

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of April 6, 2020

- **Governing Board Preview:** The SGVCOG Governing Board will hold its monthly meeting next Thursday, April 16 at 4PM via Zoom Teleconference. The full agenda packet may be accessed [here](#). Major Action items are summarized below:
 - **Draft FY 2020-2021 Budget:** Staff will give an overview presentation of the FY 2020-2021 budget. This will be the 2nd year the budget for the SGVCOG and ACE Project will be combined. The budget is divided into four sections: Operating Budget, SGV Regional Housing Trust, Non-Capital Projects, and Capital Projects.
 - **Approval of Contract with Fehr and Peers for a Vehicle Miles Traveled Study for the San Gabriel Valley:** The recently led an effort to assist with SB 743 compliance for its member agencies, specifically the development and documentation of a legally defensible methodology for evaluating transportation impacts under revised California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines. The passage of SB 743 changes how transportation impacts are measured under CEQA in the review of land use and transportation plans and projects. SB 743 removes automobile delay as the primary measure of transportation impacts of environmental significance and requires the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop revisions to CEQA Guidelines establishing criteria for determining the significance of transportation impacts. OPR subsequently selected Vehicles Miles Travelled (VMT) as the preferred metric to comply with SB 743. As a result, staff is seeking authorization for the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Fehr and Peers for professional services for development of a regional VMT model for the San Gabriel Valley for an amount not to exceed \$310,113.
 - **Support SB 1212:** In October 2019, Governor Newsom signed SB 751 (Rubio), which allowed the cities of the San Gabriel Valley and unincorporated areas of the County within the San Gabriel Valley to create a San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) joint powers authority. SB 751 specified that the SGVRHT would be governed by a nine-member Board of Directors that required that the seven members from jurisdictions that are parties to the Agreement be members of the SGVCOG Governing Board. Given the diverse experiences and expertise related to housing and homelessness of all city councilmembers in the region – not just those that serve on the SGVCOG Governing Board – Senator Susan Rubio introduced additional legislation (SB 1212) that would expand the eligibility to serve as one of the jurisdictional representatives to the SGVRHT Board of Directors. Staff is recommending adopting Resolution 20-05 supporting SB 1212 (Rubio).
 - **Letter to Governor Newsom & SGV State Representatives Regarding COVID-19:** Several of the SGVCOG's member cities have requested relief from various regulations that have proven to be difficult, if not impossible to comply

with during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, cities are seeking relief from the following areas:

- Review and Approval of Development Projects
- Housing Elements
- HCD Grant Program
- CEQA
- Transportation Funding
- Public Records Act
- California Government Claims Act
- Solar Permits
- Wireless Telecommunications Facilities
- Financial Reports
- Police Department Registration and Law Enforcement
- Resources for Cities to Expand COVID-19 Response
- Project Roomkey

Staff is seeking authorization to allow the SGVCOG President to submit a letter to California Governor Gavin Newsom and SGV State Representatives regarding relief during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) Board of Directors**
Appointments: On February 21, 2020, staff distributed the applications for the SGVRHT Board of Directors. Applications were distributed to all Governing Board delegates and alternates, all city managers, staff participating in the SGVRHT Working Group, and the SGVCOG Homelessness Committee distribution list. Applications were due on March 20, 2020. Consistent with the Board adopted appointment process, the Executive Committee reviewed the applications and recommended the following slate of candidates:
 - Jurisdictions that are parties to the Agreement (7 seats available)
 - ❖ District Members (4 seats available)
 - *Northeast District:* Gary Boyer, City of Glendora
 - *Southeast District:* Patricia Cortez, City of Covina
 - *Central District:* No applicants
 - *Northwest District:* Becky Shevlin, City of Monrovia
 - At-Large Members (3 seats available): Adele Andrade-Stadler, City of Alhambra; Margaret Finley, City of Duarte
 - Experts in housing or homeless policy (2 seats available)
 - Jed Leano, Councilmember, City of Claremont (Delegate)
 - Carol Averell, Housing/Homeless Director, City of Baldwin Park (Alternate)
 - Benita DeFrank, Neighborhood Services Director, City of Pomona (Delegate)
 - Alma Martinez, City Manager, City of El Monte (Alternate)

Additionally, Sarah Dusseault, Chair of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Commission will present on LAHSA's homelessness response services and how cities can better partner with LAHSA to address unique needs in their communities.

