



Padua Hills Claremont

The Pulse of the San Gabriel Valley

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

March 2017

## SCAG Awards San Gabriel Valley Projects \$1.4 million In Grant Funding

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) recently announced awards under their Sustainability Grant Program (SPG), and 10 San Gabriel projects were awarded a total of \$1.4 million (see table 1).

Of note, the SGV was awarded approximately 55% of all funds available for LA County in the Active Transportation funding category.

SGVCOG staff coordinated five project applications that were awarded funding:

- Baldwin Park, El Monte/South El Monte Bike Friendly Business Program (\$365,052):** These projects engage with local businesses and other public services to educate, empower and encourage local residents to use a bike for short trips.
- San Dimas Arrow Highway Complete Streets Demonstration (\$183,400):** This project is a multi-jurisdictional effort among the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, and Claremont. It will fund a complete street “pop-up” project and related planning efforts.
- The SGVCOG Greenway Network Implementation Plan (\$200,000):** This project will develop a

comprehensive implementation plan to guide the development of over 150 miles of bicycle and pedestrian pathways across the San Gabriel Valley.

- El Monte First/Last Mile Transit Station Planning (\$50,000):** This project will develop a first-last mile plan for the El Monte Transit Station, which will identify improvements that will facilitate walking and biking to the station.

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Applicant	Project	Award
Baldwin Park	Go Human Bike-Friendly Business	\$ 168,500
El Monte and South El Monte	Go Human Bike-Friendly Business	\$ 196,552
Los Angeles County	Walnut Park Demonstration Project	\$ 190,000
San Dimas	Arrow Highway Complete Street Demonstration	\$ 183,400
South El Monte	South El Monte Open Streets	\$ 200,000
SGVCOG	Greenway Network Implementation Plan	\$ 200,000
El Monte	First/Last Mile Transit Station Planning	\$ 50,000
Duarte	Town Center Traffic Plan	\$ 150,000
South Pasadena	Climate Action Plan	\$ 100,000
Claremont	Claremont Locally Grown Power	\$ 50,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,488,452</b>

Table 1.  
San Gabriel Valley Projects Awarded Funding.

## Environment & Water Update

### The San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District Seeks To Educate Residents

The SGV Mosquito & Vector Control District is a public health agency responsible for managing populations of mosquitoes and other vectors so they are not nuisances, do not cause outbreaks of human disease, and do not interrupt the

quality of life for residents. A vector is any animal that is capable of transmitting diseases, such as mosquitos, mites, flies, and ticks. In particular, the District is working to educate residents about West Nile and Zika Virus to prevent or limit outbreaks.

an information session, or provide informational leaflets for distribution.

#### Removing standing water is key to prevent outbreaks.

Walk your entire property looking for any container both natural and man-made that will hold a teaspoon of water or more

Separate containers into three categories

1. Those that can be thrown away
2. Those that can be scrubbed down and stored in a dry place
3. Permanent fixtures that will remain in the yard and require regular inspection

Inspect your property weekly and immediately after it rains to dump or drain containers holding water

The SGV Mosquito & Vector Control District has taken proactive steps to help prevent the spread of vector-borne disease including deploying truck-mounted fogging to control mosquito populations and hosting free events to train residents on how to prevent invasive mosquitoes from breeding in their homes and communities.

To date, no local transmission of the Zika virus has been reported in L.A. County. However, the *Aedes* mosquitoes that have the potential to transmit the virus are present in Los Angeles County. SGV cities can work with the District to present information at local events, host

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## League of California Cities to Host Informational Briefing On Prop 64, The Legalized Recreational Use Of Marijuana

In November 2016, voters approved Proposition 64, which legalized the nonmedical use of marijuana by persons 21 years of age and older and the personal cultivation of up to six marijuana plants. Proposition 64 will create a state regulatory and licensing system governing the commercial cultivation, testing, and distribution of nonmedical marijuana, and the manufacturing of nonmedical marijuana products.

