

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of April 9, 2018

- **Water Committee:** The Water Committee received an overview of proposed changes to the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River EWMP program. Those changes center on construction of five regional projects which would replace approximately 270 miles of green streets and reduce the overall cost of the program by 92% over 20 years, from \$1.4 billion to \$106 million. No action was taken on this item. The committee voted to recommend that the Governing Board support AB 2538 (Rubio), a stormwater Financial Capability Assessment bill, and oppose SB 623 (Monning), which establishes a fee on public water systems. Finally, within the last month, the City of Gardena and Duarte legal challenges to the MS4 permit came to trial. Members received an update on the legal arguments made and the next steps in the case.
- **Housing Bus Tour:** On Thursday, the SGVCOG hosted the Homeless Housing Bus Tour. Over 50 attendees participated in the tour, which included site visits of El Monte Veterans Village, in the City of El Monte, and Cedar Springs Apartments, in the City of La Verne. Participants heard from facility managers, law enforcement, council members, and residents.
- **Safe, Clean Waters Program Draft Released:** On Thursday, the County posted the draft Safe, Clean Water (SCW) Program overview. That document can be accessed [here](#). This consists of a proposed special property tax to be imposed upon parcels within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District ("District") and an expenditure plan for programming revenues from the parcel tax and implementing eligible programs and projects. The County is providing a 30-day public comment period, through Friday, May 11. SGVCOG representatives have been actively involved in the Stakeholder Working Group, and the April Governing Board agenda packet includes a report on all discussion to date.
- **Coyote Study:** On April 18th, the EENR Committee will be receiving a presentation on an upcoming regional coyote research project from Dr. Niamh Quinn a Human-Wildlife Interactions Advisor from the University of California. This project will deploy GPS collars within ten foothill cities to examine the ecology and behavior of coyotes, as well as test the efficacy of hazing as a management tool. If your city is interested in participating in the study, please contact Dr. Niamh Quinn at atnmquinn@ucanr.edu.
- **CicLAvia Reminder:** CicLAvia: Heart of the Foothills is on April 22nd, only 8 days away! This open street event will take place in the Foothills cities of San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, and Claremont. The 6.5 mile route will be closed to cars and open for cyclists, pedestrians, runners and skaters to use as a recreational space.
- **LA County Sustainability Plan:** Los Angeles County is inviting cities to participate in the Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan. The County will host a City Leadership Kick-off on Monday, April 23rd from 11am to 1pm at the Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office (500 W Temple St, Los Angeles, CA 90012). Register [here](#). This event is an important opportunity to learn more about sustainability initiatives happening at the County, along with outlining the path forward, and ways to stay involved in the Countywide Sustainability Plan. Senior city staff working on sustainability issues are highly encouraged to attend.

- **Los Angeles Business Council 12th Annual Sustainability Summit:** The Los Angeles Business Council hosts an annual summit on sustainability. This year's summit will take place at the Getty Center on April 20th from 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM. **This event draws** more than 1,500 industry, corporate and civic leaders. This forum will feature business-driven solutions and effective public policy to help Los Angeles realize a more sustainable future. Register [here](#).



SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of April 16, 2018

- **Los Angeles County Division Legislative Committee:** Staff participated in this month's League of California Cities Legislative Committee call. The Committee reviewed their opposition to AB 1912 (Rodriguez), which places substantial burdens and new unworkable requirements on cities by applying retroactive as well as prospective joint and several liability for all retirement related obligations to any current or former member of a JPA throughout its existence. Additionally, the Committee discussed AB 2123 (Cervantes), which would allow for a mutual time extension of up to 90 days to implement the transition to district based elections through the ordinance process. The Committee moved to support this bill and requested revisions be made to include additional time for cities that are clearly making progress toward district elections. Finally, the last key bill of note that was discussed was SB 827 (Wiener), which exempts housing projects within one-half mile of a "major transit stop," or along a "high-quality transit corridor," from locally developed and adopted building height limitations, densities, parking requirements, and design review standards. This bill was heard in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee on 4/17/18 and failed to pass by a vote of 4-7.
- **Safe, Clean Waters Workshop:** Water Committee members and staff attended the Safe, Clean Waters workshop, which was a first review of the draft program elements, which can be accessed here: [SCW Draft Program Element](#).
 - The morning session provided a review and discussion of the Municipal Program (40% of total funding), including the County's proposed guidelines for maintenance of effort, and annual reporting requirements. County staff also discussed how equity is considered throughout the program, such as a proposed requirement that Regional Funding returned to DACs be not less than 110% of funds collected from those communities. Within the FCD program (10% of total funding), the County is proposing to set aside not less than \$20 million over a five year period for education, job force training, and capacity building in DAC communities. The FCD program also includes undertaking scientific studies in order to update the Basin Plan.
 - The afternoon workshop was dedicated to a review of the Regional Program (50% of total funding). Members discussed the Governance structure, which is currently balanced to include municipal, sector-specific, and community stakeholder representation. The draft program includes a scoring matrix for project selection that committee members reviewed.
 - Next steps. A public comment period will conclude on May 11th, after which the committee will reconvene for a final review of the draft program. The BOS is planning a public hearing on June 26th.

