

# Bay Watch

## Summer 2020

A quarterly bulletin to inform local leaders of subregional progress and alert them to emerging issues

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## SOUTH BAY RESTAURANTS TAKE TO THE STREETS FOR AL FRESCO DINING

After more than two months of shut-down, in late May, Los Angeles County restaurants were allowed to re-open with limited seating capacity. However, due to a spike in Covid-19 cases after Memorial Day, restaurants were ordered to close again in early July unless their dining areas were located outdoors.

The Los Angeles County Public Health Department protocols applicable to outdoor dining are extensive, covering policies or measures regarding employee health, physical distancing, infection control, communication, and access to critical services.

Cities have rallied to assist local restaurants by adopting programs that allow dining to move out of the building to the outdoors on a temporary basis. The new outdoor dining areas can be found on private property, in parking lots and within public street areas including sidewalks and curb-side parking spaces or “parklets”.

In addition to health protocols, restaurants must also meet all applicable city and state requirements. These include conditions imposed by the California State Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC)

if serving alcohol and ADA disabled access requirements. City requirements can vary but commonly include: limits for operating hours, prohibition of entertainment, minimum pedestrian clearances, daily cleaning of street or sidewalk areas, and provision of insurance covering City liability. Restaurants are encouraged to continue to offer take-out and delivery service.



Catalina Avenue parklet, Redondo Beach

The majority of South Bay cities have established special permits to accommodate their local restaurants and many have also expanded outdoor use to other types of businesses such as retail and personal care services. These public-private partnerships have implemented creative and innovative solutions

to the unprecedented challenges of Covid-19.

The new outdoor uses have added a sense of much needed vibrancy to South Bay communities. The following are just a few examples where street “parklet” curbside dining or dining plazas have been permitted.

**Continued on Page 3**

## Thank You Sponsors

The SBCCOG thanks its sponsors for their continued support of its 21st Annual General Assembly, *Intersections: Finding Tomorrow's Solutions for Today's Issues*. The General Assembly, scheduled for March 19, 2020, has been postponed to March 18, 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

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## THE SBCCOG HELPS SHAPE A MORE RESILIENT FUTURE FOR THE SOUTH BAY

The South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) has been engaged in climate action planning for over a decade. Initially, the SBCCOG collaborated with member cities to create 15 City-specific Climate Action Plans and a Sub-regional Climate Action Plan. These plans aimed to reduce the local contribution to climate change by lowering greenhouse gas emissions in the sub-region. Despite these efforts, the SBCCOG recognizes that the region is already experiencing, and will continue to experience, the growing impacts of climate change.

Globally, emission of greenhouse gases, the pollutants responsible for climate change, continue to rise. Meanwhile, the State of California is already experiencing climatic changes. Over the last century, the average temperature in the State increased by 1.8°F, wildfires have increased, sea levels have risen, glaciers and snowpack have shrunk, and droughts have become more extreme. The best available science predicts that the impacts of climate change will become increasingly extreme over the next century. These changes pose significant threats to public health, infrastructure, water supply, and community well-being.

This reality makes implementing the climate action plans and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions more important than ever. While these efforts are critical for slowing and preventing the most catastrophic impacts of climate change, some changes will inevitably occur. To protect our communities, there is a need to prepare for and respond to these impacts; this is called climate adaptation.

In an effort to help the South Bay communities adapt and continue to thrive in the face of climate change, the SBCCOG embarked on a climate adaptation project. This work began with the development of City-specific Climate Vulnerability Assessments, as well as a Sub-regional assessment, and a Sub-regional Climate Adaptation Plan, completed through the work of a CivicSpark Fellow in 2019. Together, these documents provide a robust analysis of local climate change impacts, by synthesizing the best available climate science to predict potential outcomes and assess risk at the sub-regional and city-level scale. These plans indicate that, over the coming decades, the region will see more extreme heat events, an increase in average temperatures, more extreme rain events, greater frequency of droughts and wildfire, and substantial sea level rise.

