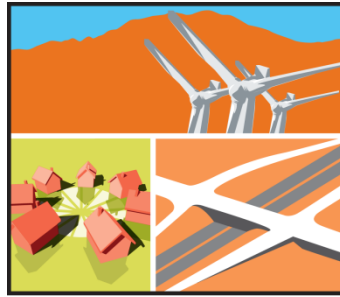


**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A UNIQUE PANELIST LINK BY EMAIL.
PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.**



CVAG

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021

Closed Session: 4:00 p.m.

Regular Session: 4:30 p.m.

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 18, 2020), the Executive Committee meeting will only be conducted via video/teleconferencing.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public may use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81833081237?pwd=R0lkbDNJRWJ2YUFGTVI3eTRmOXBBQT09>

Password: 293397

One Tap Mobile: +16699009128,,81833081237#

Dial In: +1 669 900 9128

Webinar ID: 818 3308 1237

Password: 293397

***This will provide listening access and ability to address the
Executive Committee when called upon.***

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO CONNECT VIA DIAL IN OPTION, PLEASE CALL 760-346-1127.

Public Comment is encouraged to be emailed to the Executive Committee prior to the Meeting at cvag@cvag.org by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the committee meeting. Comments intended to be read aloud should be no more than 300 characters.

**THIS MEETING IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE.
ACTION MAY RESULT ON ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER – 4:00 p.m.**

2. **CLOSED SESSION**

A. **Public Comment for Closed Session Items Only:**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address closed session agenda. Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

B. **Closed Session**

Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54957.6, the Executive Committee will adjourn to Closed Session.

Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency's designated representative: Chair Glenn Miller and Vice Chair Christy Holstege
Unrepresented Employee: Executive Director

3. **RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION & ROLL CALL – 4:30 p.m.**

A. **Report on Action from Closed Session**

B. **Member Roster**

P5

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Executive Committee on agenda items. At the discretion of the Chair, comments may be taken at the time items are presented. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes.

5. **CHAIR / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. **Approve the February 22, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

P6

B. **Rename CVAG's Per Diem Policy to be a Stipend Policy (No. 21-03), and set the stipend amount for meeting attendance at \$125 for Executive Committee members and at \$100 for all other committees' elected representatives**

P14

C. **Authorize Executive Director to negotiate and execute Amendment #1 to the grant agreement with Riverside County HEAP funding to accept an additional \$97,000 for the CV Housing First Program**

P18

D. **Accept the annual and five-year Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee report in fulfillment of the reporting requirements of the Mitigation Fee Act**

P19

E. **Authorize the Executive Director to execute a cooperative agreement with**

P21

Renova Energy, extending its Adopt a Link partnership for an additional three years to cover the operations and maintenance costs of the first segment of CV Link

- F. Authorize the CVAG Chair to sign a letter of support for Senate Bill 289, the state’s Better Battery Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction of 2021** **P25**

6.1 ITEM(S) HELD OVER FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

- A. CVAG Membership for Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians – Tom Kirk** **P31**

Recommendation: Approve Addendum No. 2 to the Third Amendment and Restatement of the CVAG Joint Powers Agreement, which establishes the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians as a formal member and direct the Executive Director to distribute to member jurisdictions for approval

- B. Flooding and Blowsand Projects in Western Coachella Valley – Jonathan Hoy** **P37**

Recommendation: Direct the Executive Director to advance improvements on North Indian Canyon Road, Varner Road and Date Palm Drive (south of Varner Road) as identified in the “Flood and Blowsand Risk Assessment and Improvement Plan for the Western Coachella Valley” as identified as project numbers INCN7, VRNR2, and DPLM5

- C. Cash Flow Analysis for Regional Transportation Projects – Jonathan Hoy** **P40**

Recommendation: Address cash flow concerns by directing the Executive Director to:

1. Prepare a value-engineering study and update project expenditure estimates for projects within CVAG’s Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS); and
2. Review CVAG’s cost-sharing policy and return with additional analysis on returning to the original 50/50 formula split for projects’ construction phase, while maintaining a 75/25 split for pre-construction phases

- D. Update on Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Funding – Erica Felci** **P43**

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to accept \$558,000 in Regional Early Action Planning funding, including negotiating and executing the necessary agreements with Southern California Association of Governments; and then to execute an agreement with Lift to Rise for a not-to-exceed amount of \$304,000

- E. CV Housing First: 2021 Progress and Continued Support from Desert Healthcare District/Foundation – Tom Kirk** **P50**

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to execute a memorandum of understanding with Desert Healthcare District/Foundation to accept \$500,000 for the CV Housing First program operations

8. INFORMATION

- a) Status of I-10 Interchange Projects **P58**
- b) CVAG Regional Arterial Program - Project Status Report **P59**
- c) CVAG Regional Arterial Program - Contract Status Report **P60**
- d) Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Program - Project Status Report **P62**
- e) Executive Committee Attendance Roster **P63**
- f) Update on ATP Cycle 5 Awards **P64**
- g) Funding Capacity of California's Highway Bridge Program **P66**
- h) Coordination with SunLine Transit Agency **P68**
- i) Update on Congressional Earmarks **P70**
- j) Update on PACE Program **P72**
- k) State Auditor's Report on Continuum of Care (COC) Agencies **P74**
- l) Update from Monitoring of CV Housing First **P76**

9. LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Executive Committee on items of general interest within the purview of this committee. Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

12. ADJOURNMENT

ITEM 3B**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ROSTER**

Jurisdiction	Members
City of Blythe	Joseph De Coninck Vice Mayor
City of Cathedral City	Raymond Gregory Mayor
City of Coachella	Steven Hernandez Mayor
City of Desert Hot Springs	Scott Matas Mayor
City of Indian Wells	Richard Balocco Mayor
City of Indio, Chair	Glenn Miller Councilmember
City of La Quinta	Linda Evans Mayor
City of Palm Desert	Kathleen Kelly Mayor
City of Palm Springs, Vice Chair	Christy Holstege Mayor
City of Rancho Mirage	Ted Weill Mayor
County of Riverside	Kevin Jeffries , 1st District Supervisor Karen Spiegel , 2 nd District Supervisor Chuck Washington , 3 rd Dist. Supervisor V. Manuel Perez , 4 th District Supervisor Jeff Hewitt , 5 th District Supervisor
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Jeff Grubbe Tribal Chair
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	Brenda Soulliere Tribal Member
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Joseph Mirelez Tribal Vice Chair

ITEM 6A

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2021**



The audio file for this committee meeting can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>
Any handouts distributed during the meeting will be placed in the meeting file.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by CVAG Chair Glenn Miller, Councilmember, City of Indio at 4:31 p.m. via a Zoom webinar, which was pursuant to Gov. Newsom’s executive order governing how meetings are held during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. ROLL CALL

A roll call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present. Those in attendance were as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vice Mayor Joseph DeConinck
Mayor Raymond Gregory
Mayor Steven Hernandez
Mayor Scott Matas
Mayor Richard Balocco
Councilmember Glenn Miller
Mayor Linda Evans
Mayor Kathleen Kelly
Mayor Christy Holstege
Mayor Pro Tem Ted Weill
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Supervisor Jeff Hewitt
Tribal Chair Jeff Grubbe
Tribal Member Brenda Soulliere
Tribal Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez

AGENCY

City of Blythe (*Left during Item 6D*)
City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
County of Riverside 4th District
County of Riverside 5th District
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Supervisor Karen Spiegel
Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
Supervisor Chuck Washington

AGENCY

County of Riverside 2nd
County of Riverside 1st District
County of Riverside 3rd District

OTHERS PRESENT

S. Anderson
Anne Azzu

AGENCY

KOA

Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto	City of Coachella
Ryan Domino	Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP
Bryan Elmes	
Chris Freeland	City of Indian Wells
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	City of Palm Desert
Janis Leonard	Western Riverside Council of Governments
Martin Magaña	
Charlie McClendon	City of Cathedral City
Michael McDonagh	Consultant
Deborah McGarry	Southern California Gas
Jon McMillen	City of La Quinta
Carlos Ortiz	Advantec
Bill Pattison	City of Coachella
Luke Rainey	City of Desert Hot Springs
Greg Rodriguez	County of Riverside
Tim Saenz	
David Salgado	Southern California Association of Governments
Erin Sasse	League of California Cities
Mark Scott	City of Indio
Lauren Skiver	SunLine Transit Agency
Paul Slama	Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Brittney Sowell	SunLine Transit Agency
Kristine Spano	
Paul Vallandigham	

STAFF PRESENT

Tom Kirk	
Katie Barrows	
Claude Kilgore	
Erica Felci	
Eric Cowle	
Tom Cox	
Peter Satin	
Kathleen Brundige	
Oscar Vizcarra	
Val Galeana	
Joanna Stueckle	
Michael Jenkins	CVAG Legal Counsel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Glenn Miller led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Chair Miller welcomed new Executive Committee members Mayor Raymond Gregory, City of Cathedral City; Mayor Balocco, City of Indian Wells; Mayor Christy Holstege, City of Palm Springs. Chair Miller announced that CVAG had received a letter from the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, requesting CVAG membership. Chair Miller also recognized the efforts being made during the continued COVID pandemic to hold meetings via Zoom.

Tom Kirk gave a brief update on Cycle 5 of the state’s Active Transportation Program (ATP).

Chair Miller announced that items 6B, C, and D would be taken before item 6A in order to allow Mayor Matas an opportunity to participate in the discussion, given his need to leave the meeting by 5:45 p.m.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR KELLY AND SECONDED BY MAYOR GREGORY TO:

- A. APPROVE THE DECEMBER 7, 2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**
- B. APPROVE CVAG’S EXISTING INVESTMENT POLICY AS CVAG POLICY 21-01, WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS TO REFLECT NEW PERSONNEL**
- C. ADOPT CVAG POLICY 21-02 TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES FOR CONTRACTS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS**
- D. SURPLUS THREE INOPERABLE VEHICLES AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO REMOVE AND DISPOSE OF THEM**
- E. APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE FOR THE FRANK SINATRA DRIVE BRIDGE, REFLECTING THE REVISED TOTAL PROJECT COST ESTIMATE OF \$52,876,000, INCLUDING CVAG’S NOT-TO-EXCEED SHARE OF \$4,548,858; AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND/OR LEGAL COUNSEL TO MAKE CLARIFYING CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT BEFORE EXECUTION**

THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 15 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

VICE MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR HERNANDEZ	AYE
MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR BALOCCO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR KELLY	AYE
MAYOR HOLSTEGE	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM WEILL	AYE
SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES	ABSENT

SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR HEWITT	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR GRUBBE	AYE
TRIBAL MEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

5.1 ITEM(S) HELD OVER FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

None

6. DISCUSSION / ACTION

- A. Finance Committee Report, Final Comprehensive Audited Financial Report, Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) 114 Letter for Fiscal Year 2019/20 as well as the Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures for CV Housing First Program for Fiscal Year 2019/20 – Claude Kilgore**

This item was taken after item 6D.

- B. Construction Contract for the Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project-Phase I – Eric Cowle**

Eric Cowle presented the staff report. Member discussion ensued. Supervisor Hewitt announced a conflict of interest with the company being considered for the contract and indicated he would abstain from voting.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR EVANS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR KELLY TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH CROSSTOWN ELECTRICAL DATA, INC., FOR A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT \$21,185,347.74, INCLUDING CONTINGENCY, FOR PHASE I OF THE REGIONAL TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION PROJECT, AS WELL AS ADDITIVE BID ALTERNATIVES A, B AND C; AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND/OR LEGAL COUNSEL TO MAKE CLARIFYING CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT BEFORE EXECUTION.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

VICE MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR HERNANDEZ	AYE
MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR BALOCCO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR KELLY	AYE
MAYOR HOLSTEGE	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM WEILL	AYE
SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT

SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR HEWITT	ABSTAIN
TRIBAL CHAIR GRUBBE	AYE
TRIBAL MEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 14 AYES, 1 ABSTENTION AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

C. Contract Amendment for Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization - Phase II Environmental and Engineering Services – Eric Cowle

Mr. Cowle presented the staff report. Member discussion ensued. Tribal Chair Grubbe questioned the timing of improvements on Agua Caliente’s tribal lands, and Mr. Cowle explained that wireless communication would be used until fiber was installed during a future phase. Mr. Kirk indicated that staff would be in contact with the Tribe to provide additional detail on the timing.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM WEILL AND SECONDED BY MAYOR EVANS TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO ADVANTEC CONSULTING ENGINEER’S ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR PHASE II-A OF CVAG’S REGIONAL SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION PROJECT FOR A NOT-TO-EXCEED TOTAL OF \$489,640, INCLUDING CONTINGENCY; AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND/OR LEGAL COUNSEL TO MAKE CLARIFYING CHANGES/REVISIONS PRIOR TO EXECUTION.

THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 15 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.

VICE MAYOR DECONINCK	AYE
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR HERNANDEZ	AYE
MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR BALOCCO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR KELLY	AYE
MAYOR HOLSTEGE	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM WEILL	AYE
SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR HEWITT	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR GRUBBE	AYE
TRIBAL MEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

D. Changeable Message Signs in Desert Hot Springs – Eric Cowle

Mr. Cowle presented the staff report. Member discussion ensued.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR MATAS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR KELLY TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF DESERT HOT SPRINGS TO INSTALL PERMANENT CHANGEABLE MESSAGE SIGNS ON PALM DRIVE AND NORTH INDIAN CANYON DRIVE CONSISTENT WITH THE REGIONAL SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION PROJECT, FOR A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$703,591

THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 14 AYES AND 4 MEMBERS ABSENT.

VICE MAYOR DECONINCK	ABSENT
MAYOR GREGORY	AYE
MAYOR HERNANDEZ	AYE
MAYOR MATAS	AYE
MAYOR BALOCCO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER MILLER	AYE
MAYOR EVANS	AYE
MAYOR KELLY	AYE
MAYOR HOLSTEGE	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM WEILL	AYE
SUPERVISOR JEFFRIES	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR SPIEGEL	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR WASHINGTON	ABSENT
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE
SUPERVISOR HEWITT	AYE
TRIBAL CHAIR GRUBBE	AYE
TRIBAL MEMBER SOULLIERE	AYE
TRIBAL VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

At the request of the Chair, this item was moved in the agenda lineup.

A. Finance Committee Report, Final Comprehensive Audited Financial Report, Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) 114 Letter for Fiscal Year 2019/20 as well as the Report on Agreed-Upon Procedures for CV Housing First Program for Fiscal Year 2019/20 – Claude Kilgore

Mr. Kirk introduced CVAG's new Director of Finance/ Administration, Claude Kilgore. Mr. Kilgore briefly discussed his background and experience, and introduced Ryan Domino, Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP.

Mr. Domino presented to audit, the Statement on Auditing Standards (SAS) letter, and the Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) of the homelessness program. Brief member discussion ensued.

This item was received and filed the reports for Fiscal Year 2019/20

E. CV Housing First Operations: Where we are at & where we are going – Tom Kirk

Mr. Kirk gave a PowerPoint presentation of the CV Housing First program, outlining the program's focus on the CV 200 and the initial progress being made to help the chronically homeless. Member discussion ensued.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

7. INFORMATION

- a) Status of I-10 Interchange Projects
- b) CVAG Regional Arterial Program - Project Status Report
- c) CVAG Regional Arterial Program - Contract Status Report
- d) Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Program - Project Status Report
- e) Executive Committee Attendance Roster
- f) Coordination with SunLine Transit Agency
- g) Update on CV Link Construction Plans

These items were placed in the agenda for member information.

8. LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

Erin Sasse, League of California Cities, gave members an update on statewide legislative issues.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Miller announced the next Executive Committee meeting would be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

11. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Executive Committee adjourned to Closed Session pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54956.8, the Executive Committee will adjourn to Closed Session at 6:04 p.m.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

A. Property: Assessor Parcel Number 687-050-004

CVAG Negotiator: Tom Kirk, Executive Director

Negotiating Party: Allottee 20E (Schoolcraft)

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment for acquisition of easements for CV Link

B. Property: Assessor Parcel Numbers 677-040-025, 030 & 031

CVAG Negotiator: Tom Kirk, Executive Director

Negotiating Party: Allottee 66E (Segundo)

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment for acquisition of easements for CV Link

C. Property: Assessor Parcel Numbers 687-360-017 & 019; 687-050-025 & 039; 687-060-015 & 044

CVAG Negotiator: Tom Kirk, Executive Director

Negotiating Party: Allottee 98E (Cummings)

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment for acquisition of easements for CV Link

The Executive Committee meeting reconvened at 6:16 p.m. Michael Jenkins, CVAG Legal Counsel stated the Executive Committee took no reportable action in respect to items listed on the agenda and no additional items were added or discussed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Stueckle

Joanna Stueckle
Executive Assistant/Clerk

ITEM 6B

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Meeting Reimbursements for Elected Committee Members

Contact: Claude T. Kilgore, Director of Finance/Administration (ckilgore@cvag.org) and Joanna Stueckle, Executive Assistant/ Clerk (jstueckle@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Rename CVAG's Per Diem Policy to be a Stipend Policy (No.21-03), and set the stipend amount for meeting attendance at \$125 for Executive Committee members and at \$100 for all other committees' elected representatives

Administrative/ Personnel Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 19th)

Background: The CVAG Per Diem Policy was established in June 1998, reimbursing elected officials with \$50 for attendance to any CVAG elected committee meetings. The policy was updated in 2008, increasing the payments to \$100 for Executive Committee members and \$75 for all other elected committee members to attend the standing committee meetings.

