



Valley Voice

*The official newsletter of the
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*

October 2023

Villa Esperanza: A Milestone of Hope in the Heart of Pomona



On September 14th, Becky Shevlin, the Vice Chair of the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) and Mayor of Monrovia, provided remarks at the grand opening of Villa Esperanza in Pomona. This joint venture of the SGVRHT, Jamboree Housing, and the City of Pomona transformed a once-empty lot into a state-of-the-art affordable housing complex.

This project holds a special place in the timeline of the SGVRHT. It's the first affordable housing endeavor funded by the Trust that has completed construction and opened its doors for occupancy. The Trust contributed \$1,350,000 to the project, with half of this funding coming from the state's Local Housing Trust Fund program.



Villa Esperanza embodies the shared vision of its creators, showcasing impressive architectural design that meets LEED Silver certification standards and promotes sustainable living. The community offers various services and opportunities to aid residents' personal development. The services provided include ESL classes, job training, and vital healthcare services, which significantly impact the residents' well-being.



Villa Esperanza is located on the busy West Mission Boulevard, providing its residents with a prime location. With easy access to public transportation and the lively Pomona Farmer's Market, essential amenities are just a stone's throw away. This makes everyday living enjoyable and convenient for the residents.

SGVCOG Leads Comprehensive Internet Connectivity Study

Broadband Focus Groups

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), in partnership with Magellan/ENTRUST, will be hosting a series of webinars to gather information about connectivity needs and opportunities from various stakeholders across the SGV.

Register using the following links:

<u>Education and Workforce</u> November 6 2023, 1:00pm-2:30pm	<u>City Administration and Municipal Operations</u> November 14 2023, 10:00am-12:30pm
<u>Emergency Preparedness, First Responders, and Public Safety</u> November 7 2023, 1:00pm-2:30pm	<u>Major Business and Targeted Industries</u> November 15 2023, 10:30am-12:00pm
<u>Entrepreneurship and Small Business</u> November 8 2023, 10:30am-12:00pm	<u>Transit and Transportation</u> November 15 2023, 1:00pm-2:30pm
<u>Health, Recreation, Social Support, and Wellness</u> November 9 2023, 10:30am-12:00pm	<u>Utilities, Natural Resources, and Environment</u> November 16 2023, 10:30am-12:00pm
<u>Housing, Real Estate, and Residential Development</u> November 10 2023, 10:30am-12:00pm	

Learn about our regional broadband program at:
sgvcog.org/broadband

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) is on a mission to improve high-speed internet access for every resident and organization within the San Gabriel Valley (SGV). To this end, SGVCOG is spearheading a study to examine internet availability across various locales within the region. This venture is instrumental in delineating broadband needs and discovering viable pathways for enhancing connectivity. Our initiative is straightforward yet revolutionary— providing households and organizations with expedited, more dependable internet connections.

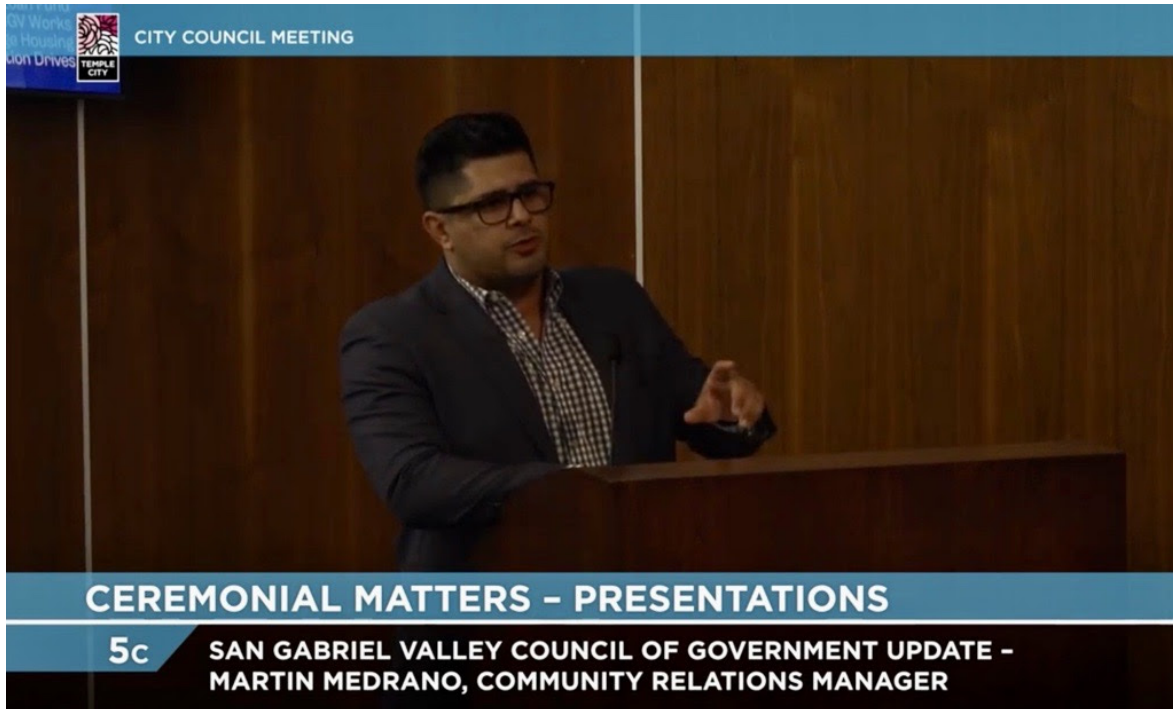
In a collaborative endeavor with Magellan Advisors, SGVCOG is producing a sequence of webinars to accrue insights regarding connectivity requisites and prospects from a diverse array of stakeholders across the San Gabriel Valley. We invite you to participate in multiple focus group discussions; however, we request your attendance only in those sessions that align with your expertise.

