CVAG GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022

Monday, June 27

































Agenda

Call to Order

Christy Holstege CVAG Chair & City of Palm Springs Councilmember

Member Roll Call & Introductions

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Steven Hernandez City of Coachella

National Anthem

Barry Minniefield The Voice contenstant, Palm Springs resident

Welcome from the City of Palm Springs

Public Comment

CVAG Business Sessions

Approval of Minutes Adoption of Budget Election

Keynote Address

Marcie Frost, CEO, CalPERS Introduced by Mayor Lisa Middleton, City of Palm Springs

Special Recognition

Closing Remarks

Adjourn

Master of Ceremonies

Tom Kirk, Executive Director

Welcome to the '22

Honorable members of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments' General Assembly:



Christy Gilbert Holstege, CVAG Chair

On behalf of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, it is my honor to welcome you to the 2022 General Assembly. The use of technology has made us more connected as a region than ever before, and I look forward to seeing you all on the screen for the meeting. It will be informative and a lot of fun!

I have been proud to represent the City of Palm Springs as it serves as CVAG Chair this year. Our city touts itself as being "like no place else." But in many ways, we could say that eastern Riverside

County is like no other region – and the collaboration you all have demonstrated in achieving our common goals for the region is a testament to that.

Over the last year, together we have invested tens of millions of dollars into making our roadway network safer and more efficient for cars, bikes, and pedestrians, including construction progress on CV Sync and securing a state investment on middle-mile broadband. We've had a banner year for progress on CV Link, including opening the on-street route in Palm Desert, breaking ground in Palm Springs and continuing construction with more than 70 concrete trucks a day laying pavement along the route. We've maintained our dedication to sustainable programs by helping our homes and businesses be energy efficient, including launching a new era of programming with the Inland Regional Energy Network and celebrating two years of serving Desert Community Energy's electric customers and helping the City of Palm Springs exceed

General Assembly

the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals. We've worked to ensure our unique environment is preserved for generations, with the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission acquiring milestone properties to protect the open desert to preserve habitat for endangered species. And through our shared commitment to CV Housing First, we found permanent housing solutions for 99 of the Coachella Valley's most chronically homeless individuals since the start of 2021, and further demonstrated the effectiveness of working together by leveraging state funding to address homelessness. We are showing real results by building up our regional collaboration and partnership, thanks to our work at CVAG.

We have much to celebrate this year. Details of the General Assembly meeting, including a formal agenda, are included. You also should have received a gift from Blythe Vice Mayor Joseph DeConinck, who continues to make locally grown cantaloupes a beloved General Assembly tradition.

Finally, I want to note that I have greatly respected the camaraderie and thoughtful policy debates that our committees continued to maintain this year. I also want to thank to entire CVAG staff for their hard work and dedication to advancing our region's policies and programs.

I look forward to seeing you on the screen on Monday night. With appreciation,

Christy Gilbert Holstege

City of Palm Springs Councilmember CVAG Chair, Fiscal Year 2021/2022

Thank you to our Sponsors











SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON°

















Keynote Speaker

Marcie Frost CEO, CalPERS

Marcie Frost joined CalPERS as chief executive officer (CEO) in October 2016. She is the ninth CEO and second woman to head America's largest pension fund. As CEO, Marcie oversees an annual budget of \$1.8 billion, an experienced team of 2,800 professionals, and three lines of business for the fund: pensions, health benefits, and investments.

Under Marcie's leadership, CalPERS is focused on maximizing long-term investment returns to meet the fund's fiduciary responsibility to members and leverage the fund's global strength to drive sustainable markets. CalPERS

is a founding member of Climate Action 100+, an initiative with 360 signatories and \$34 trillion in assets under management, working cooperatively to ensure the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitters take necessary action to address climate change. Marcie has also been appointed as a Guardian for the Council for Inclusive Capitalism at the Vatican and serves on the United Nations Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance.







CV SYNC

Managed the construction of Phase I of the CV Sync regional signal synchronization project, which included more than \$20 million of improvements along Highway 111, Ramon Road and Washington Street.

Completed environmental document and construction documents for CV Sync Phase 2. Submitted obligation and allocation request to the California Transportation Commission and Caltrans for approval in to start construction on CV Sync Phase 2 that includes over \$60 million of improvements on 18 corridors.

Developed Regional Bike and Pedestrian Safety Guidelines to establish standards for the entire Coachella Valley.

Developed regional broadband concept and secured state support to bring tens of millions of dollars for middle-mile fiber optic installations throughout the Coachella Valley (contract to be considered by the Executive Committee in coming months).



