

Minutes

Energy Management Working Group – Kick off meeting The Carson Center, Meeting Room 107 (801 E Carson St, Carson, CA 90745)

3/4/2015

11am – 1pm

Attendees

Cities: Reata Kulcsar, Carson (RK); Harry Frisbee, Inglewood (HF); Grace Huizar, Lawndale (GH); Doug Krauss, Hawthorne (DK); Deryl Lloyd, Gardena (DL); Mike Duran, Gardena (MD); Kristy Morris, Hermosa Beach (KM); Julie Hegvold, El Segundo (JH); Keith Darling, Manhattan Beach (KD); Sean Larvenz, Rancho Palos Verdes (SL)

SBCCOG: Lena Luna (LL), Kim Fuentes (KF), Marilyn Lyon (ML), Amanda Maki (AM)

GSE Solutions, LLC: Greg Stevens (GS)

SCE: Scot Mann (SM), Damon Hannaman (DH)

SCG: Ashley Snyder (AS)

1. Welcome & Introductions

SBCCOG gave an overview of the Energy Efficiency Partnership and utility incentives. SM introduced himself as the SCE Program Manager for the local government partnership. SBCCOG provides technical support and is able to help cities with demand response programs, incentive programs, and application processes with the SBCCOG's contracted energy engineer, GS.

DH introduced himself as SCE account manager. He is available to help city staff with billing or rates issues, energy efficiency projects, and any retrofitting streetlight projects. He explained that the express option application can be submitted after project, but the customized options and the on-bill financing option (OBF) applications must be submitted before the project can start.

City representatives shared the following: Carson is doing a city-wide energy efficiency project at all 19 city sites. SBCCOG's contracted engineer has conducted lighting audits for the city, and Carson has hired a firm to do the complete, more robust audit. Inglewood is participating in an OBF projects for the streetlights and the water pumps. Lawndale contracts out most of its services and is at the Platinum level. Hawthorne has a very small Public Works department, so they work very closely together to complete energy efficiency projects. El Segundo's City Council reenacted the Environmental Committee. JH from El Segundo is LEED AP accredited and has sat on various green teams at other municipalities. Manhattan Beach has projects of retrofitting lights in parking structures and replacing broken lights with only LED, and the city has conducted LED retrofits and installed new lighting controls in the city hall. Manhattan Beach will be renovating the pier next year with LEDs, but with warmer temperatures for lighting quality. SL from Rancho Palos Verdes shared that he recently started at the city in December and hopes to get involved with the energy work soon.

2. Energy Leader Partnership overview

Each city received their tier level sheet for the Energy Leader Partnership program. An updated sheet will be sent to cities around mid-April.

3. SBCCOG programs

KF provided an overview of the SBCCOG programs. SBCCOG has partnerships with LA Metro, Torrance Water, West Basin, Sanitation District, SCE, and SCG.

- *Measure R program*: Funded by the sales tax; for city transportation projects; overseen by SBCCOG.
- *Electric Vehicles*: EV siting study; EV pilot program
- *Cash for Kitchens*: free audits at restaurants or other facilities with commercial kitchens; kitchens can receive free water-saving devices
- *Turf removal rebate program*: \$2/sq ft rebate

4. Energy Project Highlight –“Watch list” of energy projects

GS discussed the status of city projects.

- *Carson*: retrofitting Dolphin Park with LED lights; looking into retrofitting LS-2 and LS-3 streetlights with LED; retrofitting community parks with LED lights; beautification project on Carson Street where the City will retrofit all the median lighting and will involve switching unmetered lights to metered. DH says that the City should put in meters first before retrofit (to get rebate for retrofit) because the project will need to have the new service account numbers.
- *Gardena*: retrofitting the city’s safety streetlights using on-billing financing (OBF)
- *Hawthorne*: replaced chiller in City Hall with a more efficient one with variable frequency drive on pumps and temperature reset control; LED streetlight retrofits on Hawthorne Blvd
- *Hermosa Beach*: conducted city-wide audit a year ago; utilizing OBF at multiple facilities
- *Inglewood*: three projects – pump upgrade, pump VFD, and city-owned streetlights retrofit; streetlight project expected to save 1.3 million kWh and financed through OBF
- *Redondo Beach*: library parking structure retrofit with LED
- *Torrance*: lighting project at multiple facilities

Overall, approximately 4 million kWh savings total in region.

