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June 26, 2020

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director 

SUBJECT: **HEALTHY DESIGN WORKGROUP ACTIVITIES AND 2020
WORKPLAN (ITEM 7, AGENDA OF JANUARY 23, 2012)**

This memo and attached Annual Report summarize the 2019 accomplishments of the Healthy Design Workgroup (HDW) and include a description of the group’s work plan for 2020. The HDW brings together County departments involved in planning, designing and building healthy, livable communities.

Background

On January 23, 2012, your Board approved in concept the Healthy Design Ordinance, which was developed to increase levels of physical activity and access to healthy foods in Los Angeles County unincorporated areas. On that date, your Board 1) declared that the intent and policy of the County is to encourage design of public and private facilities in a manner that encourages pedestrian activity, bicycling, use of public transit and outdoor physical activities, and 2) directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to coordinate an interdepartmental effort to review best practices; determine which practices should be mandated or encouraged by the County; develop an implementation program; and identify potential funding mechanisms. This interdepartmental initiative became known as the HDW. The CEO transferred leadership of this workgroup to the Department of Public Health (Public Health) in 2013. Public Health provides annual updates to your Board on the progress of the HDW.

On February 5, 2013, your Board formally adopted the Healthy Design Ordinance, which changed existing zoning and subdivision regulations to legally establish community gardens and farmers’ markets throughout the County and created more specific requirements for bicycle parking and sidewalk design, a critical step to increase levels of physical activity and access to healthy foods.

Major Outcomes in 2019

Public Health and Public Works, in collaboration with County agencies and regional partners, finalized and transmitted to the Board of Supervisors an Action Plan titled *Vision Zero Los Angeles County – A Plan for Safer Roadways, 2020 to 2025*. This action was taken in response to your Board's motion on February 14, 2017 to implement the strategies identified in a 2016 Public Health report that proposed next steps to develop a Vision Zero initiative for unincorporated Los Angeles County.

County departments worked closely with the City of Los Angeles and affordable housing developers to apply to Round 4 of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) grant program, receiving approximately \$20 million for 180 affordable housing units on County-owned land in the City of Los Angeles; projects also included bike lanes, park improvements, crosswalks, and street trees.

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) applied for funding in the amount of \$16.4 million for four new park projects under the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant Program funded by Proposition 68. The grant applications built upon collaborative planning and community engagement efforts by DPR, Public Health, Public Works and the Department of Regional Planning in the unincorporated communities of Florence-Firestone, Walnut Park, West Athens-Westmont, and West Whittier-Los Nietos.

Public Health, Public Works, and the Chief Sustainability Office submitted a \$1.5 million grant proposal to CAL FIRE to fund the development of a County Urban Forest Management Plan; the scope of work includes an unprecedented partnership with the City of Los Angeles to collaborate around shared regional issues that affect trees, such as pests, drought, and fire.

Public Health and Public Works also collaborated with the Department of Arts and Culture to incorporate objectives from the County's Cultural Equity and Inclusion Initiative (CEII) by placing an artist in residence with the Vision Zero initiative to develop creative strategies and engage local communities on issues of traffic safety.

Planned Activities in 2020

In 2020, activities will continue HDW's work in 4 major areas: 1) encouraging safe multi-modal travel among County employees and residents; 2) preparing the County to pursue funding for healthy communities; 3) planning to address climate change; and 4) developing tools to institutionalize equity and collaborate across departments. Details about each follow.

1. Encourage safe multi-modal travel among County employees and residents:
 - Public Health and Public Works will continue implementing the Vision Zero Action Plan by developing pilot education, infrastructure, and/or enforcement projects along three or more Collision Concentration Corridors located in different communities identified in the Action Plan.
 - The Multi-Modal Transportation Reimbursement Coordination Committee will continue to work with County departments and Board offices to implement your Board's July 10, 2018 motion to clarify that County employees are permitted and encouraged to use transit, walk, or bike for work trips; and continue to work on

