



# CONNECT Newsletter

A Publication about the South Bay Fiber Network

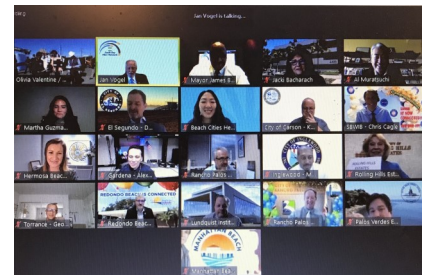
Fall, 2020 - VOL. 3

## South Bay Fiber Network Propels Region into “Smart City” Stratosphere

After five years of planning and construction, the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) celebrated completion of a dedicated fiber-optic network in the South Bay region of Los Angeles County.

South Bay city halls, along with other local and regional agencies, will now benefit from high-speed, low-cost

broadband connectivity that provides the critical infrastructure to facilitate “smart city” applications.



On November 17, 2020 at 10:30 a.m., the SBCCOG hosted a live, virtual “Connection Celebration” on Zoom to commemorate the occasion. More than 150 members of the community, regional agencies, legislators, SBCCOG members and local media tuned in as the SBCCOG thanked member cities, contractors, legislators and partners who contributed to the SBFN’s development and completion.

Jan Vogel, executive director and CEO of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB), emceed the festivities. He introduced various speakers, including 66th District Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi, who, supported by Senator Ben Allen, secured funds for non-transportation-related applications for the SBFN.



*Olivia Valentine, SBCCOG chair and city of Hawthorne councilmember, flips the switch to “connect” the South Bay. Behind sign: Mark Hines, operations manager, American Dark Fiber (ADF); at right, Dave Daigle, CEO, ADF.*

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## ***“Smart City” (Continued from front)***

Additional speakers included California Public Utilities Commissioner Martha Guzman-Aceves and Metro board member and Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts. Remote video presentations were offered by 4th District LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn, who helped the SBCCOG secure Measure M transportation funding that paid for the projects full capital costs, and 2nd District

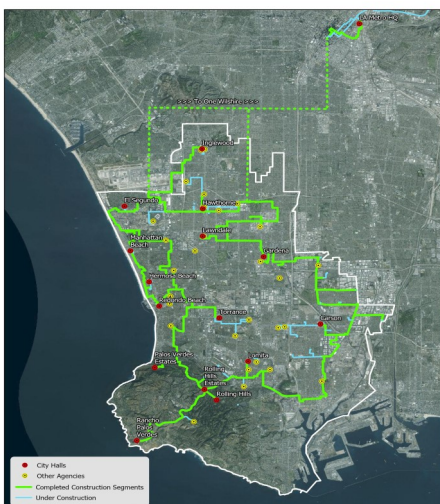
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, who provided funding for a study commissioned by the SBWIB on the SBFN’s potential regional economic benefits.

The event culminated on location at the HP Communications yard in Gardena. SBCCOG Chair and Hawthorne Council Member Olivia Valentine ceremoniously “flipped the switch” to light up member cities and agencies on the screen. ♦

***Map Shows the SBFN’s “Fiber Ring” Infrastructure.***



***American Dark Fiber (ADF) presented SBCCOG with a commemorative plaque from ADF and its subcontractors—HP Communications and Race Communications.***



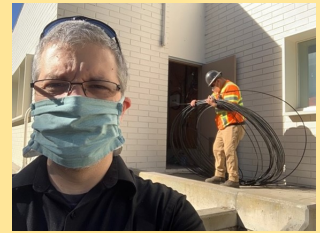
## **Construction Continues Through COVID-19 Challenges**

Over the summer and fall, American Dark Fiber and its subcontractors masked up to safely continue working with the SBCCOG and its partner cities to finish the lateral connections to the network’s 87-mile “Fiber Ring.”

The ring established redundancy and reliability to the network for emergencies.

Access is provided to two world-class data centers located in El Segundo and Hawthorne.

By the end of 2021, more than 40 sites, including all of the 15 SBCCOG member city halls and a diverse community of non-governmental agencies, will be connected to the SBFN. The scalable network is designed to accommodate future geographic expansion and data growth. ♦



***Former SBCCOG Board Chair and Redondo Beach Council Member Christian Horvath observes SBFN construction.***

### **Connected Cities**

- Carson
- El Segundo
- Gardena
- Hawthorne
- Inglewood
- Lawndale
- Lomita
- Manhattan Beach
- Palos Verdes
- Redondo Beach
- Rolling Hills Estates
- Torrance

### **Connected Agencies**

- Beach Cities Health District
- LA Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- LA Department of Public Works
- Lundquist Institute for Biomedical Innovation
- South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB)
- West Basin Municipal Water District

**For more information on the South Bay Fiber Network please contact Aaron Baum, SBFN program manager, at [aaron@southbaycities.org](mailto:aaron@southbaycities.org), 310 371-7222 or visit [SouthBayCities.org](http://SouthBayCities.org).**