



Huntington Library and Gardens (San Marino)

February 2019

2019 SGVCOG Strategic Plan Workshop

On January 17th, a workshop was held in conjunction with the regularly-scheduled Governing Board meeting to allow SGVCOG’s member agencies to provide feedback and recommendations on the revised Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is used to identify the priorities of the organization and the actions that SGVCOG will undertake to address these priorities.

The workshop was facilitated by consultants from Lee Andrews Group and attendees of the workshop were given a presentation on the background and purpose of revising the Strategic Plan. Afterwards, Governing Board members were divided into three groups to discuss what the organization should be achieving in the foreseeable future. Based on the feedback from these breakout groups, member agencies believe that SGVCOG should take on a greater role in addressing the emerging

issues of regional significance and serve as an example to other councils of governments by promoting projects and initiatives related to advocacy and planning. Additionally, attendees expressed that the organization should use strategic goals to frame legislative priorities and leverage partnership agencies. Some attendees also mentioned that member agencies should leverage SGVCOG as a clearinghouse for information, grant-writing, and sharing information on specified strategic goal areas.

A draft of the updated Strategic Plan will be presented at the February Governing Board meeting based on the feedback of the workshop. After gathering the next round of feedback from the February Governing Board meeting, a final Strategic Plan will be considered for adoption by the Governing Board in March.

Proposed Goals	
Transportation	Secure funding for and ensure the timely implementation of regional priority transportation projects and support regional transportation planning efforts.
Water	Support regional water resiliency and assist cities in addressing stormwater MS-4 permit requirements, with an emphasis on Measure W Implementation and identification of regional solutions.
Homelessness	Support member agencies’ effort to implement programs & projects that address homelessness in their communities and advocate for resources to address homelessness in San Gabriel Valley.
Environment	Support environmental efforts in the region, specifically related to energy, open space, and air quality.
Member Support & Communications	Sustain and strengthen Board and partner agency commitment to SGVCOG and emerging issues.

SGVCOG

Valley Voice
The Pulse of the San Gabriel Valley

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

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SGVCOG Sacramento Trip Recap

SGVCOG President Cynthia Sternquist met with State Senators Ling Ling Chang and Susan Rubio, as well as Assemblymembers Ed Chau, Chris Holden, and Blanca Rubio in Sacramento on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 to discuss legislative priorities for the 2019-2020 Legislative Cycle.

Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio indicated that she will reintroduce Assembly Bill 2538, which was sponsored by the SGVCOG to call for the State to develop Financial Capability Analysis guidelines for MS-4 storm water permittees, intended to relieve the compliance timeline and cost burden on communities. SGVCOG has also initiated requests to other legislators, as well as the Southern California Association of Governments, to support the bill.

Additionally, the Assemblywoman accepted SGVCOG's request to chair and organize the San Gabriel Valley (SGV) State Legislative Caucus, which was convened on January 10th to adopt by-laws and to elect a Chair and a Vice Chair.

The SGV State Legislative Caucus has worked in close collaboration with the SGVCOG on regional issues for almost two decades. Support for reconstituting the Caucus was also discussed with Senator Susan Rubio and Assemblyman Chris Holden.

Additionally, Senator Susan Rubio has been appointed to the California Legislature's Senate Transportation Committee. The SGVCOG took the opportunity to provide an update on ACE construction projects that are located in 22nd Senate District. Senator Rubio also expressed a strong interest in working with SGVCOG on solving the existing homelessness issues in the region. Furthermore, Assemblyman Chris Holden offered to share with SGVCOG his proposed bill package, legislation ideas to help fund the shortfall for the Gold Line to Montclair, and the follow-up legislation or initiatives arising from his Select Committee Hearing on Regional Transportation Solutions that was held in Rancho Cucamonga in October 2018.



Clean Power Alliance Expands Service to Residential Customers

Clean Power Alliance, California's new locally-operated electricity provider across Los Angeles and Ventura counties, will be launching service to residential customers across 31 communities throughout Southern California starting this month. This new community choice aggregate purchases new clean power and delivers the power to customers via Southern California Edison's grids.