- **COVID-19 and California's Housing Crisis Webinar:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff attended a webinar on COVID-19 and California's housing crisis that was hosted by the Los Angeles Business Council. The webinar, which featured Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg, focused on existing efforts that address homelessness issues during the COVID-19 pandemic. Both Supervisor Ridley-Thomas and Mayor Steinberg supported the urgency of housing those who are experiencing homelessness in hotel rooms, motel rooms, and trailers to protect these individuals and preserve hospital capacity in the pandemic. While the State obtained approval to utilize FEMA funds to pursue this endeavor, Mayor Steinbuerg stressed that the FEMA funds would only last until the end of April. Supervisor Ridley-Thomas also mentioned that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors supports pursuing rapid rehousing programs that house individuals experiencing homelessness in motels, hotels, and trailers beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. Both speakers encouraged cities and local jurisdictions to collaborate with their state and federal elected officials to advocate for sustainable funding for these programs.
- **FEMA Public Assistance for Local Governments:** On March 22, 2020, President Trump declared the ongoing COVID-19 situation as a pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude that warrants a major declaration for the State of California. As a result, state, territorial, tribal, local government entities, and certain private nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply for Public Assistance. According to Section 502 of the Stafford Act, eligible emergency protective measures taken to respond to the COVID-19 emergency at the direction of guidance of public health officials may be reimbursed under Category B of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance Program. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) acts as the grantee for the FEMA Public Assistance Program and is currently assisting local governments to apply for Public Assistance. Cities and agencies that are interested in applying for FEMA Public Assistance must attend a virtual training session held by Cal OES. The training occurs every day from Wednesday, April 1, 2020 to Tuesday, April 14, 2020 with a morning session at 10:00am and an afternoon session at 3:00pm. To join the presentation, please visit [here](#). Questions and inquiries can be directed to DisasterRecovery@CalOES.ca.gov.
- **Los Angeles County Inclusionary Housing Ordinance:** The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors directed the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (DRP) to prepare an Inclusionary Housing Ordinance to address the affordable housing needs in the unincorporated areas of the County. The ordinance ensures the production of affordable housing units in new development by establishing affordable housing set-aside requirements on residential projects that meet certain criteria. These requirements are set at a level that can be supported on a financially feasible basis, as determined through an

economic feasibility study. Cities and agencies are encouraged to review the draft Inclusionary Housing Ordinance [here](#) and send comments to housing@planning.lacounty.gov.



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of April 13, 2020

- **EENR Committee:** On Wednesday, the SGVCOG Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee held a Zoom teleconference for its April meeting. Nature for All representatives provided a presentation on the organization's programs and initiatives for this year. These include building a legacy of environmental stewardship by empowering underserved community members to advocate for the protection and enhancement of local forests, mountains, parks, rivers, and watershed rivers and increasing equitable access to natural areas in and around Los Angeles through its Community Transit Program and San Gabriel Mountains Transit & Access Improvement Program. Claremont Wildlands Conservancy President, Terry Grill, provided a presentation on the Conservancy's efforts to acquire 100 acres of San Gabriel Mountains Foothills, known as the Clara Oaks Property, to protect the land from further development. The Committee requested SGVCOG staff provide a letter of support for the Conservancy's efforts to acquire the Clara Oaks Property. Finally, LA County Department of Public Health representatives requested cities' continued partnership to enforce existing health orders that were issued by the Los Angeles County Health Officer, including the Safer at Home Order, Isolation Requirement Order, and Quarantine Requirement Order. Residents should continue practice social distancing guidelines by staying at home, avoiding crowds, and staying at least six feet away from others whenever possible. The committee will reconvene on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 1:00pm.
- **SCAG Technical Working Group:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff attended the SCAG Technical Working Group meeting. SCAG staff led a discussion on responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. SCAG staff has been advocating at the State level to request the extension of transportation grant application deadlines to provide local jurisdictions with additional time to prepare the applications during this pandemic. Working Group members also reported on different activities occurring at transportation agencies and cities, including accelerating roadway construction projects, finding mechanisms to address the speeding problems occurring with the decrease in traffic, and enabling automatic walk signals to discourage speeding on city streets and allow pedestrians to cross the streets without pressing buttons. SCAG staff also provided an update on Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Grants. SCAG is scheduled to receive \$47 million from the State to provide assistance to local jurisdictions to accelerate housing production, to be expended by 2023. SCAG will initiate partnerships with non-profits and sub-regional partners to identify housing opportunities and the best opportunities for housing production. Fifty percent of SCAG's funds will be allocated towards local jurisdictions. SCAG will expand its technical assistance programs to provide 3 additional categories: Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFDs), parking reform, and smart cities. Finally, SCAG staff reported on the ATP Cycle 5 guidelines. It is anticipated that the deadline for ATP Cycle 5 will