Staff is in the process of compiling comments based on the Governing Board's adopted policy direction. Comments are due by May 11th.

- **Public Works TAC:** On Monday, members of the Public Works TAC met for the April Meeting of the TAC. The first presentation given to the TAC was SCE's plan to implement a clean, modern electric grid, and how the utility company is preparing for the pathway toward widespread electrification. The goals of SCE's proposals pertaining to these efforts are to

fight climate change and improve air quality for those working and living in Southern California. SCE is also moving forward with these initiatives due to the fact that the State of California has set goals to reduce emissions to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030, and 80% by 2050. SCE discussed how it will “clean” the power grid and modernize its related infrastructure, both of which will require collaboration and communication with local cities. Next, members of the TAC heard a presentation from the Executive Director of CicLAvia about the upcoming CicLAvia Heart of the Foothills event. He described the goals and benefits for the communities which host CicLAvia event, and how Open Streets events like CicLAvia promote active, clean, and healthy transportation lifestyles. He also mentioned the exciting activities that will be taking place at each hub in San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, and Claremont, and SGV cities were strongly encouraged to consider applying for Metro open Streets Cycle Three funding in the next couple of months. Additionally, Public Works TAC attendees heard updates regarding the ACE/COG integration process and the status of Measure M Subregional Fund Programming for transportation projects.

- **Bike Share, Open Streets & Active Transportation Update Meeting:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff hosted a meeting to update member cities about developments related to Bike Share expansion, and possible Open Streets and active transportation opportunities, throughout the SGV region. This meeting was attended by City Planners, Public Works staffers and engineers, members of the COG’s active transportation and greenway working group, and representatives from SGV cities which are part of the SGVCOG’s bike share expansion grant and efforts. First, COG staff gave an update on the status of Bike Share Expansion in the San Gabriel Valley. In August 2017, the COG was awarded a \$4.554 million GGRF grant for an 840-bike Bike Share Expansion program in 14 SGV cities. Staff reviewed the current Metro Bike Share system, model, and infrastructure, as well as various new bike share options and technologies, including pedal-assist and dockless. Meeting attendees also heard how the City of Monrovia’s “GoMonrovia” program works; this new, innovative program utilizes the dockless Lime Bike bike share system and subsidized \$0.50 rides to encourage an increase in transit use and active transportation throughout the city. Additionally, Metro staff gave a presentation on LA Metro’s Open Streets Cycle Three Grant, and provided details about the program guidelines and application.
- **EENR Committee:** The EENR Committee received a presentation from Dr. Niamh Quinn on an upcoming coyote hazing study. Hazing is a method that makes use of deterrents, such as noise or projectiles, to move an animal out of an area or discourage an undesirable behavior or activity. This study is looking for 10 cities to partner with University of California’s Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources to study the effects of hazing by deploying GPS collars and monitoring coyote activity when they are hazed. Additionally, the Committee heard a presentation on Prop 68. If passed, Prop 68 would allow the state to sell a total of \$4.1 billion in bonds for various natural resources-related programs. To help support local projects, approximately \$30 million will be allocated to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to preserve open space and habitat. Prop 68 will be on the June 5, 2018 ballot.
- **Transportation Committee:** Thursday’s Transportation Committee featured a busy and substantive agenda. The Committee first unanimously approved a motion to recommend that the Governing Board formally oppose AB 1756 (Brough), which would completely repeal SB 1 effective immediately. The Committee then heard two presentations from LA Metro staff, the first being a presentation on transportation projects that Metro has applied for funding from SB 1 grants and the U.S. DOT Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant. Next, the the Executive Director of CicLAvia provided a presentation on this

Sunday's CicLAvia: Heart of the Foothills open streets event, by which the cities of San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, and Claremont will be connected via an open street setup and active transportation corridor for the day. He also discussed the community benefits to hosting an open streets event, and described the activities that will be at each "hub." Additionally, students from Harvey Mudd College provided short, applicable presentations their studies pertaining to Claremont Complete Streets, the Economic Impact of Cycling in La Verne, and . After these presentations concluded, COG staff provided a brief update on bike share expansion in the SGV, as a follow-up to the bike share overview presentation about new bike share technologies at the March Committee meeting. The last agenda item before the Metro and Metrolink updates.

