

South Bay Watch

**20TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO DISCUSS
“CELEBRATING THE PAST - SHAPING THE FUTURE”**

Winter 2019

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

Published by the
South Bay Cities Council
of Governments

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On Thursday, February 28, 2019, the South Bay Cities Council of Governments is hosting its 20th Annual General Assembly at the Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center in Carson from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. This year's topic is "Celebrating the Past - Shaping the Future".

This year's forum will look at where the South Bay has been – how we have retained our suburban lifestyle in many respects – and where it's going, as major sports stadiums and entertainment complexes in Inglewood and Carson and other prominent commercial centers are being planned. We will look at what the South Bay cities should be prepared and plan for.

After morning check-in, attendees are invited to visit a bustling exhibit hall where they can explore city, partner and sponsor exhibits, which will complement this year's theme: a celebration of the SBCCOG, our cities, and life in the South Bay. Then the program will include an expert line-up of speakers.

The morning will focus on the South Bay's past, hearing from Jan Dennis – author of books about the Beach Cities; Monique Sugimoto, Palos Verdes Library District; LeRoy J. Jackson, Torrance City Manager; Greg Williams, CSUDH archivist; and Tony Chong,

Northrop Grumman historian.

Rounding out the morning, Dr. Fernando Torres-Gil, Director, Center for Policy Research on Aging, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, will speak on how cities should plan as their population ages and diversifies.

We are excited to hear from our keynote speaker who has brought his entrepreneurial spirit to the South Bay - **Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong**, Exec. Chairman, L.A. Times. The afternoon continues the focus on the future. Bob Lanter, Executive Director of the California Workforce Association, will address the workforce of the future. The final panel will focus on civic well-being. Speakers are: Rick Cole, Santa Monica City Manager and Tom Bakaly, Chief Executive and Lauren Nakano, Director, Blue Zones Project, from the Beach Cities Health District. They will discuss why Santa Monica has created an Office of Civic Well Being and studies on happiness and whole communities done in the Beach Cities.

The day is extremely full and will start in the Exhibit Hall at 8:30 and end with a raffle around 3:15 pm. Come early so you will have plenty of time to see the exhibits as well as network with colleagues and local elected officials. The event is free but RSVPs are required since we do provide lunch.

• It's time to Register at www.southbaycities.org •

20th Annual SBCCOG General Assembly

Thursday, February 28, 2019 • 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

Registration and exhibits open 8:30 am

Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center • 801 East Carson Street, Carson CA

Celebrating the Past – Shaping the Future

(See accompanying article for more details)

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Contact Marilyn Lyon @ Marilyn@southbaycities.org to sign-up as a sponsor

Follow the event on social media by using #20thGA2019



SPECIAL THANKS TO SBCCOG VOLUNTEERS



Left to Right: Director Harold Williams, West Basin Municipal Water District; Hawthorne Councilmember Olivia Valentine; Director Scott Houston, West Basin Municipal Water District; Volunteers Alyse Anderson, Tiffany Vakharia, Kayla Asemanfar, Miguel Vasquez, Kathy Young, Daniel Bianca, Vibha Joshi, Brian Del Cid, and Cristian Garcia; Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates Mayor and Chair, SBCCOG; Volunteers Christine Portela, Jon Rodman, Karen Kanda; Olina Wibroe, Field Deputy, Senator Ben Allen; Volunteer Caroline Bustillos; Hamilton Cloud, Field Deputy, Congresswoman Maxine Waters; Volunteer James Gross; Jennifer Zivkovic LeMarque, Field Deputy, Supervisor Janice Hahn; Aurelia Friedman, Field Deputy, Congressman Ted Lieu; Lawndale Councilmember James Osborne; Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG Executive Director; Lomita Councilmember James Gazeley; Lawndale Councilmember Bernadette Suarez.

On November 15, 2018, Britt Huff, Chair of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) and then Mayor of the City of Rolling Hills Estates, led the annual recognition event for the SBCCOG's dedicated volunteers. Other local, state and federal representatives, as well our utility and agency partners were on hand to join in the festivities honoring our volunteers.

 The SBCCOG has come to be known throughout the State for our forward thinking, action-oriented programs including the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC). We could not achieve or maintain our extensive programs without the help of our volunteers.

Over the last year our volunteers have helped with developing pages for our website and improving its appearance, with assisting the organization in the development of grant opportunities and working on Senior Services and Climate Action Implementation as well as providing information on transportation options and support for our other environmental programs at community outreach events.

Having volunteers allows us to have more hands and bodies to reach farther into the community and spread information to individuals, businesses, and public agencies on how we can all be more energy efficient, conserve water, and even form vanpools. Since 2008, we have had a total of 235 volunteers who have given over 18,000 hours of service! Currently we have 25 active volunteers led by SBCCOG staff Environmental Analyst and Volunteer Coordinator Martha Segovia.

