

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of March 1, 2021

- **Executive Committee:** On Monday, the Executive Committee held its monthly meeting via Zoom. The Committee received an update on the current status of internal audits from the SGVCOG Audit Manager. Additionally, the Committee was briefed on considering appointing the SGV Metro Board Representative as an ex-officio member to the SGVCOG Executive Committee to inform the Committee on matters related to the Metro Board and the Committee concurred with staff recommendation to create this ex-officio appointment. An amendment to the SGVCOG bylaws with this appointment will be placed on the agenda for 1st reading at the Governing Board meeting on March 18.
- **Homeless Committee:** At its March meeting, the Homelessness Committee heard the following presentations and updates:
 - The Committee heard a presentation on the tiny home village recently completed by the city of Redondo Beach. Michael Klein, Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Redondo Beach shared a presentation on the steps necessary for them to make the project successful. SGVCOG staff provided information on how interested cities can still express their interest in participating in the SGVRHT pilot, and how the pilot meets the mental health needs of participants.
 - Senate Bill 15 (Portantino): The Committee recommended that the Governing Board authorize the President to send a letter in support of Senate Bill 15, which would offer incentives to provide workforce housing at commercial sites. Under the bill, cities would receive the average of the annual amount of sales tax revenue generated by a big box retail or commercial shopping center site for the previous seven years if that site is replaced by multi-family workforce housing.
 - State Budget and Legislative Updates: The Committee heard an update item on the Governor's budget proposal and bills related to homelessness, as well as a report by the State Auditor related to homelessness. Governor Newsom's 2021-22 budget proposal includes key provisions that would provide a total of \$1.75 billion in funding for Project Homekey, community-based housing, and behavioral health treatment for vulnerable seniors. Bills being tracked by SGVCOG staff include AB 328 to provide grants to counties and continuums of care for housing and related services for people experiencing homelessness with recent histories of incarceration, or who are expected to become homeless upon their release from incarceration, AB 15 to extend existing State COVID-19 related eviction protections through December 2021, and AB 71 to increase tax rates on businesses with annual profits of more than \$5 million, raising an estimated \$2.4 billion to fund homeless programs.
- **No Party, Like a Therm Party! Webinar:** On Tuesday, the SGVCOG hosted the "No Party, Like a Therm Party!" energy efficiency webinar in partnership with the Gateway Cities Energy Leader Partnership, the Western Riverside Energy Leader Partnership, the Orange County Cities Energy Partnership, and the West Side Energy Partnership. The webinar featured energy efficiency programs available through SoCalGas, including the Direct Install Program that provides no-cost energy efficiency upgrades on eligible public facilities. The webinar had over 50 attendees and SGV cities and agencies that attended will advance in the 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards.
- **SCAG:** On Thursday, SCAG held its monthly policy committee and Regional Council meeting. SCAG held a joint Policy Committee of its Community, Housing, and Economic Development (CEHD), Transportation, and Energy and Environmental Committee to hear

presentations and have a discussion on the history of race in land use planning. Following that meeting, the Regional Council met and unanimously adopted the final Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers. The final numbers can be found [here](#). The Regional Council adopted a resolution that directed SCAG staff to work with the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the State Legislature to pursue administrative and legislative changes to provide more flexibility in the implementation of RHNA. The Regional Council also adopted the 2021 Federal Transportation Investment Plan (FTIP) and associated transportation conformity determination. The FTIP is a list of approximately 2,000 multi-modal capital projects to be implemented over a 6-year period that are in compliance with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). Finally, the Regional Council was set to consider the inter-county apportionments for the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA). This funding is intended to provide funding to transit agencies to address the fiscal impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, an alternative approach had also been developed that would eliminate the county cap of 75% of total operating expenses, which would result in Los Angeles County transit operators receiving nearly \$127 million less funding. SCAG staff will be further analyzing this item and will bring it back to a future meeting.

- **Metro Recovery Task Force Final Report:** Earlier this week, Metro's COVID-19 Recovery Task Force released its final report, completing the work begun since April 2020. The final report includes recommendations on accelerating bus and bike lanes, enhancing amenities at rail stations and bus stops, offering incentives to reduce car ownership, and reducing construction costs. With the report complete, Metro staff will proceed with implementing the report's 17 final recommendations. Each of these concepts identifies an internal lead department or team of departments and includes a timeline with milestones for advancing and refining the recommendations. A copy of the Metro Recovery Task Force Final Report can be found [here](#).
- **Upcoming Economic Development Webinar:** In partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, the SGVCOG is excited to host a webinar on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 11:00am that provides resources for San Gabriel Valley cities to support business owners and boost the local economy. Speakers from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation Los Angeles (LISC LA), Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development will be sharing tools for cities to support economic recovery efforts. Cities and agencies are encouraged to register for the event [here](#).

