

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of August 5, 2019

- **Special Governing Board Meeting:** On Thursday, the SGVCOG Governing Board held a special meeting at the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District's office to discuss Metro's request to allocate \$126 million in Measure M subregional equity program funds to the Gold Line Foothill Extension Project Phase 1 Alignment to Pomona. After a thorough discussion, the Governing Board unanimously voted to approve the following:
 1. SGVCOG concurs with the allocation of \$126 million in Measure M sub-regional equity program funds to the Gold Line Construction Authority for the segment of the project to Pomona;
 2. Request Metro commit in writing that the sub-regional equity funds be the last spent, if necessary, and that any unspent funds, up to \$126 million, be returned to the SGVCOG for future allocation to other eligible projects in the sub-region; and,
 3. Ask Metro that it follows through on its commitment to working with the SGVCOG to explore funding options for projects within the sub-region.

The next Governing Board is scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2019.

- **Meeting with Phil Washington:** On Tuesday, I participated in a subregional Executive Directors meeting with Phil Washington and several members of the Metro Executive Team. Topics of discussion included the following:
 - Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program Eligibility, Approvals and Implementation Planning;
 - Long Range Transportation Plan Approval Process;
 - Reimagine/Congestion Pricing Study; and
 - NextGen Bus

Metro staff committed to working with the subregional Executive Directors to identify and implement "lessons learned" from the first subregional MSP call for projects process that occurred last year. Specifically, there was agreement to, to the extent possible, clarify the eligibility of projects early on in the process, quickly identify any modifications that would make a project eligible, and expedite the contracts.

- **Meeting with Congresswoman Napolitano's Staff:** Congresswoman Napolitano is planning to introduce legislation entitled the, "Bridge to End Homelessness Act of 2019", in September. The bill would establish a grant program for government agencies and their partners to construct temporary housing on city or county-owned property for homeless individuals in the region. The idea of the grant program is to provide emergency relief to help place homeless individuals in housing with resources, rather than in public areas. The grant program would

provide funding for the construction of temporary housing, and all constructed housing would be furnished with case management and mental health, wellness, employment, and addition resources. The COG provided suggestions for the legislation during a meeting with the Congresswoman's staff on Tuesday. If your city has suggestions regarding the amount of funding that would be needed for acquisition of properties and construction of temporary housing or other suggestions around such legislation, please contact staff at jiccco@sqvcoq.org and please include "Napolitano" in the subject line.

- **Homelessness Committee:** The following key topics were covered at the Homelessness Committee meeting on Wednesday: available State homelessness funding, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) Homeless Prevention and Problem-Solving Program, and the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Fund next steps. Staff from LAHSA and the LA County CEO's Homeless Initiative provided information on a number of State funding programs for addressing homelessness, including the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP), California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAPP). Through the funding LAHSA received through these programs, Access Centers were funded in El Monte and Pomona and Access Points in Pomona, Covina, Azusa and South El Monte were funded. LAHSA will begin an outreach process in the fall of 2019 in order to develop funding priorities for the HHAPP program. LAHSA has a direct funding allocation; however, it must submit an application to the State by February 2020. The funding development process for HHAPP will be conducted in coordination with the development of Measure H funding priorities. The Committee also heard a presentation on LAHSA's new "Problem Solving" program. The Problem Solving program aims to work closely with those on the brink of homelessness to develop solutions that will prevent them from falling into homelessness, whether by providing short-term emergency funds or identifying other solutions. The program is accessible through the County's Access Centers; however, they are also looking to train hundreds of others throughout the region in problem solving techniques in order to reduce the percentage of people falling into homelessness. Staff also presented an update on the Regional Housing Trust Fund (RHTF). After several meetings of the RHTF Ad-Hoc Working Group, the COG will now begin the process of joint powers agreement negotiations, which will determine the structure, authorizations and limitations of the RHTF. Over the next several weeks, cities will be invited to participate in the joint powers agreement negotiations and to identify an individual to represent the city. If your city would like more information or would like to be involved in this formative work, please contact COG staff.
- **Homeless Deputies' Meeting:** Staff attended the County Supervisors' Homeless Policy Deputies Meeting this week, where they heard proposals on how to address the over-subscription of the Family Coordinated Entry System (CES), the work of the Weekend Outreach Teams, and the data matching efforts between the County homeless programs and the LA County Office of Education. The Family CES program is currently oversubscribed, and the Homeless Initiative has proposed several strategies to address the issue, including requiring homeless families to share part of the cost of staying in a motel, developing a family congregant shelter,