The SBCCOG recognizes both the annual and cumulative contributions of our volunteers. Annual recognition is based on an 11-month calendar year from January to November and includes the total number of hours worked in the current year. The cumulative award is based on the total hours donated since first volunteering at the Environmental Services Center.

This year, seven recognition awards were bestowed, including six for annual contributions and one for cumulative hours.

Annual Award – 50 Hours Minimum: Three volunteers who have worked 50 plus hours at the Environmental Services Center this year received special recognition as a “Value Volunteer”. Congratulations to Alyse Anderson, Caroline Bustillos and Phoebe Bloomfield!

Annual Award - 100 Hours Minimum: Three volunteers who have worked 100 plus hours at the Environmental Services this past year received special recognition as a “Green Ambassador”. Congratulations to Kathy Young, Karen Kanda and Jon Rodman!

Cumulative Hours Award: One volunteer, James Gross, who has consistently provided outstanding work at the Environmental Services Center and worked over 250 hours since he began the program in February 2014, received the “Bronze Sustainability Award” which recognizes cumulative hours of service. Congratulations, James!

To join the SBCCOG's volunteer program, please give us a call 310-371-7222 x 209 or check our website for more information www.sbesc.com/volunteer. Congratulations!



Green Ambassador
Awardees:
Jon Rodman, Karen Kanda



Bronze
Sustainability Awardee
James Gross



Value Volunteer Awardees
Alyse Anderson (left)
and Caroline Bustillos



Green Ambassador
Awardee
Kathy Young

On January 10, the City of Gardena held a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating its new “first in California” Collision Reporting Center (CRP).

The CRP is the result of an agreement between the City and the Gardena Police Department to improve the processing of property damage-only traffic collisions on Gardena streets. The Center began operation on December 4 and has been helping drivers efficiently report crashes, start their claims, and get back on the road. The City selected Accident Support Services International to operate the Center. The Roanoke, Virginia based organization has served the people, police community and insurers across the US for the past 2 years, operating centers in Tucson, Arizona, Hampton, Virginia as well as its home city of Roanoke.

This new service is provided at no cost to the local governments or residents. It is funded by insurers who write automobile policies in California. The CRC is located at 16206 S. Western Ave, Suite G and is open from Monday to Friday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

In providing this facility, traffic crash reporting has moved from the side of the road to a safe and comfortable facility. This reduces the potential for secondary collisions that result in needless injury or death of citizens and police officers. Traffic congestion is also greatly reduced as a crash scene is quickly cleared.

Gardena Chief of Police Thomas Kang emphasized the Center’s public benefits to the travelling public “The Gardena Police Department is excited to partner with Accident Support Services International Ltd. to provide a Collision



Gardena Police Department officers surround Mayor Tasha Cerda, cutting ribbon, Police Chief Thomas Kang on her left, Councilman Rodney Tanaka on her right, and Steve Sanderson, President, Gardena Accident Support Services, holding ribbon.

Reporting Center for the Gardena community. We believe the center will provide a safe and comfortable environment for community members to self-report traffic collisions with guidance from trained professionals. The center will help simplify the collision reporting process and allow officers to be more proactive in the community as a result of having additional time to respond to more pressing issues.”

For more information, contact Lt. Steve Prendergast, Public Information Officer 310-217-9686 sprendergast@gardenapd.org.



Sbccog Tours SpaceX



Enjoying a tour in December of the SpaceX Falcon 9/Dragon rocket and spacecraft system design and manufacturing facility in Hawthorne are (left to right):

Hermosa Beach Councilmember Jeff Duclos; El Segundo staff Jasmine Allen, Cheryl Ebert, Arianne Bola and Nick Petrevski; Hawthorne Councilmember Olivia Valentine; Steve Lantz and Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG; Inglewood Councilmember Ralph Franklin; Palos Verdes Estates Councilmembers Jim Vandever and Ken Kao; Manhattan Beach Councilmember David Lesser; Torrance Councilmember Milton Herring; Hermosa Beach Councilmember Hany Fangary; David Leger, SBCCOG; Torrance Councilmember Geoff Rizzo; Hermosa Beach City Manager Suja Lowenthal; Lawndale Councilmember Jim Osborne; and Nico De Anda-Scaia, Assistant to the City Manager, Hermosa Beach.



