi@theaceproject.org

Parking on-site is limited. Carpooling is recommended.

**FROM 605 FWY:**  
Exit Valley Blvd. and proceed east. Turn left onto Temple Ave. and continue straight ahead. Turn right onto Puente Ave. The event and parking will be on the right.

**FROM 60 FWY:**  
Exit 7th Ave. and proceed north. Turn left onto Nelson Ave. and continue straight ahead. Turn left onto Puente Ave. The event and parking will be on the right.

### SGVCOG Staff Homeless Initiative Conference:

The County of Los Angeles held its 2nd Annual Homeless Initiative Convention in February. The event focused on the key successes of Measure H over the last six months, they include:

- The engagement of 4,038 individuals by outreach teams,
- The assistance of 4,261 individuals to secure Supplemental Security Income and Veterans Disability Benefits,
- Nearly 7,300 people were provided crisis, bridge and interim housing, and
- About 3,350 homeless families and individuals were helped to secure housing.

The speakers this year included SGV representatives such as, Benita DeFrank, City of Pomona, and Bill Huang, City of Pasadena.

### Puente Avenue Grade Separation Dedication Ceremony to be Held :

In April, ACE will commemorate the opening of the Puente Avenue Grade Separation.

This project separated the roadway and the railroad tracks on Puente Avenue at Valley Boulevard in the City of Industry and unincorporated area of Los Angeles County. Moreover, the project constructed a roadway underpass on Puente Avenue with bridges for Valley Boulevard and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and included a loop connector road west of Puente Avenue and south of Valley Boulevard.

It is anticipated that there will be significantly reduced traffic congestion, reduction in vehicle emissions, and eliminate emergency responder delays.

## Meetings

**Monday, March 5, 12:00 p.m.**

Executive Committee  
1000 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra

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

City Managers Steering Committee  
100 S Vincent Ave #200, West Covina

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

Transportation Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

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

Governing Board  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Monday, March 19, 10:00 a.m.**

Water Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

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

EENR Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

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

Homelessness Committee  
321 S. Myrtle Ave., Monrovia

**Thursday, March 22, 12:00 p.m.**

Planners TAC  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

## COG Adopts Measure M Public Participation Plan

In June 2017, the Metro Board of Directors adopted the Measure M guidelines establishing a process by which subregional funds under Measure M will be programmed by the SGVCOG, through the development of a five-year subregional funding programming plan.

In December 2017, the SGVCOG Governing Board adopted a revised and amended five-year programming plan for Measure M subregional funds. This plan will guide the flow of funding to various specific projects that fall within each program. Based on the projected initial five-year cash flow for each subregional fund in the San Gabriel Valley.

In addition, under the adopted Measure M guidelines, the SGVCOG is responsible for developing a Public Participation Element that will cover how interest groups are

addressed, identify the processes/procedures involved in the engagement effort, and key components of the MSP plan. The SGVCOG will work closely with cities to conduct outreach and share more information on social media about public participation in the project selection process.

The SGVCOG Public Participation Plan, which was adopted by the Governing Board in February, is intended to provide ample opportunity for public participation and stakeholder engagement.

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

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

Newsletter Editors:  
Christian Cruz  
ccruz@sgvcog.org  
626-457-1800

Katie Ward  
kward@sgvcog.org  
626-457-1800

**CICLAVIA**  
Presented by Metro

**HEART OF THE FOOTHILLS**  
APRIL 22, 2018  
9am - 4pm

**HEART OF THE FOOTHILLS - 6.5 miles**  
1/2 mile

CicLAvia Route  
Ruta de CicLAvia

Crossing Points for Cars  
Puntos de cruce para carros

Amtrak/Metrolink Stations  
Estaciones de Amtrak/Metrolink

OPEN STREETS  
MADE POSSIBLE BY  
**M Metro**