



SGVCOG EENR Committee Approved Meeting Minutes

Date: April 15, 2020
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Claremont – J. Stark
Duarte – L. Reilly
Rosemead – M. Clark
San Dimas – D. Bertone
San Gabriel – C. Liao
West Covina – T. Wu
Temple City – J. Lee (Ex-officio)

Members Absent:

Covina
Sierra Madre

SGVCOG Staff:

K. Ward, Staff
A. Fung, Staff

Guests:

Elyse Rasmussen, Los Angeles County DPH
Evelyn Gonzalez, Los Angeles County DPH
Terry Grill, Claremont Wildlands Conservancy
Belinda Faustinos, Nature for All
Omar Gomez, Nature for All
Bryan Matsumoto, Nature for All
Araceli Hernandez, Nature for All

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this meeting.

4. Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to next regular meeting.

D. Bertone requested that Item 18, 2020 Nature for All Programs, be reviewed before Item 16, Claremont Wildlands Conservancy's Efforts to Protect San Gabriel Mountains Foothills.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. EENR Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve.

6. EENR Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2020

Recommended Action: Approve.

7. Correspondence
Recommended Action: Receive and file.

There was a motion made to approve consent calendar items 5-7. (M/S: L. Reilly/T. Wu)
[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Claremont, Duarte, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, West Covina
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	Covina, Sierra Madre

LIAISON REPORTS

8. San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative
 L. Reilly provided a written report on behalf of the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative. Both State of California and County of Los Angeles recently issued stay-at-home orders that continue to allow outdoor recreation provided that the public maintains appropriate social distancing. All developed recreation sites have been closed, including developed campgrounds and picnic areas; however, trailheads that are less frequented by the public are not included in closure orders.
9. San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (MVCD)
 There were no updates from the San Gabriel Valley MVCD.
10. Trust for Public Land
 There were no updates from the Trust for Public Land.
11. San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
 There were no updates from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.
12. Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
 M. Rosales provided a written report on behalf of the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. The Districts’ sewer system and treatment plants are fully functional and wastewater treatment processes include disinfection to produce safe and clean water for local residents. Ongoing monitoring and lab testing at all 11 wastewater treatment plants indicate that discharged water meets or exceeds all regulatory requirements, including the destruction of viruses, bacteria, and other pathogens.
13. Southern California Edison
 There were no updates from Southern California Edison.
14. Southern California Gas Company

H. Romero Shaw provided a written report on behalf of SoCalGas. SoCalGas reassures cities and residents that natural gas will continue to flow and be delivered to the 22 million customers across Southern and Central California.

15. South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD)
 R. Yeung provided a written report on behalf of the South Coast AQMD. AQMD will prioritize and expedite the permitting process for businesses and organizations in order to provide full support for public health and safety efforts. Processing and issuance of permits are considered as essential functions during the COVID-19 response as part of the agency’s efforts to improve air quality and protect public health and safety.

PRESENTATIONS

16. Claremont Wildlands Conservancy’s Efforts to Protect San Gabriel Mountains Foothills
 Claremont Wildlands Conservancy President, Terry Grill, provided a presentation on the Conservancy’s efforts to acquire 100 acres of San Gabriel Mountains Foothills, known as the Clara Oaks Property, to protect the land from further development. The Conservancy is currently in the process of acquiring and adding the property to the Claremont Hills Wilderness Park. Member of the Conservancy are gathering letters of support to be included in applications for funding to purchase the Clara Oaks Property.

Discussions/Questions:

- Members of the committee recognized and thanked the Conservancy for leading the efforts to preserve open spaces in Claremont.

There was a motion made to direct SGVCOG staff to provide a letter of support for the Claremont Wildlands Conservancy to acquire the Clara Oaks Property to protect the land from further development. (M/S: L. Reilly/M. Clark)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Duarte, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, West Covina
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	Claremont
ABSENT:	Covina, Sierra Madre

17. Coronavirus Situation in Los Angeles County
 Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) Community Liaison Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Elyse Rasmussen, issued situational updates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Rasmussen requested cities’ continued partnership to enforce existing health orders that were issued by the Los Angeles County Health Officer, including the Safer at Home Order, Isolation Requirement Order, and Quarantine Requirement Order. Residents should continue practice social distancing guidelines by staying at home, avoiding crowds, and staying at least six feet away from others whenever possible.

Discussions/Questions:

- A committee member inquired about the possibility of using bleach and water as a sanitizer. Ms. Rasmussen responded that that mixture of bleach and water can serve as a sanitizer and the DPH website includes a flyer on proper cleaning supplies.
- Another committee member inquired about if a resident can be infected after receiving a negative result on a COVID-19 test. Ms. Rasmussen responded that individuals can still become infected after testing negative on COVID-19. All individuals should continue to practice social distancing guidelines and having a negative test result should not lead to having a false sense of security.

18. 2020 Nature for All Programs

Nature for All representatives provided a presentation on the organization’s programs and initiatives for this year. The organization is currently building a legacy of environmental stewardship by empowering underserved community members to advocate for the protection and enhancement of local forests, mountains, parks, rivers, and watershed rivers. Nature for All is also increasing equitable access to natural areas in and around Los Angeles through its Community Transit Program and San Gabriel Mountains Transit & Access Improvement Program.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEM

19. Potential Tour: Southern California Edison Big Creek Hydroelectric Project

SGVCOG staff provided a background of the Southern California Edison Big Creek Hydroelectric Project and invited committee members to tour the facility.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

20. San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership – Energy Work Group Meeting

The upcoming meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership’s Energy Work Group is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 1:30pm.

ADJOURN

D. Bertone adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m.