

# SGVCOG Weekly Recap

## Week of March 2, 2020

- **Executive Committee:** On Monday, the Executive Committee held its monthly meeting. The Committee reviewed and approved the draft March Governing Board agenda. The Governing Board is scheduled to meet March 19, at 4:00 PM at the Foothill Transit Office in West Covina.
- **Homelessness Committee:** On Wednesday, the Homelessness Committee held its monthly meeting. The Committee voted to support SB 1212 (Rubio), clean-up legislation for the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) which would allow any city council member from a city that joins the SGVRHT to serve on the SGVRHT Board of Directors. The Committee also heard a presentation on TempLA, a program through which Los Angeles County provides temporary job placements and soft skills and coaching and support for formerly homeless individuals. The Committee also heard updates on Senate Constitutional Amendment 1 (2019) and Assembly Bill 1907 (Santiago). Senate Constitutional Amendment 1 would repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution that requires any public housing project be subject to a community vote prior to initiation. SB 1907 (Santiago), if passed, would extend a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption for emergency and interim housing projects.
- **4th Annual Homeless Initiative Conference:** The Homeless Initiative held their annual conference on Thursday, March 5. The event centered around expanding collaboration and prevention programs. Los Angeles County Supervisors Barger, Solis, and Ridley-Thomas all spoke about their support of the Homeless Initiative and the programs enabled through Measure H. Phil Ansell gave a presentation on the history and future of Measure H, noting that key priorities for the organization included a State Budget proposal seeking \$2 Billion in ongoing funding, expanding access to the Countywide Homeless Information Panel (CHIP) - which allows outreach workers case file access for homeless persons - and expanding the Problem Solving program in order to drive down the number of residents in the County from falling into homelessness. Jason Elliott, Senior Counselor to the Governor for Housing and Homelessness, discussed a proposal to open State land that is currently unused for long-term lease to cities for housing development. Finally, there were multiple breakout sessions on programs related to job development programs, Problem Solving demonstrations, and designing diverse housing projects.
- **SCAG:** On Thursday, SCAG held its monthly meetings of its policy committees and Regional Council. The most notable item, which was considered at both the Community, Economic, and Human Development (CEHD) Committee and the Regional Council, was the consideration of approval of the final Regional Housing

Needs Assessment (RHNA) methodology for the 6th Cycle of RHNA. The Regional Council had voted to submit the methodology to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in November 2019 and, subsequently, HCD reviewed and approved SCAG's proposed methodology. The action item at Thursday's meeting was to approve the methodology as the final methodology. There was significant discussion on the proposed methodology and both committees also discussed a proposal that had been raised by the City of Cerritos, which would include a greater focus on household growth forecasts for each city. Additional methodologies were also proposed and discussed during the meetings. After dozens of public comments and extensive discussion at the Regional Council, the Regional Council voted to approve the presented methodology as the final RHNA methodology.

- **Los Angeles County Public Agency Coronavirus Briefing:** On Tuesday, SGVCOG staff participated in Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's (DPH) weekly public agency telebriefing on the coronavirus situation. With an increase of confirmed coronavirus cases across the globe, the Centers for Disease and Control (CDC) has recommended the public to avoid nonessential travel to China, Iran, Italy, and South Korea. Additionally, residents should practice enhanced precautions when travelling to Japan and Hong Kong. DPH is prepared to manage additional coronavirus cases within Los Angeles County; however, cities are also encouraged to develop public outreach campaigns that focus on educating the public. Residents should continue to avoid touching face, nose, or eyes and practice frequent handwashing. Residents should also stay home if they are sick and try to avoid handshakes or hugs. Additionally, DPH recommends that cities prepare continuity of operation plans in case if drastic social measures, such as business or school closures, need to be implemented to control the spread of the virus. Continuity plans should allow people to stay home if they are sick (even mildly) without the risk of being academically or financially penalized. This includes the option to work from home to complete assignments remotely, where possible. Businesses and commercial buildings should also ensure that comprehensive cleaning services are utilized to disinfect frequently touched surfaces. Various coronavirus disease preparedness plans for homes, schools, universities, workplaces, healthcare settings, large gatherings, and first responders can be found [here](#). SGVCOG staff will continue to participate in the DPH's coronavirus telebriefing in the coming weeks and will provide further updates in upcoming weekly recap reports. Additionally, representatives from DPH will be attending the SGVCOG Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 1:00pm at the Monrovia Community Center to present on the coronavirus situation.