implementing the Problem-Solving program in Family Solution Centers, and expanding site based family shelter units to reduce motel stays. Staff also heard an update on the Weekend Outreach Program. The earliest implementation of the Weekend Outreach program was in August 2018 in the San Gabriel Valley, where it launched August 1, 2018, and the purpose of the program is to maintain contacts with those in need of services on the weekends, even when mainstream services and shelter admissions are not available. The workers have found that they reach people on the weekend that they do not see during the weekdays, and they are able to provide transportation to services, hospital and urgent care facilities, respond to outreach requests, and remind people of upcoming appointments. The program also helps to provide discharge coordination to those people that are discharged from hospitals on the weekends. Finally, there was a presentation on efforts being undertaken by the County CEO's Office and the LA County Office of Education to better share and analyze data on homeless school children and common populations served by the County homeless services system. A proof of concept is being developed that could translate to homeless services and school districts in the San Gabriel Valley.

- **City Managers' Steering Committee:** On Wednesday, the City Managers' Steering Committee met for their monthly meeting. The two topics at the meeting were Supervisor Kathryn Barger's discussion on homelessness and the allocation of \$126 million in Measure M Subregional Equity Program Funds to the Gold Line Foothill Extension Project Phase 1 Alignment to Pomona. Supervisor Barger facilitated a robust discussion at the meeting by addressing and identifying solutions to homelessness in the San Gabriel Valley. The discussion on the Gold Line funding brought forward a recommendation to the Governing Board to support Metro's recommendation to allocate the SGVCOG's Subregional Equity funds to the Gold Line, on the condition that Metro ensure all other regional capital projects would be funded using other avenues.
- **Countywide Sustainability Plan Adopted:** On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors adopted its first-ever [sustainability plan](#). The County boasts the nation's most ambitious regional sustainability plan and is encouraging cities to spread the word using prepared social media toolkit with graphics, videos, and sample posts. The social media toolkit can be found [here with all materials](#).
- **Community Outreach - La Puente National Night Out:** As the San Gabriel Valley community celebrated National Night Out this past Tuesday, SGVCOG took the opportunity to distribute and disseminate energy efficiency materials to local residents. Staff members attended the National Night Out event in the City of La Puente to engage with event attendees regarding the importance of saving and conserving water and energy at home. Valuable energy efficiency information was distributed to more than hundreds of residents at the event and residents also learned about SGVCOG's free residential and commercial energy assessment programs, which assist residents and businesses in identifying additional ways to reduce their energy usage and costs. Cities that are interested in inviting SGVCOG staff to disseminate energy efficiency information and resources can contact SGVCOG staff Kathleen Mitchell at kmitchell@sgvcog.org.

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of August 12, 2019

- **SCAG Technical Working Group and Regional Planning Working Group:** On Thursday, staff participated in meetings of the SCAG Technical Working Group and Regional Planning Working Group. The SCAG Technical Working Group featured a presentation on its proposed strategies to meet its SB 375 target to reduce passenger vehicle greenhouse gas reductions by 19% (compared to 2005 levels). SCAG must identify strategies to meet this target and demonstrate - through complex modeling and analysis - how the proposed strategy will allow the region to meet that SB 375 target. Some of the strategies that SCAG is proposing to support the region's passenger vehicle GHG reduction target include the following:
 - increasing bike and pedestrian infrastructure,
 - increasing electric vehicle charging and infrastructure,
 - supporting bike share and other micro-mobility programs,
 - supporting new and enhanced transit projects,
 - promoting infill development and other land use strategies that support reduced driving, and
 - continuing to explore pricing alternatives, including ExpressLanes.

