



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

**Thursday, May 15, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
Camarillo Public Library - Community Room
4101 Las Posas Rd, Camarillo, CA 93010
AGENDA**

Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual, language or other disability to review an agenda, or to participate in a meeting of the Ventura Council of Governments per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)) (28 CFR 35, 102-35. 104 Title II. and California Government Code Section 54954.2, may obtain assistance by requesting such accommodation by calling VCOG staff at 805-217-9448 or emailing david@propexecs.com. Any such request for accommodation must be made at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for which assistance is requested. Copies of staff reports or other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on this agenda are on file with the Ventura Council of Governments Executive Director and are available for public inspection.

**AGENDA REPORTS AND OTHER DISCLOSABLE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATED TO OPEN SESSION
AGENDA ITEMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE VCOG WEBSITE UNDER AGENDA AND MINUTES AT
WWW.VENTURACOG.ORG.**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

2. ROLL CALL

- 3. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA** – Members who wish to include an emergency action item on this meeting's agenda or wish to discuss a particular agenda item listed on this meeting's Consent Calendar should inform the Chair at this time.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, public comments received in advance by VCOG Staff will be read aloud into the meeting record. Individual Board Members may briefly respond to Public Comments or ask questions for clarification.

- 5. PROPOSED VCOG OPERATING BUDGET- 2025-2026 p.3** Review and approve the proposed VCOG Operating Budget for FY 2025-2026 with total revenue and expenses from non-discretionary sources totaling \$87,000 and Discretionary Grant Revenue totaling \$282,632.

- 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – The Report will be distributed at the meeting.

MEMBERS

City of Camarillo
David Tennesen, Camarillo
Kevin Kildee, Alternate

City of Fillmore
Carrie Broggie
Albert Mendez, Alternate

City of Moorpark
Chris Enegren, Chair
Tom Means, Alternate

City of Ojai
Leslie Rule, Member
Kim Mang, Alternate

City of Oxnard
Bert Perello, Member
Aaron Starr, Alternate

City of Port Hueneme
Laura Hernandez, Member
Jess Lopez, Alternate

City of San Buenaventura
Bill McReynolds, Member
Jeannette S Palacios, Alternate

City of Santa Paula
Leslie Cornejo, Member
Jenny Crosswhite, Alternate

City of Simi Valley
Elaine Litster, IPC
Mike Judge, Alternate

City of Thousand Oaks
Bob Engler, Member
David Newman, Alternate

County of Ventura
Janice Parvin, Member
Jeff Gorell, Alternate

7. **AGENCY REPORTS** – Reports or Oral Presentations by Agency Representatives Attending
 - A. Broadband Team Update & Report on Ventura County Broadband Project
 - B. Southern California Association of Governments
 - C. Ventura County Transportation Commission
 - D. League of California Cities
 - E. County of Ventura -Legislative Analyst

8. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - A. **Summary of March 13, 2025 Meeting p. 8** - Approve Meeting Summary for the January 9, 2025 VCOG Meeting. **Action:** Approve Meeting Summary.
 - B. **Financial Report p. 14** - Approve Ventura Council of Governments Financial Report for the Budget Period from March 7, 2025 to May 9. 2025. **Action:** Approve Financial Report
 - C. **Register of Warrants & Debit Card Transactions p. 18** - Approve the Register of Warrants for Expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from March 7, 2025 to May 9. 2025 **Action:** Approve Register of Warrants and Debit Card Transactions.
 - D. **VCOG Audited Financial Statements- 2023-2024 .p.21** Receive and file Ventura Council of Governments, Audited Financial Statements for Period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
 - E. **Approval of Final VCOG Regional Broadband Initiative (VRBI) p.46** - Approve final VRBI Document prepared by Pacific Broadband Consortium and VCOG Staff.

9. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**


Any Council Member present may propose items for placement on a future agenda. Members should limit their proposed topics to issues that conform to VCOG's adopted Program of Priorities. Members may discuss whether the item should be placed on a future agenda and the description of the agenda item.

10. **ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting- July 10, 2025 – City of Camarillo Council Chamber, 601 Carmen Dr., Camarillo.**



ITEM 5

MEMORANDUM

TO: VCOG Members and Alternates
FROM: David Pollock, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Proposed VCOG Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget
DATE: May 15, 2025

Recommendation:

The Council should review and approve the proposed VCOG Operating Budget for FY 2025-2026.

Discussion:

The VCOG Joint Powers Authority Agreement Section 23 requires that a budget be adopted, and dues be approved, at the last regular meeting of the Governing Body prior to June 30 of each year or at the first meeting, regular or special, of the Governing Body after June 30. This report presents the committee with a preliminary review of the proposed VCOG Budget for FY 2025-2026.

Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Expenditures

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 expenditures are estimated to be \$517,706.17 as of June 30, 2025. Both the REAP 1.0 and LATA Grant Projects will be completed by the close of the 24-25 Fiscal Year. The FY 2024-2025 Budget as amended totaled \$868,359 including REAP 1.0 and 2.0 Grants and LATA Grant Funds totaling \$758,079. All actual expenses for the 2025-2025 Fiscal Year will be within the approved budget. The budget was amended on September 12, 2024 to include funds from the REAP 1.0 Grant that were restored in the State appropriation.

The overlap expense for Executive staff for the remainder of the year will be paid from the remaining Executive Administration budget and the remaining Executive Search budget.

FY 2024-2025 Estimated Revenue

Annual non-grant revenue is budgeted at \$87,000. This will include Investment earnings, Annual Dues Assessments to Members totaling \$77,990 and Annual Dinner Sponsorships totaling \$9,000 from SCAG and Southern California Edison and others to support the event costs. Staff is recommending an increase in the annual Dues Assessment to member agencies due to increased contract services and inflationary increases in other regular expenses including utilities and insurance. The financial impact of the proposed Assessment Increase is summarized below and is based on the individual member agency's 2020 U.S. Census population.

Member Agency	2020 Population	Current 2025 Assessment	Annual Assessment Proposed
Camarillo	70,738	5,338	6,670
Fillmore	16,423	2,364	2,910
Moorpark	36,290	3,529	4,285
Ojai	7,628	1,916	2,301
Oxnard	202,071	13,328	15,763
Port Hueneme	21,958	2,784	3,293
San Buenaventura	110,738	7,761	9,439
Santa Paula	30,674	3,232	3,896
Simi Valley	126,367	8,746	10,521
Thousand Oaks	126,967	8,911	10,563
Ventura County (Uninc.)	<u>95,001</u>	<u>7,083</u>	<u>8,350</u>
TOTAL	844,855	64,922	77,990

The estimated remaining Discretionary REAP 2.0 Grant Income based on projected program Expense is \$282,632.

FY 2025-2026 Proposed Expenditures

The Executive Administration line item has been increased to \$60,000 to cover the Executive Management Line Item for the new executive director. which conforms to the Independent Contractor Agreement approved on March 13, 2025. Accounting Fees and Audit are presented as separate line items at \$2,200 and \$5,000 respectively. This reflects the current fee estimate from the auditor for the FY 2024-2025 Audit.

Separate line items for Insurance and Legal Services are included in the budget based on the existing Alliant insurance policy premium (\$4,400) with an increase for inflation and \$300 for possible legal services as in previous years. If the premium increase exceeds this amount by more than 10% can be amended the budget will be amended.