SGVCOG

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of March 8, 2021

- **Water Committee:** On Tuesday, the Water Policy and Water Technical Advisory Committees convened its monthly joint meeting via Zoom. The meeting featured the following presentation.
 - *Department of Finance v. Commission of State Mandates:* Howard Gest, Partner at Burhenn & Gest LLP presented on the Case, which challenged whether two requirements included in the 2001 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit - requiring trash receptacles at transit stations and completing stormwater permit business inspections - were eligible for cost reimbursements under the California Constitution. The Court held that local governments were entitled to subvention for these trash receptacle requirements because they were mandatory programs that exceeded federal requirements, and local governments could not levy fees to cover these costs. Agencies were not entitled to subvention for stormwater permit inspection requirements because the agencies have the authority to levy fees to pay for those permit conditions. This ruling could have positive implications for local governments' cases cost reimbursement claims in later stormwater permits.

The Committees took action on the following state legislation.

- AB 377 (Rivas/Hertzberg): The Committees voted to recommend the Governing Board oppose AB 377, which would prescribe that all California surface waters must be fishable, swimmable, and drinkable by 2050, with no additional funding provided. The Bill would also place strict limits on what the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) and the regional water quality control boards (regional boards) could allow in future stormwater permits and requirements, including prohibiting compliance schedules and any discharges or best management practices that exceed water quality standards. This bill would also require development of an Impaired Waterways Enforcement Program to enforce all water quality standards violations. This Bill would significantly reduce the regulatory authority of the water boards and would likely result in permit violations.
- SB 426 (Rubio): The Committees voted to recommend the Governing Board adopt a resolution to sponsor SB 426 (Rubio). The Bill would require the State Board to develop Financial Capability Assessment (FCA) guidelines for cities and counties (permittees) seeking to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA). The state guidelines would be modeled on federal guidelines developed by the U.S. EPA over the past 20 years to achieve CWA compliance without in any way altering or waiving clean water standards but instead allowing elongated timeframes to avoid unacceptable cost burdens on communities. FCAs consider a wide range of financial capacity factors, including residential capability (e.g. median household income) and the financial strength of the permittee organization, such as bond ratings, debt, unemployment rate, tax revenue, and property tax rates.
- **Transportation Committee:** On Thursday, the SGVCOG Transportation Committee convened for its monthly meeting. Starting this month, the committee will be convening on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00pm. SGVCOG staff provided the first presentation of the meeting on the Metro Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) projects in the San Gabriel Valley. In June 2018, Metro adopted the Measure M Guidelines, which included a process by which Measure M subregional funds would be programmed. In alignment with these guidelines, the SGVCOG was tasked with

developing a five-year subregional fund programming plan to administer the MSP funds. After implementing a comprehensive outreach and project selection process, the SGVCOG awarded more than \$37 million in Measure M funds to 20 eligible active transportation, first/last mile, complete streets, highway efficiency, and bus system improvement projects in the San Gabriel Valley for FY 2017 to FY 2021. Each awarded project's funding allocation schedule can be changed, or "reprogrammed," at the approvals of both the SGVCOG Governing Board and the Metro Board of Directors. A total of 11 reprogramming requests were submitted from the awarded cities and agencies due to project delays as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, staff turnovers, and funding shortfalls. All MSP funding reprogramming requests will be considered for approval by the Governing Board at its March meeting and, if approved, forwarded to the Metro Board for consideration at its May meeting. Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority Chief Executive Officer, Habib F. Balian, provided the second presentation of the meeting on the Foothill Gold Line Extension Project. Major construction of the Glendora-to-Pomona Segment began in Summer 2020, and construction crews are actively working throughout the 9.1-mile segment. To date, 3 of 21 at-grade street crossings have been fully constructed. Based on the existing progress, construction of the Glendora-to-Pomona Segment is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2025. If additional funding is secured by October 2021, the extension to Montclair can be completed by the end of 2028. Metro Congestion Reduction Programs Executive Officer, Shahrzad Amiri, provided the third presentation of the meeting on the Metro ExpressLanes Project. The ExpressLanes are managed lanes where toll prices are set based on real-time traffic conditions and vary according to the level of congestion. The toll fees are higher when there is increased traffic in the ExpressLanes and lower when traffic is lighter. Currently, the Metro ExpressLanes are implemented on the I-10 and I-110 corridors. Revenue generated from toll fees are reinvested in their respective corridors' transit service improvement projects. The Committee is scheduled to reconvene on Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 4:00pm.

- **Infrastructure LA Climate Resilience Panel:** On Wednesday, SGVCOG staff participated in Los Angeles County Department of Public Works' Infrastructure LA Climate Resilience Panel. Governor Newsom recently proposed to allocate a significant amount of funding for climate-related initiatives in the State's 2021-2022 Budget. Additionally, there has been increased interest in the State Legislature to propose funding to finance climate resilience projects. These initiatives can provide additional funding and grants to finance various projects to support local jurisdictions' efforts to prevent and adapt to climate impacts to situations such as wildfires and droughts. Representatives from the California Department of Transportation, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Metro attended to share their insights on guiding Southern California's climate resilience efforts. Most notably, Metro Chief Executive Officer Phil Washington shared plans on purchasing clean energy buses at Metro; however, Mr. Washington emphasized that the lack of federal support on fleet electrification and clean energy bus conversion became a barrier for California transit agencies to convert their fleets. Additionally, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Officer Gary Gero shared updates on the Los Angeles County Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA). The CVA will focus on assessing climate change's impact on vulnerable populations and identifying equity implications. Development of the CVA began in Fall 2020 and additional stakeholder and engagement workshops will be held over the next few months to gather inputs from members of the public.
- **Economic Development Webinar:** On Thursday, the SGVCOG partnered with the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership to host the "Rebuilding San Gabriel Valley Economy" Economic Development Webinar to provide resources and tools for local jurisdictions to