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- updating the County employee reimbursement system to incorporate transit and bikeshare trips.
2. Prepare the County to pursue funding for healthy communities:
 - The Grants Committee will continue to bring potential joint grant opportunities to the workgroup's attention and will encourage collaborative applications for livable communities, community-based planning and/or creative placemaking projects, and sustainability efforts.
 - The Affordable Housing and Sustainability Communities (AHSC) Committee will continue to work with developers and across County departments to maximize the number of ASHC applications submitted for the unincorporated areas and/or for County-owned land in neighboring jurisdictions.
 3. Plan to address climate change and mitigation:
 - The Urban Heat Island Mitigation Committee will work to secure resources for incorporating the draft Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan into a comprehensive strategy that implements the OurCounty Sustainability Plan; and continue activities related to implementing tree plantings, green space, cool roofs, and permeable pavement.
 - The Tree Committee will continue implementing holistic strategies for preserving, maintaining, and expanding LA County's urban forest in low income, tree-poor neighborhoods, identifying and working in collaboration with community partners; and if awarded grant funding, will begin work on a County Urban Forest Management Plan.
 4. Develop tools to institutionalize equity and collaborate across sectors:
 - The Equity Indicators Tool Subcommittee will continue to pilot and refine the Equity Indicators Tool for decision-making related to land use.
 - The Community Outreach and Project Coordination Committee will continue to coordinate development of a County Contact Management System; and make use of a new Master Agreement allowing departments to contract with community-based organizations for outreach and engagement purposes.

The attached Los Angeles County Healthy Design Workgroup Annual Report provides further information about HDW accomplishments in 2019 and the 2020 Work Plan.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

BF:ja

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors



LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTHY DESIGN WORKGROUP

Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors

2019 Outcomes and 2020 Work Plan



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OVERVIEW OF HEALTHY DESIGN WORKGROUP

The Healthy Design Workgroup (HDW) brings together County departments involved in planning, designing and building healthy, livable communities. The Department of Public Health (Public Health) leads and coordinates the activities of the HDW. The workgroup and its subcommittees meet regularly to develop and implement strategies for creating healthy communities.

The interdepartmental nature of this effort is aligned with County efforts to encourage collaboration across departments. In 2019, the following departments participated in the HDW: Public Health, Public Works, Regional Planning (DRP), Fire (FD), Parks and Recreation (DPR), Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), Chief Information Office (CIO), Beaches and Harbors (BH), Arts and Culture, Chief Executive Office (CEO), Chief Sustainability Office (CSO), Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (AGW), Sheriff (SD), Internal Services (ISD), and Human Resources (DHR).

PART I: 2019 OUTCOMES

SUMMARY OF 2019 OUTCOMES

Healthy Design Workgroup Committee	2019 Outcomes
Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submitted 7 collaborative grant applications; pending notice of award for \$17,262,650
Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In partnership with the City of Los Angeles, awarded approximately \$20M in AHSC Round 4 to develop 180 affordable housing units on County-owned land in the City of Los Angeles; the project also includes bike lanes, crosswalks, street trees and upgraded bus shelters Convened over 100 housing developers, government officials, and advocates for a strategy forum on how to bring additional affordable housing resources to LA County Held exploratory conversations and workshops with developers and several small cities regarding potential County technical support for AHSC grant applications Conducted site visits and planning for transportation improvements in unincorporated East Los Angeles to prepare for an AHSC Round 5 application Coordinated with the City of Los Angeles on a project located on County-owned land in Panorama City, to prepare for an AHSC Round 5 application Facilitated comments on the Strategic Growth Council’s Transformative Climate Communities Round 2 Draft Guidelines
Equity Indicators Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applied the Equity Indicators Tool on a pilot basis to inform planning efforts, including

Healthy Design Workgroup Committee	2019 Outcomes
	<p>LACDA’s Housing Innovation pilot program and East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented technical updates and maintenance to the tool and its layers
<i>Climate (Urban Heat)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporated the Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan into OurCounty Sustainability Plan • Constructed Buford Seed Project, reducing heat island effects at Buford Elementary in unincorporated Lennox
<i>Trees</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted a concept proposal to CAL FIRE to fund an Urban Forest Management Plan • Developed an application to the Productivity Investment Fund for an innovative pilot approach to tree inventory and tree health assessment • Completed the PW tree inventory of 200,000+ parkway trees and continued the associated “Trees Make Life Better” planting and education project in unincorporated West Athens, resulting in 346 trees planted and three community planting events • Provided input and guidance to the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains’ Early Detection-Rapid Response Plan for invasive beetles in SD 3
<i>Vision Zero</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalized and transmitted to the Board of Supervisors an Action Plan titled <i>Vision Zero Los Angeles County – A Plan for Safer Roadways, 2020 to 2025</i> • Developed a Vision Zero website, www.VisionZeroLACounty.com, to provide communities with information regarding the Vision Zero Action Plan • Began implementing actions by scoping pilot projects along top Collision Concentration Corridors, implementing traffic safety enhancing features, and on-boarding a communications consultant • Created a partnership structure to transition from Action Plan development to implementation • In collaboration with Arts and Culture, a Public Health Artist-in-Residence developed creative strategies for raising awareness, engaging the public, and creating community-inspired artworks designed to help calm traffic • Served on an advisory committee to the State’s Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force, which analyzed alternative processes for establishing speed limits

