



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

A Joint Powers Authority

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 21, 2021 — 1:30 p.m.

**DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF CITY BUILDINGS,
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY CALL IN TO LISTEN TO THE MEETING**

Please click the link below to watch or listen to the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89443558659?pwd=L3VSSnk1bXMvaXNZM3JKV0pnb3J6UT09>

Or call by telephone:

Dial 669-900-6833 and enter Webinar ID: 894 4355 8659

For those wishing to speak on an agenda item, please email john@sfcog.org no later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting with the item number you wish to speak on and the phone number you will use when calling or the name you will use when logging into the meeting. You should then call or log into the meeting at least 10 minutes prior to its start time. Staff will unmute you and announce you when it is your time to speak. You will have two (2) minutes to speak, unless that time is adjusted by the Chair. If you do not have access to a computer please call 818-570-3408 to request public comment.

As an alternative to speaking during the meeting, you can email your comments to the COG executive director at john@sfcog.org no later than 11am on January 21, 2021 to ensure that Staff

has time to organize the emails prior to the beginning of the meeting. Comments will then be provided to the members when the item is presented. Please include the Agenda Item in your correspondence.

You may also submit public comment by mail to:

**SFVCOG
10945 Burbank Blvd
North Hollywood, CA 91601**

Written public comment or requests to speak must be received no later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting. Please include the Agenda Item in your correspondence.

All correspondence received shall become part of the official record.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, 7th District, City of Los Angeles

Vice-Chair: Vacant

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, 3rd Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles

Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles

Councilmember Jess Talamantes, City of Burbank

Mayor Ara Najarian, City of Glendale

Councilmember Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, 3rd District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Nithya Raman, 4th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Paul Koretz, 5th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Nury Martinez, 6th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember John Lee, 12th District, City of Los Angeles

Mayor Marsha McLean, City of Santa Clarita

Vice-Mayor Mary Mendoza, City of San Fernando

STAFF

SFVCOG Fiscal Agent: Rachelle Anema, County of Los Angeles

SFVCOG Secretary: Los Angeles County Commission's Office

John Bwarie, Executive Director, San Fernando Valley COG

Shan Thever, Deputy County Counsels, County of Los Angeles

OPEN SESSION

1. **CALL TO ORDER** — Monica Rodriguez, Chair
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Board, any public comments on any of the Consent Calendar items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Board request specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar.

5. **MINUTES (Attachment 1)**
Review and Approve October 15, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.
Recommended Action: *Approve Minutes.*
6. **FINANCIAL REPORT (Attachment 2)**
Review FY 2020-21 Financials through September 30, 2020.
Recommended Action: *Receive and File Financial Report*

REGULAR CALENDAR

At the discretion of the SFVCOG, all items appearing on this Agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the SFVCOG.

7. **CHAIR REPORT**
Chair's Report - Monica Rodriguez, Chairperson of the Board.
Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Board Chair.
8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**
Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Executive Director
9. **HOMELESSNESS UPDATE**

a. **HOMELESS COORDINATION REPORT**

Updates, remarks and recommendations from Homelessness Coordinator

b. **CONSIDERATION OF REGIONAL VALUES, GOALS, AND STRATEGIES TO COMBAT AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS - ANNUAL REVIEW & AFFIRMATION (Attachment 3)**

Recommended Action: *Adopt Regional Values, Goals and Strategies for the SFVCOG Region that can be supported locally through coordination of member jurisdictions*

10. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021**

Recommended Action: *Vote to elect a Vice-Chair to serve through June 30, 2021*

11. **UPDATE FROM METRO ON SFVCOG REGION PROJECTS**

Recommended Action: *Discussion and possible action*

12. **UPDATE FROM THE MRCA ON THE UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES REVITALIZATION PLAN ([ULART](#)), AND CONSIDERATION OF A POSITION IN PLAN IMPLEMENTATION (Attachment 4)**

Recommended Action: *Establish a working group to identify the SFVCOG's role implementing the ULART*

CLOSED SESSION

13. **PERSONNEL MATTER**

Performance Evaluation of Executive Director Services, provided by Stratiscope, through John Bwarie.

(The Board may recess to Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 54957(b)(1)(2)).

OPEN SESSION

14. **BOARDMEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

15. **NEXT MEETING:**

April 15, 2021 at 1:30pm

16. ADJOURNMENT

Public Comments: At this time members of the public can address the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments Board of Directors (Board) regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the agency that are not separately listed on this agenda, subject to time restrictions, by filling out a Public Comment Card and submitting that card to the Secretary. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Board in writing and only pertinent points presented orally.

Notices:

Meetings of the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments are recorded. Minutes of each meeting are available at <http://sfvcog.org/> after the Board approves them. A person with a disability may contact the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments before the scheduled meeting to request receipt of an agenda in an alternative format or to request disability-related accommodations, in order to participate in the public meeting, requests will be met to the extent feasible. Email info@sfvcog.org for accommodation. The entire agenda package and any meeting related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda package, unless exempt from disclosure pursuant to California Law, are also available.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
A Joint Powers Authority



COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, October 15, 2020 — 1:30 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair: Mayor Joel Fajardo, City of San Fernando

Vice-Chair: Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, 7th District, City of Los Angeles

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, 3rd Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles

Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles

Councilmember Jess Talamantes, City of Burbank

Councilmember Ara Najarian, City of Glendale

Councilmember Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, 3rd District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember David Ryu, 4th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Paul Koretz, 5th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Nury Martinez, 6th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember John Lee, 12th District, City of Los Angeles

Councilmember Marsha McLean, City of Santa Clarita

STAFF

SFVCOG Fiscal Agent: Rachelle Anema, County of Los Angeles

SFVCOG Secretary: Los Angeles County Commission's Office

SFVCOG Executive Director: John Bwarie

Counsel: Shan Thever, Deputy County Counsel, County of Los Angeles

OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER — Joel Fajardo, Chair

The meeting was called to order by Paola Basignana for Vice Chair Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, alternate to Chair Mayor Joel Fajardo, at 1:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

QUORUM ESTABLISHED (12 Members):

**Paola Basignana for Vice Chair Councilmember Monica Rodriguez,
Madeline Moore for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl,
Jarrod DeGonia for Supervisor Kathryn Barger,
Councilmember Jess Talamantes,
Councilmember Ara Najarian,
Sahag Yedalian for Councilmember Paul Krekorian,
John Popoch for Councilmember Bob Blumenfield,
Justin Orenstein for Councilmember David Ryu,
Debbie Dyner-Harris for Councilmember Paul Koretz,
Max Podemski for Councilmember Nury Martinez
Eric Moody for Councilmember John Lee, and
Councilmember Marsha McLean**

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was led by Councilmember Jess Talamantes.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Member of the public Rainbow Yun addressed the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG).

CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Prior to the motion to consider any action by the Board, any public comments on any of the Consent Calendar items will be heard. There will be no separate action unless members of the Board request specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar.

5. MINUTES (Page 5)

Review and Approve July 16, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

Recommended Action: *Approve Minutes.*

Councilmember Marsha McLean suggested to amend the minutes, item 10, to include language regarding her comments to include Santa Clarita when discussing homeless services.