SBCCOG CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANNING UNDERWAY

In 2017/2018, the South Bay Cities Council of Governments worked collaboratively with member cities to adopt 15 City-Specific Climate Action Plans and a Climate Action Plan for the sub-region to support statewide efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Even with our efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region, the South Bay will likely experience more frequent and intense climate-related events including extreme flooding, heat waves, wildfires and sea level rise. Therefore, in 2019 the SBCCOG is undertaking a similarly ambitious program—climate adaptation. Climate adaptation is the process of adjusting behaviors, systems, and infrastructure to reduce the impact climate change has on our communities.



It is important to understand how climate impacts will manifest themselves so that we can begin implementing strategies that help the subregion thrive in a variety of future climate conditions. Adaptation strategies aim to increase community resilience, or the ability of our communities to survive and thrive no matter what chronic climate stress or acute shock they experience. California's 4th Climate Assessment, released in 2018, projected that by mid-century, the average temperature in Los Angeles could increase by 4.3°F.

With more than 30% of LA households lacking air conditioning, rising temperatures and more frequent heat waves will increase the risk of heat-related illness and death. By pursuing adaptation strategies such as investing in tree canopies or increasing access to cool spaces, the SBCCOG can minimize the harm from such impacts.

With the help of our CivicSpark Climate Fellow, Carolyn Yvellez, the SBCCOG will produce a sub-regional adaptation framework, as well as city-specific vulnerability assessments in order to help member-cities comply with state mandates. In 2015, the California legislature passed SB 379, which requires the safety elements of general plans to be reviewed and updated to include vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies. Complying with SB 379 will also ensure cities are qualified to receive FEMA funding, and remain competitive in future grant opportunities. By providing a climate adaptation framework, the SBCCOG hopes to empower our local jurisdictions to pursue short-term solutions and long-term strategies to cope with current and future climate impacts in accordance with state law. For further information, visit <http://www.southbaycities.org/programs/climate-action-planning> or contact Carolyn Yvellez at carolyn@southbaycities.org.

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FACES OF THE SBCCOG – GRACE FARWELL

Grace Farwell, Analyst III, has worked at the Environmental Services Center since 2008, beginning as a contractor with Jacki Bacharach and Associates. In January, 2010 she became one of the original SBCCOG employees. Grace is the SBCCOG's Homeless Services Coordinator, and in that role, she provides coordination services among the South Bay cities, service providers, and community stakeholders in implementing the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative. Grace also staffs the SBCCOG Homeless Services Task Force and is a member of the CD 15 United to End Homelessness Working Group. Grace also serves as the staff liaison for the Senior Services Working Group which brings together city staff and other service providers who work with older adults to identify innovative mobility and housing strategies.



Grace manages the SBCCOG contracts with: West Basin Municipal Water District, LADWP, Sanitation Districts, Torrance Water, and Green Business Assist Program/CAGBN. As part of the outreach team, Grace is at Environmental Services Center hosted events throughout the South Bay or giving presentations on Energy Efficiency/Water Conservation and Zero Waste.

Grace bleeds cardinal and gold, as she holds three degrees from USC – a BA in Sociology, MS in Gerontology, and MPA, with a certificate in Long Term Care Administration. She has also received certification as a Residential Care Facility for the Elderly (RCFE) Administrator.

Grace's volunteer activities include serving on the board of the Panhellenic Alumnae South Bay Association. On Labor Day weekends, you can catch her serving as a San Pedro Chamber of Commerce Ambassador for LA Fleet Week! Grace is a passionate USC football fan, and, if there's a Jimmy Buffett concert in town, or he's playing at Jazz Fest in New Orleans, she'll be there!

Grace brings her great enthusiasm to her work at the SBCCOG and for our South Bay cities! Thanks Grace for all you do!

2018 HOLIDAY LIGHT EXCHANGE ANOTHER BRIGHT AND ENERGY SAVING SUCCESS

South Bay residents who participated in the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) 2018 Holiday Light Exchange received an extra savings surprise this year. The first 200 participants in the Holiday Light Exchange were given an Energy Efficiency Kit, compliments of SoCalGas.

The Energy Efficiency Kit, which consists of a low flow showerhead, faucet aerators and a filter replacement warning device, will help residents realize an energy savings of 8 therms per kit.

Each year, SBCCOG staff strives to educate attendees about the energy efficiency benefits of LED lighting. Light-emitting diodes, or LEDs, are small light sources that are illuminated by the movement of electrons through a semiconductor material. LEDs are exceptionally energy efficient and may use up to 90 percent less energy than a comparable incandescent bulb. The amount of electricity consumed by just one 7-watt incandescent bulb could power 140 LEDs – equivalent to four 10-foot LED strands. The EnergyStar® qualified lights can also last up to 10 times longer than traditional incandescent strands, and are cool to the touch, reduce the risk of fires, and come in a variety of colors, shapes, and lengths.