- Key differences between Prop. 64 and the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act of 2015;
- Rules on personal use and personal cultivation;
- State licensing;
- Local regulation of commercial recreational marijuana operations;
- Taxation; and
- Policy issues for local governments to consider

The League of California Cities will be hosting an informational briefing on Proposition 64 at the Pasadena Public Library in the Donald R. Wright Auditorium on March 1st from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. The topics that will be covered in this briefing include the following:

Speakers at this briefing include Tim Cromartie, League of California Cities, Legislative Representative and Michael Coleman, Fiscal Policy Advisor.

**Prop 64 Informational Briefing**

**Where:** Pasadena Central Library  
285 E. Walnut St., Pasadena, Ca 91101

**When:** March 1, 2017  
9:00am-11:30am

**Who Should Attend:** Elected Officials, City Managers, City Planners, City Attorney's, and Law Enforcement

**Registration:** www.cacities.org/events

## SGV E/WMP Groups Work To Find Solutions To Meet Clean Water Standards

In order to implement the Municipal Separate Sewer Stormwater System (MS4) permit, San Gabriel Valley Watershed Management groups have been working with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to find cost-effective compliance strategies. One example is the work done by the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River group to rework their Enhanced/Watershed Management Plan (E/WMP) into what they are calling a revised E/WMP (rE/WMP).

Their original plan, approved in 2015, calls for ten stormwater projects and 436 lane miles of green streets at a cost of \$1.4 billion. Believing there is a better, more affordable mix of projects that achieve the desired end, the group began discussions with the Regional Board in July 2016. The rE/WMP instead proposes five alternative downstream projects worth pursuing. By consolidating waters at downstream locations, it is expected that a larger amount of water can be captured, cleaned, and infiltrated at a lower cost.

The largest of these projects envisions an engineered wetlands on the site of a current auto junkyard, approximately 37 acres located just north of Peck Lake. The

wetlands would be divided into three treatment cells, each of which could be isolated as needed based on the amount of rainfall and runoff received.

Certainly, there are many challenges to overcome, but the group is committed to finding answers in a cooperative way, working with the Regional Board. Throughout their discussions, the Rio Hondo/San Gabriel River Group has found

the Board willing to support financially achievable, downstream projects. Moreover, it understands that reworking current E/WMPs may take additional time to implement. The innovation and commitment to clean water standards shown by this San Gabriel Valley group is indicative of the overall leadership the SGVCOG, its elected representatives and staff, have shown on stormwater permit compliance.



## The SGVCOG Appoints Members To the Legislative Committee

The Governing Board recently approved the formation of an Ad Hoc Legislative Committee. The purpose of this committee is to assist policy committees and the Governing Board in identifying and tracking legislation. Policy Committees will continue to identify legislation and make recommendations directly to the Governing Board but will inform the Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee as well. This committee will function as an ad-hoc for one year with a permanent structure to be decided in February 2018.

At its February meeting the SGVCOG Governing Board, appointed the following nominees to sit on this committee:

- Juli Costanzo, City of San Gabriel
- Bob Pacheco, City of Walnut
- Ginna Escobar, City of Pomona
- Kevin Stapleton, City of Covina
- Thomas Wong, SGV Water Districts
- Juventino Gomez, City of El Monte
- Chris Freeland, City of West Covina

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Kevin Stapleton) will serve as Chair of this committee and it will operate as an ad-hoc committee for one legislative cycle to determine how a permanent Policy Committee could best serve the COG.

It is expected the first meeting will convene in late-March.



# The San Gabriel River Canyon Improvements Project Gets Additional Funding for Youth Engagement

The San Gabriel River Canyon Improvements project (SGC) is slated to help better manage recreation use and balance the needs for resource protection along an approximate 2.5-mile stretch of the East Fork of the San Gabriel River. The project is divided into five areas:

- Oaks Area (downstream project site to the intersection of Glendora Mountain Road; includes Oaks River Overlook Day-use area and Oaks picnic area);
- Junction Area (between Glendora Mountain Road and the Cattle Canyon Confluence);
- Cattle Canyon Confluence Area (confluence of Cattle Canyon Creek and the East Fork of the San Gabriel River);
- Coyote Flat, East Fork Scenic Overlook, Fire Station and Canyon Areas (includes the East Fork Trailhead Parking, East Fork Scenic Overlook, and Coyote Flat Picnic area); and