All residents within these 31 municipalities will automatically be enrolled in the Clean Power Alliance as service launches. Participating cities and counties located within the Alliance's service area can choose to have their entire jurisdictions be powered by 36%, 50%, or 100% renewable energy contents. Residents that are located within participating cities can also change the amount of renewable energy contents for their respective homes. For example, a resident that is located in a municipality that chose to have its entire jurisdiction be powered by 36% renewable energy

contents can choose to adjust the rates to 50% or 100% if that resident wishes. Residents will continue to have access to special rates and programs such as California Alternative Rates for Energy, Medical Baseline, Level Pay, Summer Discounts, and Family Electric Rate Assistance. Customers are also given the option to opt out if they decide that Clean Power Alliance is not a right fit for them. Clean Power Alliance's service for non-residential customers is scheduled to launch in May 2019.

Member agencies of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) that are enrolled in the Alliance include the Cities of Alhambra, Arcadia, Claremont, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, and Temple City as well as the County of Los Angeles. A chart showcasing member agencies' renewable percentages can be found on the right. For more information on the Clean Power Alliance, please visit cleanpoweralliance.org.



Clean Power Alliance's Enrolled San Gabriel Valley Cities	
MEMBER AGENCY	RENEWABLE PERCENTAGES
City of Alhambra	50%
City of Arcadia	36%
City of Claremont	50%
City of Sierra Madre	50%
City of South Pasadena	100%
City of Temple City	36%
County of Los Angeles	50%

Homeless Grant Funding Updates

On January 24, 2019, funding award announcements were released for the 2018 City Implementation RFP. Of the 37 proposals, 17 were submitted by SGVCOG member cities. The proposals were submitted under two priority funding areas:

- 1) **Priority Area 1:** Increase supply of interim and permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness
- 2) **Priority Area 2:** Enhance County service systems for those experiencing or at-risk of homelessness

The City of Pomona's request under priority 1 for a feasibility study of city-owned properties and land use/zoning ordinances was fully funded for \$297,500. Under Priority 2, the East San Gabriel Valley Cohort of Azusa, Covina, Duarte, Glendora, and West Covina proposal was fully fund-

ed for \$343,250. The five cities will retain case managers with this funding.

Additionally, the HEAP funding RFPs were released on December 14, 2018 with proposals due on February 27, 2019. The RFPs were released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). HEAP funds have been combined with other County funds including Measure H Special Funds from the County of Los Angeles, City of Los Angeles General Funds, County of Los Angeles General Funds, and County Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG). Due to the multiple funding streams, the RFPs released may appear differently than expected as the RFP title does identify "HEAP" funds. The RFPs fall under three different program types, with each one of them requiring a separate application. The first program type is

Interim Housing, which includes Crisis, Bridge, and Transitional Housing. The second is *Access Centers and Access Points* and the third is *Rapid Re-housing and Prevention*. Each program type has separate requirements and target populations. The RFPs also have separate mandatory bidder's conferences that were held last month. Registration for the bidder's conference may be accessed by clicking on the funding opportunity of choice on <https://lahsa.org/funding/> and then on the link under "Proposers Conference." All proposals are due February 27th at 2:00pm. Cities interested in applying for these funds may wish to calendar these dates. Questions and inquiries regarding the RFPs may be submitted to fundingopportunities@lahsa.org with the title of the RFP – Q&A in the subject line.

2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) conducts a census of the homeless population throughout the Los Angeles County every year. This census is commonly known as the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count.

On the night of January 22nd, over 1,000 volunteers spread out across the San Gabriel Valley to count the homeless population in the region. There was a deployment site in every community in the San Gabriel Valley with Irwindale sharing a site in Duarte, Industry sharing a site in Avocado Heights, and Diamond Bar sharing a site in Walnut. Supervisor Kathryn Barger was joined by several city councilmembers and city officials to count in the City of Arcadia.