Any city can contact the SBCCOG if they are starting an energy project and would like to get feedback, advice, or help. The SBCCOG will be able to put city staff in contact with correct person.

5. Climate Action Plan (CAP) Updates

KF explained that the SBCCOG received funding from SCE and SCG to do energy efficiency chapters of the CAP. The inventories have been updated. SBCCOG has met with almost all of the cities review energy efficiency measures. The consultant (Atkins) will conduct an analysis on greenhouse gas emissions reductions if measures are implemented. Around June, there will be another round of meetings with cities to review analysis.

SBCCOG also received funding from Strategic Growth Council to complete other chapters (land use, transportation, energy generation and storage, waste reduction, and greening/open space) of the CAP and will start engaging cities in a couple months.

6. Bulk Purchasing

RPV shared that bulk purchasing could be beneficial because there are many common materials needed between the cities, such as LED lighting fixtures. RPV mentioned potential resources such as the GSA catalog that can be used for disaster item and safety/police item, which means lighting can qualify.

Manhattan Beach has successfully used bulk purchasing for toilets, but did mention that cities do need to use caution and still do their research on contractors' pricings.

Gardena has successfully used bulk purchasing for purchasing vehicles, but did mention that one downside of bulk purchasing is that cities may not be able to support their local businesses. LL mentioned that if using NJPA, you can choose geographical boundaries when choosing contractors.

Manhattan Beach mentioned that help is needed for legal language about how to weed out contractors that are sourcing from outside the country.

Interest in potentially doing bulk purchasing in the future was shown by all cities in attendance.

7. Public safety vs energy efficiency

Carson brought up the point that police want more lights in public areas for safety reasons.

Carson retrofitted all exterior lights at the parks, but there was one park with a very dark section. The city decided to put more light fixtures in that area of the park, which may seem counterintuitive to energy efficiency goal. However, since they took out some fixtures at other parks, the overall energy usage was balanced out. The project still saved energy due to the retrofitting.

Manhattan Beach has similar safety problem in parking structures, and the city addresses it by focusing on lighting up dark corners.

Gardena has improved safety by installing about 80 cameras at the parks and speakers connected to the police station.

There are also smart cameras that only turn on when there is abnormalities and some have infrared sensors in case there is not sufficient lighting. These can be much more energy efficient.

GS mentioned that improving technology will help with the balance between safety and efficiency such as having motion sensor and dimming controls.

SM mentioned that it would be beneficial to work with police or fire departments to help with project approval if the project benefits their departments too. Gardena shared that he works with the safety department and finds it very beneficial.

Attendees expressed a desire to have speakers on this topic at a future meeting.

8. Topic ideas for future meetings

Manhattan Beach will host next meeting unless City Hall construction is underway. Hermosa Beach can host, if needed. The next meeting will be May 6, 2015. The July 2015 meeting will tentatively be at the LEDtronics facility and will include an onsite field trip.

The cities expressed interest in the following topics for future meetings: bulk purchase, safety/energy efficiency, street lights, and new technologies.

9. Other announcements

Carson would like to see more trainings coordinated by the SBCCOG with costs covered by the utilities, such as the Certified Energy Manager trainings.

Lawndale shared information about the South Bay Business Environmental Coalition (SBBEC) which serves as a resource to share ideas and highlight business achievements. The SBBEC has a SEED award subcommittee which recognizes businesses that have implemented environmental programs. The awards are given out in September.