

South Bay Cities Council of Governments



2020

The South Bay Cities Council of Governments

(SBCCOG) is a joint powers authority of 16 cities and the County of Los Angeles that share the goal of maximizing the quality of life and productivity of our area. Within this structure, cities and the County maintain the qualities and characteristics that make them unique and independent, while coming together collectively to address issues of common interest for a greater good. This collective vision of what the SBCCOG can do for our communities is what motivates our members and can best be described four ways —

Partnership, Persuasion, Performance, and Advocacy

Overseen by a Board of Directors, the SBCCOG conducts business through committees and working groups made up of city and county elected officials, city and county staff, government partners, and members of the community. These groups focus on issues such as transportation and public transit, city infrastructure, land use, access to high speed internet, energy management, sustainability, climate action planning, adaptation in the interest of carbon emission reductions, regional planning, senior services, social media, and homeless services. We also utilize geographic information systems (GIS) and share GIS applications with our members. SBCCOG also takes positions on legislation.

The SBCCOG is proud of our most recent accomplishments. They include:

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE

- Building and implementing a regional broadband network for faster, less expensive municipal use, and initiating the development and integration of "Smart-City" applications - including Metro's Regional Integration of Intelligent Transportation Systems and the County of Los Angeles' Information Exchange Network transportation applications.
- Administering the \$906 million South Bay Highway Program (SBHP) for Measure R funds. As of 2019, the SBHP includes more than 80 projects and studies that have been completed, are in development, or under construction for delivery by 2024 for a total of \$265 million in Measure R funding.
- Administering the three South Bay Measure M Multi-Year Sub-Regional Transportation Programs (MSPs). As of 2019, the MSPs include 25 projects in development or under construction for delivery by 2024 for a total of over \$115 million in Measure M funding.
- Conducting a "Route Refinement" study for a Local "Slow-Speed" Travel Network in the South Bay.
- Promoting the South Bay's Sustainability Strategy, developed by the SBCCOG, for improving mobility and focusing on neighborhoods.

CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION

- Obtaining over \$1.5 million to assist cities to develop local and sub-regional level climate action plans with carbon emission inventories and transportation, land use, energy efficiency, solid waste, urban greening,

and energy generation/storage strategies to reduce greenhouse gases.

- Developing a South Bay Adaptation plan with a sub-regional vulnerability assessment.

ENERGY AND WATER SAVINGS & CONSERVATION

- Operating the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC) in partnership with SoCalGas, Water Replenishment District, West Basin Municipal Water District, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, LA County Metro, City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and the Torrance Water Department to provide energy efficiency, water conservation, shared mobility options (e.g. vanpool and carpool), traveler information, and recycling resources to cities, businesses, and residents.

- Helping cities identify and implement energy efficient municipal projects that have resulted in over 13,671,113 kWh savings of electricity use and over 51,283 therms savings of gas use over the last 10 years.

- Providing information to the public at over 100 community, employee, and business events and presentations annually.

- Involving the community through the volunteer program, which extends the reach of our programs and services and provides us new ideas and additional areas of expertise.

- Providing cities with trainings and workshops on best practices to assist them in adopting energy efficient and water efficient policies and practices as well as learning from each other.

ADVOCACY

- Monitoring and coordinating responses and positions on legislation and regional plans that affect the South Bay and sponsoring legislation when required.
- Facilitating meetings with our legislators and other state agencies as needed.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

- Working with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board on economic development issues in the South Bay.
- Addressing homeless issues with funding from Los Angeles County.
- Identifying innovative mobility and housing strategies for seniors.
- Providing workshops on topics such as cannabis regulations and goods movement to help cities identify future trends and best practices city regulations.

COORDINATION AND FACILITATION

- Working with South Bay businesses and other governments to address issues that affect the South Bay.
- Providing hands-on training opportunities to assist elected officials and staff in their jobs.
- Acting as liaison with other governmental agencies.

