The RCHCN mission is to make the healthy choice the easy choice in all Riverside County cities through the advancement of health in all policies.

HCN Connect
News and More
Volume IV. No. 1
January 2019

featuring
IN THIS ISSUE

Congrats City of Perris!
Making a Difference: Safe Routes to School Program in Riverside’s Eastside
Go Human Walk Audit Measures Walkability in Downtown Riverside
Announcements/ Events

Let us feature your story, event or resource in HCN Connect!

Do you have a plan, program or endeavor designed to improve your community’s health?
Do you have a resource you would like to share with the HCN? Please let us know!

Please submit ideas for the next publication by: February 15, 2019

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The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is committed to highlighting excellence in sustainable planning efforts and development projects. These plans and projects are integral to carrying out the goals and policies to promote a cleaner, healthier, and happier Southern California.

Each year, SCAG honors projects that best exemplify the core principles of sustainability with awards at the Annual Regional Conference & General Assembly. SCAG projects are innovative with plans to improve the mobility, livability, prosperity, and sustainability of our region. The SCAG Sustainability Awards Program is open to all parties, including local governments, non-profits, developers, and others.

Award Categories include:
• Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability
• Active Transportation
• Against all Odds
• Collaborative Partnerships
• Green Region
• Healthy and Safe Communities
• Integrated Planning

The program is open to all projects, programs, and actions taken within the SCAG region which is comprised of six counties and 191 cities. Nominations are welcomed from cities, counties and sub regions, in combination with individual developers, consultants, builders, and others who strive to implement the goals and policies of the 2016 RTP/SCS.

Last year, SCAG honored the City of Perris, one of the healthy city trailblazers in our County, with the 2018 Sustainability Award under the Healthy and Safe Communities category.

Live Well Perris inspires healthier lifestyles in the community by promoting healthy diet and nutrition, by sponsoring physical fitness programs and activities and through the adoption of City design and planning principles that support healthy neighborhoods into its built environment. Through the Initiative, the City of Perris offers free work-out sessions, healthy cooking and nutrition classes, senior citizen walking club, community Hikes, and more family-friendly community events all accessible to the Perris residents.

Programs through Live Well Perris include - Perris Children’s Healthy Beverage Ordinance, and Healthy Community Events.

For More Information on SCAG- Sustainability Program http://sustain.scag.ca.gov/Pages/Awards.aspx

City of Perris-Live Well Perris- Watch Video Live Well Perris Video

Grow Perris Events-
http://www.cityofperris.org/livewell/community-garden.html#tab-2
http://www.cityofperris.org/livewell/GardenEventCalendar.pdf

Live Well Perris Initiative honored with the 2018 SCAG Sustainability Award
RIVERSIDE COUNTY SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM, EASTSIDE RIVERSIDE is funded through the California Department of Transportation Active Transportation Program (ATP) to enable and encourage children to safely walk and bicycle to school. These efforts aim to reduce pedestrian and bicycle injuries and fatalities, improve air quality, and improve the health of our youth. Partnerships include residents, school administration, city government, and community organizations.

Safe Routes to School Program staff conducted walkability and bike-ability workshops at schools within the Eastside Riverside area during the past two years to develop solutions for impediments to walking and biking. An Action Plan was then developed to use as a tool for the city to make improvements. One of these successes includes a newly paved and painted alleyway where children frequently walk to school.

For more information on the Riverside County Safe Routes Program, please contact Marsie Rosenberg Gutierrez at MRosenbergG@ruhealth.org.

Go Human Walk Audit Measures Walkability in Downtown Riverside

January 16, 2019, via GoHuman Blog

Last month dozens of people joined Go Human for a walk audit to help identify how the City of Riverside could improve connectivity to the Downtown Riverside Metrolink station for people walking and biking.

One of the best ways to evaluate how safe streets are for people walking is to get out and explore the area on foot. Walk audits help planners get a new perspective and notice safety issues that can be difficult to see on a map or from the inside of a car.

During walk audits a group usually walks a route together and takes notes on the conditions on the streets. Walk audits can measure things like the state of repair of sidewalks, crosswalk locations, shade, lighting and signage. During walk audits, participants can also note how their comfort and safety might be impacted by things like posted speed limits. Notes taken during walk audits help cities plan for future improvements, making sure they account for safety and comfort of everyone who uses their streets.

Go Human partnered with local nonprofit groups to conduct the recent Riverside walk audits, including Walk ‘n Rollers and the Riverside County Active Transportation Network. During the audit, the group identified several potential improvements that could help people safely walk and bike to the Metrolink station, including:

- Consistently maintaining sidewalks, intersections and landscaping
- Installing more bike infrastructure
- Installing lighting and wayfinding signage designed for people walking
- Adding crosswalks to more intersections
- Evaluating and potentially reducing posted speed limits

The walk audit was conducted following Illuminate Riverside, which temporarily demonstrated safety improvements in the area like a lighted tunnel, curb extensions and artistic crosswalks. Feedback from Illuminate Riverside attendees and walk audit participants will help inform the City of Riverside’s Vision Plan for the High-Quality Transit Area (HQTA) around the Downtown Riverside Metrolink station. The Vision Plan will lay out a 30-year strategy with a goal to make the area more livable, walkable and transit-supportive.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the walk audit and provided their feedback!
Caltrans recently announced their funding recommendations for the statewide Active Transportation Program (ATP). In total, more than $218 million in funding is recommended for 45 active transportation projects statewide. We’re excited that 21 projects in the SCAG region are recommended for funding, totaling approximately $145 million, which represents a significant investment in Southern California.

