

# **SGVCOG Weekly Recap Week Of February 6, 2023**

## **Energy Work Group**

On Tuesday, the SGVCOG Energy Work Group held its first quarterly meeting of the year via Microsoft Teams. Work Group members heard the following presentations: a presentation from SoCal Edison on its new construction rebates and EV charging stations; a presentation from Southern California Gas company on gas prices and the gas assistance funds; and an introductory presentation on the California Automated Permit Processing Program (CalAPP). SoCalREN announced their upcoming webinar and invited Work Group members to sign up. SGVCOG staff also recognized the City of El Monte and the City of Walnut for their energy efficiency efforts and reminded everyone about the Energy Efficiency and Community Block Grant (EECBG) application deadline. Work Group members were also given the opportunity to share updates on their ongoing or planned energy efficiency projects. It is anticipated that the Energy Work Group will reconvene in May 2023.

## **SGVRHT Board Meeting Recap**

On Tuesday, the SGVRHT Board met via Zoom and unanimously voted to authorize the Executive Director to execute a Letter of Intent to award funding to Baldwin Park Apartments (Baldwin Park) in the amount of \$2,500,000. Previously, the Board of Directors allocated \$500,000 in Project Pipeline Capital to the Project, a proposed 51-unit affordable housing project in the City of Baldwin Park. The Board also voted to approve a resolution in support of SB 20 (Rubio), which will establish a state framework for regional housing trusts to fund housing for low income and unhoused individuals and families. The bill builds on the success of the SGVRHT and aims to guide similar Trusts across California.

## **San Gabriel Valley Homeless Consortium Housing Summit**

On Wednesday, San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Chair Jed Leano presented at the San Gabriel Valley Homeless Consortium Housing Summit. The presentation focused on the SGVRHT's programs and ability to assist affordable and homeless housing projects from inception through completion. The event was hosted at the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation in San Dimas. Jed Leano received the inaugural Joseph M. Lyons award, honoring his commitment to housing advocacy and housing production in the San Gabriel Valley.

## **California League of Cities' City Managers Conference**

On Wednesday, I participated on a panel at the California League of Cities' City Managers Conference entitled "One Size Doesn't Fit All: Alternative Responses to Mental Health and Other Crises" to discuss the SGV Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement (SGV CARE) program that launched in August 2022. The panel, which also featured the

City Manager of Half Moon Bay Matthew Chidester and Anaheim Police Chief Jorge Cisneros, discussed the three agencies' efforts to provide alternative crisis responses to persons suffering from a mental health emergency. I was honored to represent the SGVCOG and the SGV CARE program to colleagues from around the State.

### **Homeless Policy Deputies' Meeting**

On Thursday, the Homeless Policy Deputies convened for its biweekly meeting via Microsoft Teams. Staff from PATH, LAHSA, the County Department of Health Services (DHS), and Brilliant Corners provided an update on unit acquisitions. PATH provided updates on LeaseUp LA's Residential Property Support Services (RPSS) Program and Housing Partnership Program (HPP). Since the program's inception, the LeaseUp LA team has acquired 7,578 units. LAHSA provided an overview on Master Leasing, including strategies for success, critical stakeholders to participate in the program, and the proposed program timeline. Staff from DHS Housing for Health and Brilliant Corners provided an update on the Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool, which is a rent subsidy program that includes rent subsidies, landlord engagement, pinpointed tenant/landlord matching, and ongoing tenant services and intensive case management. Staff from United Way of Greater Los Angeles provided an update on SB 679 and the LA County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHS). LACAHS will be a countywide agency with the authority necessary to organize and execute a housing plan to support renters and create housing that is affordable to low income people across L.A. County. The agency's board must be established by April 1, 2023. The San Gabriel Valley's nominee for Sector representative on the agency's board is Jed Leano. Meeting agenda and presentation materials can be accessed [here](#).

### **Transportation Committee**

On Thursday, the SGVCOG Transportation Committee convened via Zoom for its monthly meeting. The Committee heard the following presentations and updates:

- **Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) Programming & Reprogramming Recommendations:** The SGVCOG is responsible for programming and administering the San Gabriel Valley's Measure M Subregional Program (MSP) funds through the development of multi-year subregional fund programming plans. This year, two agencies submitted requests to reprogram their awarded MSP funds: Temple City and South El Monte. Staff recommends approving both of these requests to change the project allocation schedules. In addition, staff recommends that \$24,765,000 be programmed to meet key funding needs for the Alameda Corridor East Project, specifically the Pomona At-Grade Improvement and Montebello Grade Separation Projects. In accordance with the adopted the SGVCOG Measure M MSP Public Outreach Plan, the SGVCOG's Public Works Working Group, Planning Directors' Working Group, and City Managers' Steering Committee received the item at their January and February meetings and provided opportunities for public and stakeholder comment. On Thursday, the Transportation Committee voted to recommend the Governing Board approve

the reprogramming and programming requests. The item will now head to the Governing Board for final approval.