- **Municipal Green Building Expo:** The 17th Annual Municipal Green Building Conference and Expo was held on Thursday, April 19th at the SoCalGas Energy Resource Center in Downey. The conference's theme "Innovative Cities Leading the way to a Sustainable Future" convened participants and presenters from the public, private, and non-profit sector in the Greater Los Angeles area. The first keynote was given by LA Department of Transportation's General Manager, Seleta Reynolds, who highlighted the importance of cross-sector cooperation to achieve urban sustainability goals. The afternoon keynote, delivered by LA County's Chief Sustainability Officer Gary Gero, carried a similar tone by underlining the need for regional collaboration to comprehensively achieve the "3 E's" of sustainability (Equity, Economy, and Environment). The conference was just the start of larger conversations of how cities can effectively govern and enhance the quality of life for residents, with sustainability and resilience at the forefront of these discussions.
- **Ciclavia Preview:** This Sunday, CicLAvia - Heart of the Foothills is finally here! The route will connect the cities of San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, and Claremont. Streets will be closed to cars and open to bikes, runners, skaters, pedestrians, strollers and all forms of people-powered transportation. This is a family-friendly, free event open to all ages. No registration required and show up anywhere along the route!

Getting to the Route:

- Metrolink: There are two Metrolink stations (Pomona North and Claremont village) along the route to make getting there easy. Paid fares apply.
- Metro Gold Line: Metro is offering free rides to celebrate Earth Day – April 22nd. Take the Metro Gold Line to the APU/Citrus College Station. Free shuttle service (for bikes and people) will be provided throughout the day from the Metro Gold Line APU/Citrus College Station to the San Dimas Hub. Shuttle pick-up area is located on Citrus Ave (at the entrance/exit) of parking structure).
- Foothill Transit: For the Heart of the Foothills event only, Foothill Transit will allow riders to bring their bicycles aboard the bus for the following lines: 188, 197, 291, 480 and 492.
- Parking: Information on where to park near the route is here.

Activities and Hubs Along the Route:

- All Hubs will have info booths, restrooms, free water, free basic bike repair, bike parking, and first aid.
- San Dimas: The Civic Center and historic downtown will be a place to enjoy music, the San Dimas farmers market, a bike safety course, an opportunity to win a bike, a kids play zone, free giveaways; and a selfie photo area.

- La Verne: The historic Old Town blends charming shops and restaurants with family fun activities for both young and old. With play areas for kids, the adults can experience an electric vehicle activity, and participate in dynamic programming offered by local organizations.
 - Pomona: Situated at Palomares Park, experience a mini version of the LA County Fair presented by the Fairplex. Take a tour of the historic Palomares Adobe, or try your hand at lawn bowling. The SGVCOG will also be hosting a mini Color Run obstacle course, great for families with children or anyone looking for a colorful time! Food trucks will also be there ready satisfy your taste buds.
 - Claremont: At the center of Claremont's dynamic village will feature the 10th annual Earth Day celebration and the Claremont Farmers and Artisans market. As you spend time exploring the village's local shops, you can enjoy a host of activities from local organizations, or stop by the Claremont Museum of Art for a hands-on art workshop.
 - Pedi-cabs: Walking and need a lift to the next hub? Free Pedi-cabs provided by AARP are located at all of the hubs near the info booths - just look for the sign!
 - For a full activities list click [here](#).
- **Community Outreach:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff hosted an energy efficiency workshop at the La Fetra Center in Glendora. The workshop focused on providing information on SCE's and SCG's Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) program, as well as included information on helpful energy efficiency tips and upgrades residents can perform. Workshop attendees were also shown demonstrations on proper insulation, sealing air gaps, energy efficient light bulbs, smart power strips, and other relevant items. If you're interested in scheduling a similar workshop in your community, please email Katie (kward@sgvcog.org).

The logo for SGVCOG, consisting of the letters S, G, V, C, O, G in a light blue, sans-serif font. The letters are spaced out and have a slight shadow effect.

