

## San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments\*

# AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING DIRECTORS' WORKING GROUP

Thursday, June 23, 2022 – 12:00 PM

**Zoom Link:** <u>https://zoom.us/j/81530221927</u>

Chair
Craig Hensley
City of Duarte

Vice-Chair **Brad Johnson** City of Claremont

**Members** Alhambra Arcadia Azusa Baldwin Park Claremont Covina Diamond Bar Duarte El Monte Glendora Irwindale La Verne Monrovia Montebello Monterey Park Pasadena Pomona Rosemead San Dimas San Gabriel Sierra Madre South El Monte South Pasadena Temple City L.A. County

**DRP** 

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Introductions
- 3. Planning Directors' TAC Meeting Notes (Page 2)
- 4. Proposed Revisions to the SGVCOG Measure M Subregional Program (MSP) Public Outreach Plan (Page 4)
- 5. East SGV Sustainable Multimodal Improvement Project (Page 6)
- **6.** GoSGV Bike Share Program Implementation Jose Jimenez, Education Director, ActiveSGV (Page 8)
- 7. REAP Surplus Land Inventory Updates Farzhad Mashood, LeSar Development Consultants (Page 12)
- **8.** Announcements
- 9. Adjourn



### SGVCOG Public Works TAC Meeting Minutes Unapproved Minutes May 26, 2022 12:00 PM – Via Zoom/Teleconference

- 1. Call to Order

  Meeting called to order at 12:00pm.
- **2.** Introductions
- 3. Planning Directors' TAC Meeting Minutes
  - 3.1 3/24/2022
  - 3.2 4/21/2022
- 4. Proposed SGVCOG Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) Funding Policy for Awarded Projects

Brianne Logasa, SGVCOG, provided information on this item. SGVCOG staff is proposing to establish a policy where each MSP awarded project can only submit one (1) reprogramming request for the duration of the project timeline. This helps to ensure that awarded projects are implemented on-time and allows the MSP Funding Program to provide nearer-term benefits for San Gabriel Valley residents and communities.

- **5.** SCAG Regional Data Platform/Local Data Exchange Programs
  - Kevin Kane and Tom Vo from SCAG provided information on this item. The Regional Data Platform (RDP) is a new system for collaborative data sharing that provides modern tools and workflows to streamline local and regional data collection and sharing and is designed to facilitate better planning at the city and county levels and for the region as a whole. The RDP supports the implementation of SCAG's Local Data Exchange (LDX), which is a set of locally-developed and locally-verified datasets that will help SCAG meet its Connect SoCal (SCAG's long-range regional plan) targets. Over the course of 2022, SCAG plans to meet one-on-one with all 197 local jurisdictions to discuss these datasets and maps in their local context, provide background on the development of Connect SoCal 2024, and provide tool training.
- **6.** REAP 2021 Draft Framework
  - Jacob Noonan from SCAG presented on this item. The Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2021 grants program (REAP 2.0) was established through AB 140 (July 2021) as part of the mid-year budget revision for the State's FY 21-22 budget. Funding is allocated to the State's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) as well as rural and tribal governments for planning and implementation activities that accelerate infill housing and reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT). The SCAG region's formula share is \$246,024,084. SCAG is currently developing its REAP 2.0 Program Framework. Within the framework, SCAG has laid out potential program areas that they are currently soliciting feedback on from stakeholders across the region. The draft Program Areas are Early Action Initiatives, Housing Supportive Infrastructure Program, and County Transportation Commission (CTC) Partnership Program.
- 7. Announcements

8. Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 12:56pm.

DATE: June 23, 2022

TO: Planning Directors' Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE SGVCOG MEASURE M

SUBREGIONAL PROGRAM (MSP) PUBLIC OUTREACH PLAN

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Recommend the Governing Board to revise the SGVCOG Measure M Subregional Program (MSP) Public Outreach Plan.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Measure M, which was a ½ cent sales tax measure to provide funding for transportation improvements across Los Angeles County, was approved by voters in November 2016. In 2018, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) adopted the Measure M Guidelines to establish a process by which subregional funds under Measure M would be programmed by the subregions' respective entities. The SGVCOG was subsequently tasked with programming and administering the MSP funds.

As a result of the passage of Measure M, the SGVCOG adopted Resolution 18-11 in 2018 to create a Public Outreach Plan (Attachment A) for all MSP funding award, reallocation, and program requests. The Plan satisfies the Measure M Guidelines by ensuring that the key stakeholders' inputs are solicited whenever key decisions about the MSP's administrative processes and funding awards are made.