\$9,000 has been budgeted for the Annual Dinner, \$2,000 for Conference and Meetings, and \$3,202 for authorized staff travel. Costs for staff attendance at both the League of California Cities annual conference in Long Beach in September 2025, and the SCAG annual conference and General Assembly in May 2026 have been included as both conferences are planned as live events.

Administrative Operating Costs

Expenses for office supplies, printing and copying, and Internet are based on current year's expenditures including the annual fee for the Quickbooks Program. The proposed budget for FY 2024-2025 continues to separate these expenses and maintains a similar, overall total amount with adjustments based on actual expenses in the previous year.

FY 2023-2024 Proposed Budget

The proposed Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget (**Exhibit A**) totals \$369,632 to continue operations and programming of VCOG. Member Agency Dues Assessments (**Exhibit B**) have been adjusted to reflect the proposed increase in accordance with Section 24 of the JPA Agreement.

Exhibit A

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Approved Budget</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Amended Budget</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Proposed</u>
Unrestricted Income			
Annual Dinner Sponsorships	9,000	9,000	9,000
Dues Assessments	64,992	64,992	77,990
Bank Interest (Estimate)	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
Sub Total Unrestricted Income	74,002	74,002	86,990
Restricted Income			
LATA Admin Costs	16,278	16,278	0
LATA Grant (Less admin Costs)	356,323	356,323	0
SCAG- REAP 1.0 Contract	0	0	0
SCAG- REAP 2.0 Contract	0	411,756	282,632
Sub Total Restricted Income	<u>372,611</u>	<u>784,367</u>	<u>282,642</u>
Supplemental Appropriation	0	10,000	0
Total Income	446,603	868,359	369,632
Unrestricted Expenses			
Contract Services			
Accounting Services	2,500	2,500	2,200
Audit	5,000	5,000	5,000
Executive Administration	45,000	45,000	60,000
Legal Fees	300	300	300
Executive Search	<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL Contract Services	52,800	62,800	67,500
Operations			
Printing and Copying	700	700	700
Supplies	500	500	500
Website & Programs	<u>1,400</u>	<u>1,400</u>	<u>1,400</u>
Total Operations	2,600	2,600	2,600
Travel and Meetings			
Annual Dinner	9,000	9,000	9,000
Conference and Meetings	2,000	2,000	2,000
Travel & Lodging	<u>3,202</u>	<u>3,202</u>	<u>1,500</u>
Total Travel and Meetings	<u>14,202</u>	<u>14,202</u>	<u>12,500</u>
Other Types of Expenses			
Insurance-Liability, D and O	<u>4,400</u>		
Total-Other Types of Expenses	<u>4,400</u>	<u>4,400</u>	<u>4,400</u>
TOTAL Operations Travel & Conference	59,800	69,800	87,000
Restricted Grant Expenses			
Digital Resources (Program)			
- Ookla Speed Test & DEA	4,180.00	4,180	0
EDC Personnel Costs			
- Contracts Admin (2%)	4,200.57	4,201	0
- Executive (9%)	26,387.18	26,387	0
- Finance (9%)	<u>17,420.38</u>	<u>17,420</u>	<u>0</u>
Total EDC Personnel	48,008.13	48,008	0

(Exhibit A Continued)

	Fiscal Year 2024/2025	Fiscal Year 2024/2025	Fiscal Year 2025-2026
<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Approved Budget</u>	<u>Amended Budget</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
EDC Subcontractors			
- BD Team Cont. Lead	50,512.50	50,513	0
- JPA Formation	142,000.00	142,000	0
- GIS Consultant	23,877.50	23,878	0
- Senior Broadband Conslt.	53,200.00	53,200	0
- Strategy Project Lead	<u>34,544.54</u>	<u>34,544</u>	<u>0</u>
Total EDC Subcontractors	<u>304,134.54</u>	<u>304,135</u>	<u>0</u>
Total LATA Project EDC Expense	356,322.67	356,323	0
LATA Admin Costs (VCOG)	<u>16,278.75</u>	<u>16,278</u>	<u>0</u>
Total LATA Grant Expenses	372,601.42	372,601	0
 REAP 1.0 Project Costs			
Project 1 – TASK B	0	0	0
Project 4-New Task A	0	0	0
TASK A (to OCCOG)	0	0	0
Project 5			
TASK A	0	0	0
TASK B	0	0	0
TASK C	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total REAP 1.0 Costs	0	0	0
 REAP 2.0 Project Costs			
Project 1-Technical Assistance			
TASK 1 -Program Administration	0	10,000	
TASK 2–Project Management	0	31,755	15,828
TASK 3 - ID-Technical Assistance	0	5,000	8,279
TASK 4 - Develop AFFH- TA	0	220,000	70,000
TASK 5 - Pro-housing Designation	0	100,000	70,000
TASK 6 – On Call Planning Assistance	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>115,000</u>
Total - PROJECT 1	0	366,756	282,632
Project 2 (OCOg)	<u>0</u>	<u>45,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Total REAP 2.0 Costs	0	411,756	282,632
 TOTAL Operations Travel & Conference	<u>59,800</u>	<u>69,800</u>	<u>87,000</u>
 Total Expenditures	446,603	868,359	369,632

EXHIBIT B
VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026
DUES ASSESSMENT BY MEMBER
20% Increase

VCOG Member Agency	Population 2020 Estimates*	Pop %**	3/4 Population Distribution* *	1/4 Equal Distribution* *	Total Assessment**
Camarillo	70,738	8.373%	4,897	1,773	\$6,670
Fillmore	16,423	1.944%	1,137	1,773	2,910
Moorpark	36,290	4.30%	2,512	1,773	4,285
Ojai	7,628	0.903%	528	1,773	2,301
Oxnard	202,071	23.18%	13,990	1,773	15,763
Port Hueneme	21,958	2.599%	1,520	1,773	3,293
San Buenaventura	110,738	13.10%	7,667	1,773	9,439
Santa Paula	30,674	3.631%	2,124	1,773	3,896
Simi Valley	126,367	14.95%	8,749	1,773	10,521
Thousand Oaks	126,967	15.02%	8,790	1,773	10,563
Ventura County - Unincorporated	95,001	11.24%	6,577	1,773	8,350
		100.00			
Total	844,855	%	\$58,493	\$19,498	\$77,990

* Based on the California Department of Finance population estimates (January 2020).

** May not total exactly due to rounding.



ITEM 8A.

MEETING SUMMARY

4101 Las Posas Rd, Camarillo, CA 93010

Thursday, March 13, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE** – The meeting was called to Order at 4:10 PM by Immediate Chair Enegren. The Flag Salute was led by Executive Director Hugh Riley.

