

**Coyote Management
Implementation Plan**
**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**



QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES:

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San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Coyote Management Implementation Plan

OVERVIEW

Under this implementation plan, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) would serve as the umbrella organization that is responsible for providing public outreach and education, promoting effective human-coyote conflict mitigation strategies, and supporting a robust wildlife reporting and response mechanism on behalf of participating cities. In this capacity, the SGVCOG would serve as a regional voice that communicates and partners with relevant stakeholders, such as the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures. For the purposes of this implementation plan, SGVCOG's services will focus primarily on coyote management efforts in areas with reported high levels of human-coyote conflicts.

This implementation plan includes three (3) types of regional coyote management services that the SGVCOG would provide for participating cities:

1. Public Outreach and Education
2. Non-Urgent Conflict Response
3. Regional Representation and Engagement

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SERVICES

The public outreach and education services outlined in this section will serve to assist participating cities in providing technical guidance and support to residents regarding human-coyote conflicts, with reported human-coyote conflicts having priority, around the San Gabriel Valley region. The SGVCOG would disseminate information and resources to participating cities' residents, businesses, local community organizations, and schools through various channels, including the development and distribution of digital and electronic files.

The SGVCOG would provide the following public outreach and education services for participating cities under this implementation plan:

Town Hall and Community Meetings

The SGVCOG would partner with participating cities and external stakeholders, such as CDFW, the County of Los Angeles, elected officials, and/or the communities' respective Humane Society organizations, to host town halls and community meetings. These events provide valuable opportunity for interested residents and stakeholders to learn about regional and community coyote management efforts. These community events serve as public forums for residents to express their concerns and engage with city staff and elected officials. These forums also serve as a space for the public to increase their knowledge, awareness, and understanding of coyote behavior and how to safely co-exist with coyotes. Based on the need and availability, these town hall and community meetings would be held around once a month in different areas of the San Gabriel Valley, especially in communities with high coyote sightings. Depending on the number of participating cities in the implementation plan, SGVCOG will determine the appropriate frequency of these meetings.

Coyote Management Workshops and Conflicts Training

The SGVCOG would partner with experts from the CDFW, local Humane Society and/or Animal Services organizations, the County of Los Angeles, and/or other relevant external stakeholders to empower residents with methods to safely co-exist with wildlife. Through these partnerships, coyote management workshops would be hosted for local community groups, homeowner associations, chambers of commerce, schools, and other organizations located in the participating cities' boundaries. Specific to human-coyote conflicts, the workshops would include basic training on species-specific ecology and behavior, how to reduce/eliminate potential human-coyote conflicts, and appropriate conflict and management techniques (e.g. hazing). Topics may include:

- Basic coyote information;
- Normal/healthy vs. abnormal/unhealthy coyote behavior;
- Seasonal behavior changes;
- Appropriate responses when encountering wildlife, especially coyotes;
- Human health, public, and pet safety tips and concerns;
- Coyote attractants;
- Methods to reduce/eliminate access to attractants (e.g. exclusion, deterrence); or,
- Effective coyote hazing methods.

Based on the request of participating cities, the SGVCOG may also provide trainings to staff, residents, and local groups in participating communities to learn how to conduct yard and/or neighborhood audits to identify and reduce or eliminate coyote attractants within the area. After an audit, trained individuals may provide recommendations and resources to assist the resident or local group to eliminate the attractants or access to an attractant. A report summary would be provided outlining any recommended actions.

Trainings and workshops would be developed based on the data collected and analyzed from reported coyote activity in specific communities. These trainings and/or workshops may also be offered upon request and/or in response to specific coyote incidents. Depending on the number of participating cities in the implementation plan, SGVCOG will determine the appropriate frequency of these workshops and trainings.

Youth Outreach and Education Programs

The SGVCOG would develop a youth outreach and education program to distribute age-appropriate coyote education and safety information to local schools, youth groups, youth organizations, and family/youth events in participating cities. The outreach and education program would include distribution of coyote education kits and meetings with school officials to identify and discuss necessary human-coyote safety measures.

Mailers and Social Media Outreach

The SGVCOG would mail educational flyers to residents in communities with high reported incidence of human-coyote incidents. The San Gabriel Valley is home to a large and diverse population of two million residents across more than 30 communities in the region. To accommodate the diverse demographics of the San Gabriel Valley, educational mailers would be offered in the languages of English, traditional Chinese, and Spanish, with the flexibility of adding additional languages. Translation services

may be completed in-house or outsourced to a translation service provider. Additionally, SGVCOG would disseminate coyote information through its existing social media platforms, including hosted Twitter chats on important coyote management topics with participating cities and other agencies.