On motion of Madeline Moore, seconded by John Popoch, duly carried by the following vote, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) approved the July 16, 2020 Board of Director's Meeting Minutes as amended.

Ayes: Paola Basignana for Vice Chair Councilmember Monica Rodriguez, Madeline Moore for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Jarrod DeGonia for Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Councilmember Jess Talamantes, Councilmember Ara Najarian, Sahag Yedalian for Councilmember Paul Krekorian, John Popoch for Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, Justin Orenstein for Councilmember David Ryu, Debbie Dynen-Harris for Councilmember Paul Koretz, Max Podemski for Councilmember Nury Martinez, Eric Moody for Councilmember John Lee, and Councilmember Marsha McLean

6. FINANCIAL REPORT (Page 15)

Review FY 2019-20 Financials from April 1 through June 30, 2020.

Recommended Action: *Receive and File Financial Report*

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) received and filed the Financial Report.

REGULAR CALENDAR

At the discretion of the SFVCOG, all items appearing on this Agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the SFVCOG.

7. CHAIR REPORT

Chair's Report - Joel Fajardo, Chairman of the Board.

Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Board Chair.

Paola Basignana reported that she is Vice Chair Councilmember Monica Rodriguez' new appointee to the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG).

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Updates, remarks and recommendations from the Executive Director

Executive Director John Bwarie reported of the launching of an online Priorities and Predictions program to allow Board members to share regional visions and continue to advance priorities, on a bi-weekly basis, during this time of virtual engagement. The program is anticipated to launch, with the help of Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, on October 27, 2020.

9. HOMELESSNESS COORDINATION UPDATE

Updates, remarks and recommendations from Homelessness Coordinator

Executive Director John Bwarie indicated that there will be no update. He shared of a written report provided by the coordinator which indicates that work is ongoing to assist in homelessness efforts during the pandemic. He added that further updates are anticipated in January 2021.

CLOSED SESSION

10. PERSONNEL MATTER

Performance Evaluation of Executive Director Services, provided by Stratiscope, through John Bwarie.

(The Board may recess to Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 54957(b)(1)(2)).

This item was tabled to be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Later in the meeting, due to a lack of quorum of voting members, this item was continued.

OPEN SESSION

**11. CONSIDERATION OF 2021 SFVCOG TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES
(Page 17)**

Recommended Action: *Adopt Transportation Priorities as recommended by the Transportation Committee*

Executive Director John Bwarie provided an overview and reported the following:

- **Two virtual Mobility Workshops were conducted in June and July and feedback has been compiled and provided to the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee. After which, the Transportation Committee reviewed and advanced it as presented to the Board for consideration and adoption;**
- **The Transportation Priorities have evolved each year for four-years with an intention to set a vision for the next calendar year; and**
- **Minor technical updates were made as well as the new addition of number six.**

Mr. Bwarie added that the addition of infill stations was not discussed during the engagement process.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) adopted the 2021 SFVCOG Transportation Priorities.

12. SFVCOG APPOINTEE UPDATE REVIEW (Page 23)

Recommended Action: *Appoint a representative to represent the SFVCOG Region on the League of California Cities LA Division*

Executive Director John Bwarie introduced this item and indicated that the SFVCOG is nearing a vacancy seat on the California League of Cities LA Division Board in December 2020. He reported that Councilmember Marsha McLean has voiced interest in serving.

On motion of Councilmember Ara Najarian, seconded by Councilmember Jess Talamantes, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) approved the appointment of Councilmember Marsha McLean on the California League of Cities LA Division Board.

13. REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING (REAP) PROGRAM UPDATE

Recommended Actions: *Discussion and possible action regarding status of work with SCAG on the REAP program*

Executive Director John Bwarie introduced this item and reported the following:

- The Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Program administers funding through The Southern California Association of Government (SCAG), who recently received approximately \$40M to support the local region in housing production. He indicated that funds can't be used directly for housing production but rather towards policies that promote housing production;
- Approximately \$600k is allocated for the cities of Burbank, Glendale, San Fernando and Santa Clarita. He indicated that SCAG will take the lead on administering funds; and
- The funding will be used towards projects that two or more cities agree is an area of need.

In response to questions posed, Sarah Rose Patterson, SCAG, overviewed the efficiency of having SCAG administer funds and facilitate consultants. She indicated that she will advise if SCAG is administering funds for other Counties as well.

Mr. Bwarie added that work is ongoing with SCAG and state partners. Nothing has yet been approved; updates will be provided in the future.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) received and filed the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Program Update.

14. MEASURE M PROJECT UPDATES

- Update on NoHo to Pasadena BRT (Page 24)
Recommended Action: *Delegate NoHo to Pasadena BRT position authority to to Transportation committee for comment and authority to draft a letter*
- Update on East San Fernando Valley Light Rail Project (Presentation)
Recommended Action: *Consideration and possible action by the Board*

a.) Update on NoHo to Pasadena BRT

Executive Director John Bwarie introduced this item and provided an overview. He indicated that the 45-day public engagement period will be completed prior to the SFVCOG's next meeting, however, delegated authority can be granted to the Transportation Committee in order to provide comment on behalf of the SFVCOG.

On motion of Madeline Moore, seconded by Councilmember Jess Talamantes, and unanimously carried, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) approved delegating authority to the

Transportation Committee for comment and/or authority to draft a letter during the public engagement process.

b.) Update on East San Fernando Valley Light Rail

David Mieger, Metro, presented a Power Point presentation and reported the following:

- This is one of six ongoing projects and aims to expand the Orange line. He added that the Orange line is currently being upgraded and will speed up service by an anticipated 25-30%;
- Overviewed potential traffic impacts and concerns posed by the city of San Fernando. He indicated that work is ongoing to appropriately address all areas of the work.

Walt Davis, Metro, reported the following:

- Overviewed the East San Fernando Valley Light Rail and referenced the Power Point where he shared rendered photos of various regional connections;
- Metro is heavily focused on ensuring equity for underserved communities. He indicated that once this project launches, it will provide 41,000 jobs for the community;
- During the public engagement process, approximately 1,700 comments were received. He reviewed frequent comments and indicated adjustments made as a result of public engagement;
- Briefly overviewed funding and added that this project has entered initial operational segments to allow for work to begin prior to full funding being available.

Karen Swift, Metro, reported the following:

- The first community engagement meeting took place yesterday, October 14, 2020 with 95 individuals in virtual attendance and noted that many individuals were participating for the first time. She shared of their virtual platform, with available resources in both English and Spanish, as well as a survey for those who are engaged in the process;
- Currently engaged in the public review period, from November 2 – December 2, 2020. An additional community meeting entirely in Spanish is scheduled for October 26, 2020. The work is anticipated

to be presented to the Board on December 3rd with an anticipated decision in January 2021.

Monica Born, Metro, reported the following:

- Since August 2019, a consultant has been working to advance the design in order to uncover potential risk areas including, but not limited to, utilities. Additionally, have met with various Metro departments, cities, and utility owners to ensure that they are apprised of the advancement of the project. The final design package is anticipated for April 2021;
- Ground penetrating radar began in December 2019 and concluded in July 2020. This was conducted to assess areas beneath the ground where utilities are housed. The next phase, potholing and trenching along Van Nuys Boulevard, is anticipated to begin at the end of this year;
- An Industry Review is anticipated in 2021 where all aspects of the design, as well as draft contract documents, will be presented to contractors and designers; the procurement process will take approximately one-year with groundbreaking anticipated in 2022. Full operation of light rails is anticipated for 2028.

