



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

AGENDA AND NOTICE OF THE **SPECIAL** MEETING OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 27, 2021 -- 8:00 AM

Teleconference Meeting

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86393283336>

Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/2iKrY6CPB0s>

Chair

Becky Shevlin
City of Monrovia

Vice-Chair

Margaret Clark
City of Rosemead

MEMBERS

Arcadia
Azusa
Baldwin Park
Claremont
Duarte
Glendora
Irwindale
Monrovia
Pasadena
Pomona
Rosemead
South El Monte
South Pasadena
Upper San Gabriel Valley
Municipal Water District
West Covina
LA County Supervisorial
District #1

Thank you for participating in today's meeting. The Homelessness Committee encourages public participation and invites you to share your views on agenda items.

MEETINGS: *Regular Meetings of the Homelessness Committee are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 AM at the West Covina Council Chambers Meeting Room (1444 W. Garvey Avenue S., West Covina, CA 91790).* The Meeting agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government's (SGVCOG) Office, 1000 South Fremont Avenue, Suite 10210, Alhambra, CA, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. Copies are available via email upon request (sgv@sgvcog.org). Documents distributed to a majority of the Committee after the posting will be available for review in the SGVCOG office and on the SGVCOG website. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording of your voice.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Your participation is welcomed and invited at all Committee meetings. Time is reserved at each regular meeting for those who wish to address the Board. SGVCOG requests that persons addressing the Committee refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane, or disruptive remarks.

TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE: At a regular meeting, the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee during the public comment period and may also comment on any agenda item at the time it is discussed. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak are asked to complete a comment card or simply rise to be recognized when the Chair asks for public comments to speak. We ask that members of the public state their name for the record and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the Committee on a single item, the Chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of discussion. **The Committee may not discuss or vote on items not on the agenda.**

AGENDA ITEMS: The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the Committee. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the Committee can be fully informed about a matter before making its decision.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member or citizen so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar. If you would like an item on the Consent Calendar discussed, simply tell Staff or a member of the Committee.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the SGVCOG office at (626) 457-1800. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



MEETING MODIFICATIONS DUE TO THE STATE AND LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE THREAT OF COVID-19: AB 361 (Rivas), signed by California Governor Gavin Newsom on September 16, 2021, authorizes local agencies to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and allows for members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or electronically to promote social distancing due to the state and local emergency resulting from the threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To follow the new provisions in AB 361 and ensure the safety of Committee Members and staff for the purpose of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at the Homelessness Committee meeting scheduled for October 27, 2021 at 8:00 AM will not be allowed. To allow for public participation, the Homelessness Committee will conduct its meeting through Zoom Video Communications. To participate in the meeting, download Zoom on any phone or computer device and copy and paste the following link into your browser to access the live meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86393283336>. You may also access the meeting via the livestream link on the front of the agenda page.

Submission of Public Comments: For those wishing to make public comments on agenda and non-agenda items you may submit comments via email or participate by zoom.

- Email: Please submit via email your public comment to Victoria Urenia at vurenia@sgvcog.org at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled meeting time. Please indicate in the Subject Line of the email “FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.” Emailed public comments will be read into the record and will be part of the recorded meeting minutes. Public comment may be summarized in the interest of time, however the full text will be provided to all members of the Committee prior to the meeting.
- Zoom: Through Zoom, you may speak by using the web interface “Raise Hand” feature. Wait to be called upon by staff, and then you may provide verbal comments for up to 3 minutes. Public comment is taken at the beginning of the meeting for items not on the agenda. Public comment is also accepted at the beginning of each agenda item.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact Victoria Urenia at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (323) 828-8674 or at vurenia@sgvcog.org.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment *(If necessary, the Chair may place reasonable time limits on all comments)*

CONSENT CALENDAR *(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)*

5. Adopt Resolution 21-01-HC Making Specified Findings to Enable the Homelessness Committee to Continue to Hold Meetings Via Teleconferencing – Page 1
Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 21-01-HC making specified findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in person thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconferencing
6. Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes – 09/29/2021 – Page 6
Recommended Action: Approve

PRESENTATIONS *(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)*

7. Mental Health Services in Supervisorial District 5 – Anders Corey, Health Deputy, LA County 5th Supervisorial District – Page 10
Recommended Action: For information only.

DISCUSSION ITEMS *(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)*

8. Advocacy for Homeless Services Funding
Recommended Action: For information only.

UPDATE ITEMS *(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)*

9. LA County Homelessness Governance Reform and Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness – Becky Shevlin, Committee Chair – Page 11
Recommended Action: For information only.
10. State Legislative Updates – Victoria Urenia, Management Analyst, SGVCOG – Page 13
Recommended Action: For information only.