support their businesses. Local Initiatives Support Corporation Los Angeles (LISC LA) Executive Director, Tunua Thrash-Ntuk, presented a [toolkit](#) with specific recommendations for local governments to support small businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) Business Assistance District Director, Bob Machuca, shared [programs](#) to assist small businesses and opportunities for rebuilding the economy in the San Gabriel Valley. Additionally, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) Senior Business Development Specialist, Trelynd Bradley, shared updates on Governor Newsom's proposed budget and federal and state grants to support economic recovery efforts. Over 110 individuals attended the event and copies of the speakers' presentations can be found on the SGVCOG website [here](#).

- **Governing Board Preview:** The SGVCOG Governing Board will hold its monthly meeting next Thursday, March 18, 2021 21 at 4PM via Zoom Teleconference. The full agenda packet may be accessed [here](#). Major Action items are summarized below:
 - **Eleventh Amended and Restated Bylaws:** The Proposed Bylaws would amend the current Tenth Amended and Restated Bylaws to provide that the Metropolitan Transportation Authority San Gabriel Valley Sector Board of Directors Appointee be added as ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee. One of the critical roles of the SGVCOG Executive Committee is to develop and provide input on the monthly SGVCOG Governing Board agenda. As an ex-officio, non-voting member, the SGVCOG Metro Board Representative to provide critical input on Metro related items that should be included on the SGVCOG Governing Board agenda. are often timely and require direct recommended actions of the SGVCOG Governing Board related to Metro.
 - **Update Measure M MSP Subregional Fund Programming:** As discussed above, at the Transportation Committee, the Governing Board will consider the reprogramming of Measure M Subregional Program (MSP) funds 11 San Gabriel Valley projects, for consideration by the Metro Board at its May meeting.
 - **Support – SB 15 (Portantino):** SB 15 would provide state grant incentives for cities to rezone idle big box retail sites or commercial shopping centers to accommodate workforce multifamily housing. Staff is recommending the Governing Board adopt Resolution 21-14 supporting the Bill.
 - **Support – SB 765 (Stern/Friedman):** SB 765 seeks to authorize local governments to determine side and rear setbacks for accessory dwelling units (ADUs), subject to certain conditions, eliminating existing law's prohibition on side and rear setbacks of more than four feet. Staff is recommending the Governing Board adopt Resolution 21-15 supporting the Bill.
 - **Oppose – AB 377 (Rivas/Hertzberg):** As discussed above at the Water Committee, AB 377 would require all surface waters statewide fishable, swimmable, and drinkable by 2050, with additional prohibitions on items that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) and regional boards could include in stormwater permits and requirements. Staff is recommending the Governing Board adopt Resolution 21-16 opposing Assembly Bill 377 (Rivas/Hertzberg).
 - **Support and Sponsor – SB 426 (Rubio):** As discussed above at the Water Committee, SB 426 (Rubio) require the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) develop Financial Capability Assessment (FCA) guidelines for cities and counties (permittees) seeking to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA). State Senator Susan Rubio reintroduced this legislation, which was sponsored in previous years by the SGVCOG. Staff is recommending the Governing Board adopt Resolution 21-17 to support and sponsor the Bill.

- **SGVCOG Support Letters for Congressional Funding Requests for Regional Priority Projects/Programs:** After suspending the practice for about 10 years, Congressional leaders have recently announced a return to the process of permitting U.S. Representatives and Senators to request federal funding for priority community projects located in their districts or states. House offices last week informed SGVCOG staff that community project funding request forms will be distributed shortly to cities, water agencies, transportation agencies, and other public entities. Such funding nominations are, of course, no guarantee of funding. Congressional representatives will determine which, if any, nominated projects or programs and requested amounts are forwarded for consideration by Congressional committees, with projects then included in legislation subject to Congressional approval. Given the tight submittal deadline and the various parameters identified, staff recommends that regionally significant projects be submitted for consideration by the San Gabriel Valley's Congressional representatives as follows:

Project/Recipient	Amount Requested	Location	Representative/District
Affordable housing projects pipeline / SGVRHT	\$10 million	Various cities	Rep. Judy Chu / 27 th District
State Route 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Diamond Industry Bar,	Rep. Young Kim / 39 th District
Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Turnbull Canyon Rd. grade separation project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Industry, unincorporated LA County	Rep. Grace Napolitano / 32 nd District
ACE Montebello Blvd. grade separation project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Montebello	Rep. Linda Sanchez / 38 th District
ACE at-grade pedestrian crossing safety projects / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Pomona	Rep. Norma Torres / 35 th District

Additionally, a presentation will be given on the SGVCOG Regional Homeless, Mental Health, and Crisis Response Study, as well as a presentation by AQMD on the Warehouse Indirect Source Rule (Proposed Rule 2305).