- **SCAG Electric Vehicle Charging Study Report: Alison Linder, Senior Regional Planner and Clean Cities Coalition Director, SCAG, and Taylor Briglio, Clean Mobility Manager, Willdan:** The Committee heard a presentation on the Passenger Electric Vehicle Charging Station Study (EVCSS), which was led by SCAG in partnership with 18 cities, including 11 San Gabriel Valley cities (Baldwin Park, Covina, Diamond Bar, Glendora, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Rosemead, San Dimas, South El Monte, and Walnut). The study includes tailored policy guidance for partner cities; a regionwide Site Suitability Analysis to identify areas for future EV charging infrastructure (with a focus on increasing EV infrastructure in multi-unit dwellings and Disadvantaged Communities); and a Passenger Electric Vehicle (PEV) Infrastructure Plan that will provide a roadmap for cities to spur development of charging stations. The study is expected to be completed in February 2023. Alison Linder, Senior Regional Planner and Clean Cities Coalition Director, SCAG, and Taylor Briglio, Clean Mobility Manager, Willdan, presented on this item.

### **Governing Board Preview**

The SGVCOG Governing Board will hold its monthly meeting next Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 4PM via Zoom Teleconference. Major action items are summarized below:

- **Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) Programming & Reprogramming Recommendations:** The Governing Board will consider the Transportation Committee’s recommendation—discussed in more detail above—to reprogram two cities’ SGVCOG Measure M Subregional Program (MSP) funds and to program \$24,765,000 to the Alameda Corridor East Project, specifically the Pomona At-Grade Improvement and Montebello Grade Separation Projects, to meet key funding needs.
- **SGVCOG Meeting Teleconferencing Policy:** In March, the SGVCOG Governing Board, Executive Committee, and all policy committees, including the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, will return to in-person and hybrid meetings. Due to this transition, SGVCOG staff recommends that the Governing Board adopt a new policy establishing guidelines and requirements for Governing Board representatives and committee members who wish to participate in meetings via teleconference or other electronic means. The new policy requires members to submit an opt-in form if they would like to attend meetings remotely, and it outlines the applicable conditions and requirements for remote attendance.
- **Governing Board & Committee Meeting Dates & Times:** SGVCOG staff recommends that the Governing Board adopt a resolution providing an updated list of regularly scheduled meeting dates, times, and locations for SGVCOG Governing Board and policy committees. If the resolution is approved, all regular policy committees will take place at varying times on the first Wednesday of the month, and the Capital Projects and Construction Committee will take place on the first Monday of the month.

- **Regional Housing Trusts SB 20:** Senator Susan Rubio has introduced new legislation to guide and facilitate the creation of regional housing trusts across California. The bill, SB 20, will establish a state framework for regional housing trusts to fund housing for low income and unhoused individuals and families. SGVCOG staff recommends that the Governing Board approve a resolution in support of the bill.
- **SGVCOG Committee Appointments & External Appointments:** SGVCOG staff recommends the following internal and external appointments:
  - Homelessness Committee
    - City of San Dimas
  - Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee
    - City of San Dimas
  - LA Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Council
    - Alex Gonzales

### **Pomona Water Reclamation Plant Tour**

On Friday, February 3rd, the SGVCOG, in partnership with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) and Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), coordinated a tour of the Pomona Water Reclamation Plant for members of the Water Policy Committee, Water Working Group, and neighboring water districts. The tour focused on the primary, secondary, and tertiary water treatment processes, as well as on water supply and delivery, and future water needs for the region.



**Serenity Homes Community Room**

Thanks to generous holiday donors and SGVCOG staff, we have been able to transform the Community Room at Serenity Homes, the tiny-home site in Baldwin Park. Families experiencing homelessness can now comfortably gather and spend time together for a variety of activities. The room features a TV area with comfy couches, board games, puzzles, craft supplies, a cozy reading area with books for all ages, foosball table, lego table, chalk and painting easel, play kitchen and farmers market stand, and a computer area. If you are interested in donating or getting involved at the site, please contact Meredith Sharkey at [msharkey@sgvcog.org](mailto:msharkey@sgvcog.org).