be extended from June 15, 2020, to September 15, 2020. For quick-build projects, pilot projects that allow local agencies to quickly implement and test these pilots, it is anticipated that the deadline will be extended to July 15, 2020. SCAG staff is willing to meet with any interested jurisdiction one-on-one to discuss potential project applications. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) is expected to finalize these schedule revisions at its meeting at the end of April.

- **AQMP Advisory Group:** SGVCOG staff attended AQMD's Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) Advisory Group meeting on Thursday to provide input on the development of the 2022 AQMP. The meeting included presentations that highlighted technical details on the attainment status of the 2006 24-hour PM 2.5 standard for the South Coast Air Basin, the analysis for the Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard, baseline emissions inventory for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard, and VMT emissions offset demonstration for the 2015 8-hour ozone standard. Additionally, AQMD staff provided an overview of key elements and timeline for the 2022 AQMP and associated emissions statement certification. Based on the proposed timeline, AQMD plans on initiating emissions inventory and modeling preparation in Spring 2020, releasing the draft plan in Fall 2021, and submitting the finalized plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by August 3, 2022.
- **Infrastructure LA Task Force:** SGVCOG staff participated in the second Infrastructure LA Task Force meeting on Thursday. The Task Force, which was launched by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW), forges strategic collaboration amongst Southern California's public and private sector infrastructure leaders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Task Force serves as a collaborative platform to spur innovative thinking and ideas aimed at building the next generation of infrastructure that advances sustainable development of the Greater Los Angeles Region. The meeting included a situational briefing from DPW Director Mark Pestrella and a discussion of construction activities during the COVID-19 crisis. DPW is working with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) to coordinate response efforts and all DPW employees, as disaster workers, are currently reporting for duty to assist the County's efforts to respond to the pandemic. DPW will continue to issue building permits, conduct inspections, and provide services to individuals experiencing homelessness.
- **LISC's Local Government Toolkit to Support Small Businesses:** The Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Los Angeles (LISC-LA) is offering its partnership to local jurisdictions to support small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization has developed a toolkit of best practices for local governments during times of severe economic challenges. The toolkit, which can be accessed [here](#), includes seven immediate recommendations for mitigating the economic impact of the pandemic:
 - Deferring Fees: Defer all payments due by small businesses until 2021 or beyond;
 - Providing Technical Assistance: Provide vital support and business model repositioning;

- Investing with Low-Cost Capital: Establish an emergency loan fund for small businesses;
- Forming Public-Private Partnerships: Enhance the small business lending environment;
- Instating a Moratorium on Evictions: Maintain other measures for on-time lease payments;
- Launching a “Call for Data” Campaign: Create a database of small businesses for direct contact;
- Initiating a Buy Local Campaign: Leverage the database of small businesses to boost the local economy.

Inquiries and questions regarding the toolkit can be directed to LALISC@lisc.org or (213) 250-9550.

- **Safe Clean Water Implementation:** Los Angeles County’s Safe Clean Water Program provides a dedicated funding source for addressing water quality issues, through funding provided by Measure W, which was approved by voters in November 2018. Several members of the SGVCOG’s Water Committee and Technical Advisory Committee and SGVCOG staff will be meeting with Mark Pestrella, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, at the end of April regarding the County’s administration of the Safe Clean Water Program. If your city has concerns regarding the Safe Clean Water Program that you would like expressed to LA County, please email Caitlin Sims at csims@sgvcoq.org.
- **Governing Board Recap**
Yesterday, the SGVCOG Governing Board held its monthly meeting via Zoom Teleconference. Please find a recap of the major actions taken at the meeting:
 - **Draft FY 2020-2021 Budget**
 - *Background:* Staff gave an overview presentation of the FY 2020-2021 budget. This is the 2nd year the budget for the SGVCOG and ACE Project will be combined. The budget is divided into four sections: Operating Budget, SGV Regional Housing Trust, Non-Capital Projects, and Capital Projects.
 - *Action:* For information, the final budget will be brought back for adoption at the May meeting.
 - **Approval of Contract with Fehr and Peers for a Vehicle Miles Traveled Study for the San Gabriel Valley**
 - *Background:* The SGVCOG recently led an effort to assist with SB 743 compliance for its member agencies, specifically the development and documentation of a legally defensible methodology for evaluating transportation impacts under revised California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines. The passage of SB 743 changes how transportation impacts are measured under CEQA in the review of land use and transportation plans and projects by removing automobile delay as the primary measure of transportation impacts of environmental