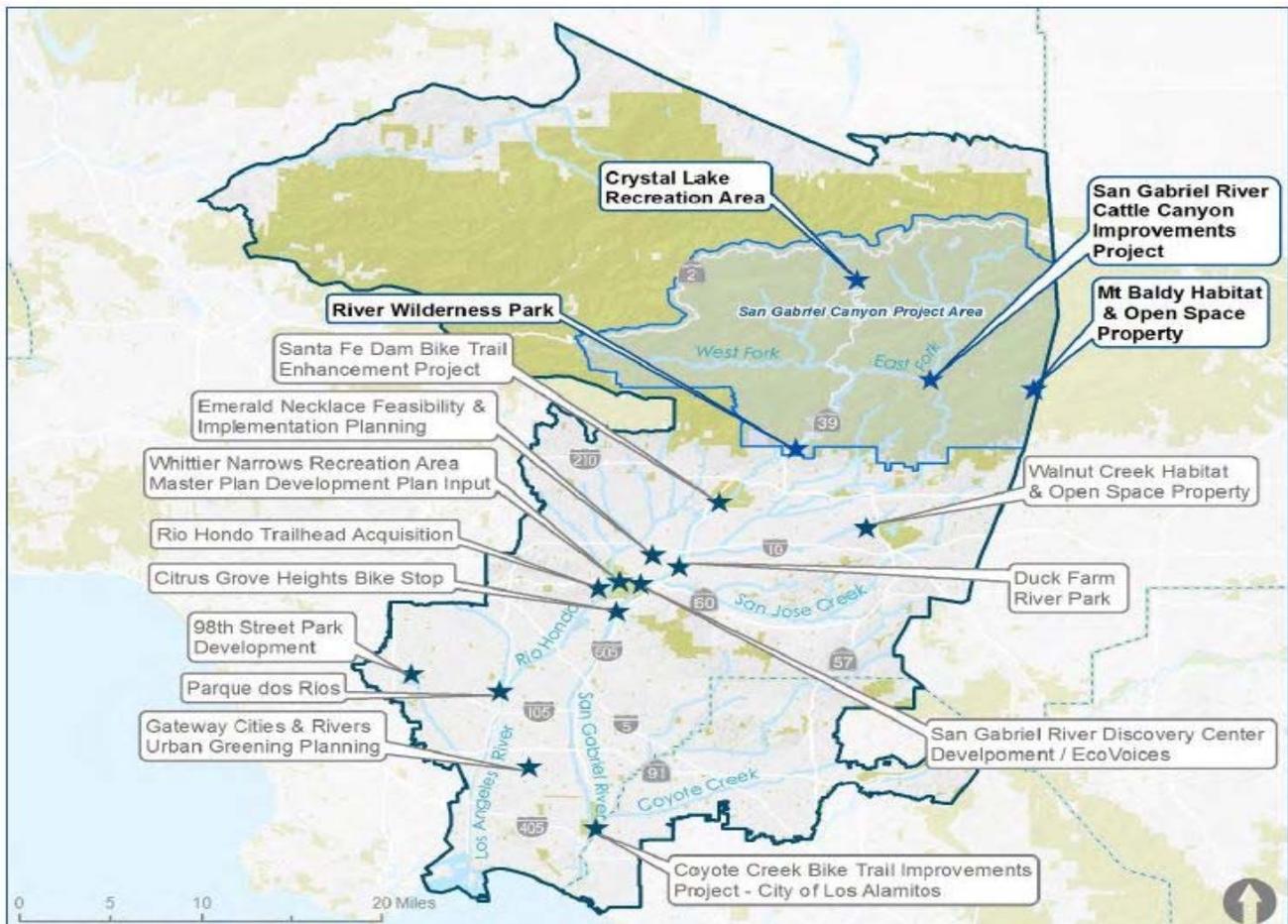
Heaton Flat Area (East Fork Scenic Overlook to Heaton Flat).

The Angeles National Forest and Watershed Conservation Authority partnered under a master participating agreement, to develop and implement a master development plan for the SGC Improvements Project. The project encompasses some of the most heavily utilized recreational destinations within the San Gabriel Mountains.