Over the past four years, the SGVCOG diligently followed the Public Outreach Plan as the agency recommended Metro to award more than \$52 million in MSP funds to 21 active transportation, first/last mile, bus system improvements, and highway efficiency projects.

This past month, the SGVCOG Governing Board adopted Resolution 22-25 (Attachment B) to revise the structures of the SGVCOG Public Works TAC and the SGVCOG Planning Directors' TAC. As replacement of these established TACs, working groups in each of these areas would be formed on an as needed basis. As a result of this change, staff proposes to revise the MSP Public Outreach Plan as follows (changes are bolded):

- 1. Staff will develop a preliminary proposed project list for each sub-fund based on cash flow and results for the adopted Mobility Matrix.
- 2. This list will be distributed to COG member agencies and other stakeholders and posted on the COG's website for comment. Staff will attempt to make personal contact with known stakeholders and offer briefings if desired.
- 3. The proposed project list, as well as any comments received, will be **shared with the Public Works Working Group and the Planning Directors' Working Group**, and the City Managers' Steering Committee, for discussion and public input.



- 4. Inputs and recommendations from the Public Works Working Group, Planning Directors' Working Group, and the City Managers' Steering Committee will be forwarded to the COG's Transportation Committee and agendized for discussion and public input.
- 5. Final recommendations from the COG's Transportation Committee will be forwarded to the COG's Governing Board for final approval.
- 6. Upon approval of the MSP 5-Year Plan by the Metro Board and subsequent execution of funding MOU's with each individual project implementing agency, further outreach regarding the design, environmental clearance and construction of those projects will be handled individually by the implementing agency in accordance with funding guidelines and local policies.

Prepared by:

Alexander P. Fung

Senior Management Analyst

Approved by:

**Executive Director** 

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – Resolution 18-11 Attachment B – Resolution 22-25



DATE: June 9, 2022

TO: Transportation Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SUSTAINABLE MULTIMODAL

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

For information only.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The East San Gabriel Valley Sustainable Multimodal Improvement Project is the result of a partnership between the Cities of Azusa, Claremont, Covina, Glendora, La Verne, Pomona, and San Dimas under the leadership of the SGVCOG. The Project aims to provide first/last mile connections, active transportation improvements, and bus system infrastructure enhancements throughout the eastern San Gabriel Valley region. Figure 1 includes a map of the proposed improvements' locations in the seven cities. The yellow line in Figure 1 denotes the extension of the L (Gold) Line.

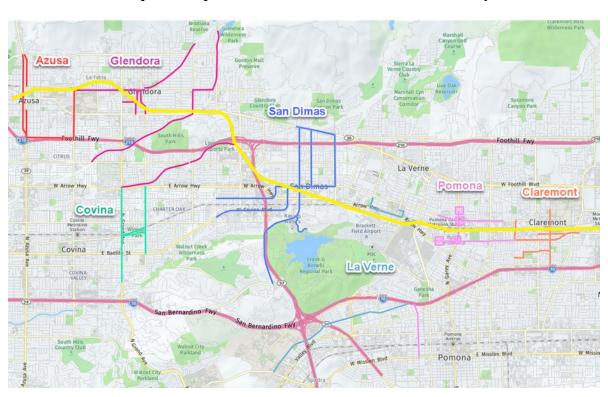


Figure 1: Proposed Improvements in Eastern San Gabriel Valley



The Project was initially suggested by the City of Glendora as a result of the completion of the Arrow Highway Multimodal Corridor Plan. After successfully securing a recommendation from the SGVCOG to receive \$15 million in Measure M Subregional Program (MSP) award funds, the cities selected the SGVCOG to serve as the Project's lead agency to coordinate and manage the design and construction activities.

The proposed improvements provide connectivity to transit stations, employment centers, schools, and major entertainment and recreational centers. They were identified through a series of robust community outreach efforts led by city representatives, community organizations, and residents. Specific improvements include protected bike lanes, ADA-compliant access ramps, sidewalk improvements and repairs, bike infrastructure, bus shelter renovation, pedestrian crossing enhancements, pedestrian bridges, and improved lighting and landscaping.

Given the scale of the Project, the awarded \$15 million from the MSP Program will provide funding to complete the Project's first phase of improvements by the end of 2025. Subsequent phases of improvements will be constructed using funds that will be secured from various sources, including local Measure M, Measure R, Proposition C, and Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) dollars. Additionally, the SGVCOG has submitted an application to the State's Active Transportation Program (ATP) to secure additional grant funding.

