

San Gabriel Mountains

November 2018

Lemon Avenue Opening at Diamond Bar

On October 15th, regional officials celebrated the opening of the new Lemon Avenue on-ramp on the SR-60 in the City of Diamond Bar. El Monte Councilmember Victoria Martinez, who also serves as the Vice Chair of the SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee, served as the mistress of ceremony of the event. Other speakers at the event included:

- ♦ California State Senator Ling Ling Chang
- ♦ Los Angeles County Metro Director and Duarte Mayor John Fasana
- ♦ Diamond Bar Mayor Ruth Low
- ♦ Industry Mayor Pro Tem Cory Moss
- ♦ Caltrans District 7 Deputy Director Ron Kosinski

The opening of the final of three new ramps will allow eastbound motorists to enter the freeway well in advance of the nearby confluence of State Routes (SR) 57 and 60. It will also allow the closing of an existing eastbound on-ramp at Brea Canyon Road, thus reducing hazardous traffic weaving at the 57/60 confluence. With completion of the Lemon Avenue Interchange and new on-ramps at Grand Avenue, major construction can start in early 2021 of the \$288.6 million SR 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project. This project will add new freeway lanes and widen the Grand Avenue overcrossing within the two-mile confluence zone. The improvements will

ease congestion for 350,000 daily motorists and reduce the average of 670 collisions a year, one-third of which result in injury or fatality. This project was the first non-grade separation project completed by the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Project. SGVCOG Chief Engineer Mark Christoffels and Senior Project Manager Charles Tsang received special recognitions at the opening event for their significant contributions to leading the Lemon Avenue on-ramp project.



Changes to the Lemon Avenue / SR-60 Interchange



Valley Voice

The Pulse of the
San Gabriel Valley



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Los Angeles County Approves Typhus Response Plan

Los Angeles County has recently reported a Typhus outbreak. This is a flea-borne illness, which can cause high fever, chills, headache, and rash. Typhus can spread in areas where there is an accumulation of trash that attracts wild animals like feral cats, rats, and opossums. To date, there have been 57 cases reported.

In response, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a motion on October 16th to develop a countywide typhus prevention and response plan, in coordination with the Pasadena Public Health Department and the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services.

Representatives from the SGVCOG, City of Duarte, and City of Claremont attended the Board of Supervisors meeting. These representatives spoke in favor of Supervisors Barger and Hahn's plan to connect homeless individuals

living in identified encampments with immediate access to housing and services, including mental and physical health, substance abuse, and pet care to help address the typhus health outbreak. This plan calls for the development of a pilot program that will prevent the

spread of diseases among the homeless population.

The proposed pilot, known as the "Housing for Public Health," will include strategically deployed public health and homeless outreach personnel.



Representatives from SGVCOG, Duarte, and Claremont.

Transportation Hearing Recap

On October 11th, Assemblymember Chris Holden hosted a local informational hearing "Securing Transportation Growth Opportunities" to discuss and address timely transportation issues for the region and state.

There were three panels, and topics included:

- Planning and environmental concerns;
- Transit and sustainability programs;
- Rail and airport connectivity; and,
- Existing funding, including SB 1

Featured panelists included Mark Christoffels from the SGVCOG; Habib Balian from Foothill Gold Line; Hasan Ikhata from SCAG; and Andrea Zureick from the San Bernardino Transportation Authority.

A focus of the discussion was SB 1 funding, and how to take advantage of growth opportunities across the region — from assessing the needs of the

region to presenting existing and future projects that serve the area — while focusing on the current state of available funding for planned projects.

In addition to Assemblymember Holden, Assemblymember Eloise Gomez Reyes (AD-47) and Senator Connie Leyva (SD-20) also participated in the hearing.

For more information on the transportation hearing, please visit <https://a41.asmdc.org/>.



Assemblymember Chris Holden (AD-41) participating in the transportation hearing.

San Gabriel Valley SB 1 Transportation Projects Press Briefing

On October 31st, 2018, SGVCOG held a transportation projects press briefing at the Diamond Bar Holiday Inn to highlight the role of SB 1 transportation revenues in delivering high-priority highway projects. Many locally-elected leaders, including Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Congresswoman Judy Chu, Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, and State Senator Connie Leyva, attended the briefing and urged the public to vote "no" on Proposition 6 in this upcoming midterm elections. Multiple Chinese media outlets, including SinoTV and the San Gabriel Valley Tribune, also attended the press briefing.