- significance and instead identifies Vehicles Miles Travelled (VMT) as the preferred compliance metric.
- *Action:* The Governing Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Fehr and Peers for professional services for development of a regional VMT model for the San Gabriel Valley for an amount not to exceed \$310,113.
 - **Support SB 1212**
 - *Background:* In October 2019, Governor Newsom signed SB 751 (Rubio), which allowed the cities of the San Gabriel Valley and unincorporated areas of the County within the San Gabriel Valley to create a San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) joint powers authority. SB 751 specified that the SGVRHT would be governed by a nine-member Board of Directors that required that the seven members from jurisdictions that are parties to the Agreement be members of the SGVCOG Governing Board. SB 1212 would expand the eligibility to serve as one of the jurisdictional representatives to the SGVRHT Board of Directors.
 - *Action:* The Governing Board adopted Resolution 20-05 supporting SB 1212 (Rubio).
 - **Letter to Governor Newsom & SGV State Representatives Regarding COVID-19**
 - *Background:* Several of the SGVCOG's member cities have requested relief from various regulations that have proven to be difficult, if not impossible, to comply with during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, cities are seeking relief from the following areas:
 - Review and Approval of Development Projects;
 - Housing Elements;
 - HCD Grant Program;
 - CEQA;
 - Transportation Funding;
 - Public Records Act;
 - California Government Claims Act;
 - Solar Permits;
 - Wireless Telecommunications Facilities;
 - Financial Reports;
 - Police Department Registration and Law Enforcement;
 - Resources for Cities to Expand COVID-19 Response;
 - Project Roomkey;
 - *Action:* The Governing Board authorized the SGVCOG President to submit a letter to California Governor Gavin Newsom and SGV State Representatives regarding relief during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - **San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) Board of Directors Appointments**
 - *Background:* On February 21, 2020, staff distributed the applications for the SGVRHT Board of Directors. Applications were distributed to all Governing Board delegates and alternates, all city managers, staff

participating in the SGVRHT Working Group, and the SGVCOG Homelessness Committee distribution list. At its March 30 meeting, the Executive Committee recommended a slate of candidates for the SGVRHT Board of Directors, which was considered by the Governing Board at its meeting.

- *Action:* The Governing Board approved the following appointments to the SGVRHT:
 - Jurisdictions that are parties to the Agreement (7 seats available)
 - ❖ District Members (4 seats available)
 - *Northeast District:* Gary Boyer, City of Glendora
 - *Southeast District:* Patricia Cortez, City of Covina
 - *Central District:* Jerry Velasco, City of El Monte
 - *Northwest District:* Becky Shevlin, City of Monrovia
 - ❖ At-Large Members (3 seats available):
 - Adele Andrade-Stadler, City of Alhambra; Margaret Finley, City of Duarte
 - Experts in housing or homeless policy (2 seats available)
 - ❖ Jed Leano, Councilmember, City of Claremont (Delegate)
 - ❖ Carol Averell, Housing/Homeless Director, City of Baldwin Park (Alternate)
 - ❖ Benita DeFrank, Neighborhood Services Director, City of Pomona (Delegate)
 - ❖ Alma Martinez, City Manager, City of El Monte (Alternate)
- **COVID-19 Congressional Delegation Letter:** SGVCOG staff provided an overview of a draft letter to the SGVCOG's Congressional Delegation. The letter supports proposed legislation that would provide \$250 billion in local stabilization funds to be disbursed to smaller cities and counties with populations under 500,000, which were excluded from the recently-passed Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Costs eligible for reimbursement include, but not limited to, lost revenue, expenses already incurred, and increases in costs reasonably believed to have been caused or as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Without Federal aid to cover significant current and anticipated revenue shortfalls, San Gabriel Valley cities may be forced to cut services at a time of growing need. A copy of the draft letter is attached.
- **LAHSA Presentation:** LAHSA Chair Sarah Dussealt provided an overview of LAHSA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was an animated discussion on LAHSA's programs and next steps.
- **FY 2020-21 Budget Preview:** SGVCOG staff gave an overview of the proposed FY 2020-21 SGVCOG Budget. The SGVCOG Governing Board will consider adoption of the Budget at its May 2020 meeting.