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of March 15, 2021

- **Public Works TAC:** On Monday, the SGVCOG Public Works Technical Advisory Committee convened for its monthly meeting via Zoom. The committee reviewed the following major items:
 - **Metro Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP):** In June 2018, Metro adopted the Measure M Guidelines, which included a process by which Measure M subregional funds would be programmed. The SGVCOG implemented a comprehensive outreach and project selection process and developed a five-year subregional fund programming plan to administer the MSP funds, awarding more than \$37 million in Measure M funds to 20 eligible active transportation, first/last mile, complete streets, highway efficiency, and bus system improvement projects in the San Gabriel Valley for FY 2017 to FY 2021. Each awarded project's funding allocation schedule can be changed, or "reprogrammed," at the approvals of both the SGVCOG Governing Board and the Metro Board of Directors. A total of 11 reprogramming requests were submitted from the awarded cities and agencies due to project delays as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, staff turnovers, and funding shortfalls. At the approval of the SGVCOG Governing Board, these MSP funding reprogramming requests will be forwarded to the Metro Board for consideration at its May meeting.
 - **Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Job Order Contracting:** The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) provided a presentation on its Job Order Contracting (JOC) system. DPW utilizes JOC as a competitively bid and cost-effective unit price contracting method for maintenance work, alteration, and repair and remodeling work. According to DPW staff, the JOC method effectively results in accelerated project delivery, reduced administrative costs, and decreased direct construction costs. Currently, DPW solicits general JOC contracts and the frequency and number of JOC contracts solicited vary based on workload. SGVCOG staff intends to explore the use of JOC to support cities in project delivery and facility repairs throughout the San Gabriel Valley. This item will also be reviewed at the upcoming SGVCOG City Managers' Steering Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 12:00pm.
 - **Appointment of Representatives to the Regional VMT Mitigation Fee Structure Technical Evaluation Committee:** Committee members voted to recommend John Beshay from the City of Baldwin Park and Mary Rooney from the City of Walnut to serve as the Committee's representatives on the SGVCOG Regional Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) Mitigation Fee Structure Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC). The TEC will evaluate consultant proposals for the implementation of the Regional VMT Mitigation Fee Structure.
 - **SCAG Sustainable Communities Program Grant:** SGVCOG staff also announced that the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) recently released the call-for-applications for Smart Cities and Mobility Innovations (SCMI) projects under the Sustainable Communities Program. This round of call-for-projects directly supports the implementation of the Smart Cities and Job Centers, Go Zones, and Shared Mobility/Mobility as a Service (MaaS) Connect SoCal Key Connections.

The SGVCOG Public Works Technical Advisory Committee will reconvene on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 12:00pm.

- **EENR Committee:** On Wednesday, the SGVCOG Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee convened via Zoom for its monthly meeting. The following major items were reviewed:
 - **Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act:** SGVCOG staff presented updates on the Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act. Last month, Congresswoman Judy Chu (CA-27) re-introduced the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act to the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill was packaged under Congresswoman Diana DeGette's (CO-1) Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act, which is known as HR 803. The bill, if signed into law, would designate approximately 1.5 million acres of public land as wilderness, add 1,200 miles of rivers to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and withdraw over one million acres from new mining claims. Additionally, HR 803 expands national monuments and national recreation areas, creates new historic landscapes, and funds constructions of new hiking trails on public lands. The amount of land protected under HR 803 would be approximately three million acres of land in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, and Washington. The bill recently passed the U.S. House of Representatives and has been received in the U.S. Senate.
 - **Nature for All 2020 Impact Report:** Nature for All representatives provided a presentation on the organization's 2020 Impact Report. The Impact Report highlights achievements that the organization had accomplished last year and showcases various strategies for carrying out its mission through supporting policies to protect public lands. A copy of the report can be found [here](#).
 - **AQMD Warehouse Indirect Source Rule:** South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) representatives provided a presentation on the District's Warehouse Indirect Source Rule, known as Proposed Rule 2305. To assess and identify potential actions to further reduce emissions associated with emission sources operating in and out of warehouse distribution centers, the AQMD is currently pursuing a new rule to regulate warehouse operators and owners of existing and new warehouses with floor space greater than or equal to 100,000 square feet. Specifically, the Rule requires warehouse operators of warehouses subject to Proposed Rule 2305 to reduce emissions by completing specific actions or paying mitigation fees. Additional information regarding the Proposed Rule can be found [here](#) and the AQMD Governing Board is scheduled to review this item at its May meeting.
 - **AB 33 (Ting):** SGVCOG staff provided a legislative update on AB 33. Originally introduced in December 2020 as a bill to limit the use of natural gas in new public schools and state buildings, Assemblymember Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) gut-and-amended AB 33 this Tuesday to require the California Energy Commission to provide grants and loans to local governments and public institutions to maximize energy use savings, expand installation of energy storage systems, and expand the availability of transportation electrification infrastructure. SGVCOG staff will return at the next committee meeting to provide further updates on this legislation.

The EENR Committee is scheduled to reconvene on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 1:00pm.
- **Governing Board Recap:** The SGVCOG Governing Board held its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021 via Zoom Teleconference. Major Actions taken at the meeting are summarized below:
 - **Eleventh Amended and Restated Bylaws:** The Governing Board authorized staff to place the proposed Eleventh Amended and Restated Bylaws ("Proposed Bylaws") on the agenda for the Governing Board's consideration at its next regular

meeting. The Proposed Bylaws would amend the current Tenth Amended and Restated Bylaws to provide that the Metropolitan Transportation Authority San Gabriel Valley Sector Board of Directors Appointee be added as ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Committee. No other changes to the Bylaws were proposed.