Congresswoman Grace Napolitano stated that she supports SB 1 because "it fulfills the state contribution to the local-state-federal funding partnership [that] is critical to delivering transportation improvements to relieve traffic congestion and improve air quality in our region." Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis also added, "SB 1 funds are critical to the funding partnership needed to maintain and expand our road network and mass transit systems throughout Los Angeles County."

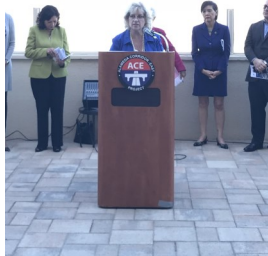
Other elected leaders and officials, including Duarte Mayor John Fasana, Diamond Bar Councilmember Jimmy Lin, Montebello Councilmember Jack Hadjinian, Industry Mayor Pro Tem Cory Moss, San Gabriel Councilmembers Juli Costanzo and Chin Ho Liao, and Claremont Councilmember Sam Pedroza, all spoke in support of SB 1. At the briefing, Councilmember Jimmy Lin specifically provided a statement in Mandarin and urged the Chinese residents of the San Gabriel Valley to support SB 1 and vote "no" on Proposition 6.

At the press briefing, elected officials spoke at a location that overlooks the confluence of State Routes (SR) 57 and 60, which is known as the worst truck traffic chokepoint in California and the fifth worst in the nation. SGVCOG Chief Engineer Mark Christoffels later provided a detailed presentation on the overview of SB 1 funding for San Gabriel Valley transportation projects to elected officials and media representatives after the press briefing. Christoffels outlined the plans of utilizing SB 1 funding to launch the SR-

57/60 chokepoint relief project in early 2021. He also spoke on the SR 71 freeway conversion project, which also utilizes SB 1 funding and plans on widening the 4-lane expressway to a 8-lane freeway in early 2020.

SB 1, which was passed by the California Legislature and approved by Governor Brown in early 2017, enacted a gas tax to address deferred maintenance on state highway and local street systems. Currently, SB 1 generates \$27 million each year for the 31 cities in the San Gabriel Valley for road maintenance and repairs. It also serves as a key revenue source for grant funds for new roadway, rail, and transit projects. Early this year, Proposition 6 was approved to be on the November elections ballot. If passed, SB 1 would be repealed and the gas tax would be eliminated in mid-December of this year.

For more information on ongoing San Gabriel Valley roadway projects or how SB 1 funding impacts San Gabriel Valley's transportation projects, please contact Paul Hubler at [\(626\) 379-4937](tel:626-379-4937).



News in Brief

SGVCOG Staff Attends Walnut Family Festival:

The San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP) is a partnership between SGVCOG, SoCal Edison, and SoCalGas that assists cities in the San Gabriel Valley in reducing their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. To further the mission of reducing energy usage in the San Gabriel Valley, SGVCOG staff members attended the Walnut Family Festival on October 13th, 2018 to educate Walnut residents and businesses on energy-saving tips.

This festival provided an opportunity for SGVCOG to engage with residents, businesses, nonprofits, and community organizations on the importance of saving and conserving energy. Festival attendees also learned about the Partnership's free EASY and SGV Go Green assessment programs, which assist residents and businesses in identifying ways to reduce their energy usage and costs.

For more information on these programs, please visit <http://www.sgvenergywise.org>.



Southern California Edison (SCE) Charge Ready 2 Program:

Over the past two years, SCE has supported the expansion of electric vehicle (EV) charging ports through its Charge Ready pilot. To date, SCE, with its customers and partners, has installed more than 1,000 EV charging ports at over 60 sites, including workplaces, public parking lots, hospitals, destination centers and apartment and condominium complexes.

Following the success of the pilot program, SCE now proposes to expand its Charge Ready Program. The second phase, known as Charge Ready 2, is a \$760 million program. SCE will provide rebates to local government agencies, businesses, and other organizations to add 48,000 additional EV charging ports over the next four years. In the new phase, SCE is looking to deploy at least 30% of the charging infrastructure in disadvantaged communities.