## SGVCOG Weekly Recap

### Week of March 9, 2020

- **Water Committee:** On Tuesday, the Water Committee and Water TAC held its monthly joint meeting. The Committee elected Monrovia Councilmember Gloria Crudginton as Vice Chair of the Committee. The meeting also featured a presentation by Kirk Allen, from Los Angeles County Public Works, on the Safe Clean Water transfer agreements and the status of executing with Cities. The County released its draft template Municipal Transfer Agreement and Regional Transfer Agreement for a 30-day public review on March 9, 2020. The drafts may be viewed at [safecleanwaterla.org/resources/public-review-transfer-agreement/](https://safecleanwaterla.org/resources/public-review-transfer-agreement/). Comments on the draft template Municipal Transfer Agreement and Regional Transfer Agreement are due to [SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov](mailto:SafeCleanWaterLA@pw.lacounty.gov) by April 7, 2020. Once the public comment period has closed, the County Board of Supervisors will approve the templates – anticipated in April 2020. The District plans to execute Transfer Agreements with municipalities in June and will transfer funds within 30 days of a completed agreement.
- **SGVRHT Update:** Significant progress has been made over the last several weeks on the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT). The Trust was officially formed as of February 19, 2020, when the fourth city joined. To date, eight cities have adopted the joint powers agreement: Alhambra, Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Duarte, Glendora, La Verne, and South El Monte. Several other cities have also indicated that they intend to join over the next several weeks. The next milestone for the SGVRHT will be the appointment of the Board of Directors. As defined in the authorizing legislation for the SGVRHT, the Board of Directors is made up of nine members - seven of whom from parties that have joined the SGVRHT and two of whom are housing/homeless experts - that will be appointed by the Governing Board. As a reminder, the application deadline for consideration for the Board of Directors is Friday, March 20, 2020, and the Governing Board is anticipated to make appointments at its April 2020 meeting. Please submit applications to [csims@sgvcog.org](mailto:csims@sgvcog.org). In addition, Senator Rubio has introduced SB 1212, clean-up legislation for the SGVRHT. This urgency bill would allow any councilmember from a city that had joined the SGVRHT to serve as one of the seven municipal representatives on the SGVRHT and allow for staggered two-year terms. Currently, only councilmembers that are the Governing Board delegate or alternate are eligible for appointment to one of the seven municipal seats. It is anticipated that SB 1212 will be heard by the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on Wednesday, March 25, 2020. The SGVCOG is trying to facilitate the collection of letters of support for the bill by Tuesday, March 18. Please contact Caitlin Sims ([csims@sgvcog.org](mailto:csims@sgvcog.org)) for a template support letter if your city is able to submit a letter of support.
- **Consortium Meeting:** The San Gabriel Valley Consortium held their monthly meeting in West Covina on Wednesday. The focus of the meeting was grassroots organizing and how to mobilize a community towards a common goal. The panel discussion featured Dr. Anne Turner of Claremont, Seamus Hurley of LA Voice,

and Allison Henry and Theresa Eilers of EveryoneIn. Following the panel, a representative from Supervisor Hilda Solis' office spoke regarding the upcoming town hall meeting on March 18th to discuss LA County's response to the Coronavirus. Additionally, a representative from Senator Rubio's office requested letters of support for SB 1212, specifically noting that the deadline for submission of letters was Monday, March 16, 2020.