Additional information regarding the East San Gabriel Valley Sustainable Multimodal Improvement Project can be found on <a href="https://www.sgvcog.org/east-sgv-project">https://www.sgvcog.org/east-sgv-project</a>. SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, will provide updates on this item.

Prepared by:

Alexander P/Fung

Senior Management Analyst

Approved by:

Marisa Creter

**Executive Director** 



DATE: June 23, 2022

TO: Planning Directors' Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: GOSGV REGIONAL BIKESHARE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In August 2017, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) received \$4.554 million in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund-Active Transportation Program (GGRF-ATP) funds from the California Transportation Commission to launch a regional e-bike share program in the San Gabriel Valley. The program has faced challenges over the years, and SGVCOG worked with local organizations and community stakeholders to reimagine the program.

#### **FUNDING**

In August 2017, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) received \$4.554 million in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund-Active Transportation Program (GGRF-ATP) funds from the California Transportation Commission to launch a regional e-bike share program in the San Gabriel Valley. The program was to deploy 840 e-bikes in 15 participating jurisdictions, with at least 420 e-bikes serving disadvantaged communities (DACs). The program was to be a dockless program so that users could return the e-bikes to any existing bike rack of identified bike parking location. Eligible expenditures for the funding including infrastructure (e.g. e-bikes; stations) and program start-up costs. Operations could not be covered under the grant funding. The funding was to be expended by December 17, 2021.

#### **COVID-RELATED CHALLENGES**

In early 2019, the SGVCOG completed a competitive procurement process. At its February 2019 meeting, the Capital Projects and Construction Committee (CPCC) authorized the Chief Engineer to execute an Agreement with Gotcha Media Holdings, LLC to operate the program. Staff prepared to launch the program in March 2020, but unfortunately, this corresponded with the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic upended the shared mobility industry, as people were told to stay-at-home and people were fearful of shared devices. Some programs shut down – either temporarily or permanently – and, while some programs experienced initial upticks in ridership, it did ultimately fall. Despite this, the SGVCOG was able to launch its initial programs in the summer of 2020. However, like most bike share programs nationwide, ridership remained low, and it was difficult for operators to cover their true operational costs. Many programs halted operations. Gotcha was not immune to these challenges and, unfortunately, as reported to the



CPCC, in January 2021, the SGVCOG was notified that Gotcha ended up dissolving its operations for all of its programs across the country – including the program in the San Gabriel Valley.

#### **GOSGV 2.0**

In spring 2021, SGVCOG staff convened discussions with regional stakeholders, including local non-profits and participating cities, to discuss how the program could be re-launched. While Gotcha's GoSGV program did end after approximately six months of program operation, SGVCOG staff was able to take this opportunity to re-imagine the program to serve the San Gabriel Valley even more effectively. The work completed – including the station siting and the community engagement done in coordination with ActiveSGV as part of the program roll-out – provided a strong foundation and valuable tools to reconsider the Program.

SGVCOG staff determined that a better approach to e-bike share in the San Gabriel Valley was to focus on longer-term bike "check-outs," at station locations that were primarily located off of the public right-of-way. The intent was for local businesses and community partners to serve as the station locations where users could check-out e-bikes. The additional program intent was to specifically target those users who would be the most likely to use an e-bike to replace existing drive-alone trips, thus maximizing the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction of the program. These targeted users included students at colleges and universities, employees at large businesses and campus environments (including business parks), and other community members who may be inclined to try an e-bike for active transportation but may not have the money to purchase it. E-bikes typically cost several thousand dollars, and there can be many other additional barriers — including technical expertise — to initial access. For a monthly cost, users would be able to "checkout" an e-bike for an extended period of time and, during that time, have exclusive access to that e-bike as their own. This program design would not only maximize the VMT impact of the program but also minimize the staffing costs associated with operating the program, as bike rebalancing would be a much smaller component of the Program.

#### **GOSGV PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

#### E-Bikes

In September 2021, staff released a request for quotes (RFQ) for the purchase of 840 e-bikes, including traditional e-bikes and cargo e-bikes. At its October 2021 meeting, the CPCC authorized the Executive Director to execute purchase orders (POs) for the purchase of e-bikes with the selected vendors.

- B-Cycle: purchase of 828 e-bikes;
- Pedal Movement, LLC: purchase of 12 cargo e-bikes.

SGVCOG staff executed these POs in late 2021, and the e-bikes and cargo e-bikes were made available to the SGVCOG. The success in being able to purchase bikes and have them delivered within the grant funding timelines is particularly notable because there continues to be worldwide shortages of e-bikes and massive supply-chain issues.