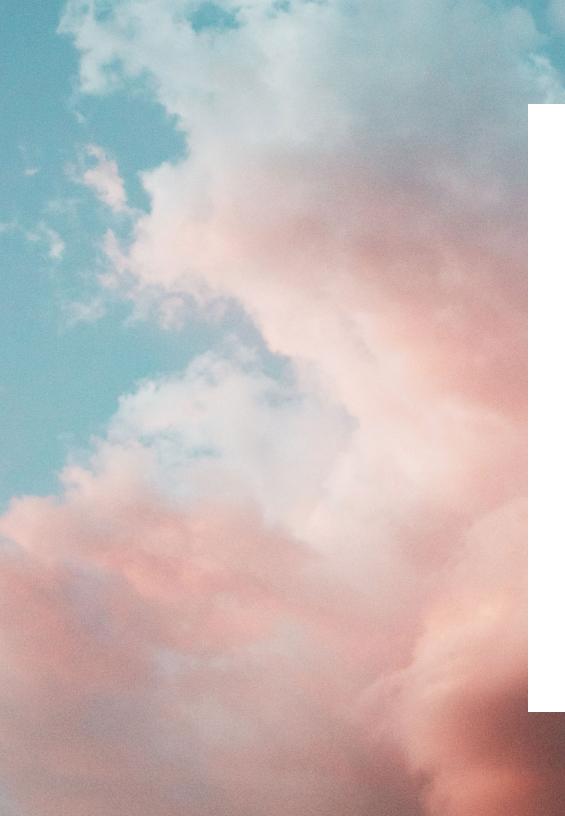
Coordinated with the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) to program more than \$15 million of State Transportation Improvement Program funding for passenger rail service to the Coachella Valley.

Celebrated the completion of major projects such as Indian Avenue improvements and the Avenue 66 grade separation project.

Working to support Active Transportation Program Cycle 6 applications, including leading the application for the Arts and Music Line through the Cities of Coachella, Indio, and La Quinta, and funding pre-construction work for the CV Link extension to Desert Hot Springs.

Completed and continue monitoring cash-flow analysis to provide elected leadership with information needed to make fiscally responsible policy decisions.





Energy & Sustainability

Approval of the Inland Regional Energy Network (I-REN), which is a five-year, \$65 million Public Utilities Commission (PUC) energy conservation program that CVAG is leading in partnership with Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) and San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) in order to implement new programs and services across the region.

Completed an Urban Greening guidebook which includes a tree palette and valuable input on tree planting and maintenance from landscape architects, nurseries, arborists, and other experts.

Continued work on longstanding programs such as tire recycling, used oil recycling, and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE).

Executed a \$1.1 million agreement with South Coast Air Quality Management District for street sweeping, including an efficiency and effectiveness study that launched in mid-March 2022.

Coordinated efforts for the future electricity service in the eastern Coachella Valley, including working with Imperial Irrigation District to provide a Coachella Valley Energy Commission coordinator.

Partnered with OhmConnect to offer a smart plug and thermostat program to help residents save money and energy.



Desert Community Energy

Celebrated two years (April 2020 – April 2022) of serving Palm Springs residents and businesses with 100% Carbon Free electricity.

Reduced the City of Palm Springs' carbon footprint (greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)) by 115,070 metric tons in 2020, which is like taking 25,000 cars off the road in Palm Springs. Palm Springs exceeded the State of California's ambitious 2020 goals to reduce GHG emissions and help fight climate change.

Invested in new renewable energy and battery storage, including 11 megawatts of new wind energy produced in Palm Springs, that creates good paying clean energy jobs, invests in our local economy, and brings local renewable and carbon free energy sources close to home.

Signed a contract to bring an innovative pilot solar & battery storage program to Palm Springs.



Coachella Valley Conservation Commission

Coordinated with partners to manage more than 100,000 acres of conservation land, including partnerships with the Desert Hot Springs Police and Riverside County Sheriff's Office to address areas prone to off-road vehicles, illegal dumping and vandalism.

Continued to be ahead of plans in acquiring habitat, including the CVCC's largest ever acquisition of 3,218 acres as part of the Palm Hills conservation effort.

Opened the new Long Canyon Trail, which was led by the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy to provide access from Desert Hot Springs to Joshua Tree National Park.

Achieved progress on several, longstanding big projects that includes finalizing the construction plans for the bighorn sheep fence in La Quinta & the North Shore Ranch restoration project.

Securing two Local Assistance Grants from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, for more than \$160,000, that will provide data on Peninsular Bighorn Sheep as well as assessing climate change vulnerability for covered species.



Community Resources

Secured permanent housing solutions for 75 of the CV 200 in CVAG's first calendar (2021) year operating CV Housing First internally.

Led a regional homelessness program that had transparent and regularly reported data, along with financial support from all nine Coachella Valley cities.

Coordinated additional resources for homeless individuals through no-cost MOUs with local colleges and other partners such as Inland County Legal Services.

Coordinated two Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) grants for a total of \$558,000, which will lead to long-term funding options for CVAG member jurisdictions to consider for affordable housing and support Lift to Rise's capital investment program.

Led regional conversations around pressing public safety issues, including earthquake preparedness, addressing illegal dumping and the deployment of needed behavioral health resources.

Facilitated up-to-date information on the COVID-19 pandemic, the distribution of vaccines and the use of shared resources.