Registration is open for the Regional Broadband Planning Needs Assessment focus group sessions slated for November. SGVCOG, in collaboration with Magellan, is extending its outreach to community, public, non-profit, and private sector stakeholders. This collective effort aims to collate invaluable insights, which will inform the needs assessment and significantly influence the formulation of the Regional Broadband Strategic Plan.

Each focus group is relevant to a unique set of backgrounds, and you are encouraged to join multiple sessions. Meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams. You can register here for the following sessions: [City Administration and Municipal Operations](#), [Education and Workforce](#), [Emergency Preparedness, First Responders and Public Safety](#), [Entrepreneurship and Small Business](#), [Health, Recreation, Social Support and Wellness](#), [Housing, Real Estate, and Residential Development](#), [Major Business and Targeted Industries](#), [Transit and Transportation](#), [Utilities, Natural Resources, and Environment](#).

Magellan is still collecting SGV asset inventory and residential survey responses, which can be accessed on the SGVCOG [website here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Paulina Mejia at pmejia@sgvcog.org.

SGVCOG's City Council Roadshow Marches On



This past month, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) launched the City Council Roadshow. SGVCOG staff presented at 11 City Council meetings in September with more City Council presentations scheduled for next month. We'd like to thank all of the cities for their continued collaboration thus far.

We look forward to the enriching discussions that lie ahead. Below is the upcoming presentation schedule, and we warmly invite everyone to participate to foster a greater understanding of the work the SGVCOG does. Thank you for being a part of this important conversation, as it ensures that our collective aspirations are well-aligned for the upcoming year.





Below are the remaining scheduled City Council meetings where SGVCOG staff will be providing updates. We hope to see you there!

- **Azusa** on October 2
- **Baldwin Park** on October 4
- **Bradbury** on October 17
- **Claremont** on October 10
- **Covina** on October 17
- **Diamond Bar** on October 3
- **Glendora** on October 10
- **Irwindale** on October 11
- **La Canada** on October 17
- **Monterey Park** on October 18
- **Pomona** on October 16
- **San Dimas** on October 10
- **South Pasadena** on October 18
- **Pasadena** on October 23

ArroyoFest Reclaims the Parkway: Gear Up for an Unforgettable Journey

BIKE • WALK • RUN • SKATE • ART • MUSIC • PLAY • ENTERTAINMENT

PEDALEA • CAMINA • CORRE • PATINA • ARTE • MÚSICA • JUEGA • DIVERSIÓN
自行車 • 步行 • 跑步 • 滑板 • 藝術 • 音樂 • 玩 • 食物 • 娛樂

ARROYO SECO PARKWAY

CARRETERA 110
阿羅約塞科公園路

626 GOLDEN STREETS
ARROYO FEST

PRESENTED BY | PRESENTADO POR | 提出者 | METRO

OPEN STREETS

CALLE ABIERTAS
開闊的街道

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023 | DOMINGO, 29 DE OCTUBRE 2023 | 2023年10月29日 (星期日)

FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT
EVENTO GRATIS PARA FAMILIAS
免費的家庭友好活動

7-11 AM
PARKWAY
7A-2P MISSION ST

7 MILES OF CAR FREE ROADWAYS
7 MILLAS DE CALLE SIN CARROS
7 英里的無車道路

SGVCOG | EUNISSES HERNÁNDEZ | Kevin DE LEÓN | ACTIVE SGV | OPEN STREETS MADE POSSIBLE BY | Metro

Make sure to save the date of **October 29th** as the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) is bringing back the beloved **ArroyoFest** after a long 20 years. Along with ActiveSGV and 626 Golden Streets, the SGVCOG is organizing a fun-filled morning where participants can walk, run, or bike down the scenic Arroyo Seco Parkway in Pasadena until it meets the 5 freeway. You can take part in this exciting 7-mile journey from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The main event hub will be in South Pasadena, open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will have a variety of activities and booths, including one by SGVCOG. We would be delighted if you stopped by!

If you need more information, you can visit the official event page [here!](#)






[@626GoldenStreets](https://www.facebook.com/626GoldenStreets)
[@ActiveSGV](https://www.instagram.com/ActiveSGV)

626GOLDENSTREETS.COM

Join the SGVCOG for the Celebration of World Habitat Day!

YOU'RE INVITED!
CIVIC LEADER
build day

Habitat for Humanity invites you to join your colleagues for a World Habitat Day event.

In celebration of [World Habitat Day](#) (a time designated by the United Nations to reflect on the state of our habitats, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter) you are invited to join local leaders to participate in a neighborhood Habitat for Humanity build.



October 5, 2023
4428 Stewart Ave, Baldwin Park 91706

Morning/Afternoon shifts available
 8-12:30 or 11:30-3
 Lunch from 11:30 - 12:30

RSVP by September 22
tinyurl.com/Civic-Leader-Build

We hope you can join us for either the morning or the afternoon (with a shared lunch in between) and experience first-hand working on a community project that is helping solve the affordable homeownership problem within our cities and towns. You will be building alongside your fellow leaders and future homeowners as a life-changing opportunity comes to reality.






This coming Thursday, October 5th, the SGVCOG will be celebrating World Habitat Day by partnering with Habitat for Humanity for a build-day event that will bring together local leaders, community leaders, and activists to transform a former church into affordable homeownership opportunities. Below is the schedule of events! We hope to see you there.

- **8-11:30 am:** Work alongside your colleagues and tour this current adaptive reuse project as SGV Habitat transforms a former church location into affordable homeownership opportunities for the community of Baldwin Park
- **11:30-12:30 pm:** Join Senator Susan Rubio and local leaders for lunch as we share how Habitat for Humanity can help your communities reach your affordable housing goals and empower your citizens as first-time homeowners.
- **12:30-3:00 pm:** Work alongside your colleagues and tour this current adaptive reuse project as SGV Habitat transforms a former church location into affordable homeownership opportunities for the community of Baldwin Park

SGVCOG Engages in Railroad Infrastructure Dialogue at Construction Network Panel



On Monday, September 18th, the SGVCOG's Director of Capital Projects, Kevin Lai, was a panelist at the Construction Network's monthly Board Meeting, discussing Southern California's railroad infrastructure. SGVCOG has already completed 16 railroad-grade separation projects as part of the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Project, enhancing goods movement and pedestrian safety in the region. The panel, organized by the Construction Network, fostered a vital discussion on improving railroad systems, bringing together various experts in the field. The collaborative effort highlighted at this event paves the way for a promising outlook on the region's railroad infrastructure, ensuring a structured approach towards safety and efficiency.

SGVCOG Be Well OC Campus Tours Foster Dialogue to Strengthen Mental Health Services in the San Gabriel Valley



On September 18th, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) staff engaged in three sequential tours at the Be Well OC campus in the City of Orange. Guided by Dr. Kathryn Hamel, the tours showcased a wide array of mental health services available on campus, leaving attendees with a newfound appreciation for their practical approach to mental health.

The tours fostered engaging discussions among various stakeholders from agencies, including Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Duarte, Glendora, La Verne, LA County Department of Mental Health, Monrovia, and the offices of State Senator Susan Rubio and Supervisor Hilda Solis, alongside West Covina

representatives. The interaction aimed at understanding the services Orange County's pioneering facility provided.