Projects recommended for funding include Safe Routes to School efforts, development of new active transportation plans and first/last mile solutions to help communities better connect to transit. Congratulations to Riverside County’s applicants! The awardees include:

- **Desert Hot Springs**: Hacienda Avenue Safe Routes to School Improvement Project ($1.3M)
- **Eastvale**: North/South Bike Network Gap Closure & Connectivity to North Eastvale ($6.5M)
- **Jurupa Valley**: Jurupa Valley Sunnyslope Area Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap Closure ($2.9M)
- **Riverside County Transportation Commission**: Active Transportation Improvements for the Communities of Thermal and Oasis ($6.8M)
- **Temecula**: Santa Gertrudis Creek Trail, Phase 2 ($1.5M)

Announcements

Reach Out Has a New Home!

On January 29, 2019 Rach Out celebrated the Grand Opening of its new office in Jurupa Valley. The new location is:

8300 Limonite Ave Ste. E
Jurupa Valley 92509

For additional information, please contact Amber Jones
909-245-1156

Check Out Coachella Uninc’s New Office!

The youth media Coachella Unincorporated has joined forces with the Youth Leadership Institute. On January 31, 2019 their leaders Amber Amaya and Paulina Rojas welcomed an enthusiastic crowd during its grand opening. The space featured Bryan Mendez’s photography. Mendez is the “Estamos Aquí” documentary’s director. The office is located at:

1030 6th Street, Suite #11
Coachella CA 92236

Contact info: aamaya@yli.org

Welcome HCN Interns!

April Forrest

A warm welcome to April Forrest the newest member of the team! April is an intern brought in through the Randall Lewis Fellowship. She applied for the fellowship through her university in hopes of broadening her lens on Public health and its intersectionality. She is an MPH student at Claremont Graduate University and has her B.A. from Pitzer college in Global Public Health, Community Engagement with an emphasis in women’s health disparities. April has interned in Los Angeles County and in several countries. This will be her first time working in Riverside. Born and raised in Riverside, she plans to spend her time as an intern learning about the importance of urban planning and how it effects the health and well-being of communities. In her learning she is hoping to have a better understanding of public health programs provided by Riverside county and do her part to improve programs while working as an intern.

Christian Lua

A warm welcome to Christian Lua. Christian Lua is a Healthy Communities Urban and Regional Planning Intern for the Riverside University Health System. He is an undergrad student at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona where his is pursuing a B.S. in Urban and Regional Planning. During his internship, he will be blending his interests in architecture, urban planning and economic development with the many facets of public health. This is his second position with Riverside County. He previously worked as a lifeguard for the Riverside County Parks and Open Space District. Christian hopes to gain practical experience during his internship including improving his communications skills and broadening his perspective for future involvement with community projects and planning opportunities.
**Coalition For Tobacco Free Communities- Serving Riverside County**

*Join Us on Facebook!*
We are excited to announce the launched a new social media page (Coalition for Tobacco Free Communities – RC). As a follower of the page you will see the latest tobacco news, community announcements, and opportunities to become involved! To follow us on Facebook, click [here](#); then click “Like” at the top of the page.

*Palm Springs Adopts Tobacco Retailer Permitting Ordinance*

On October 17, 2018, the Palm Springs City Council unanimously adopted the Riverside County Tobacco Retailer Permitting (TRP) Ordinance. The ordinance requires all tobacco retailers in the City to purchase an annual permit from the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health. These funds are used to enforce California law prohibiting underage tobacco product sales. Riverside County is close to becoming the first county in California to have all jurisdictions adopt a tobacco retail permitting ordinance.

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**Coalition For Tobacco Free Communities- Serving Riverside County**

**2019 Meeting Dates**

These meetings are typically held every 3rd Tuesday of the month from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Please note locations vary from meeting to meeting to accommodate all coalition members as the coalition serves all of Riverside County

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 19, 2019</td>
<td>12:00 – 2:00 PM</td>
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<td>Tuesday, May 21, 2019</td>
<td>12:00 – 2:00 PM</td>
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<td>Tuesday, August 20, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 19, 2019</td>
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Save the Date

10th BIENNIAL Childhood Obesity Conference

BEYOND OBESITY: Tackling Root Causes

July 15-18, 2019 • Anaheim, CA

The Deadline to submit your abstract for the Pre-Conference session and has been extended to February 15 at 11:59 p.m!

Click here for more information about submitting an abstract for a Pre-Conference Focused Training Session or Mobile Workshop Tour.

THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTS

OUR ORGANIZING PARTNER
Thank you for reading HCN
Connect!