Healthy Design Workgroup Committee	2019 Outcomes
<i>Bicycle Parking Implementation and Education</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed remaining bicycle parking racks (total 590 since FY 2015-16) and closed out the grant
<i>Community Outreach and Project Coordination</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued partnering with Public Health Information Services to create a Healthy Design Workgroup Contact Management System • Developed a Master Agreement for community engagement services through Public Health that will be shared by multiple HDW departments
<i>Multi-modal Transportation Reimbursement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided report back to Board of Supervisors on 2/4/19 per Bike and Transit for Work Trips motion (Item No. 7, Agenda of 7/10/18) • Established partnership with Auditor/Controller to determine feasibility of adding reimbursement options to Mileage Authorization and Reimbursement System (MARS) • Drafted ordinance language for revision of County Code to enable reimbursement

OVERVIEW OF 2019 OUTCOMES

Interdepartmental Grants Coordination

Public Works, DRP, Public Health, DPR, LASD, FD, CEO, LACDA, and Arts and Culture continued to collaborate closely on grant applications in 2019. Representatives from Public Works and Arts and Culture continued leadership of the Grants Committee. The committee continued to prioritize projects based on the action plan established last year, which provides a road map for accomplishing key goals, including applying for grants that support Board priorities, place-based collaboration, and supporting other HDW committees.

In 2019, the Grants Committee submitted two collaborative grant applications; this number of applications is fewer than 2018 given that the Active Transportation Program, a major biennial funding opportunity, did not have a funding cycle in 2019.

Notice of award is pending for \$842,650 from the California Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program (Strategic Partnerships for the I-710N Mobility Hubs Plan, and Sustainable Communities for Altadena Active Transportation Plan and Foothill Boulevard Active Transportation Regional Corridor Plan), as well as for \$20,000 from State Farm (Vision Zero Artist in Residence Program).

DPR submitted grant applications in the amount of \$16.4 million for four new park projects under the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant Program funded by Proposition 68. The grant applications built upon collaborative planning and community engagement efforts by DPR, Public Health, DRP, and Public Works in the unincorporated communities of Florence-Firestone, Walnut Park, West Athens-Westmont, and West Whittier-Los Nietos.

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Grant Funding Collaboration

CEO, DRP, Public Works, Public Health, DPR, CSO, and LACDA worked closely with affordable housing developers to apply to the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) grant program. This complex funding source requires applicants to site affordable housing developments near transit, promotes access to bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and mandates a portion of the grant award to fund transportation improvements. Thus, the application requires intensive collaboration between developers, planning, and transportation staff.

In AHSC Round 4, the County committee supported the City of Los Angeles in an application to fund 180 affordable housing units on County-owned land in the City, at Vermont and Manchester. This collaborative effort was successful, and the City was awarded approximately \$20M in AHSC Round 4 funding. The project also included various transportation related enhancements, such as bike lanes, crosswalks, and street trees to improve safety and mobility.

In Round 4, the County also submitted AHSC applications for two projects in unincorporated communities: West Carson (West Carson Villas) and Willowbrook (Compton Creekside Village). Unfortunately, neither was funded, but the West Carson Villas project was designated as a substitute project by the SGC, ranked just below the 25 awarded projects. The AHSC Committee worked with local transit agencies to strengthen the transportation infrastructure components of the Willowbrook proposal to prepare for AHSC Round 5. The West Carson project was selected to receive Multifamily Housing Program funding in December 2019 and will not seek future AHSC funds.

CEO contracted with Enterprise Community Partners to continue providing support for coordination of AHSC applications between departments and with developers. In July, Enterprise Community Partners and the committee convened over 100 housing developers, government officials, and advocates for a developers' forum on how to bring additional affordable housing resources to LA County.

In August, the committee held exploratory conversations with several small cities in the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, as well as Pasadena and Pomona, regarding whether the County could provide technical support to these regional partners in seeking grant funding for affordable housing development; these conversations led to the sharing of valuable information and lessons learned.