- **Update Measure M MSP Subregional Fund Programming:** The Governing Board adopted Resolution 21-13 updating the SGVCOG’s Measure M MSP 5-Year Plan fund programming, discussed in more detail above.
- **Support – SB 15 (Portantino):** The Governing Board adopted Resolution 21-14 supporting Senate Bill 15 (Portantino) and directed staff to work with the Executive Committee, the author, and the co-sponsors to seek clarification and possibly modifications to improve the Bill’s efficacy in delivering affordable housing, and provide updates on the bill as necessary. SB 15 would provide state grant incentives for cities to rezone idle big box retail sites or commercial shopping centers to accommodate workforce multifamily housing.
- **Support – SB 765 (Stern/Friedman):** The Governing Board adopted Resolution 21-15 supporting Senate Bill 765 (Stern/Friedman) to authorize local governments to determine side and rear setbacks for accessory dwelling units (ADUs), subject to certain conditions, eliminating existing law’s prohibition on side and rear setbacks of more than four feet.
- **Oppose – AB 377 (Rivas/Hertzberg):** The Governing Board adopted Resolution 21-16 opposing Assembly Bill 377 (Rivas/ Hertzberg). AB 377 would require all surface waters statewide fishable, swimmable, and drinkable by 2050, with additional prohibitions on items that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) and regional boards could include in stormwater permits and requirements.
- **Support – SB 426 (Rubio):** The Governing Board adopted Resolution 21-17 to support and sponsor Senate Bill 426 (Rubio). SB 426 (Rubio) requires the State Water Resources Control Board to develop Financial Capability Assessment guidelines for cities and counties (permittees) seeking to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act.
- **SGVCOG Support Letters for Congressional Funding Requests for Regional Priority Projects/Programs:** After suspending the practice for about 10 years, Congressional leaders have recently announced a return to the process of permitting U.S. Representatives and Senators to request federal funding for priority community projects located in their districts or states. House offices informed SGVCOG staff that community project funding request forms will be distributed shortly to cities, water agencies, transportation agencies, and other public entities. Such funding nominations are, of course, no guarantee of funding. Congressional representatives will determine which, if any, nominated projects or programs and requested amounts are forwarded for consideration by Congressional committees, with projects then included in legislation subject to Congressional approval. Given the tight submittal deadline and the likely parameters identified, the Governing Board authorized staff to submit for consideration to the San Gabriel Valley’s Congressional representatives the following regionally significant project list:

Project/Recipient	Amount Requested	Location	Representative/District
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Affordable housing projects pipeline / SGVRHT	\$10 million	Various cities	Rep. Judy Chu / 27 th District
State Route 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Diamond Bar, Industry	Rep. Young Kim / 39 th District
Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Turnbull Canyon Rd. grade separation project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Industry, unincorporated LA County	Rep. Grace Napolitano / 32 nd District
ACE Montebello Blvd. grade separation project / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Montebello	Rep. Linda Sanchez / 38 th District
ACE at-grade pedestrian crossing safety projects / SGVCOG	\$10 million	Pomona	Rep. Norma Torres / 35 th District

Additionally, a presentation was given on the SGVCOG Regional Homeless, Mental Health, and Crisis Response Study by Resource Development Associates based on a similar crisis response study/model known as CAHOOTS Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (MCIS) presented at the SGVCOG Homelessness Committee (Please find presentation at the following link: <https://prezi.com/view/Q20T3Y3AkpceoKfE9GrF>). SCAQMD staff also gave a presentation on the Warehouse Indirect Source Rule (Proposed Rule 2305).

- SCAG Connect SoCal Stakeholder Meeting:** On Thursday, SGVCOG staff attended the SCAG Connect SoCal Stakeholder Meeting. SCAG staff reported that the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Framework (RTP/SCS) will soon be discussed with the SCAG committees and Regional Council. Additionally, it was announced that SCAG Technical Working Group will be rescoped as the SCAG Regional Growth Technical Advisory Group. The rebranded Group will serve as a platform for stakeholders to discuss growth-related technical approaches related to SCAG's development of the 2024 RTP/SCS. Attendees, including SGVCOG staff, provided recommendations for SCAG staff to increase subregional participation rates at Regional Growth Technical Advisory Group meetings.