In response to questions posed, Ms. Boren reported that Metro utilizes traffic control plans throughout the process to maintain driver mobility and pedestrian access throughout the work. Additionally, work will be conducted in phases to maintain traffic flow;

Ms. Swift added the following:

- Tito Corona, Metro, will be staffing construction relations and a field office will be established to actively engage in door-to-door operations and addressing inquiries. Additionally, a Business Solutions Center is also in place to support businesses throughout the construction process;
- Actively monitoring incoming public feedback throughout the engagement process.

Mr. Mieger reported that the Metro Board authorizes the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document which then gets forwarded to the federal government for final action, hence anticipated approval in January 2021.

Paola Basignana indicated some concern around the timeline allotted for public engagement and Councilmembers engaged in discussion. Ms. Swift ensured that public engagement is ongoing and indicated that metrics of incoming comment can be provided upon request. Mr. Mieger added that during the draft EIR, a total of 900 public comments were received.

Executive Director John Bwarie indicated a lack of quorum of voting members.

Madeline Moore indicated that exploration of a potential federal grant for transit-oriented development is underway.

15. NEXTGEN BUS PLAN (Page 25)

Recommended Action: Based on the recommendation of the SFVCOG Transportation Committee, adopt and send a letter of support

This item was continued to a future meeting.

16. BOARDMEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

17. NEXT MEETING:

January 21, 2021 at 1:30pm

This item was not discussed.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

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majority of the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda package, unless exempt from disclosure pursuant to California Law, are also available.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Budget vs Actual Report

FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

	2020-2021 Adopted Budget	Actuals as of 9/30/2020	Difference
REVENUES			
Member Dues	\$ 120,000	\$ 60,000	\$ (60,000)
Sponsorships/Donations	5,000	2,000	(3,000)
Interest	-	489	489
Grants	30,000		30,000
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 155,000	\$ 62,489	\$ (32,511)
EXPENDITURES			
Audit	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,532	\$ 1,468
Events			-
Mobility Workshop	5,000		5,000
Mobility Academy	1,000		1,000
Mobility Academy 2.0	1,000		1,000
Incidental Expenses	500		500
Management Services Contract	100,000	16,667	83,333
Meeting Costs	250	2	248
Office Supplies	250		250
Parking fees	250		250
Postage	50		50
Printing	1,900		1,900
Sacramento Advocacy trip	3,250		3,250
Travel	250		250
Website	5,300		5,300
Regional Homeless Coordination Services	30,000	2,500	27,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 155,000	\$ 23,701	\$ 131,299

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY FUND V54
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**

Fund V54/Org 55665

Cash Balance, July 1, 2020

\$ 197,483.25

Receipts:

Interest Earnings	7/1/2020	305.17
Interest Earnings	8/1/2020	129.06
Interest Earnings	9/1/2020	54.94
JVCT AC CMSF2100022 SFVCOG \$35K Membership Dues-Charge the GF	7/30/2020	35,000.00
DP AC 21000000520 - AVY GAIL L. SANCHEZ	8/7/2020	250.00
DP AC 21000000520 - WSP USA ADMINISTRATION INC.	8/7/2020	500.00
DP AC 21000000520 - STV	8/7/2020	500.00
DP AC 21000000520 - HNTB CORPORATION	8/7/2020	500.00
DP AC 21000000520 - ITERIS INC.	8/7/2020	250.00
DP AC 21000000854 - Membership - City of Glendale	8/31/2020	12,500.00
DP AC 21000001006 - Membership - City of San Fernando.	9/11/2020	12,500.00

Total Beginning Cash Balance and Receipts

\$ 259,972.42

Disbursements:

AD AU A2100113737 STRATISCOPE - APRIL 2020	7/23/2020	8,333.33
AD AU A2100113737 STRATISCOPE - MAY 2020	7/23/2020	8,333.33
AD AU A2100113737 STRATISCOPE - JUNE 2020	7/23/2020	8,333.33
AD AU A2100113737 STRATISCOPE - MISC FOR JUN 2020	7/23/2020	2.00
EFT AU A2100053070 MOSS, LEVY & HARTZHEIM	7/26/2020	4,532.42
AD AU A2100179985 STRATISCOPE - JULY 2020	8/9/2020	8,333.33
AD AU A2100208010 - RUBEN D MISLANG - JULY 22, 2020	8/13/2020	2,500.00
AD AU A2100352822 STRATISCOPE - AUGUST 2020	9/10/2020	8,333.33

Total Disbursements

\$ 48,701.07

Cash Balance, September 30, 2020

\$ 211,271.35

Prepared by
Los Angeles County
Department of Auditor-Controller
Accounting Division
ML 10/19/20



San Fernando Valley Council of Governments

Attachment 3

DATE: January 16, 2021

TO: SFVCOG Board of Directors

FROM: John Bwarie, Executive Director

RE: Regional Values, Goals, and Strategies to Combat and Prevent Homelessness

RECOMMENDATION

Reaffirm commitment to the SFVCOG Homelessness Working Group plan, “Regional Values, Goals, and Strategies to Combat and Prevent Homelessness,” originally approved by the COG Board in February 2019 as a foundation and guiding document for coordinated work around combating and preventing homelessness in the SFVCOG region.

BACKGROUND

According to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority’s (LAHSA) 2029 Point In Time (PIT) Count, there are an estimated 10,855 persons experiencing homelessness, many whom are living unsheltered, in the San Fernando Valley Council of Government’s (SFVCOG) member cities (Burbank, Glendale, Santa Clarita, City of San Fernando, and Los Angeles City Council Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 12). This represents an 11.8% increase compared to 2019. (This figure comes from before the start of the Pandemic.

This year’s document also includes insights related to two key issues from 2020: the impacts from the pandemic and the Judge Carter decision.

Homelessness is not a new phenomenon in the San Fernando Valley. SFVCOG cities have been working to address homelessness within their cities for years, as well as partner with neighboring cities and coordinate with key stakeholders such as the County of Los Angeles, LAHSA, and area non-profits such as LA Family Housing.

The SFVCOG receives funding from LA County to help support homeless coordination activities among member cities, and they have been actively participating in the SFVCOG Homeless Working Group since 2017. In addition, all but one of the member cities have created and adopted homeless plans with various strategies to prevent and combat homelessness within their city and support regional efforts aligned with the adopted LA County Homeless Initiative Plan. The one city that does not currently have an approved plan, San Fernando, has plans to complete one before Summer 2020.

Between April-October 2018 the SFVCOG Homeless Coordination Working Group engaged in a regional needs assessment process. The purpose is to summarize activities to date to address homelessness in each city and begin to identify gaps across the COG region. Identifying gaps is critical for cities to determine how to address gaps and use available funds, such as Measure H, to

create solutions. Committing to a regional and collaborative approach aligns with the County Homeless Initiative's official strategy to Create a Coordinated System.

