

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of August 6, 2018

- **Executive Committee:** On Monday, the Executive Committee held its August meeting. The Committee was provided updates on the retirement benefit study, the 4th quarter financial report and the upcoming joint legal services request for proposal. The Committee acted to approve the authorization to execute a Project Baseline Agreement and other agreements needed to implement the State Route 57-60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project. Metro staff indicated that the agreement must be authorized by August 10, which necessitated immediate action by the SGVCOG's Board officers. The agreement, as well as the assignment of the project to the Capital Projects and Construction Committee will be affirmed at the August 16 Governing Board meeting.
- **Meeting with Phil Ansell:** On Tuesday, I met one-on-one with Phil Ansell, Director of the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative, to discuss partnership opportunities and to address the concerns identified by cities at the Homeless Summit. This was an extremely productive meeting, and there were several positive outcomes. With regards to the contracts that are administered on a countywide or SPA-level, the County is committed to working on an ongoing basis to facilitate closer working relationships between the SGV cities and service providers and outreach workers. This will allow for improved bi-directional communication on contact that has been made with homeless individuals and identification of hotspots. This will ensure that this work is responsive to the specific needs of each community and will address several of the strategies that cities had in their plans. In the near-term, SGVCOG staff will be working with LA County staff to facilitate a meeting between County department leads, service providers, outreach staff, and city staff to kick-off this effort. Additionally, I provided Mr. Ansell with the COG's recently adopted Homeless White paper, and I discussed the importance of local preference to ensure that cities that commit to housing are able to directly assist homeless individuals in their community. He was receptive to the concerns of cities, and we will continue working together to develop program guidance that addresses this issue. We also discussed funding to support the implementation of cities' homeless plans. I reiterated the importance of securing an ongoing source of funding. We will be working with Supervisors Solis and Barger to develop a motion that addresses both funding and the local preference issue. I will provide additional information on the status of that motion as it becomes available.
- **Consortium / LACoC Meeting:** LAHSA held its quarterly SPA 3 meeting at the SGV Consortium on Homelessness meeting this week. The Agency reported a downward adjustment of the 2018 Homeless Count report. The Count total has been adjusted to 52,765, a 4% decrease from last year. The city and community level data has been released and includes sheltered/unsheltered, Youth Count, and vehicle, tent, and makeshift shelter totals. Cities can view their data, down to the census tract, level at <https://www.lahsa.org/dashboards?id=13-count-by-city-community>. Click on the "Select a City/Community" drop-down menu and select city name. LAHSA staff also provided the Board with an overview of FY 2018 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition with updates on new information for this Fiscal Year. New program funds have been made available this year for Dedicated Plus which is Rapid Rehousing tied to Transitional Housing for victims of Domestic/Intimate Partner violence, a Bonus Funding opportunity, and Domestic Violence Bonus Funding.

- **SCAG Sustainability Working Group:** On Thursday, Katie and I attended the SCAG Sustainability Working Group meeting. The item of greatest interest to cities is the upcoming round of Sustainable Communities Grant funding. It is anticipated that applications will be released in early September, and there will be two funding categories, Active Transportation and Integrated Land Use/ Green Region Initiative. Under the Active Transportation Program, the following types of projects may be funded:
- Community-Wide & Area Plans (Bike or Ped Master Plans, Active Transportation Master Plans, and First-Last Mile Plans)
 - Regional Corridor Plans
 - Go Human Advertising
 - Quick-Build Infrastructure Demonstration Projects
 - Safety Strategic Plans

Under the Integrated Land Use/ Green Region Initiative, the following types of projects may be funded:

- SB 743 Implementation Assistance
- Heat Island Reduction/ Urban Greening & Cool Pavement
- Parking Pricing, Reduction & Management Strategies
- Elective Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Planning
- Livable Corridor and Transit-Oriented Development Planning

If your city is interested in submitting an application under any of these categories and would like assistance from the COG, please let me know.

