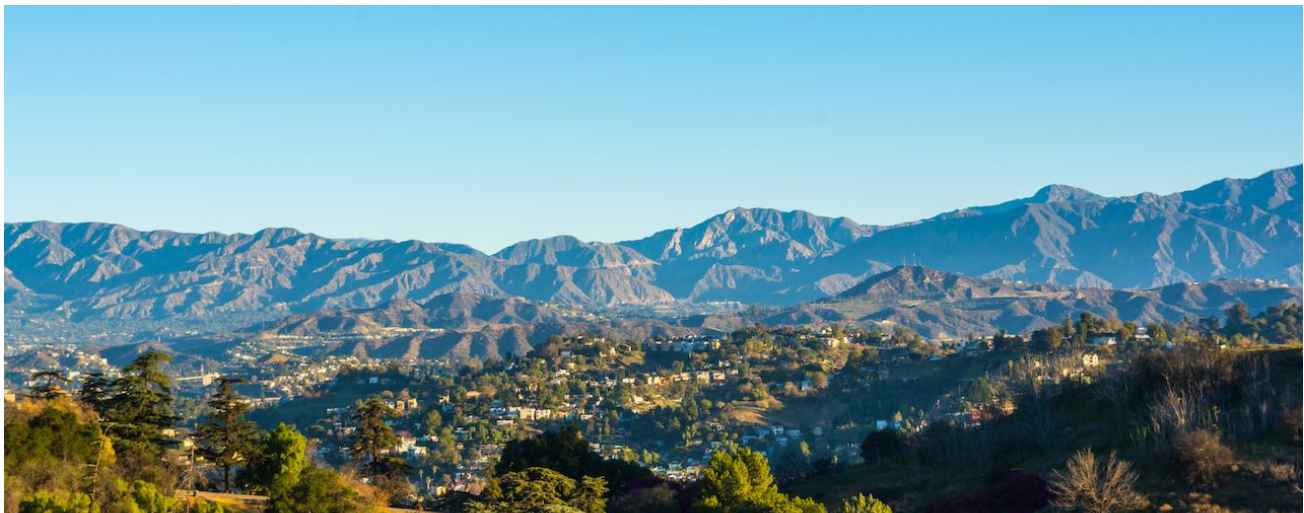


VALLEY VOICE

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



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SGVCOG Governing Board Elects 2019-2020 Executive Officers

At the June 6th meeting, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) Governing Board voted to re-elect its four executive officers to serve another term in their existing posts. Governing Board members unanimously voted to elect Temple City Councilmember Cynthia Sternquist as President, Rosemead Mayor Margaret Clark as 1st Vice President, Monrovia Councilmember Becky Shevlin as 2nd Vice President, and La Verne Councilmember Tim Hepburn as 3rd Vice President.

The four officers are excited to lead the SGVCOG to accomplish the goals that were set out in the SGVCOG Strategic Plan that was revised earlier this year. A summary of the officers' goals for the 2019-2020 fiscal year can be found on the next page.

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SGVCOG Elects 2019-2020 Executive Officers (Cont.)

**Cynthia Sternquist | SGVCOG President**

Councilmember, Temple City

I am grateful to serve as President for the third year and it really has been an honor to serve our cities and residents. Now that ACE has been fully integrated into the COG, I look forward to working on accomplishing the goals listed in the newly-revised strategic plan. I also look forward to working with our partners to secure additional funding for our cities to implement homeless plans and provide funding for the cities that are in need of completing homeless plans.

**Margaret Clark | SGVCOG 1st Vice President**

Mayor, Rosemead

Since I have been on the SGVCOG Governing Board, I am thankful that the issues that I've been focusing on align with the other regional committees that I serve on. This year, on the homelessness issue, I plan to advocate with our partners to retrofit vacant government buildings with beds to screen and help those with mental illnesses and drug addictions to receive treatment. Additionally, I hope to add job training programs for those enrolled in rapid rehousing initiatives.

**Becky A. Shevlin | SGVCOG 2nd Vice President**

Councilmember, Monrovia

I am extremely thankful to be serving as the 2nd Vice President for this coming year. I look forward to work with our partners and member agencies to provide continued support to the Governing Board, promote local and regional opportunities for our cities, and make myself available to assist our members to achieve productive representation. I will also work to help our member agencies secure the funding and resources needed to address the homeless issues within the San Gabriel Valley.