Purpose of Regional Values and Goals

While the County has an established plan to combat and prevent homelessness, and SFVCOG cities have active homeless plans they are implementing, it is important that the SFVCOG as a subregional body have consistent and shared values, goals, and strategies for addressing homelessness. These should align with member cities' efforts, the County homelessness initiative, and the federal plan to prevent and end homelessness.

The purpose of this plan is to outline a set of overarching values, goals, and activities that can support the work of member cities and for the SFVCOG board, staff, and committees to adopt, help move forward, and provide advocacy for. The plan and activities identified therein can also provide direction to the SFVCOG Homelessness Working Group to advance overarching COG goals, help facilitate partnerships and shared learning, and support individual cities with implementing COG strategies at the City level.

Regional Values

Having a common value system across cities ensures efforts to address homelessness are aligned with a shared vision and promote natural partnerships when it comes to addressing homelessness. The following bullet points outline the adopted regional values for the SFVCOG and member cities:

1. Homelessness can be ended in LA County and in SFVCOG cities. Doing so requires collaboration between Cities, the County, non-profits, the business community, faith-based organizations, other sectors intersecting with homelessness (such as health, criminal justice, and workforce development, etc.), landlords and property owners, community members, and those currently or formerly experiencing homelessness.
2. Each City in the SFVCOG needs to be actively engaged in addressing and preventing homelessness, commit to best-practices including Housing First, and do its "fair share" as part of a larger regional solution.
3. Homelessness is primarily a result of the housing crisis in the Los Angeles region. Addressing homelessness should first and foremost include strategies to create suitable and affordable housing options and expand the supply of affordable housing.
4. Families and individuals do not choose to be homeless. When people have appropriate resources, opportunities, and support from trusted individuals and partners they can successfully exit homelessness.
5. All people experiencing homelessness can be successful in housing with the right supports.
6. Being homeless is not a crime. Individuals and families experiencing homelessness should be afforded the same rights and responsibilities as all people in the community.

Regional Goals

Based on the work of each member city, the county, and the SFVCOG Working Group, the goals were developed to help realize the above values. Each of these goals corresponds with goals and strategies from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness's (USICH) federal plan to prevent and end homelessness, the County Homelessness Initiative, and SFVCOG member cities' homeless plans. Each goal also has potential activities for the COG and member cities to consider. The following outlines five overarching goals for the SFVCOG member cities to combat and prevent homelessness:

1. Increase Partnerships between Cities, Key Stakeholders, and local Measure H funded contractors.
2. Proactively collaborate with the County and nonprofit agencies to Address Individuals and Families Living Unsheltered and in Encampments.
3. Support the Creation of Interim Housing Opportunities and Other Short-Term Interventions to Quickly Move People Off the Streets.
4. Increase Rental Assistance Resources and Services for Preventing Homelessness as well as Exiting Homeless Households Rapidly.
5. Support the Development of Affordable and Permanent Supportive Housing.

Plan Activation

The Regional Values, Goals, and Strategies document is a guiding source for the SFVCOG Board, staff, and members to continue to work together to combat and prevent homelessness. It will continue to be referenced in the work we do in the coming years and may be updated periodically as the interventions, strategies and goals evolve. It is intended to be a living, working document.

CURRENT POSITIONS

In March 2018, the SFVCOG Homeless Working Group began working on coordination among the COG member cities, resulting in this document to guide that work. Further, this level of coordination is specifically called out in the SFVCOG's adopted 2020-21 work program: "the SFVCOG will work with its cities to coordinate their work to serve the local homeless population and coordinate approaches to engage the region to support these efforts."

Attachment: *SFVCOG Regional Values, Goals, and Strategies to Combat and Prevent Homelessness*

San Fernando Valley Council of Governments



Regional Values, Goals, and Strategies to Combat and Prevent Homelessness

January 2021



San Fernando Valley COG Cities Regional Values, Goals, and Strategies to Combat and Prevent Homelessness

Background¹

According to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authorities (LAHSA) 2020 Point In Time (PIT) Count there are an estimated 10,855 persons experiencing homelessness, many whom are living unsheltered, in the San Fernando Valley Council of Government's (SFVCOG) member cities (Burbank, Glendale, Santa Clarita, City of San Fernando, and Los Angeles City Council Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 12).

Homelessness is not a new phenomenon in the San Fernando Valley. SFVCOG cities have been working to address homelessness within their cities for years, as well as partner with neighboring cities and coordinate with key stakeholders such as the County of Los Angeles, LAHSA, and area non-profits including LA Family Housing.

In addition, all member cities have created and adopted homeless plans or are in the process of doing so. City Plans contain various strategies to prevent and combat homelessness within their city and support regional efforts aligned with the adopted LA County Homeless Initiative Plan. Cities are now in the process of implementing homeless plans and pursuing evidence-based strategies and best practices to end homelessness. The SFVCOG also receives funding from LA County to help support homeless coordination activities among COG cities. Member cities have been actively participating in the SFVCOG Homeless Working Group since 2017, as have representatives from the County Homeless Initiative, LAHSA, the Board of Supervisors, and regional CES Lead Agencies.

Regional Needs Assessment

Between April-October 2018 the SFVCOG Homeless Coordination Working Group engaged in a regional needs assessment process. The purpose is to summarize activities to date to address homelessness in each city and begin to identify gaps across the COG region. Identifying gaps is critical for cities to determine how to address gaps and use available funds, such as Measure H, to create solutions.

As a first step to identifying gaps, it is important to understand the current extent of homelessness across member Cities. The following table includes aggregated homeless count numbers for the region for 2016-2020. The numbers reflect the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count data available from the LA Homeless Services Authority and the City of Glendale. The PIT numbers are considered the official count of the homeless population and represent the data that LAHSA and Glendale submit in official reports to HUD.

2016 PIT Count	2017 PIT Count	2018 PIT Count	2019 PIT Count	2020 PIT Count
8,184 (6,452 unsheltered)	8,270 (6,653 unsheltered)	8,941 (6,666 unsheltered)	9,711 (7,925 unsheltered)	10,855 (7,760 unsheltered)

In addition to identifying the number of people experiencing homelessness, it is also important to understand the current housing resources within each city dedicated to homeless households. The following table summarizes resources for specific homeless housing interventions for each city

¹ Preparation of this document funded in part through County of Los Angeles Measure H funds.

from the 2020 LAHSA Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and the Glendale CoC 2018 PIT Count report. The HIC is a snapshot of units counted as part of the Point In Time Count, and the total units may vary by community.

City	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Rapid Re-Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing
Burbank	20	61	24	48
Glendale*				
San Fernando	0	0	0	107
Santa Clarita	60	8	0	0
LA CCD 2	52	30	33	215
LA CCD 3	0	0	26	70
LA CCD 4	66	64	29	23
LA CCD 5	244	0	51	76
LA CCD 6	1,799	96	662	848
LA CCD 7	178	82	24	496
LA CCD 12	76	0	0	0
Totals	2,495	341	849	1,883

**Note: Glendale CoC HIC information was not available at the time of this document update.*

The data reflected in the Housing Inventory Count and Point in Time Count represent the official numbers that are reported to the federal government. The reporting metrics are standardized and may not capture the full nuance of need in any one community. These official numbers are one tool that the region can utilize to better understand existing gaps and challenges. Other sources of data and information exist, but aggregating and analyzing the information represents a persistent challenge to addressing homelessness in the region.