Upon establishment of the Per Diem Policy, each elected committee met 10 times a year. In 2012, the number of meetings was reduced by three meetings a year, with each elected committee being scheduled seven meetings per year. On occasion, there has been a need to call additional special meetings due to timing issues, and the per diem was paid for member attendance.

For comparative purposes, the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) policies were reviewed. The RCTC per diem is set at \$100 with no tax withholdings, while the WRCOG stipend is set at \$150 and is subject to tax withholdings. CVAG staff is proposing the policy be renamed to the Stipend Policy, consistent with the name used by WRCOG given the payments are also subject to tax withholdings. Staff is also recommending a \$25 increase in stipend payments made to elected officials who attend committee meetings, putting it at \$125 for the Executive Committee and \$100 for all other elected committees.

CVAG committee members may notice they receive payment via form W-2 from CVAG. The staff would like to give background on why CVAG pays via W2 instead of 1099. Beginning January 2012, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) performed an examination over CVAG's federal tax withholdings related to payments made to Committee Members. The examination asserted that CVAG's paid Committee Members are subject to withholding for (i) federal income tax, (ii) FICA, (iii) FUTA. At the time, CVAG engaged General Counsel to act on its behalf and begin the appeals correspondence process with the IRS. The appeal was active during a two-year period, wherein, CVAG asserted its payments to Committee Members reflected that of independent contractors and that these Committee Members did not meet the definition of employees subject to such federal withholdings and payments. Ultimately, in May 2013, the IRS Appeals Office determined

that for federal employment taxes, the paid Committee Members “are to be legally classified as employees...”, effectively requiring CVAG to move such payment to Committee Members from a Form 1099 to a Form W-2 and withhold applicable taxes.

Fiscal Analysis: Staff is recommending a \$25 increase in stipend payments made to elected officials who attend committee meetings, putting it at \$125 for the Executive Committee and \$100 for all other elected committees. This would result in an increased expenditure of approximately \$11,394 (including CVAG’s portion of federal income tax, FICA, and FUTA).

When this item was reviewed by the Administrative/ Personnel Committee, members asked about the potential impact this would have on the budget. CVAG staff noted that the impact is not significant and, if approved, it will be incorporated into the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 budget.

Attachment: Recommended revisions for per diem policy

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

PER-DIEMSTIPEND POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: 0821-0403

~~At the June 27, 1988 meeting of CVAG's General Assembly, the Committee voted to establish a per diem payment of \$50.00 per committee member per committee meeting with policies and procedures governing these payments to be established and maintained by the Executive Committee.~~

~~At the The following revised policies and procedures were adopted by the Executive Committee during its June 2, 2008 Executive Committee meeting and effective on July 1, 2008, the Committee to consolidated and clarified the Per Diem Policy originally adopted in June 1988.~~

The following will and replace all previously established policies and procedures to the Per Diem Policy by the adoption of the Stipend Policy by the Executive Committee on June 7, 2021 and effective July 1, 2021.

- 1. That the following committees will receive per diemstipends under the conditions of this policy:

- Executive Committee**
- Transportation Committee**
- ~~**Human and Community Resources Committee**~~
- Homelessness Committee**
- Energy and Environmental Resources Committee**
- Public Safety Committee**

- 2. That elected officials (of CVAG's member jurisdictions) who are members of the foregoing committees be eligible to receive the per diemstipend payments.
- 3. That the amount of per diemstipend be ~~\$125100.00~~ per Executive Committee member per committee meeting and ~~\$75100.00~~ per committee member of all other standing elected committees.
- 4. That the Executive Committee may appoint members of the public as committee members and if the person appointed receives no other compensation to attend meetings that member is eligible for the per diemstipend.
- 5. That a typical yearly meeting cycle consists of ~~ten-seven~~ meetings per fiscal year per eligible member for purposes of the per diemstipend payments.

6. That receipt of ~~per diem stipend~~ payment does not constitute employment by CVAG for any purpose.
7. That ~~per diem stipend~~ payment is not paid in lieu of expenses but for attendance at the meeting.
8. That CVAG staff be instructed to maintain adequate attendance records for the purpose of administering those payments and that appropriate claim forms be developed and used by staff in such administration.
9. That the Executive Committee determine on a ~~case-by-case~~case-by-case basis whether or not specifically created committees will receive the ~~per diem stipend~~ payments and, if so, for how many meetings.
10. That the Executive Committee retains the authority to terminate the payment of ~~per diem stipend~~ for any or all committees or recipients at any time.

* * * * *

(Per Diem policy established 6-27-88\adopted 7-25-88)

Revisions Adopted: 10-30-95
11-28-95
02-26-96
04-29-96
06-02-08

Revisions Proposed: 06-07-0821

ITEM 6C

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Additional HEAP Grant Funding for CV Housing First

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute Amendment #1 to the grant agreement with Riverside County to accept an additional \$97,000 in Homeless Emergency Aid Program funding for the CV Housing First Program

Homelessness Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 21)

Background: Authorized by Senate Bill 850, Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) is a block grant program designed to provide direct assistance to cities and counties, and to the Continuum of Care (CoC) that serves them, to address the homelessness crisis throughout the State. HEAP funds are intended to support immediate emergency assistance to people experiencing homelessness, including prevention programs; criminal justice diversion programs for homeless individuals with mental health needs; emergency aid; and services that for homeless youth or youth at-risk of homelessness.

In Riverside County, the Continuum of Care governance structure is led by a Board of Governance (BOG), whose charge was to award HEAP grant funding. At its September 2018 meeting, the CVAG Executive Committee recommended that each CVAG member jurisdiction declare a shelter crisis resolution – making them eligible to receive HEAP funding – and encouraged all entities in the Coachella Valley to apply for this funding. Within the deadlines, all 10 CVAG member cities passed the resolution.

Under an agreement signed in June 2020, CVAG received \$200,000 in HEAP grant funding from Riverside County. When additional HEAP funding became available, the County sought input from CVAG staff on whether additional funding could be utilized this fiscal year. On February 24, 2021, the Riverside County Continuum of Care Board of Governance approved allocating an additional \$97,000 in HEAP funds to CVAG for the CV Housing First Program. These funds will be used toward the existing scope of work to provide support services delivered through the CV Housing First program operations and the access center in Palm Springs. All funds must be expended by June 30, 2021.

Fiscal Impact: The additional \$97,000 in HEAP grant funding will be used to continue support services for unsheltered homeless individuals through June 30, 2021.

ITEM 6D

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) FY 19/20 Annual and Five-Year Report

Contact: Peter Satin, Regional Planner (psatin@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Accept the annual and five-year Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee report in fulfillment of the reporting requirements of the Mitigation Fee Act

Transportation Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 5th)

Background: The Mitigation Fee Act (Government Code § 66006) requires the local agency receiving development mitigation fees in connection with the approval of a development project to deposit the fees in separate accounts based on the purpose for which the fee was adopted, and to annually report to the public concerning the collection and use of the fees in each such account. The Mitigation Fee Act also requires a report every five years as to the unexpended portion of fees in each TUMF account. The Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) Annual and Five Year Report is prepared each year to satisfy the requirements of the Mitigation Fee Act.

The Coachella Valley's TUMF program is comprised of: TUMF, Measure A In-Lieu, and Measure A funds. They generated a total of \$26,361,672 during FY19/20. The table below shows a decrease of -8.24% in TUMF, -3.25% decrease in Measure A and a -72.21% decrease in In-Lieu contributions from the previous fiscal year. The large decrease was due to La Quinta fulfilling its TUMF obligation at the end of the first fiscal quarter of 2019. The overall decrease over FY 18/19 when rounded to the nearest whole number, is -6%.

Fund	FY 19/20	FY 18/19	Difference	Percentage
TUMF	\$5,217,884	\$5,686,396	(\$468,512)	-8.24%
In-Lieu	\$227,621	\$818,937	(\$591,316)	-72.21%
Measure A	\$20,916,167	\$21,619,378	(\$703,211)	-3.25%
TOTAL	\$26,361,672	\$28,124,711	(\$1,763,039)	-6.27%

Measure A is received by TUMF-collecting jurisdictions for their local street and road projects in the Coachella Valley. The amount of Measure A received is determined by a formula using two variables: dwelling units and taxable sales. Dwelling unit data is collected from the jurisdictions by CVAG staff on an annual basis. It is then forwarded to the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC).

The Coachella Valley's TUMF program began in FY 1989/90 and had a steady increase in the amount of Measure A received by the jurisdictions. However, in FY 2007/08 there was financial crisis that made it decrease on that year. Since then, the TUMF program has had a steady increase in Measure A received. Unfortunately, in FY 2019/20 it decreased once again due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic at the start of 2020. The widespread actions taken to address the spread of coronavirus, including shutdowns and social distancing, has harmed the construction industry, prompting project delays and cancellations.

The TUMF Annual Report was distributed to Desert Valleys Builders Association (DVBA) at their request and CVAG did not receive any additional comment.

The FY 2019/20 TUMF Report is available as an electronic document at:
https://www.cvag.org/library/pdf_files/trans/TUMF-Annual-Report-FY1920.pdf

Fiscal Analysis: Information only.

ITEM 6E

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Cooperative Agreement with Renova Energy

Contact: Martin Magaña, CVAG contract staff (mmagana@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to execute a cooperative agreement with Renova Energy, extending its Adopt a Link partnership for an additional three years to cover the operations and maintenance costs of the first segment of CV Link

Transportation Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 5th).

Background: The CV Link Conceptual Master Plan, which is the guiding document for the project's development, was received and finalized in February 2016. The Conceptual Master Plan identified 22 ways to fund the operations and maintenance costs, which included public and private funding sources. One of those options outlined a concept for a donation program where an individual or private organization could "adopt" a section of CV Link and where "adopters would commit private funds and/or volunteer hours in exchange for recognition."

On April 30, 2018, the CVAG Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to establish the Adopt a Link Program for CV Link and enter into a three-year cooperative agreement with Renova Energy to cover the operations and maintenance costs of the first 2.3-mile segment, which had recently opened. The segment spans from Vista Chino Road in Palm Springs to Ramon Road in Cathedral City. It was built under a 2015 cooperative agreement between CVAG and the City of Cathedral City, where the City had agreed to cover the operational costs of the first segment until the project was accepted by CVAG and incorporated into the rest of CV Link.

As construction neared completion, Vincent Battaglia, founder and CEO of Renova Energy, presented CVAG and the City with an offer to "adopt" the first segment of CV Link and cover maintenance costs for the next three years. The Palm Desert-based corporation is the largest full-service solar and battery power company in the Coachella Valley, and employs more than 150 people. In addition to having their own employees volunteer their time along CV Link, Renova contracted with DesertArc – which provides vocational training and employment to adults with developmental disabilities – to maintain CV Link.

The current agreement expires on April 30, 2021. CVAG staff has had conversations with Renova about extending the existing contract for another three years and Renova has agreed to extend the contract. A revised Cooperative Agreement with Renova is attached. Renova will continue to cover the costs of DesertArc to provide routine upkeep, such as trash removal, cleaning the amenities and maintaining the minimal landscaping at the access points. The City would continue to be responsible for removing graffiti and similar issues, and CV Link will be patrolled in a similar fashion to other trails across the Coachella Valley. CVAG has installed "Adopt a Link" signs along the segment, located roughly one per

mile, to recognize the investment Renova has made, and continues to make, for the maintenance of CV Link.

CVAG anticipates that the cooperative agreement with Renova could be replicated as future segments of CV Link are constructed. CVAG has received multiple inquiries about the “Adopt a Link” program since Renova’s interest in paying for maintenance of the first 2.3 miles of CV Link. As construction of future segments is completed, CVAG staff will reach out to these organizations to inquire if they are interested in adopting a portion of new CV Link under construction for operations and maintenance.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no cost to CVAG for this agreement. Renova has estimated that it costs about \$800 a month to provide the routine maintenance for the 2.3-mile segment,

The costs of operating and maintaining a pathway like CV Link are far less than operating large parks or public facilities like a library, which come with significant staff costs. The CVAG Conceptual Master Plan outlined a high and a low budget for the entire stretch of CV Link, from which per-mile costs can be estimated. However, costs for the first segment are even lower than projected. It is also notable to have companies step up with financial support of CV Link, speaks volumes not just about their commitment to the project but to giving back to the Coachella Valley.

Attachment: Amended Cooperative Agreement with Renova Energy



Amended Cooperative Agreement for the Adopt a Link Program

This Cooperative Agreement (Agreement) is made by and between the COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS, Joint Powers Authority under the laws of the State of California, ("CVAG") and RENOVA ENERGY ("Renova") as of May 1, 2021.

RECITALS

Whereas, CV Link is a multi-modal pathway that is envisioned to promote active and alternative modes of transportation by providing a safer route for pedestrians, bicyclists, and low-speed electric vehicles across the Coachella Valley; and

Whereas, CV Link is designed to provide connectivity to neighborhoods, schools, employment centers, recreational facilities and public spaces; and

Whereas, CVAG is the public agency spearheading the design, engineering, and construction of the multi-modal facility, which includes a 14' wide public roadway; and

Whereas, because litter is a detriment to the environment and to the Coachella Valley's beautiful landscape, both parties recognize the desirability of a clean and well-maintained pathway; and

Whereas, the parties originally entered into a Cooperative Agreement in April 30, 2018 and now seek to continue the partnership.

Now therefore, CVAG and Renova agree to the following terms of the CV Link "Adopt a Link" program:

1. Adopted 2.3-mile Segment

This Agreement pertains to the section of CV Link that extends from Vista Chino Road in the City of Palm Springs to Ramon Road in the City of Cathedral City ("CV Link 2.3-mile segment").

2. Scope of Work

- A. Renova shall, either on its own accord or through separate agreements and contracts, be responsible for ensuring routine upkeep of the CV Link segment, which shall include:
 - Upkeep to the minimal landscaping, including trimming shrubs, keeping ground cover free of weeds, and raking hardscape;
 - Debris removal, including emptying trash receptacles;
 - Washing seating areas regularly.
- B. Renova shall not be responsible for shade structure maintenance, pavement repair and the removal of graffiti and/or vandalism.

3. Miscellaneous Provisions

- A. The terms, conditions and provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force for three (3) years from the date of execution. This Agreement may be cancelled upon thirty days (30) prior written notice to either party.
- B. Renova Energy's commitment to Adopt a Link will be reflected by signs that CVAG will have installed along the CV Link segment.
- C. CVAG has the right to review any underlining contracts that Renova Energy executes related to this Agreement to ensure they relate to the Scope of Work and provide for the proper insurance and compensation. Any underlining agreements will be considered incorporated into this Agreement by reference.
- D. In the event there are substantial changes in the Scope of Work, a modification to this Agreement will be signed by representatives for the parties.
- E. Each party (as "indemnitor") agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other party (as "indemnitee") from and against any and all claims, losses, liability, costs or expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees), hereinafter collectively referred to as "claims" arising out of bodily injury of any person (including death) or property damage, or any other claims, but only to the extent that such claims which result in vicarious/derivative liability to the indemnitee, are caused by the act, omission, negligence, misconduct, or other fault the indemnitor, its officers, officials, agents employees or volunteers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement the day and year first written above.