2. ROLL CALL:

Chris Enegren, Chair, City of Moorpark
Elaine Litster, IP Chair, City of Simi Valley
David Tennesen, City of Camarillo
Bill McReynolds, City of San Buenaventura
Albert Mendez, Alternate, City of Fillmore
Leslie Cronejo, City of Santa Paula
David Newman, Alternate, City of Thousand Oaks
Bert Perello, City of Oxnard
Laura Hernandez, City of Port Hueneme

Absent: Janice Parvin, County of Ventura, District 4, Leslie Rule, City of Ojai

Staff Present:

Hugh Riley, Executive Director, VCOG

Partner Agency Representatives and Agency Support Staff:

Molika Oum, Pacific Coast Broadband Consortium Coordinator
Rachel Wagner, Regional Affairs Officer, Ventura County-SCAG
Michelle Guzman, Guzman, Legislative Analyst, County of Ventura

Guests:

David Pollock, CEO, Propulsive Executive Services, Inc.
Kristine McCaffrey, General Manager, Calleguas Municipal Water District
Ann De Martini, AWA President and Treasurer
Charlotte Lopez Holifield, MPP, Manager, External Affairs, Calleguas Municipal Water District

3. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda** - There were no additions or deletions to the meeting agenda and no Consent Calendar Items were pulled for discussion

4. **Public Comment:** There were no comments from the public submitted in advance. Aaron Starr, VCOG Alternate for the City of Ventura, requested that a balance sheet, monthly P&L and a list of major VCOG Donors be provided to members. Riley replied that a balance sheet and periodic P&L were always included in VCOG Council Agendas and distributed to both members and alternates. He advised that VCOG's income, other than from grants, was from member annual assessments and contributed by Annual Dinner Sponsors on a one-time yearly basis. He advised that donors for the current year included SCAG, Southern California Edison, Waste Management and Iteris, Inc. a REAP 1.0 consulting firm.

5. CONFIRMATION OF CHAIR APPOINTMENTS

Confirmed Chair Enegren's Appointments to the 2025 VCOG Administrative Committee and the VCOG Regional Broadband Initiative Standing Committee. Riley reported on Chair Enegren's committee appointments as follows:

VCOG Admin Committee: Carrie Broggie, Laura Hernandez as At-Large Members (Chair Enegren, Chair-elect Tennesen and IP Chair Litster appointed per bylaws.

VCOG Broadband Standing Committee: Leslie Rule, City of Ojai; Bob Engler, City of Thousand Oaks; Bert Perello, City of Oxnard; Leslie Cornejo, City of Santa Paula; and Janice Parvin, County Supervisor, District 4.

A **Motion** was made by Tennesen with a **Second** by Hernandez to confirm Chair Enegren's appointments to the VCOG Admin. Committee and VCOG VRBI Standing Committee for 2025. approve all items of the Consent Calendar. Roll Call Vote Recorded as follows: Ayes: 10; Nos: 0. The Motion Carried without opposition.

6. Executive Director's Report- Riley provided details from his Executive Director's Report that had been distributed to the members.

REAP 2.0 (January 2025 through June 2026)

Technical Assistance

The REAP 2.0 budget is \$367,000 of which \$280,000 will be used to retain design and technical assistance for the Ventura County jurisdictions that participate in either or both of two programs: 1) Tentative Pro-housing Scoring

2) development of a conceptual design and component program for a major commercial/underutilized infill area.

VCOG staff has retained bench consultants) The proposed contracts are presented for Council approval later on the 3/13/25 Agenda.

Review of Housing Elements

VCOG Staff has reviewed the 11 Housing Elements with 281 Programs, classified them, and ranked them by frequency and content. A Program Topology was created based on what reads as the main purpose of the program. Where a program had several components (AFFH in a class by itself!) it was classified into one of the broad categories such as "Code update/fees/processing" or "special populations." If a program was focused, it went into that category. Each city/county has a sheet showing their programs and the staff-assigned code. The assignment of a 'type code' could be different and the results here would differ. This effort was intended to roughly identify programs that are in almost every jurisdiction and, to no one's surprise, they are related to zoning code revisions, permit processing, fees, ADU's; and site inventory.

Broadband for All- LATA Grant –Update –Riley advised that Molika Oum, Pacific Coast Broadband Consortium Coordinator would provide a full update later in the meeting during her report.

SCAG Annual Conference and General Assembly- SCAG's Annual Conference and General Assembly is April 30 to May 2, 2025 at the JW Marriott Hotel in Palm Desert. VCOG Staff is planning to attend the conference. Conference Information was provided with the report.

SCAG Regional Council Representatives for District 45 and 47- Elections –

DISTRICT 45-Only one person (Laura Hernandez has declared their candidacy for the District 45 Seat on the SCAG Regional Council. Therefore no election for District 45 will be needed,. District 45 includes the Cities of Camarillo, Oxnard and Port Hueneme.

DISTRICT 47- There are two (2) candidates for the District 47 Representative Position so an election will be held. District 47 includes the Cities of Ventura, Ojai, Santa Paula and Fillmore. The candidates are the incumbent Jenny Crosswhite, Council Member from Santa Paula and Council Member Bill McReynolds from the City of Ventura. The candidate's declarations were attached. Only Mayors and Councilmembers in District 47 are eligible to vote in the election. For purposes of this election, a quorum consists of at least one (1) city council member present from (3) of the four (4) cities.

The election will be held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 via teleconferencing, where voting members can only participate at a posted location on the agenda. SCAG staff will work with city clerks to identify a meeting space at each city hall and to post the agenda. SCAG's Regional Office in Camarillo will also serve as a teleconferencing location for any members wishing to participate from this location. An agenda with teleconference locations will be shared in advance of the election.

VCOG Administrative Committee-The Committee will meet on March 20, 2025, via ZOOM Conference Call. The Committee will plan the May 15, 2025 VCOG Meeting Agenda and prepare a proposed VCOG Operating Budget for 2025-2026 for consideration at the May 15 VCOG Meeting. The Committee will review future VCOG Staffing and budget requirements including a recommendation to increase the VCOG Member Annual Assessments with member populations updated for the 2020 U.S. Census

Financial impact of the probable VCOG Annual Assessment Increase:

Member Agency	2020 Population	Current 2025 Assessment	Annual Assessment for 2025-2026 Proposed
Camarillo	70,738	5,558	6,670
Fillmore	16,423	2,425	2,910
Moorpark	36,290	3,571	4,285
Ojai	7,628	1,917	2,301
Oxnard	202,071	13,136	15,763
Port Hueneme	21,958	2,744	3,293
San Buenaventura	110,738	7,866	9,439
Santa Paula	30,674	3,247	3,896
Simi Valley	126,367	8,768	10,521
Thousand Oaks	126,967	8,802	10,563
Ventura County (Uninc.)	<u>95,001</u>	<u>6,958</u>	<u>8,350</u>
TOTAL	844,855	64,922	77,990

VCOG Annual Audit Completed – All work on the VCOG 2023-224 Audit and Financial Statements has been completed. The final report will be presented to the full Council at the May 15, 2025 Meeting.

Proposed VCOG Meeting Schedule for 2025 – The 2025 VCOG Meeting Schedule was attached to the report.

AGENCY REPORTS – Reports or Oral Presentations by Agency Representatives Attending

A. Broadband Team Update & Report on Ventura County Broadband Project – Molika Oum, Pacific Coast Broadband Consortium Coordinator provided her report. The LATA Grant team conducted a Stakeholder's Briefing on the VCOG Regional Broadband Initiative (VRBI) Strategy on February 27, 2027. A recording of the presentation along with a copy of the presentation deck are available and have been distributed to attendees and guests. Work Product deliverables for the LATA Grant are on budget and on schedule for completion by the May VCOG Council Meeting. They are as follows:

1. JPA Formation and Organization Building (Completed)
2. Regional Strategy (Target completion March 2025)
3. Last Mile Connections (Target completion April 2025)

Broadband Funding, Federal Funding Account (FFA) - On January 16, 2025, CPUC voted to approve Resolution T-17871 granting \$2,633,758 to Frontier for their Ventura 1 Project which proposes to deploy approximately 34 miles of last-mile fiber and 2 miles of middle mile fiber in incorporated areas connecting Ojai and Santa Paula along Highway 150. Per the resolution, the allocation for projects in Ventura County in Decision 22-04-055 is \$20,362,085, which leaves a remainder of \$17,728,327 in allocation. No additional timelines

To date, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has concluded its first round of FFA Awards totaling over \$1 billion in broadband grants for projects spanning 52 counties across California. An additional \$550 million is set to be allocated to the Last Mile program in the 2027–2028 state budget. The County of Ventura's FFA application was not included in Round 1 of award announcements and no additional timelines or directions have been communicated regarding the remaining county allocation.