With the help of a second CivicSpark Fellow, the SBCCOG is using this analysis to inform city planning by helping cities develop strategies that address local vulnerabilities to climate change. While there will still be regional effects, it is essential that adaptation planning is conducted at the city-level since climate risks will impact each locality differently. These “adaptation strategies” provide cities with a toolbox of actions to adjust city operations and prepare communities for anticipated impacts. In addition, cities will be better prepared to meet state requirements (SB 379) to integrate climate adaptation into their city plans.

Examples of strategies include increasing tree cover to reduce the impacts of extreme heat, conserving water in response to impacts to imported water supply, planning for increased wildfire risks at the urban-wildland interface, and expanding greenspace to decrease urban flood risks from extreme precipitation events. Selected strategies can be integrated into city planning and policy documents and implemented over time. Ultimately, cities can save money by reducing risks to their assets and helping to protect their communities including those most vulnerable populations such as the elderly, chronically ill, and homeless.

An uncertain future can be confronted by tackling climate change through both action (greenhouse gas reduction) and adaptation planning and both are integral for a sustainable future.

The South Bay Sub-Regional Climate Adaptation Plan and individual city Climate Action Plans can be accessed on the SBCCOG Website:

South Bay sub-region: <https://www.southbaycities.org/programs/climate-action-planning/what-climate-adaptation-plan>; Cities: <https://www.southbaycities.org/programs/climate-action-planning/climate-action-plans>



Find SBCCOG at  
[www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org)  
Find SBESCO at  
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## HOMELESSNESS DURING A PANDEMIC

**I**t is no surprise that the homeless crisis would feel the effects of COVID-19, but it may be a surprise that attention on the homeless has benefited from this pandemic. The fast tracking and streamlining of processes to implement services and housing has produced a silver lining of new opportunities.

“In response to the COVID-19 crisis, in partnership with the City and County, we sheltered over 6,000 people in just a few months,” said LAHSA Commission Chair Sarah Dusseault. “We did it to save lives and in pursuit of racial equity. The clearing of red tape, strong accountability, and urgency used over the past few months must inspire the fundamental rethinking of how we turn an emergency response system into a results-driven safety-net that ends unsheltered homelessness for everyone.”

Economic hardship falls just below housing needs in order of priority. As homeless services systems continue to grow, the economic conditions have pushed more into homelessness even before the effects of COVID-19. This year’s Homeless Count revealed that two-thirds of the unsheltered adults experiencing homelessness were homeless for the first time, with 58% citing economic hardship as the cause. The report captures a picture of homelessness in LA County as it was in January 2020, the time of this year’s count, and before the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic could be felt, measured, or responded to through efforts such as Project Roomkey, rent freezes, and eviction moratoriums.

Unfortunately, even with significant gains made in placing people into housing with services since the pandemic began, it is not keeping pace with those falling into homelessness. The recent Los Angeles Homeless Count shows a 12.7% rise in homelessness in LA County despite a sustained increase in the number of people housed. On average, 207 people exit homelessness every day, but at the same time, 227 people become homeless, so it appears that the problems continue to be growing faster than the solutions. Homelessness rose by 3%, or 4,560 persons, in Service Planning Area 8 (SPA 8), which covers the South Bay.

Data can be viewed from many angles; perhaps it is best to focus on the fact that the number of people exiting homelessness is on the rise thanks to the tremendous efforts of homeless service workers and our elected officials who are working to secure funding and develop new programs. Measure H revenue is, and will continue to be, impaired by the lack of sales tax income; therefore, creative thinking is needed.

Looking towards the future, how can the momentum of increased sheltering and sense of humanitarian urgency continue beyond COVID-19? We must continue to work together to seek solutions to what often seems impossible.

For more information on what the SBCCOG is doing concerning homeless services contact Grace Farwell at [grace@southbaycities.org](mailto:grace@southbaycities.org).