Website and Coyote Incident Reporting System

The SGVCOG would develop and maintain a website/webpage that includes coyote education, related resources, and a Coyote Incident Reporting System for the residents of participating cities. City staff from participating municipalities would direct their residents to this website to learn more about coyote management resources, how to report coyote sightings and incidents, and to obtain a digital copy of the regional coyote management plan. The Coyote Incident Reporting System would be maintained in-house and reported incidents would be accessed by the public via the reporting map. Similar to mailers, the website would be offered in the languages of English, traditional Chinese, and Spanish.

Coyote Reporting Hotline

A regional coyote reporting hotline would be established for the residents of participating cities to report coyote incidents and/or encounters in their communities. Residents would be encouraged to include their names, addresses, phone numbers, approximate time/location and description of the coyote incidents and encounters. All reported coyote encounters and sightings would be logged by the SGVCOG and shared with the participating cities and external stakeholders, including CDFW, the County of Los Angeles, local Humane Society/Animal Service organizations, and residents. Additionally, SGVCOG may mail coyote educational materials to the residents that utilize the hotline. Residents who are believed to be in imminent danger, in distress, and/or have been bitten by the coyote would be directed to the 9-1-1 emergency line.

NON-URGENT COYOTE RESPONSE SERVICES

Based on a five-tier coyote response system, the SGVCOG would be responsible for providing responses to residents that report coyote incidents and encounters. All tiers 1 and 2 reports would be responding with follow-up e-mails or phone calls that direct and provide residents with applicable resources. SGVCOG would be working with residents that report tiers 3 and 4 coyote behaviors to connect with their local Animal Services, CDFW Regional Office, and/or other preferred resources to resolve the immediate issues. For residents that report tier 5 coyote behaviors, SGVCOG would connect them to the 9-1-1 emergency line. The SGVCOG would then provide follow-up responses. All responses would include messages that encourage residents and households to attend the upcoming coyote town halls, trainings, and community meetings.

Based on the type of reported coyote behavior, staff would provide the appropriate responses in the accordance to the following table:

COYOTE BEHAVIOR	RESPONSE LEVEL	RESPONSES
Coyote heard or seen moving in public area	1	Report will be reviewed, and if appropriate, a response will be provided by e-mail or phone. SGVCOG would direct residents to available resources on normal coyote behavior.
Coyote seen resting in public area	1	Report will be reviewed, and if appropriate, a response will be provided by e-mail or phone. SGVCOG would direct residents to available resources on normal coyote behavior.

Coyote seen resting in public area with humans present	2	SGVCOG provides resources for the resident to be educated on hazing techniques and what-to-do tips. Additionally, SGVCOG would encourage the respective municipality to work with the local community to eliminate coyote attractants.
Coyote entering a yard to a home with or without pets present	2	SGVCOG provides information for the household to be educated on coyote attractants, yard audit implementation, human-coyote conflict mitigation, hazing techniques, and/or pet safety information (if applicable).
Coyote entering a yard and injuring or killing attended or unattended pet	3	SGVCOG gathers information on specific animal involved, report on circumstances, and provide information for the household to be educated on coyote attractants, yard and neighborhood audits, and pet safety information.
Coyote biting or injuring an unattended pet/pet on a leash	3	SGVCOG gathers information on specific animal involved, report on circumstances, and provide information for the household to be educated on coyote attractants, yard and neighborhood audits, and pet safety information.
Coyote following or approaching a person and pet (stalking)	3	SGVCOG provides information for the resident to be educated on hazing techniques, what-to-do tips, yard/neighborhood audits, and pet safety information. Additionally, SGVCOG will work with the respective municipality to eliminate coyote attractants in the area.
Coyote following or approaching a person without a pet (stalking)	4	SGVCOG provides information for the resident to be educated on hazing techniques, what-to-do tips, yard/neighborhood audits, and pet safety information. Additionally, SGVCOG will work with the respective municipality to eliminate coyote attractants in the area.
Coyote biting or injuring a human	5	SGVCOG informs the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Residents will receive educational materials on coyote attractants, yard or neighborhood audits, hazing, and pet safety. Additionally, SGVCOG would work with the respective city and its neighboring cities to send out mailers, partner with external stakeholders to host trainings and workshops, conduct a community meeting/town hall, and encourage the cities in the subregion to work with community groups to eliminate coyote attractants.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION AND ENGAGEMENT SERVICES

The SGVCOG would serve as a regional voice for participating cities to external stakeholders. This includes communicating with the following entities on regional coyote management efforts that are conducted in the San Gabriel Valley region and maintaining a close partnership with these entities:

- California Department of Fish and Wildlife;
- Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner / Weights and Measures;
- Pasadena Humane Society;
- San Gabriel Valley Humane Society;

- Inland Valley Humane Society;
- University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- Local and state elected officials; and,
- Other relevant stakeholders.