In June, SCE filed its Charge Ready 2 Program Plan to the CPUC and, if approved, the plan will begin expansion of the Charge Ready Program.

For more information on this program please visit: www.edison.com/TE.



RMC's Call for Projects: Proposition 1 and Proposition 68

Proposition 1, known as the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, was approved by voters during the November 2014 election. The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) previously had a first-round call for projects, and now releasing a second round of call-for-projects. There will be a total of \$10.8 million in funding for projects. Public agencies, cities, counties, JPAs, nonprofits, and tribes are eligible to apply. December 16, 2018 is the application deadline.

Voters also approved Proposition 68 in the recent June 2018 election to authorize \$4 billion in general obligation bonds to finance water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access projects. RMC will be hosting a grant workshop on Wednesday, November 14th from 3:30pm-5:30pm at San Dimas City Hall. It is anticipated that the call-for-projects will begin on February 1st, 2019. For more information, please visit www.rmc.ca.gov or e-mail jgonzalez@rmc.ca.gov.



News in Brief

Cities of Baldwin Park and San Gabriel Reach Platinum Energy Savings Level:

As part of the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership, San Gabriel Valley cities receive additional incentives from Southern California Edison (SCE) for completing incentivized energy efficiency projects. As part of this, SCE offers Partnership cities the ability to participate in the Energy Leader Program (ELP).

There are 4 main tiers to the ELP: Valued, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. Each advancement in the tier allows cities to achieve more benefits, from energy discounts to marketing and strategic planning support. The ELP is a driving incentive for cities to complete energy efficiency projects.

Recently, SGVCOG staff members and SCE representatives recognized the Cities of Baldwin Park and San Gabriel for achieving the Platinum Energy Savings Level, which is the highest level in the ELP. The City of Baldwin Park, to date, has achieved 729,176 in kilowatt-hour savings and received \$292,340 in rebate incentives. Additionally, the City of San Gabriel, to date, has achieved 517,278 in kilowatt-hour savings. The SGVCOG wants to congratulate and recognize these cities for their extraordinary efforts. For more information on the program, please visit: <http://www.sgvenerywise.org/energy-leader-model>

HEAP Funding Update

The Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) provides funding to assist cities in combating homelessness. Applications are due December 31, 2018. In order to be eligible, cities must first pass a shelter declaration. The deadline for the submission of the Council Shelter Declaration has been extended to November 15th. LAHSA will take all submissions to the State of California on November 16th. Adopted Shelter Declaration, with certified resolutions, can be submitted to Jose Delgado via e-mail at jdelgado@lahsa.org or contact Jan Cicco at jcicco@sgvcog.org for assistance.

Caltrans Release Grant Application Guides :

Caltrans recently released its FY 2019-20 grant application guides and call-for-applications, which is funded through Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), the Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017. The grant application guides were developed based on inputs from four public workshops and stakeholder comments.

A total of \$40 million will be available for transportation planning projects statewide, as follows:

- **Sustainable Communities Grants** (\$29.5 million) to encourage local and regional planning that furthers state goals and best practices cited in the Regional Transportation Plan Guidelines;
- **Strategic Partnerships Grants** (\$4.5 million) to identify and address statewide, interregional, or regional transportation deficiencies on the California highway system in partnership with Caltrans; and,
- **Adaptation Planning Grants** (\$6 million) to support planning actions at local and regional levels that advance climate change efforts on the transportation system.

If SB 1 is repealed in the November elections, the funding for the Sustainable Communities grant program will be reduced from \$29.5 million to \$5 million.

All grant applications must be submitted by November 30th, 2018, and applicants are encouraged to contact Caltrans district staff to ask questions and receive technical assistance with application developments. For more information, or to access the grant guide please visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/grants.html>.

SGVCOG Featured Staff:

This month, our COG featured staff member is Rachel Korkos, SGVCOG Senior Project Manager. We had a chance to catch up with recently:

What inspired you to pursue a career in public service?

I was inspired by family members who worked various public sector jobs. I have found it very rewarding to be able to improve the infrastructure in the communities in which I live and work. My career has included flood control, roadway, airport, and now rail design and I have been fortunate to have worked on some very exciting projects.