LIAISON REPORTS *(It is anticipated the Committee may take action on the following matters)*

11. San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust – Page 21
12. San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness – Page 22
13. LA County Homeless Initiative
14. United Way Everyone In
15. Union Station Homeless Services
16. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) – Page 23

CHAIR'S REPORT

ADJOURN

REPORT

DATE: October 27, 2021

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

**RE: ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-01-HC MAKING SPECIFIED FINDINGS TO
ENABLE THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE TO
HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 21-01-HC making specified findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in person thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconferencing.

BACKGROUND

Introduced by Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) on February 1, 2021, AB 361 codifies portions of Governor Gavin Newsom's existing Ralph M. Brown Act exemptions pertaining to teleconferencing if a local agency issues an emergency finding, and reissues it every 30 days, that it is unsafe to meet in person. Specifically, the Brown Act exemptions include requirements to provide a public teleconference location, to maintain a member quorum within the agency's jurisdiction and to provide for public comment at each teleconference location, such as a private residence. The legislation expires in December 2024. On September 16, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 361 into law, effective immediately.

A local agency wishing to rely on the provisions of AB 361 must meet one of the following criteria:

1. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or
2. The local holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or
3. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency in California due to the threat of COVID-19 and shortly thereafter issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain Brown Act provisions relating to teleconferencing as public meetings began to be held online.¹ However, this Executive Order expired on September 30, 2021, despite the State of Emergency remaining in place.

¹ Similarly, on March 4, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Health Officer declared a local and health emergency due to the threat of COVID-19.

The threat that COVID-19 has presented continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to conduct Governing Board/committee meetings safely in person. Updated guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Los Angeles Department of Public Health in July and August 2021 advise governmental entities to refrain from conducting indoor meetings and consider moving operations outdoors, where feasible, to prevent transmission. SGVCOG staff finds it has been unable to find a suitable outdoor space with the requisite audio/visual capabilities at which the monthly Committee meetings can be held safely. Similarly, an indoor space with sufficient capacity to accommodate safe social distance practices among members, staff, and the public could not be identified

In order to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner and to prevent unnecessary COVID-19 exposure to members, staff and the public, staff is recommending that the Homelessness Committee adopt Resolution 21-01-HC making certain findings in order to be able to continue teleconferencing for its meetings.

Prepared by: Victoria Urenia
Victoria Urenia
Management Analyst

Approved by: Marija Creter
Marija Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Resolution 21-01-HC

RESOLUTION 21-01-HC

**RESOLUTION OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE OF THE
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SGVCOG) MAKING
SPECIFIED FINDINGS TO ENABLE THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE TO
CONTINUE TO HOLD MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

WHEREAS, AB 361 (Rivas), and specifically Government Code section 54953 (“Section 54953”), authorizes local agencies to use teleconferencing without complying with the specified teleconferencing requirements imposed by the Ralph M. Brown Act when the legislative body of a local agency holds a meeting during a declared state of emergency and makes certain findings relating thereto; and

WHEREAS, Section 54953 allows for local agencies to teleconference if the legislative body finds, among other things, that state or local official continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing or whether a state of emergency directly impacts the ability of the legislative body to meet safely and that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of California proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as result of the threat of COVID-19, which state of emergency remains in place; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Health Officer declared a local and health emergency as result of the threat of COVID-19, which emergency remains in place; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County and State health officials continue to recommend social distancing as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, due to the resurgence of COVID-19 reported cases and surge of the Delta variant statewide and in particular, in Los Angeles County, the California Department of Public Health’s Best Practice Guidance encourages all governmental entities to refrain from conducting indoor meetings and consider moving operations outdoors, where feasible, in order to prevent transmission; and

WHEREAS, SGVCOG’s inability to facilitate Governing Board and Committee meetings using a centralized outdoor space with audio/visual capabilities, as well as the lack of indoor capacity to accommodate safe social distance practices among members and joining staff makes it unsafe for its members and the public to meet safely in person; and

WHEREAS, teleconferencing meetings enables the SGVCOG to retain the ability to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner that would reduce exposure to members and staff to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, public access and participation remain a core value of the SGVCOG, and the SGVCOG has the capability to meet the requirements in Section 54953 to provide the public with

the ability to view, hear, and participate in such meetings in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of all persons to participate in such meetings; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of extending the use of the provisions to conduct remote teleconference meetings without compliance with specified Brown Act teleconference requirements, the SGVCOG must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency that exists, and the SGVCOG Homelessness Committee has done so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Homelessness Committee does hereby find the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by COVID-19 continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in person and local and state health officials continue to recommend social distancing.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED by the Homelessness Committee of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, on October 27, 2021.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Becky Shevlin, President

Attest:

I, Marisa Creter, Executive Director and Secretary of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, do hereby certify that Resolution 21-01-HC was adopted at a meeting of the Homelessness Committee held on the 27th day of October, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