## SOUTH BAY RESTAURANTS TAKE TO THE STREETS FOR AL FRESCO DINING

Continued from Page 1

**El Segundo:** Several restaurants in the downtown area along Main Street have moved their dining onto sidewalks and curbside parklets through its Outdoor Dining Pilot Program. In addition, with positive input from the local business community, a portion of historic Richmond Street downtown has been closed to traffic and converted to a dining plaza. Unless extended, this pilot program will expire September 8, 2020. For more info: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAELSEGUNDO/bulletins/2901bb6>

**Manhattan Beach:** After surveying its residents and finding strong support, the City initiated a program that allows restaurants citywide to apply for permits to create dining areas on sidewalks and in public parking spaces for operation through September 30th. Approximately 20 curb-side parklets have been approved mainly in the downtown area and on Highland Avenue near Rosecrans Avenue. For more info: <https://www.citymb.info/home/showdocument?id=42845>

**Redondo Beach:** Several restaurants have installed dining parklets along Catalina Avenue in the Riviera Village commercial district through close collaboration between the City and the

Riviera Village Business Improvement District (BID). The parklets were installed by BeachLife Festival through the BID and have a distinctive design, utilizing water-filled protective barriers screened by beach-themed murals.

For more info: <https://www.redondo.org/news/displaynews.asp?NewsID=3163&TargetID=11>

**Torrance:** “Downtown Does Dining Alfresco” is a pilot program that operates on the first, second and third weekends in the historic downtown. Sartori Avenue, between Post and Marcelina is closed to cars on weekends to create a plaza for outdoor dining and retail displays. Several restaurants have installed street table-service areas, but those wishing to enjoy a meal via take-out have the option of sitting at tables placed along Sartori Avenue. The program runs until the end of September unless extended. There will be an opportunity for stakeholders to provide input on the possibility of continuing this program, or something similar, longer term, during the development of a Downtown Revitalization Plan which is currently underway. For more information: <https://www.cityoftorranceca.com/dtalfresco.html>





## SBCCOG 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### “Intersections: Finding Tomorrow’s Solutions for Today’s Issues”

*While the 2020 General Assembly has been postponed, the following sponsors have maintained their support of the SBCCOG and its programs.*

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**American Dark Fiber, LLC (“ADF”)** is a telecommunication infrastructure development company based in Los Angeles. ADF is a telecommunications utility certified by the CPUC to deploy fiber optic cables in the public Rights of Way (ROW). ADF is developing the South Bay Fiber Network (“SBFN”) in cooperation and partnership with the SBCCOG. ADF designed, engineered, and is now deploying the network throughout the South Bay. The new fiber network will interconnect all cities within the SBCCOG region by way of a ringed network that has diverse connections to world-class datacenters. ADF is working with another CA-based service provider, Race Communications, in delivering high-speed internet and transport capacity to constituents in the SBCCOG subregion. ADF’s construction partner in the project is HP Communications, which is also based here in Southern California. Our team has local roots and is vested in the outcome of regional economic development, educational improvements, and an increasing quality of life for all South Bay residents. Cutting edge internet and transport circuit speeds ranging from 1 Gbps to eventually 100 Gbps will be available to SBCCOG Members, Affiliates, and local enterprise users commencing in the Fall of 2020. The SBFN will improve transportation communication systems, improve bandwidth availability and lower costs for cities, anchor institutions, and local businesses. ADF’s founders have a long history of deploying critical telecom network infrastructure in California and have extensive experience in working with municipalities throughout the region. We are proud to be a sponsor for the SBCCOG 2020 General Assembly and look forward to delivering broadband enhancement to more places in the South Bay that will benefit all walks of life. For more information, contact: Dave Daigle 310 291-1982 or [ddaigle@americandarkfiber.com](mailto:ddaigle@americandarkfiber.com)