BCycle: 3-speed Shimano



Pedal Movement: Urban Arrow Family Cargo Bike

#### **Program Operator**

To support program operations, in October 2021, the SGVCOG released a request for proposals (RFP) to select an operator for this modified program. The RFP established the following general scope of work for the operator:

- Manage/administer program that provides longer-term check-out periods for users, including processes, procedures, practices, and schedules for e-bike deployment, customer usage/check-out, customer service, pricing, marketing, and data management to support program viability;
- Manage receipt and inventory of up to 840 e-bikes;
- Provide ongoing, regular maintenance and repair to ensure the e-bikes are in safe and good working condition;
- Provide intuitive, user-friendly, and accessible reservation and registration processes for users;
- Provide customizable user-fee structure that ensures system sustainability;
- Coordinate with SGVCOG and e-bike vendor to accept and manage customer payments;
- Incorporate strategies to minimize e-bike loss that could occur through the non-return of e-bikes, theft, or other mechanisms;
- Incorporate partnerships with local entities (e.g. nonprofits, colleges/universities, local businesses) to support program roll-out and implementation;
- Deploy at least 50% of e-bikes to serve disadvantaged communities;
- Be financially self-sustaining through rider fees, sponsorships, and/or other private funding mechanisms.

The grant does not fund operations; thus, the operator would not receive any funding from the SGVCOG to operate this program. The program was to be entirely self-sustaining through rider fees and sponsorships, although the SGVCOG would also actively look for other additional funding sources – including grants and sponsorships – that could support the operation of the program in the future.

Upon technical review of the proposals, the TEC recommended ActiveSGV - a local non-profit that supports the expansion of bike ridership and other forms of active transportation in the San Gabriel Valley - as the program operator.



#### **GOSGV LAUNCH**

Over the past several months, SGVCOG has been working with ActiveSGV to structure the transformed GoSGV bike share program. As discussed above, San Gabriel Valley residents can check out an e-bike for monthly use. For the duration of their check-out period, the participant will have exclusive use of that e-bike as their own for their daily use. Participants can sign up for the program and pick-up an e-bike from various program partners across the region – rather than on the public right-of-way – or, for an additional cost, have the e-bike delivered to their home. ActiveSGV is working with local bike shops, who will provide maintenance for the e-bikes. The SGVCOG and ActiveSGV are also working with several colleges to implement more locally-based programs on their campuses. The program is also looking to incorporate other program partners – including cities, nonprofit organizations, and businesses – that may benefit from program participation. Planners Working Group members who have recommendations for potential partners that might be interested in program participation are encouraged to reach-out to SGVCOG staff.

The new GoSGV program is intended to re-launch for a beta roll-out in late June or early July 2022, with a public roll-out later in the summer.

Jose Jimenez from ActiveSGV will present to provide the Planning Directors' Working Group with an update on the program status as program roll-out continues.

Prepared by:

Brianne Logasa

Management Analyst

Approved by:

Maris Creter
Executive Director



DATE: June 23, 2022

TO: Planning Directors' Working Group

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: SURPLUS LAND INVENTORY UPDATES

#### RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

#### **BACKGROUND**

SGVCOG was awarded funding from the Southern California Association of Government (SCAG) Regional Early Action Program (REAP) Subregional Partnership Program, which is intended to help accelerate housing production throughout the SCAG region, which includes the San Gabriel Valley, and have a net-positive effect on housing supply by increasing housing planning, meeting the sixth cycle regional housing needs assessment (RHNA).

One such program funded through the REAP program is the San Gabriel Valley Surplus Land Inventory. This project is establishing an inventory of publicly-owned land (e.g. city-owned, County-owned, public agency-owned) and privately-owned sites (e.g. faith-based and nonprofit organizations) that could potentially serve as sites for affordable and/or homeless housing development. This project seeks to identify the most feasible sites for development – including those that have officially been designated as surplus lands and other sites (including sites owned by faith-based or nonprofit organizations) – incorporating feedback and input from stakeholders, and connect these sites with resources and/or potential funding for affordable housing development.

At this Planning Directors' Working Group meeting, the consultant team leading this project on behalf of SGVCOG, LeSar Development Consultants, will provide Working Group members with an update on the inventory thus far, and provide a demonstration of how the inventory tool can be utilized.

Prepared by:

Brianne Logasa

Management Analyst

Approved by:

Marisa Creter

**Executive Director** 