What is your typical day like at work?

I really don't have a typical day and that is what I like about the Senior Project Manager role. Every day can be different from the last. Plan review, specification writing, report review, budgeting, scheduling, research, field investigations, team collaboration, working with the public and various stakeholders, problem solving – it's like a box of chocolates.

Tell us one fun fact about yourself.

I love to read or listen to audio books in my free time. In 2017, I finished reading 44 books. If anyone has suggestions for a great read, feel free to send them my way!



The SGVCOG Bids Farewell and Best Wishes To Departing Board Members

The SGVCOG wishes Board Members Dealch, Messina, Pedroza, and Lyons the best as they leave their respective city councils. We thank and deeply appreciate them for their commitment and service to their communities. They have undoubtedly impacted their cities and the region in positive ways.



City of Covina
Councilmember Peggy Delach

Mayor Pro Tem Delach was first elected in March 2003 and served four terms on the City of Covina Council. During her years of service to the City of Covina she has represented the City on numerous intergovernmental agencies boards, including Foothill Transit, SGVCOG, Southern California Association of Governments, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, League of California Cities-Los Angeles County Division, City Selection Committee, and LAFCO Los Angeles County Commission Services. During her time at the SGVCOG, she also assisted with the selection of new executive director of the SGVCOG by serving on the Ad Hoc Executive Director Recruitment Committee.

Her professional expertise in construction has been of assistance in the development of a new Senior and Community Center in Covina, which is due for completion in Spring 2019 as well as countless successes the City of Covina has had over the last 15+ years.



City of Alhambra
Councilmember Barbara Messina

Councilmember Barbara Messina was first elected to the Alhambra City Council in 1986 and re-elected in 2006, 2010, and 2014. Councilmember Messina has represented the City of Alhambra on numerous boards, including the League of California Cities, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, Southern California Association of Governments, and Independent Cities Association. During her time at the SGVCOG, she served on the Transportation Committee, and lead the SGVCOG as it's president form 2012-2014. And was one of the longest serving board members of the of the SGVCOG.

Additionally, she has served the City of Alhambra as Mayor six times during her tenure. Her dedication to public service and her love for the Alhambra community has earned her accolades from the Knights of Columbus, and Alhambra Chamber of Commerce. In April 2018, she was also honored by Rep. Judy Chu (CA-27) with a Congressional Women of the Year Award for her leadership and contribution to the community.



City of Claremont
Councilmember Sam Pedroza

Councilmember Sam Pedroza leaves the City of Claremont after serving 11 years on the Council. He was first elected in 2007 and served as Mayor in 2011-12 and 2016-17. Regionally active, he served on three COG policy committees, which included Transportation, Water, and Environment, Energy & Natural Resources (EENR). During his time at the SGVCOG he chaired the EENR Committee and served as vice- chair of the Transportation Committee. He was also the SGVCOG representative to the Gold Line Foothill Authority Board where he served as Vice-Chair. He was also appointed by his neighboring city colleagues to the SCAG Regional Council Board representing District 38, which includes the cities of Claremont, San Dimas, La Verne, and Pomona. He is also the COG's representative to the Los Angeles Division of the League of California Cities.



City of Claremont
Councilmember Joe Lyons

Councilmember Joe Lyons leaves the City of Claremont, as well. He was first elected in 2011 to the City Council. Councilmember Lyons was born in Fresno, and raised in the suburbs of Boston until his mid-teens when the family moved to San Diego. Upon graduation from high school, he went on to earn Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees in Microbiology from San Diego State University, and later earned a Ph.D. in Immunogenetics from Vrije Universiteit Medical School in Amsterdam.

As the chair of the SGVCOG Homelessness Committee, Councilmember Lyons was instrumental in advocating for Measure H funding on behalf of SGV cities. He was also the SGVCOG representative to the SCAG CEHD Committee and served as 3rd vice-president of the SGVCOG. He represented the City of Claremont on various regional committees, including the Pomona Valley Transit Authority, Six Basins Water Master Board, and the Tri-City Mental Health Governing Board.

SGV Go Green Leader: Intex Solutions, Inc.