Marisa Creter, Secretary



SGVCOG Special Homelessness Committee Unapproved Minutes

Date: September 29, 2021

Time: 8:00 AM

Location: Zoom teleconference

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Members Present

A. Verlato, Arcadia
R. Gonzales, Azusa
Y. Esparza, Baldwin Park
J. Leano, Claremont
J. Schulz, Duarte
K. Davis, Glendora
M. Ortiz, Irwindale
B. Shevlin, Monrovia
W. Huang, Pasadena
M. Clark, Rosemead
R. Corral, South El Monte
M. Cacciotti, South Pasadena
J. Santana, Upper District
R. Diaz, West Covina
F. Briones, LA County Dist. 1

Members Absent

Guests

M. Brown, DMH
L. Boyd, DMH

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter
C. Sims
B. Acevedo
T. Lott
V. Urenia
S. Pedersen

4. Public Comment
No request for public comment.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes – 09/01/21
Recommended Action: Approve.

There was a motion to approve consent calendar items 6 and 7 M/S: (K. Davis/A. Verlato)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Arcadia; Baldwin Park; Claremont; Glendora; Irwindale; Monrovia; Rosemead; South El Monte; South Pasadena; Upper District; LA County District 1
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	Azusa; Pomona
ABSENT:	Duarte; Pasadena; West Covina

ACTION ITEMS

- 6.** Measure H 2022-2023 City Program Applications
C. Sims provided a presentation on staff's recommendations to fund City Programs based on Measure H applications received by the SGVCOG. The recommendations included \$350,000 in funding for City Programs and a direction for staff to continue to work with Baldwin Park on the viability of a resource hub program.

There was a motion to recommend that the Governing Board take the following actions:

1) approve the following Measure H 2022-2023 City Programs:

City/Cohort	Project	Not-to-Exceed Award Amount
Claremont/La Verne/Pomona Cohort	Community Navigation with Tri-City Mental Health & Interm Housing	\$200,000
Montebello	Montebello Community Assistance Program (MCAP)	\$50,000
Monrovia	Family and Advocate Support Services (FASS) for the Housing Displacement Response Plan (HDRP)	\$50,000
Azusa	Prevention/Diversion/Voucher Program for Azusa Neighborhood Connections Program	\$50,000

- 2) Direct staff to work with the City of Baldwin Park to determine the viability of a reduced funding award and provide an update to the Homelessness Committee at a future meeting. M/S: (M. Cacciotti/A. Verlato).**

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Arcadia; Azusa; Baldwin Park; Claremont; Duarte; Glendora; Irwindale; Monrovia; Pasadena; Pomona; Rosemead; South El Monte; South Pasadena; West Covina; Upper District; LA County District 1
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NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

PRESENTATIONS

LA County Department of Mental Health (DMH)

Deputy Director of Emergency Outreach and Triage Division at LA County DMH M. Brown, provided information on the broad range of crisis response programs the County offers. Particular focus was given to the following: Psychiatric Mobile Response Team (PMRT), Therapeutic Transportation Teams (TTT), and Mobile Engagement Teams (MET). The Committee was interested in getting data specific to SPA 3 and directed staff to coordinate M. Brown on collecting that as well as facilitating a PMRT ride-along.

7. Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) – Laura’s Law
Program Manager at LA County DMH, L. Boyd provided context regarding Laura’s Law and how it’s being implemented in California. L. Boyd highlighted Full-Service Partnership (FSP) models which meets clients where they are and Enriched Residential Services (ERS) which provides a live-in environment. Referrals to AOT are made by family, roommate, courts, hospitals, mental health providers, peace officers etc. As of July 2021, the AOT Program transitioned from a pilot program to a fully implemented “opt-out” program across the state. The Committee made a request for getting additional SPA 3 specific data from L. Boyd.

UPDATE ITEM

8. LA County Homelessness Governance Reform and Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness
Chair B. Shevlin provided updates on the initial Blue-Ribbon Commission meetings and encouraged committee members to contact SGVCOG staff and herself directly to ensure our regional concerns are expressed at this forum.
9. Federal and State Budget and Legislative Updates
V. Urenia provided the Federal and State Budget and Legislative Updates. SB 15 has become a 2-year bill. SB 679 is still a 2-year bill but is effectively dead. AB 816 has been passed by the legislature and presented to the governor. AB 1220 has been passed by the legislature and presented to the governor. AB 1331 has passed the legislature and presented to the governor.
10. LA Alliance for Human Rights et al. v. City of Los Angeles et al.
S. Pedersen presented updates from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals which reversed Judge Carters injunction requiring \$1 billion be held in escrow to address homelessness and offer housing to all unhoused individuals on Skid Row within 180 days. The case will likely continue but plaintiff’s now face significant hurdles to overcome. The reversal is generally good news for cities and the county because

if upheld, it may have created previously non-existent affirmative duties to provide housing and other aid to people who experiencing homelessness.