Once the Plan is adopted in 2020, SCAG will work with its member cities and partner agencies to support the implementation of these strategies in order to meet the region's targets. There was also a presentation on SCAG's recently-completed *Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategic Plan* - which focuses on strategies to reduce demand for single occupancy vehicles. The Plan identifies a number of strategies to support TDM efforts, including disseminating information on TDM programs and strategies, better measuring progress on TDM efforts, developing and supporting partnerships to support TDM efforts, and supporting TDM policies and programs. The Final TDM Strategic Plan will be presented to SCAG's Transportation Policy Committee at its meeting on September 5, 2019.

In addition, staff reported that the public comment period for the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) methodologies has been extended until **September 13, 2019**. These methodologies provide alternative approaches for SCAG to distribute the region's housing need between the region's jurisdictions. These methodologies will be discussed in depth at the upcoming Planners TAC scheduled for August 22.

SCAG's Regional Planning Working Group featured an overview of SCAG's outreach process to date for *ConnectSoCal*, outlined the areas that have been identified as high priority growth areas and constrained growth areas in *ConnectSoCal* for feedback, and provided an overview of each of SCAG's 7 regional planning working groups - including Active Transportation, Sustainable

Communities, Mobility Innovations, Natural Lands, Environmental Justice, Public Health, and Transportation Safety. These of these working groups has been meeting throughout the development of *ConnectSoCal*, and each group has been focusing on a different element of the Plan.

- **Consortium Meeting:** On Wednesday, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) held its quarterly meeting at the SGV Consortium on Homelessness. The meeting feature a discussion on the Source of Income Anti-discrimination Ordinance. This regulation, which governs unincorporated areas and the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Monica, took effect on July 1st. LAHSA also reported that it has openings for homeless and formerly homeless youth on their lived experience advisory board. Programs that serve youth are encouraged to reach out to COG staff if they are aware of young people that might be interested in serving on the Board. In addition, it was reported that the Public Health Center in Pomona is expanding services and has space available for providers with complementary services. Finally, COG staff provided updates on the Regional Housing Trust Fund and the 2019 HUD NOFA process. Applications for new projects under this year's NOFA will include Permanent Supportive Housing, Domestic Violence programs and a homeless youth pilot project.
- **LGSEC Meeting:** On Wednesday, SGVCOG staff attended a meeting hosted by the Local Government Sustainable Energy Coalition (LGSEC) in San Luis Obispo. This meeting was done in partnership with the Central Coast Climate Collaborative (4C) as a component of the 4C's Annual Symposium. Climate Risk, Equity and Practicing Resilience was the theme of the Symposium. Presentations highlighted ongoing work by regional and state adaptation practitioners on the topics of equity, adaptation legislation, and climate risk. To learn more about the LGSEC or 4C visit <http://www.lgsec.org/> and <https://www.centralcoastclimate.org/>.
- **Gold Line Award of Contract:** On Wednesday, the Gold Line Construction Authority Board awarded the Alignment Design-Build Contract to Kiewit-Parsons, a Joint Venture. The contract award includes an \$805.6 million base scope for all elements of design and construction for the first nine-mile segment - including relocation of the existing freight track, installation of the light rail track system, four new light rail stations (in Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne and Pomona), and improvements at 40 grade crossings (nearly half with new or renovated bridges) - for the first nine miles of the project from Glendora to Pomona. It also includes a two-year contract option to complete the full 12.3-mile project to Montclair, adding stations in Claremont and Montclair, for a total contract amount of \$1.2 billion if additional funds are secured by September 2021. The proposal by Kiewit-Parsons was deemed the best value for the agency following a nearly two-year procurement process, and the team was ranked highest in all technical evaluation categories, and provided the lowest bid price based on the formula set out in the RFP. Kiewit and Parsons have teamed up dozens of times to complete design-build projects, including successfully building the first two segments of the Foothill Gold Line project.