In addition to police deployment for the homeless count in South Pasadena, local nonprofit organizations partnered to support the effort by providing new backpacks filled with resource information, toiletries, blankets, hats, socks, and other items. Sgt. Shannon Robledo mentioned that volunteers gave out backpacks as a way to offer them the referral services available to help get them off the streets. "That's always the goal," Robledo said, "we want them to have a home."

The annual homeless count takes place at night since that is the time when homeless individuals usually begin to settle in. Counting at night or in the early morning hours reduces the chance of double-counting someone who has moved from one area to another.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development mandates that all Continuums of Care conduct a census of their homeless population during the last ten days of January. Historically the coldest month of the year, more individuals will be seeking refuge in shelters. This makes it easier for organizations to conduct the homeless count. Data collected from the annual homeless count is then compiled and analyzed by the University of Southern California.

Detailed information regarding the methodology and conversion factors can be found at <https://www.lahsa.org/homeless-count/>. It is expected that the data will be released in May or June 2019. For more information regarding the 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, please visit the LAHSA website at <https://www.lahsa.org/> or call (213) 683-3333.



News in Brief

SGVCOG Launches New Coyote Management Task Force

SGVCOG recently convened the Coyote Management Task Force to develop a regional solution for the existing and ongoing coyote issues within the San Gabriel Valley region. The first meeting was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, with representatives of 15 municipalities present.

At the meeting, representatives discussed the possibility of developing a regional coyote management plan and received a coyote management presentation from the City of Arcadia. Representatives from cities that already adopted coyote management plans also expressed support for a regional approach in addressing coyote issues in the region. Additionally, several representatives expressed that incorporating other animals, such as bears, peacocks, and racoons, into the regional management plan can greatly benefit the residents residing in foothill cities.

The task force is scheduled to reconvene in early March to begin drafting the foundations of the regional management plan. As of date, 28 representatives from 16 municipalities have confirmed their involvements in the task force. SGVCOG encourages cities to participate in this endeavor so that the final deliverable is developed based on inputs from as many cities as possible.

Cities that are interested in participating in the efforts to develop a regional coyote management plan can contact SGVCOG staff Alexander Fung via e-mail at afung@sgvcog.org or call (626) 457-1800.



Los Angeles County Green Leadership Awards

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors established an annual Green Leadership Awards Program on April 22, 2008. The awards program is designed to recognize efforts to enhance the Greater Los Angeles region's sustainability and to create opportunities to engage and inspire residents, businesses, nonprofits, and community groups to become more environmentally-conscious.

Residents, public agencies, businesses, nonprofits, educational institutions, and trade and professional associations that are located within the County of Los Angeles are eligible to apply for this awards program. The application can be found on www.lacounty.gov and the deadline to submit all required materials is February 15, 2019 by 5:00pm. Award winners will be determined by a panel of judges representing relevant disciplines in the respective subject areas. Site visits or other presentations of the policy program or technology will be requested from the applicants prior to final decisions being made. Finalists will be notified by March 6, 2019 and selected winners will be invited to an awards ceremony that is scheduled to be held on April 23, 2019.

Questions and inquiries regarding the Green Leadership Awards can be directed to Jackie Guevarra or Laura Perez at Greenleadership@lacbos.org.



California Natural Resources Agency Urban Greening Grant Program

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) is currently accepting concept proposals for the Urban Greening Grant Program until February 28, 2019. Approximately \$19.0 million in awards will be funded by this program through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Consistent with AB 32, the Urban Greening Program will fund projects that reduce greenhouse gases by sequestering carbon, decreasing energy consumption, and reducing vehicle-miles traveled, while also transforming the built environment into places that are more sustainable, enjoyable, and effective in creating healthy and vibrant communities. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process in Spring 2019.

The upcoming technical assistance workshop for this grant will be held on February 11, 2019 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at the Pomona City Hall Council Chambers. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP to the workshop by calling CNRA at (916) 653-2812 or e-mailing urbangreening@resources.ca.gov.

Additional details of the Urban Greening Grant Program can be found on the CNRA website at <http://resources.ca.gov/grants/urban-greening/> and questions can be directed to grant administrators at (916) 653-2812.