**California State University, Dominguez Hills:** *The South Bay Economics Institute at California State University, Dominguez Hills* aims to lead the South Bay region with innovative and forward-thinking education and research. The Economic Institute serves as a resource by: 1) Developing CSU Dominguez Hills economics curriculum and teaching while incorporating proven high impact practices; 2) Engaging our diverse student body in economic analysis projects through mentoring programs, guest speakers, and community outreach opportunities; and, 3) Facilitating faculty development through the economics research resources, grant writing deliverables, and local business and government community engagement. *The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at CSU Dominguez Hills* is a program of educational, cultural, and social opportunities for members of the community age 50 above. This is a great program for older adults in the community who want to expand their passion of learning. For more information regarding both of the above programs, contact: David Gamboa; [dgamboa@csudh.edu](mailto:dgamboa@csudh.edu)

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**Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas:** A life-long resident of Los Angeles, Mark Ridley-Thomas, also known as MRT, is widely regarded as one of the region's most creative, effective, and progressive voices for change in Los Angeles. Over the course of his career, he has been at the forefront of addressing the region's most pressing issues. These include: access to healthcare, the housing crisis, criminal justice system reform and creating economic opportunities for local residents – issues he has tackled as a City Councilman, State Legislator and, most recently, as a three-term Los Angeles County Supervisor.

Notably, MRT has been a tireless advocate in the effort to end homelessness – the moral crisis of our times – leading the fight to pass Measure H, the ballot initiative approved by voters in March 2017 that will raise \$3.5 billion for homeless services over 10 years. Appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom to the statewide task force on homelessness, MRT is dedicated to seeking bold policy changes that will not only provide shelter for the thousands of people sleeping on our streets, but that will also blunt the forces of gentrification fueling the inflow of people onto the streets of Los Angeles.

A thoughtful public policy maker, MRT has secured more than \$1 billion in County resources into the 10th District. This funding has been used to extend Metro transit lines, build affordable housing, develop, and beautify parks and plant trees.

Attuned to environmental challenges at both the policy and grassroots level, MRT supported the County's ban on single-use plastic bags, developed LEED certified buildings throughout the second district and also beautified, revitalized and developed hundreds of acres of parks, trails and recreational spaces.

For more information go to: <https://ridley-thomas.lacounty.gov>

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**South Bay Association of REALTORS® (SBAOR)** is a member organization for real estate professionals that promotes professional standards, provides effective continuing education, favorably influences public policy, serves as a business tool for the success of its members, and reaches out to the community. SBAOR provides localized resources for over 5,000 REALTOR® members practicing in the South Bay area and is a part of one of the largest state trade associations of its kind in the nation – the California Association of REALTORS® (C.A.R.). SBAOR is a trade association owned by its members. The elected Board of Directors adopts policies which are carried out by staff under the supervision of Chief Executive Officer Kathy Kelly. The association allows many opportunities for its members to interrelate and access services in a variety of ways, both in person and online. The mission of the South Bay Association of REALTORS® is to serve our members and improve their business. For more information, contact: Julie Tran (310) 326-3017 x715 or [Julie@southbayaor.com](mailto:Julie@southbayaor.com)

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Stay up to date on current air quality in your area by downloading the South Coast AQMD app on your smart phone. Also available in Spanish, the app can be downloaded from the Apple and Google Play stores and features interactive maps of the South Coast Air Basin showing current and forecasted air quality conditions that can be set for multiple cities. The app also allows users to get alerts when air quality changes in your area or for health alerts due to events such as smoke from wildfires. Pressing the app's

1-800-CUT-SMOG (1-800-288-7664) button will place a call to the South Coast AQMD's 24-hour complaint hotline where users can report smoking vehicles, excessive odors, smoke, dust, or other air contaminants. You can also go online to file a complaint, at <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/complaints>.


For more information on South Coast AQMD and our programs for residents, businesses and government, visit [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov). You may also contact Denny Shaw, Public Information Specialist at (909) 226-9192 or [dshaw@aqmd.gov](mailto:dshaw@aqmd.gov).

**Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)** is the nation's largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 191 cities and nearly 19 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG's regional efforts, please visit [www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov)

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For more information, Contact: Maria Flores (310) 952.6400 or [info@watsonlandcompany.com](mailto:info@watsonlandcompany.com)

**Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD)** ensures the availability of a reliable supply of groundwater through the use of recycled water and stormwater capture. For more information, contact: Kimberly Badescu (562) 921-5521 or [kbadescu@wrdd.org](mailto:kbadescu@wrdd.org) [info@wrdd.org](mailto:info@wrdd.org) | Website: [www.wrdd.org](http://www.wrdd.org)

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Since 2007, “listening” to the community’s needs and wants has been the foundation of the Gardena Police Department’s community policing program known as District Policing. Endorsed by Mayor Tasha Cerda and Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Mark Henderson and Gardena City Council Members Paulette Francis, Art Kaskanian, and Rodney Tanaka, District Policing has been the Police Department’s flagship program for bringing quality law enforcement services to Gardena. The idea of relying on the District Policing Program model and the Department’s strong relationships in the community served as the catalyst for Mayor Pro Tem Mark Henderson’s directive that the Gardena Police Department conduct a city-wide “Listening Tour.”

In July 2020, the Gardena Police Department conducted a three-part Listening Tour. The goal was to gather ideas from the public about policing, policy, and procedures from each of three geographic policing districts.

The COVID-19 pandemic prevented the Department from hosting in-person events; therefore, Zoom video conferencing was used to facilitate the meetings. 11,000 flyers were hand-delivered to residences throughout the City and various social media platforms promoted the event. For each session, participants were encouraged to submit questions or concerns either in person during the meeting or prior via email.

Each live tour event lasted approximately two hours. The topics ranged from Community Policing, Training, Use of Force, and National Policing Issues which included the Department’s response to Campaign Zero’s National Eight Can’t Wait Campaign. Over 200 residents participated by giving their input on how they want to be policed. The results of the Listening Tour contrasted much of what has been seen nationally on social media.

During the District Policing neighborhood watch meetings, it is often said that Gardena is the land of “handshakes and hugs” because of the deep personal connection between the residents and their police officers. Overwhelmingly, comments from the community reflected a desire for the Police Department to begin hosting neighborhood watch meetings again virtually.

The Gardena community also expressed a desire for increased officer visibility and interaction in the neighborhoods, to have an increasingly closer relationship with the officers that service their areas, and to continue with crisis response training for first responders.

In order to provide genuine solutions to issues, one must listen to truly understand the needs and wants of their community. The Listening Tour has done just that. Responding to the Listening Tour Gardena Councilman Rodney Tanaka said, “The City of Gardena’s Police Department has always been on the forefront of new ideas, new technology, and community policing. Chief Saffell and his command staff are totally committed to keeping our community engaged, informed, and protected with the highest standards of respect possible. The Listening Tour is just another example of that fact.”

The Listening Tour was a great success. The community’s input will provide Chief of Police Mike Saffell an opportunity to review the concerns of residents regarding current policies, procedures, and other policing issues and to craft changes into a strategic plan which can lead the department into the future.

For more information, please contact Lieutenant Christopher Cuff, (310) 217-9636 or email: [ccuff@gardenapd.org](mailto:ccuff@gardenapd.org)

## SPECIAL SBCCOG MEETINGS HELD TO DISCUSS POLICING

Not only have our cities been shaken by the Covid-19 pandemic, but they have become more aware of the presence and impacts of lack of equity and systemic racism. The SBCCOG Board members are exploring the elected official’s role in public safety in their own cities.

This summer the SBCCOG held two special meetings on the subject of policing. On June 29, “A Dialogue for South Bay Elected Officials: Meaningful Changes to Policing” included two panel discussions moderated by Dr. Errol Southers; panelists were L. A. County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Shari Weaver from Harbor Interfaith Services, Dr. Joseph Lee, Chuck Lennon from LA County Dept. of Mental Health, L.A. County Sheriff Alex Villanueva, and Inglewood Mayor James Butts, Carson Councilmember Cedric Hicks, and Redondo Beach Police Chief Keith Kauffman. On August 20, the theme was “A Dialogue for Elected Officials: All You Want to Know About Police Operations”. Inglewood Mayor James Butts gave a presentation on police operations, brought to life by his personal experience, having risen through the ranks of law enforcement in Inglewood during the 1970’s and 1980’s, eventually becoming a Deputy Chief, and then serving as Chief of Police in Santa Monica from 2001 to 2006.