As part of the regional needs assessment process, cities identified current activities and partnerships for various homeless system components and strategies. These include: prevention and diversion, street outreach, coordinated entry and access points, crisis and bridge housing, safe parking programs, landlord engagement, workforce development, rapid re-housing, shared housing, permanent supportive housing, and affordable housing.

Additionally, with the historic passage of Measure H, funding has significantly increased across LA County for homeless services and housing. The table below includes the Measure H FY 19-20 funding for community-based providers in Service Planning Area 2. In total SPA 2 received \$24,086,839 in FY19-20 with over 80% of those funds going to LA Family Housing.

SPA 2 FY 2019-20 Measure H Funded Contractors*	
Contracting Agency	Total Contract Amount
LA Family Housing	21,244,833
Penny Lane Centers	1,233,700
San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Inc.	472,930
Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.	457,549
The Village Family Services	577,827
Total	\$24,086,839

**Note: the numbers in this table represent total contract amounts and does not include information about subcontract recipients in the region. Numerous service providers in SPA 2 receive some form of Measure H funding via subcontracts with the agencies listed above.*

Purpose of Regional Values and Goals

While the County has an established plan to combat and prevent homelessness, and SFVCOG cities have active homeless plans they are implementing, it is important for the COG as a body to have consistent and shared values, goals, and strategies for addressing homelessness. These should align with member cities' efforts, the County homelessness initiative, and the federal plan to prevent and end homelessness.

The purpose of this plan is to outline a set of overarching values, goals, and activities that can support the work of member cities and for the SFVCOG board, staff, and committees to adopt, help move forward, and provide advocacy for. This plan and activities identified can also provide direction to the SFVCOG Homelessness Working Group to advance overarching COG goals, help facilitate partnerships and shared learning, and support individual cities with implementing COG strategies at the City level.

Regional Values:

Having a common value system across cities ensures efforts to address homelessness are aligned with a shared vision and promote natural partnerships when it comes to addressing homelessness. The following pages outline the adopted regional values for the SFVCOG and member cities:

SFVCOG Regional Values

- 1. Homelessness can be ended in LA County and in SFVCOG cities. Doing so requires collaboration between Cities, the County, non-profits, the business community, faith-based organizations, other sectors intersecting with homelessness (such as health, criminal justice, and workforce development, etc.), landlords and property owners, community members, and those currently or formerly experiencing homelessness.**
- 2. Each City in the SFVCOG needs to be actively engaged in addressing and preventing homelessness, commit to best-practices including Housing First, and do its "fair share" as part of a larger regional solution.**
- 3. Homelessness is the result of the housing crisis in the Los Angeles region, mental illness, substance abuse/addiction, rent/mortgage affordability, and other factors. Addressing homelessness should first and foremost include strategies to create suitable and affordable housing options and expand the supply of affordable housing.**
- 4. Families and individuals do not choose to be homeless. When people have appropriate resources, opportunities, and support from trusted individuals and partners they can successfully exit homelessness.**
- 5. All people experiencing homelessness can be successful in housing with the right supports.**
- 6. Being homeless is not a crime. Individuals and families experiencing homelessness should be afforded the same rights and responsibilities as all people in the community.**

Regional Goals:

The following table outlines five overarching goals for the SFVCOG member cities to combat and prevent homelessness. These goals include:

1. Increase Partnerships between Cities, Key Stakeholders, and local Measure H funded contractors.
2. Pro-Actively collaborate with the County and nonprofit agencies to Address Individuals and Families Living Unsheltered and in Encampments.
3. Support the Creation of Interim Housing Opportunities and Other Short-Term Interventions to Quickly Move People Off the Streets.
4. Increase Rental Assistance Resources and Services for Preventing Homelessness as well as Exiting Homeless Households Rapidly.
5. Support the Development of Affordable and Permanent Supportive Housing.

Each of these goals corresponds with goals and strategies from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness's (USICH) federal plan to prevent and end homelessness, the County Homelessness Initiative, and SFVCOG member cities homeless plans. Each goal also has potential activities for the COG and member cities to consider.

Unique Circumstances of 2020:

The calendar year 2020 saw many unique and unforeseen crises to cities, communities, service providers, and State and County government. The five Regional Goals remain relevant as they are broadly applicable and aligned with data-driven best practices. However, several major, emergent needs superseded ongoing efforts to address homelessness in the San Fernando Valley COG and throughout the County. These include:

- Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - Provision of hygiene services such as portable toilets and handwashing stations, and distribution of PPEs, hand sanitizer, and other resources to limit the spread of COVID-19 among people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
 - Rapid expansion of shelter system through initiatives such as RAP (converting underused parks and recreation space into temporary shelter) and Project: Room Key (PRK) which turned hotel spaces into shelter for people experiencing homelessness at elevated risk from COVID-19. These efforts were meant to provide safe isolation and quarantine for vulnerable populations, and to limit crowding in congregant shelter settings.
 - Reduced outreach and drop-in capacity among providers as staff adjusted to social distancing measures.
 - The stress and uncertainty of the pandemic also created widespread strain on staff across sectors, including providers and city governments.
 - Cities, the County, and the State of California passed emergency legislation to limit evictions in the face of dramatic workforce shifts in response to the pandemic. Eviction can create situations putting families at higher risk of COVID-19 due to overcrowding and the risk of homelessness. As of January 2021, legislation continues to pass related to eviction moratoria, rental assistance, and amount of time for renters to pay back rent.
 - Response to the pandemic, the statewide Safer at Home order, and the practice of social distancing have all had dramatic impacts on sales tax funded initiatives such as Measure H. The County anticipates large cuts to the Measure H budget in coming years.
 - Federal and state government, however, have rolled out numerous emergency relief packages, many of them aimed at housing stability and homeless services, such as ESG-CV.
- The Judge Carter decision:

- In May, 2020, US District Judge David Carter filed an injunction requiring the City and County of Los Angeles and homeless service agencies to find alternative shelter for homeless individuals residing near freeways. The health risk of exposure to pollution and unsafe conditions was a major factor in the decision to focus on encampments near freeways. The mandate, however, did not come with funding. In late 2020, some communities began setting up safe camping and shed villages to comply with the order.
- Local and federal elections in 2020 resulted in several high-level political changes. New elected officials and new political appointments will likely impact federal and state funding for housing and homelessness programs. Major policy changes are also possible.