Tom Kirk, Executive Director
CVAG

Vincent Battaglia, Founder/CEO
Renova Energy

ITEM 6F

Coachella Valley Association of Governments Executive Committee

April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Better Battery Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021

Contact: Katie Barrows, Director of Environmental Resources (kbarrows@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Authorize the CVAG Chair to sign a letter of support for Senate Bill 289, the state's Better Battery Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021

Energy & Environmental Resources Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 8th)

Background: One of the goals for the CVAG Energy & Environmental Resources Committee is to encourage waste reduction, recycling and reuse. A bill recently introduced in the California Legislature, SB 289 (Newman) aims to address the need for more recycling of batteries, including lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries. Batteries are considered hazardous waste because of the hazardous metals and corrosive materials they contain. Currently, it is required that batteries not be put into the general waste stream and they are banned from solid waste landfills. Recycling of batteries is still a problem for consumers due to a lack of collection sites. SB 289 would replace two other battery recycling bills and require that all battery manufacturers either individually start stewardship programs or join others in a stewardship alliance that would set up battery collection sites and ensure proper recycling of batteries.

SB 289 would require the installation of battery collection bins at retailers that supply batteries, to provide an easily accessible way for consumers to safely place batteries into the bins for proper disposal rather than simply discarding them into the garbage, as is commonplace. The levels of toxic batteries entering the waste stream is increasing, due in part to increased consumption as well as a lack of convenient disposal options. Batteries are collected at hazardous waste collection events held throughout the region, however not everyone participates in these events. Estimates indicate that 75% to 92% of lithium-ion batteries are not disposed of properly and labeling makes it difficult for consumers to separate them from other battery types. The full text of the bill is available online at: [SB 289 Bill Text](#).

Another concern with batteries is the fire risk which has been an issue at waste recycling and Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs). According to a California Product Stewardship Council survey in 2018, batteries account for as much as 65% of fires occurring at Material Recovery Facilities. The attached fact sheet provides more background on the benefits of battery recycling to reduce this safety risk and fire hazard.

CVAG staff is recommending that the Executive Committee authorize the CVAG Chair to send a letter of support for SB 289. This legislation is consistent with efforts to promote recycling, better options for consumers to recycle batteries, and safe handling of the hazardous materials found in batteries. Among the supporters listed on the California legislative information website are the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). The Energy & Environmental Resources Committee voted to recommend a support letter for SB 289 at their April 8 meeting. Since then, the bill passed Senate Committee on Environmental Quality on April 12 by a 5-2 vote. It will be heard before the Senate Judiciary Committee on April 27, 2021.

Fiscal Analysis: No impact.

Attachments:

1. Draft Letter of Support
2. SB 289 Fact Sheet



SENATOR JOSH NEWMAN (SD-29)

State Capitol, Room 4066 ★ Sacramento, CA 95814 ★ 203 N. Harbor Blvd ★ Fullerton, CA 92832 ★ <https://sd29.senate.ca.gov/>

SB 289 (Newman): Better Battery Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction

Sponsors: RethinkWaste
California Product Stewardship Council
Californians Against Waste

Staff Contact: Alina Evans, (916) 651-4029

SUMMARY

Because of the hazardous metals and corrosive materials that batteries contain, California classifies batteries as hazardous waste and bans them from solid waste landfills. When improperly discarded, lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries in particular pose serious fire, health and safety hazards.

Unfortunately, because of a combination of increased consumption and a lack of convenient disposal options, higher levels of toxic batteries are entering the waste stream. Among other negative consequences, this has resulted in an alarming number of material recovery facilities, waste collection trucks, and landfills experiencing fires caused by improperly disposed of Li-ion batteries. These fires endanger the lives of workers and pollute the atmosphere and surrounding areas, while causing expensive damage to city and county waste collection vehicles, equipment and facilities.

SB 289 would require the installation of battery collection bins at retailers that supply batteries, to provide an easily accessed channel for consumers to safely place batteries into the bins for proper disposal rather than simply discarding them into the garbage, as is commonplace.

ISSUE

Li-ion batteries are rechargeable batteries that store high levels of energy in relation to their size. Their combination of high energy density and light weight allows them to efficiently power portable electronics, such as phones, laptops, and power tools.

While Li-ion battery reactivity permits storing high energy in small units, that capacity also makes them dangerous when mishandled. When a Li-ion battery is crushed or punctured, it can overheat and even explode.

Resource Recycling Systems estimates that 75% to 92% of Li-ion batteries are discarded improperly. Moreover, as the result of innovations in manufacturing and packaging, Li-ion batteries have become harder to distinguish from other battery types by the average consumer. In a recent examination of the workflow of a single MRF in California, 11 loose Li-ion batteries were found in the waste stream on average each hour, posing a serious fire risk.

According to a 2018 California Product Stewardship Council survey, 20 of the 26 MRFs surveyed experienced at least one fire during the previous two years, 65% of which were attributed to discarded batteries. Forty percent of those batteries were identified as Li-ion.

These fires can be catastrophic. In 2016, a Li-ion battery ignited a fire inside RethinkWaste's MRF in San Carlos. The resulting blaze forced the facility to close for 90 days and totaled nearly \$8.5 million in damages. Since the fire, RethinkWaste has been able to secure full insurance coverage only through a combination of separate policies with

seven companies, resulting in seven times the premium costs. If another fire occurs, RethinkWaste may be unable to secure insurance moving forward, and the prohibitive cost of self-insuring may force the facility to close permanently.

Without dramatically reducing the number of Li-ion batteries entering California's waste stream, we will undoubtedly suffer additional fires that will jeopardize MRF operations and also could result in loss of life.

A more efficient, end-to-end system for batteries in California through proper collection and sorting of Li-ion and other batteries offers an opportunity for the recycling and reuse of the valuable and finite minerals inside the batteries, reducing toxic environmental impact while supporting economic growth.

SOLUTION

SB 289 would create a collection and recycling program to more efficiently and effectively collect used batteries and ensure they don't wreak havoc on our waste stream. Key aspects include:

- Requiring free and easily accessible collection bins at select retail locations across the state by June 30, 2025.
- Accepting loose and product-embedded batteries for all common household battery types, including Li-ion, alkaline, nickel-cadmium and nickel metal hydride batteries to avoid consumer confusion.
- Requiring the producers of batteries and product-embedded batteries sold in the state to develop, finance, and implement this program in collaboration with CalRecycle to recover and recycle their products.

SUPPORT

RethinkWaste

California Product Stewardship Council

Californians Against Waste

CVAG Letterhead

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Josh Newman
Senator, District 29
Capitol Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 289 (Newman) Better Battery Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Newman:

On behalf of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), I am writing to express support for SB 289, which would create a convenient, statewide, producer-run collection and recycling program for loose and product-embedded batteries.

Due to the hazardous metals and corrosive materials that batteries contain, California classifies batteries as hazardous waste and bans them from solid waste landfills. When consumers are done with their loose batteries and portable electronics, they must collect, sort, and ultimately find an appropriate disposal option. Unfortunately, California currently lacks a streamlined and convenient collection and recycling system for batteries and batteries embedded in products.

Because of a combination of increased consumption and a lack of convenient disposal options, higher levels of toxic batteries and products are entering the waste stream. When improperly discarded, lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries in particular pose serious fire, health, and safety hazards. The influx of improperly disposed of Li-ion batteries into the waste stream has resulted in an alarming number of material recovery facilities, waste collection trucks, and landfills experiencing fires.

Oftentimes, Li-ion batteries are embedded in and irremovable from products, such as phones, laptops, and power tools. When loose Li-ion batteries or Li-ion batteries embedded in products experience intense physical pressure – which is common in California’s waste processing system – the batteries can spark a fire or even explode. According to FireRover’s November 2020 report, over 1,800 fires were experienced at MRFs and other solid waste and recycling facilities in the US and Canada in the prior 12 months, including “22 reported injuries and three deaths that can either be directly or indirectly attributed to these fire incidents”.¹ The majority of these fires have been known to be caused by Li-ion batteries.

For the average consumer, it can often be difficult to distinguish between chemistries of batteries. Therefore, in order to ensure the proper disposal of all battery chemistries and reduce the fire and

¹ FireRover, (Nov, 2020). Fire Report: Another Fire Surge?

safety risk, SB 289 (Newman) would require free collection bins for most loose and product-embedded batteries at convenient retail locations across the state. SB 289 (Newman) would also encourage manufacturers to be more responsible for the life cycle of their products by creating a producer-run program. Lastly, SB 289 (Newman) would create a consumer outreach and education campaign to further encourage the proper disposal of all batteries.

CVAG has long supported efforts toward waste reduction, recycling, and reuse. Finding ways for manufacturers to be more responsible for the products they create – both loose batteries and ones embedded in other products – as well as expanding outreach and education for consumers about battery recycling offer a positive solution.

CVAG is pleased to support SB 289. Please don't hesitate to contact CVAG Executive Director Tom Kirk at (760) 346-1127 or tkirk@cvag.org if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Glenn A. Miller
CVAG Chair

cc: Senator Melissa Melendez, Senate District 28
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, Assembly District 56
Assemblymember Chad Mayes, Assembly District 42

ITEM 7A

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: CVAG Membership for Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

Contact: Tom Kirk, Executive Director (tkirk@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Approve Addendum No. 2 to the Third Amendment and Restatement of the CVAG Joint Powers Agreement, which establishes the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians as a formal member and direct the Executive Director to distribute to member jurisdictions for approval

Administrative/ Personnel Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 19th)

Background: CVAG was formed in November 1973 with the approval of the first Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). In 1989 – after voters passed Measure A – CVAG amended and restated the JPA to specify its role as the regional transportation authority. In 1998, the JPA was amended again to include the City of Blythe as a member. CVAG’s members have since authorized separate JPA agreements for the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission and for Desert Community Energy.

In April 2018, the Executive Committee approved the Third Amendment to the Joint Powers Authority, which better reflected CVAG’s mission and organizational structure and included the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians. Most recently, in December 2019, the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians re-joined CVAG through an addendum approved by each CVAG jurisdiction.

As mentioned at the February 23, 2021 Executive Committee meeting, CVAG staff was approached by the Chairman of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, and the tribe is requesting to join CVAG. The letter is attached for member information. CVAG Legal Counsel has reviewed Addendum No. 2 to the JPA to add this membership. Once approved by the Executive Committee, CVAG staff will re-circulate the JPA Addendum No. 2 to all its member jurisdictions for their approval and signature.

Given the addition of two member jurisdictions, CVAG’s By-Laws will need to be updated to include both the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians and the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians in the officer rotation, which has a specified rotation order. CVAG staff will present the updated By-Laws at a future Executive Committee agenda for approval.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no fiscal impact to the JPA addendum. The costs involved in recirculating the JPA will be covered under existing staff time. Upon membership, representatives of the Twenty-Nine Palms Tribe will receive per diems/stipend for attending meetings.

The Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians will also be required to pay dues. These assessments are based on the lowest dues paid by jurisdictions. In fiscal year 2020/21, the assessment was \$8,698 for CVAG's tribal members.

Attachments: Letter from Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
Draft Addendum No. 2 to the CVAG JPA



TWENTY-NINE PALMS BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

46-200 Harrison Place . Coachella, California . 92236 . Ph. 760.863.2444 . Fax: 760.863.2449



February 10, 2021

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Attn: Glenn Miller, Chairman of the Executive Committee
73710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 200
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Re: Formal Request to Join the Coachella Valley Association of Governments – Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

Dear Chairman Miller:

The Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians (“Tribe”) is formally requesting to become a member of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments Joint Powers Agency. The Tribe would like to become a full participant in evaluating regional/sub regional single/multi-modal transportation projects that improve access and commerce across the Coachella Valley. We look forward to working with our neighboring municipalities and tribal governments in improving transportation infrastructure for all communities, including the East Valley. Please contact Mr. George Nicholas, Jr., Tribal Chief Administrative Officer at gnicholas@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov if you have any questions or concerns in regards to our request.

Sincerely,

Darrell Mike, Tribal Chairman
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

cc: Tom Kirk, CVAG Executive Director
George Nicholas, Jr., Tribal Chief Administrative Officer
Anthony Madrigal, Jr., Tribal Administrator

**ADDENDUM NO. 2 TO THIRD AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF THE JOINT
POWERS AGREEMENT OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNMENTS ADMITTING THE TWENTY-NINE PALMS BAND OF MISSION
INDIANS TRIBE AS A MEMBER OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNMENTS**

This Addendum to the Third Amendment and Restatement of the Joint Powers Agreement of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (“Addendum”) is entered into as of the date of the last signature appended to this Addendum, by and between the Twenty-Nine Palms Tribe (“Admittee”), on the one hand, and the County of Riverside, City of Coachella, City of Indio, City of La Quinta, City of Indian Wells, City of Palm Desert, City of Rancho Mirage, City of Cathedral City, City of Palm Springs, City of Desert Hot Springs, City of Blythe, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, and the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (“Current Parties”), on the other hand.

RECITALS

- A. Current Parties constitute the total membership of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (“CVAG”) and are parties to the Third Amendment and Restatement of the Joint Powers Agreement of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (“Third Restatement”).
- B. Admittee is a federally recognized tribe and public agency, as that term is defined in Government Code section 6500, and formerly a member of CVAG.
- C. Admittee desires to join CVAG as a member and Current Parties are willing to admit Admittee as a member under the terms and conditions set forth in this Addendum.
- D. Section 6.1 of the Third Restatement allows for the admission of additional public agencies to membership in CVAG subject to consent of two-thirds of the Current Parties and execution of an addendum to the Third Restatement signed by all Current Parties and Admittee.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, Current Parties and Admittee agree as follows:

Admission of Admittee

Admittee is hereby admitted as a member of CVAG, subject to all of the rights, obligations and responsibilities set forth in the Third Restatement. Execution of this

Addendum by Admittee shall be the legal equivalent of Admittee's execution of the Third Restatement as a party thereto.

The parties to this Addendum have caused it to be executed on their behalf as of the date specified below, respectively, as follows:

City of Blythe

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Cathedral City

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Coachella

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Desert Hot Springs

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Indian Wells

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Indio

By: _____

Date: _____

City of La Quinta

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Palm Desert

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Palm Springs

By: _____

Date: _____

City of Rancho Mirage

By: _____

Date: _____

County of Riverside

By: _____

Date: _____

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

By: _____

Date: _____

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians

By: _____

Date: _____

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

By: _____

Date: _____

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

By: _____

Date: _____

ITEM 7B

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: Flooding and Blowsand Projects in Western Coachella Valley

Contact: Jonathan Hoy, Director of Transportation (jhoy@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Direct the Executive Director to advance improvements on North Indian Canyon Road, Varner Road and Date Palm Drive (south of Varner Road) as identified in the “Flood and Blowsand Risk Assessment and Improvement Plan for the Western Coachella Valley” as identified as project numbers INCN7, VRNR2, and DPLM5

Transportation Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 5th)

Background: On February 14, 2019, the Coachella Valley experienced record-setting rainfall that prompted widespread flooding and blowsand issues on regional roadways. Indian Canyon, Gene Autry Trail, and Ramon Road were flooded at crossings of the Whitewater River stormwater channel. Emergency services personnel – along with people travelling to work, school, doctor’s appointments and other locations – were stuck at a standstill for hours. The traffic woes were particularly problematic to and from Palm Springs and Desert Hot Springs, although it impacted drivers across the entire Coachella Valley.

This was not an isolated event. Far too often, storms and major wind events force the closures of regional roadways, sometimes for long periods of time. For decades, there have been plans to provide all-weather bridges at the low-water crossings on Ramon Road, Vista Chino Drive, Indian Canyon and Gene Autry Trail. All of them are expensive projects that require years to design and hundreds of millions of dollars of state/federal funds to build. While Ramon and Vista Chino bridges are planned for construction in Fiscal Year 2022/23, the critical links from north to south – Indian Canyon and Gene Autry – are not. These two bridges over the Whitewater River are the most expensive projects in CVAG’s regional Transportation Project Prioritization Plan (TPPS), which has funding details in the Regional Arterial Cost Estimates (RACE). Each bridge was estimated to cost \$250 million in the TPPS/RACE. Yet these bridges are among the highest ranked projects in every iteration of the TPPS/RACE, they are nearly impossible to pursue because each bridge is estimated to cost \$250 million. And while these two crossings have been the most significant crossings of concern for years in the western Coachella Valley, there are many other crossings in Desert Hot Springs and Cathedral City that are similarly impacted.

In April 2019, the Transportation Committee recommended that the Executive Committee initiate this study of flooding and blowsand in the Western Coachella Valley. A competitive process was initiated to hire a consultant, and Michael Baker International (MBI) was selected.