- **Homeless Deputies Meeting:** The Board of Supervisors (BOS) Homeless Deputies met on Thursday to discuss the Homeless Initiative Quarterly Report #16, LAHSA's response to the BOS's motion for restructuring, and a short update on the B3 Strategy (Expand & Enhance Rapid Re-Housing). The [Homeless Initiative Quarterly Report #16](#) is the self-report from the Homeless Initiative on the implementation of Measure H strategies and the programs administered by Measure H. Among the highlights are the acknowledgement that nearly the full list of strategies have been implemented and are in various stages of progress. LAHSA is currently undergoing an on-going strategic planning process and top-down governance initiative led by the Chair of LAHSA's Commission, Sarah Dusseault. Finally, an independent consultant working on behalf of the Homeless Initiative presented an overview of the progress being made in bringing Rapid Re-Housing programs online and strengthening the programs already in operation. The program is looking for solutions to address the high staff turnover and lack of consistent data entry across providers.
- **Governing Board Cancelled:** Based on concerns over COVID-19, the March 19 Governing Board meeting has been cancelled due to a lack of quorum. All planned items/presentations for the meeting are non-urgent and will be moved to the following meeting. In the event of urgent action, the Governing Board has authorized the President in the past, in consultation with the Executive Committee, to act on the Governing Board's behalf by undertaking all actions that are necessary for the proper administration and operation of the SGVCOG and that cannot be delayed until the next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board.
- **Metro PAC Meeting:** On Tuesday, SGVCOG staff attended the Metro Policy Advisory Council (PAC) meeting at the Metro Headquarters. Metro staff invited members of the PAC to participate in reviewing and scoring proposals for funding in the recently approved [Metro Active Transportation \(MAT\) Program](#). Additionally, an update on the NextGen Bus Study was presented. The proposed NextGen bus improvements would double the number of frequent Metro bus lines, provide more than 80% of current bus riders with ten minutes or better frequency, improve and expand mid-day, evening, and weekend service, ensure a ¼-mile walk to a bus stop for 99% of current riders, and create a more comfortable and safer waiting environment. To explore the plan using interactive maps and detailed descriptions, please visit [here](#). Metro is also considering potential amendments to the Measure R sales tax ordinance as January 2020 with the first ten-year opportunity to make certain transfers described in the ordinance. Furthermore, Metro staff presented on the Traffic Reduction Study (Congestion Pricing Strategy) and provided an update on the BRT Study.
- **Los Angeles County Public Agency Coronavirus Briefing:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff participated in the weekly public agency coronavirus telebriefing by

the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH). Governor Newsom issued [Executive Order N-25-20](#) yesterday to enhance state and local governments' ability to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the Executive Order:

- Waives the one-week waiting period for individuals who are unemployed and/or disabled as a result of COVID-19;
- Delays the deadline for state tax filing by 60 days for individuals and businesses unable to file on time based on compliance with public health requirements related to COVID-19 filings;
- Directs residents to follow public health directives and guidance, including to cancel large non-essential gatherings that do not meet state criteria;
- Readies the state to commandeer property for temporary residences and medical facilities for quarantining, isolating or treating individuals;
- Allows local or state legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically; and,
- Allows local and state emergency administrators to act quickly to protect public health.

The Governor also announced that gatherings should be postponed and cancelled across the state until at least the end of March. All non-essential gatherings must be limited to no more than 250 individuals while smaller events can only proceed if the organizers can implement social distancing of six feet per person. Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 individuals. The State's updated policy defines a "gathering" as any event or convening that brings together individuals in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, cafeteria, or any other indoor or outdoor space. The guidance does not apply to essential public transportation, airport travel, or shopping at a store or mall. This also does not apply to congregate living situations, including dormitories and homeless encampments. Residents are now recommended to avoid all non-essential travel and follow [social distancing guidelines](#). SGVCOG staff will continue to participate in the DPH's coronavirus telebriefing in the coming weeks and will provide further updates in upcoming weekly recap reports.