SFVCOG Regional Goals to Combat and Prevent Homelessness

Goal 1: Increase Partnerships between Cities and Key Stakeholders		
Corresponding Federal Strategies	Corresponding County Homeless Initiative Strategies	Corresponding COG Cities Strategies
<p>1.2.c: Increase community capacity and state-level coordination to effectively identify, target, and connect at-risk individuals and families to local resources and opportunities that contribute to and strengthen housing stability, including job training and apprenticeship programs that create access to career pathways, primary and behavioral health services, early childhood programs, and elementary, secondary, and post-secondary education. For children and youth at risk of homelessness, this work includes strengthening connections to school- and community-based resources that encourage education retention, high school completion, and services that address needs related to these goals, including transportation and additional education services.</p> <p>2.3.b: Encourage a wide range of programs to develop or strengthen partnerships with coordinated entry processes and to implement effective practices for referrals between systems.</p> <p>2.4.j: Encourage partnerships between housing providers and health and behavioral health care providers, such as health centers, to co-locate, coordinate, or integrate health, behavioral health, safety, and wellness services with housing and create better resources for providers to connect patients to housing resources.</p>	<p>All strategies under Key Area E: Create a Coordinated System</p>	<p>Burbank: Goal: Continuing outreach, community awareness and a coordinated care system.</p> <p>City of Los Angeles: Goal: Establish regional intergovernmental coordination. Create regional homeless advisory council.</p> <p>Glendale: Goal: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System.</p> <p>Santa Clarita: Goal: Engage the community to increase awareness and support for increasing housing and service capacity</p> <p>San Fernando: Goal: Strengthen our collaborative efforts and identify resources for shelter and service through these collaborations.</p>
Potential Activities		

1. Encourage shared learning across cities on efforts including homeless plan implementation, challenges, and successes by actively participating in COG Homeless Coordination Working Group
2. For Cities sharing borders, encourage ongoing dialogue, collaboration, and shared efforts such as shared funding opportunities, supporting housing development in border areas, and coordinating City departments interacting with individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
3. Promote strong relationships with Cities, County Homeless Initiative Team, and LAHSA by having County and LAHSA staff participate in COG Homeless Coordination Working Group
4. Ensure Cities are educated on the non-profits receiving Measure H funds in SPA 2 and key activities they provide within each city
5. Ensure Cities have strong connections to, and consistent communication with, the CES leads in SPA 2 including LA Family Housing (Singles and Families) and The Village Family Services (Youth). Encourage participation of CES leads in COG Homeless Coordination Working Group. Encourage collaboration, coordination, and capacity-building for agencies that receive contracts from SPA 2 leads for interim housing, engagement, and navigation services.
6. Ensure cities and non-profit agencies have the necessary capacity to address homelessness locally, and to be competitive for funding opportunities such as Measure H.
7. Encourage Cities to build and facilitate partnerships with local school districts and school-based homeless services coordinators.
8. Encourage Cities to become educated and help facilitate partnerships with health care sector including area hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers, behavioral health programs, and Managed Care Plans. Cities should also ensure that health care and public health partners are adequately addressing the specialized needs of people experiencing homelessness, such as with holistic behavioral health care and contagious disease guidelines appropriate for unhoused individuals.

Goal 2: Pro-Actively Address Individuals and Families Living Unsheltered and in Encampments

Corresponding Federal Strategies	Corresponding County Homeless Initiative Strategies	Corresponding COG Cities Strategies
<p>2.1.a: Support increased capacity of communities to ensure that identification, outreach, and engagement efforts are comprehensive and coordinated across sectors and agencies, are focused on creating connections to permanent housing with appropriate services, are maximizing utility of shared data sets, and are effectively identifying and engaging people with diverse experiences, needs, and challenges.</p> <p>2.1.e: Support communities to develop partnerships with law enforcement that reduce the criminalization of homelessness. Federal partners will develop further guidance on best practices in addressing unsheltered homelessness and</p>	<p>E4: First Responders Training</p> <p>E5: Decriminalization Policy</p> <p>E6: Countywide Outreach System</p> <p>E7: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System</p>	<p>Burbank: Goal: Expand multidisciplinary street outreach teams. First responders training.</p> <p>City of Los Angeles: Goal: First responders training. Develop encampment engagement protocols.</p> <p>Glendale: Goal: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System.</p> <p>Santa Clarita:</p>

encampments and strategies that reduce the criminalization of homelessness.		<p>Goal: Enhance First Responder training and awareness.</p> <p>San Fernando: Goal: Establish First Responder training and awareness. Participate in regional HOST program. Continue collaborative efforts in Homeless Connect Days. Have key personnel engage in CES 101 training</p>
Potential Activities		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure Cities are aware of all outreach efforts taking place in their Cities. Create summary map and schedule of all street outreach efforts happening across COG Cities, as well as Homeless Connect Days happening around the region. 2. For Cities with their own City-funded outreach activities, ensure efforts are aligned with best practices (such as harm reduction and trauma-informed care), connected to the Coordinated Entry System, and coordinated with County and LAHSA outreach efforts in Cities. 3. For Cities with their own Police Departments (PD), ensure PD is aware of outreach efforts and who to contact regarding those living unsheltered. 4. Encourage Cities to create their own or adopt regional outreach and encampment protocols. Consider the COG as a body create a set of recommendations and best practices around outreach and encampments. 5. Support COG cities with creating appropriate service models to provide basic needs to assist those living unsheltered and create additional engagement points. This may include storage centers, laundry facilities, access centers, showers, and restrooms. 6. Support COG cities to ensure that adopted policies and protocols do not unintentionally criminalize individuals and families experiencing homelessness. 		
Goal 3: Support the Creation of Interim Housing Opportunities and Other Short-Term Interventions to Move People Off the Streets Quickly		
Corresponding Federal Strategies	Corresponding County Homeless Initiative Strategies	Corresponding COG Cities Strategies
<p>2.2.b: Enhance the capacity of emergency shelter providers to implement low-barrier approaches, to provide fair and equitable access, to address the needs of households of all compositions, and to implement Housing First approaches and provide adequate services within communities to strengthen exits to permanent housing</p> <p>2.2.d: Increase the availability of medical respite programs in communities to allow hospitals to</p>	E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System	<p>Burbank: Goal: Build temporary housing.</p> <p>City of Los Angeles: Goal: Expand emergency shelter and improve access.</p> <p>Glendale: Goal: Enhance the emergency shelter system.</p>

discharge people experiencing homelessness with complex health needs to medical respite programs that can help stabilize their medical conditions and assist them to access or return to safe and stable housing.		<p>Santa Clarita: Goal: Increase the housing supply dedicated for the homeless.</p> <p>San Fernando: Goal: Collaborate to enhance shelter capacity. Review ordinances to assist in increasing affordable housing supply.</p>
Potential Activities		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage Cities to review City-owned land and/or other public or private land for the development of interim housing models such as Crisis and Bridge Housing, Medical Respite Programs, and Safe Parking Programs. Review should be in alignment with Gov. Newsom's January 2020 executive order to assess state-owned land for homeless shelter and housing. 2. Support Cities with creating Crisis and Bridge Housing programs that align with LAHSA standards including utilizing a Housing First, low-barrier model. 3. For Cities pursuing new Crisis and Bridge Housing programs, have COG Board publicly support development and site within City and help combat any community opposition. Where possible, the COG Board should publicly support Bridge Housing and Permanent Housing solutions that address the risk of COVID-19. 4. Support COG cities to work with local hospitals and rehabilitation centers to create appropriate discharge protocols for homeless individuals exiting the hospital. 5. Identify homeless and at-risk families through school districts and public libraries and connect them to services. Offer co-location of relevant services where appropriate. 		
Goal 4: Increase Rental Assistance Resources and Services for Preventing Homelessness as well as Exiting Homeless Households Rapidly		
Corresponding Federal Strategies	Corresponding County Homeless Initiative Strategies	Corresponding COG Cities Strategies
1.2.g: Identify and promote implementation of eviction prevention strategies, including access to: civil legal aid and legal assistance to address obstacles to employment and housing; eviction and foreclosure prevention; and short-term and flexible financial assistance for households experiencing financial crises.	<p>All strategies under Key Area A: Prevent Homelessness</p> <p>All strategies under Key Area B: Subsidize Housing</p> <p>All strategies under Key Area C: Increase Income</p> <p>All strategies under Key Area D: Provide Case Management and Services</p>	<p>Burbank: Goal: Create affordable and supportive housing. Increase homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing.</p> <p>City of Los Angeles: Goal: <i>Numerous.</i></p> <p>Glendale:</p>