The objective of the study was to identify options that will reduce risks to travelers while protecting critical plant and animal species at the specific locations. The goal was to identify, develop, and evaluate alternative concepts that provide a level of flood protection appropriate for the specific location. Where locations are heavily travelled, a 100-year storm frequency design was considered and a 10-year storm

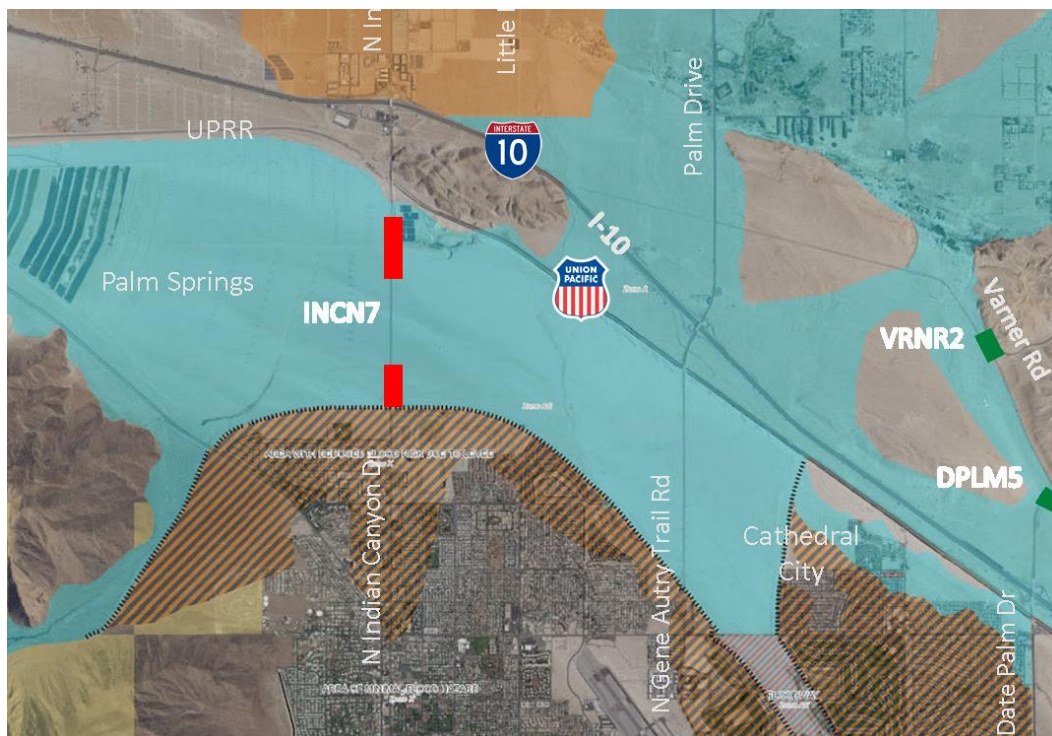
frequency designs was considered for less travelled roadways. The solutions also needed to be compatible with the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conversation Plan (CVMSHCP), as well as comply with local, county, and state design guidelines and follow good sound engineering practices.

In addition to structural solutions, MBI was encouraged to develop non-capital, non-structural solutions that could address public safety and immediate concerns accessing local and regional medical centers, and provide continuous and uninterrupted services by first responders and emergency personal, such as vehicles that can move emergency personnel and patients through or over flood and dust zones. The study also identified short-term solutions to address flooding and blowsand events, most notably the installation of changeable message signs that alert travelers in advance of roadway closures.

At the December 7, 2020 meeting, the CVAG Executive Committee considered the findings from the “Flood and Blowsand Risk Assessment and Improvement Plan for the Western Coachella Valley.” The Flood and Blowsand assessment prioritized projects that would best fit the needs of the Western Coachella Valley during a flooding or emergency event. High, medium and low priority rankings were assigned to projects based on emergency and evacuation access, traffic volumes and stormwater flows. As a result, the Executive Committee directed CVAG staff to coordinate with the Cities of Desert Hot Springs, Cathedral City and Palm Springs to further refine and advance the improvements identified in the study.

CVAG staff has been working with these jurisdictions to narrow the immediate focus to at a minimum, one high priority project and one medium priority project. Working with these three agencies, CVAG identified the highest priority project as North Indian Canyon Road (INCN7) from Interstate 10 south to Sunrise Parkway, and the medium priority projects as Varner Road (VRNR2) and Date Palm Drive (DPLM5) south of Varner Road.

The projects are identified on the map below:



With this item, staff is seeking the Committee's endorsement of these three projects as the immediate focus. CVAG staff will then continue working with the three cities to hire one or more consultants who can complete the design, engineering and pre-construction work needed to get the projects shovel ready.

Fiscal Analysis: The 2017 estimate of cost for projects INCN7, VRNR2 and DPLM5, as identified in the RACE was approximately \$266 million. The new estimate of cost based on MBI's alternative design is approximately \$39 million, an estimated \$227 million savings. The planning and engineering phase of work required to advance these projects is estimated to be approximately \$4-5 million.

CVAG staff will return with a recommendation for a consultant who can further refine the design and engineering of these projects, which will produce a more detailed estimate to build each of these projects.

ITEM 7C

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: Cash Flow Analysis for Regional Transportation Projects

Contact: Jonathan Hoy, Director of Transportation (jhoy@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Address cash flow concerns by directing the Executive Director to:

1. Prepare a value-engineering study and update project expenditure estimates for projects within CVAG's Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS); and
2. Review CVAG's cost-sharing policy and return with additional analysis on returning to the original 50/50 formula split for projects' construction phase, while maintaining a 75/25 split for pre-construction phases

Transportation Committee: Concurs, and staff revised its recommendation based on Committee's input on cost-sharing policy (Meeting of April 5th)

Background: At the December 7, 2020 meeting, the CVAG Executive Committee considered the 10-year cash flow analysis and discussed alternative revenue sources, project expenditures and cost sharing policy. With costs escalating on projects, major sources of revenue for many of CVAG's projects are drying up. Cash flow projections for Measure A sales tax revenue have been reduced by 16 percent, revenues from the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) have been reduced by 25 percent, and the FY 2020/25 estimates from the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) have been reduced by 82 percent. The Highway Bridge Program (HBP) is oversubscribed and, as detailed further in a separate staff report, the program has a 20-year backlog of projects waiting to be funded.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also had an impact on cash flow. Significant reductions are expected to impact the formula-based city and county local streets and roads (LSR) funds from the state, including the Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) and the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account, which is SB1 funding that does not come to CVAG. While the reductions in revenue reflect a significant decrease in revenues as a result of the COVID-19 impact, it is anticipated that revenues will continue to decrease in the next fiscal year which may impact regional transportation programs and projects.

The current cost-sharing policy for regional transportation projects is that, after outside funding sources are factored into the costs – including state and federal resources – then the remaining costs are split 75 percent by CVAG and 25 percent by local jurisdictions. A number of large and significant projects are on the horizon. As demonstrated on the following funding table, the future interchanges and bridge projects have a combined price tag of nearly \$700 million.

Recently Completed Interchange Projects				Future Interchange/Bridge Projects			
Description	Total	Local	Federal/State	Description	Total	Local	Federal/State
Bob Hope/I-10	\$52,000,000	\$1,495,000	\$50,505,000	Monroe/I-10	\$114,000,000	\$114,000,000	\$0
Indian Canyon/I-10	\$35,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$26,000,000	Jackson/I-10	\$105,000,000	\$105,000,000	\$0
Palm Dr/Gene Autry/I-10	\$35,000,000	\$6,400,000	\$28,600,000	Portola/I-10	\$110,000,000	\$108,725,000	\$1,275,000
Date Palm/I-10	\$31,400,000	\$4,300,000	\$27,100,000	Avenue 50/SR86	\$40,000,000	\$39,200,000	\$800,000
Jefferson St/I-10	\$71,300,000	\$23,300,000	\$48,000,000	Avenue 50/I10	\$50,000,000	\$48,000,000	\$2,000,000
Monterey/I-10	\$10,300,000	\$7,735,097	\$2,564,903	Dillon/SR86	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$0
Total:	\$235,000,000	\$52,230,097	\$182,769,903	Dillon I-10	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$0
				DaVall/I-10	\$145,000,000	\$145,000,000	\$0
				Total:	\$694,000,000	\$689,925,000	\$4,075,000

CVAG staff is concerned about the impact these projects will have on cash flow. If CVAG funds 75 percent of these anticipated high-cost interchanges and bridges – which have very little outside funding secured – it will significantly impact the cashflow and make it difficult to fund other transportation projects that have been obligated under existing reimbursement agreements.

Cash Flow Analysis

Transportation project cash flow is a function of revenue versus expenditures. The revenue derives from grant and program funding, local jurisdiction contributions, Measure A sales tax, and impact fees. The expenditures are associated with project identified in the Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS) and further detailed in the Regional Arterial Cost Estimate (RACE).

CVAG staff has evaluated both five-year and 10-year cash flow projections for projects currently obligated in CVAG's approved FY 2020/21 budget, as well anticipated projects included in the approved 2016 TPPS. Based on estimated revenue versus expenditures, the five-year fund balance projection is negative \$29 million, and the 10-year fund balance projection is negative \$370 million.

As part of this initial cash flow analysis, CVAG staff considered revenue adjustments to evaluate potential alternatives to address the projected negative fund balance. Those long-term ideas included:

- Adjusting the cost sharing policy with local jurisdictions;
- Increasing the sales tax; and
- Adjust the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF)

In addition to alternative revenue scenarios, project expenditures were considered as estimated in the current TPPS and RACE. With more than \$3.4 billion of transportation projects identified in the 2016 RACE, there is an opportunity to reduce expenditures by collaborating with Riverside County and valley cities to adjust the prioritization of projects. This would mirror the process that the region undertook after the 2008 financial crisis. CVAG staff will work with its member jurisdictions and come back with a more detailed analysis on reduced expenditures that may help improve the cash flow to get projects funded and continue to move forward during these challenging times.

Value-Engineering

Value engineering is a systematic, organized approach to providing necessary functions in a project at the lowest cost. Value engineering promotes the substitution of materials and methods with less expensive alternatives, without sacrificing functionality.

This focused approach was recently used with great success on the blowsand and flooding study for the western Coachella Valley, where \$250 million dollar bridges across Indian Canyon and Gene Autry Trail were re-evaluated and the consultants identified project options that reduced costs to approximately \$35 million each. With this item, CVAG staff is recommending a study that takes this same value-engineering approach and applies it to other regional transportation projects. While CVAG staff does not expect to be able to dissect every project in the region and identify solutions that are 90 percent less costly, there are likely other opportunities to explore less expensive solutions to the region's transportation needs and be more surgical with the limited funding, all while maintaining project function and value to the region.

Short-Term Policy

As noted above, CVAG currently has a cost sharing policy that, after outside funding is factored in, the remaining costs of a regional transportation project would be funded on a 75/25 split. However, that was not always the case. The 75/25 cost-sharing formula was established in 2007. Prior to January 1, 2007, the cost-sharing formula was 50/50. During the April 5 meeting, CVAG staff recommended to the Transportation Committee that the funding formula return to the original 50/50 formula split for the construction phase. Staff also recommended that pre-construction phases would continue to be split 75/25.

CVAG's reimbursement agreements are typically executed by various pre-construction and construction phases. The proposed policy would not apply to existing agreements that are already funded through the construction phase. But it would apply to any new agreements that add the construction phase funding to a project. If a contract amendment is needed for an existing reimbursement agreement where construction funding was already approved at a 75/25 funding formula, and a project has unforeseen cost overruns, CVAG staff would support continuing the formula to cover the increased project costs. However, if the amendment involves a change of scope, CVAG staff would apply the 50/50 formula.

The Transportation Committee discussed this proposed policy amendment but ultimately recommended that CVAG's cost-sharing formula should remain 75/25 for now. The Transportation Committee also recommended that the policy should be reviewed in another six months after the value engineering study is complete and the region has additional information about what federal or state funding may be available for infrastructure. CVAG staff is supporting this approach.

Fiscal Analysis: There is additional cost to CVAG to develop this cashflow analysis, which applies to projects currently obligated in CVAG's approved fiscal year 2020/21 Budget, as well anticipated projects included in the approved 2016 TPPS.

If CVAG committees support the recommendations, CVAG staff will start to secure a consultant who can conduct the value engineering study of TPPS projects. CVAG staff will return to committees with a cost for that consultant at a future meeting.

ITEM 7D

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Subject: Acceptance of Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Funding

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director (EFelci@cvaq.org) & Peter Satin, Regional Planner (psatin@cvaq.org)

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to accept \$558,000 in Regional Early Action Planning funding, including negotiating and executing the necessary agreements with Southern California Association of Governments; and then to execute an agreement with Lift to Rise for a not-to-exceed amount of \$304,000

Homelessness Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 21)

Background: The State's Fiscal Year 2019/2020 budget included two programs for one-time funding to address the housing crisis from a planning perspective: Local Early Action Planning (LEAP), a non-competitive allocation for cities; and Regional Early Action Planning (REAP), a similar non-competitive allocation at the regional level. Through REAP, \$47 million was allocated to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to administer on behalf of the region. Of this, \$23 million was set aside for noncompetitive subregional partnerships. As a subregional partner, CVAG was eligible to receive approximately \$558,000 to be used toward one or more planning efforts that boost housing production and related supportive infrastructure.

In fall 2020, CVAG staff sought ideas from member jurisdictions, community stakeholders and the general public. This included presentations to the Technical Planning Subcommittee and Homelessness Committee. CVAG staff also invited input from organizations across the Coachella Valley via email. In early December, CVAG submitted two concurrent projects eligible under the REAP funding guidelines established by SCAG.: supporting the launch of the Housing Catalyst Fund as part of Lift to Rise's project pipeline; and developing a regional strategic plan to spur development of affordable housing, including community engagement strategy.

SCAG has approved both projects for funding:

- The first project will support the affordable housing catalyst fund as part of the action plan developed by Lift to Rise through its Housing Collaborative Action Network (CAN). Lift to Rise is a collective impact nonprofit that set a goal of bringing an additional 10,000 affordable housing units online in 10 years. As part of its Action Plan to achieve this goal, Lift to Rise identified a Catalyst Initiative, including a Catalyst Fund, that will mobilize resources for this purpose by providing capital subsidies, operating subsidies and loans to close the gap and stimulate the affordable housing production in the Coachella Valley. REAP funds will be used to pay for a fund manager to draft and implement an investment plan, including the recommended structure for the fund's loan

and grant products that factor in the unique risks of Coachella Valley. The fund manager will also prepare underwriting standards that will provide a working baseline for loan amounts, eligible project types, interest rates, loan-to-value ratios, and other loan terms.

- The second project funded by REAP builds on the direction that the Transportation and Executive Committee provided in early 2020 when discussing ways to fund housing, homelessness, and transportation projects in Coachella Valley. At that time, committee members expressed the need for more information in order to determine how to proceed. This project will result in a comprehensive analysis of funding options, including a possible sales tax measure, that could be generated from a broad range of sources to address key housing needs – including availability of both affordable and workforce housing, and growing concerns about rent burden shouldered by Coachella Valley residents. This REAP-funded study will include extensive community engagement as part of the development of the plan. This examination of sustainable funding solutions would result in a long-game blueprint for future policy development in Coachella Valley. CVAG intends to issue a request for proposals for a consultant to conduct the regional study.

As part of the February 17, 2021 CVAG Homelessness Committee agenda, CVAG staff recommended the acceptance of these funds. Members of the Homelessness Committee pulled the item from the consent agenda, and asked a number of questions about the project selection process and the next steps. The committee agreed to continue the item to the April 21, 2021 Homelessness Committee meeting.

In order to address the concerns and solicit additional input, CVAG staff convened the Homelessness Committee's CV HEART ad hoc committee. A meeting was held on March 18, 2021 that included La Quinta Councilmember and Homelessness Committee Vice Chair John Pena; Palm Desert Councilmember Sabby Jonathan; Desert Hot Springs Councilmember Jan Pye; Regional Access Project Foundation's CEO Leticia DeLara; Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation Director Carole Rogers; and the District/ Foundation CEO Conrado Barzaga.

CVAG staff provided additional detail on how the projects were chosen, including the public input solicited in fall 2020. The CV HEART subcommittee also discussed the two programs' scope of work, particularly a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) CVAG staff provided to detail the scope of work requested for the revenue analysis. In order to clarify the projects, and in response to the feedback, CVAG staff directed staff to include language in the RFP to emphasize analyzing specific revenue sources that would not specifically increase tax burdens to the public.