The proposed improvements under the SGC Agreement will provide recreation infrastructure that is high quality, well-maintained, safe, accessible and consistent with visitors' expectations. These facilities will be developed to shift and concentrate recreational use to certain areas in order to minimize the negative impacts to the surrounding areas. The improvements, together with better management of the recreation resources will promote conservation of public land by providing

quality and sustainable recreation opportunities that result in increased visitor satisfaction. The project also intends to improve habitat conditions in certain areas while making progress toward enhancing stream habitat conditions by restoring vegetation and minimizing invasive plants.

The project currently has funding for an adventure play area and park and funding for improvements to the River Wilderness Park Entry. In August 2016, the project was awarded \$125,000 in additional funding to help support on-site youth engagement activities and educational efforts including environmental and conservation education, within the East Fork Project Area. At its February meeting, the SGVCOG Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee was given a status report on the project.



## Former California State Senator Bob Huff Honored By the SGVCOG

The SGVCOG Governing Board recently recognized and gave tribute to former California State Senator Bob Huff for his many years of service to the San Gabriel Valley.

Senator Huff served as Vice President of the SGVCOG Governing Board and was the founding Chairman of the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority (ACE). He represented the SGV as a State Assembly member from 2004-2008 and as a State Senator from 2008-2016. Additionally, Senator Huff also served as the Senate Minority Leader from 2012-2015 and Vice Chair of the California Legislative Caucus.

*“Senator Huff’s long service to the San Gabriel Valley is to be commended. He has provided great leadership throughout his career and helped address the transportation challenges the San Gabriel Valley Region has faced. He has been a dedicated public servant, and the SGVCOG wishes him the best in his future endeavors.”*

- SGVCOG President  
Gene Murabito



Senator Bob Huff and COG President Gene Murabito

## The City of Pomona Adopts Homeless Strategic Plan

As of 2015, the City of Pomona had an estimated 912 homeless within their borders. Realizing there was an urgent need to address homelessness and provide much-needed programs and services, the City developed a Homeless Advisory Committee to develop a homeless strategic plan to help in addressing the crisis. This plan was formally adopted by the Pomona City Council in January 2017.

The strategic plan contains four goals, thirty strategies and over 200 activities that provide solutions to homelessness. The overarching goals contained in the policy are as follows:

- Reduce the number of Pomona’s unsheltered homeless;
- Reduce the negative impact on community neighborhoods and public spaces through the coordination of services;
- Have an engaged and informed community regarding homelessness and homeless solutions; and
- Balance the needs and rights of homeless persons and the larger community through updated fair, legal and enforceable policies and

ordinances.

The strategic plan provides priorities and timeframes to implement each strategy with each given either an urgent, high, medium or low priority. With this plan, the City is looking to play a more active role as a catalyst and mobilizer for stakeholders and organizations that will help address key homelessness challenges. In February, the COG Homelessness Committee received a presentation on the role out and implementation of the plan.

**To view the Strategic Plan in its entirety please scan the QR code below or visit :**

[http://www.ci.pomona.ca.us/mm/2016\\_Draft\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_on\\_Homelessness.pdf](http://www.ci.pomona.ca.us/mm/2016_Draft_Strategic_Plan_on_Homelessness.pdf)



City of Pomona Lockers for the Homeless



Pomona Staff Discuss Homeless Plan

# San Gabriel Valley News In Brief

## City of Covina Announces New City Manager:

The new Covina City Manager Brian Saeki brings nearly two decades of public service experience to the City of Covina. He leaves the City of San Fernando where he served as City Manager since March 2014. The SGV welcomes him and wishes him great success.



*New Covina City Manager Brian Saeki*



*New Sierra Madre City Manager Gabriel Engeland*

## City of Sierra Madre Announces New City Manager:

Mr. Gabriel Engeland joins the City of Sierra Madre after serving the City of Trinidad in Colorado as their City Manager since 2015 and prior to that, he served as the Assistant to the Town Manager of Gilbert, Arizona. The SGV welcomes him and wishes him great success.