News in Brief

2019 SGVCOG General Assembly Announcement

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) is proud to present its 2019 General Assembly. This event will bring together elected officials, city staff, and community leaders to address the future of the San Gabriel Valley. Additionally, the General Assembly will highlight regional partnerships and efforts to develop sustainable solutions in addressing key challenges facing the region, including transportation, homelessness, and the environment.

The event will take place on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 from 9:00am to 1:30pm at the Pacific Palms Resort in the City of Industry. Interested individuals, municipalities, and community organizations can register for the event by visiting sgvcog.org and click on the "Register for the 2019 General Assembly" button on the main webpage. If you have any questions regarding the General Assembly or would like to purchase tickets by mailing invoice or check, please call Stefanie Hernandez at (626) 457-1800 or e-mail shernandez@sgvcog.org.

Los Angeles Metro NextGen Bus Study Workshops

NextGen Bus Study is a large-scale comprehensive study conducted by LA Metro on its bus system. The objectives of the bus study are to understand transit market demand in the Los Angeles County, study the agency's current bus system and how well it services existing and potential customers, and to recommend how to best re-imagine the system.

Last month, Metro hosted ten workshops throughout the Los Angeles County. Two of the ten workshops were held within the San Gabriel Valley on January 16th and 24th. These workshops include interactive stations that cover project purpose, recurring study themes, data analysis of travel patterns, service design considerations, and interactive. Metro staff urged members of the public to provide feedback with regards to equity, customer experience, accessibility, connectivity, bus schedules, and outreach and engagement. Metro will compile the information and input received from workshop participants to draft service and route design concepts. This information will be shared with the External Working Group in March.

SGVCOG Featured Staff: Peter Duyshart

This month, our COG featured staff member is Peter Duyshart. Peter serves as our Project Assistant and we've had a chance to catch up recently:

What inspired you to work in public service?

My inspiration to work in public service stems from both of my parents working in the public service sphere. My mom has been a public school 1st-grade teacher for about 30 years, and I have always admired her dedication to doing her absolute best to ensure that her young students gain the skills and knowledge needed to progress academically in their young and developmental years. Additionally, my dad has served as a city administrator for the same San Gabriel Valley city for about 30 years. Seeing how he works to improve the livelihood of the residents in the City he serves piqued my interest in local government work, policy, and programs.

What is one fun fact about yourself?

My younger brother and I are both 4th-generation UCLA alumni as my great-grandmother, grandparents, and mother all graduated from UCLA.



SGVCOG Welcomes New Governing Board Delegates and Alternates

This year, 14 new Governing Board delegates and alternates will be joining the SGVCOG Governing Board. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of the new members from our member agencies. New members will be featured in alphabetical order by city name. The next issue will feature members from Cities of La Puente, Montebello, Pomona, and San Marino.



City of Claremont: Councilmember Ed Reece

Councilmember Reece was elected to the Claremont City Council in November 2018. He has been a highly engaged Claremont resident and business owner for over 18 years. He founded his boutique technology business, ISN Global Enterprises, out of his father’s garage. Councilmember Reece was also awarded Claremont Business of the Year and Claremont Businessperson of the Year. The United States Congress, California State Legislature, and County of Los Angeles have also recognized his business achievements. Currently, Councilmember Reece serves as the City Council representative to the Metro Gold Line JPA Board and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) Governing Board. He also serves as an alternate on the Foothill Transit Governing Board, League of California Cities City Selection Committee, and the Pomona Valley Transit Authority.



City of Claremont: Councilmember Jennifer Stark

Councilmember Stark began her first term on the Claremont City Council following the 2018 elections. She has served as a Traffic and Transportation commissioner and as a member of the boards of Claremont Heritage and Friends of the Claremont Library. She volunteers for Sustainable Claremont as a Certified Tree Steward and is a proud member of the League of Women Voters, the Democratic Club of Claremont, Kiwanis Club, and the University Club. She is exceptionally honored to be a founder of Claremont Canopy, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help refugees thrive in their new communities. Councilmember Stark serves as the City Council representative to the Six Basins Water Master Board and the Three Valleys Water Board. She also serves as an alternate on the Chamber of Commerce Government Relations and Economic Development Committee, Clean Power Alliance Authority Board, and the SGVCOG Governing Board.