In September, the Committee collaborated on a comment letter for the Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Round 3 Guidelines, a similarly complex grant program that previously funded a planning grant in East Los Angeles, and which could fund plan implementation activities or additional comprehensive planning in unincorporated areas.

Beginning in October 2019, the committee began site visits and planning for transportation improvements in unincorporated East Los Angeles in preparation for the AHSC Round 5 application.

The Committee entered into discussions with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Montebello Transit, Torrance Transit and Gardena Transit for potential partnership opportunities for AHSC Round 5 and future projects.

Equity Indicators Tool Coordination

In 2018, DRP developed an Equity Indicators Tool to support equity approaches in decision-making related to land use. The Equity Indicators Tool includes baseline demographic, socioeconomic and other data, which County departments can overlay to support equitable policy and program implementation. In 2019, the Equity Indicators tool informed various efforts such as LACDA's Housing Innovation pilot program, and background research for the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan. There were also some technical updates and maintenance, such as updating the layer of community groups, adding 2019 aerial imagery for urban areas, and the ability to add data from other sources as layers. In 2020, the committee will seek funding to work with ISD to further improve the tool.

Climate Action Implementation

Public Health, DRP, Public Works, DPR, BH, FD, and ISD engaged internal and external stakeholders on development of a draft Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan (UHIRP). The document focuses on urban heat island reduction strategies, that involve implementing long-term built environment solutions that cool neighborhoods, strengthen community resilience, contribute to climate change mitigation, and convey various health and economic benefits. By emphasizing long-term built environment solutions that provide important health and economic co-benefits, urban heat island reduction helps to create healthier, more resilient, and more equitable communities. In addition to County departments, the committee engaged 22 stakeholders, including community-based organizations, non-profits, academics, businesses, and non-County government agencies to review and comment on the Plan.

In 2019, the committee saw near-term completion of the UHIRP incorporated into the adopted OurCounty Sustainability Plan as Action 29 ("Develop a comprehensive heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan that addresses cool pavements and roofs, pavement reduction, and urban greening"); and continued to work with member departments of the HDW to actively implement strategies described in the plan, including through the County Sustainability Council. In 2020, the committee will seek funding to further its work on the UHIRP and continue to actively participate in the County Sustainability Council.

In 2019, Public Works completed construction to beautify Buford Elementary School by transforming a quadrant of campus into a raised bed vegetable garden with fruit trees. Heat-absorbing asphalt pavement was replaced with shade trees and drought-tolerant landscaping, designed to also help counteract the pollution and noise generated from planes landing into the adjacent LAX Airport on the flip side of the 405 freeway. The project was subsidized with a \$75,000 State Urban Greening Grant.

Interdepartmental Tree Coordination

Public Health, Public Works, DRP, DPR, FD, ISD, SD, AGW, DBH, and CSO met regularly to develop and implement holistic strategies for preserving, maintaining and expanding Los Angeles County's urban forest.

The committee submitted a concept proposal to CAL FIRE to fund an Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP), the results of which will be known in spring 2020. The committee also began a partnership with City of Los Angeles to collaborate across jurisdictions on urban forest management activities. This is critical given

the County's ongoing collaboration with the City around pests and other regional/border tree issues, and each jurisdiction's leadership and visibility in the region on the urban forest.

Through a multi-departmental effort, the committee prepared an application for the Productivity Investment Fund to fund an innovative approach to tree inventory and tree health assessment. The pilot project would study how to combine readily available "hyperspectral" data from NASA/JPL with the County's existing aerial imagery and laser-captured data. The pilot program could automate the identification and assessment of all trees county-wide from one's computer, rather than visiting each tree in-person, resulting in considerable time and cost savings to departments that manage and plan the urban forest.

In 2019, Public Works mostly completed a Countywide GIS-based street tree inventory. The inventory mapped approximately 170,000 street trees and identified almost 30,000 sites suitable for planting new trees. Public Works developed GIS-based tools utilizing the data to track tree trimming, removals and plantings, manage work orders and enable crews to use the data via mobile devices in the field. Public Works also continued an associated tree planting and community education project in unincorporated West Athens. By March 30, 2020, the tree planting and education project will have resulted in 650 trees planted through a contract with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) and other planting contractors. Project outreach is conducted by Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust and From Lot to Spot, subcontractors to LACC. In 2019, each held three community tree planting events in collaboration with other community-based organizations.