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of August 19, 2019

- **Planners TAC:** On Thursday, the Planning Directors' Technical Advisory Committee met to discuss SCAG's proposed Regional Housing Need Assessment (RHNA) methodologies and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-06-19.
 - **EO N-06-19:** Staff provided a presentation on the background and purpose of the Executive Order (EO). The EO was signed to direct the Department of General Services (DGS) to create an inventory of all excess state-owned parcels and direct state agencies to develop two new screening tools to prioritize, identify, and evaluate these parcels for the purpose of constructing affordable housing units. DGS is tasked to issue requests for proposal (RFPs) to solicit developers to build affordable and mixed-income housing on priority parcels. The first RFP is scheduled to be released by September 30, 2019. A copy of the Executive Order can be found [here](#).
 - **RHNA:** Kevin Kane, SCAG's Regional Planner, provided the second presentation on the agency's proposed RHNA methodologies. SCAG was tasked to develop an allocation methodology to distribute housing need for the sixth cycle RHNA, which covers the planning period of October 2021 through October 2029 for each local jurisdiction. Three proposed allocation methodologies were recently released to members of the public to review and SCAG's RHNA Subcommittee is scheduled to vote on a finalized methodology at its October 7th meeting. The proposed methodologies can be found [here](#) and Mr. Kane encouraged committee members and cities to submit comment letters and provide feedback to SCAG via housing@scag.ca.gov before Friday, September 13, 2019. After a thorough discussion, the committee chair directed SGVCOG staff to draft and submit a comment letter to SCAG regarding committee members' concerns on the proposed RHNA methodologies.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 12:00pm at the Monrovia Community Center.

- **HEAP Funding Recommendations:** This morning, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Commission will be asked to authorize agreements for State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds under the 2018 Access Center and Access Points Request for Proposals. **Funding recommendations include projects in El Monte, Pomona, Azusa, West Covina, South El Monte.** This State funding comes from \$500,000,000 in one-time budget surplus funds. As the lead agency for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (COC), LAHSA received approximately \$81,000,000 in HEAP funds. Requests for Proposals covered Preventing and Rapidly Resolving Homelessness, Access to the Coordinated Entry System, and Interim Housing Enhancements. Funds awards in Service Planning Area (SPA) 3, which covers the San Gabriel Valley, are being

recommended for Volunteers of America, for the El Monte Access Center; City of Pomona Access Center, BRIDGES, Inc., Pomona Access Point and Union Station Homeless Services for Access Points in Covina, Azusa and South El Monte.

- **Homeless Deputies Meeting:** The Supervisors' Homeless Policy Deputies meeting took place Thursday. Key highlights of the meeting are as follows:
 - **Civil Grand Jury Recommendations:** The Deputies were provided a draft of a letter to be presented to the Board of Supervisors on September 3rd which response to multiple findings be the Civil Grand Jury, which includes the impact of the homeless on public libraries. The Grand Jury found that 1) Each problematic library must develop corrective action in collaboration with their security department and, 2) Security personnel should be assigned to each branch. In response, the COE states that the County library has increased its service level agreement with the Sheriff's Department to include 4 additional Sheriff's Security Officers (SSO) to be assigned to problematic libraries. Technology planning is researching technology to enhance security and increase tactical intelligence for response to priority calls for service. The library is also examining facial recognition as a way to identify problem and banned clients upon entering libraries.
 - **Coordinated Entry System for Families (CEFS):** The CEFS is not meeting goals to assist homeless families. Issues include the following: responses to requests for service are delayed or not forthcoming, delays between formal requests for assistance and appointments for families and take a month or more, and the housing outcomes are not meeting expectations. Recommended system improvements include increases in Family Access Centers (FSCs) and the inclusion of Problem-Solving, Prevention and Rapid Re-housing. Other options include increasing funding for diversion and prevention and increasing funding to serve more families with reduced stringency in targeting.
- **Public Outreach Bike Share / General Update:** Over the past few months, the SGVCOG team has been working on implementation of the regional bike share program in the San Gabriel Valley. We have been working diligently with participating cities to facilitate adoption of an ordinance establishing a bike share pilot program ordinance adopted by their respective city councils and have been working with cities to identify locations where bike stations (bike racks and virtual hubs) will be best utilized by residents. As we continue to work on the logistics, the team is also doing public outreach and marketing at community events and meetings to get residents excited about the program and to gain feedback on where they would like to see bike stations. The first phase of the program will launch in coordination with the upcoming 626 Golden Streets - SGV Streets and Treats event on October 26th. If your city is interested in participating in this exciting bikeshare program, please reach out to Navneet Kaur at nkaur@sgvcoq.org.
- **Upcoming Energy Efficiency Twitterchat Session:** Next Tuesday at 12:00pm, SGVCOG staff will be holding a discussion with multiple agencies and utility companies on Twitter to discuss best practices in launching energy efficiency

