

# VALLEY VOICE

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



## IN THIS ISSUE:

**SUPERVISOR BARGER  
MEETS WITH SGV CITY  
MANAGERS**

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
APPROVES  
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

**OCTOBER 626 GOLDEN  
STREETS EVENT**

**SGVCOG WELCOMES  
NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

## **SGVCOG Approves \$126 Million for Metro Gold Line Extension**

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) Governing Board unanimously voted to approve an allocation of \$126 million in Measure M subregional equity program funds to extend the Gold Line to the Pomona Metrolink Station at a Governing Board special meeting on Thursday, August 8, 2019. This project will extend the longest line in the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) system from Azusa to Pomona.

The Gold Line currently operates from East Los Angeles to Downtown Los Angeles' Union Station, then heads northeast through Pasadena before terminating at Azusa Pacific University and Citrus College in Azusa. With the secured funding, the Gold Line Construction Authority (GLCA) awarded a

**(Continued on Next Page)**

# SGVCOG Approves \$126 Million for Metro Gold Line Extension (Cont.)

contract to extend the all-electric train line through Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, and Pomona ahead of schedule.

The Governing Board's approval of the funding allocation included the following:

- Allocates \$126 million in Measure M sub-regional equity program funds to the Gold Line Construction Authority for the segment of the project to Pomona;
- 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,
- Ask Metro that it follows through on its commitment to working with the SGVCOG to explore funding options for projects within the sub-region.

GLCA hopes to have the Pomona extension completed by the end of 2025. Phase 2 of the Gold Line Foothill Extension Project includes extending the rail from Pomona to Claremont Village and the Montclair Metrolink Station. A map of the project to extend the Gold Line to Pomona can be found below.

Additional details regarding the Foothill Gold Line can be found on [foothillgoldline.org](http://foothillgoldline.org). Questions and inquiries can be directed to (626) 471-9050.

**Project Map: Gold Line Extension from Azusa to Pomona Metrolink Station**



## Supervisor Barger Meets with San Gabriel Valley City Managers to Discuss Homelessness

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger met with SGVCOG City Managers' Steering Committee to discuss homelessness on Wednesday, August 7, 2019. City managers stressed the challenges surrounding the funding application and contracting process and suggested that the County consider a direct local return to cities. City managers also discussed the need for communication support to help cities address residents' concerns and help constituents to better understand homelessness. Additionally, the group pointed out that a lack of return on tax dollars further aggravates an already-vexed community around the difficult issue of homelessness.

After a thorough discussion with the city managers, Supervisor Barger affirmed her commitment to help bringing additional funding for homeless services to the San Gabriel Valley. SGVCOG staff is working closely with the Supervisor to facilitate these efforts.



## HEAP Funding Awarded to Homeless Programs in the San Gabriel Valley

As the lead agency for the Los Angeles Continuum of Care, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) received approximately \$81,000,000 in HEAP funds. The LAHSA Commission recently authorized agreements for Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds under the category of 2018 Access Center and Access Points Request for Proposals. Funds were awarded for projects that included Access Centers in the Cities of El Monte and Pomona and Access Points in the Cities of Azusa, Covina, Pomona, and South El Monte. The following projects were selected:

- **BRIDGES, Inc.:** Pomona Access Point
- **City of Pomona:** Pomona Access Center
- **Volunteers of America:** El Monte Access Center
- **Union Station Homeless Services:** Azusa, Covina, and South El Monte Access Points



# Los Angeles County Approves "OurCounty" Countywide Sustainability Plan



The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the first countywide sustainability plan on Tuesday, August 6, 2019. The plan, known as "OurCounty," is one of the boldest and most comprehensive regional approaches to sustainability ever issued by a county in the nation. The plan, drafted over two years with the help of nearly 1,000 community and expert stakeholders from Los Angeles County, sets forth an ambitious agenda that promises to transform the region in the years and decades ahead.



Recognizing the urgency of existing regional challenges and the climate crisis, the plan aims to create a fossil-fuel-free Los Angeles County within the next three decades. It includes 12 goals, 37 strategies, and nearly 160 health-focused actions centering on communities that have been disproportionately affected by environmental pollution for decades.



OurCounty contains a unique regional focus that moves to confront a wide range of environmental, social, and economic challenges. The plan proposes to make Los Angeles County a more equitable, prosperous, and resilient region in the years ahead.

Some of the goals and milestones of the plan include powering unincorporated areas and County facilities with 100% renewable energy by 2025, diverting more than 95% of waste from landfills, leading efforts to make sure that at least half of new housing is built within half a mile of high-frequency transit by 2025, and supporting construction of more than half a million affordable housing units by 2045.



The County's Chief Sustainability Office is charged with overseeing the implementation of the plan and will report annually to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on the plan's progress. A copy of the plan can be obtained at [ourcountyla.org](http://ourcountyla.org).

# 626 Golden Streets: Streets & Treats Overview

After hosting the Mission-to-Mission Golden Streets event earlier in May, ActiveSGV is organizing another open streets event in the San Gabriel Valley in partnership with the SGVCOG and the Cities of El Monte and South El Monte. 626 Golden Streets: Streets and Treats is scheduled to be on **Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 9:00am to 4:00pm**. This car-free event allows residents to walk, run, bike, and explore San Gabriel Valley across 4.5 miles of open streets in El Monte and South El Monte.