CVAG staff also identified additional deliverables and benchmarks for the proposal with Lift to Rise. These include:

- Hire a fund manager in the Coachella Valley to plan for and conduct investment activities
- Invest in at least 10 affordable housing projects by the end of 2022.
 - 5 projects representing at least 350 units by the end of 2021.
 - 5 additional projects representing at least 300 units by the end of 2022.
- Identify investment needs of new projects in the shared pipeline and coordinate with developers to find sources of funding in addition to the Fund.
- Explore how to integrate early care and learning infrastructure into affordable housing development.
- Report on the following measurables:
 - Number of projects funded and their development status.
 - Number of projects identified in the pipeline with investment need.

- Amount of direct investment made into projects in the Coachella Valley from the Fund.
- Amount of additional funding leveraged through investment from the Fund.

With the staff recommendation, CVAG will work with SCAG to finalize and execute a MOU to accept REAP funding. Once the MOU with SCAG has been signed, CVAG will enter into an MOU with Lift to Rise to implement the investment fund project, as well as work to secure a consultant to conduct the regional study. All funds must be used by June 30, 2023.

Fiscal Analysis: CVAG's REAP allocation is \$558,000 to fund both of the above projects and associated administrative costs. The feasibility study is projected to cost \$254,000, including \$13,950 to cover project management. The portion dedicated to Lift to Rise activities is projected to cost \$304,000, including \$13,950 for CVAG's project oversight.

The REAP funding term is through June 2023. REAP may not be used for capital, construction, or ongoing program operation.

Attachments:

Revenue Stream Feasibility Study Request for Proposals

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
COACHELLA VALLEY'S REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING (REAP) HOUSING AND
TRANSPORTATION REVENUE STREAM FEASIBILITY STUDY**

BACKGROUND AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION

NOTICE

The Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) is soliciting proposals to retain a firm who can research and analyze sustainable housing and transportation funding mechanisms. The key deliverable from this project will be a Regional Strategic Plan to spur development of affordable housing and associated transportation infrastructure in the Coachella Valley. Each CVAG member jurisdiction has a general plan and housing plan that identifies opportunities for housing development, particularly workforce and affordable housing. CVAG's role is to identify and facilitate strategies to bring these plans together. This project specifically addresses an element essential to all: a stable, sustainable revenue stream. This plan will serve as the blueprint for future policy development at CVAG and our member jurisdictions. It will help elected officials determine how possible revenue source options would best benefit the region. This project is in line with other regions and cities that have conducted similar studies to gain a clear understanding of the potential funding strategies available to them.

Creation of the Regional Strategic Plan will require a community engagement strategy that provides statistically valid survey data, which can help educate and build support for recommendations from the study. As outlined in the timeline, the community engagement will begin after draft recommendations have been presented but will be conducted in connection with finalization of the plan itself. The survey method will incorporate, at a minimum, online public meeting platforms to reach a broad cross-section of Coachella Valley residents. This will ensure that community feedback is incorporated into the plan and final recommendations.

The Regional Strategic Plan will need to consider local, regional, and state administrative and legislative processes that may be required for its implementation. The final plan will be presented for adoption to elected officials via the CVAG Executive Committee, along with any policy recommendations required to carry it out.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) program was included in California's Fiscal Year 2019/2020 budget to address the State's housing crisis from a planning perspective. REAP projects are intended to facilitate implementation of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) through housing planning and process improvement. Both REAP and RHNA are administered by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), who recently finalized the 6th Cycle RHNA Allocation Plan outlining the additional housing required in the Coachella Valley through 2029. As a subregional partner to SCAG, CVAG is eligible to allocate REAP funding toward one or more planning efforts that boost housing production and related supportive infrastructure.

The CVAG REAP allocation will build on the direction that the Transportation and Executive Committee provided in early 2020 when discussing ways to fund housing, homelessness, and transportation projects in Coachella Valley. At that time, committee members expressed the need for more information in order to determine how to proceed. This project will result in a comprehensive analysis of funding options, including a possible sales tax measure, that could be generated from a broad range of sources to address key housing and transportation needs including availability of both affordable and workforce housing, growing concerns about rent burden shouldered by Coachella Valley residents, and maintenance of existing transportation corridors under continued growth. This REAP-funded study will include extensive community engagement and will result in a long-term blueprint for future policy development in the Coachella Valley.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Coachella Valley's total population is comparable with that seen in a single big city, yet it is divided into nine cities, three tribal nations, and three school districts, as well as unincorporated communities. Over the years, numerous, but separate, planning documents from each of these agencies have identified opportunities and challenges for sustainable communities. These myriad efforts have often led communities to compete against themselves for limited funding, and would benefit generally from a regional revenue source.

The primary function of the Regional Strategic Plan is to identify funding opportunities for new workforce and affordable housing development. When CVAG initially explored this idea in late 2019/early 2020, it was focused on legislation related to a possible sales tax measure, noting that a dedicated tax is a concept used in other communities including Miami, Florida. However, there was interest among Coachella Valley elected officials to explore a variety of funding options including Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFDs), Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities (CRIAs), and other tax increment or value capture tools. While the adoption of a tax or bond measure is still under consideration, the Regional Strategic Plan should seriously consider alternative funding mechanisms.

The Regional Strategic Plan will facilitate the region's housing goals identified in the RHNA Allocation Plan and will promote SCAG's Connect SoCal transportation and housing priorities. It should also be designed to complement the general plans and housing elements of local municipalities, as well as the regional initiatives being led by community partners. The plan should further identify mechanisms to prioritize sustainable development projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Finally, the plan will identify any administrative or legislative processes at the local, regional, and/or state level that will need to be engaged for effective implementation.

PROJECT TASK LIST

The task list below is a general outline of the scope of work. The consultant is encouraged to review and add to or revise this list as experience and expertise would dictate. The overall project goals are the guiding factor. The completeness of the task list will be one of the proposal evaluation criteria.

The work includes:

- Evaluation of existing revenue sources to identify opportunities & policy gaps.
- Evaluation of a sampling of revenue sources used by other communities to address affordable housing needs, including applicability to the Coachella Valley.
- Evaluation of at least three funding scenarios that would include dedicated independent funding for housing, dedicated independent funding for transportation, and a combined funding source for both housing and transportation. An impact analysis should be conducted for each alternative.
- Meetings with governing agencies, business organizations and community-based organizations.
- Analysis of and recommendations for policy initiatives to reduce barriers to regional financing options.
- Analysis of and recommendations for building community support and coalitions that will implement the funding options.
- Incorporation of input into master strategic plan & circulate draft to stakeholders.
- Development of a broad community engagement strategy that provides statistically valid survey data, which can help educate and build on the recommendations and include a survey method that incorporates online platforms to reach a broad cross-section of Coachella Valley residents.
- Finalization of a Regional Strategic Plan and production of digital copies

In addition, the consultant will be asked to produce project meeting lists and provide feedback for the grant's monthly progress reports.

These efforts will focus on the Coachella Valley with the possible inclusion of the Palo Verde Valley communities including the City of Blythe.

PROJECT TIMELINE

The project is anticipated to begin in June 2021 and last through June 2023. Upon awarding a contract, preliminary analysis of funding mechanisms and development of community engagement strategies will be completed by December 2021, after which CVAG will review and provide feedback. Initial community outreach and further refinement of analysis will take place through May 2022, at which point draft findings will be presented to CVAG Committees for feedback. Community engagement will continue until findings are finalized and a policy recommendation can be made to the CVAG Executive Committee no later than June 2023.

PROPOSAL FORMAT

The consultant's proposal should describe the methodology to be used to accomplish each of the project tasks as well as the qualifications of the individuals who will perform the tasks and prepare written and oral reports to CVAG. The proposal should also describe the work which shall be necessary in order to satisfactorily complete the task requirements. These descriptions should include the strategy and method which will be utilized in analyzing the various funding mechanisms and soliciting community feedback for incorporation into the Regional Strategic Plan.

The proposal should be no more the 15 pages in length, excluding the cost proposal. Front and rear cover will not be included in the 15-page count. The contract shall be a lump sum (firm fixed price).

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A Consultant Selection Committee, determined by CVAG staff, shall review each Proposal and, if necessary, will conduct an interview with the consultant's project management and key personnel of the most qualified firm(s).

The Consultant Selection Committee shall rate each interviewed firm's technical proposal and identify the ranking of proposals in a selection order based upon the following criteria:

- Understanding of the work to be done (15 points possible)
- Experience with similar kinds of work. (10 points possible)
- Quality of staff for work to be done (10 points possible)
- Familiarity with related planning procedures (10 points possible)
- Completeness of task items list (5 points possible)

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION & DEADLINE

All proposals and accompanying materials shall become the property of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments upon submittal. Questions regarding this RFP should be directed to CVAG Regional Planner Peter Satin via e-mail at psatin@cvag.org. All requests for clarification and comments must be provided in writing to CVAG on or before **May 7, 2021 by 5:00 pm**. Answers/Clarifications shall be provided in the form of formal Addenda and shall be issued to the short-listed firms in a timely manner.

Proposals should be submitted electronically to the email above, and must be received and date stamped at CVAG no later than **5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2021**.

SELECTION PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

A selection committee will evaluate each proposal according to the criteria set forth in this RFP. CVAG will then perform a reference verification process by contacting and interviewing the references provided by the firms. Following this reference verification process, the firm(s) receiving the highest evaluation from the selection panel will be invited to interview.

ITEM 7E

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: CV Housing First: 2021 Progress and Continued Support from Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation

Contact: Tom Kirk, Executive Director (tkirk@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation to accept \$500,000 for the CV Housing First program operations

Homelessness Committee: CONCURS (Meeting of April 21)

Background: Based on the input and action by the Homelessness and Executive Committees, CVAG has transitioned the CV Housing First program from an outsourced program to one operated by CVAG staff for 2021. This transition has also given CVAG an opportunity to refine its program and bring increased responsiveness and capacity in the Coachella Valley, particularly as it pertains to assisting local law enforcement and public health workers with homeless services. The transition to an in-house program has also given CVAG an opportunity to focus its efforts on clients who might not be able to get help elsewhere.

This staff report provides an update on the progress that has been made in the first quarter of 2021 and seeks authorization to accept additional funding from the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation.

CV Housing First: First Quarter Recap

At the February 2021 meeting, the Executive and Homelessness Committees were presented with an overview of the program's focus on the CV 200. These are the chronically homeless individuals who are most creating costs to public social services because they are frequently engaged with public safety and healthcare services.

The CV Housing First team uses two primary methods to get clients to housing solutions: rapid resolution and crisis stabilization units:

- Rapid Resolution is an urgent, cost-saving solution that the staff at the Homeless Access Center in Palm Springs, and soon with the Mobile Access Center, use to help overcome the barriers that keep people from getting housing. This could include options such as helping them secure their identifying paperwork, which then can help them qualify for benefits. It also includes sorting out the process for housing, medical, mental health, substance abuse, employment, and mainstream benefits.
- The Crisis Stabilization Units allow CVAG to connect CV200 individuals to housing. These are apartments and hotel rooms where clients stay, up to 90 days, that keep them off the

streets. Through case management and frequent interactions with the team, CVAG is helping them achieve the goal of permanent housing, programs, and family reunifications.

In 2021, CVAG staff has set a goal to get 90 of these individuals off of the CV200 list by securing them permanent housing, programs, and family reunifications. On a quarterly basis, CVAG staff intends to provide its committees with a recap of the progress being made to help the CV 200 and other clients who enter the CV Housing First program. CV 200 statistics are detailed on an individual basis and, because non-CV 200 clients are often family units, the non-CV 200 statistics are described on a household basis, but represent a larger number of individuals (partners and children).

CV 200 Clients – By the Numbers for January 1 through March 31, 2021

CV 200	
Clients Checked in to Crisis Units	50
Clients checked out and in permanent housing	20
Clients returned to the street (failure)	6
Clients in permanent housing due to Rapid Resolution	5
TOTAL HOUSED FROM LIST OF 200	25
CV 200+	
Households Checked in to Crisis Units	5
Households checked out and in permanent housing	3
Households returned to the street (failure)	0
Households in permanent housing due to Rapid Resolution	2
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS HOUSED FROM BEYOND LIST OF 200	5

CVAG staff is also tracking additional metrics, such as the length of stay in the units, as part of the program. For the first quarter, the CV 200 clients who successfully exited the program into permanent housing stayed in a crisis stabilization unit for 74.6 days. Those CV 200 clients who exited the program unsuccessfully had stayed 91.5 days.

Continued Support from Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation

Recognizing the links between mental health and homelessness, the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation has been a longstanding supporter of regional homelessness solutions, including CV Housing First. The District/ Foundation funded an independent analysis of the Coachella Valley’s programs and services by renowned expert Barbara Poppe & Associates, whose report “The Path Forward” helped shape CVAG’s programs.

The District/ Foundation has also been instrumental in funding CVAG’s CV Housing First Program. In June 2017, the day after the CVAG Executive Committee approved its first contract with Path of Life to operate CV Housing First, the District/ Foundation Board of Directors met and unanimously agreed to fully fund the West Valley Homelessness Initiative collective fund up to \$2 million. The District’s funding program provided a dollar-for-dollar match when cities or tribes contributed more than \$100,000 to the CV Housing First program. This funding has been critical to the program’s impact in the community.

In September 2020, the CVAG Homelessness and Executive Committees supported transitioning the CV Housing First program into one that is run in-house by CVAG staff. In October 2020, CVAG sent a letter requesting the District/Foundation continue the funding match program for fiscal year 20/21. CVAG worked with the District/ Foundation staff to craft a request so that it coincides with the focus of CV Housing First in 2021, particularly the focus on the CV 200 list of chronically homeless individuals who can be helped off the streets through crisis stabilization units and rapid rehousing programs. Given these clients unique challenges and the District/ Foundation's investment in mental health and public health initiatives, CVAG also noted in its request how CVAG will be working with health agencies to help the chronically homeless through streamlining hospital discharges and respite care.

CVAG provided an update on the program to the District/ Foundation in February and the comments from the Board were overwhelmingly supportive of the program's direction and initial success. In March 2021, the District/ Foundation Board unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding that provides \$500,000 for the program for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The MOU states that CVAG and District/ Foundation staff will coordinate on health-related program metrics that will be tracked within the quarterly reports, providing additional tracking on the work CVAG is doing to connect CV 200 clients to mental and behavioral health programs as well as social services.

Fiscal Analysis: The CV Housing First program, including the staffing and CV200 program, is incorporated into the 2021 CV Housing First budget, which has been funded by contributions from cities, Riverside County, the Desert Healthcare District/Foundation, and grants.

With this agreement, the District/ Foundation will be providing \$500,000 for the program for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The MOU is slightly different than the previous dollar-for-dollar matching program that the District/ Foundation has previously done. However, it does come with a clause that CVAG needs to demonstrate a continued commitment of current funding levels from the CVAG member agencies.

CVAG has made a request that all member jurisdictions contribute \$100,000 for its 2020/2021 share, and staff is in the process of presenting a program update to every City Council. To date, the Cities of Cathedral City, La Quinta, Palm Desert and Rancho Mirage have confirmed their financial support for this fiscal year.

At the same time, CVAG has been reconciling its outstanding revenues for the Homelessness Fund from fiscal year 2019/2020. While CVAG had widespread support for the program, CVAG has identified five cities that have supported the program but did not send last fiscal year's committed contribution. They are the Cities of Cathedral City, Indio, Palm Desert, Palm Springs and Rancho Mirage.

City	FY 19/20	FY 20/21
Cathedral City	Confirmed/ awaiting payment	Confirmed with MOU
Coachella	\$100,000	Awaiting confirmation
Desert Hot Springs	\$100,000	Awaiting confirmation
Indian Wells	-	Awaiting confirmation
Indio	Confirmed/ awaiting payment	Awaiting confirmation
La Quinta	\$83,333	Confirmed with MOU
Palm Desert	Confirmed/ awaiting payment	Confirmed/ awaiting payment
Palm Springs	Confirmed/ awaiting payment	Awaiting confirmation
Rancho Mirage	Confirmed/ awaiting payment	Confirmed/ awaiting payment

CVAG is in the process of checking with each City to confirm its records. Because CVAG has traditionally not sent a formal invoice for these contributions, CVAG staff understands that submitting the contributions may have been overlooked or delayed due to the work-from-home conditions experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. CVAG is in the process of contacting cities and ensuring last year's \$100,000 contribution is received and, in the future, will issue formal invoices to ensure there is no lag in revenue moving forward.