Working with researchers from California State University, Northridge, the committee substantially completed an evaluation of the "Life Is Better with Trees" tree planting and education program in Bassett, Valinda, East Los Angeles, and Walnut Park. The final evaluation will serve to inform future committee tree planting and education efforts.

Since 2018, the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains has been working with SD 3 to develop an Early Detection-Rapid Response Plan for invasive beetles in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Areas. Invasive pest species have caused significant economic and ecological damage to native and forest habitats, as well as agricultural crops; and native trees provide valuable ecosystem services to our community which are lost if they die. The committee has been a partner in reviewing and commenting on the draft Plan throughout 2019; and will serve as an opportunity for ongoing coordination and implementation on the plan with the Chief Sustainability Office in 2020.

The committee supported Public Works in establishing a list of community-based organizations who could provide tree planting and education services in low-income unincorporated communities, which the committee anticipates using in 2020 to further its mission to expand the urban forest and increase stewardship.

Los Angeles County Vision Zero

In 2019, Public Works and Public Health, in collaboration with the California Highway Patrol and other County departments, finalized an ambitious five-year action plan to guide the County's efforts to eliminate traffic fatalities on unincorporated roadways by 2035. *Vision Zero Los Angeles County – A Plan for Safer Roadways, 2020 to 2025* (Plan), which was transmitted to the Board of Supervisors in December, identifies a multi-disciplinary approach to enhancing traffic safety, including engineering enhancements, policy changes, promoting a culture of traffic safety, and focusing enforcement to address unsafe behaviors such as speeding and impaired driving. The Plan describes the importance of data-driven processes, health equity, and transparency, and emphasizes the importance of tailoring traffic safety outreach, engagement, and education to the unique context of each community.

As part of the development of the Plan, the project team analyzed collision data and identified Collision Concentration Corridors throughout unincorporated County communities. The Plan defines a Collision Concentration Corridor as any half-mile roadway segment that contained three or more fatal or severe-injury collisions between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2017. Half of the fatal and severe-injury collisions during this timeframe occurred on approximately 3.8% (125 miles) of the roadways maintained by the

County. To begin focusing Vision Zero efforts, a list of top locations was identified from the Collision Concentration Corridors. These locations were identified based on a number of factors including health equity, severity and concentration of collisions, and whether pedestrians or bicyclists were involved in the collision.

A Vision Zero website, www.VisionZeroLACounty.com, was developed in 2019 to provide community members with information regarding the Vision Zero Action Plan. The website allowed for the public to comment on the draft plan through an online form.

An implementation partnership structure was also developed in 2019 to begin transitioning the Vision Zero initiative from development of the inaugural Vision Zero Action Plan to its implementation. The structure includes a steering committee, subcommittees, department/agency Vision Zero leads, and stakeholder forums. Although much of 2019 was spent developing and finalizing the Plan, implementation of the actions included in the plan have commenced. Scoping of pilot projects along top Collision Concentration Corridors took place, traffic safety enhancing features were included in planned projects and grant applications, and a communications consultant was on-boarded.

As part of the Creative Strategist Artist-in-Residence program, Arts and Culture continued supporting the placement of an Artist-in-Residence with the Vision Zero initiative. During his residency, the artist conducted in-depth outreach and community engagement activities in East Los Angeles, Walnut Park and Westmont/West Athens—communities with high concentrations of pedestrian fatalities and injuries. The artist's work with youth and seniors in these communities helped amplify resident voices and experiences as they relate to traffic safety and the human impact of this issue.

Additionally, in 2019, representatives from Public Works and Public Health served on an advisory committee to the state's Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force, which analyzed the existing process for establishing speed limits and recommending whether an alternative method should be considered.

MSRC Bicycle Parking Grant Implementation

In 2013, the County was awarded a Mobile Source Reduction Committee (MSRC) grant for bicycle parking at County facilities, benefitting both County employees and visitors. ISD, in collaboration with Public Health, CEO, DPR, the Board of Supervisors, County Libraries, Probation, Fire, DBH, DHS, DPSS, and DHR, have installed 590 bicycle parking racks, 15 more than proposed under the grant. As the project was completed this year, this committee has now sunset and will not set Key Metrics for 2020. Future efforts to seek funding to install additional bicycle parking or provide employees with bicycle safety education will be reported under the Grants Committee.