- **Community Outreach:** On Tuesday night, SGVCOG staff attended National Night Out in the City of La Puente. The event was held at La Puente Park from 6:00-8:30 pm. SGVCOG staff provided information on various energy efficiency programs, including income qualified programs and the SGVCOG's in-home energy consultation program (to learn more about these programs, visit sgvenergywise.org). The event also included live entertainment by Opa Opa as well as other family fun activities. Additionally, the SGVCOG's new official mascot, Maia attended Alhambra's National Night Out in support of safety and community, see her post here!
- **Community Advisory Committee for Clean Power Alliance:** Clean Power Alliance, formerly known as LACCE, is seeking interested community members from Los Angeles and Ventura Counties to serve on its inaugural volunteer Community Advisory Committee. The Committee will be made up of a 15-member advisory committee representing 7 sub-regions of Clean Power Alliance territory. Members will Advise the Clean Power Alliance Board of Directors on valuable policy and planning matters. If anyone is interested, the deadline will be August 22nd, 2018. The application can be accessed by clicking [here](#).
- **Homeless Board Deputies Meeting:** During the Homeless Deputies Meeting the Board of Supervisors representatives were provided a copy of the draft of the Board of Supervisors City Homeless Plans letter. This letter will go to the Board of Supervisors on September 4th. It highlights the funding recommendation for City Homeless Plans which will be \$6 million from Measure H funds and \$3 million from state funds. However, Phil Ansell, the LA County Homeless Initiative Director, indicated that the \$3 million in state funds may not be available if the criteria for accessing those funds by cities is too restrictive. In light of the limited funding resources many components of the city homeless plans will not be funded based on this recommendation. In light of this, both District 1 and District 5 stated that, they are prepared to put forth a motion that will provide enough funding for cities to fund every component of their plans.

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of August 13, 2018

- **Metro ExpressLanes Meeting:** On Wednesday, I participated in a joint meeting with Metro and South Bay COG to discuss the I-10 and I-110 ExpressLanes corridors. At this meeting, Metro staff provided an update on possible expansion of the network and related financing opportunities as well as operations and revenues of the current system. We also discussed the impact of San Bernardino County's current project to develop ExpressLanes up to the County line.
- **Homelessness Update:**
 - **LA County Joint Convening:** The SGVCOG and the CEO's office began preparations for a joint convening with SGV cities, County departments and the Coordinated Entry System. This will provide an opportunity for the cities to learn how to align with the County strategies and share their thoughts on this. The County also wishes to hear what the cities need. The convening is scheduled for September 17th. More information will be forthcoming.
 - **Homeless Emergency Aid Program:** It is anticipated that the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) will recommend State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds for the cities. To access the online survey, please click [here](#) and follow the instructions. If you have not attended an LA CoC community meeting, we encourage you to take 10 minutes before taking the survey to review the presentation on the draft expenditure plan. The survey will remain open until COB on August 30th. Jurisdictions that intend to apply for HEAP funds must formally declare a Shelter Crisis by the end of September. The declaration is a State requirement.
 - **City Homeless Plan Implementation RFP:** Below are key dates related to this effort:
 - **August 23:** final funding approach recommendation will be determined by the County. There is some movement to support Priority Area 2: Expand service systems for those experiencing and/or at-risk of homelessness
 - September 4: LA County Board of Supervisors will vote on the funding recommendation for the cities' homeless efforts. A presence is needed.
 - September 6 or 7: RFP will be released
 - **Prior to Sept 26:** the Homeless Initiative, LAHSA and the United Way will provide RFP convenings in the SPAs
 - Oct 16 - 17: proposals due
- **San Gabriel Trench Dedication:** We are excited to celebrate the opening of the San Gabriel Trench project and will be hosting a dedication ceremony next month. The ceremony will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, September 10, 2018 in Plaza Park adjacent to the San Gabriel Mission, 428 S. Mission Dr., San Gabriel, CA 91776. Parking will be available in the Mission parking lot. The event will be followed by a celebratory luncheon at the Grapevine Arbor Park, 324 S. Mission Drive, San Gabriel, located one block north of the ceremony. Please RSVP to Ricky Choi at rchoi@theaceproject.org no later than August 31. Attached is the invitation.
- **Community Outreach:** This week staff facilitated a community outreach workshop at the City of West Covina Senior Center. These workshops are intended to provide SGV senior

citizens with helpful tips and information about energy efficiency and programs. Additionally, staff also provided demonstrations to participants on how to properly insulate, seal air gaps and use smart power strips to help them make their homes energy efficient.