Attachment: Draft MOU with the Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AND
DESERT HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made and entered into this 23rd Day of March, 2021, by and between the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, a California joint powers agency ("CVAG") and the Desert Healthcare Foundation, a California 501(c) (3) public benefit corporation ("Foundation") for the purpose of the Foundation participating in the CV Housing First Program ("CV Housing First Program")

WHEREAS, in 2005, CVAG formed a Homeless Task Force in partnership with Riverside County Supervisor Roy Wilson which resulted in the creation of Roy's Desert Resource Center; and

WHEREAS, the Homeless Task Force evolved into a standing Homelessness Committee ("Homelessness Committee") within the CVAG committee structure, which works with Riverside County and CVAG member cities to combat homelessness through-out the Coachella Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Foundation is a member of the Homelessness Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Homelessness Committee has sponsored housing first programs in recent years that have also received substantial financial support from Riverside County, contributions by CVAG member cities and tribes, and grants from the Desert Healthcare District; and

WHEREAS, on December 31, 2020 CVAG terminated the agreement with Path of Life Ministries (Path of Life) and brought the CV Housing First programming in-house to provide Rapid Resolution, Crisis Stabilization Units and wrap-around case management continuing with the "Housing First" philosophy; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the Desert Healthcare District ("District"), as part of its three-year strategic plan, challenged communities to partner in combating homelessness by providing matching funding opportunities through a collective fund of the Foundation for the program, then known as the West Valley Homelessness Initiative, that provided a dollar-for-dollar match to each CVAG member that contributed \$103,000 to the West Valley Housing Navigation Program; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the Desert Healthcare District ("District"), has expressed its commitment to continue support of CV Housing First programming;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. CVAG Responsibilities

CVAG will operate the CV Housing First program, providing rapid resolution, crisis stabilization housing, and wrap around services in the Coachella Valley within the District boundaries. CV Housing First will primarily focus on the CV 200, a list of chronically homeless individuals across the Coachella Valley who have been identified by local law enforcement and partnering agencies. This program will help address public health goals by addressing high utilizers of emergency room and medical services, assistance with hospital discharge planning and placement and working with partner organizations on increasing respite care services. CVAG will provide periodic quarterly reports and budget progress reports with measurable outcomes to the CVAG Executive Committee and CVAG Homelessness Committee, of which the District is a member.

2. Foundation Contribution

The Foundation will provide \$500,000 for the period of April 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for the CV Housing First Program. The Foundation funds will be paid upon satisfactory verification of a continued commitment of current funding levels from the CVAG member agencies. Funds shall only be used for the purposes of combating homelessness through rapid resolution, crisis

stabilization, and wrap-around case management services within the District boundaries. The Foundation intends to contribute in future years, but such contributions will be discretionary and conditioned on successful outcomes.

3. Deliverables

The CV Housing First program is operated by CVAG. The funds will be primarily used to help clients on the CV 200 list, who are chronically homeless individuals across the Coachella Valley who have been identified by local law enforcement and partnering agencies. CVAG and Foundation staff will coordinate on health-related program metrics that will be presented to the Board and tracked within the quarterly reports that are provided to CVAG's committees and the Foundation. These metrics will allow the program to focus on shifting the chronic homeless from the streets and camps into housing and connect with mental/ behavioral health and social services.

4. Restrictions and Reporting

The funds received by CVAG from the Foundation are designated only for the operations of the CV Housing First Program and shall be conditioned on the administration of the program being directed through CVAG staff and overseen by the CVAG Homelessness Committee and CVAG Executive Committee. CVAG will provide the Foundation with quarterly written reports and budget progress reports with measurable outcomes.

5. Cancellation

This MOU may be cancelled with or without cause by either party upon 45-days written notice to the other party.

6. Effective Date

The effective date of this **MOU** shall be April 1, 2021

7. Term

This MOU shall continue in effect until June 30, 2022 from the effective date or until terminated by either party.

8. Modification

This MOU may not be modified except by written agreement executed by duly authorized representatives of each party.

Desert Healthcare Foundation

Coachella Valley Association of Governments

By: _____

By: _____

Leticia De Lara, President

Glenn A. Miller, Chairman

DRAFT

ITEM 8a

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Status of I-10 Interchange Projects

Contact: Eric V. Cowle, Transportation Program Manager (ecowle@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: Attached is the latest status for I-10 interchange projects as of March 2021:

Completed

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) Indian Canyon @ I-10 (Mar '12) | 4) Monterey Avenue Ramp @ I-10 (Apr '15) |
| 2) Gene Autry/Palm Drive @ I-10 (Mar '12) | 5) Bob Hope/Ramon @ I-10 (Sep '11) |
| 3) Date Palm Drive @ I-10 (May '14) | 6) Jefferson Street @ I-10:
Post-construction closeout underway. |

Portola @ I-10

PS&E, ROW. Final PA/ED completed. ROW on hold due to Union Pacific stalemate. 100% PS&E on-going.

Monroe @ I-10

Final environmental document approved by Caltrans. City moving forward to PSE phase.

Jackson @ I-10

Draft environmental document public hearing was on March 10, 2021 and public comment period ended March 26

Avenue 50 @ I-10

PS&E contract underway.

Avenue 50 @ SR 86

PAED completed in May 2019. Funding agreement amendment for PS&E and ROW acquisition approved by Executive Committee in September 2020.

Dillon Road @ I-10 @ SR 86

PAED underway. Caltrans Approved Preliminary Environmental Study (PES) on July 13, 2020.

Golf Center Parkway @ I-10

PSR on hold.

Da Vall Drive @ I-10

Intersection Control Evaluation submitted to Caltrans.

Fiscal Analysis: Funding for these projects has been budgeted through the project phase indicated and secured through various funding sources. There is no additional fiscal impact.

ITEM 8b

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Arterial Program - Project Status Report
4/21/2021

Project Description	Lead Agency	PEng	ENV	PSE	ROW	CON	CVAG Funded Through	Status
Interchanges								
Avenue 50 @ 86S	COA						Environmental	PA & ED underway
Avenue 50 @ I-10	COA						PSE	PS&E contract under way.
Jackson @ I-10							PSE	Draft Env Doc with Public Hearing on March 10. Public comment period ended March 26.
Monroe @ I-10							PSE	Final Env Doc approved by Caltrans. City moving forward with PSE by MBI
Jefferson @ I-10	COR						Construction	Completed. Working on close out
Arterial Links								
Ave. 48 (Jackson St. to Van Buren St.)	COA						Construction	Completed
Ave. 50 (Calhoun St. to Harrison St)	COA						Construction	PA/ED under way
Coachella Traffic Signal Conversion	COA						Construction	Construction underway.
Date Palm Drive from I-10 to Varner	CC						PSE	Phase II is completed. The final design for Phase III in underway.
North Indian Canyon Widening	COR/DHS/PS						Construction	Phase I paving completed. Phase II ROW acquisition completed. Construction advertisement Jan. 2021 .
Monterey Av. Corridor (fr. Gerald Ford to Dinah Shore)	RM						Construction	Construction completed.
Bridges								
Avenue 66 Grade Separation over UPRR	COR						Construction	Under construction
Avenue 44 Bridge over WWR	Indio						Construction	Env cleared, CDFW comments pending on Streambed Alteration agreement, Plans are 99%
Avenue 50 Bridge over WWR	COA						Environmental	PAED completed 5/2019. Funding agreement ammendment approved by CAVG in Septmeber 2020
Cathedral Canyon Bridge	CC						Construction	Construction started in summer 2020 and is ongoing
Date Palm Bridge (Across WWR)	CC						Construction	Completed
Dune Palms Bridge over WWR	LQ						Construction	ROW began May 2018. Construction 2021
Frank Sinatra Bridge over WWR	RM						Construction	In Final Design, Construction to commence when funding becomes available
South Palm Canyon Bridge over Tahquitz Creek	PS						PSE	100% Design Plan submitted for review. ROW acquisition finalized and cert to be submitted
East Palm Canyon Drive Bridge over Palm Canyon Wash	PS						PSE	100% Design Plan currently in review. Working with utilities.
Indian Canyon (fr. Garnet to & Incl. RR Crossing)	PS						Construction	Advanced Construction Funding authorized by Caltrans
Ramon Bridge Widening	PS						Construction	Continuing ROW and utility phase
Vista Chino Bridge over WWR	PS						PE	Project is in PE phase. Extensive negotiations with SCE for utility relocation
Interchange Preparation Fund Projects								
Portola @ I-10	PD/COR						PSE	Final PA&ED approval completed. ROW on hold due to Union Pacific stalemate. 100% PS&E ongoing
Golf Center Parkway @ I-10	Indio						PSR	PSR on hold
Da Vall Drive @ I-10	CC						PSR	Intersection Control Evaluation submitted to Caltrans
Dillon Road @ I-10, SR86, WWR	COA						PSR	Caltrans Approved Preliminary Environmental Study on July 13, 2020
Jackson @ I-10	Indio						PSR	Draft environmental document almost completed. Plans for virtual outreach meeting
Monroe @ I-10	Indio						PSR	Final environmental document is out for public review. Moving forward to PSE phase.

COR-County of Riverside; RM-Rancho Mirage; IW-Indian Wells; PD-Palm Desert, PS-Palm Springs; CC-Cathedral City; COA-Coachella LQ-La Quinta;

PE = Preliminary Engineering; Env=Environmental; PSE=Plans, Specifications and Estimate; ROW=Right of Way; CON=Construction

ITEM 8C

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Arterial Program - Contract Status Report
Report as at February 28, 2021

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	WORK ORDER NO.	LEAD AGENCY	CVAG AUTHORIZED	CVAG EXPENDED	CVAG COMMITTED FUNDS REMAINING
ARTERIAL LINKS					
Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization	20100	CVAG	4,580,612	237,060	4,343,552
North Indian Canyon Drive Widening	30122	COR	3,591,000	2,191,799	1,399,201
Jefferson Street and Varner Road (North of Interstate 10)	30142	INDIO	4,500,000	1,611,754	2,888,246
Madison Street (fr. Avenue 52 to Indio Blvd.)	30194	INDIO	24,204,794	21,025,042	3,179,752
SR-111 (between Rubidoux St. & 760' west of Madison St.)	30197	INDIO	7,074,009	7,052,441	21,568
Date Palm Drive Impr. (I-10 and Varner Rd.)	30207	CC	2,337,000	464,134	1,872,866
Avenue 48 (bet. Jackson St. & Van Buren St.)	30237	COACHELLA	991,500	991,500	0
Avenue 48 (bet. Van Buren St. and Dillon Road)	30255	COR	450,000	446,846	3,154
Avenue 50 (bet. Calhoun St. & Harrison St.)	30253	COACHELLA	3,375,000	370,672	3,004,328
Avenue 50 (bet. SR86 and I-10)	30257	COACHELLA	1,365,000	745,952	619,048
Jackson Street Signal Improvements Project	30290	INDIO	2,655,900	2,655,900	0
Avenue 50 and Jackson Street Intersection Improvements	30320	INDIO	225,000	199,666	25,334
Washington St. & Fred Waring Drive Intersection Improvements	30455	LQ	1,395,555	252,092	1,143,463
Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Program	30480	VARIOUS	10,482,884	4,855,972	5,626,912
CV Link		CVAG	20,000,000	0	20,000,000
Portola Avenue (North of Gerald Ford Drive)		PD	534,935	0	534,935
Varner Road (Intersection Impr. at Ramon Rd.)		COR	1,164,000	0	1,164,000
Varner Road (fr. Ramon Rd. to Monterey Ave.)		COR	1,870,758	0	1,870,758
Airport Blvd. (fr. Harrison St. to Highway 111)		COR	7,898,603	0	7,898,603
Frank Sinatra Dr. Intersection @ Hwy. 111		RM	670,712	0	670,712
Monterey Ave. Widening (Dinah Shore to Gerald Ford) (\$592,727)		RM	770,034	0	770,034
Portola Avenue (Northwest of Fred Waring Drive)		PD	600,000	0	600,000
Interchange Improvement (I-10 and Avenue 50)		COACHELLA	1,875,000		1,875,000
Indian Canyon Drive (between Camino Parocela to Aleo Road)		PS	1,500,000		1,500,000
Sub-Total - Arterial Links			104,112,296	43,100,830	61,011,467
BRIDGES					
Cathedral Canyon Bridge	30076	CC	2,577,093	627,408	1,949,685
Date Palm Drive Bridge	30077	CC	1,608,925	1,277,163	331,762
Frank Sinatra Bridge over WWR	30088	RM	3,035,822	213,273	2,822,549
Ramon Road Bridge Widening	30218	PS	8,146,500	1,469,846	6,676,654
Indian Canyon (fr. Garnet to and incl. Railroad Crossing Bridge)	30235	PS	7,500,000	1,591,985	5,908,015
Avenue 50 Bridge	30243	COACHELLA	1,108,500	792,806	315,694
Avenue 56 Grade Separation	30247	COR	14,884,000	13,374,465	1,509,535
Avenue 66 Grade Separation	30248	COR	16,964,667	11,544,015	5,420,652
Avenue 44 Bridge	30308	INDIO	1,654,260	467,885	1,186,375
Vista Chino Drive Bridge	30355	PS	8,172,375	327,059	7,845,316
East Palm Canyon Drive Bridge (over Palm Canyon Wash)	30360	PS	1,109,611	66,171	1,043,440
South Palm Canyon Bridge (over Tahquitz Creek Channel)	30365	PS	788,850	117,723	671,127
Dune Palms Road Bridge	30445	LQ	3,369,000	1,971,495	1,397,505
Sub-Total - Bridges			70,919,603	33,841,294	37,078,309
INTERCHANGES					
Portola / I-10 Interchange	30185	PD	54,075,000	2,554,281	51,520,719
Jefferson / I-10 Interchange	30192	COR	42,160,000	28,206,767	13,953,233
Interchange Preparation Fund	30199	VARIOUS	14,239,239	10,075,311	4,163,928
Avenue 50 / I-10 Interchange	30245	COACHELLA	2,300,768	2,300,768	0
Dillon Road/I10 Interchange & Dillon Road/SR86S Interchange		COACHELLA	149,239	0	149,239
Sub-Total - Interchanges			112,924,246	43,137,126	69,787,119
GRAND TOTAL			\$287,956,144	\$120,079,250	\$167,876,894

F
F
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F
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F

F - Future reimbursements.