<p>2.4.a: Support communities to expand the supply and increase access to rental housing subsidies and other affordable housing options for individuals and families experiencing or most at risk of homelessness.</p>		<p>Goal: Partner with cities to expand rapid re-housing.</p> <p>Santa Clarita: Goals: Identify and connect families at-risk of homelessness through schools. Establish or enhance subsidized employment programs. Increase the capacity of Rapid Re-Housing. Conduct landlord and motel outreach. Explore home sharing model.</p> <p>San Fernando: Goal: Partner with surrounding jurisdictions expand rapid re-housing. Partner with CBO's to identify available programs that can assist persons at risk of homelessness.</p>
<p>Potential Activities</p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase rentals assistance programs within cities for Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing. 2. Ensure City staff are educated about services to assist households facing eviction. 3. Encourage landlords in COG cities to rent to homeless households using landlord education as well as targeted landlord incentives when appropriate. 4. Encourage businesses and employers to partner with the homeless system, especially cities operating Rapid Re-Housing programs, to hire homeless individuals and families. 5. Encourage COG cities to consider hiring homeless or formerly homeless individuals in certain City positions. Explore opportunities for local non-profit organizations to consider hiring or providing volunteer opportunities to homeless or formerly homeless individuals. 6. Educate COG cities on shared housing models and roommate matching programs. 		
<p>Goal 5: Support the Development of Affordable and Permanent Supportive Housing</p>		
<p>Corresponding Federal Strategies</p>	<p>Corresponding County Homeless Initiative Strategies</p>	<p>Corresponding COG Cities Strategies</p>
<p>1.2.a: Promote development of an expanded supply of safe and affordable rental homes through federal, state, and local efforts and investments. This includes assisting communities that are working to adopt</p>	<p>All strategies under Key Area F: Increase Affordable/Homeless Housing</p>	<p>Burbank: Goal: Create affordable and supportive housing. Promote ADU construction and</p>

<p>policies to expand overall housing supply and to project the scale of affordable housing units—including units that are affordable to people exiting homelessness and units that are accessible to persons with disabilities— needed to meet local demand on an ongoing basis.</p>		<p>partner with owners to house formerly homeless individuals.</p> <p>City of Los Angeles: Goal: <i>Numerous.</i></p> <p>Santa Clarita: Goal: Increase the housing supply dedicated for the homeless. Investigate permanent affordable housing options, including inclusionary zoning, affordable housing options.</p> <p>San Fernando: Goal: Review zoning and approval processes for affordable housing and investigate incentives to create such housing.</p>
<p>Potential Activities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure elected officials and city staff in COG member cities are educated in Permanent Supportive Housing. 2. Encourage Cities to review City owned land and/or other public or private land for the development of affordable or supportive housing, in alignment with Gov. Newsom’s January 2020 executive order to assess state-owned land for homeless shelter and housing. 3. Review other underutilized property (state, federal, private) in the SFVCOG region for the development of affordable or supportive housing. 4. For Cities pursuing new affordable or supportive housing, have COG Board publicly support development and site within City and help combat any community opposition. 5. Encourage Cities to consider Inclusionary Zoning ordinances. 6. Encourage Cities to adopt ordinances to permit and/or incentivize the development of Accessory Dwelling Units that are in alignment with the November 2020 ADU Ordinance covering all of Los Angeles County. 7. Support Cities to comply with SB2. Compile and map SB2 parcels within the SPA. 		



San Fernando Valley Council of Governments

Attachment 4

DATE: January 16, 2021

TO: SFVCOG Board of Directors

FROM: John Bwarie, Executive Director

RE: Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries (ULART) Revitalization Plan

RECOMMENDATION

Establish a working group to identify the SFVCOG's role implementing the ULART

BACKGROUND

During the 2017-2018 legislative session, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill 466 (AB 466) — establishing within the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), a Working Group focused on the revitalization efforts in the upper LA River Watershed. This Working Group, similar to the Working Group established by AB 530 for the Lower LA River, was charged with the development of a plan “through watershed-based planning methods and community engagement, a revitalization plan for the Upper LA River, the tributaries of the Pacoima Wash, Tujunga Wash, and Verdugo Wash, and any additional tributary waterway that the Working Group determines to be necessary, which included the addition of the Aliso Canyon Wash and Burbank Western Channel. The bill required the revitalization plan to address the unique and diverse needs of the communities through which these waterways pass; in addition, “The revitalization plan shall require a master planning process that includes community engagement and a prioritization of disadvantaged communities.”

The Working Group concluded its work in creating a plan for the region in mid-2020. The plan was adopted and is entering the implementation phase. This effort directly impacts and engages 5 of our 6 member jurisdictions (all but City of Santa Clarita), and the SFVCOG has the ability to help drive the actions to address the critical needs of the region by taking a leadership role in this effort going forward.

To most effectively engage in this effort, the SFVCOG Board could establish a Standing or Ad Hoc Committee to review and determine the ways in which the COG might engage in this effort. A Standing Committee would be a regularly scheduled public meeting subject to Brown Act; an ad hoc Committee would have a set timeframe, scope, and would not be considered subject to the Brown Act.

CURRENT POSITIONS

The SFVCOG's currently adopted transportation priorities include active transportation investments, which this work

Attachment: *ULART Executive Summary*

UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES WORKING GROUP

Executive Summary

June 30, 2020



THE PLAN

The creation of the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries (ULART) Revitalization Plan (the Plan) represents an extraordinary and timely opportunity for the surrounding communities to experience historic change. The Los Angeles (LA) River is a heavily channelized waterway, flowing 51 miles from its inception at the confluence of Bell Creek and Arroyo Calabasas to its outlet in Long Beach. It is surrounded by densely urbanized and populated land uses. The upper LA River meanders eastward through the Simi Hills, Santa Susana Mountains, the San Fernando Valley, and into the Elysian Valley, crossing multiple jurisdictions. While there are a few areas that have more natural river type characteristics than the concrete channels the LA River is known for, these spaces offer potential for ecological and wildlife habitat restoration. Portions of the tributaries also contain natural river characteristics that foster ecology and habitat and offer potential as well as opportunities for varying scales of restoration. This plan seeks to discuss, examine, and analyze the role of the often neglected tributaries as described in the Public Resources Code Section 33220. Legislation authorized the creation of an appointed Working Group for the Upper LA River and its Tributaries using a community-centric, watershed management approach to develop a revitalization plan—included hereafter.