LIAISON REPORTS

11. San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust
J. Leano shared that at the September 8 the SGVRHT governing board meeting the following allocations were made:
 - \$4 million for homeless housing pilot programs
 - \$8 million for funding pipeline projects
 - \$8 million for a revolving loan fund to assist with acquisition for development
14. San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness
15. LA County Homeless Initiative
16. United Way Everyone In
17. Union Station Homeless Services
18. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

Liaison reports from San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust and the San Gabriel Valley Consortium were provided in the agenda packet.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Shevlin, adjourned the meeting by sharing how pervasive substance abuse and mental health issues are in our unhoused population and lamented how the need far outweighs the resources and services available. Chair Shelvin thanked the presenters M. Brown and L. Boyd for shedding light on this complicated issue and encouraged members to reach out to make testimony at the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM.

REPORT

DATE: October 27, 2021

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BACKGROUND

Over the last several months, the Homelessness Committee has had several discussions on the mental health services for persons experiencing homelessness (PEH) available in the San Gabriel Valley. For example, at its April 2021 meeting, the Committee heard a presentation on the Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center (BHUCC) located in the City of Industry. At last month's meeting, the Committee also heard presentations from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH)'s Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRT), Therapeutic Teams, and Mobile Engagement Teams (MET), and Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT).

As a continuation of these conversations, at the October 27, 2021, meeting, Anders Corey, Health Deputy for LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, to speak to District 5's mental health priorities and the new BHUCC, located in the Antelope Valley. The new High Desert location in Lancaster just opened in late summer 2021. This new facility will serve people in the Antelope Valley who are experiencing a mental health crisis. This location is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week. On site there is an adult unit equipped to serve 12 adults, and an adolescent unit equipped to serve 6 adults (ages 13-17). Additionally, the presentation will also provide an overview of the region's vision, approach and services that support people experiencing homelessness.

The BHUCC is designed to alleviate the impact on hospital emergency rooms that are not equipped to deal with mental health related issues. BHUCC is operated by Star View Behavioral Health (Star View) through a partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH).

Prepared by: Victoria Urenia
Victoria Urenia
Management Analyst

Approved by: Marisa Creter
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

DATE: October 27, 2021

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **L.A. COUNTY HOMELESSNESS GOVERNANCE REFORM AND BLUE-RIBBON COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

RECENT UPDATES

September 22, 2021 Meeting

The second Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness meeting was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021. SGVCOG President Becky Shevlin was one of two representatives from the Council of Governments. The BRCH elected Commissioner Sarah Dusseault - member of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Commission and appointee of Supervisor Hilda Solis - and Commissioner Christian Horvath - Redondo Beach councilmember and representative of the councils of governments - as co-chairs of the BRCH. The Commission also heard presentations on LA County's efforts to achieve racial equity and the functions of the Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Unit in the CEO's Office, LAHSA's Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) and Homeless Youth Forum LA (HYFLA), the LA County Homeless Initiative, and LAHSA's history and current responsibilities.

October 6, 2021 Meeting

The third meeting was held on October 6, 2021. Visiting Senior Fellow from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Ann Oliva, presented on her report, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority: Report on Governance. The report provided an analysis of recommendations to improve LAHSA's governance structure. Additionally, LAHSA's presentation for the regular meeting provided an overview of LAHSA's background, governance, duties, functions, strengths, and challenges. Future meetings are expected to include presentations about Measure H funding, other City models, and experts on the Continuum of Care, from the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as representatives from the City of LA.


October 20, 2021 Meeting

The fourth meeting was held on October 20, 2021. SGVCOG Executive Director, Marisa Creter presented on the SGVCOG's White Paper on LAHSA Reform which highlights the need to reform LAHSA and incorporate cities into LAHSA's processes and governance. The Commission also heard a presentation on the County of Los Angeles' Report on Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's Governance, which provided background on the County of Los Angeles' motion directing staff to conduct an analysis of the structure of LAHSA Report on Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's Governance. There was an additional presentation on Measure H that

REPORT

provided background of Homeless Initiative strategies and their core function for funding, in addition to an overview of funding collection and allocation for Homeless Initiative Strategy Funding Plan and Homeless and Housing Program Budget.

Meetings will be held every other Wednesday at 9:00 a.m., with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 3. Meetings will be held over the next 6 months, at which point the Commission will produce its recommendations. Some SGVCOG member Cities have started meeting with BRCH Executive Director, Mary Wickham and her staff to coordinate presenting testimony at the upcoming November 3rd and November 17th meetings.

Prepared by: 
Victoria Urenia
Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

DATE: October 27, 2021

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

SB 15 (Portantino) - Housing development: incentives: rezoning of idle retail sites.

- **Summary:** This bill, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the Budget Act or other act, would require the Department of Housing and Community Development to administer a program to provide incentives in the form of grants allocated as provided to local governments that rezone idle sites used for a big box retailer or a commercial shopping center to instead allow the development of housing, as defined.
- **Status:** On June 2, 2021, the bill passed from the Senate to the Assembly. This bill has become a two-year bill.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Support and direct staff to work with the author and the co-authors to seek clarification and possibly make modifications to the bill to improve its efficacy in delivering affordable housing and provide updates on the Bill as necessary. Senator Portantino acknowledged the need for amendments as requested by SGVCOG during a meeting with the SGVRHT.