Video recordings of both meetings can be viewed in their entirety on the SBCCOG YouTube page:

June 29: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qiutUhZMWuo&feature=youtu.be>

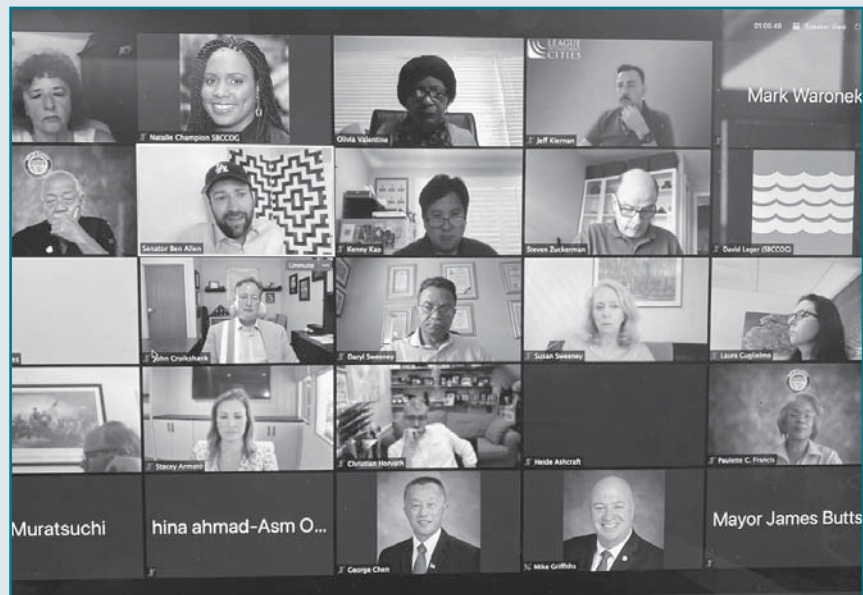
August 20: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qxs2CDai7zY&feature=youtu.be>





## SOUTH BAY CITIES MEET WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

On July 9th South Bay Councilmembers and City staff met via Zoom for a legislative briefing with state and federal elected officials and their field representatives. Hawthorne City Council member and SBCCOG Chair Olivia Valentine (top row, center) moderated the discussion focusing on proposed, pending or recently passed legislation from the perspective of elected officials in Sacramento or Washington D.C. as well as the issues and priorities of the South Bay cities. Participants included Senator Ben Allen (District 26) and Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi (District 66). Also participating at the Federal level were Field Representatives Jeanette Christian for U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein and Aurelia Friedman for Congress Member Ted Lieu. Providing updates at the state level were, Community Outreach Director Daryl Sweeney for Senator Steven Bradford (District 35), Field Representatives Hina Ahmad for Assembly Member Patrick O'Donnell (District 70), and Brandon Stansell for Assembly Member Autumn Burke (District 62).



## SBCCOG HAS A NEW HOME

The SBCCOG is proud to announce its new office has been completed. It is located at 2355 Crenshaw Boulevard, Suite 125 in the Park Del Amo Business Park at the northwest corner of Crenshaw Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard in Torrance across from Wilson Park. All services enjoyed at our prior Western Avenue location, including the Environmental Services Center, will be operated at the new address when Covid-19 public health orders permit. We look forward to the day when we can welcome you in person! For more information, contact SBCCOG at 310-371-7222 or find us online at [www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org)





# Food for Thought

## PRE-COVID WORK-AT-HOME/TELECOMMUTING/ MOBILE WORK /REMOTE WORK STATISTICS

Excerpts from: <https://globalworkplaceanalytics.com/telecommutingstatistics>. March 13, 2020. Global Workplace Analytics, Kate Lister, President, is a foremost source of the latest work-at-home/telecommuting/mobile work/remote work statistics.