BUDGET AND STAFF

Based on the services offered within this implementation plan, it is anticipated that SGVCOG would need to hire at least one additional full-time staff to carry out these services. The newly-hired full-time staff would report to the SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst. Aside from needing to hire additional staff, participating cities would need to anticipate other costs for the SGVCOG to deliver these services, including:

- Website development and maintenance;
- Coyote reporting hotline maintenance;
- Development, coordination, and maintenance of the Coyote Incident Reporting System;
- Creating flyers, brochures, mailers, and youth educational kits;
- Coordinating the distribution and dissemination of flyers, brochures, mailers, and youth educational kits;
- Translation services; and,
- Mileage reimbursements for staff.

Depending on the number of participating cities, city population size(s), and amount of reported activities or conflicts, the annual costs associated with these services would vary. The tables below and on the next page reflect the estimated amount of time spent and expenses incurred each year based on the number of participating cities.

ESTIMATED STAFF TIME SPENT ON DELIVERING EACH SERVICE

CATEGORY	SUMMARY OF SERVICE	STAFF TIME
Town Halls/ Community Meetings	Town halls and community meetings serve as public forums for residents to interact with city staff and elected officials to learn more about coyote management efforts.	15%
Coyote Management Workshops / Conflict Trainings	Workshops would be held with experts from external stakeholders for local community groups, homeowner associations, chambers of commerce, schools, and other organizations that are located in the participating cities' boundaries. Trainings would be offered based on reported activity data and/or at the requests of community groups. Trainings may include how to conduct yard and neighborhood audits to help residents eliminate coyote attractants within the area.	15%

Non-Urgent Coyote Response	The SGVCOG may provide direct responses to residents that report tiers 1 and 2 coyote behaviors, as appropriate. Additionally, the SGVCOG would provide follow-up responses to residents that report tiers 3, 4, and 5 coyote behaviors.	10%
Mailers and Social Media Outreach	Coyote educational flyers would be mailed to residents in communities with high levels of reported coyote incidents, encounters, and/or conflicts. Additionally, SGVCOG would publicize and disseminate relevant coyote information through its existing social media platforms and work with cities to spread information via their existing social media channels and websites.	20%
Regional Representation and Engagement	The SGVCOG would serve as a regional voice for participating cities to external stakeholders, agencies, and the public, including communicating with regional entities on coyote management efforts.	15%
Youth Outreach and Education Program	The SGVCOG would develop and/or distribute age-appropriate coyote education and safety information to schools in participating cities.	5%
Website / Coyote Incident Reporting System	A website would be developed and maintained that includes coyote education and reporting tools for the residents from participating cities. City staff would direct their residents to visit this website to learn more about coyote management resources, report coyote sightings, and obtain a digital copy of the regional coyote management plan.	15%
Coyote Reporting Hotline	A regional coyote reporting hotline would be established for the residents of participating cities to report coyote sightings in their communities. All reported coyote encounters and sightings would be logged by SGVCOG staff and shared with the participating cities.	5%

*Staff time for each category may fluctuate from year 1 to year 2.

ANNUAL COSTS FOR VARIOUS NUMBERS OF PARTICIPATING CITIES

Category of Expenses	10 or More Cities	Additional Comments
STAFFING		
Full-time Management Analyst	\$80,000	Taxes and benefits included.
Mileage Reimbursement	\$3,000	Expenses incurred from travel. Mileage reimbursement is calculated at \$0.58/mile. It is expected that the full-time staff will incur around \$200 to \$250 of mileage reimbursement expenses every month.
Additional Staff Support and Expenses	\$5,000	This category includes costs of the additional staff time from the SGVCOG to supervise the newly-hired staff. This pool of funds also serves as a discretionary fund. Oversight of the coyote management full-time staff is calculated at \$37.04/hour. It is expected that the annual oversight cost of the full-time staff member to be around \$4,000/year.
EXPENSES		
Website, Hotline, and Marketing Materials	\$6,500	Expenses for designing, printing, or ordering flyers, brochures, mailers, and giveaways. This category would also include expenses incurred from creating and maintaining the website and hotline.
Translation Services	\$5,500	Expenses incurred from outsourcing translation services that cannot be completed in-house. Currently, SGVCOG has the capability of translating materials to traditional and simplified Chinese. Translation is calculated at \$1/minute for both hotline and marketing material translation services based on existing quotes. Translating a typical two-sided brochure in one language costs about \$500. It is expected that the SGVCOG will be outsourcing translation services for the languages of Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese.
TOTAL EXPENSE PER YEAR:	\$100,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE PER YEAR PER CITY:	\$10,000.00*	

*SGVCOG is proposing a minimum of a 2-year MOU to allow for proper staffing for this implementation plan.