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Arterial Program - Contract Status Report (Completed Projects)
Report as at February 28, 2021

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	WORK ORDER NO.	LEAD AGENCY	CVAG AUTHORIZED	CVAG EXPENDED	EXCESS FUNDS
Completed Projects - Prior years			9,038,848	8,980,333	58,515
Completed Small Projects			721,492	721,492	0
ARTERIAL LINKS					
Completed Arterial Link Projects - Prior years			99,720,656	78,306,501	17,316,971
Avenue 50 (fr. Jefferson St. to Jackson St.)	30239	INDIO	550,000	521,010	28,990
Avenue 42 (fr. Golf Ctr. Pkwy. to Clinton St.)	30137	INDIO	5,000,000	3,763,076	1,236,924
Miles (fr. WWR to Clinton)	30305	COR	22,425,000	22,299,654	125,346
Vista Chino Drive (PSR)		PS	375,000	(Project cancelled)	
Cook Street Widening (fr. Fred Waring to Frank Sinatra)	30176	PD	3,000,000	1,810,527	1,189,473
Date Palm Drive Impr. (to and including Vista Chino Drive Intersection)	30209	CC	560,062	473,720	86,342
Indian Avenue (between 20th Ave. and Dillon Road)		DHS	8,547,562	(Project cancelled)	
SR-111 (Indian Wells)	30410	IW	12,730,337	9,432,795	3,297,542
Monroe (fr. Ave. 52 to I-10)	30193	INDIO	11,925,025	10,547,633	1,377,392
Washington Street / Highway 111 Intersection Improvements	30460	LQ	582,483	481,493	100,990
Varner Road (fr. Adams to Jefferson)	30145	INDIO	7,209,235	5,265,370	1,943,865
Fred Waring (Adams to Port Maria)	30168	COR	5,370,000	5,370,000	0
Traffic Signals Project	30260	COACHELLA	1,725,000	1,725,000	0
Sub-Total - Arterial Links			179,720,360	139,996,780	26,703,835
BRIDGES					
Completed Bridge Projects - Prior years			23,496,200	20,922,484	2,573,716
Dillon Road Grade Separation	30250	VARIOUS	2,880,854	1,153,582	1,727,272
Adams Street Bridge	30450	LQ	2,414,035	2,414,035	0
Indian Canyon Dr. (across White Water River Wash)	30370	PS	2,301,000	2,078,736	222,264
Avenue 52 Grade Separation	30246	COACHELLA	6,215,625	6,215,625	0
Gene Autry (fr. I-10 to Vista Chino incl. WWR & Railroad Bridge)	30350	PS	9,304,938	8,046,164	1,258,774
Sub-Total - Bridges			46,612,652	40,830,626	5,782,026
INTERCHANGES					
Completed Interchange Projects - Prior years			57,454,816	50,865,406	6,589,410
Ramon / I-10 Interchange (Bob Hope to Varner)	30212	Caltrans	11,710,000	0	11,710,000
Ramon / I-10 Interim Loop Ramp / Signal Project	30217	COR	100,000	100,000	0
Bob Hope / Ramon / I-10 Interchange	30212	CALTRANS	5,215,000	963,855	4,251,145
Date Palm / I-10 Interchange incl. Railroad Bridge	30210	VARIOUS	17,181,000	11,678,993	5,502,007
Palm Dr. / Gene Autry / I-10 Interchange	30220	COR	25,931,000	5,997,056	19,933,944
Indian / I-10 Interchange	30230	PS	3,142,835	2,604,198	538,637
Monterey / I-10 Interchange	30180	PD	5,150,000	3,990,633	1,159,367
Sub-Total - Interchanges			125,884,651	76,200,141	49,684,510
MID-VALLEY PARKWAY					
Mesquite (fr. GAT to Dinah Shore incl. Dinah Shore Bridge)	30060/70	PS/CC	15,246,583	14,520,220	726,363
Dinah Shore (fr. Date Palm to Plumley)	30079	CC	780,928	780,928	0
Dinah Shore (fr. Plumley to Bob Hope)	30080/82/83	MULTI	4,642,875	2,953,163	1,689,712
Bob Hope (fr. Frank Sinatra to Dinah Shore)	30090	RM	1,969,000	1,141,365	827,635
Airport Extension Stage II	30100	PS	2,641,600	2,635,916	5,684
Sub-Total - Mid-Valley Parkway			25,280,986	22,031,592	3,249,394
OTHER					
Feasibility Study (for Gene Autry/Vista Chino/Indian)	30050	PS	90,000	89,989	11
Sub-Total - Other			90,000	89,989	11
GRAND TOTAL			\$387,348,989	\$288,850,953	\$85,478,290

A - Advanced monies

B - Local contributions of \$200,000 by jurisdictions

C - Funded by STIP

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Program - Project Status Report

4/21/2021



ITEM 8d

Project Description	Lead Agency	Design	CVAG Funded		Status
			CON	Through	
Bike/Pedestrian Safety Projects					
Palm Drive Signals and Lighting	DHS			Construction	T.S. Installation & Safety Improvements Complete.
Palm Canyon Intersection Pedestrian Enhancements	PS			Construction	Construction underway.
S. Palm Canyon, E. Palm Canyon Improvements	PS			Construction	Construction completed.
Indian Canyon Intersection Pedestrian Enhancements	PS			Construction	Substantially complete. Finalizing punch list items
Date Palm Sidewalk Gaps	CC			Construction	Project completed.
Calhoun Street Improvements	Indio			Construction	Project completed.
Vista Chino Signals	PS			Construction	Project completed.
Dinah Shore Mid-Block Crossing	CC			Construction	Project completed.
Palm Canyon Crosswalks	PS			Construction	Project completed.
Avenue 48 Bicycle Lanes	Indio			Construction	Project completed.

COR-County of Riverside; RM-Rancho Mirage; IW-Indian Wells; PD-Palm Desert, PS-Palm Springs; CC-Cathedral City; COA-Coachella; LQ-La Quinta; DHS-Desert Hot Springs

Project Description	Lead Agency	Design	Grant App	Status
CV Sync	CVAG			Notice to proceed anticipated May 3rd
ATP - Arts & Music Line	CVAG			Under design. Partial award in ATP Cycle 5 turned down due to impact on local resources
ATP - DHS CV Link Extension	DHS			Under design.
ATP - Cathedral City Downtown Connectors	CC			Under design. ATP Cycle 5 Grant Application recommended for full funding at MPO level

ITEM 8e

2020/2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE ROSTER



CVAG JURISDICTION	JUL	AUG	Joint Meeting		NOV(Dec)	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY(JUN)	JUN
			SEP	OCT								
Blythe	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Cathedral City	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Coachella	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Desert Hot Springs	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Indian Wells	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Indio	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
La Quinta	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Palm Desert	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Palm Springs	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Rancho Mirage	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Riverside County	-	-	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	-	*	✓✓	-			
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	-	-	█	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	*	✓	-			

Absent █
 No Meeting *
 Scheduled Dark Month -

ITEM 8f

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: Update on ATP Cycle 5 Awards

Contact: Eric V. Cowle, Transportation Program Manager (ecowle@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: The Coachella Valley has made it a priority to make significant investments in the local and regional transportation networks, particularly as it pertains to creating safe routes for pedestrians and cyclists, and especially serving disadvantaged communities within the valley. The region has also been successful in securing outside funding for these Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects.

In September 2019, CVAG's Executive Committee authorized what would eventually total \$4,854,734 in regional funding to engineer regional ATP projects so that they would be "shelf ready" for future grant opportunities, most notably Cycle 5 of the state's ATP funding program. These projects were the Avenue 48/ Arts & Music Line, which is a partnership with the cities of Coachella, Indio, La Quinta and Riverside County; three projects in the City of Desert Hot Springs, including the CV Link extension; and a series of ATP improvements in the City of Cathedral City collectively called the Downtown Cathedral City Connectors. By preparing these projects to be "shelf-ready" for grant applications, it was CVAG's hope that the region's applications would be more competitive.

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) announced the ATP Cycle 5 Call for Projects on March 25, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the application period was extended to mid-September. In addition to the projects that CVAG is partners on, the City of Desert Hot Springs submitted two downtown projects and the City of Coachella prepared a grant application.

ATP is increasingly a competitive program, and Cycle 5 netted 454 project applications statewide seeking approximately \$2.3 billion in funding. ATP Cycle 5 is expected to provide about \$440 million for projects. Applications are scored on a 100-point scale. Funding is distributed through two rounds: First, the applications are funded through a statewide recommendation by CTC staff. The projects that were not funded are then reviewed and recommended by the metropolitan planning organizations (MPO). In Riverside County, this involves recommendations and additional point distribution by the Riverside County Transportation Commission before projects are recommended by the MPO, the Southern California Association of Governments.

From this pool, 41 projects, totaling \$241 million were recommended for statewide funding. Grant funding recommendations were based upon overall application score, with 92 points as the cut-off for 2021's statewide component. A \$600,000 Safe Routes to School project in San Jacinto was the only project from Riverside County to achieve a score high enough to be recommended for statewide

funding. Although CVAG's Arts & Music Line project scored 10 points higher than the application score from two years ago, the application's score of 88 did not meet the cut-off.

The remaining projects located within the boundaries of one of the 10 large California MPOs were then considered for funding. At this MPO level, Coachella Valley applications competed for \$11.3 million dollars available to Riverside County projects. In large part due to their transformative nature, three projects that CVAG co-sponsored ranked higher than the 27 other applications from Riverside County:

Top Five ATP Projects in Riverside County for MPO Round

Cathedral City Downtown Connector	\$4.4 million
CVAG Arts & Music Line	\$16.9 million
Desert Hot Springs - Palm Drive	\$3.7 million
Eastvale – Safe Routes to School	\$1.4 million
Wildomar – Bundy Canyon	\$1.2 million

Cathedral City's project – which CVAG is helping fund pre-construction of – scored the highest at the MPO level for Riverside County and has been recommended for full funding at \$4.4 million. CVAG was offered the balance of Riverside County's remaining \$6.9 million for the Arts and Music Line. After deliberating with the partnering jurisdictions, the decision was made to turn the partial funding down as the unfunded \$10 million was not available. This allowed the City of Desert Hot Springs' improvements along Palm Drive – another CVAG partnership – to be recommended for full funding at \$3.7 million. The remaining balance flowed to the Western Riverside cities of Eastvale and Wildomar, which were the next highest ranked projects.

This is unfortunately the second cycle in a row where CVAG was put in the difficult position of considering partial funding. But accepting the funding would require CVAG and its partners to make up the project's cost with local and regional resources. In turning down the \$6.9 million in partial funding in Cycle 5, CVAG emphasized to RCTC that should ATP Cycle 5 program become augmented, CVAG's Arts & Music Line project should be considered for full or additional partial funding.

CVAG staff will continue to work with its member jurisdictions to finalize the design and engineering, as well as seek additional funding opportunities.

Fiscal Analysis: In its meeting on September 30, 2019, CVAG Executive Committee approved the selection of three consulting firms for the design and engineering of the ATP projects, and authorized the Executive Director to execute engineering services agreements with the three consultants, and corresponding jurisdictional reimbursement agreements for an amount not to exceed \$6,203,682 – including both CVAG and cities shares. An additional \$201,972 in regional funding for the Cathedral City project was approved in September 2020.

CVAG's investment of \$4.9 million in regional funding for engineering of the five project applications netted two ATP awards totaling \$8.1 million.

ITEM 8g

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: Funding Capacity of California's Highway Bridge Program

Contact: Jonathan Hoy, Director of Transportation (jhoy@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: The Highway Bridge Program (HBP) is a safety program that provides federal aid to local agencies to replace and rehabilitate structurally deficient locally owned public highway bridges or complete preventive maintenance on bridges that are not deficient. This program is funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) authorized by United State Code (USC) Title 23. This funding is passed on to the State of California, and Caltrans manages the programming of HBP projects through a multi-year plan of HBP funding to be programmed in the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

For decades, this program has been the most reliable source of federal funding for bridge projects throughout the Coachella Valley, providing more than 88 percent of the qualifying project cost. The program initially included funding for low-water crossings, which was significant for the region, considering the number of existing low-water crossings throughout the Coachella Valley. Unfortunately, in response to an increasing demand for HBP funding throughout the county, FHWA eliminated the low-water crossing classification from the program, except for grandfathering in any projects that were programmed prior to 2016.

If the HBP program were to keep pace with the demand for local bridge replacement and rehabilitation throughout the state, it would require an estimated \$1.2 billion annually. However, the State of California has maintained the same program funding of \$289 million per year since 2009. At the same time, 2020 bridge costs are now 2.5 times more than they were in 2009, so the state's reluctance to increase its funding leaves minimal programming capacity for projects that are ready for construction. As a result, the bridge program is oversubscribed and has a 20-year backlog of projects waiting to be funded.

The state has responded to this financially constrained condition by offering Advance Construction (AC) authorization. Advance Construction allows local agencies to use local funds to perform the required work and then – when HBP funds are available -- have those funds converted to federal funding at that time. Unfortunately, the state cannot guarantee when this funding conversion will take place. The project prioritization process is completed every two years, with the bridges in the worst structural condition programmed to the highest priority.

In the Coachella Valley, there are currently 10 bridge projects programmed with more than \$300 million in HBP funding. Five of these bridges have received AC authorization to move forward with local funding until federal funding is available. They are the Indian Canyon bridge, which replaces the existing bridge over the railroad tracks; Dune Palms Road bridge; Ramon Road bridge; Avenue 44 bridge; and the Avenue 50 bridge. These five projects create a combined total of \$146 million in Advance Construction

funding, which if they move forward would be the responsibility of the local agency until the HBP program had funding available to reimburse the work.

A breakdown of the costs per project are presented in the following table.

Bridges with HBP Funding	Total Project Cost	CVAG Share	Jurisdiction Share	Federal Funding (HBP)	Esimated Construction Start	Advance Construction (AC)
Indian Canyon Bridge	\$ 27,800,000	\$ 4,685,648	\$ 1,561,883	\$ 21,552,469	6/9/2020	Yes
Frank Sinatra Bridge	\$ 52,876,000	\$ 4,548,659	\$ 1,516,220	\$ 46,811,122	2/1/2021	
South Palm Canyon Bridge	\$ 8,820,238	\$ 788,850	\$ 252,525	\$ 7,778,863	11/1/2021	
Dune Palms Road Bridge	\$ 24,189,652	\$ 3,369,000	\$ 2,199,252	\$ 18,621,400	11/1/2021	Yes
Ramon Road Bridge	\$ 44,648,815	\$ 8,494,406	\$ 1,149,446	\$ 33,322,939	2/1/2022	Yes
Avenue 44 Bridge	\$ 29,453,000	\$ 2,533,694	\$ 844,565	\$ 26,074,741	2/1/2022	Yes
Avenue 50 (Coachella)	\$ 52,364,750	\$ 4,504,678	\$ 1,501,559	\$ 46,358,513	1/1/2023	Yes
Vista Chino Drive Bridge	\$ 95,000,000	\$ 8,172,375	\$ 2,724,125	\$ 84,103,500	2/1/2023	
East Palm Canyon Drive Bridge	\$ 9,302,171	\$ 1,109,611	\$ 359,580	\$ 7,832,980	2/1/2023	
Avenue 50 (La Quinta)	\$ 14,020,000	\$ 1,206,071	\$ 402,024	\$ 12,411,906	3/1/2023	
Sub-Total:	\$358,474,626	\$ 39,412,991	\$ 12,511,178	\$304,868,433		

The potential for Advance Construction funding does allow projects to move forward, but it also presents a significant cashflow problem because there is no guarantee when this funding reimbursement would take place. Agencies would have to submit an obligation request to the state each year in hope that their project would rank high enough to be obligated for federal reimbursement. CVAG has already received several inquiries from local agencies who are seeking assistance with financing the Advance Construction funding until federal reimbursement is obligated by Caltrans.

At the April 5 meeting, CVAG staff sought input from the Transportation Committee on this issue, particularly in light of other cash flow concerns. Based on the initial feedback, CVAG staff will continue to monitor the situation and work with member jurisdictions to bring forward any updates or opportunities as they develop.

Fiscal Analysis: As stated above, there are 10 Coachella Valley bridge projects programmed with more than \$300 million in HBP funding. The five projects create a combined total of \$146 million in Advance Construction funding, and it is unknown when the HBP program will have funding available to reimburse the work. These same five projects also would also require a \$23.6 million commitment to cover the regional share.

It should be noted that CVAG does not have the capacity to loan the \$146 million required to advance every project that received Advance Construction funding approval. CVAG continues to prioritize funding of projects' preconstruction phases and will endeavor to find ways to advance project construction readiness.

ITEM 8h

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Coordination with SunLine Transit Agency

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: At the December 2, 2019 meeting, the CVAG Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SunLine Transit Agency as it pertains to coordination of various transportation funding sources and the broadening of the Transportation Project Prioritization Study, and to request that CVAG have a non-voting membership on SunLine's Strategic Planning & Operational Committee. The Executive Committee's action came after the Transportation Committee heard concerns from SunLine Transit Agency CEO/ General Manager Lauren Skiver about SunLine's role in funding decisions and requested that "there be formal interaction with SunLine" when it comes to such funding decisions. After some discussion, the Transportation Committee recommended both the request for committee membership and discussion of an MOU.

An update to this effort was provided with the Transportation Committee's February 2021 agenda packet. SunLine's Board of Directors did approve a change to the agency's bylaws to state that "the Executive Director, or designee, of the Coachella Valley Association of Governments shall sit on the Strategic Planning & Operational Committee as an ex-officio non-voting advisory member." CVAG staff had also noted that a draft MOU was provided to SunLine but that CVAG was awaiting feedback from SunLine staff in order to finalize it.

On February 25, 2021, CVAG received a letter from SunLine CEO/ General Manager Lauren Skiver, which stated that "SunLine Transit Agency does not feel at this time that an additional agreement is needed and that the points proposed in the draft MOU could be covered by the agencies without formal documentation as part of a collaborative process that the two entities have committed to." The letter is attached in order to notify the Executive Committee.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no fiscal impact to CVAG's non-voting membership on SunLine's Strategic Planning & Operational Committee.

Attachment: Letter from SunLine Transit Agency, February 25, 2021



A Public Agency

February 25, 2021

Tom Kirk
Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG)
73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Ste. 200
Palm Desert, CA 92260

RE: CVAG Executive Committee Information Item – 7F

Dear Mr. Kirk,

I wanted to clarify an item listed on the February 22, 2021 Coachella Valley Association of Government's (CVAG) Executive Committee meeting agenda. The item, listed under 7F, notates that CVAG staff is awaiting feedback from SunLine staff on a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

The MOU referenced in the item is a discussion point for the Agency as it works with the Board established Ad Hoc Committee to address funding and operating agreements in place. Since receiving the MOU in 2020, SunLine has been cautious about signing any additional agreements considering outstanding questions that the Agency has about two different signed agreements between (1) SCAG, RCTC and transit operators versus (2) an agreement with RCTC and CVAG. The Ad Hoc Committee was supportive of SunLine taking the steps with our General Counsel to determine whether the document should be signed.