**Tim Hepburn | SGVCOG 3rd Vice President**

Councilmember, La Verne

I am very pleased to have been selected for another term and to work with the Governing Board, our COG staff, and our member agencies. I want to make sure we continue our work on the homeless issues and secure funding for all our communities, review State and Federal bills and ensure that our cities' local controls are not taken away, and support the merging of ACE and the COG. Additionally, I will work with the Governing Board to make sure all our committees have support.

SGVCOG's San Gabriel Trench Grade Separation Project Wins Statewide Top Honor

The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) named SGVCOG's San Gabriel Trench Grade Separation Project as Project of the Year at its 30th Annual Transportation Awards that was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019. The award recognizes the premier transportation project in California from all regions of the state. This year's statewide winner was selected from among more than 60 nominations.

The 2.2-mile project was the largest public works project in the history of the City of San Gabriel and the largest project in the \$1.7 billion Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) grade separation program overseen by the SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee. The project resulted in the lowering of a 1.4-mile section of railroad track in a 30-foot-deep and 65-foot-wide trench through the City of San Gabriel with roadway bridges constructed at four hazardous at-grade crossings and railroad bridges built over two storm channels.

The trench improves safety by eliminating the potential for crossing collisions, delays for nearly 90,000 motorists each day, reduces emissions from idling vehicles and allows emergency responders to respond more quickly on both sides of the tracks. The \$293.7 million project was funded with state transportation bonds, Los Angeles County half-cent transportation sales tax funds, federal transportation funds and contributions from Union Pacific Railroad and the City of San Gabriel.

The CTF Project of the Year award is the latest in a series of awards honoring the freight railroad trench. Recently, the San Gabriel Trench was one of the two ACE construction projects to receive a Project Achievement Award from the Southern California Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America. In December, the project received the Project of the Year Award from the Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association.



SB 751 Updates: San Gabriel Valley Housing Trust Fund



In response to the extreme shortage of affordable housing in the San Gabriel Valley, Senator Susan Rubio introduced Senate Bill 751 to establish a San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust (RHT). If passed, the bill would create a trust that can receive and make available both public and private funds to finance affordable housing projects, creating a unique public-private partnership.



SB 751 is currently being amended to include the County of Los Angeles on the San Gabriel Valley Housing Trust Fund Board of Directors. This is consistent with existing representation on the SGVCOG Governing Board and committees. The amended bill will be in print by the first week of July and then be taken up by the Assembly floor in the California Legislature. Afterwards, the Senate would review the bills' amendment. The Governor's last day to sign or veto bills this legislative session is set to be on October 13, 2019.

Los Angeles County Hosts Safe Clean Water Open House



In an effort to educate and disseminate information regarding the Safe Clean Water Program, Los Angeles County staff held a Public Review Open House on Wednesday, June 11, 2019. The event included an overview of the current program status and stations where staff shared documents related to the implementation ordinance that is currently available for public review. Specific program element stations included project scoring, watershed coordinators, low-income senior exemptions, credits, appeals, and governance.



The Safe Clean Water Program aims to provide local funding to increase water supply, improve water quality, and protect public health in the Los Angeles County. The program will generate up to \$300 million per year from a special parcel tax that was passed by county voters in 2018. More information regarding the Safe Clean Water Program can be found on www.safecleanwaterla.org.

Health Clinic Opens for San Gabriel Valley Veterans

On Monday, May 20, 2019, the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs opened the San Gabriel Valley Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) to service the 45,000 veterans that reside in the region. The CBOC is open to assist patients and the facility will offer veterans access to primary care, mental health support, telehealth, and laboratory services.

The opening of the CBOC is the first phase of a larger plan to bring more health services to veterans in the San Gabriel Valley. The new clinic serves as an interim facility while the Department of Veteran Affairs works towards establishing a larger full service clinic in the San Gabriel Valley region within the next three to five years.

This new CBOC is located at 7 W. Foothill Blvd., Arcadia, CA 91006 at the corner of W. Foothill Blvd. and N. Santa Anita Avenue. Questions about the CBOC can be directed to the facility's hotline at (626) 500-6881.