FEATURED PROGRAMS

[South Bay Environmental Services Center \(SBESC\)](#)

The SBCCOG operates a multi-faceted environmental program that provides benefits to South Bay municipal governments, special districts, schools, residents, and businesses. Public agencies benefit through comprehensive audits and utility use management which help identify energy and water savings projects. Residents can obtain information on saving energy and water in their homes, disposing of batteries, obtaining rain barrels, qualifying for rebate programs, receiving major subsidies for vanpools, and using the 110 Freeway high occupancy toll lanes (ExpressLanes). Businesses can participate in programs such as the South Bay Green Business Assist, water/gas/electricity kitchen audits, direct install opportunities, incentive programs, and special assistance with forming vanpools for their employees. In addition, everyone can benefit by attending a range of training programs including Water Efficiency, California Friendly Landscape Training, Moving Toward Zero Waste, Food Waste, Personal Mobility, and special sessions for public agencies and contractors in building and code enforcement.

[Green House Gas \(GHG\) Reduction & Climate Action/Adaptation Planning](#)

Supporting the State's goals for GHG reduction as established in AB 32 and SB 32, the SBCCOG worked with South Bay cities to develop city specific Climate Action Plans as well as one for the South Bay as a whole. These plans include GHG inventories and analysis of reduction strategies for land use, transportation, energy efficiency, solid waste, urban greening, and energy generation/storage. The SBCCOG assists cities in implementing strategies from these plans. Adding to this work, the SBCCOG developed a South Bay adaptation plan which includes a sub-regional vulnerability assessment. City specific vulnerability assessments were also completed and the SBCCOG is currently helping cities identify adaptation strategies.

[South Bay Fiber Network](#)

High speed broadband network access is one of the most powerful assets that organizations use to grow (succeed) and therefore to retain and add employees. Regions and cities that lack affordable access to gigabytes per second and faster network speeds will lose businesses and will do so at an increasing rate. The SBCCOG is developing a fiber backbone network that will connect the various wide area networks that already exist in a few pockets within the South Bay and connect municipal and other agency facilities with Metro and LA County Public Works to allow for enhanced transportation applications and other opportunities for cities to work collaboratively and more efficiently at reduced cost. The network should be operational by July 2020.

[Sustainable Neighborhood Strategy \(SNS\)](#)

Based on years of study of the land use and transportation patterns in the South Bay, the SNS provides guidance for land use and transportation options for areas such as the South Bay which are not transit rich and therefore cannot rely on transit-oriented development. It focuses on neighborhood-oriented development and alternative mobility options – both public and private. The SNS was prepared by SBCCOG staff with grant funding and adopted by the SBCCOG Board to provide a guide to South Bay cities as they develop and re-develop their communities.

[Programs to Promote Electric Vehicles](#)

The SBCCOG is a regional advocate promoting electric vehicles. The SBCCOG concluded a report with the UCLA Luskin Center about the opportunities and barriers for apartment and condominium complexes to charge electric vehicles. This research follows 4 years of very successful demonstration projects funded by the South Coast Air Quality Management District for neighborhood/slow speed and battery electric vehicles. These programs provided participants a hands-on experience and the SBCCOG invaluable travel data to help inform transportation planning and policies to support conversion to zero emission vehicles. This research was also used to develop implementation strategies outlined in the SNS. Current work includes coordinating with LA County to assess EV infrastructure needs and using a Caltrans grant to identify a local travel network in the South Bay for slow speed zero emission vehicles. Additionally, the SBCCOG is monitoring the planning and deployment of autonomous vehicles in Southern California.

[South Bay Measure R Highway Program \(SBHP\) and Measure M Sub-Regional Programs \(MSPs\)](#)

The SBCCOG is partnering with LA Metro, Caltrans, and South Bay local jurisdictions to manage the expenditure of over \$906 million of South Bay Highway Program funds that will be available from Measure R and more than \$1.9 billion that will be available from Measure M over the next 40 years. The SBCCOG Board of Directors, with technical guidance from the Transportation Committee and the Infrastructure Working Group, identifies projects, schedules funding, and oversees the delivery of the SBHP and Measure M MSP transportation projects to improve operations of South Bay freeways, State Highways, and arterials.

**More information on all of the above, including meeting notices,
can be found on our website: www.southbaycities.org,
on social media (Facebook & Twitter),
or by calling 310-371-7222**



Carson, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, and the Harbor City/San Pedro/Wilmington communities of the City of Los Angeles, along with the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles District 2 and 4.