**B**elow are the latest available statistics, updated in March, 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic, on the work-at-home/telework population in the U.S. based on our analysis of 2005-2018 American Community Survey (ACS, a U.S. Census Bureau product). New ACS numbers, for the prior year, are released each Fall, so this page will be updated Sept/Oct of 2020.

### How many employees work from home?

- 5 million employees (3.6% of the U.S. employee workforce) currently work-at-home half-time or more [Global Workplace Analytics' analysis of 2018 American Community Service (ACS) data]
- Regular work-at-home has grown 173% since 2005, 11% faster than the rest of the workforce (which grew 15%) and nearly 47x faster than the self-employed population (which grew by 4%) [Global Workplace Analytics' analysis of 2018 ACS data]

### How many people could work from home?

- 56% of employees have a job where at least some of what they do could be done remotely [Global Workplace Analytics]
- 62% of employees say they could work remotely [Citrix 2019 poll]

### How many people want to work from home?

- 80% of employees want to work from home at least some of the time [State of Remote Work 2019, Owl Labs]
- 35% of employees would change jobs for opportunity to work remotely full time (47% of Millennials and 31% of boomers); 37% would do so to work remotely some of the time (50% of Millennials and 33% of Boomers) [State of the American Workforce, Gallup, 2016]
- Flexibility is one of the highest ranked benefits by Millennials, even higher than student loan or tuition reimbursement. It ranked high for Boomers too although the percentages were 15-20 points lower. [State of the American Workforce, Gallup, 2017]
- More than a third of workers would take a pay cut of up to 5% in exchange for the option to work remotely at least some of the time; a quarter would take a 10% pay cut; 20% would take an even greater cut. [State of Remote Work 2019, Owl Labs]

### How often do people work from home?

While there is no government data that provides additional granularity on the frequency of telework, we offer the following:

- 3.6% of the workforce works remotely half time or more [Global Workplace Analytics' special analysis of 2018 ACS data] 43% of the workforce works remotely at some frequency [State of the American Workforce, Gallup, 2016]
- Two to three days a week seems to be the sweet spot that allows for a balance of concentrative work (at home) and collaborative work (at the office) [Global Workplace Analytics' observation of clients and case studies, 2020]

### How do employers benefit from remote work?

Based on conservative assumptions, we estimate a typical employer can save an average of \$11,000 per half-time telecommuter per year. The primary savings are the result of increased productivity, lower real estate costs, reduced absenteeism and turnover, and better disaster preparedness. Employers can calculate their own potential savings on our free Telework Savings Calculator™ which a report to Congress by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget referred to as "comprehensive and based on solid research."

### How do employees benefit from remote work?

We estimate that employees save between \$2,500 and \$4,000 per year by working at home half the time. Those savings are primarily due to reduced costs for travel, parking, and food. They are net of additional energy costs and home food costs. In terms of time, a half-time telecommuter saves the equivalent of 11 work days per year in time they would have otherwise spent commuting. Extreme commuters save more than three times that about. These estimates assume a 75% reduction in driving on telework days.

## CALENDAR

All meetings are open to the public, conducted remotely until further notice.

### September

- 2 Homeless Services Task Force
- 8 GIS Working Group
- 9 Infrastructure Working Group
- 14 Transportation Committee Steering Committee
- 22 Senior Services Working Group
- 24 **Board of Directors**

### October

- 6 GIS Working Group
- 8 Legislative Briefing
- 12 Transportation Committee Steering Committee
- 14 Infrastructure Working Group
- 22 **Board of Directors**

### November

- 3 GIS Working Group
- 4 Homeless Services Task Force
- 9 Transportation Committee Steering Committee
- 11 Infrastructure Working Group
- 19 **Board of Directors**

Contact [Jacki@southbaycities.org](mailto:Jacki@southbaycities.org) for further information.

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**The quarterly South Bay Watch is available electronically by email or at [www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org). To receive by email, please send your email address to [sbccog@southbaycities.org](mailto:sbccog@southbaycities.org)**