City of El Monte: Councilmember Jessica Ancona

Councilmember Ancona was elected to the El Monte City Council in November 2018 and is a lifelong resident of El Monte. She obtained her bachelor’s degree from UCLA and earned a Master’s in Education from the Azusa Pacific University. Currently a middle school principal in Rosemead, she has over a decade of experience teaching as a high school instructor. Councilmember Ancona also took on several additional leadership roles as the Foreign Language Department Chair, Cheer advisor, and Varsity Softball coach. She was previously elected to the El Monte City School District Governing Board and served as its President in 2016 and 2017.



City of Irwindale: Mayor Albert F. Ambriz

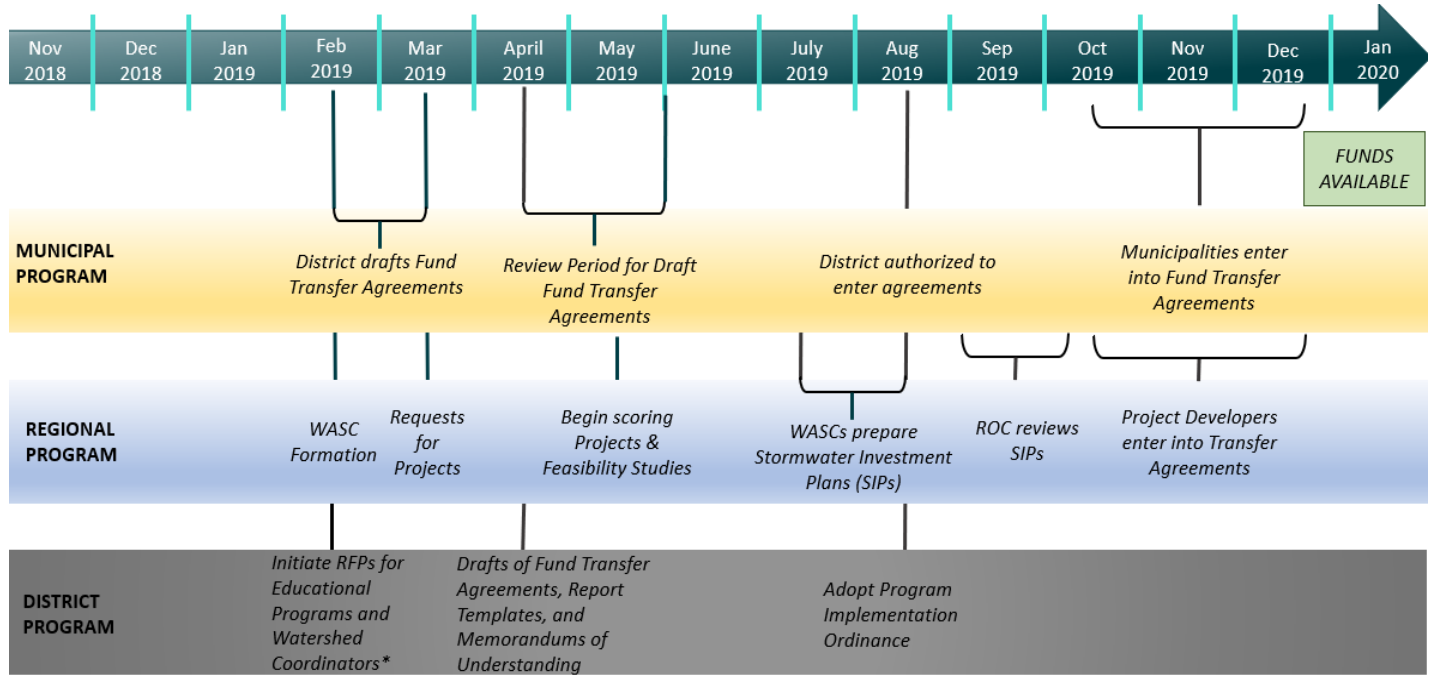
Irwindale Mayor Albert F. Ambriz was first elected to the City Council in November 2013. Prior to his selection as Mayor, he served as Mayor Pro Tem in 2015, 2016, and 2017. Mayor Ambriz has resided in the City of Irwindale for over 35 years and has a long history of public service, including proudly serving his country as a Marine for 21 years and serving the City of Irwindale as a Code Enforcement Officer for eight years, providing him with a unique insight on the needs of his community. Mayor Ambriz was re-elected to his second term of office in November 2018.

