

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

November 4, 2019

TO: SBCCOG Steering Committee

FROM: Jacki Bacharach, Executive Director

SUBJECT: SBCCOG Partnership with Angeles Emeralds on 2020 Cannabis Policy Seminar

Adherence to Strategic Plan:

Goal A: Environment, Transportation, and Economic Development. Facilitate, implement, and/or educate members and others about environmental, transportation, and economic development programs that benefit the South Bay.

BACKGROUND

SBCCOG staff has worked with Angeles Emeralds over the past year and a half to inform and update local jurisdictions on cannabis policies being implemented by the State as part of recreational cannabis implementation. Angeles Emeralds is a non-profit association of medicinal cannabis patients, advocates, business owners, and other stakeholders working towards responsible cannabis regulations in Los Angeles County. In June 2018, Angeles Emeralds convened a cannabis policy seminar for local jurisdictions in Los Angeles County that brought in speakers from various State and County agencies responsible for cannabis policy. SBCCOG staff participated in the well-attended seminar and found it very informative.

In early 2019, SBCCOG partnered with Angeles Emeralds to facilitate a four-part workshop series on cannabis policies for cities in the South Bay and Gateway Cities COGs. The workshops were well attended and brought together local elected officials and city staff to learn about responsible cannabis policy implementation in Los Angeles County as well as early lessons-learned from local jurisdictions throughout the State.

Angeles Emeralds recently approached the SBCCOG regarding a proposed LA County Cannabis Policy Seminar being planned for early 2020 for local/state elected officials, city staff, illicit youth drug prevention groups, chambers of commerce, and other key stakeholders that will focus on cannabis policy two years after legalization. State and local representatives will discuss issues surrounding the topic. This event will explicitly be closed to cannabis industry operators.

Angeles Emeralds has asked the SBCCOG to consider being listed as an event partner for the seminar, at no cost to the SBCCOG. Upon finalization of event details, Angeles Emeralds would also like the SBCCOG's assistance in advertising the seminar to its member agencies.

RECOMMENDATION

The Steering Committee recommends Board approval to list the SBCCOG as event partner for the seminar and to publicize the seminar.

Prepared by David Leger