The SBCCOG's Holiday Light Exchange program requires that one old energy guzzling strand be surrendered in exchange for one new LED strand, however, this year's participants turned in much more! Eighteen 24-gallon bags of old lighting were collected and taken to Walsers in Torrance for e-recycling. (see photo)

Thank you to the 305 South Bay residents that participated this year. The event was covered by Hawthorne Cable TV and can be viewed on Hawthorne YouTube, December 21, 2018. 



SBCCOG staff member Brooke Heri assists participants



Torrance Councilmember Mike Griffiths



Jack Walser receives old lights



SoCalGas energy efficiency kit

**A BIG THANK YOU TO
OUR COMMUNITY SPONSORS
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Food for Thought

VALUE OF BIG DATA FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

By Michele Harnish, Sept. 10, 2018; Avianaglobal.com

With the ability to lower costs and generate life-changing insights, big data offers a tremendous amount of value to local governments. As information is collected, municipalities of any size can make data-backed decisions that reduce crime, lower traffic congestion and improve the environment, among other upgrades. Additionally, governments can determine how to spend money in more intelligent ways.

Investing in big data has proven to be useful for cities of every size. However, before actual change can come about, governments need a way to obtain this important information, a reason data mining software is necessary. Collecting the data takes time, but in the long run, the process has proven to be well worth the effort.

A primary area where data can make a tremendous difference on the government level is in studying the value of specific agencies, departments and programs. Cities often launch initiatives to focus on a specific aspect of life and then never take the time to evaluate if those programs are making a tangible difference. This happens everywhere, from large metropolises to small towns.

Data software can utilize predictive analytics to study workflows of different aspects of government to find ways to be more effective and spend money in a more intelligent way. In Chicago, the city's data team, led by chief information officer Brenna Berman, is looking for key indicators that can allow analytics software to formulate insights that will have a major impact. Berman told Government Technology magazine that with more information, a city has a better chance of improving productivity among its workers.

"I think this city has the ability of putting predictive analytics into the hands of every department in the city and unlocking the value of predictive analytics regardless of the number of data engineers we have," Berman said.

By evaluating how a government can utilize its resources in a more impactful way, a city can run in a more efficient manner. In San Francisco, government information officials studied the value of the city's 311 non-emergency phone line. What they found was that people were no longer calling 311 to find out things like if there was street cleaning on a certain road; instead, everyone was just searching the Web for that info. By moving its 311 center online to give residents real-time information, the city is saving more than \$1 million annually, city CIO Jay Nath tweeted.

Reducing costs and improving life

Investing in data also improves everyday life, and residents can reap the benefits without even realizing it. In Dubuque, Iowa – with a population of 58,000 – the local government teamed with IBM to improve sustainability by installing smart water meters in homes. Over time, technology officials could study how patrons used water to find ways to make the process more financially efficient. Dubuque saved more than 50 million gallons of water during the project, and city revenues were up \$18,000, Mayor Roy Buol told Government Technology.

As more cities collect data, they can gather more impactful insights into local problems. In Florida's Miami-Dade County, government officials wanted to determine ways to make the city safer for residents and out-of-town guests. Partnering with IBM, officials looked at street crime data, not only in Miami but in other cities across the world. Studying the information allowed local police detectives to be in a better position to stop criminals and make the streets more welcoming while also reducing department costs.

"The threat to tourism posed by rising street crime was a big reason the unit was established," said Arnold Palmer, the supervisor for Miami's Robbery Investigations Section. "The fact that we're able to use analytics and intelligence to help us close more cases and keep more criminals off the street is good news for our citizens and our tourist industry."

By collecting data and generating valuable insights, city governments can determine strategies and create actions to spend money in smarter ways than they have before.

CALENDAR

All meetings are open to the public

February

- 5 GIS Working Group
- 11 Steering Committee
- Transportation Committee
- 13 Infrastructure Working Group
- 28 General Assembly**

March

- 5 GIS Working Group
- 11 Steering Committee
- Transportation Committee
- 13 Homeless Services Task Force
- Infrastructure Working Group
- 20 Measure M MSP Task Force
- 26 Services for Seniors Working Group
- 28 Board of Directors**
- Energy Management Working Group

April

- 2 GIS Working Group
- 8 Steering Committee
- Transportation Committee
- 10 Infrastructure Working Group
- 11 Legislative Briefing
- 17 Measure M MSP Task Force
- 25 Board of Directors**

Save the Date and Register for the February 28, 2019 (Thursday) General Assembly
www.southbaycities.org

Contact Jacki@southbaycities.org for further information.

Published 2/12/2019

The quarterly South Bay Watch is available electronically by email or at www.southbaycities.org. To receive by email, please send your email address to sbccog@southbaycities.org