SB 679 (Kamlager) - Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency

- **Summary:** SB 679 (Kamlager) would establish the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency and would state that the agency's purpose is to increase affordable housing in Los Angeles County by providing for significantly enhanced funding and technical assistance at a regional level for renter protections, affordable housing preservation, and new affordable housing production, as specified, housing preservation, and new affordable housing production, as specified. The bill would require a board composed of 19 voting members and one nonvoting member from Los Angeles County, as specified, to govern the agency.
- **Status:** Two-year bill most recently referred to and amended by the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development. The bill is effectively dead. The bill sponsor wanted to form the entity by January so that it would be able to put the desired measure on the November 2022 ballot. The bill would have needed to move forward by early September in order to accomplish that.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch. The SGVRHT opposed the bill unless amended to include the following:
 - A direct transfer of the funding allocated to the San Gabriel Valley to the SGVRHT

to be administered at its sole discretion, in accordance with the priorities of the LACAHS.

- Increased formula funding allocated for direct programs and projects.
- Reduction in the percentage of funding allowed for administration.
- Funding caps for consultants and outside travel expenses.
- Adequate geographic representation, with increased representation for the San Gabriel Valley on the Board of Directors.
- Increased flexibility in the approach to meet income affordability targets by eliminating specific project-by-project affordability goals.
- Strengthened accountability and transparency.
- Authorization of funding sources that do not increase the cost of housing.

AB 816 (Chiu) - Homelessness: Housing Trust Fund: housing projects.

- **Summary:** Existing law requires the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to collaborate with the California Housing Finance Agency to develop an allocation plan to demonstrate how Housing Trust Fund grants will be distributed, based on the priority housing needs identified in the state's consolidated plan, and to convene a stakeholder process to inform the development of the plan. This bill would require the department to prioritize funding for projects that serve people experiencing homelessness, to the extent that enough projects exist. The bill would authorize the department to alter priority for funding to align eligibility for possible benefits, including Medi-Cal benefits that are intended to assist people experiencing homelessness.
- **Status:** Introduced February 16, 2021. Approved by the Governor and chaptered by Secretary of State on September 29, 2021.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

AB 1220 (Rivas, Luz) - California Interagency Council on Homelessness

- **Summary:** Would rename the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to the California Interagency Council on Homelessness and remove authorization for the Secretary of Business, Consumer Services and Housing's designee to serve as chair of the council. The bill would also change the composition of the council, as specified, including by creating and specifying the membership of an advisory committee to the council. The bill would also provide that the appointed members of the council or committees serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority. The bill would also require that upon request of the council, a state agency or department that administers one or more state homelessness programs, as described, to participate in council workgroups, task forces, or other similar administrative structures and to provide to the council any relevant information regarding those state homelessness programs.
- **Status:** Introduced February 12, 2021. Approved by the Governor and chaptered by Secretary of State on September 29, 2021.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

MENTAL HEALTH LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Below is an overview of current state legislation related to mental health.

AB 1340 (Santiago) - Mental health services: involuntary detention.

- **Summary:** Would expand the definition of “gravely disabled” – for the purposes of the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act – to include a condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for their basic personal needs for medical treatment, if the failure to receive medical treatment is either for an existing life-threatening medical condition, or the person is in imminent danger of physical injury or life-threatening medical condition and there is a substantial and imminent risk of either death or prolonged hospitalization.
- **Status:** Introduced on February 12, 2021. Amended and re-referred to Committee on Health on March 26, 2021. This Bill has become a two-year bill. On October 13, 2021, the SGVCOG submitted a letter of support (Attachment A) to the Assembly Health Committee and the author, Assemblyman Santiago.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Homelessness Committee supported this bill at its April meeting.

AB 741 (Bennett) - Jails: discharge plan.

- **Summary:** Would require a sheriff to make the release standards, release processes, and release schedules of a county jail available to incarcerated persons upon their booking into County jail. Current law authorizes a county sheriff to discharge a person from a county jail at any time that the sheriff considers to be in the best interests of that person and to allow the person to stay in jail for additional time in order to offer the person the ability to be discharged to a treatment center. The Bill would also allow a person incarcerated in or recently released from a county jail access to up to three free telephone calls to plan for a safe and successful release. The Bill would require each county sheriff to convene a mentally ill discharge plans advisory group, including stakeholders that support mentally ill individuals who have been incarcerated, for the purposes of making recommendations for county jail discharge plans for individuals with mental illness who have been incarcerated for 30 days or more.
- **Status:** Introduced February 16, 2021. Amended and re-referred to Committee on Public Safety on March 22, 2021. If the Bill has not cleared the House of Origin by January 31, 2022, it will die
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

AB 574 (Chen) - Guardians ad litem: mental illnesses.