projects, benefits of benchmarking a building, and practical efforts to conserve energy use. The Clean Power Alliance, County of Los Angeles, SoCalGas, Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN), Southern California Edison, and the Local Government Commission will be joining the COG to provide tips for city staff to implement energy efficiency projects and long-term strategies to make buildings more energy-efficient. Cities are welcomed to join the discussion by following #SGVefficient during the scheduled Twitterchat. Additionally, cities are also recommended to follow the COG on Twitter at [@SGVCOG](https://twitter.com/SGVCOG) to receive updates and event notices around the San Gabriel Valley. An example of a previous Twitterchat session can be found [here](#).



SGVCOG Weekly Recap Week of August 26, 2019

- RHNA Update:** Every 8 years, SCAG is tasked with developing a regional housing needs assessment (RHNA), quantifying the amount of housing needed to support the region's growth. SCAG has received its regional determination from the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD): 1,344,740 units in the planning period from October 2021 - October 2029. These units are allocated between 4 income categories: Very Low, Low, Moderate, and Above-Moderate. The breakdown of housing unit need can be found below:

Income Category	Percent	Housing Unit Need
Very Low	26.1%	350,998
Low	15.3%	206,338
Moderate	16.7%	225,152
Above Moderate	41.8%	562,252
Total	100%	1,344,740

The housing unit need will be distributed to jurisdictions throughout the region. SCAG has released 3 methodologies for allocating units to the jurisdictions, each focusing on different elements. The table below provides the total RHNA estimates for each city for the 3 methodologies.

RHNA Estimate Totals by City			
City	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Alhambra	5,951	7,861	1,855
Arcadia	3,499	3,488	2,597
Azusa	2,710	3,251	2,615
Baldwin Park	4,817	5,577	2,409
Bradbury	53	60	15
Claremont	2,041	2,389	1,393
Covina	2,680	3,126	630
Diamond Bar	3,382	3,244	2,549
Duarte	1,192	1,348	887
El Monte	8,667	8,990	9,816

Glendora	2,293	2,996	1,479
Industry	21	25	6
Irwindale	130	87	189
La Canada Flintridge	1,082	1,157	535
La Puente	2,299	2,986	410
La Verne	1,324	1,905	512
Monrovia	2,269	2,380	1,362
Montebello	4,449	5,194	1,546
Monterey Park	4,400	5,258	1,701
Pomona	11,863	10,771	13,236
Rosemead	4,122	4,932	2,222
San Dimas	1,534	2,028	313
San Gabriel	3,092	2,929	2,170
San Marino	641	790	85
Sierra Madre	535	625	130
South El Monte	1,249	1,432	743
South Pasadena	1,894	2,214	528
Temple City	2,273	2,069	2,660
Walnut	1,489	2,090	419
West Covina	6,750	7,962	4,226

This [Link](#) also provides the breakdown between the income categories for each city for each methodology. After the RHNA numbers have been finalized, each jurisdiction is required to have an update to its Housing Element certified by HCD that zones for its RHNA allocation.