Community Outreach and Project Coordination Committee

In 2019, the committee was focused on two key metrics: identifying funding for and working on the development of a County Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system; and improving opportunities to contract with community-based organizations (CBOs) to assist County departments with community engagement. The committee had previously identified a need to share community contacts across departments to reduce duplicate requests to stakeholders and reduce redundancy as each department conducts place-based work. Before establishing a CRM, the group identified a need for a Contact Management System (CMS), software/database that would allow departments to enter and share contact data. Public Health's Information Systems group (PHIS) agreed to help scope this system in collaboration with the HDW. Through three interdepartmental meetings, the group identified key data points, use cases for the system, and next steps to augment the system (for example, a customer relationship management system).

In 2019, the committee drafted a project scope and identified potential funding sources, including the Productivity Investment Fund. At the urging of PHIS, the committee will continue to work in 2020 with them and present to the Public Health Information Technology Executive Committee to determine the feasibility of developing such a system using existing Public Health resources.

The committee also identified a need to improve the ability to contract with community-based organizations (CBOs) to assist with community engagement. Based on conversations between Public Health Contracts and Grants, the Public Health Center for Health Equity, the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, and the CEO/Chief Sustainability Office, the committee determined that Public Health would take the lead to establish a Master Agreement for community engagement that other County departments will be able to use. In July 2019, the Public Health's Contracts and Grants Division released a Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) for the Master Agreement for Community Engagement and Related Services. As of September 4, 2019, approximately 70 applications were received; the highest number of applications ever received for a Public Health master agreement. Processing includes scanning the applications, notification to applicants if any documentation is missing (and permitting them time to provide missing information), financial review by the Contract Monitoring Unit, and qualification review and protest process if a vendor does not qualify. The Board of Supervisors approved of the initial master agreements on January 21, 2020 along with delegated authority to execute additional master agreements with qualified vendors. In 2020, the committee will continue to support approval of the master agreements by the Board of Supervisors and encourage HDW member departments to make use of the agreements for County projects.

Multi-Modal Transportation Reimbursement Coordination

In 2018, the Board of Supervisors passed a motion (July 10, 2018) "Bike and Transit for Work Trips" directing the Chief Sustainability Office in collaboration with the Healthy Design Workgroup and County Sustainability Council to: clarify with all departments that all employees are permitted to and strongly encouraged to use transit, bicycling, and/or walking before using an automobile for work day trips; develop a transit pass check-out program or equivalent system to reimburse employees that use transit or bikeshare; conduct a survey on attitudes and opportunities toward non-motorized transportation; and report back in 180 days. The committee, with representatives from Public Health, CEO/CSO, Public Works, DPR, DRP, DBH, DHR, ISD, and Auditor-Controller, met three times to research potential options. The CSO held additional individual department meetings.

The committee determined that changes to MARS to facilitate reimbursement are feasible and would take approximately six months to complete; however, for Auditor-Controller to move forward with changes to MARS, the County Code needs to be updated to make clear that multi-modal transportation reimbursement is allowable. The committee met with County Counsel and Risk Management in September 2019 and has vetted new code language. The committee met with CEO Communications to discuss potential channels for promoting the change once it is complete.

PART II: 2020 WORK PLAN

The 2020 HDW Work Plan identifies subcommittees, each consisting of two departmental co-leads, as well as additional interdepartmental participants, assigned to implement specific strategies or projects. The 2020 HDW Work Plan builds from existing momentum and direction from the Department Directors and the Board of Supervisors. Strategies and projects were selected through interdepartmental meetings and were based on criteria such as feasibility, County control, and potential for improving community health.

Grants Committee

Collaboration on Funding Opportunities

All departments involved in the Healthy Design Workgroup will bring potential joint grant opportunities to the workgroup's attention and will encourage collaborative applications for livable communities funding opportunities.

Summary:

As in previous years, the HDW and its subcommittees will continue to track and identify opportunities for interdepartmental collaboration on grant applications. Collaborative applications have the potential to create greater synergy and efficiency for the County, reduce redundancy, increase competitiveness and increase award amounts. Coordinating with relevant County efforts and Departments outside the HDW, such as the County Grant Writers Collective, can help advance the goals of the workgroup.

Key 2020 Metric:

- Prepare and submit at least six (6) collaborative grant applications for livable communities, community-based planning and/or creative placemaking projects, or sustainability efforts

Reference:

County Strategic Plan

Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) Committee

AHSC Grant Funding Coordination

CEO, DRP, Public Works, LACDA, Public Health, and DPR will work with affordable housing developers to prepare grant proposals for the Strategic Growth Council's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) annual funding.