- **Summary:** Would establish an additional procedure for the appointment of a guardian ad litem for a person who lacks the capacity to make rational informed decisions regarding medical care, mental health care, safety, hygiene, shelter, food, or clothing with a rational thought process due to a mental illness, defect, or deficiency.
- **Status:** Introduced February 11, 2021. Referred to Committees on Health and Judiciary on February 18, 2021. If the Bill has not cleared the House of Origin by January 31, 2022, it will die.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

SB 340 (Stern) - Lanterman-Petris-Short Act: hearings.

- **Summary:** Would authorize a family member, friend, or acquaintance with personal knowledge of a person receiving treatment under the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act to make a request in writing to the person’s counsel to testify in the judicial review

proceedings of the person's involuntary commitment. The Act authorizes the involuntary commitment and treatment of persons with specified mental health disorders at a designated facility for 72-hour treatment and evaluation for the protection of the committed person. Under the Act, there is judicial review of the involuntary commitment and reasonable attempts must be made by the mental health facility to notify family members or any other person designated by the patient of the time and place of judicial review.

- **Status:** Introduced February 9, 2021. Passed and ordered to the Assembly on May 10, 2021. Re-referred to Committee on Rules on June 17, 2021.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Support

SB 106 (Umberg) - Mental Health Services Act: homelessness.

- **Summary:** Would amend the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) – a measure enacted by voters in 2004 to establish and appropriate funds to the Mental Health Services Fund to fund various county mental health programs – to expand counties' abilities to spend funds on existing innovative programs without additional approval by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. Existing law requires counties to engage in specified planning activities, including creating and updating a 3-year program and expenditure plan through a stakeholder process. Counties can spend 5% of MHSA money on innovative programs, upon approval of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.
- **Status:** Introduced January 5, 2021. Read second time and amended and re-referred to Committee on Appropriations on May 3, 2021. Held in committee and under submission on May 20, 2021. If the Bill has not cleared the House of Origin by January 31, 2022, it will die.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

AB 1331 (Irwin) - Mental health: Statewide Director of Crisis Services.

- **Summary:** Would require the Director of Health Care Services to appoint a full-time Statewide Director of Crisis Services who would establish, monitor, and sustain a comprehensive crisis care system to coordinate with the Department of Managed Health Care, the Department of Insurance, and other departments, agencies, and entities, as necessary, to ensure the existence of a comprehensive, integrated, and reliable network of services.
- **Status:** Introduced on February 19, 2021. Passed by the Assembly and Senate and presented to the Governor on September 13, 2021. Vetoed by Governor on October 7, 2021.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

AB 785 (Rivas, Robert) - Mental health.

- **Summary:** Would, upon appropriation, establish the Mental Health Response and Treatment Challenge Grant Pilot Program to provide a statewide investment program to provide funds and flexibility to cities, counties, cities and counties, or other local governmental agencies that interact with the criminal justice system to develop programs that seek to improve services in 3 areas: the response capacity and ability of mental health crisis responders and mental health crisis assistance centers; the quality of mental health diversion programs, and mental health treatment that serves people in the justice system.

The Board of State and Community Corrections to administer the pilot program and award grants on a competitive basis.


- **Status:** Introduced on February 16, 2021. Referred to Committees on Public Safety and Health on February 25, 2021. In Committee the first hearing was set, but the hearing was canceled at the request of the author on April 6, 2021. If the Bill has not cleared the House of Origin by January 31, 2022, it will die.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

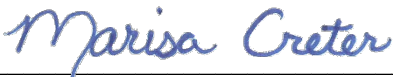
H.R. 8639 - Mental Health Justice Act of 2020

- **Summary:** Would authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to States and political subdivisions of States to hire, employ, train, and dispatch mental health professionals to respond in lieu of law enforcement officers in emergencies involving one or more persons with a mental illness or an intellectual or developmental disability, and for other purposes.
- **Status:** Introduced in the House on October 20, 2020, by Congresswoman Katie Porter. The bill currently has approximately 80 cosponsors. The bill did not receive a vote during the 116th Congress.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

AB 1372 (Muratsuchi):

- **Summary:** Requires every city, or every county in the case of unincorporated areas, to provide every person who is homeless with temporary shelter, mental health treatment, resources for job placement, and job training until the person obtains permanent housing if the person has actively sought temporary shelter in the jurisdiction for at least 3 consecutive days and has been unable to gain entry into all temporary shelters they sought for specified reasons, requires the city or county to provide a rent subsidy, if it is unable to provide temporary shelter, and authorizes a person who is homeless to enforce the bill's provisions by bringing a civil action.
- **Status:** Introduced on February 19, 2021. Referred to Committees on Housing and Community Development and Judiciary on March 4, 2021. If the Bill has not cleared the House of Origin by January 31, 2022, it will die.
- **SGVCOG Position:** Watch