Local Government Commission Hosts SEEC Forum

The Local Government Commission, in partnership with SGVCOG and dozens of other organizations, held the 10th Annual Statewide Energy Efficiency Forum on June 26th and 27th in Long Beach. The event attracted hundreds of city staff, community leaders, and business representatives to discuss the strategies in making progress towards a decarbonized future.

The forum provided learning, sharing, and networking opportunities for local governments to save energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their communities, and catalyze climate action. Dozens of speakers provided information on supporting energy efficiency projects in disadvantaged communities, building public-private partnerships, developing climate action plans, and aligning municipal policies and actions with energy and carbon goals. Highlights of the forum and more information can be found on www.californiaseec.org/2019-forum.



June 26 - 27, 2019 | Long Beach, CA

Organized by  Local Government Commission
Leaders for Livable Communities



SGVCOG Updates Municipal Energy Action Plans for Cities of Arcadia, Covina, Pomona, and San Marino



From 2010-12, SGVCOG coordinated a large Strategic Plan project in which Energy Action Plan (EAP) chapters were developed for 28 of its member agencies. These EAPs include a city's recent sustainability efforts, greenhouse gas inventory and forecast, greenhouse gas reduction targets, and energy efficiency strategies, goals, and objectives.



Over the course of the past year, SGVCOG, as part of its San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP), has been in close conversations with the Cities of Arcadia, Covina, Pomona, and San Marino to update their EAPs. These efforts have been funded through a grant from Southern California Edison and the Southern California Gas Company.



For each City's respective EAP, SGVCOG staff has been working in a collaborative manner with each agency to assess, analyze, and evaluate the energy reduction targets and long-term municipal policies that were enumerated in their respective EAPs. Based on the attainability and feasibility of these goals and policies, the SGVCOG, with the City's input, has been drafting practical and achievable energy reduction targets and municipal energy efficiency policies and actions for the cities to implement moving forward.



The revised EAPs for these four cities were completed and presented to city staff last month. Copies of the revised EAPs can be found on the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership website at www.sgvenergywise.org and questions regarding the EAPs can be directed to sgv@sgvcog.org.

RMC Extends Application Deadlines for Two Active Proposition 68 Grant Programs

The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) has two active Proposition 68 grant programs with open application solicitations. Regionwide, RMC has an allocation of \$30 million for grant awards and is extending the submission deadline to **Monday, July 15, 2019**. Funding will be available through multiple rounds of solicitations. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be recommended for grant award, anticipated Winter 2019 into Spring 2020.

Additionally, RMC has a separate Proposition 68 allocation and grant program for Lower Los Angeles River revitalization projects and is accepting applications on an ongoing basis. More information on eligibility and grant program requirements, including application and submittal information, can be found in the RMC Proposition 68 guidelines at www.rmc.ca.gov.



SGVCOG Featured Staff: Navneet Kaur

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

What inspired you to work with the SGVCOG?

I like the diverse areas of policy that I get to participate in and not only further my knowledge of what is affecting the region, but the state as a whole. I love that the COG gives me the opportunity to grow my expertise.

Tell us one interesting or fun fact about yourself.

I'm an aspiring photographer and most weekends you can find me walking around shooting film with my partner!



Committee Meeting Dates:

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Monday, July 1, 2019 at 12:00pm
1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91801

HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, July 3, 2019 at 8:30am
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

WATER COMMITTEE:

Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 10:00am
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016

PUBLIC WORKS TAC:

Monday, July 15, 2019 at 12:30pm
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

CITY STAFF ENERGY WORK GROUP:

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at 1:30pm
119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016

EENR COMMITTEE:

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 12:30pm
20055 Shay Road, Victorville, CA 92394

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

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

GOVERNING BOARD:

Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 5:30pm
602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016

CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

Monday, July 22, 2019 at 12:00pm
1444 W. Garvey Avenue, West Covina, CA 91790

Upcoming Events:



2019
**URBAN RIVER
REVITALIZATION
SUMMIT**

**Thursday
JULY 25**
251 S Mission Rd.
Los Angeles, CA 90033

**Friday
JULY 26**
Various Locations

20 Rivers & Mountains Conservancy



NET ZERO 2019
THE WORLD'S LARGEST NET ZERO BUILDING CONFERENCE

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

For more information regarding SGVCOG:

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