- **Metro "Moving Beyond Sustainability" Plan:** Metro recently launched an effort to develop a plan that brings together all of Metro's environmental programs and sustainability policies into one comprehensive document. The plan, known as the Moving Beyond Sustainability (MBS) Plan, outlines Metro's commitments for saving energy and water, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and creating more resilient and connected neighborhoods through 2030. The MBS Plan aims to redefine Metro's vision for sustainability, set ambitious goals, and identify strategies and programs that can be implemented to affect change over the next ten years. Cities and agencies are encouraged to review the [draft plan](#) and provide comments and suggestions [here](#) before Friday, April 24, 2020.

# SGVCOG Weekly Recap

## Week of March 16, 2020

- **SGVCOG Temporary Office Closure:** In response to COVID-19, the SGVCOG offices have temporarily closed to the public until further notice. SGVCOG staff are still working and are available during normal business hours and can best be reached by email. A summary of some steps that were taken at our office were as follows:
  - Meetings with Employees: On Monday, I met individually with each of the 22 COG employees to develop a plan for them to convert as many activities as possible to telework. We also discussed the importance of maintaining mental as well as physical health during this time of high stress and uncertainty.
  - On Site Activities: Some employees will be on site for specific activities that can not be done remotely (such as cutting and signing checks), but we are limiting the groups of employees on-site at any time to under 10.
  - Staff Check Ins: We are having daily all-staff conference calls at 9 am for 30 minutes. This is an opportunity to not only hear about people's tasks for the day, but to try to maintain office camaraderie and routine. We have also created an all-staff tracking sheet that contains contact information, working hours, and a summary of daily work activities.
  - Conversion to Online Meetings: On Tuesday, we held our first city working group meeting virtually! I would like to recognize Katie, Alex and Samantha from our office who worked to quickly convert the meeting from in-person to online. This meeting of the Energy Work Group was hosted via Zoom conference. We also held an online bidders conference on Thursday for the Homeless Services RFP. Our goal is to begin holding committee meetings virtually starting the week of March 30. This would include the Executive Committee, Homelessness Committee and City Managers' Steering Committee. More details will be forthcoming.
  - Pending Issues: While the majority of work is continuing largely unaffected, the biggest unknown is the status of the construction projects. For the time being, work is continuing. However, we are working with the contractors to develop plans in the event that the job sites need to be closed down temporarily.
- **Energy Work Group:** On Tuesday, the SGVCOG Energy Work Group held its first meeting of the year via teleconference. Members of the work group received information on 2020 SoCalGas rebate and financial programs, the CivicSpark Program, and services that are offered under the 2020 San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership. SoCalGas representatives presented on the 2020 SoCalGas Business Rebate Guide and provided an overview of the company's On-Bill Financing Program and State-Administered Financing Pilots. CivicSpark Program Implementation Manager, Mackenzie Bolger, then presented on the background of the CivicSpark Program. CivicSpark recruits fellows to assist local governments to address emerging environmental and social equity challenges within their

jurisdictions. Additional information on the CivicSpark Program can be found [here](#). Furthermore, SGVCOG staff provided an overview of programs and services that are being offered through the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership this year, including facility benchmarking, energy audits, toolbox trainings, one-on-one energy efficiency meetings, residential and commercial energy assessment programs, and community outreach services. The Energy Work Group is expected to tour the CR&R Environmental Services' Perris Anaerobic Digestion Facility later this year. Individuals that are interested in joining the tour can contact SGVCOG staff at [afung@sgvcog.org](mailto:afung@sgvcog.org).