Prepared by: 
Victoria Urenia
Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – SGVCOG AB 1340 Letter of Support



October 13, 2021

The Honorable Jim Wood,
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, California 95814

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Pasadena

Pomona

Rosemead

San Dimas

San Gabriel

San Marino

Sierra Madre

South El Monte

South Pasadena

Temple City

Walnut

West Covina

First District, LA County
Unincorporated Communities

Fourth District, LA County
Unincorporated Communities

Fifth District, LA County
Unincorporated Communities

SGV Water Districts

RE: AB 1340 (SANTIAGO), GRAVELY DISABLED DEFINITION – SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Wood:

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) supports Assembly Bill 1340 (Santiago), which would expand the definition of “gravely disabled” and provide funding to ensure that homeless persons with serious mental illnesses receive medical treatment and other services urgently needed to avoid imminent and serious harm to their health. Enclosed is a Resolution of support adopted by the SGVCOG Governing Board.

An estimated quarter of California’s 150,000 homeless population are severely mentally ill. AB 1340 would provide for court appointment of a conservator for a person determined beyond a reasonable doubt to be gravely disabled as a result of mental illness. Currently, state law fails to address the needs of homeless people with a mental illness who are unable to provide for ongoing medical treatment. Mental illness and homelessness often act as barriers to medical care, leaving these individuals at the highest risk of dying on the streets. AB 1340 would remedy this situation by expanding the definition of “gravely disabled” under the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act to allow urgently needed medical treatment to be considered as a basic human need when assessing an individual’s need for conservatorship, while maintaining all statutorily protected safeguards and civil liberties.

Additionally, according to the State Auditor’s report of July 2020, far too many mentally ill homeless individuals are released from temporary holds for treatment only to revert to homelessness and further mental illness. AB 1340 will require that discharge plans for those individuals exiting a hold or conservatorship are connected to community-based services and allows state funds authorized by Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act, to be used to pay for needed services and treatment.

SGVCOG appreciates your attention to this letter and attached Resolution of support for AB 1340. Questions regarding this matter may be directed to SGVCOG Director of Government and Community Relations Paul Hubler at phubler@sgvcog.org.

Sincerely,

Becky Shevlin, President
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Attachment: Resolution in Support of Assembly Bill 1340

cc: Assemblymember Miguel Santiago (*Via email to Marilyn.Limon@asm.ca.gov*)
San Gabriel Valley State Legislative Caucus

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
1000 South Fremont Avenue, Unit #42 ♦ Alhambra, California 91803

RESOLUTION 21-24
RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SGVCOG) SUPPORTING
ASSEMBLY BILL 1340 (SANTIAGO)

WHEREAS, existing law, the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act, authorizes the involuntary commitment and treatment of persons with specified mental health disorders for the protection of the persons committed; and

WHEREAS, under the LPS Act, if a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is a danger to others, or to themselves, or is “gravely disabled,” the person may be taken into custody by an LPS designated professional and placed in a facility designated by the County and approved by the State Department of Social Services for 72-hour treatment and evaluation; and

WHEREAS, existing law defines “gravely disabled” to mean a condition in which a person, as a result of a mental disorder, is unable to provide for their basic personal needs which include food, clothing or shelter; and

WHEREAS, this bill would expand the definition of “gravely disabled” to also include a condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for their basic personal needs for medical treatment, if the failure to receive medical treatment is either for an existing life-threatening medical condition or the person is in imminent danger of death or prolonged hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, this bill was reviewed and recommended for support by the Homelessness Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board does hereby support Assembly Bill 1340 (Santiago).

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 15th day of April, 2021.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

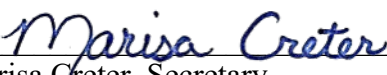


Margaret Clark, President

Attest:

I, Marisa Creter, Executive Director and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, do hereby certify that Resolution 21-24 was adopted at a regular meeting of the Governing Board held on the 15th day of April, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:	Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, El Monte, Glendora, Industry, Irwindale, La Canada Flintridge, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut, West Covina, L.A. County District #1, L.A. County District #4, L.A. County District #5, SGV Water Districts
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
NO VOTE RECORDED:	
ABSENT:	Baldwin Park, Bradbury, Duarte



Marisa Creter, Secretary

REPORT

DATE: October 27, 2021

TO: Homelessness Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **LIAISON REPORTS**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY REGIONAL HOUSING TRUST

In September the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) Board allocated \$4 million to homeless pilot programs including the operations of the tiny home pilots in Baldwin Park and Montebello and capital funding to develop additional tiny home sites or facilitate alternative homeless housing pilots. \$1.8 million dollars is committed to existing projects and \$2.2 million dollars is available for project applications.