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 is geared toward businesses and nonprofit organizations and provides participants with an educational resource which offers suggested ideas and tips regarding energy-efficient practices and behaviors to adopt, as well as possible sustainability projects and upgrades to implement. The main goals and purposes of the SGV Go Green Program are to promote sustainability and energy-conscious behaviors in the greater San Gabriel Valley area and to help businesses integrate environmental responsibility into their operations in a manner which is sustainable.

In September, the SGVCOG conducted a Go Green Assessment at Intex Solutions, Inc. in the City of Montebello. Intex Solutions is a company that provides specialized commercial cleaning and maintenance services to commercial clients. During the energy assessment,

SGVCOG staff found that Intex has implemented many consequential and substantive actions and projects which positively impact the environment. Its vehicle fleet consists of low-emission hybrid and electric vehicles. Intex also generates solar electricity through photovoltaic solar panels on its roof. Additionally, the company installed a "cool roof," which is a special type of roofing material which reflects most of the sun's UV rays and heat away from the building, at its main office.

Intex's corporate offices also have ENERGY STAR appliances and energy-efficient windows. The firm also upgraded its lighting to efficient T-5 model and even harvests rainwater. Additionally, Intex Solutions has been a certified B-corporation since 2016, and also recently became the commercial cleaning industry's only California Public Benefit Corporation. B-corporations are businesses that meet the highest verified standards of social and environmental performance, transparency, and accountability.

Furthermore, Intex also earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Award, and is one of only 9 small businesses in the United States to achieve this honor. Due to its incredible dedication to promoting environmental sustainability in both the business sphere and in the SGV community, and its commitment to continue its sustainable practices well into the future, Intex Solutions has been certified as a SGV Go Green Leader. The SGVCOG commends Intex for the leadership in sustainability that it has exhibited, and it is clear that Intex sets a great example of how a business can remain profitable, while also implementing environmentally friendly practices and projects. To learn more about the SGV Go Green Program, please visit sgvenergywise.org.



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San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP) Update

The San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP) is a partnership between SGVCOG, Southern California Edison (SCE), SoCalGas (SCG), and 29 incorporated cities in the San Gabriel Valley. The partnership assists cities and residents in reducing their energy consumption to create a more sustainable future for the entire region.

Residents can sign up to participate in the Energy Assessment Screening for Your Home (EASY) Program and businesses and nonprofits can sign up to join the SGV Go Green Program to receive personalized information on reducing energy usage and costs.

As an effort to further accommodate the residents of the San Gabriel Valley, SGVCOG staff now provides energy efficiency information to residents in traditional Chinese and simplified Chinese.

This past month, SGVCOG staff launched a major initiative to translate the SGVEWP website, EASY Program home assessment materials, and SGV Go Green information in Chinese. Residents, businesses, governments, nonprofits, and community organizations can now access the SGVEWP website in Chinese or request EASY Program and SGV Go Green flyers and brochures in Chinese.

Starting in October, SGVCOG staff also began to provide EASY home assessments in the languages of Cantonese and Mandarin to better accommodate Chinese-speaking residents and communities.

To learn more about the EASY Home Assessment and SGV Go Green Programs, please call (626) 457-1800 or visit the SGVEWP website at www.sgvenergywise.org.



聖蓋博谷
能源合作夥伴關係



聖蓋博谷綠化行動
San Gabriel Valley GO GREEN

Meetings

Monday, November 5, 12:00 p.m.

Executive Committee
1000 S Fremont Ave., Alhambra

Wednesday, November 7, 9:00 p.m.

Homelessness Committee
321 S. Myrtle St., Monrovia

Wednesday, November 7, 12:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, November 13, 10:00 a.m.

Water Committee
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

Monday, November 19, 12:00 p.m.

Public Works TAC
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

Thursday, November 15, 4:30 p.m.

Transportation Committee
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

Thursday, November 15, 6:00 p.m.

Governing Board
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

Monday, November 26, 12:00 p.m.

Capital Projects and Construction
1444 W. Garvey Ave S., West Covina

Thursday, November 29, 12:00 p.m.

Planners TAC
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia



City of Claremont Train Depot

Valley Voice
The Pulse of the San Gabriel Valley

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2019

APRIL 10, 2019

PACIFIC PALMS RESORT