## **SGVCOG Weekly Recap Week of February 13, 2023**

### **CalRecycle Household Hazardous Waste and Used Oil Symposium Presentation**

Last Thursday, SGVCOG Sustainability Manager Nicholas Ryu served as a panelist on the SB 1383 Implementation Panel hosted by Calrecycle and presented on the SGVCOG's Regional Food Recovery Program to about 60 session attendees. The panel was hosted by CalRecycle's Jayme Tesser (SB 1383 Grant Implementation Manager) and also included panelists Jennifer Gilbert from the City of Davis and Jack Steinmann from Santa Clara County.



### **California Legislative Caucus Presentation**

On Tuesday, SGVCOG President Becky Shevlin, Executive Director Marisa Creter, and Director of Government and Community Relations Ricky Choi, briefed the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus on the SGVCOG's programs and accomplishments. State Senators and Assembly Members received information about the agency's legislative priorities, programs and services to support unhoused individuals, key transportation and infrastructure projects, and an overview of the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust.

### **Water Policy Committee/Working Group**

On Tuesday, the Water Policy Committee/Working Group convened its Regular Meeting. The Committee heard a presentation on the San Gabriel Valley's Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) Projects. The SCWP is a parcel tax measure (Measure W) passed by voters in 2018 that produces approximately \$285 million annually for stormwater projects. Forty percent of annually collected revenues are distributed directly to local governments

to implement stormwater projects, and fifty percent are distributed through a regional program, which are allocated to each watershed. Many San Gabriel Valley cities and regional agencies have applied for and been awarded project funding since the SCWP was first implemented. The Committee discussed what projects in the San Gabriel Valley have been awarded SCWP funding, and how those projects will support water quality and supply improvements, nature-based solutions, and overall stormwater compliance requirements.

### **Workforce Development Program Funding Announcement with Congresswoman Linda Sanchez**

On Wednesday, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez presented SGVCOG President Becky Shevlin and SGVCOG Third Vice President April Verlato with a check for \$2 million to support the SGVCOG's new workforce development program, SGV Works. Congresswoman Sanchez was instrumental in securing this federal funding, which will expand access to paid job training and other critical services for adults and at-risk youth from disadvantaged communities who are experiencing homelessness. The check presentation took place at Operation Stay Safe in Montebello where residents of the tiny home interim bridge housing site will directly benefit from the program.



### **EENR**

On Wednesday, the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee convened its Regular Meeting. The committee reviewed the following items:

- **Clean Power Alliance Overview:** Dalia Gomez, External Affairs Manager with the Clean Power Alliance gave an overview of the Clean Power Alliance, including operations, rate restructure, and community programs. The Clean Power Alliance (CPA) is a not-for-profit electricity supplier, offering clean, renewable energy. CPA is Joint Powers Authority, comprised of 32 public agencies across Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, including six cities in the San Gabriel Valley.

CPA operates by purchasing clean power for its customers that is delivered by Southern California Edison (SCE). Agencies that participate in the program can choose their preferred energy option, which consist of different levels of renewable energy. CPA also leads different programs that address resiliency and demand management, building transportation and electrification, local renewable energy procurement, and social equity. Those covered during the meeting include the Power Share Program, Community Solar Program, and the Power Response Program.

- **Southern California Edison Building Electrification Program:** Joshua Torres, Senior Policy Advisor, Local Public Affairs at Southern California Edison gave an overview of the Building Electrification Application that SCE filed with the California Public Utilities Commission in 2021 for approval of its 2024-2027 programs. The objective of the application is to support California's climate goals by helping to maximize the greenhouse gas reduction from buildings and rapidly accelerate the adoption of electric heat pumps in an equitable way. The portfolio adoption targets include installing 250,000 electric heat pumps and providing 65,000 households in Southern California Edison's service area with electrical upgrades. The actions laid out in the application are intended to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, put downward pressure on rates, and lower energy usage due to increased efficiency of electrical equipment.

### **SGVRHT Presentation at SBCCOG's City Managers Meeting**

On Wednesday, staff members presented at the South Bay Cities Council of Governments' (SBCCOG) City Managers Meeting. The presentation covered the formation and operation of the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT), including organization structure, funding sources, project pipeline funding, revolving loan fund, and interim shelters. The intent of the presentation was to support the SBCCOG's potential efforts to develop its own regional housing trust.