SGVCOG

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of March 22, 2021

- **Capital Projects and Construction Committee:** On Monday, the SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee convened via Zoom for its monthly meeting. The committee voted to approve a Task Order Revision for Berg & Associates for construction management services for the Fullerton Road Grade Separation Project, a Task Order Revision for Jacobs Engineering for design services during construction for the Fairway Drive Grade Separation Project, a Task Order with AECOM for utility coordination and additional pre-construction services for the Montebello Boulevard Grade Separation Project, and a Task Order Revision for AECOM for design services during construction for the Durfee Avenue Grade Separation Project. The Committee is expected to reconvene on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 12:00pm.
- **CALCOG Conference:** On Monday March 22 and Tuesday March 23, SGVCOG staff attended the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) Regional Leadership Forum. The two-day Forum focused on the resilience of regional governments in California, including sessions on the impacts of climate change, addressing the housing shortage, planning for electric vehicles, and integrating equity into practice for regional organizations. Featured speakers included Liana Randolph, Chair, California Air Resources Board; Toks Omishakin, Director, Caltrans; Anthony Foxx, Former US Secretary of Transportation; Therese W. McMillan, Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Commission; Phil Washington, CEO, LA Metro and many more. More information on CALCOG can be found at the following link: <https://calcog.org/>.
- **City Managers' Meeting with Dr. Ferrer:** On Wednesday, San Gabriel Valley city managers held a briefing with Dr. Ferrer on COVID-19 and vaccination updates from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH). Dr. Ferrer reported that while approximately 5.5 million of the County's 10 million residents are eligible for vaccination, a majority of Los Angeles County residents have not yet been vaccinated. Production and allocation of the vaccines for Los Angeles County have been slowly increasing, but the DPH still expects that there will be a limited supply of vaccines over the next few weeks. Currently, government buildings in Los Angeles County are allowed to open for indoor operations at 50% capacity for essential tasks that cannot be conducted remotely. While City Council meetings can be held in-person with physical distancing measures, Dr. Ferrer clarified that the City Council Chambers' capacity must remain at 50% and that the State is in the process of issuing additional guidance on public gatherings at government meetings. If possible, meetings should continue to be held virtually and individuals should continue to wear masks and physically distance given that a majority of the population is still not vaccinated. Dr. Ferrer emphasized that DPH's goal is to keep the COVID-19 case rate and death rate as low as possible until the population is fully vaccinated. Cities are recommended to continue publicizing materials that encourage physical distancing and mask wearing. Additionally, residents are recommended to avoid large and/or indoor gatherings and avoid traveling over the next few weeks. Travel plans should be delayed until summer at the earliest.
- **Infrastructure LA SWARM Subcommittee:** On Wednesday, SGVCOG staff attended the Infrastructure LA Sustainable Waste and Recycling Management (SWARM) Subcommittee meeting. Los Angeles County Legislative Representative, Faith Conley, reported that several bills propose to place bond ballot measures at the upcoming 2022 elections, including the following:

- **SB 45:** SB 45 (Portantino) would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022. If approved by voters, the measure would authorize the issuance of \$5.51 billion in general obligation bonds to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.
- **AB 125:** AB 125 (Rivas) would enact the Equitable Economic Recovery, Healthy Food Access, Climate Resilient Farms, and Worker Protection Bond Act of 2022. If approved by voters, the measure would authorize the issuance of \$3.122 billion in state general obligation bonds to finance programs related to agricultural lands, food and fiber infrastructure, climate resilience, agricultural professionals, workforce development and training, and air quality.
- **AB 1500:** Introduced by Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia (D-El Centro), AB 1500 would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022. If approved by the voters, the measure would authorize the issuance of \$6.7 billion in state general obligation bonds to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs.

Additionally, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) provided a presentation on SB 1383 capacity planning. According to DPW staff, Los Angeles County requires an additional 5.1 million tons of organic waste capacity to comply with SB 1383 mandates. In compliance with SB 1383, the County will work collaboratively with local jurisdictions to estimate the amount of organic waste that will be disposed, identify existing organic waste recycling infrastructure capacity that is verifiably available, estimate the amount of new or expanded organic waste recycling capacity needed, and identify existing capacity at food recovery organizations and services. Cities must submit organics capacity data and community composting to the County by March 2022.

- **Planners TAC:** On Thursday, the SGVCOG Planning Directors' Technical Advisory Committee convened via Zoom for its monthly meeting. The committee reviewed a number of items, including the following:
 - **Arrow Highway Multimodal Regional Corridor Plan:** Alta Planning and Design Associate, Ryan Johnson, provided a presentation on the Arrow Highway Multimodal Regional Corridor Plan. Supported by the SGVCOG and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the Plan developed recommendations for bicycle and pedestrian enhancements along Arrow Highway and surrounding streets - including sidewalks, crosswalks, bikeways, lighting, and new facilities - to improve east-west mobility, safety, and connectivity within the cities of Claremont, Glendora, La Verne, Pomona, and San Dimas.
 - **Housing/Zoning Legislative Updates:** SGVCOG staff provided a presentation on the following pieces of legislation:
 - **SB 9:** Introduced by Senators Atkins (D-San Diego), Caballero (D-Merced), Rubio (D-El Monte), and Wiener (D-San Francisco), SB 9 would allow up to four housing units to replace a single-family home. The SGVCOG supports legislative efforts to increase the supply of affordable housing but firmly believes that land use planning and zoning authority should remain vested with locally elected officials accountable to their communities. The SGVCOG Executive Committee voted to authorize the SGVCOG President to send a letter to San Gabriel Valley legislators and authors of SB 9 to oppose the legislation unless it is amended.
 - **SB 15:** SB 15 (Portantino) would allow cities to receive the average of the annual amount of sales tax revenue generated by the big box retail or

commercial shopping center site for the previous seven years. To receive the sales tax rebate, the site must be rezoned, the housing development approved and constructed and a certificate of occupancy issued. On March 18th, the SGVCOG Governing Board adopted a resolution supporting SB 15 and directed staff to work with the Executive Committee, the author, and the co-sponsors to seek clarification and possibly modifications to improve the Bill's efficacy in delivering affordable housing, and provide updates on the bill as necessary.