- **SCAG Technical Working Group:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff attended SCAG Technical Working Group's teleconference meeting. SCAG staff first presented updates on Connect SoCal's Growth Vision. SCAG solicited feedback from its 197 jurisdictions from October 31, 2019 to December 11, 2019 and received comments from 55 of the 197 jurisdictions. Additionally, 50 of the jurisdictions requested changes on the proposed Growth Vision. After revising Connect SoCal's Final Growth Forecast Principles, SCAG staff solicited final comments and suggestions from Technical Working Group members at this meeting. SCAG staff then provided updates on the SAFE Vehicle Rule and the Connect SoCal Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Analysis. SB 375 requires that the Regional Transportation Plan include a sustainable communities strategy that outlines growth strategies for land use and transportation to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions from cars and light duty trucks. SCAG staff provided a brief overview of the analysis of SCAG's ability to meet SB 375 targets for Technical Work Group members. SCAG's Regional Council meeting originally scheduled will be postponed from April 2, and an update on the new meeting time will be distributed in the coming weeks. The TWG is scheduled to reconvene on Thursday, April 16, 2020.
- **CPUC Update:** On Wednesday, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) ordered energy, water, sewer, and communications companies under its jurisdiction to halt customer disconnections due to non-payment. This action is to protect people from being shut off from non-payment because they are unable to report to work due to illness, quarantine, or social distancing and applies retroactively to March 4, 2020 when Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency. For more information, visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/covid/>.
- **Los Angeles County General Plan Housing Element Updates:** The County of Los Angeles is currently updating the 2021-2029 Housing Element of the Los Angeles County General Plan. The Plan's Housing Element serves as a policy guide that addresses housing needs for unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. Primary focus of the Housing Element is to ensure decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing for current and future residents of unincorporated areas. Cities and residents are encouraged to participate in the County's Housing Element Update Survey, which can be found [here](#).

## SGVCOG Weekly Recap

### Week of March 23, 2020

- **State Water Board Meeting:** On Wednesday, staff held a call with staff from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) to discuss the potential for incorporating the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) financial capability assessment into water quality permits -- specifically municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permits -- developed by the Regional Water Quality Control Boards. The U.S. EPA's financial capability assessment evaluates the impact on residential customers and the financial strength of the permittees in order to assess the level of financial burden over time to comply with water quality permits. This year, Assemblymember Blanca Rubio introduced AB 2364, which would direct the SWRCB to promulgate and adopt financial capability assessment guidelines modeled on the U.S. EPA's financial capability assessment as the methodology for assessing the financial capability of municipalities to afford the cost of compliance for MS4 Permits. This legislation is identical to legislation that was introduced by Assemblymember Rubio for the last two years but that has been vetoed by the Governor. The purpose of this conversation with the SWRCB's and LARWQCB's Executive Staff was to discuss financial capability assessment guidelines and Assemblymember Rubio's proposed legislation.
- **Assemblymember Holden Letter and Briefing:** This week, the cities of Claremont, South Pasadena, La Verne, Monrovia, and Sierra Madre submitted a letter to Assemblymember Holden to request relief from regulations that have proven to be difficult, if not impossible to comply with during the current COVID-19 event. Specifically, these cities asked for relief from the following:
  - California Public Records Act (CPRA) Requests: Deferment of the response time mandated under the CPRA during the "Safer at Home" emergency and allowing local agencies to use their best efforts to comply.
  - Housing Accountability Act and Permit Streamlining Act: Suspend these Acts until City Hall operations are fully functional and staffed to appropriate levels to adequately process development applications.
  - Law Enforcement: With courts closed, restraining orders are lapsing and those individuals that were previously prohibited from purchasing firearms and ammunition will now be able to purchase them legally. The cities request a blanket extension of all restraining orders during the pandemic to assist officers with enforcement and increase the safety of victims.

Staff is planning to recommend the Governing Board submit a similar letter to the Governor and all SGV local Representatives, pending approval at the April 16 meeting.

- **Homeless Deputies Meeting:** On March 26, the Board of Supervisors' Homeless Deputies held their bi-weekly meeting via teleconference. On the agenda was an update from County agencies and partner organizations. LAHSA, the LA County

