



# Valley Voice

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

October 2020

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## ***SGVCOG Governing Board Elects FY 2020-2021 Executive Officers***

Rosemead City Councilmember Margaret Clark will serve as the SGVCOG President effective October 1, 2020. Monrovia City Councilmember Becky A. Shevlin will serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, La Verne Mayor Tim Hepburn as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and Claremont City Councilmember Ed Reece as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President. The executive officers were elected at the SGVCOG Governing Board meeting on September 17, 2020 and will serve in their positions from October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

“The SGVCOG is the largest and most diverse sub-regional council of governments in Los Angeles County and has long served as a strong and effective advocate for our region of 2 million residents,” said incoming President Margaret Clark, a Rosemead Councilmember for 19 years. “I am humbled by the confidence shown in me by my colleagues from across the San Gabriel Valley. As we together we face and ultimately overcome the pandemic, we will also continue to advocate for solutions to our ongoing housing, transportation, environmental and water quality challenges that uphold local control and guard against unreasonable regulatory burdens on our residents and businesses.”

The executive officers have broad experience in regional quality-of-life issues. Clark and Shevlin have served on the Governing Board since 2009, Hepburn since 2015, and Reece since 2018.

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## ***SGVCOG Adopts Zero Waste Policy***

On September 17, 2020, the SGVCOG Governing Board unanimously voted to adopt a Zero Waste Policy to acknowledge the negative impacts of waste generation and the importance of conserving natural resources. The Policy directs the SGVCOG to minimize pollutants, mitigate the harmful nature of single-use plastics, and lead the San Gabriel Valley region in supporting and implementing zero waste policies in member jurisdictions. Additionally, the Policy directs the SGVCOG to support legislation that promote Zero Waste objectives.

The SGVCOG Zero Waste Policy will serve as a long-term guide for the agency's commitment to reducing and eliminating waste and provide a framework for San Gabriel Valley cities. The SGVCOG will also provide support and assistance to cities that are interested in developing or expanding their Zero Waste policies. A copy of the SGVCOG Zero Waste Policy can be found [here](#) and questions regarding the Policy can be directed to SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, at [afung@sgvcog.org](mailto:afung@sgvcog.org).

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## ***"Stay Housed LA" Provides Support and Resources for Los Angeles County Tenants***

On August 31, 2020, Governor Newsom signed California's COVID-19 Tenant Relief Act of 2020, known as AB 3088, to provide important protections for renters who are financially impacted by the pandemic. Earlier this month, the County of Los Angeles launched the "Stay Housed LA" Program to raise awareness and offer legal services. The SGVCOG has been working closely with San Gabriel Valley cities to ensure that residents are able to stay in their homes. As member cities are implementing their COG-funded Homelessness Prevention and Diversion programs, these important resources will further tenant protection efforts.

AB 3088 ensures that tenants would not be evicted for unpaid rent from March 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021, so long as the tenants can submit 25% of their rent for September 2020 to January 2021 and provide notice that they cannot pay the full amounts as a result of COVID-19. Evictions related to unpaid rent or without a stated reason cannot occur before February 1, 2021. Renters in Los Angeles County can visit [stayhousedla.org](https://stayhousedla.org) for additional information, virtual workshops, and to enroll in free or low-cost legal services for those who meet income requirements.

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## ***Governor Newsom Signs SB 1212 (Rubio)***

Earlier this month, Governor Newsom signed SB 1212 to address the San Gabriel Valley's affordable housing shortage and homeless crisis. The bill strengthens the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) by implementing three changes to the SGVRHT Board of Directors:

- Guarantee continuity of experience by staggering the two-year terms of board members.
- Expand housing and homelessness expertise on the board.
- Ensure board decisions are equitable by requiring city representatives on the board be from different cities.

Last year, Senator Rubio partnered with the SGVCOG to author SB 751, which created the SGVRHT and allow communities within the SGVCOG's jurisdiction to fund housing to assist individuals experiencing homelessness and individuals of extremely low, very-low, and low-income across the San Gabriel Valley. Additional information regarding the Trust can be found on [sgvrht.org](http://sgvrht.org).



**Metro Fare Elimination  
Survey**

Metro has established an exploratory task force to develop the Fareless System Initiative (FSI), which aims to eliminate fares for all riders on Metro buses and trains. As the Task Force studies and identifies benefits, challenges, and implications of implementing a fareless system, members of the public and cities are encouraged to provide feedback through submitting responses on this [short survey](#). Additional information regarding Metro's study on fareless transit can be found [here](#).



**SGVCOG Launches  
Podcast Series**

Earlier this month, the SGVCOG launched the "SGV Connect" Podcast to feature Southern California and San Gabriel Valley leaders on their unique stories and insights on handling emerging issues. The first episode, which features Malibu City Manager Reva Feldman and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Regional Health Officer Dr. Frank Alvarez, focuses on municipal emergency response efforts. The episode is available in both audio and video formats and it can be accessed [here](#).



**2020 MMASC Annual  
Conference**

The Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) will be hosting its annual conference from October 26th to October 29th to provide insights on how local jurisdictions can transform public service with outside-the-box solutions. SGVCOG staff will be serving as speakers and panelists to present on the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust and the GoSGV Bikeshare Program. Interested individuals can RSVP for the MMASC Conference [here](#).

## Upcoming Committee Meetings

Please be advised that all committee meetings that are held this month will be

conducted virtually over Zoom Conferencing. Livestream of each committee meeting will be available through the [SGVCOG website](#). Livestream of the Regional Housing Trust (RHT) Board Meeting can be accessed through the [RHT website](#).

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**Executive Committee:** Monday, October 5, 2020 at 10:00 AM

**Homelessness Committee:** Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 8:30 AM

**City Managers' Steering Committee:** Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 12:00 PM

**Water Committee:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 10:00 AM

**Transportation Committee:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 2:00 PM

**Governing Board:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 4:00 PM

**Public Works TAC:** Monday, October 19, 2020 at 12:00 PM

**EENR Committee:** Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 1:00 PM

**Planning Directors' TAC:** Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 12:00 PM

**Capital Projects and Construction Committee:** Monday, October 26, 2020 at 12:00 PM

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