- **SB 478:** SB 478 (Wiener) prohibits communities from enacting standards - including restrictive square footage and lot size mandates - that prevent small multi-unit buildings on land zoned for multi-units. SB 478 would also require the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to identify violations of the standards by a local government. The Committee directed staff to monitor this legislation and provide additional updates at the next committee meeting.
- **SB 765:** SB 765 (Stern) would allow local agencies to set rear and side-yard setback requirements for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) - deleting the current prohibition in state law prohibiting rear and side-yard setbacks of more than four feet. SB 765 would also create a review process for an applicant if the local agency's setback requirements made the building of the ADU infeasible. The SGVCOG Governing Board recently adopted a resolution to support this bill.
- **SCAG Sustainable Communities Program Grant:** SGVCOG staff announced that the (SCAG) recently released the call-for-applications for Smart Cities and Mobility Innovations (SCMI) projects under the Sustainable Communities Program. This round of call-for-projects directly supports the implementation of the Smart Cities and Job Centers, Go Zones, and Shared Mobility/Mobility as a Service (MaaS) Connect SoCal Key Connections. Under this program, cities can apply funding for curb space data collection, parking management, and permitting process evaluation projects and activities. Applications are due on Friday, April 23rd at 5:00pm and additional details can be found [here](#).

The SGVCOG Planning Directors' Technical Advisory Committee will reconvene on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 12:00pm.

- **Solid Waste Working Group:** On Thursday, the SGVCOG Solid Waste Working Group convened via Zoom to discuss solid waste management issues. The Working Group received a presentation from Abound Food Care, formerly known as the Waste Not OC Coalition, on its edible food recovery programs. Additionally, the League of California Cities provided legislative updates on key solid waste bills. Working Group members subsequently held a discussion on the possibility of developing a regional food recovery program to assist cities with complying with SB 1383 mandates. With multiple cities expressing support for the development of a regional food recovery program, SGVCOG staff will be developing a proposal and present the program details at the next Solid Waste Working Group meeting. The Working Group is expected to reconvene in late April or early May.
- **Homeless Working Group:** On Thursday, the Homelessness Working Group met via Zoom. The meeting featured a presentation from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) on a new problem solving training that allows agencies, school districts, nonprofits, and other entities without access to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to access LAHSA problem solving funds. The City of Monterey Park also provided a presentation on their Neighborhood Engagement Team (NET), which in 2021 has worked with 44 clients experiencing homelessness, providing case management to

29 people and other services, including food, water, and clothing to 12 people. Staff also provided the following updates:

- **City Additional Funding Application:** Staff will be bringing a recommendation to the Homelessness Committee and Governing Board at their respective April meetings to reallocate funding from the Regional Coordination Program to Homeless Plan Implementation Program to provide additional funding to cities to implement their homeless plans. The proposed process for cities to request these additional homeless plan implementation funds will also be presented to the Committees at their respective April meetings.
- **CA COVID-19 Rent Relief Program:** On March 15, the State announced the CA COVID-19 Rent Relief Program, which will provide financial assistance to income-eligible households for rent and utilities, both for past and future payments. Landlords can get reimbursed for 80% of an eligible renter's unpaid rent between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021, if they agree to waive the remaining 20% of unpaid rent during that time period. Eligible renters whose landlords choose not to participate in the program may apply on their own and receive 25% of unpaid rent between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. Paying this 25% by June 30, 2021 can help keep renters in their home under the extended eviction protections in SB 91. Resources and application information are available at [HousingKey.com](https://housingkey.com).
- **SGVCOG Leadership Nominations:** All individuals who are interested in being appointed to any of the SGVCOG leadership opportunities must submit their names in writing via email to the SGVCOG offices by **4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2021**. Nominations should be submitted to sgv@sgvcog.org.
- **Upcoming Emergency Response Twitterchat:** SGVCOG staff will be hosting a Twitterchat event with several cities and agencies next Monday, March 29th at 12:00pm to discuss emergency planning and response efforts. The goal of the event is to help residents and stakeholders understand the importance of emergency planning efforts in the San Gabriel Valley. Cities are welcome to join the discussion by following #PreparingSGV during the scheduled Twitterchat. Additionally, cities are recommended to follow us on Twitter at [@SGVCOG](https://twitter.com/SGVCOG) to receive updates and event notices around the San Gabriel Valley.
- **Crisis Response Study Request for Community Advisory Group (CAG) Members:** As discussed at the March 18 Governing Board meeting, the SGVCOG is undertaking a feasibility study on a regional homeless, mental health, and crisis response program. The project will deeply involve stakeholder input through an already formed Steering Committee of City staff and a to-be formed Community Advisory Group (CAG). We are looking for recommendations for CAG members, which should be individuals or organizations that understand the local crisis response, homelessness, and mental health landscape. To help you conduct outreach, we have created [this website](#) that outlines the project and the stakeholder groups we intend to engage. If you would like to nominate an individual or organization to the CAG, please email smatthews@sgvcog.org by **next Wednesday, March 30, 2020**.