Broadband Funding, Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)

The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program created by the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) in 2021 allocates \$42.45B of federal funding to all 50 states, Washington D.C., and territories, with California allocated \$1.86B of those funds. BEAD's goal is expanding high-speed internet access through infrastructure deployment prioritizing unserved and underserved locations along with community anchor institutions. The State has released its sub-grantee selection process timeline along with a final map of eligible locations. Member agencies are encouraged to review the program and solicit application support from the CPUC Broadband Caseworkers.

B. Southern California Association of Governments – Rachel Wagner, Regional Affairs Officer, Ventura County-SCAG gave her report. She referenced the Regional Council District elections for Districts 45 and 47 and provided additional details about the procedure and polling locations. She also made reference to the Annual Conference and General Assembly in Palm Desert on May 1-2. Each City in the County has a delegate to the General Assembly.

- C. Ventura County Transportation Commission – There was no representative from VCTC attending.
- D. League of California Cities- There was no representative from the League of Cities attending.
- E. County of Ventura -Legislative Analyst - Michelle Guzman, Guzman, Legislative Analyst, County of Ventura reported on current legislation that are County priorities. The County continues to actively advocate for the preservation of federal funding for key safety net programs, including Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), which are currently under negotiation in Congress. These programs serve approximately one in four County residents, and any disruption or reduction in funding would have significant operational and community-wide impacts.
- At the state level, the County has taken a support position on AB 367 (Assembly Member Bennett), which would require water districts to maintain backup generators and adopt additional preparedness measures to ensure continuity of service during power outages and other emergencies. In addition, the County is sponsoring SB 559 (Senator Stern), which aims to improve communication and transparency from investor-owned utilities (IOUs) during Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. This measure is designed to address persistent concerns regarding the lack of timely and clear information during deenergization events. Assemblymember Irwin has also submitted a letter to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), urging similar reforms from Southern California Edison—aligning closely with the objectives of SB 559.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. **Summary of January 9, 2025 Meeting** - Approve Meeting Summary for the January 9, 2025 VCOG Meeting. **Action:** Approve Meeting Summary.
- B. **Financial Report** - Approve Ventura Council of Governments Financial Report for the Budget Period from January 3, 2025 to March 7, 2025. **Action:** Approve Financial Report
- C. **Register of Warrants & Debit Card Transactions** - Approve the Register of Warrants for Expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from January 3, 2025 to March 7, 2025. **Action:** Approve Register of Warrants and Debit Card Transactions.
- D. **Approve Consultant Contracts for REAP 2.0 Consultant's Bench**- **Action:** Approve and authorize Executive Director to sign consulting agreements with four engineering and planning consulting firms that then become the REAP 2.0 Consultant Bench: Placeworks, Inc. (Contract 25-01), MNS Engineers, Inc. (Contract 25-02), Jensen Design and Survey, Inc. (Contract 25-03), and Rincon Consultants, Inc, (Contract 25-04). The contracts are large documents and have been sent as a separate zip-file attachment.

A **Motion** was made by Enegren with a **Second** by Tennessen to approve items A thru D of the Consent Calendar. Roll Call Vote Recorded as follows: Ayes: 9; Nos: 0. The Motion Carried

10. Presentation Items

- A. **Presentation by Kristine McCaffrey, General Manager, Calleguas Municipal Water District & Ann De Martini, AWA President and Treasurer** – p. 40 - Report on the water supply situation in Ventura County- Present and Future- and reflections on the recent wild fires in Los Angeles and Ventura County and the Impact of AB 367 (Bennett). – Ms. McCaffery presented Essentials of Ventura County Water and Calleguas MWD and Small System Coordination with a series of slides including the background and history of the Agency.

She outlined details of the agency's water storage and distribution facilities and described their sources of water and localities in Ventura County served by Calleguas MWD. Ms. De Martini presented background and organization details about the Association of Water Agencies (AWA) particularly the smaller districts and their service areas.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS- None.

12. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by Chair Enegren at 4:15 PM.

Next Meeting- May 15, 2025 at the Camarillo City Library



ITEM 8B.

MEMORANDUM

TO: VCOG Members and Alternates

FROM: David Pollock, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Financial Report

DATE: May 15, 2025

Recommendation:

Receive and file Financial Report for Period May 15. 2025

Discussion:

This report transmits the Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) Financial reports for the Budget Period from March 7. 2025 to May 9, 2025

Investments:

The objectives of VCOG's adopted Investment Policy are safety, liquidity, and yield, with the foremost objective being safety. Prudence, ethics, and delegation of authority are the Policy's applied standards of care. Below is a summary of VCOG's investments that comply with the VCOG Investment Policy:

Institution	Investment Type	Maturity Date	Interest-FY to Date- 7/1/24 to 1-3-25	Rate	Balance
Bank of A	Maximizer 2635	N/A	\$18.74	0.03%*	\$62,743.27

* Variable

VCOG has received payment for REAP 2.0 Reimbursement Invoice No. 1 from SCAG in the amount of \$20,621.38. This payment includes expenses through April 1, 2025

The 2023 – 2024 VCOG Annual Audit has been completed and those Financial Statements are presented for Council Approval in Consent Item 8D on this meeting's agenda.

ATTACHMENTS: Balance Sheet – As of May 9, 2025
Budget vs. Actual Report - March 7, 2025 to May 9, 2025

Balance Sheet
Ventura Council of Governments
As of May 9, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
BofA - 9045	74,418.69
BofA MM - 2635	62,743.27
Total for Bank Accounts	\$137,161.96
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
Total for Accounts Receivable	0
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	
Total for Other Current Assets	0
Total for Current Assets	\$137,161.96
Fixed Assets	
Other Assets	
Fraud	
Total for Other Assets	0
Total for Assets	\$137,161.96
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	
Total for Accounts Payable	0
Credit Cards	
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	
Total for Other Current Liabilities	0
Total for Current Liabilities	0
Long-term Liabilities	
Unearned Income	
Total for Long-term Liabilities	0
Total for Liabilities	0
Equity	
Year End Close Out Account	26,158.51
Net Income	-287.59
Opening Balance Equity	111,291.04
Total for Equity	\$137,161.96
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$137,161.96

Ventura Council of Governments
Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY25_P&L - FY25 P&L
July 2024 - June 2025