### **Governing Board**

On Thursday, the SGVCOG Governing Board held its monthly meeting via Zoom Teleconference. Major action items are summarized below:

- **Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) Programming & Reprogramming Recommendations:** The Governing Board considered the Transportation Committee's recommendation to reprogram two cities' SGVCOG Measure M Subregional Program (MSP) funds and to program \$24,765,000 to the Alameda Corridor East Project, specifically the Pomona At-Grade Improvement and Montebello Grade Separation Projects, to meet key funding needs. The Board approved the MSP programming and reprogramming recommendations.
- **SGVCOG Meeting Teleconferencing Policy:** In March, the SGVCOG Governing Board, Executive Committee, and all policy committees, including the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, will return to in-person and hybrid meetings. Due to this transition, the Governing Board adopted a new policy



establishing guidelines and requirements for Governing Board representatives and committee members who wish to participate in meetings via teleconference or other electronic means. The new policy requires members to submit an opt-in form if they would like to attend meetings remotely, and it outlines the applicable conditions and requirements for remote attendance.

- **Governing Board & Committee Meeting Dates & Times:** The Governing Board adopted a resolution to update the list of regularly scheduled meeting dates, times, and locations for SGVCOG Governing Board and policy committees. Beginning now, all regular policy committees will take place at varying times on the first Wednesday of the month, and the Capital Projects and Construction Committee will take place on the first Monday of the month.
- **SB 20 (Rubio) Joint powers agreements: regional housing trusts:** Senator Susan Rubio has introduced new legislation to guide and facilitate the creation of regional housing trusts across California. The bill, SB 20, will establish a state framework for regional housing trusts to fund housing for low income and unhoused individuals and families. The Governing Board approved a resolution in support of the bill.
- **SB 411 (Portantino) Open meetings: teleconferences: bodies with appointed membership:** Senator Portantino has introduced legislation to amend the Brown Act teleconferencing rules. Specifically, the bill would allow appointed bodies, including advisory committees and neighborhood councils, to forgo some of the traditional teleconferencing requirements like posting the agenda at all remote locations and allowing the public to access all locations. SGVCOG staff believes that SB 411 will apply to our committees and Governing Board and recommended that the Board pass a resolution supporting the legislation in concept subject to further discussions with the author, as the bill may change or additional clarification on its applicability may come to light over the next few weeks. The Governing Board voted to support SB 411 in concept.
- **SGVCOG Committee Appointments & External Appointments:** The Governing Board approved the following internal and external appointments:
  - Homelessness Committee
    - City of San Dimas
  - Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee
    - City of San Dimas
  - LA Metro San Gabriel Valley Service Council
    - Alex Gonzalez

### **Friends of the Claremont Library Event**

Next Wednesday, February 22nd, Fire Prep SGV is partnering with the Friends of the Claremont Library to provide a presentation to residents about wildfire prevention and safety. The presentation will cover defensible space, home hardening, evacuation preparation, and protection strategies in the event of becoming trapped. It will also feature interactive games for attendees. If you are interested in attending, please join Fire Prep SGV and the Friends of the Claremont Library at the Claremont Helen Renwick Library at 6:30pm.

# SGVCOG Weekly Recap

## Week of February 21, 2023

### SGVCOG Upcoming Committee Schedule

As the SGVCOG office undergoes the installation of our AV system, most regularly scheduled committee meetings will not be held in March. Please find the upcoming Committee meeting schedule below.

- **Homelessness Committee** - Special meeting on 2/27; **no March meeting**
- **Capital Projects & Construction Committee** - Special meeting on 2/27; **no March meeting**
- **Executive Committee** - **no March meeting**
- **Energy, Environment, & Natural Resources Committee** - **no March meeting**
- **City Managers' Steering Committee** - **no March meeting**
- **Water Committee** - **no March meeting**
- **Transportation Committee** - **no March meeting**
- **Governing Board** - Regular meeting on 3/16 (in person)

### IKEA Visit to Serenity Homes

On Tuesday, visiting members from the IKEA Global Leaders team came out to tour the Serenity Homes family interim housing site in Baldwin Park. IKEA designed the interior layout of the units, donated all of the furniture for the 16 units, and their staff assembled furniture and decorated units on site. This incredible donation helped to make the site a warm, welcoming space for residents. The site tour was an opportunity to show the IKEA team the lasting impact of their contribution and the positive effect that it has had on the community. SGVCOG is grateful to IKEA for their partnership on this project and looks forward to continuing to work together in the SGV.