Summary:

Supported by cap-and-trade revenues, the AHSC funds affordable housing and transportation projects to support infill and compact development that reduce greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions by improving mobility options and access to transportation. Regular, on-going coordination between County departments and developers is essential to identify and develop competitive projects for this funding opportunity. In 2020, the committee will continue working with developers to identify potential affordable housing projects in the unincorporated areas and on County-owned land in neighboring jurisdictions; identify priority bicycle, pedestrian, public transit, and park improvement/tree planting projects nearby for potential funding; identify and mitigate climate vulnerabilities; and prepare grant applications for the next round of the AHSC grant program. The committee will continue working with the CEO to identify resources to support ongoing technical assistance for these efforts and will maintain an updated AHSC website for developers interested in working with the County.

Key 2020 Metric:

- Maximize the number of AHSC applications submitted for projects in the unincorporated areas, or on County-owned land in other jurisdictions

Reference:

County Strategic Plan

DRP will pilot implementation of the Equity Indicators Tool.

Summary:

DRP will continue piloting implementation of the Equity Indicators Tool and further develop stakeholder engagement strategies to promote equitable development in General Plan implementation.

Key 2020 Metric:

- Continue pilot implementation of the Equity Indicators Tool on at least one (1) new County project
- Seek funds to work with ISD on addition of new features and other improvements

Reference:

Board of Supervisors Motion, December 8, 2015

Report to the Board of Supervisors, November 29, 2018

Urban Heat Mitigation Committee

Climate Action Implementation

In December 2019, Public Health submitted budget item requests for staff and consulting resources to transform the existing draft Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan to align with action 29 in the OurCounty Sustainability Plan. In 2020, member departments will continue implementing existing departmental climate action strategies related to addressing urban heat on their own timelines. In 2021, pending allocation of sufficient resources, Public Health, DRP, Public Works, DPR, BH, FD, CEO, and ISD will begin to incorporate the draft Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan into a final strategy and implementation plan consistent with the OurCounty Sustainability Plan.

Summary:

Urban areas experience considerably higher temperatures than neighboring rural areas due to the Urban Heat Island Effect, worsening heat-related health outcomes. The Urban Heat Mitigation Committee first convened in Fall 2014 as the Climate Committee, choosing the development of the Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan (UHIRP) as its primary effort. The document outlines four strategies for addressing the urban heat island: Cool Roofs, Trees, Green Space, and Cool and Permeable Pavements. Each strategy features an implementation plan, with Action Items broken down into the following categories: programs and projects, research and funding, policies, and incentives. Now incorporated into the adopted OurCounty Sustainability Plan as Action 29 (“Develop a comprehensive heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan that addresses cool pavements and roofs, pavement reduction, and urban greening”), resources are required in FY 2020-21 to establish staff capacity to complete the UHIRP, which was included among the County’s Near-Term Priorities for funding. Pending allocation of these resources, finalization of the UHIRP and development of an implementation plan will begin in 2021. Member departments of the HDW will continue to actively implement strategies described in the plan related to urban heat; and will work to support climate action through participation in the County Sustainability Council.

Key 2020 Metric:

- Seek needed resources to incorporate the draft Urban Heat Island Reduction Plan into a comprehensive heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan that implements the OurCounty Sustainability Plan
- Continue implementation of climate action strategies related to urban heat

References:

General Plan/Community Climate Action Plan

Community Parks and Recreation Plans

OurCounty Sustainability Plan

Tree Committee

Interdepartmental Tree Coordination

DRP, Public Works, DPR, Public Health, ISD, ACWM, FD, DBH, and SD will implement a set of holistic strategies for preserving, maintaining, and expanding LA County's urban forest in low income, tree-poor neighborhoods, working in collaboration with community partners.

Summary:

Trees are an essential part of the urban environment and contribute positively to climate change mitigation, storm water collection, air quality, and the comfort of people who travel along the street. In addition, street trees provide a psychological barrier between pedestrians and motorized traffic, making walking more enjoyable. An important committee priority is to develop a County Urban Forest Management Plan. Other Committee priorities include community engagement strategies around tree planting, increasing awareness of tree benefits through public education, and continuing collaborative work with others in the region on tree pests.