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
Investments				
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	20.86	10.00	10.86	208.60 %
Total Investments	20.86	10.00	10.86	208.60 %
Other Types of Income				
LATA Grant Income		356,323.00	-356,323.00	
Total Other Types of Income		356,323.00	-356,323.00	
Restricted Income				
LATA Admin Costs		16,278.00	-16,278.00	
SCAG - REAP 2.0 Contract Income		411,756.00	-411,756.00	
Total Restricted Income		428,034.00	-428,034.00	
SCAG - REAP 1.0 Contract Income	20,621.38		20,621.38	
Unrestricted Income				
Annual Dinner Sponsorship	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	100.00 %
Dues Assessments	64,992.00	64,992.00	0.00	100.00 %
Total Unrestricted Income	73,992.00	73,992.00	0.00	100.00 %
Total Income	\$94,634.24	\$858,359.00	\$ -763,724.76	11.03 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$94,634.24	\$858,359.00	\$ -763,724.76	11.03 %
Expenses				
Contract Services				
Executive Search	7,763.54	10,000.00	-2,236.46	77.64 %
Total Contract Services	7,763.54	10,000.00	-2,236.46	77.64 %
Other Types of Expenses				
LATA Grant Expenses	312.50		312.50	
Digital Resources (Program)				
Ookla Speed Test Platform		4,180.00	-4,180.00	
Total Digital Resources (Program)		4,180.00	-4,180.00	
EDC Personnel Costs				
Contracts Admin (2%)		4,201.00	-4,201.00	
Executive (9%)		26,387.00	-26,387.00	
Finance (9%)		17,420.00	-17,420.00	
Total EDC Personnel Costs		48,008.00	-48,008.00	
EDC Subcontractors				
Broadband Team Cons. Lead		50,513.00	-50,513.00	
GIS Consultant		23,878.00	-23,878.00	
JPA Formation		142,000.00	-142,000.00	
Senior Broadband Consultant		53,200.00	-53,200.00	
Strategy Project Lead		34,544.00	-34,544.00	
Total EDC Subcontractors		304,135.00	-304,135.00	
VCOG LATA Admin Costs	3,968.75	16,278.00	-12,309.25	24.38 %
Total LATA Grant Expenses	4,281.25	372,601.00	-368,319.75	1.15 %

Accrual Basis Friday, May 9, 2025 02:08 PM GMT-07:00

1/2

Ventura Council of Governments
Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY25_P&L - FY25 P&L
July 2024 - June 2025


	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Total Other Types of Expenses	4,281.25	372,601.00	-368,319.75	1.15 %
REAP 1.0 Project Costs				
Other Business Expenses	104.92		104.92	
Total REAP 1.0 Project Costs	104.92		104.92	
REAP 2.0 Project Costs	4,586.63		4,586.63	
Project 1	187.50		187.50	
Project 1 - Technical Assistance				
TASK 1 - Program Administration	3,523.38	10,000.00	-6,476.62	35.23 %
TASK 2 - Project Management	13,448.00	31,756.00	-18,308.00	42.35 %
TASK 3 - ID-Technical Assistance	3,462.50	5,000.00	-1,537.50	69.25 %
TASK 4 - Develop AFFH-TA		220,000.00	-220,000.00	
TASK 5 - Pro-housing Designation		100,000.00	-100,000.00	
Total Project 1 - Technical Assistance	20,433.88	366,756.00	-346,322.12	5.57 %
Project 2 (OCOG)		45,000.00	-45,000.00	
Total REAP 2.0 Project Costs	25,208.01	411,756.00	-386,547.99	6.12 %
Unrestricted Expenses				
Accounting Fees	2,100.00	2,500.00	-400.00	84.00 %
Annual Dinner	9,087.53	9,000.00	87.53	100.97 %
Audit		5,000.00	-5,000.00	
Conference and Meetings	1,370.44	2,000.00	-629.56	68.52 %
Executive Administration	39,124.80	45,000.00	-5,875.20	86.94 %
Insurance - Liability, D and O	3,563.82	4,400.00	-836.18	81.00 %
Legal Fees		300.00	-300.00	
Printing and Copying	492.42	700.00	-207.58	70.35 %
Supplies	16.96	500.00	-483.04	3.39 %
Travel	694.14	3,202.00	-2,507.86	21.68 %
Website	1,114.00	1,400.00	-286.00	79.57 %
Total Unrestricted Expenses	57,564.11	74,002.00	-16,437.89	77.79 %
Total Expenses	\$94,921.83	\$868,359.00	\$ -773,437.17	10.93 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -287.59	\$ -10,000.00	\$9,712.41	2.88 %
Other Income				
Transfer From Reserve Account		10,000.00	-10,000.00	
Total Other Income	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$ -10,000.00	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$ -10,000.00	0.00 %
NET INCOME	\$ -287.59	\$0.00	\$ -287.59	0.00%



**VENTURA COUNCIL
OF GOVERNMENTS**

ITEM 8C.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates
FROM: David Pollock, Executive Director 
SUBJECT: Register of Warrants and Debit Card Transactions
DATE: May 15, 2024

Recommendation:

Approve the Register of Warrants for expenditures and Debit Card Transactions incurred from March 5, 2025 to May 9, 2025.

Discussion:

This report presents expenditures including bank debit card transactions incurred by the Ventura Council of Governments for the period from March 7, 2025 to May 9, 2025. It is prepared in addition to the Financial Report so that the Council may be fully informed as to the actual expenditure of funds for services and other costs to the organization.

ATTACHMENTS: Warrant and Debit Card Registers

Register of Warrants
Ventura Council of Governments
May 15, 2025
Transactions from March 7, 2025 to May 9, 2025

<u>Check/Transaction#</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Paid To</u>	<u>Inv. Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
757	04/01/25	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	04/01/25	VCOG- Contract Exec. Director	\$4,656.25
758	04/01/25	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	04/01/25	VCOG LATA Grant Admin.	\$312.50
759	04/01/25	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	04/01/25	VCOG REAP 2.0 Grant Admin.	\$187.50
760	03/02/25	Dr. Chris Williamson	04/02/25	VCOG REAP 2.0 Task 2.1	\$3,310.88
761	04/03/25	Caroline Carter	04/03/25	Bookkeeping Services - March	\$487.50
762	04/07/25	V/C/ Digital	04/07/25	Printing and Copying- March	\$102.74
B15IEAKMZC2DR1I	05/07/25	Hugh Riley, Pro. Management, LLC	05/01/25	VCOG Management Services	\$3,194.14
B15QXGSGZQ2DW5R	05/07/25	Dr. Chris Williamson	05/01/25	VCOG REAP 2.0	\$4,586.63
B15WNZYNME2DW5S	05/07/25	Caroline Carter	05/01/25	Bookkeeping Services - April	\$75.00

Register of Debit Card Transactions
Ventura Council of Governments
March 13, 2025

Transactions from March 7, 2025 TO May 9, 2025


<u>Card #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Paid To</u>	<u>Inv. Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>
2950	03/18/25	Namify	03/18/25	Name Badge- David Pollock	\$ 16.96
4579	04/11/25	Microsoft	04/11/25	Microsoft 365 Business Basic	\$ 144.00



Item 8D.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members and Alternates

FROM: David Pollock, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: VCOG Audited Financial Statements- 2023-2024

DATE: May 15, 2024

Recommendation:

Receive and file Ventura Council of Governments, Audited Financial Statements for Period July 1, 2032 to June 30, 2024.

Discussion:

This report transmits the Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) Audited Financial Statement for the period ending June 30, 2023

The VCOG Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Audited Financial Statements are presented in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP) and audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by independent certified public accountants.

Management assumes full responsibility for the completeness and reliability of all of the information presented in this report, based upon a framework of internal controls established for this purpose. Because the cost of internal control should not exceed anticipated benefits, the objective is to provide reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of any material misstatements.