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of April 20, 2020

- **Public Works TAC:** On Monday, the SGVCOG Public Works Technical Advisory Committee convened over Zoom for its May committee meeting. The committee heard presentations on the San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Implementation Plan and the “Smart Cities” Initiative. Staff from Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) presented on the Greenway Network Implementation Plan and the County’s project to transform the existing Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) right-of-way into a world-class greenway network. The plan is currently being developed by a project management team consisting of representatives from DPW, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, and Watershed Conservation Authority. Representatives from the Willdan Engineering Group presented on Willdan’s “Smart Cities” Initiative. A “Smart City” integrates interdependent infrastructure systems with a goal of improving the efficiency of services and addressing residents’ needs. Examples of “Smart City” strategies include smart sensors that monitor water quality in water systems, streetlight poles that contain 5G network repeaters, and transit electrification plans that incorporate electric vehicle charging deployment in long-term city planning. Willdan’s Initiative encourages cities to use real-time data to effectively manage assets and energy resources to achieve their objectives. The committee is expected to reconvene on Monday, May 18, 2020.
- **Planners TAC:** On Thursday, the SGVCOG Planning Directors’ Technical Advisory Committee held its May committee meeting over Zoom. City staff from 26 San Gabriel Valley cities participated in this meeting to receive updates on the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust, RHNA Methodology, Project Roomkey, SB 899 (Wiener) and SB 902 (Wiener), and a survey of cities’ inclusionary housing ordinances. Metro representatives also presented on Metro’s Measure UP! Program, which includes an Arterial Performance Measurement Pilot Project to test the effectiveness of a performance analytics package for Los Angeles County’s complex arterial and highway network. Metro also presented on its Countywide Arterial Performance Baseline Conditions Analysis, which allows agencies to review the performance of arterials throughout Los Angeles County in order to establish a baseline for evaluation of various arterial investments and improvements. Finally, representatives from Climate Resolve presented on its Climate Planning Grant Writing Assistance Program - a pilot program funded by Southern California Edison (SCE) to support disadvantaged communities in applications for federal, state, and foundation climate planning grants. The current pilot includes areas in the San Gabriel Valley region and the cities of Commerce and Compton. The committee will reconvene on Thursday, May 28, 2020.
- **Pasadena Humane Society Coyote Safety Workshop:** On Wednesday, the SGVCOG’s Neighborhood Coyote Program participated in the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA’s Coyote Safety Live Webinar. The webinar included urban coyote information and multiple demonstrations of humane hazing techniques by Wildlife

Manager, Lauren Hamlett. It also provided coyote related resources including the Neighborhood Coyote Program website and hotline. The webinar successfully garnered the interest of 228 live attendees and 384 total registrants. All registrants received a link to the webinar once it concluded. The webinar may be viewed [here](#).

- **LABC Economic Impact Webinar:** On Wednesday, COG staff participated in a webinar hosted by the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) on the pandemic's impact on the nation's economy. UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate Director Stuart Gabriel announced that UCLA projects Los Angeles County to experience a total decrease of 1.7 million jobs in the hospitality and entertainment sectors. Additionally, real GDP fell by 30% to 40% across the country in the first quarter of 2020. Mr. Gabriel remained optimistic, projecting that the economy will re-emerge and grow by 5% to 6% by the end of the fourth quarter this year and, by the end of 2021, real GDP could grow by approximately 15%.
- **Homelessness Deputies Meeting:** On Thursday, staff attended the LA County Board of Supervisors Homelessness Deputies' bi-weekly meeting. There were several updates on the County's ongoing activities to address the COVID-19 pandemic. As of the meeting, approximately 1,000 people experiencing homelessness had been placed into hotels, and the Homeless Initiative had reached agreements with hotels throughout the County to supply over 2,600 rooms. These rooms - and all available rooms - are expected to be filled within a week, so there is a pressing need for additional rooms in the coming days. LAHSA is currently operating a medical referral telephone line and is coordinating between health care agencies to move recovered homeless patients into other facilities to ease pressure on hospital networks. As of yesterday's meeting, 100 homeless people had been identified as being positive for COVID-19, and the County is expanding available beds for those experiencing the illness. The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2020, and will include a specific presentation on how the homeless community is being screened for the illness.
- **Congresswoman Maxine Waters' Webinar on Federal COVID-19 Response:** This morning at 10:00am, Congresswoman Maxine Waters will be hosting a webinar with the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) to discuss the federal government's COVID-19 response efforts and share insights on boosting aid to small businesses, economic stimulus, and the Federal Reserve. Interested individuals can register for the webinar [here](#).
- **SCAG Local Community Engagement and Safety Mini-Grants:** The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) recently announced its Local Community Engagement and Safety Mini-Grants program, which aims to build street level community resiliency and increase the safety of vulnerable street users. SCAG will award up to \$10,000 to each selected project and strategy, which shall be implemented between May 2020 and July 2020. Community-based organizations, nonprofits, artists, students, and creators are encouraged to apply. Funding is available to recipients across the SCAG region. Additional information regarding the mini-grants can be found [here](#), and the deadline to submit applications is Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 5:00pm.
- **Upcoming Digital Outreach and Engagement Twitterchat:** COG staff will be hosting a Twitterchat event with approximately a dozen cities and agencies next Monday (April 27th) at 12:00pm to discuss cities' online public outreach and