offices of Emergency Management, Public Health, Human Services, and Mental Health gave an overview of what changes they have made to the operational processes to account for the impact of COVID-19. Interagency coordination is improving and each organization reiterated their goal of getting the homeless into shelter in the near term and then maximize the number people placed into long term housing. There was also an update on the COVID-19 emergency homelessness grant funding that is being awarded to LAHSA and the County of Los Angeles on March 31, 2020, Board of Supervisors agenda. The letter would, pending Board approval, give the CEO's office the ability to use and allocate the funding provided by the State of California to support three goals during the crisis: the creation/development of new interim housing, assistance to cities for hygiene costs, and funding for emergency needs for those in permanent supportive housing. The Homeless Initiative's goal is to bring several thousand hotel rooms/units into the system to provide housing opportunities for those who are vulnerable to the disease and those who are already ill and therefore cannot remain in a crowded shelter. The State of California will be making contact to negotiate with hotels/motels/chains in the next one or two days and expects the first round of agreements on temporary housing units to be made available soon. Additional details on how the funding will be utilized is still being determined and guidance will be forthcoming. The next homeless deputies meeting will be held on April 9, 2020.

- **Homeless Working Group Meeting:** On Thursday, the Homeless Working Group met remotely. The Meeting agenda included updates on the City Homeless Plan Development RFP, the Multi-City Shared Services RFP, and a new Transition Age Youth Workforce Development program. The majority of the meeting was centered on updates from cities on the implementation of their homelessness plans. The SGVCOG has allocated funding for implementation to each city that has completed a homeless plan. Cities must submit their plans for how that implementation funding would be used by June 30, 2020. The SGVCOG has also allocated funding for cities for implementation of homeless prevention/diversion programs. For those cities that are not able to complete LAHSA's problem solving training (which would allow access to LAHSA's problem solving funds), the SGVCOG will be offering a prevention/diversion training program modeled on LAHSA's problem solving training. All cities and their respective service providers must complete one of these trainings in order to access the prevention/diversion funding. training The next working group meeting will occur on April 30, 2020 and will be held via teleconference.
- **Los Angeles County Department of Public Works COVID-19 Response Telebriefing:** On Monday, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) held an internal telebriefing with more than 100 municipal staff, utility leaders, and industry leaders to discuss the Department's regional efforts to respond to the COVID-10 pandemic. DPW Director, Mark Pestrella, provided a thorough overview of the agency's operations and priorities for the next few months. Director Pestrella informed participants that DPW's directive is to maintain the infrastructures that provide continuums of care across Los Angeles County as cases of COVID-19 rapidly increase across Southern California. Director Pestrella

also recommended cities to plan for the stay-at-home health orders to remain in place for at least six to eight more weeks given that the County is working to produce additional test kits to meet the existing and rising demands of testing. 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 DPH's efforts to respond to the pandemic. DPW continues to issue building permits, conduct inspections, and provide services to individuals experiencing homelessness. Street sweeping services and encampment clean-up efforts are currently suspended until further notice. While all County facilities are currently closed for the protection of the public, DPW employees are available to assist the public via phone at (626) 458-5100.

- **COVID-19 Public Sector HR Roundtable:** On Tuesday, SGVCOG staff attended a roundtable webinar hosted by NeoGov featuring public sector HR professionals from hard-hit areas sharing their responses to COVID-19. The panelists provided insights and tips to better prepare communities and workforces who have not yet felt the full impact of the pandemic. The panel included HR professionals from:
  - King County, WA
  - Los Angeles County, CA
  - Santa Clara County, CA
  - Nassau County, NY
  - Squaxin Island Tribe, WA

A recording of this webinar can be accessed [here](#).

- **Upcoming Coyote Management Twitterchat:** On Monday, March 30th at noon, we will host our first coyote management twitterchat. General coyote management questions will be posed through the hour period and various agencies will provide responses on the thread. You may follow along at the SGVCOG's Twitter page is <https://twitter.com/SGVCOG> or the COG's Twitter "handle", @SGVCOG. All responses, will incorporate the hashtag #LetsTalkCoyotes.