There were no irregularities noted and no corrective actions recommended by the auditor. The Ventura Council of Governments ended Fiscal Year 2023/2024 with an unrestricted ending fund balance of \$ 137,449.

The VCOG 2023-2024 Audited Financial Statements and supporting documents will be submitted to the Ventura County Auditor-Controller and to SCAG and will be posted on VCOG's Website - www.venturacog.org.

Attachments:

1. Basic Financial Statements with Independent Auditors' Report including the Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and Compliance

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2024

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TABLE OF CONTENTS
June 30, 2024

FINANCIAL SECTION

Independent Auditors' Report 1

Management’s Discussion and Analysis..... 3

Basic Financial Statements:

 Government-wide Financial Statements:

 Statement of Net Position 7

 Statement of Activities 8

 Fund Financial Statements:

 Balance Sheet – Governmental Fund 9

 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance -
 Governmental Fund 10

Notes to Basic Financial Statements 11

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTION

Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance -
 Budget and Actual – General Fund 19

FINANCIAL SECTION



Moss, Levy & Hartzheim LLP

Certified Public Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Board of Directors
Ventura Council of Governments
Moorpark, California

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of Ventura Council of Governments (the Council) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of Ventura Council of Governments (the Council) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Ventura Council of Governments and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Ventura Council of Governments' ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Ventura Council of Governments' internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Ventura Council of Governments' ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis and the budgetary information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Ventura Council of Governments' 2023 financial statements, and our report dated June 3, 2024, expressed an unmodified opinion on those audited financial statements. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 11, 2025, on our consideration of the Ventura Council of Governments' internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Council's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Moss, Remy & Hargheim LLP

Santa Maria, California
March 11, 2025

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Ventura Council of Governments (Council), we offer readers of VCOG's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of VCOG's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to VCOG's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains required supplementary information.

Government-wide Financial Statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of VCOG's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all of VCOG's assets and liabilities, with the difference between assets and liabilities reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indication on whether the financial position of VCOG is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how VCOG's net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this same statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods. The government-wide financial statements may be found on pages 7 & 8.

Fund Financial Statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. VCOG, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. Governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements. VCOG consists of a single governmental fund. The fund financial statements may be found on pages 9 and 10.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Analysis. The total net position of VCOG was \$137,449 at June 30, 2024 (as noted in Table 1 below). In comparison, the total net position of VCOG at June 30, 2023 was \$123,846. VCOG's net position at June 30, 2023 was unrestricted, meaning there are no external restrictions placed on the future use of the organization's net position.

**Ventura Council of Governments
Net Position at June 30, 2024
Table 1**

	Governmental Activities		Percentage
	2024	2023	Change
Assets			
Current assets	\$ 137,449	\$ 133,448	3.0%
Liabilities			
Current liabilities		9,602	-100%
Net Position			
Unrestricted	137,449	123,846	11.0%
Total net position	\$ 137,449	\$ 123,846	11.0%

The total net position for VCOG increased by \$13,603, or 11.0%, during fiscal year 2023-2024. This means the expenses exceeded revenues, on a full accrual basis by \$13,603 for the year. Revenues increased by 103.0% and expenses increased by 100.3% in the fiscal year 2023-24. These were due to the receipt of the REAP 1.0 Grant from the Southern California Association of Governments, a Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Grant for a Broadband for All Project from the California Public Utilities Commission and because VCOG obtained \$9,000 in sponsors for the Annual Dinner.

**Ventura Council of Governments
Change in Net Position
for the fiscal Ended June 30, 2024**

Table 2

	Governmental Activities		Percentage Change
	2024	2023	
Revenues			
Program revenues			
Dues assessment	\$ 64,992	\$ 64,992	0.0%
Operating grants and contributions	304,457	116,950	160.3%
General revenues			
Investment income	25	25	0.00%
Total revenues	369,474	181,967	103.0%
Expenses			
General government	355,871	177,636	100.3%
Change in net position	13,603	4,331	214.1%
Net position - beginning of year	123,846	119,515	3.6%
Net position - end of year	\$ 137,449	\$123,846	11.0%

Financial Analysis of the General Operating Fund

VCOG maintains a single government fund called the General Fund. As of June 30, 2024, total revenues, assets, liabilities, and expenditures of the General Fund are the same as total assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses as shown on the government-wide financial statements.

VCOG's revenues for fiscal year 2023-2024 came from membership dues, grant income (REAP Project and LATA Grant (CPUC)), and investment income. There were no changes in the dues structure from fiscal year 2022-23 to fiscal year 2023-24.

General Operating Fund Budgetary Highlights

The VCOG Council adopted a formal budget for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 on May 11, 2023.

Regional Early Action Program (REAP) 1.0 Grant

The remaining Grant Income of \$118,259 was received from The Regional Early Action Program (REAP), a sub-regional partnership with the Southern California Association of Governments designed to stimulate the production of new, affordable housing units in Ventura County. The REAP Grant awarded in September 2020 totaled \$432,000 for a two-year program which was extended through May 31, 2024.

VCOG Regional Broadband Initiative

On November 8, 2023, VCOG approved a Memorandum of Agreement with the Economic Development Collaborative of Ventura County (EDCVC) and the Pacific Coast Broadband Consortium to obtain a LATA Grant of \$490,860 to develop a VCOG Regional Broadband Initiative (VRBI). The objective of the initiative was to examine the benefit of a broadband joint power of authority (JPA) between VCOG members, create a strategic broadband plan focused on regional collaboration, and develop a last-mile connections pilot project to develop a process by which communities reach full digital adoption. These three work projects developed in parallel with one another to become the Ventura County Regional Broadband Initiative.

Contacting VCOG Management

Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to the VCOG Executive Director, 1777 Los Angeles Ave., Suite 105, Simi Valley, CA 93065.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

June 30, 2024 (With Comparative Totals for June 30, 2023)

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Cash and investments	\$ 68,249	\$ 125,779
Accounts receivable	69,200	7,669
Total assets	<u>\$ 137,449</u>	<u>\$ 133,448</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 6,602
Unearned income	-	3,000
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>9,602</u>
NET POSITION		
Unrestricted	<u>137,449</u>	<u>123,846</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 137,449</u>	<u>\$ 123,846</u>

The notes to basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 (With Comparative Totals for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023)

		Program Revenues	Governmental Activities	
			2024	2023
	Expenses	Operating Contributions and Grants	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 355,871	\$ 304,457	\$ (51,414)	\$ (60,686)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 355,871</u>	<u>\$ 304,457</u>	<u>\$ (51,414)</u>	<u>(60,686)</u>
General Revenues:				
Dues assessments			64,992	64,992
Use of money and property			<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>
Total general revenues			<u>65,017</u>	<u>65,017</u>
Change in net position			13,603	4,331
Net position, beginning of fiscal year			<u>123,846</u>	<u>119,515</u>
Net position, end of fiscal year			<u>\$ 137,449</u>	<u>\$ 123,846</u>

The notes to basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**GOVERNMENTAL FUND****BALANCE SHEET**

June 30, 2024 (With Comparative Totals for June 30, 2023)

	General Fund	
	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Cash and investments	\$ 68,249	\$ 125,779
Accounts receivable	69,200	7,669
Total assets	<u>\$ 137,449</u>	<u>\$ 133,448</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 6,602
Unearned income	-	3,000
Total liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>9,602</u>
Fund Balance:		
Committed		
Unassigned	137,449	123,846
Total fund balance	<u>137,449</u>	<u>123,846</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 137,449</u>	<u>\$ 133,448</u>