## 2017 COG General Assembly:

The 2017, SGVCOG General Assembly will seek to highlight future technologies and their impacts to the region. The theme this year will focus on Future Visioning, with an emphasis on transportation, energy, communications, and logistics.

**Date:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017

**Location:** Pacific Palms Resort  
1 Industry Hill Pkwy,  
City of Industry, CA

## HOW COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY WORKS



## LA County Measure M Draft Guidelines To Be Released:

The Measure M local return subcommittee is continuing to meet with local cities to establish local return guidelines. The SGV cities that are participating on this subcommittee are as follows:

- Duarte
- El Monte
- Industry
- Monrovia
- Pomona
- San Marino
- LA County

It is anticipated that the draft local return guidelines will be given to the Measure M Advisory Committee for review by April. available in July of 2018 and the Competitive Grant Rounds will begin in January 2019.



*Metro Goldline*

## SGVCOG Board Elections Are Coming In May:

Every year the SGVCOG holds Board elections in May. There will be a call for nominations in early April for all those interested.

## LACCE Draft JPA Expected In April:

Community Choice Energy (CCE) gives customers a choice in their energy provider. With CCE communities can pool the electricity demand of residents and businesses and buy power on their behalf. In order to form a Countywide CCE otherwise known as the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy (LACCE), the County began holding joint powers agreement (JPA) negotiations. Negotiations for this JPA have been ongoing and a draft of the proposed JPA is expected to be released by April. Negotiations are intended to ensure that the JPA provides a meaningful local representation of participating cities.

## SGVCOG Governing Board Supports Measure H

The SGVCOG Governing Board voted to support Measure H at its February 2017 meeting. This measure proposes a ten year 1/4 cent sales tax to fund homeless services throughout Los Angeles County. In order to pass the measure requires a 2/3 majority approval by the voters. It is expected that this tax would generate \$355 million annually to fund the County Homeless Initiative.

If the measure is approved, beginning in mid-March there will be a planning group that will provide recommendations to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on the utilization and distribution of the revenue funds. The planning group will meet four times and will accept public input on the distribution of funds.

It is expected that the BOS will approve final guidelines at their June meeting. The planning group will be comprised of representatives from the following:

- County departments;
- Councils of Governments;
- Los Angeles Housing Services Authority;
- Faith-based organizations; and
- Homeless policy experts.

The SGVCOG will be represented by Joe Lyons, City of Claremont and Linda Lowry, City of Pomona.



*Union Station Homeless Services Community Event*



## Claremont, Monterey Park, Pomona Recipients of 2016 Energy Awards

Every year, the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP) recognizes outstanding cities within the SGV that have shown their commitment to energy efficiency.

For 2016, the SGVEWP awarded three exemplary San Gabriel Valley cities with energy awards. The City of Claremont

received the Energy Savings Impact Award. Claremont was selected for this award because of its outdoor/street lighting retrofit project that will save the city \$83,920 annually. The City of Pomona received the Energy Efficiency Award (Individual Project) for its retrofit street lighting project that will save over 1,000,000 kWh. Finally, the City of

Monterey Park received the Energy Efficiency Award for its Natural Gas Savings for its pool heater project, which will save 6,000 therms annually.



*City of Claremont Elected Officials Accept Energy Award*

## Upcoming Meetings

**Wednesday, March 1, 12:00 p.m.**  
City Managers Steering Committee  
100 S. Vincent Ave., West Covina

**Monday, March 6, 4:00 p.m.**  
Executive Committee  
1000 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra

**Wednesday, March 15, 10:00 a.m.**  
Water Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Wednesday, March 15, 12:30 p.m.**  
EENR  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Thursday, March 16, 4:00 p.m.**  
Transportation Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Thursday, March 16, 6:00 p.m.**  
Governing Board  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia

**Thursday, March 23, 12:30 p.m.**  
Homelessness Committee  
602 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia



*Azusa City Hall*

**Valley Voice**  
*The Pulse of the San Gabriel Valley*

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# SAVE THE DATE General Assembly

Wednesday, October 25, 2017  
Pacific Palms Resort  
One Industry Hills Parkway City  
of Industry, CA 91744