A WORKING GROUP FOR THE UPPER LA RIVER WATERSHED

During the 2017-2018 legislative session, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill 466 (AB 466) — establishing within the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), a Working Group focused on the revitalization efforts in the upper LA River Watershed. This Working Group, similar to the Working Group established by AB 530 for the Lower LA River, was charged with the development of a plan “through watershed-based planning methods and community engagement, a revitalization plan for the Upper LA River, the tributaries of the Pacoima Wash, Tujunga Wash, and Verdugo Wash, and any additional tributary waterway that the Working Group determines to be necessary, which included the addition of the Aliso Canyon Wash and Burbank Western Channel. The bill required the revitalization plan to address the unique and diverse needs of the communities through which these waterways pass; in addition, “The revitalization plan shall require a master planning process that includes community engagement and a prioritization of disadvantaged communities.” Subsequently, Senate Bill (SB 1126) was signed in September 2018, which added the Arroyo Seco as a waterway.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Required by the legislation, the Plan must use watershed-based planning methods and community engagement to address the diverse needs of the Upper Los Angeles River and the surrounding communities. Community engagement occurred over nine months, through three phases, collecting input and feedback from the communities in the upper LA River and its tributaries. Chapter 2 of the Plan details how and where the input and feedback were incorporated into the Plan.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

During the first Working Group meeting, the Working Group established the course of the Plan, determined the focus of the two committees — Water and Environment, and People and Recreation — and discussed the breadth and nucleus of the community engagement phases. Over 18 months, Working Group members and their alternates convened to develop the Plan through three main phases — inventory and analysis, concept development, and Plan Preparation. The mission of the ULART Revitalization Plan is to emphasize the objective with the following components:

- Open space
- Multiple benefits
- Safe access
- Nature based & watershed management
- Alignment with community needs and feedback
- Reduction & management of flood risks to communities
- Culture, arts, & education
- Alignment with funding sources
- Reconciliation with previous efforts



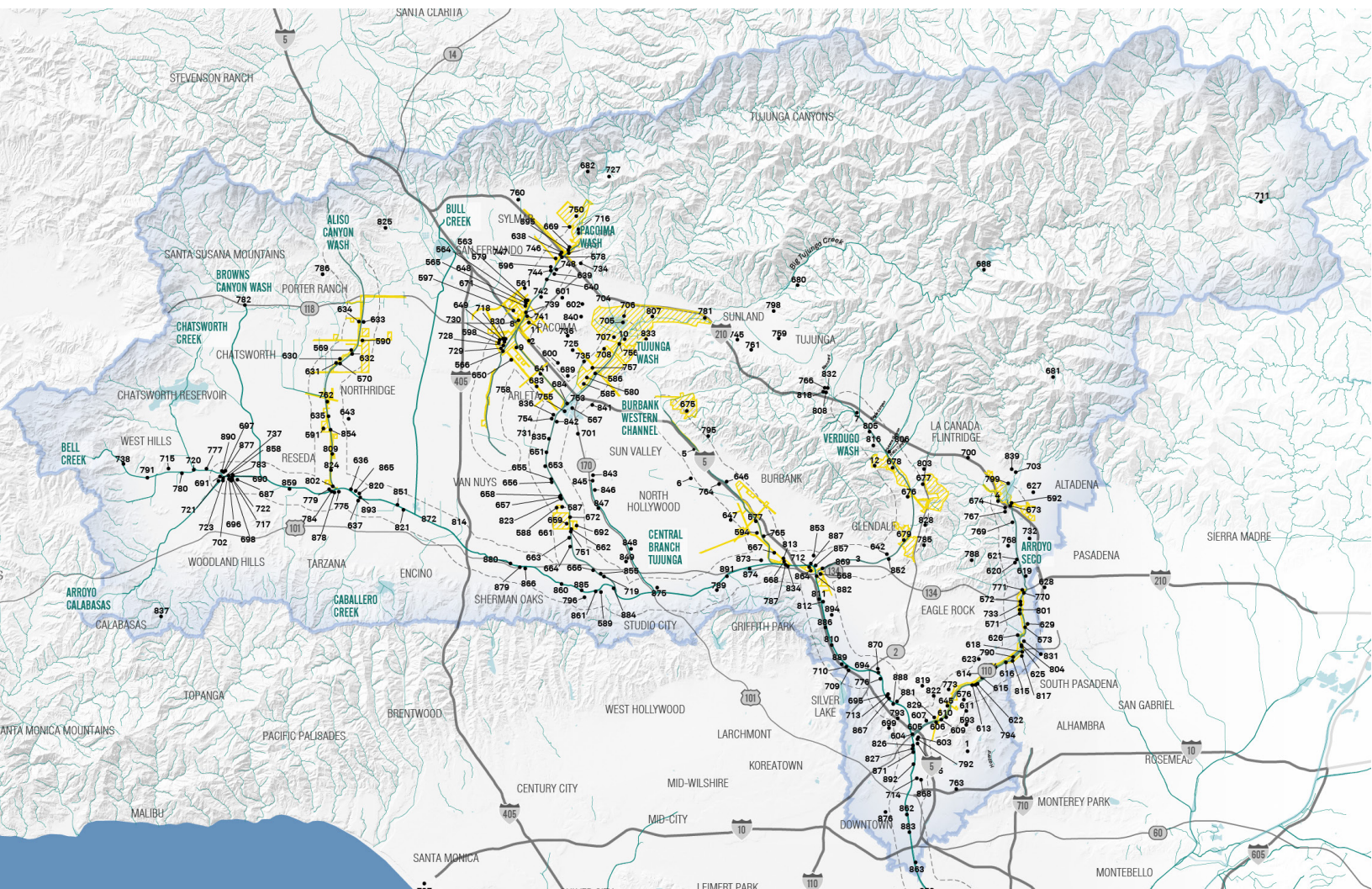
NEXT STEPS

The six tributaries within the Plan account for a majority of the water flowing from the overall watershed into the Los Angeles River mainstem. More than 300 projects are proposed within and adjacent to the tributaries, with the intention to create multi benefit templates, typical treatment components, that can be applied to multiple locations within a corridor as funding and planning progress. In this manner, the proposed projects do not need to be on a larger, regional scale. Rather, several smaller-scale efforts accomplished in an urbanized space-restricted environment provide multiple benefits and positive impacts throughout the watershed and, by association, downstream in the LA River.

Acknowledging the need for project implementation and funding support, Chapter 4 of the Plan provides guidance on prioritization, funding, and implementation of projects. The Plan includes these elements to provide communities, advocates, agencies, and cities with tools to revitalize the Upper LA River and its tributaries in ways aligned with the Working Group's carefully developed goals and objectives. Benefits from these projects will only be realized if: equitable planning approaches are used to select, place and scale projects while maintaining strong connections to the community, projects are selected based on community support which meet the goals established by the Working Group and the community, proposed projects continue to be assessed and adapted based on community needs, coordination with traditional and nontraditional partners is encouraged to ensure support, funding and maintenance, projects are integrated into existing and future land use, infrastructure, transportation, river revitalization and climate action plans. To access the full plan, appendix and additional information, please visit: www.UpperLARiver.org.

For comments/questions re: ULART, please email: River@smmc.ca.gov.

PROJECTS IDENTIFIED IN PLAN



- Opportunity Area
- ▨ Design Area Bundles