The notes to basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -****GOVERNMENTAL FUND**

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 (With Comparative Totals for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023)

	General Fund	
	2024	2023
Revenues:		
Dues assessments	\$ 64,992	\$ 64,992
Operating grants and contributions	304,457	116,950
Investment income	25	25
Total revenues	369,474	181,987
Expenditures:		
Professional services	52,583	48,571
Operations	1,582	1,845
Travel and meetings	8,695	9,114
REAP project costs	169,835	115,063
LATA project costs	119,759	-
Other	3,417	3,043
Total expenditures	355,871	177,636
Net change in fund balance	13,603	4,331
Fund balance at the beginning of the year:	123,846	119,515
Fund balance at the end of the year:	\$ 137,449	\$ 123,846

The notes to basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Organization

The Ventura Council of Governments (Council) was established by a voluntary joint powers agreement on December 1, 1992 representing the 10 cities within Ventura County as well as the County. This Joint Powers Agency was established under Organization of Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 5 of the California Government Code Section 6503.5. The purpose of the Council is to facilitate cooperative sub-regional and regional planning, coordination, and technical assistance on issues of mutual concern.

There are many other governmental agencies, including the County of Ventura and the Ventura County Transportation Commission, providing services within the area served by the Council. These other governmental agencies have independently elected governing boards and consequently are not under the direction of the Council. Financial information for these agencies is not included in the accompanying financial statements.

The Council complies with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board pronouncements. These technical pronouncements establish criteria for determining the Council's activities and functions that are included in the financial statements of a governmental unit. The general ledger and budgetary projections are maintained by the Council.

B. Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Ventura Council of Governments. There are no component units included in this report which meet the criteria of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended by GASB Statements No. 39, No. 61, No. 80, and No. 90.

C. Government-wide and fund financial statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the Council. *Governmental activities* are normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Program revenues* include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

D. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide financial statements:

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. This approach differs from the manner in which governmental fund financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements, therefore, include reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide financial statements and the statements for the governmental funds.

The government-wide financial statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the Council's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. The Council does not allocate indirect expenses to functions in the statement of activities. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by a program, as well as grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the Council, with certain exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Council.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Basis of Presentation (Continued)

Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in the government-wide financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Fund financial statements:

Fund financial statements report detailed information about the Council. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. The accounting and financial treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances for these funds present increases, (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

E. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Revenues – exchange and non-exchange transactions:

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded under the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. “Available” means the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the Council, “available” means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after fiscal year-end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Council receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes and grants. Under the accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are to be used or the fiscal year when is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the Council must provide local resources to be used for a specific purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Council on a reimbursement basis. Under the modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Expenses/expenditures:

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time a liability is incurred. On the modified accrual basis of accounting, expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, as under the accrual basis of accounting. However, under the modified accrual basis of accounting, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in the governmental funds.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Council’s policy to use restricted resources first then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Council are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. The Council's resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The Council's accounts are organized into one major fund, as follows:

The *General Fund* is the general operating fund of the Council. It is used to account for all financial resources of the general government.

G. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

In accordance with the California Government Code and other statutory provisions, on or before June 30 for each fiscal year, the Council must prepare and submit a budget to the County Auditor. The annual budget is adopted for the general fund. The Council budget is prepared on a modified accrual basis of accounting consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Annually, the Board of Directors conducts a public hearing for the discussion of a proposed budget. At the conclusion of the hearings, the Board adopts the final fiscal budget. The legal level of budgetary control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriation) is maintained at the object level. Any changes in the annual budget must be within the revenues and reserves estimated by the Council or the revenue estimates must be changed by a vote of the Board.

H. Cash and Investments

The Council maintains cash and cash equivalents in accordance with its investment policy. The investment policy complies with, or is more restrictive than, applicable state statutes. The cash of the Council is deposited in a non-interest bearing checking account and an interest-bearing bank account.

I. Receivables

Receivables are recorded in the Council's Statement of Net Position and in the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet net of any allowance for uncollectible. All receivables are deemed to be collectible at June 30, 2024, and, as such, the Council has no allowance for uncollectible accounts for these receivables.

J. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2024 are recorded as prepaid items.

K. Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue is money received by an individual or company for a service or product that has yet to be provided or delivered.

L. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, as prescribed by the GASB and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

M. Fund Balances

Fund balances of the governmental funds are classified as follows:

Nonspendable Fund Balance – represents amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form (such as inventory or prepaid expenditures) or legally required to remain intact (such as notes receivable or principal of a permanent fund).

Restricted Fund Balance – represents amounts that are constrained by external parties, constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed Fund Balance – represents amounts that can only be used for a specific purpose because of a formal action by the Council's governing board. Committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the governing board removes those constraints by taking the same type of formal action. Committed fund balance amounts may be used for other purposes with appropriate due process by the governing board. Commitments are typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. Committed fund balance amounts differ from restricted balances in that the constraints on their use do not come from outside parties, constitutional provisions, or enabling legislation.

Assigned Fund Balance – represents amounts which the Council intends to use for a specific purpose, but that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. Intent may be stipulated by the governing board or by an official or body to which the governing board delegates the authority. Specific amounts that are not restricted or committed in a special revenue, capital projects, debt service or permanent fund are assigned for purposes in accordance with the nature of their fund type or the fund's primary purpose. Assignments within the general fund conveys that the intended use of those amounts is for a specific purpose that is narrower than the general purpose of the Council.

Unassigned Fund Balance – represents amounts which are unconstrained in that they may be spent for any purpose. Only the general fund reports a positive unassigned fund balance. Other governmental funds might report a negative balance in this classification because of overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed or assigned.

When an expenditure is incurred for a purpose for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the Council considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the Council considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds.

N. Net Position

GASB Statement No. 63 requires that the difference between assets added to the deferred outflows of resources and liabilities added to the deferred inflows of resources be reported as net position. Net position is classified as either net investment in capital assets, restricted, or unrestricted.

Net position that is net investment in capital assets consist of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by the outstanding principal of related debt. Restricted net position is the portion of net position that has external constraints placed on it by creditors, grantors, contributors, laws, or regulations of other governments, or through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Unrestricted net position consists of net position that does not meet the definition of net investment in capital assets or restricted net position.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

O. Future Accounting Pronouncements

GASB Statements listed below will be implemented in future financial statements:

Statement No. 102	"Certain Risk Disclosures"	The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2024, and all reporting periods thereafter.
Statement No. 103	"Financial Reporting Model Improvements"	The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025, and all reporting periods thereafter.
Statement No. 104	"Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets"	The requirements of this Statement are effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2025, and all reporting periods thereafter.

NOTE 2 - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

On June 30, 2024, the Council had the following cash on hand:

Cash held by banks	<u>\$ 68,249</u>
Total cash	<u>\$ 68,249</u>

Cash is presented on the accompanying basic financial statements, as follows:

Cash, statement of net position	<u>\$ 68,249</u>
Total cash	<u>\$ 68,249</u>

The Council categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The Council does not have any investments valued under levels 1, 2, or 3 as of June 30, 2024.