The route will connect ActiveSGV's office at the Jeff Seymour Family Center in El Monte, the annual Dia de los Muertos Festival on Main Street, the Children's Day Parade, and zigzags its way to the South El Monte Civic Center. Three major festival hubs will be placed along the route to provide attendees with places to stop, rest, and relax. Residents are encouraged to volunteer for the event and additional information regarding 626 Golden Streets can be found on [www.626goldenstreets.com](http://www.626goldenstreets.com).



## 626 GOLDEN STREETS

### STREETS AND TREATS

PRESENTED BY METRO

**9AM - 4PM • 10-26-2019**

- ★ **FESTIVAL HUBS**  
CENTROS DE ACTIVIDAD  
TRUNG TÂM HOẠT ĐỘNG  
活動中心
- CROSSING FOR CARS**  
CRUCE DE CARROS  
ĐƯỜNG CHO XE Ô TÔ  
汽車過路處
- 626 GOLDEN STREETS ROUTE**  
NO PARKING ON ROUTE  
RUTA DE 626 GOLDEN STREETS  
NO APARCAMIENTO EN RUTA  
LỘ TRÌNH SỰ KIỆN  
KHÔNG CỎ KHAI THÁC TRÊN  
626黃金開放街道節活動路線  
禁止在活動路線停車
- EL MONTE METROLINK STATION**  
ESTACION DE METROLINK  
GA XE LỬA METROLINK  
EL MONTE METROLINK 火車站
- EL MONTE TRANSIT STATION**  
ESTACION DE AUTOBUSES EL MONTE  
BẾN XE BUÝT EL MONTE  
EL MONTE 公車總站
- OPEN STREETS**  
MADE POSSIBLE BY

626 GOLDEN STREETS.COM

## SGVCOG Attends La Puente National Night Out



As the San Gabriel Valley community celebrated National Night Out this past month, 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](mailto:kmitchell@sgvcog.org).

## SGVCOG Featured Staff: Caitlin Sims

This month, our SGVCOG featured staff member is Caitlin Sims. Caitlin serves as our Principal Management Analyst and we've had a chance to catch up recently:



### **What do you love most about working at the SGVCOG?**

What I love most about working at the COG is the opportunity to work on expansive projects - in so many different topic areas - that provide a clear benefit to the San Gabriel Valley cities and the residents. I love the thinking and problem-solving that's required to develop and implement programs and projects that provide the most benefit to our cities and the region's residents.



### **Please share one interesting fact about yourself.**

I've been to 48 states - all I've got left is Washington and Alaska!

## SGVCOG Welcomes New Board Members

Recently, 3 new Governing Board delegates and alternates joined the SGVCOG Governing Board. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of the new Governing Board members from our member agencies. New members will be featured in alphabetical order by city and appointment dates.



### **April Verlato**

*Mayor*

**City of Arcadia**

Mayor Verlato was elected to her first term on City Council in April 2016. She was born and raised in Arcadia and received a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from UCLA and a law degree from Southwestern University School of Law. Mayor Verlato is also a founding member and Officer of the Downtown Arcadia Improvement Association (2012-present), which is a Community Benefits District focused on promoting and revitalizing Downtown Arcadia.



### **Robert Gonzales**

*Councilmember*

**City of Azusa**

Councilmember Gonzales has been a life-long resident of the City of Azusa. He previously worked for the City of Azusa, the Azusa Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. In 2007, he was appointed to the Azusa City Council where his record of successes and accomplishments earned him his first re-election to the council. Since his re-election, Councilmember Gonzales has brought valuable industry and jobs to the City of Azusa.



### **Margaret Clark**

*Mayor*

**City of Rosemead**

Mayor Clark has served on the Rosemead City Council since March 1991, including six terms as Mayor. Prior to her election to the Rosemead City Council, she was a commissioner on the Rosemead Planning and Traffic Commissions. In addition to her council responsibilities, Mayor Clark has been an active leader in national, state, and regional organizations and agencies such as the League of California Cities and California Contract Cities Association.

## Committee Meeting Dates:

SGVCOG is governed by a Governing Board that dictates the policies for the organization. Additionally, there are policy committees and technical advisory committees (TACs) that provide guidance to the Governing Board on important matters. To learn more about SGVCOG committees, please visit [sgvcog.org](http://sgvcog.org).

### HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 8:30am  
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

### CITY MANAGERS' STEERING COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 12:00pm  
100 S. Vincent Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Monday, September 9, 2019 at 12:00pm  
1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91801

### WATER COMMITTEE:

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 10:00am  
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016

### PUBLIC WORKS TAC:

Monday, September 16, 2019 at 12:00pm  
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

### EENR COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 12:30pm  
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

Thursday, September 18, 2019 at 3:00pm  
1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, CA 91010

### GOVERNING BOARD:

Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 5:30pm  
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016


### CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

Monday, September 23, 2019 at 12:00pm  
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

### PLANNERS TAC:

Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 12:00pm  
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

## Upcoming Events:



ASSEMBLYMEMBER ED CHAU INVITES YOU THE:

# 49TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXPO

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ASIAN AMERICAN ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISES INC.

10144 BOGUE STREET, TEMPLE CITY

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2019  
9:30AM TO 12:00PM**



# NET ZERO 2019

THE WORLD'S LARGEST NET ZERO BUILDING CONFERENCE

October 2, 2019—October 4, 2019  
Los Angeles, CA

### Newsletter Editor:

Alexander Fung, Management Analyst  
[afung@sgvcog.org](mailto:afung@sgvcog.org)

### San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Suite 10-210  
Unit 42, Alhambra, California 91803