Measure W: Safe Clean Water Program Implementation Plan

Los Angeles County residents voted to approve Measure W, known as the safe clean water parcel tax, in the recent November 2018 elections. Revenue from the measure will pay for projects, programs, and infrastructure to capture, treat, and recycle rainwater. It is expected that the measure will generate approximately \$300 million a year. Of the

\$300 million annual revenue, \$150 million (50%) will be spent on regional program implementation, another \$120 million (40%) will be spent on municipal program implementation, and the remaining \$30 million (10%) will be spent on flood control district programs. Funds for project implementation are expected to be available starting January 2020. A

detailed anticipated timeline for implementation can be found below. For questions, comments, and inquiries regarding the Safe Clean Water Program, please contact Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Associate Civil Engineer Kirk Allen at kallen@dpw.lacounty.gov or call (626) 458-4331.



SGV Go Green Leader Profile: Tea Spots

SGVCOG, in collaboration with the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP), manages and implements the SGV Go Green Program. The SGV Go Green Program aims to promote sustainability and energy-conscious behaviors in the Greater San Gabriel Valley Region and helps businesses and organizations integrate environmental responsibility into their operations.

In December, the SGVCOG conducted a Go Green Assessment at Tea Spots, specifically at their West Covina location. Tea Spots is a casual restaurant which is known for its tea selection, cool ambience, and friendly staff. It also serves food and appetizer items. While also serving up great tea, Tea Spots has implemented many consequential and substantive actions that positively impact the environment and increase the energy efficiency of the business. Tea Spots has installed window film on its main

windows and has also installed solar screen and awnings in order to control and limit heat gain. The business has also upgraded 100% of its lighting to LEDs and has installed occupancy sensors for its lighting. Additionally, Tea Spots has also upgraded most of its kitchen equipment and appliances to newer, more efficient models, and the same goes for its bathroom fixtures, too.

Due to its incredible dedication to promoting environmental sustainability in both the SGV small business community, setting an example in energy efficiency, and its commitment to continue its sustainable practices well into the future, Tea Spots West Covina has been certified as a SGV Go Green Leader. The SGVCOG commends the organization for the leadership in sustainability that it has exhibited. It is clear that Tea Spots sets an outstanding example of how a small business can remain efficient and

successful while also implementing environmentally-friendly practices. To learn more about the SGV Go Green Program, please visit sgvenergywise.org.



GO GREEN.
GET NOTICED.



Committee Meetings

- Monday, February 4, 12:00 p.m.**
Executive Committee
1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra
- Wednesday, February 6, 8:30 a.m.**
Homelessness Committee
14403 Pacific Avenue, Baldwin Park
- Wednesday, February 6, 12:00 p.m.**
City Managers' Steering Committee
100 S. Vincent Avenue, West Covina
- Tuesday, February 12, 10:00 a.m.**
Water Committee
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia
- Wednesday, February 20, 12:30 p.m.**
EENR Committee
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia
- Thursday, February 21, 4:30 p.m.**
Transportation Committee
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia
- Thursday, February 21, 6:00 p.m.**
Governing Board
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia
- Monday, February 25, 12:00 p.m.**
Capital Projects Committee
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina
- Monday, February 25, 12:00 p.m.**
Public Works TAC
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia
- Thursday, February 28, 12:00 p.m.**
Planners TAC
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia



Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area (Irwindale)

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*The Pulse of the
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