Investments Authorized by the Council's Investment Policy

The table on the following page identifies the investment types that are authorized for the Council by the California Government Code. The table also identifies certain provisions of the California Government Code that address interest rate risk, credit risk, and concentration of credit risk.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2024

NOTE 2 - CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Investments Authorized by the Council's Investment Policy (Continued)

<u>Authorized Investment Type</u>	<u>Maximum Maturity</u>	<u>Maximum Percentage Of Portfolio</u>	<u>Maximum Investment in One Issuer</u>
Local Agency Bonds	5 years	None	None
U.S. Treasury Obligations	5 years	None	None
U.S. Agency Securities	5 years	None	None
Bankers' Acceptances	180 days	40%	30%
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	None	None
County Pooled Investment Fund	N/A	None	None
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	N/A	None	\$75,000,000

Concentration of Credit Risk

The investment policy of the Council contains no limitations on the amount that can be invested in any one issuer beyond that stipulated by the California Government Code. There are no investments (other than external investment pools) in any one issuer that represent 5% or more of total Council investments.

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for *deposits* is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker-dealer) to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. The California Government Code and the Council's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for deposits or investments, other than the following provision for deposits: The California Government Code requires that a financial institution secure deposits made by state or local governmental units by pledging securities in an undivided collateral pool held by a depository regulated under State law (unless so waived by the governmental unit). The fair value of the pledged securities in the collateral pool must equal at least 100% of the total amount deposited by the public agencies. California law also allows financial institutions to secure the Council's deposits by pledging first trust deed mortgage notes having a value of 150% of the secured public deposits.

As of June 30, 2024, none of the Council's deposits with financial institutions in excess of federal depository insurance limits were held in collateralized accounts.

The custodial credit risk for *investments* is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker-dealer) to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. The California Government Code does not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for investments. With respect to investments, custodial credit risk generally applies only to direct investments in marketable securities. Custodial credit risk does not apply to a local government's indirect investment in securities through the use of mutual funds or government investment pools.

NOTE 3 – COMMITMENTS, CONTINGENCIES, AND RELATED PARTY

Litigation

According to the Council's management and attorney, no contingent liabilities or lawsuits are pending of any financial consequence as of June 30, 2024.

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2024

NOTE 3 – COMMITMENTS, CONTINGENCIES, AND RELATED PARTY (Continued)

State and Local Allowances, Awards, and Grants

The Council occasionally receives grant monies as reimbursements for specific costs incurred in certain projects it administers that may be subject to review and audit by the reimbursing agencies. Although such audits could generate expenditure disallowances under the terms of the grants, it is believed that any required reimbursements will not be material. REAP funding of \$177,198 was received or accrued and \$169,835 was spent in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. LATA funding of \$118,259 was received or accrued and \$119,759 was spent in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Related Party

The Council has no employees. The Council contracts with its current Executive Director. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Council paid a total of \$65,286 for Executive Director support services to perform management and administrative services including \$19,598 related to REAP and LATA Project Oversight. The expenditures for the Council are included in professional services in the fund financial statements. All transactions relating to the General Manager services are reviewed and approved for payment by the Board of Directors.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SECTION

VENTURA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**GENERAL FUND****SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -****BUDGET AND ACTUAL**

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024


	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Dues assessments	\$ 64,992	\$ 64,992	\$ 64,992	\$ -
Operating grants and contributions	114,000	1,135,936	304,457	(831,479)
Investment income	10	10	25	15
Total revenues	179,002	1,200,938	369,474	(831,464)
Expenditures:				
Professional services	52,800	52,800	52,583	217
Operations	2,500	2,500	1,582	918
Travel and meetings	15,000	15,000	8,695	6,305
REAP project costs	105,000	636,076	169,835	466,241
LATA project costs	-	490,860	119,759	371,101
Other	3,702	3,702	3,417	285
Total expenditures	179,002	1,200,938	355,871	845,067
Net change in fund balance	-	-	13,603	13,603
Fund balance at the beginning of the year	123,846	123,846	123,846	
Fund balance at the end of the year	<u>\$ 123,846</u>	<u>\$ 123,846</u>	<u>\$ 137,449</u>	<u>\$ 13,603</u>



ITEM 8E.

MEMORANDUM

TO: VCOG Members and Alternates

FROM: David Pollock, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Approval of Final VCOG Regional Broadband Initiative (VRBI)

DATE: May 15, 2025

Recommendation:

Approve of LATA Grant Work Products as prepared by Economic Development Collaborative with the Broadband Consortium Pacific Coast and VCOG Staff

Discussion:

On July 6, 2023, the Ventura Council of Governments (VCOG) was awarded \$490,860 from the California Public Utilities Commission's Local Agency Technical Assistance Grant application funding to create a broadband joint power of authority (JPA) between VCOG members, design a Regional Strategy, and create pilot projects to support Last Mile Connections. Three main work products were approved for this project designed to ensure all broadband plans within Ventura County are both scalable and sustainable, serving all communities across Ventura County. The period of performance concludes May 31, 2025.

Work Product 1: JPA Formation and Organization Building

To achieve and maintain a high level of communication and engagement with each of the VCOG Member Agencies, on July 13, 2024, an Ad Hoc Committee of the VCOG Council was appointed to assist the Broadband Team. With concurrence of the Council, Chair Johnson appointed VCOG Member Leslie Rule from the City of Ojai and Member Elaine Litster of the City of Simi Valley to serve with Chair Johnson. The Ad Hoc Committee has been working with selected members of the Broadband Working Group Staff to plan the possible formation of a VCOG Broadband JPA.

At its third and final meeting, the Ad Hoc Committee decided to recommend an amendment to the 2021 VCOG Strategic Plan as an alternative to forming a new Broadband JPA. The Amendment to the Strategic Plan will incorporate the definition and development of a VCOG coordination role for regional broadband deployment, adoption, and the flow of appropriate information.

On January 9th, VCOG Council voted to approve the VCOG Strategic Plan amendment incorporating “Broadband for All” language under potential issues to address and the appointment of a VCOG Broadband Standing Committee consisting of representation from the City of Ojai, City of Oxnard, City of Thousand Oaks, City of Santa Paula and County Supervisor District 4. The role of the Standing Committee and VCOG’s integration of Broadband for All into the Strategic Plan is to promote regional alignment around broadband infrastructure and adoption efforts.

Deliverable: Amended VCOG Strategic Plan and approved Organizational Framework

Work Product 2: Regional Strategy

The Regional Strategy is envisioned as a foundational working document for VCOG and the region to continue the work of Regional Broadband coordination. The strategy includes an assessment of the current state of broadband in the region, discussion of opportunities to work towards the goal of Broadband for All, and identification of strategic priorities and actions. Consisting of two parts, Part 1 represents the county as a whole and Part 2 represents each individual municipality. The full report has been distributed to council and will be uploaded to the organization’s Google Drive.

Deliverable: VRBI Report

Work Product 3: Last Mile Connections

The Last Mile Connections report includes the development of a framework from which local governments, service providers, and digital equity practitioners engage to prioritize deployment and accelerate adoption in alignment with VRBI Opportunity Zones. Included in the work product is a phased work plan from which VCOG and the Broadband Standing Committee may draw to continue efforts beyond the LATA Grant. The full report will be uploaded to the organization’s Google Drive.

Deliverable: Last Mile Connections Report

Final grant reporting and final reimbursement requests will be completed and submitted by EDC / BCPC in accordance with the grant’s period of performance.