- **Capital Projects LOI Reminder:** In early June 2018, the newly integrated SGVCOG released a call for projects for capital projects and construction proposals. Under this Project Review Process, SGVCOG member agencies are able to submit capital projects which they would want the COG's manage and implement. The COG can provide a variety of services including: grant-writing, project development assistance, planning and engineering design, environmental clearance work, and construction. SGV agencies can submit any type of capital project, such as transportation projects, general infrastructure projects, or water and stormwater projects. Member agencies which wish to submit projects must complete the Letter of Interest (LOI). SGVCOG member agencies have until FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2018 to submit LOIs for the first 5-year project work plan, meaning this deadline is now only exactly 2 weeks away. The COG encourages any cities which have not submitted a project yet but which are interested in doing so to please submit their LOIs by the end of this month. If your agency has any questions about the call for capital projects and the review process, or wants the LOI re-sent, please contact Chief Engineer Mark Christoffels at mchristoffels@theaceproject.org. COG staff is happy to schedule meetings with your respective city to discuss your projects, determine if your projects meet the threshold criteria for consideration, and to address your questions.
- **Summer 2018 Regional Energy Wise Meeting:** On Wednesday, August 29th, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, the SGVCOG, SCE, and SoCalGas will co-host the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership Summer 2018 Regional Meeting, which will take place at the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District in Monrovia. The San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP) is a collaborative coalition between the SGVCOG, SCE, and SoCalGas which works to increase and promote energy efficiency and sustainability across the SGV region by providing resources and educational assistance to our 29 member-cities. The purpose of this important regional meeting is to provide an opportunity for the SGVEWP's 29-member cities to hear valuable, relevant, and up-to-date information from SCE, SoCalGas, and a technical assistance provider about: SCE and SoCalGas programs, Direct Install collaboration, Rebate and Financing information for City projects, City tier level updates, Technical Assistance programs and offerings, ESA and other income-assistance programs, Medical Baseline programs, SGVEWP residential and business programs, and SoCalREN programs and projects. This meeting will also feature a roundtable discussion during which the COG, utility companies, and technical assistance experts jumpstart ideas for City energy efficiency and savings projects. The COG would love to see as many SGV cities as possible who are interested in improving energy efficiency and sustainability throughout their respective cities in attendance at this important meeting. Please encourage your City Sustainability, Environmental, and/or Public Works staff members to attend. If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, please contact Peter Duyshart at atpduyshart@sgvcog.org.
- **AB 2538 Update:** On Thursday, the Senate Committee on Appropriations passed AB 2538 on a 7-0 vote. The bill, authored by Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio, is intended to afford flexibility to extend the timeline for compliance with stormwater permits based upon a city's demonstrated financial need. AB 2538 requires the State Water Board to develop Financial Capability Assessment (FCA) guidelines. The EPA has described the FCA process as providing regulators with the flexibility to consider a municipality's ability to pay for and deliver water services. AB 2538 will now move to the Senate for a floor vote.
- **HR 113 (Piqui's Resolution):** On July 19, the Governing Board adopted a resolution to

support HR 113 (Rubio), also known as Piqui's Resolution. Piqui's Resolution is aimed at making child safety a priority in the CA state legislature. The SGVCOG strongly urges member agencies to consider adopting a resolution of support or submitting a letter of support. Attached are templates for both, as well as HR 113. Next Thursday (August 23), Piqui's Resolution will have a final vote before the State Assembly. If your city has already taken a position of support, please send Katie Ward (Kward@sgvcog.org) a copy of the resolution/letter as we are compiling these letter to provide to Assemblymember Blanca Rubio and Ana Estevez, Piqui's mother.



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of August 27, 2018

- **Upcoming Board of Supervisors Meeting:** The LA County Board of Supervisors will meet on Tuesday, September 4th at 1:00 p.m. The Board will consider the matter of Measure H funding for implementation of city homeless plans. Supervisors Solis and Barger have expressed a desire for cities to make a show of support this funding recommendation as the original recommendation was for \$3M and is now \$9M. Although this is not nearly enough to fully implement our plans, it was hard won. We are encouraging cities to recognize the efforts of the Supervisors who fought for this funding and the compromise on the part of the Supervisors who do not yet see the important role that cities have in an effective coordinated system. Supervisors Solis and Barger were the standard-bearers for city funding. Those who choose to, may wish to join the SGVCOG and other cities in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Cafeteria for lunch at 11:30 courtesy of Supervisor Solis. The Hall of Administration is located at 500 W. Temple St, Los Angeles, 90012. The meeting begins at 1:00. Parking is available for \$20 at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels and there are parking lots in the vicinity. If you plan to attend, please e-mail staff at jcicco@sgvcog.org and indicate if you plan to join us for lunch.
- **Capital Projects Meeting:** The Committee approved a design contract amendment in the amount of \$1,061,536 for URS Corporation to provide support services through the bidding and construction phases of the Durfee Ave grade separation project. Additionally, the Committee approved an amendment to the Betterment Agreement for the Lemon Avenue on/off ramp projects on SR 60. The amendment alters the payment arrangements for the betterments from the Cities of Diamond Bar and Industry but does not change the amount each are committed for these efforts. Also, CWE was selected for preliminary and final design services for the Load Reduction Strategy Projects for the Rio Hondo River and Tributaries. Staff will begin negotiations and present its contract recommendation at the September Committee meeting. Finally, Mark Christoffels reviewed the quarterly ACE Project schedules, financial, audit and investment reports.
- **Energy Wise Summer Regional Meeting:** On Wednesday, the SGVCOG, Southern California Edison, and SoCalGas co-hosted the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership Summer 2018 Regional Meeting. This meeting provided an opportunity for our SGV cities to learn more about how cities can implement energy efficiency projects in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. Program Managers from the two utility companies provided information to the attendees about 2018 program and project updates, and which energy-saving projects that cities can receive rebates and financing for. SCE and SoCalGas also discussed free direct install opportunities for the cities. The meeting also featured presentations about the services that the SoCal REN offers for cities, income assistance programs and medical baseline programs for residents, and the SGVCOG's EASY Program, SGV Go Green Program, and Strategic Plan EAP Update project. COG staff also highlighted the City of Baldwin Park, who recently achieved a Platinum rating in the Energy Leader Partnership Program for their commitment to implement various retrofits and sustainability projects.
- **LA EV Readiness Kickoff Meeting:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff attended the partner kick-off meeting for LA County's Electric Vehicle (EV) Ready Communities. In April, the California Energy Commission awarded the county grant funding to assist with planning for