Pilot programs must produce homeless housing beds or units. Up to \$25,000 will be provided for homeless housing beds or units that are made available for two or more years and prorated funding is available for programs operated for a minimum of one year. Eligible funding uses include: non-congregate bridge housing (tiny homes); bridge housing or emergency shelter, adaptive reuse, site acquisition (master leasing), and other programs that produce homeless housing beds or units.

On October 13th the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (SGVRHT) hosted a working group meeting to discuss the Letter of Interest (LOI) and Application process to apply for funding. Interested cities are asked to submit an LOI and Application to describe their project in as much detail as possible. SGVRHT staff is available to assist with the application process.

NEXT STEPS

The LOI, Application, and slides from the working group meeting are available at sgvrht.org. If you have any questions, please contact Brielle Acevedo, bacevedo@sgvrht.org.

THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CONSORTIUM ON HOMELESSNESS

The SGV Consortium on Homelessness continues to provide regional coordination with amazing partners and stakeholders, using the Collective Impact model, to build the momentum to prevent and end homelessness in the SGV. A few items to highlight include:

Consortium Monthly Meetings: Our October 13th meeting focused the Homeless Initiative Strategies and community input. It was a healthy discussion with breakout groups to evaluate, assess and comment on the existing and proposed strategies. There was also a brief presentation from LAHSA on their LEAB (Lived Experience Advisory Board), as they are attempting to recruit those with lived experience, to be involved at all levels of decision making. Our November 10th meeting will focus on Crisis Response Models including the City of Claremont, CAHOOTS, the Study from the COG consultants, as well as updates from DMH and new response team updates.

Regional Homeless Coordination: The Regional Homeless Coordination Program continues with completion of all 14 kick-off meetings. The Kick-off meetings help each city to identify strengths and gaps of service, as well as opportunities for partnerships or collaboration and threats to success. Action Plan Addendum DRAFTS are being completed, and we will then have a follow up meeting with each city. The end result will be an Action Plan Addendum to their city homeless plan that includes action steps for effective implementation. Our overall goal is to increase capacity of local responses and build momentum across the SGV, in order to have each community be successful to prevent and end homelessness in the SGV region. If a city still wants to participate in the Regional Homeless Coordination program, please contact the Consortium or the COG.

LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY (LAHSA)

LAHSA, SPA 3 Report

1. We are also happy to announce that HUD has awarded LAHSA – in its capacity as the LA CoC lead agency – a \$15 million Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project grant to address youth homelessness. It is the first time such an award has come to LA. Over the coming months, LAHSA will collaborate with youth service providers, system partners, and the Homeless Youth Forum of LA (HYFLA), to develop a Coordinated Community Plan to address youth homelessness across the CoC. Once HUD approves the CCP, LAHSA will use the \$15 million to fund permanent housing, rapid re-housing, and innovative programs. So special appreciation to the partners who supported the application process.
2. LAHSA is looking for candidates to join the Lived Experience Advisory Board. As you know, LEAB's mission is to provide advice and counsel to LAHSA and its partners as we make strives to end homelessness. LAHSA is seeking motivated individuals with lived experience of homelessness and a passion for ending homelessness. Due to historic underrepresentation on LEAB, we strongly encourage Black men, transgender individuals, American Indian and Alaska-Native representatives, and individuals from SPA 1, SPA 2, SPA 4, and SPA 5 to apply. If you are interested, please visit the application page. The deadline to submit is November 1st: <https://losangeleshomelesservicesauthority-bpzao.formstack.com/forms/leab>
3. On the CES Policy side, the Interim CES Policy on COVID-19 Crisis Management has been extended through January 2022. This was approved by the CES Policy Council. The Interim CES Policy essentially allows the continuation of prioritizing people at high risk of contracting COVID to be matched to permanent supportive housing resources, that is subject to availability.
4. The 2022 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Update: We are moving forward with the 2022 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. This year, we are working to make sure that every safety precaution is in place in order to have a successful Count. The Homeless Count will be taking place from January 25-27. The specific date for each SPA is below:
 - Jan 25 - SPA 2, 3 (night)
 - Jan 26 - SPA 5, 7, 8 (night)
 - Jan 27 - SPA 1 (morning), 4, 6 (night)
 - One major development this year is that we will be using a Count App – no more tally sheets will be used for the Count. We are partnering up with Akido Labs to develop this new App. This will make the counting process easier and more effective. We will provide the necessary trainings to leads and volunteers on how to use the App.
 - We will continue to use the site theycountwillyou.org for coordination and registration efforts.

- There are opportunities to lead a deployment site, help with volunteer recruitment, and go out to count! I will put down my email again on the chat, if you are interested in leading a deployment site.
 - Please contact Pablo De Lara, pdelara@lahsa.org , if you have any questions.
5. For stakeholders in SPA 1, 3, and 7 – LAHSA and SPA providers have launched a new Employment Program Pilot that connects people experiencing homelessness with career opportunities, job training, and even immediate hire. For questions or to get involved in the Employment Program, please reach out to Atef Beshay from LAHSA at abeshay@lahsa.org.