SGVCOG Weekly Recap

Week of March 29, 2021

- **Executive Committee:** On Monday, the Executive Committee held its monthly meeting via Zoom. The Committee heard a presentation on the draft SGVCOG FY 21-22 budget and an update on state and federal legislation. The Committee also approved a resolution to file grant applications for the Section 190 Grade Separation Program for the Montebello Blvd. and Turnbull Canyon Road grade separation projects.
- **City Managers' Steering Committee:** On Wednesday, the SGVCOG City Managers' Steering Committee held its monthly meeting via Zoom. The Committee heard a presentation on the SGVCOG's Neighborhood Coyote Program, which included highlights of accomplishments for the program's 1st year in 2020. Additionally, the Committee discussed interest in participating in a Job Order Contracting (JOC) pilot program that would be facilitated by the SGVCOG to take on specified service contracts to support cities. The Committee also discussed interest in having the SGVCOG secure a consultant to advocate on behalf of member agencies for statewide redistricting efforts currently underway.
- **Metro First/Last Mile Guidelines Stakeholder Workshop:** On Monday, SGVCOG staff attended the Metro First/Last Mile (FLM) Guidelines Stakeholder Workshop. The Metro FLM Guidelines describe the process by which Metro and local jurisdictions partner in the planning, design, and construction of FLM improvements for new rail transit and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor projects. These Guidelines intend to fulfill Metro's FLM policies, including the adopted Metro FLM Strategic Plan (2014), Metro Board Motions 14.1 and 14.2 (2016). Both of these policies presented the methodology in FLM planning and directed activities to facilitate and implement FLM networks around transit stations and stops throughout Los Angeles County. To date, the Metro Board has adopted seven FLM plans and several more are currently in development. At the workshop, Metro staff stated that the FLM Guidelines apply only to new rail and BRT projects. The Guidelines also apply to all Measure R and Measure M transit projects starting with Section 2 of the Purple Line Extension. The purpose of the Guidelines is to provide guidance on how Metro and local jurisdictions can partner on the planning, design, and construction of FLM improvements. The Guidelines also provide directions for Metro to initiate the FLM Plan and transition the improvements to local jurisdictions for design, implementation, and maintenance. Metro indicated that the draft Guidelines will soon be available and shared with cities.
- **SCAG Regional Council:** On Thursday, SCAG held its monthly policy committee and Regional Council meetings. The SCAG Regional Council considered the allocation of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) and American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funding to the eligible county transportation commissions in the Los Angeles urbanized area (UZA) - which includes the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, and Riverside. These funds will support transit operators across the SCAG jurisdiction as they continue to respond and offset the impacts of COVID-19. The SCAG Regional Council voted to approve the staff recommendation to allocate funding that ensures that all county transportation commissions are able to receive the maximum amount of funding possible. Specifically, with approval of the funding recommendation, transit agencies within the UZA will receive 132% of their 2018 operating costs to help ensure they're able to provide ongoing services.
- **Emergency Response Twitterchat:** On Monday, SGVCOG staff held an Emergency Response Twitterchat session with 16 San Gabriel Valley cities and agencies to discuss

emergency planning and response efforts. Participants shared recommendations for residents and local communities to prepare for emergencies and discussed the agencies' involvements in responding to emergencies. Discussion posts from the one-hour Twitterchat event reached more than 102,000 users and garnered more than 1.1 million impressions. The SGVCOG sincerely extends gratitude to the cities of Alhambra, Duarte, Monrovia, and Temple City, Foothill Transit, Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management, Offices of Los Angeles County Supervisors Hilda Solis and Kathryn Barger, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster, San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District, Southern California Association of Governments, Southern California Edison, SoCalGas, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, and the Watershed Conservation Authority for sharing their insights and perspectives during the Twitterchat.

- **Reminder About Nominations:** All individuals who are interested in being appointed to any of the SGVCOG leadership opportunities must submit their names in writing via email to the SGVCOG offices by **4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2021**. Nominations should be submitted to sgv@sgvcog.org.
- **League of California Cities Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery Event:** The League of California Cities' Los Angeles County Division will be hosting the "Post-Pandemic Local Economic Recovery" Webinar next Wednesday, April 7th at 3:00pm to provide recommendations for cities to help revive their local economies and prepare for a post-pandemic economy. Cities are encouraged to attend and interested individuals can register for the event [here](#). Questions regarding the webinar can be directed to Jennifer Quan at jquan@cacities.org.
- **Capital Projects and Construction Committee Revision:** As reported in last week's weekly recap, on Monday, March 22, the Capital Projects and Construction Committee held its monthly meeting. Last week, I reported that the Committee voted to approve a task order revision for Berg & Associates for construction management services for the Fullerton Road Grade Separation Project. The Committee did not approve the task order at the March meeting but instead carried the item over to its April meeting. That meeting will be held on Monday, April 26.

The logo for SGVCOG (San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments) features a stylized sunburst or starburst graphic in shades of blue and green above the text "SGVCOG" in a light blue, sans-serif font.