### **Mental Health Ad-Hoc Committee**

On Wednesday, the second meeting of the SGVCOG's Mental Health Ad-Hoc Committee was held via Zoom. The second meeting featured three presentations from: L.A. County Department of Mental Health Alternative Crisis Response programming, the SGVCOG's San Gabriel Valley Crisis Assistance & Response Pilot Program (SGV CARE) and L.A. Centers for Drug and Alcohol (L.A. CADA) START In-Custody programming that helps inmates at LA County jails begin treatment and services prior to their release. Over the next year, the Committee will learn about different aspects of the County's mental health system and make recommendations for how the SGVCOG can help support improvements in the system. The Committee's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

### **Claremont Wildfire Prevention Workshop**

On Wednesday evening, the Fire Prep SGV team presented to the Friends of the Claremont Library as part of their "A Fire Story" series. Presentation topics included tips to harden your home, defensible space requirements and strategies, evacuation preparedness, and how to receive local emergency alerts. Attendees also enjoyed an educational crossword puzzle and trivia game. To bring a Fire Prep SGV presentation to your City, please email SGVCOG staff Mackenzie Bolger ([mbolger@sgvcog.org](mailto:mbolger@sgvcog.org)).



### **Regional Food Recovery Monthly Meeting**

On Thursday, the Regional Food Recovery Program team convened participating cities for their monthly meeting. Topics included updates on the regional food recovery hub development process and the 2022 and 2023 inspection program and a refresher on CalRecycle requirements and City responsibilities. The next meeting will take place during the next Solid Waste Working Group meeting, Thursday March 16th at 10 AM. To join the Regional Food Recovery inspection or food recovery hub programs, please reach out to SGVCOG staff Mackenzie Bolger ([mbolger@sgvcog.org](mailto:mbolger@sgvcog.org)).

### **Homeless Policy Deputies' Meeting**

On Thursday, the Homeless Policy Deputies convened for its biweekly meeting via Microsoft Teams. Onnie Williams from the Homeless Initiative presented on the Local Solutions Fund. The fund was created in response to the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness and the County's New Framework to End Homelessness, which is meant to support regional and local co-investment solutions to create pathways to housing and services. Staff from Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and Department of Social Services presented on the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program and in-home caregiving services. IHSS provides resources to eligible-aged, blind, and/or disabled individuals so they may live safely in their own homes. Housing for Health provides in-home caregiving in a permanent supportive housing program for people with complex health conditions who have challenges with completing Activities of Daily Living. LAHSA staff presented an update on the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Policy Council. The agenda and meeting materials can be accessed [here](#).

### **Homelessness Working Group**

On Thursday, the Homelessness Working Group (HWG) held its monthly meeting via Zoom. The meeting featured a presentation from SGVCOG staff regarding the FY 2023-24 Local Solutions Fund on the SGVCOG's proposed projects for FY 2023-24. The SGVCOG is required to submit an application indicating how it intends to use this funding by February 28. These recommendations will also be presented at the special meeting of the Homelessness Committee, which will be held on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. The discussion will also continue at the next HWG meeting scheduled for March 23, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

### **Rosemead Coyote Town Hall – SGV Tribune Highlight**

The SGVCOG Neighborhood Coyote Program, in partnership with the City of Rosemead, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Los Angeles County Commissioner/Weights and Measures office, will be hosting an informational town hall in Rosemead on March 8, 2023 at 6:30pm. The town hall will take place in person at the Rosemead Public Safety Center located on 8301 Garvey Ave, Rosemead, CA 91770. Panelists will discuss best practices for safe coexistence with coyotes and address community members' specific questions/concerns.

Last Friday, the upcoming town hall was featured in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune. To read the article, click [here](#). View the event flyer [here](#).