EV readiness throughout the County, as well as develop a blueprint known as the Transportation Grid (T-Grid), which will provide a regional strategy for responsive acceleration toward zero-emission mobility. The meeting also reviewed current EV Readiness Plans throughout the County, linkages to SCAG's 2016 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) and local governments' compliance with AB 1236. The SGVCOG was identified as a Sub-Recipient to the grant and will continue to work with the County to assist with the T-Grid blueprint development.

- **Water as Resource Twitter Chat:** On Tuesday, the SGVCOG hosted another Twitter Chat around the topic of "Water as a Resource." Participants included various agencies from around the San Gabriel Valley, and they provided feedback on best practices for water efficiency, conservation, and water capture. This chat had 2,251 impressions, which means that our chat posts were featured on 2,251 individual feeds. This marks the most successful Twitter Chat in terms of numbers! For review the full chat/discussion please search #Waterasaresource on your twitter account.
- **AB 2538 (Rubio):** The Stormwater Financial Capabilities Assessment legislation sponsored by the SGVCOG was approved by the Senate in a 38-0 floor vote on August 29! Next, the bill will return to the Assembly for concurrence in amendments adopted by the Senate. The bill does not alter or waive stormwater quality standards. Rather, it incorporates cost assessment in determining alternative compliance pathways and achievable schedules for storm sewer system permittees.
- **Metro Congestion Management Program Opt-Out Workshop:** In June, the LA Metro Board approved a staff recommendation to initiate the process to opt out of the state-mandated Congestion Management Program (CMP). Metro is currently taking steps to carry out the Board's action, and the next step in this multifaceted process is for Metro to open up a dialogue with other public agencies in the County about the future of the CMP. The decision to formally opt out of the CMP is not one that Metro or its 89 participating local agencies can make unilaterally, but instead is one that must be made by majority consensus. California law stipulates that jurisdictions within a county may opt out of CMP without penalty only if a majority of the county's jurisdictions formally opt out. In order to effectively engage with the County's local agencies on this key issue, Metro is hosting a CMP Opt-Out Workshop on Wednesday, September 12 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Metro Headquarters. City officials and staff can register for this workshop [HERE](#). Additionally, if any cities have questions about any CMP-related matters, please forward your inquiries to Paul Backstrom at backstromp@metro.net or at 213-922-2183. You can also visit Metro's Congestion Management webpage to view the latest report to the Metro Board.
- **Upcoming Autonomous Vehicle Policy Conference:** On Wednesday, September 12, from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, the TranspoGroup is hosting the Los Angeles Autonomous Vehicle Policy Conference. This conference will provide information on AV planning and policy issues, transportation as a service, land-use management, curbside management, parking codes, fiscal implications, etc. The LA AV Vehicle Policy Conference will be held at The Center at Cathedral Plaza (555 W. Temple Street; Los Angeles, CA). Registration is currently \$50 per registrant for public sector agencies. However, after September 4, the registration fee will sharply increase to \$125 (due to a late registration fee). To register for the conference, please follow this link: <http://www.transpogroup.com/avconference.html>. The SGVCOG is a "Partner" for the AV Policy conference. COG staff will be in attendance, and we hope to see our member cities there, too!