Over the last year, it has been determined that the MOU would not be in compliance with the planning process created by the U.S. Department of Transportation. As a transit operator, SunLine should (and does) have agreements in place with the Metropolitan Planning Organization – Southern California Association of Governments and the designated Regional Transportation Planning Organization – Riverside County Transportation Commission. The MOU proposed by CVAG would not be in compliance with the federal regulations which certifies on a quadrennial basis that the transportation planning process for this transportation management area is being substantially met by SCAG. This planning process is certified under 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 450, 49 CFR § 613.

SunLine Transit Agency does not feel at this time that an additional agreement is needed and that the points proposed in the draft MOU could be covered by the agencies without formal documentation as part of a collaborative process that the two entities have committed to.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lauren Skiver".

Lauren Skiver
CEO/General Manager
SunLine Transit Agency

ITEM 8i

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Update on Congressional Earmarks

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant to the Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: Each year, the United States Congress considers and enacts appropriations bills that cover a subset of federal agencies. Recent cycles of this funding process prohibited member-designed funding requests, which are commonly called earmarks, that had traditionally allowed Members of Congress to secure funding for specific projects in their respective districts.

This year, with President Biden's administration putting an increased emphasis on infrastructure investments, the House Appropriations Committee announced it would be reopening the process to include earmarks. In mid-March 2021, CVAG staff was contacted by Rep. Raul Ruiz, whose 36th Congressional District spans CVAG's jurisdiction, and provided details about the process. The earmarks were generally divided into two categories:

- *Community Projects:* Each representative was permitted to submit up to 10 projects, and they could cover everything from transportation to housing and land acquisition. These requests will be funded through the numerous government funding bills.
- *Member Designated Projects:* The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure announced it would be advancing surface transportation authorization legislation later this spring, building on H.R. 2, the "Moving Forward Act," from the 116th Congress. These are generally the big dollar requests for larger transportation projects, such as interchanges, bridges or regionally significant investments. Congressional representatives were asked to submit their requests for highway and transit designations to the Committee for consideration.

There was an extremely tight deadline to submit both types of these requests, and Rep. Ruiz initially indicated project submissions would be needed within a couple weeks. Once the CVAG Executive Director was contacted about this potential funding source, staff immediately began reaching out to staff and elected officials at CVAG's member jurisdictions to distribute details. CVAG staff fielded several phone calls to address questions about the process, and CVAG provided letters to support member jurisdictions' project submissions. CVAG staff also provided a verbal update during the April 5 meeting of the Transportation Committee.

Requests to Rep. Ruiz needed to be submitted by April 14, 2021 for both the Community Projects and the Member Designated Projects. In addition to supporting requests from individual jurisdictions, CVAG submitted requests related to CV Link and CV Sync. If supported by Rep. Ruiz and ultimately funded, federal dollars would be allocated to the segment of CV Link that

extends from Golf Center Parkway in the City of Indio to Avenue 50 in the City of Coachella, which crosses the tribal lands of the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians and the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians. The other funding would be used to help fund the second phase of CV Sync, which involves signal synchronization along 21 regional corridors, and the development of a regional traffic management system.

CVAG has not received a final project list from Rep. Ruiz, whose office is reviewing the submissions and considering full and partial funding options.

Fiscal Analysis: Funding for both the community projects and the member designated projects will have timing constraints. Should CVAG or member jurisdictions receive additional federal funding for a regional transportation project, it would be factored into the ongoing cash flow analysis and could potentially provide some relief on local and regional resources.

ITEM 8j

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Update on Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program

Contact: Benjamin Druyon, Management Analyst (bdruyon@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs provide financing to property owners to implement energy saving, renewable energy, water conservation, and seismic strengthening improvements to their homes and businesses, with little or no money out of pocket. Financing for these improvements is paid back through a lien placed on the property and collected through the annual tax bill. PACE programs continue activity in the Coachella Valley. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, participation has dropped and there have been some impactful changes.

One of the most impactful changes comes from the HERO program created in 2011 by Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) with the financing and administration provided by Renovate America. Renovate America grew the HERO program very quickly increasing in company size and program territory throughout California and even sought to start programs in other states.

Over the past few years, participation in the HERO program started to decline and Renovate America made the decision to downsize the company. The decline progressed when COVID-19 hit California. The company ultimately decided to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in 2020. Effective October 16, 2020, Renovate America discontinued accepting new HERO applications and has begun winding down the HERO Program completely. Existing HERO customers will be transitioned to WRCOG and WRCOG will be responsible for providing customer payoffs and inquiries about the residential HERO program. WRCOG will not be accepting any new applications for the residential portion of the program. Instead, WRCOG will continue to administer the commercial portion of the HERO program.

There are still several PACE providers in operation in CVAG's jurisdiction, both residential and commercial, which will continue offering services. CVAG will continue to monitor and report on the status of these PACE providers.

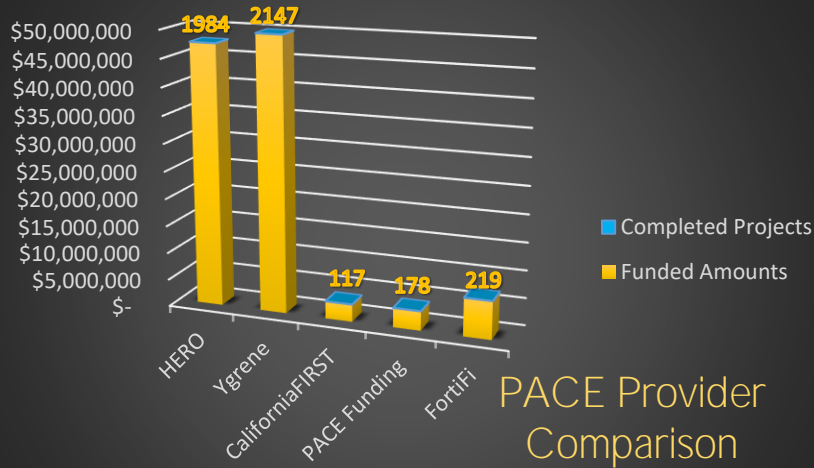
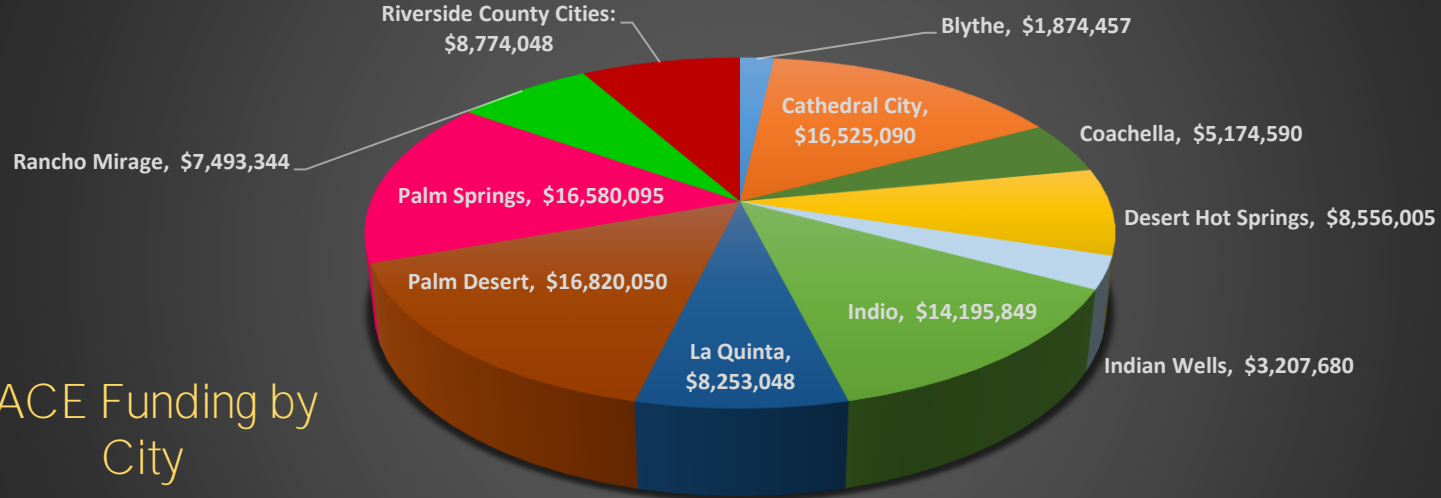
Fiscal Analysis: There is no financial impact to CVAG from these programs. Staff time spent on these programs is recovered by a participation fee collected from each provider.

Attachment:

1. PACE Report

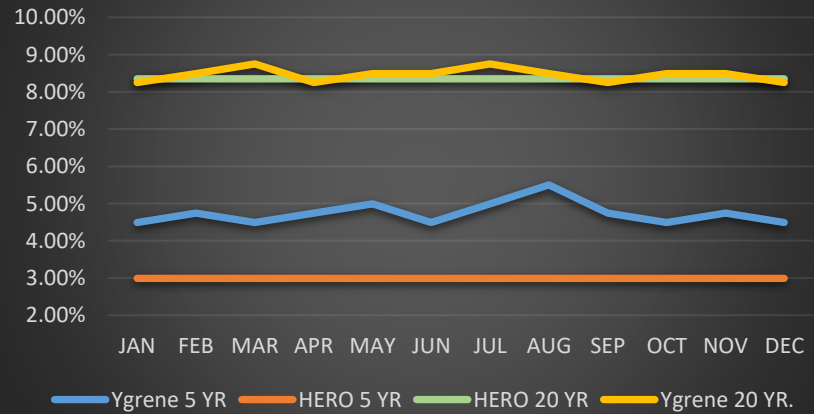
CVAG PACE REPORT

PACE Funding by City



PACE Provider Comparison

PACE Interest Rates



CARS REMOVED FROM ROAD: 38377

Other PACE providers have interest rate ranges from 5.99%-10.98%

JOBS CREATED: 977

Updated for April 26, 2021

ITEM 8k

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: State Auditor's Report on Continuum of Care (COC) Agencies

Contact: Greg Rodriguez, CVAG contract staff, (GRodrigu@rivco.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: A Continuum of Care is well-established model for streamlining effective homeless services. They are made up of groups of organizations, including local government agencies and homeless service providers, that set shared goals and performance measurement mechanisms in order to redistribute pooled resources for homelessness response in a specific geographic area. CoCs are designated by and beholden to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. In return, CoCs receive direct allocation of state and federal funds.

In February 2021, the California State Auditor released a report detailing an audit of five local governments who play a key role in CoC, and one of them was the County of Riverside. The report was titled "Homelessness in California: The State's Uncoordinated Approach to Addressing Homelessness Has Hampered the Effectiveness of Its Efforts." The report details the State's efforts as "disjointed" and states that California's "homeless council has also not created guidance or expectations for CoCs to follow." In summarizing the findings of the COC, the State Auditor recapped the findings in the following three points:

- "CoCs do not always employ best practices related to identifying, planning for, and providing services for those experiencing homelessness.
- None of the five CoCs we reviewed has adequately determined whether it has enough service providers to meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness.
- Two of the five CoCs we assessed do not have current comprehensive plans."

The full report can be found here: <https://www.auditor.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2020-112.pdf> It is being provided as an informational item at the request of Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation Director Carole Rogers, who is a member of CVAG's Homelessness Committee.

It should be noted that this is not a compliance audit as a result of a contract, but instead an audit directed by the State's Joint Legislative Audit Committee. One overwhelming takeaway from this report is the State shining its own light on the fragmentation of State services and the lack of effectiveness from the Homeless Coordinating and Finance Council. The State auditor noted on page 15 of the report that "the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council is the best positioned state entity to provide the necessary support and guidance to CoCs to effectively address homelessness at the local level, it has not done so. In the absence of a finalized action plan, tracking of all state and federal funding, and adequate technical support for its CoCs,

California will continue to lack a complete understanding of its efforts to combat homelessness and will struggle to make effective policy decisions to address the problem". The audit also states the homeless council has not fulfilled some of its most critical responsibilities.

There were four areas highlighted by the audit as it pertains to Riverside County's CoC: 1.) A lack of an annual gaps' analysis; 2.) the need to develop a comprehensive action plan and update it every five years; 3.) Not tracking in the Coordinated Entry System (CES) how long it takes to locate an individual after connection with a service provider; and 4.) that scoring and reviewing projects for HUD funding is not equitable because renewal projects are given more priority than new projects.

Riverside County has issued a formal letter stating Riverside County's CoC not only disagrees with the State's assessment, and also notes that CoC has already started addressing and improving on the issues raised. For the Homelessness Committee's reference, a summary of the responses to each of the four items is here:

- *Gap Analysis:* Riverside County's CoC is already under contract with Lasar Consulting Group for a gaps analysis as part of the Board of Governance (BOG) and CoC strategic planning. This was in the works before the state review, and part of the strategic plan and action plan will be to routinize annual analysis going forward.
- *Action Plan:* There is an existing 10-year plan from the County's Executive Office. Additionally, the CoC and BOG were already underway creating a comprehensive strategic action plan, which will fulfill the requirements of the comprehensive plan asked for by the State.
- *CES Tracking:* This is underway. While there is nothing regulatory stating this indicator must be measured which from the CoC's perspective, the recommendation can help measure the accessibility of CES across regions. The CoC has discussed using Phase II of the Strategic Planning Process to identify indicators like this one that would help measure the effectiveness of CES and the County's homeless delivery system. To improve the metrics, updates are being made to the HomeConnect Referral form and the CoC is exploring the ability to add a custom field in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) so housing agencies can enter when initial contact is made with a client referred through CES.
- *Scoring projects:* The County's HUD CoC Ranking Tool (or Scorecard) is updated each year. As in previous years, CoC staff will work with the Continuum of Care during this time period to assess its review-and-rank policies. It is a common practice for grant applications to give "extra points" to agencies who have experience administering HUD CoC Programs. As an option and instead of ranking existing agencies before new projects, the CoC is discussing adding an experience section on the scorecard with points ranging based on level of experience.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no cost to CVAG for this report.

ITEM 8I

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Executive Committee
April 26, 2021**



Staff Report

Subject: Preliminary Monitoring Report from the Riverside County Department of Housing, Homelessness Prevention and Workforce Solutions

Contact: Tom Cox, Management Analyst (tcoc@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: The Riverside County Department of Housing, Homelessness Prevention and Workforce Solutions (HHPWS) Continuum of Care (CoC) Division is required to monitor its subrecipients on an annual basis to ensure compliance with the Business, Consumer Services and Housing agency (BCSH) and Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) policies and regulations. CVAG's CV Housing First program is one of those subrecipients because it receives funding from the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) grant.

HHPWS performed a monitoring report between March 15-18, 2021 of CVAG's in-house program. This was conducted by HHPWS CoC staff through Zoom video conferencing, review of electronic files and communications and did not involve a site visit due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The purpose of monitoring is to assess project operations against the standards set by the rules and regulations, including measuring project progress; determining and documenting participant eligibility; tracking eligible activities, expenses and match requirements; as well as record keeping and oversight. If a program does not meet program operation standards HHPWS may issue a concern or a finding. A concern is a deficiency in program performance and will result in a finding if the concern is not corrected. A finding is a deficiency in program performance based on material noncompliance with a statutory, regulatory, or program requirement for which sanctions or other corrective actions are authorized.

During the Remote Monitoring, HHPWS staff worked closely with the CV Housing First team and CVAG provided full access to client and personnel files, the program's policies and procedures, as well as provided information regarding program management, data compliance, and fiscal documents.

On the final day of the remote monitoring, HHPWS staff provided CVAG with an unofficial preliminary report of the outcomes. The preliminary report resulted in no findings and no concerns. There was one recommendation, which was to provide more detailed case documentation to ensure evidence of the comprehensive services provided by the Housing First staff. CVAG has already been implementing this recommendation in its files.

CVAG anticipates a formal report will be provided within 30 days.

Fiscal Analysis: There was no cost to CVAG for the monitoring report. The review was triggered by CVAG's acceptance of HEAP funding.

Under an agreement signed in June 2020, CVAG received \$200,000 in HEAP grant funding from Riverside County. When additional HEAP funding became available, the County sought input from CVAG staff on whether additional funding could be utilized this fiscal year. On February 24, 2021, the Riverside County Continuum of Care Board of Governance approved allocating an additional \$97,000 in HEAP funds, and CVAG staff is recommending this funding be accepted as part of a separate agenda item.