SGVCOG

# SGVCOG Weekly Recap

## Week of March 30, 2020

- **Executive Committee:** On Monday, the Executive Committee held its monthly meeting virtually via Zoom. Staff presented on the draft SGVCOG FY 2020-2021 budget. Additionally, the Executive Committee acted to recommend the Governing Board appoint the following four representatives to the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) Board of Directors: Gary Boyer (Northeast), Becky Shevlin (Northwest), Adele Andrade-Stadler (At-Large), Margret Finley (At-Large, pending receipt of application). They also appointed the following representatives to serve in the housing or homeless expert seats for the SGVRHT: (1) Seat - Jed Leano (Delegate), Carol Averell (Alternate); (2) Seat – Benita DeFrank (Delegate), Alma Martinez (Alternate). The Executive Committee also recommended that the Governing Board re-open the application period in order to fill the remaining jurisdictional seats.
- **SCAG Subregional Executive Directors Meeting:** On Monday, I participated in SCAG's Subregional Executive Directors Meeting. The agenda topics were as follows:
  - Connect SoCal - The final ConnectSoCal Plan and Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) has been released. The Regional Council will consider the item at its April meeting. That meeting will be held virtually and is still being scheduled.
  - RHNA - The final RHNA methodology was approved by the Regional Council at its March meeting. At its April meeting, the Regional Council will receive and file the draft allocations - based on the final RHNA methodology - and adopt the appeals process. Cities must submit their appeals by May 25, 2020.
  - REAP Funding - SCAG recently applied for 25% of its regional early action planning (REAP) allocation. REAP funding is available for activities that assist jurisdictions in speeding up the production of housing (i.e. updating housing elements and streamlining permit processes). Staff has recommended that a significant portion of the available funding be allocated to each sub-region, based on its share of the regional RHNA allocation.
  - State Housing Bills - Staff provided an update on relevant housing bills being considered by the State Legislature. One of these bills (SB 902 - Weiner) would allow for construction of duplexes, triplexes, and four-plexes by-right in single family neighborhoods, depending on the size of the community. As the Legislature is currently not scheduled to return until mid-April due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is unclear how much major legislation will be passed during this legislative session.
- **Coyote Twitter Chat:** On Monday, the SGVCOG hosted the Coyote Management Twitterchat - #LetsTalkCoyotes. Participating agencies and organizations answered questions related to coyote behaviors, activity, and safety in the San Gabriel Valley. The Twitterchat garnered approximately 391,596 impressions and engaged residents and wildlife agencies in California and beyond. In April, the

Neighborhood Coyote Program will participate in the COG's scheduled Twitterchat and host a Facebook watch party and coyote informational webinar with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife on Zoom.

- **Homelessness Committee:** The Homelessness Committee held its meeting on Wednesday via online teleconference. The meeting covered the preventative measures homeless service providers are taking in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 infection among the homeless population. The Committee also heard a presentation on the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Clinic (BHUCC - pronounced "buck") - a service facility operated by Stars Behavioral Health Group where patients are treated for mental health issues on-site, rather than being sent to hospitals for treatment. A BHUCC in Industry is scheduled to open later this year. Finally, the Homeless Initiative and LAHSA discussed their joint work on providing hygiene and hotel units for people experiencing homelessness. The Committee will meet again on May 6, 2020.
- **Angeles National Forest Update:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff held a teleconference call with representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding closure of public trails within the boundaries of the Angeles National Forest (ANF). An order was previously issued by the U.S. Department of Interior to close all developed recreation sites in California; however, the order allowed for public trails to remain open. With a significant increase of visitorship in the past few weeks, ANF officials decided to close public trails that are more heavily-used, including trails in Altadena, Arcadia, Glendora, and Sierra Madre. To ensure that residents continue to have access to hike and exercise in the forest, ANF plans to keep less frequently-used trails open. Residents are recommended to utilize trails along Highway 2 near Cedar Springs and Falling Springs or exercise around their local neighborhoods to ensure social distancing measures can be efficiently implemented. As a result of closure of amenities inside the ANF, officials will not be enforcing purchases of adventure passes. Questions and inquiries can be directed to John Clearwater at [john.clearwater@usda.gov](mailto:john.clearwater@usda.gov).

SGVCOG