This RHNA Cycle is particularly important because in this Cycle, for the first time, the State is imposing penalties on those cities that do not have their Housing Elements certified by HCD. Cities that do not have a compliant Housing Element and do not act to bring themselves compliance within 12 months could be assessed penalties between \$10,000 and \$100,000 per month. Those cities that continue to not bring their Housing Element into compliance could be subject to fines of up to \$600,000 per month. To promote Housing Element compliance, those cities that do have Housing Elements that are certified as in compliance will receive additional points on applications for some State funding programs. In addition, certain multifamily affordable housing projects that are proposed in local jurisdictions that have not met regional housing needs could be subject to a streamlined, ministerial review process.

COG staff is continuing to monitor RHNA and, based on input from the Planning Directors' TAC, is developing a comment letter that will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on September 9. The deadline for public comments for the RHNA methodologies is September 13, 2019.

- **ACE Tour:** On Monday, several Capital Projects Committee members and SGVCOG staff toured the completed ACE construction projects and projects that are currently in their construction or design stages. The tour included visiting the completed Sunset Avenue, Puente Avenue, and Nogales Street grade separation projects, the Durfee Avenue, Fullerton Avenue and Fairway Drive projects that are currently in construction phases, and the Turnbull Canyon Road project that is currently in the design stage. The ACE team will hold another project tour in the near future and welcomes any interested SGVCOG Governing Board members. Members will be advised when the next tour is being planned.
- **Bike Friendly Business District Kickoff:** On Thursday, the City of Baldwin Park launched its Bike Friendly Business District program. The program kicked off with a bicycle tour led by ActiveSGV of some of the City's most bike-friendly businesses and streets. Participants convened at a demonstration parklet set up on Maine Avenue in the heart of the City's downtown district during the City's popular Downtown Street Market. A component of the program launch included several SCAG Go Human challenges, that allowed residents and visitors to learn more about Climate Resiliency and Complete Streets via a pair of interactive games. Attendees also had the opportunity to participate in a "Bike Friendly Business" ride featuring stops for complimentary food samples and raffle prizes at local retailers. The City of El Monte and South El Monte are set to launch their Bike Friendly Business District program on Sunday, September 29, 2019. For more information visit: <http://www.bikefriendlysgv.com/>.
- **LA Continuum of Care Board Meeting:** On Tuesday, staff attended the LA Continuum of Care Board Meeting. The main topic of discussion was the program priorities for LAHSA's Program Consolidated Application to HUD for the LA CoC. Due to the increase in the 2019 Homeless Count, the LA CoC will not be as competitive this year and expects a reduction in COC funding allocation. Still, LAHSA staff presented the Board with several program prioritization scenarios with expected funding allocations for each scenario. Some of the programs discussed included the Domestic Violence (DV) program, youth housing programs, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry System (CES) expansion. Board members also expressed concern about the concentration of funding for Permanent Supportive Housing and limited funding for Rapid Rehousing and Transitional Housing, as a very small percentage of homeless families and individuals qualify for permanent supportive housing assistance under federal regulations. The Board will continue its deliberations regarding program priorities at another special meeting next week.
- **Energy Efficiency Twitterchat Session:** On Tuesday, SGVCOG staff held a discussion on Twitter regarding energy efficiency projects with the Clean Power Alliance, Local Government Commission, Los Angeles County Internal Services Department, SoCalGas, Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN), and Southern California Edison. Agencies and utility companies

shared best practices in implementing residential and commercial energy efficiency projects, benefits of benchmarking a building or facility, long-term strategies to enhance the energy efficiency of buildings, and resources for communities to become more energy-efficient. Discussion posts from the Twitterchat session resulted in a reach of more than 120,000 impressions on the day of the Twitterchat. A recap of the discussion can be found [here](#). The next Twitterchat is scheduled for Monday, September 30, 2019 at 12:00pm.