Key 2020 Metrics:

- Prepare and submit at least one (1) grant application for tree related activities, with priority on seeking funding for an Urban Forest Management Plan
- Identify and pursue at least one (1) new tree planting and education project in low-income, tree-poor unincorporated neighborhoods
- Survey mechanisms for private property tree giveaways in unincorporated areas
- Support implementation of the Early Detection-Rapid Response Plan for Invasive Beetles

References:

The Model Design Manual for Living Streets

Healthy Communities Report: Active Transportation Design Guidance and Recommendations

General Plan /Community Climate Action Plan

Community Parks and Recreation Plans

OurCounty Sustainability Plan

Public Health and Public Works will work with FD, SD, DHS, DRP, CEO, and California Highway Patrol (CHP) and other applicable Departments as needed to launch and implement a Vision Zero initiative for unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Summary:

Between 2013 and 2017, approximately 383 people lost their lives in traffic collisions on roadways in unincorporated Los Angeles County. On February 14, 2017, the County Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a motion that directed Public Health and Public Works in consultation with the HDW to co-lead a Vision Zero initiative and implement strategies aimed at eliminating traffic-related deaths and severe injuries. In 2019, an implementation partnership structure was developed to begin transitioning the Vision Zero initiative from development of the inaugural Vision Zero Action Plan to its implementation. In 2020, it is anticipated that implementation of actions in the Plan will continue, including the development of pilot education, infrastructure, and/or enforcement projects conducted along Collision Concentration Corridors.

Key 2020 Metrics:

- Continue implementing the Vision Zero Action Plan by developing pilot education, infrastructure, and/or enforcement projects or programs along 3 or more Collision Concentration Corridors located in different communities identified in *Vision Zero Los Angeles County: A Plan for Safer Roadways*.

References:

Board of Supervisors Motion, February 14, 2017

Vision Zero Los Angeles County – A Plan for Safer Roadways, 2020 to 2025

Community Outreach and Project Coordination Committee

Community Outreach and Project Coordination

All HDW departments will continue to collaborate to enhance and improve community engagement and internal County processes to further healthy design policies, plans and projects.

Summary:

Better community outreach and engagement can lead to improved outcomes and broader support for County plans, policies, and projects. Community members know their communities best and deserve more and better coordination with County departments on initiatives that impact their daily lives. Through this committee, HDW departments collaborate to identify new methods of working together on community engagement as well as share information collected through community outreach to ensure County services and resources are provided. In 2020, the committee will continue to enhance cross departmental collaboration on outreach through several innovative efforts. Public Health will continue to lead the collaborative work with other departments to develop a contact management system (CMS) to improve knowledge of and engagement with stakeholders; begin using new Master Agreements developed in 2019 to contract with community-based organizations for outreach and engagement purposes and encouraging additional vendors to apply.

Key 2020 Metrics:

- Work with Public Health Information Systems to determine feasibility of developing County CMS system using existing County resources; otherwise pursue identified funding mechanisms
- Use new Master Agreements to contract with at least (1) community-based organization for outreach and engagement purposes on a County project

References:

County Strategic Plan

Community Parks and Recreation Plans

The Model Design Manual for Living Streets

Healthy Communities Report: Active Transportation Design Guidance and Recommendations

General Plan

Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment

Multi-Modal Transportation Reimbursement Committee

Multi-Modal Transportation Reimbursement Coordination

Public Health, DRP, and DHR will work with other County departments and Board offices to identify ways to facilitate reimbursement for midday, work-related transportation using alternative travel modes.

Summary:

On-road transportation comprises the second largest portion of Los Angeles County's carbon dioxide emissions. As the employer of over 100,000 people, County employee policies have an impact on the environment and communities near County facilities. While the County supports and encourages employees to use public transit for their work commute, for some employees the challenges associated with getting reimbursed can disincentivize taking the bus, train, or bike-share to an off-site meeting or other business hours transportation needs. In 2020, the committee will work to support adoption of an ordinance to update the County Code and Fiscal Manual, such that the Auditor-Controller can make the required changes to MARS enabling reimbursement for work-related trips by alternative travel modes.

Key 2020 Metrics:

- Adoption of an ordinance to update the County Code to enable multi-modal reimbursement
- Updates to the County Fiscal Manual and MARS
- At least one (1) new mass communication effort to County employees encouraging and promoting the use of transit, walking, and bicycling for work trips

References:

General Plan/Community Climate Action Plan

Metro Board Motion, October 26, 2017

Board of Supervisors Motion, July 10, 2018