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of April 30, 2018

- **Update on LA County Homeless Initiative Funding Recommendation:** At the LA County 4th, and final, City Homeless Plan Technical Assistance Workshop, Phil Ansell, Director of the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative, announced a revised approach to the 2018-2019 Measure H funding recommendations. On May 15th, the Office of the Chief Executive will recommend delaying the funding recommendation for cities' homeless plan implementation until mid-August in order to allow it to be reflective of the cities' plans, which are due June 30th. This is great news for our cities and comes amidst the SGVCOG's mobilization around this issue. Via email, Mr. Ansell provided additional detail as follows: "The May 15 Board letter will have the initial \$1 million (for city funding) as a placeholder only. The actual amount to recommend will be determined in the first half of July, following submission of (most of) the city plans." The timeline for funding recommendation for the cities is as follows:
- Week of July 16 - Finalization of draft Board letter
 - July 23 – Release of draft Board letter with Agenda for July 26 Board deputies meeting
 - July 26 – Board deputies meeting
 - August 2 – Board letter filed with Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors
 - August 9 – Publication of August 14 Board agenda, including final Board letter
 - August 14 – Board meeting to consider Board letter
- What can cities do to maximize this opportunity?*
- Submit plans to the County by June 28th. This will allow for the greatest opportunity cities's full funding needs are included in the CEO's August 14th funding recommendation.
 - Provide the SGVCOG Homelessness Coordinator with a copy of your city's plan as soon as it is approved. This will allow for coordination and calculation of total subregional need. Additionally, this will allow the COG to transmit the full SGV regional need to the CEO's office and our members of the Board of Supervisors.
- **LA County Homeless Technical Assistance Workshop:** The San Gabriel Valley had the largest city presence at the forth and final LA County Homeless Planning Technical Assistance workshop. The theme of the workshop was, "Development and Implementation of the City Homeless Plans". During the session, the temperature of the progress being made on the homeless plan was taken and the groundwork was laid for moving through to implementation. The meeting was moderated by Phil Ansell, Director of the Homeless Initiative, underscoring the importance that the County is assigning to the cities homeless plans. The meeting launched with SPA 8 and the SGVCOG presentations on the bus tours. A Q&A panel covered helpful topics and answered questions around the planning process, data collection, challenges, opportunities and needs to finalize the plans. The panelists were representatives from two consultants, including Le Sar, the SGVCOG, and Corporation for Supportive Housing. Additionally, Mr. Ansel indicated that cities may ask for an extension to submit their plans through the end of July. The reasons for the requests should be e-mailed to the CEO's office representative. The San Gabriel Valley representatives are Leticia Colchado, lcolchado@ceo.lacounty.gov, and Elizabeth Ben-Ishai, EBen-Ishai@ceo.lacounty.gov. If the sole reason is that time is needed to get on the

Council agenda for approval, the County would like the city to submit the plan timely pending Council approval.

- **Metro PAC Meeting:** On Tuesday, Mark Christoffels participated in the monthly Metro PAC meeting. The primary agenda topic was an overview of Metro's Strategic Plan, known as Vision 2028. Key goals of the plan are as follows:
 - Double the total usage of transportation modes other than solo driving, including transit, walk, bike, shared-ride and carpool modes;
 - Ensure that all County residents have access to high-quality mobility options within a 10-minute walk from home.
 - Reduce maximum wait times for any trip to 15 minutes during any time of day.
 - Improve average travel speeds on the County's bus network by 30 percent.
 - Providing convenient and dependable options for bypassing congestion on streets and highways

The Metro Board of Directors is set to consider adoption of Vision 2028 at their June meeting. More information about the plan is available here: <https://www.metro.net/about/metro-vision-2028-plan/>

- **Safe, Clean Waters Workshop:** Staff conducted a workshop this week for City Managers, Public Works Directors, and Water TAC members. The purpose of the meeting was to review the County's draft Safe, Clean Water program (dated April 12th) and receive feedback from city staff. Based on the feedback, staff is drafting comments in response to the County's proposed program. The response will be consistent with Resolution 18-03, the SGVCOG overarching position on SCW. More information about the County's draft program is available here: <http://safecleanwaterla.org/>
- **City Managers' Steering Committee:** On Wednesday, the City Managers' Steering Committee. They received a presentation from LA County on outreach plans related to the 2020 Census. Additionally, they reviewed the draft FY 19 Capital Projects budget and the updated Finance and Accounting Policies.

The logo for the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) features a stylized sunburst or starburst design in shades of blue and grey above the acronym "SGVCOG" in a large, light blue, sans-serif font.