### **Teleconferencing Under the Brown Act (CALCOG)**

SGVCOG has been advocating for commonsense changes to the Brown Act to loosen teleconferencing requirements for appointed legislative bodies. By allowing more opportunities for teleconferencing, we can ensure more transparency and improve accessibility for the public and our members. Check out CALCOG's take on this issue and

the argument for some teleconferencing exceptions under the Brown Act:  
<https://calcog.org/remote-possibility/>

## **SGVCOG Weekly Recap Week of February 27, 2023**

### **Special Homelessness Committee Meeting**

On Monday, the SGVCOG Homelessness Committee convened for a special meeting via Zoom. Staff presented on the SGVCOG's proposed Local Solutions Fund program recommendations to the Committee. In an effort to implement the Blue Ribbon Commission on Homelessness recommendations, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the allocation of \$15 million for the Local Solutions Fund for fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 to help local jurisdictions to implement and fund local solutions to homelessness.. The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments' (SGVCOG) allocation is \$3,722,500 for FY 2023-24. The SGVCOG proposes the implementation of the following two broad programs for its application:

- **Supplementing Existing Outreach Services/Engaging Higher-Acuity Clients:** SGVCOG staff are recommending the continuation of two outreach programs currently operating in the San Gabriel Valley, while modifying the services in such a way to maximize the services provided to each city.
- **Housing Solutions:** SGVCOG staff are recommending the establishment of a program and fund that will prevent persons from falling into homelessness and house clients. This category of funding is designed to provide re-housing resources for service providers and cities in the San Gabriel Valley.

The SGVCOG's submitted scope of work will be provided to the Governing Board at its March meeting.

### **Capital Projects & Construction Committee Meeting**

On Monday, the Capital Projects and Construction Committee reconvened for their monthly meeting at 12PM via teleconference on Zoom. The Committee took action on the following items:

- Consent Calendar
- Approval of Award of Construction Contract to Skanska USA Civil West for the State Route 57/60 Chokepoint Relief Program Phase 2
- Approval of Real Property Sale – 405 So. Del Mar; San Gabriel, CA

The next meeting will be held on Monday April 3, 2023, at 11AM. The meeting will be in person at 1333 So. Mayflower Ave, Suite 360, Monrovia 91016.

### **Regional Housing Trust Board Meeting**

On Wednesday, the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) Board met virtually and approved the purchase of a parcel in the City of San Gabriel, 405 S Del Mar, for development as affordable housing. The property had been declared surplus by the

SGVCOG after the completion of the San Gabriel Valley Trench. The site is intended to be used for construction of a 60-unit affordable housing project, and, with the SGVRHT's purchase of the property, the parcel can be applied to the Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF) program for matching funds equal to the land value.

The SGVRHT Board also approved a \$1,687,807 permanent financing loan for Plaza Ortiz Family and Veterans, a 53-unit affordable housing development for families and veterans in the City of El Monte. This allocation brings the number of SGVRHT supported units to 690. The full list of SGVRHT funded projects is available [here](#). The SGVRHT accepts applications on a rolling basis as funds are available.

The next SGVRHT Board meeting will be held in-person on March 30th at 1PM at the SGVCOG Monrovia Office.

### **Senator Feinstein's Office Staff Visit**

On Thursday, we hosted two of Senator Feinstein's staff members to discuss SGVCOG's programs and their impacts in the region. The staff toured the SGVCOG's interim housing sites in Baldwin Park: Esperanza Villa and Serenity Homes. They were also briefed on a few of the SGVCOG's regional programs that provide services to persons experiencing homelessness, including the SGV Crisis Assistance and Response Engagement (SGV CARE) and High Acuity and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Focused Outreach. Lastly, we toured God's Pantry in Pomona, which is one of the service providers for SGV Works, the SGVCOG's Workforce Development program. We are grateful to Senator Feinstein and her staff for their continued commitment to supporting the SGVCOG's programs, especially our efforts to provide a full slate of wrap-around services to San Gabriel Valley residents who are most in need.



### **Coyote Program Elementary School Career Day**

On Thursday, the Neighborhood Coyote program gave a series of presentations to nearly 100 students at Hugo Reid Elementary School in the City of Arcadia. SGVCOG staff provided coyote safety tips to first, second, and third-grade students. Children were taught about what to do during a coyote encounter and the importance of not feeding coyotes and other wildlife. The program was well received by the students, who were actively engaged during the presentation. The presentation concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where the students asked a variety of questions, demonstrating their understanding of the content. Coloring books, crayons and whistles were distributed to the students, the students were thrilled and it was a perfect way to conclude the educational presentation. If you would like to coordinate a coyote safety presentation please contact Sophia Sousa [ssousa@sgvcoq.org](mailto:ssousa@sgvcoq.org) or Vanessa Guerra [vguerra@sgvcoq.org](mailto:vguerra@sgvcoq.org).