With every tour filled to capacity, the turnout underscored a significant interest in learning and sharing ideas on enhancing mental health services. Be Well OC, which launched three wellness campuses in Orange County in 2021, also operates mobile mental health crisis units throughout the county. Their comprehensive mental health system encompasses substance use services and covers a wide range of needs, from prevention and early intervention to crisis aversion, acute care, and recovery.

SGVCOG thanks Be Well OC and Dr. Kathryn Hamel for hosting and all attendees for contributing to meaningful discussions. The tour provided an in-depth understanding of the available mental health services in Orange County and spurred dialogue on collaborative strategies to bolster mental health and wellness in the San Gabriel Valley.

SGVCOG Celebrates SOCALREN's 10-Year Milestone and Pomona's Sustainable Excellence



On Wednesday, September 6th, SGVCOG staff attended SOCALREN's 10th Anniversary Celebration hosted by LA County at the California Endowment Building in downtown Los Angeles. The event featured insightful panel discussions about SOCALREN's energy programs with representatives from various agencies, the California Energy Commission, and the Department of Energy.

A highlight of the celebration was the Decade of Sustainable Excellence Award presented to the City of Pomona by SOCALREN, commemorating their ten-year energy partnership. This recognition underscores Pomona's commitment to sustainable energy practices and mirrors SOCALREN's broader mission.

The event was a momentous occasion to reflect on past achievements and foster enthusiasm for future sustainable energy initiatives.

Upcoming Community Events!

2023 INSURANCE DIVERSITY SUMMIT

HOSTED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Setting the PACE

LOS ANGELES, CA
OCTOBER 12, 2023
8AM - 1PM



EXPLORE THE LATEST ISSUES, POLICIES AND OPPORTUNITIES SHAPING SUPPLIER AND BOARD DIVERSITY IN CALIFORNIA'S MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR INSURANCE INDUSTRY!



ONSITE BUSINESS MATCHMAKING

Connect with industry leaders. Space is limited and pre-registration is required!



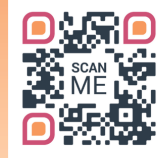
INTERACTIVE RESOURCE EXPO

Learn and exchange information with organizations, such as Nationwide, the United States Small Business Administration, and the California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce.



ENLIGHTENING SESSIONS

Hear how experts are 'Setting the Pace' and advancing diversity in the insurance industry!



Register today!
tinyurl.com/2023DivSummit

California Department of Insurance
Insurance Diversity Initiative
www.insurance.ca.gov/diversity



RICARDO LARA
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
California Department of Insurance

ASIAN PACIFIC HEALTH CORPS AT UCLA

FREE MONTEREY PARK HEALTH FAIR



FREE
PRIZES & RAFFLE



LANGLEY SENIOR CENTER

400 W Emerson Ave,
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Screenings:

blood pressure, body mass index/body fat %, vision, diabetic foot check, echocardiograms, mammography, glucose/cholesterol, health education, and more!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th

9:00AM-1:00PM

NO health insurance required
Translators provided

Email: aphc.hf@gmail.com
Website: aphcatucla.weebly.com
Instagram: @aphc.hf



SGVCOG Staff Member Spotlight:

Paulina Mejia, Sustainability and Natural Resources Management Analyst



What are you looking forward to working on at the SGVCOG?

I am looking forward to supporting regional sustainability initiatives and building long-lasting relationships with local communities in the SGV.

What is a fun fact about you?

I LOVE BIRDS! I have 3 pet cockatiels and 5 parakeets.

October Committee Meeting Schedule

Please be advised that the Governing Board will convene in person at the SGVCOG's office in Monrovia. Livestreams of the meetings can be found on the SGVCOG website [here](#). The live streams of San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Board of Directors meetings are [here](#).

Executive Committee - Cancelled

Capital Projects and Construction Committee - Cancelled

Water Committee - Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 2 PM

Homelessness Committee - Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 8:30 AM

EENR Committee - Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 10:15 AM

Transportation Committee - Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 4 PM

Governing Board - Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 4 PM

City Managers' Steering Committee - Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 12 PM

Regional Housing Trust Board - Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 1 PM

Mental Health AD HOC Committee - Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 10 AM

Public Works Working Group - Monday, October 16, 2023, at 12 PM

Planning Directors Working Group - Thursday, October 26, 2023, at 12 PM

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
1333 S. Mayflower Avenue, Suite 360
Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 457-1800 | sgv@sgvcog.org

Please note that this e-newsletter is best viewed with the latest web browser version of Internet Explorer, Safari, Firefox, and Google Chrome at a zoom level of 100%.