community engagement efforts. Cities and agencies are welcome to join the discussion by following #EngageSGV during the scheduled Twitterchat. Additionally, cities are also recommended to follow the COG on Twitter at [@SGVCOG](https://twitter.com/SGVCOG) to receive updates and event notices around the San Gabriel Valley.



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of April 27, 2020

- **Capital Projects and Construction Committee:** On Monday, the Capital Projects and Construction Committee held its first video conference meeting. The committee approved construction management services contracts for Ghirardelli Associates for the at-grade crossing safety program in Pomona and Montebello and for AECOM for the Montebello grade separation and Maple Avenue pedestrian bridge projects. The committee also discussed at length the second task orders for both contracts, which were far greater values than the pre-construction efforts required within Task Order #1. The Committee agreed that it was financially responsible due to the current uncertainties and impending economic impacts to hold over approval of Task Order #2 for both items and directed staff to renegotiate with each firm. The delay of approval of Task Order #2 will not delay the projects. Additionally, committee members approved award of contract for right-of-way services to Paragon Partners for the 57/60 Confluence Project along with amendments to the contracts of HDR and Burke, Williams and Sorensen for each to complete efforts outlined in the FY 2020 task orders. The committee is expected to reconvene on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 12:00pm.
- **Digital Outreach and Engagement Twitterchat Session:** On Monday, SGVCOG staff held a Digital Outreach and Engagement Twitterchat event with several San Gabriel Valley cities and agencies to discuss agencies' online outreach efforts. Participants shared best practices and challenges experienced while conducting online public outreach and engagement activities. The discussion posts from the one-hour Twitterchat event garnered more than 350,000 impressions on Twitter. The next Twitterchat event is scheduled for Monday, June 1, 2020 at 12:00pm.
- **LABC California Energy Market Webinar:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff attended a webinar hosted by the Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) to explore COVID-19's impact on the California Energy Market. Moderated by LABC President Mary Leslie, panelists from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), and 8minute Solar Energy shared information on COVID-19's impact on the state's renewable energy development and financing opportunities during an era of low oil prices. The panelists shared that oil is expected to return to \$100/barrel in five years and that technology costs will continue to decline overtime. Additionally, 8minute Solar Energy recommended that the CPUC and LADWP invest in infrastructure that allows residents to expand on cleaner energy options to assist the state in meeting the 100% clean energy target by 2045. CPUC Commissioner Liane Randolph also reported that the CPUC is partnering with providers to increase internet access to schools and students during this pandemic.
- **2020 Census Digital Action Weekend:** This weekend, the U.S. Census Bureau will be hosting a Digital Action Campaign to encourage cities, organizations, and residents to elevate contents on social media about the 2020 Census. Cities and elected officials are encouraged to share their commitments to responding to the

2020 Census and share posts from the Bureau's accounts on various social media platforms. Additional information regarding the 2020 Census Digital Action Weekend can be found [here](#).

- **RHTF Upcoming Meeting:** On Wednesday, May 6, the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Board of Directors will hold its first meeting. The Board will, among other things, elect a Chair and Vice-Chair, discuss its staffing, and determine its regular meeting time. The meeting will be held virtually and the meeting information will be posted on the Regional Housing Trust's website, which launched today at www.sqvrht.org.

