

South Bay Watch

PATH OUTREACH TEAMS PROVIDE MOBILE CASE MANAGEMENT TO THOSE WHO ARE HOMELESS

Summer 2016

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

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Kneeling in the street at a curb, Lao, a PATH outreach team member, sits with a gentleman who is homeless. "And how long have you been living here?" Lao asks. His colleague stands nearby engaging with other people living on the street. "Are you interested in housing or do you need any services?" she says.

This is not a typical office. But for the PATH outreach team, the streets and the hidden corners of South Bay city neighborhoods are often where you'll find them working.

South Bay Council Cities of Government has partnered with PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) to help those who are homeless move off the streets and into permanent homes. For 40 hours a week, four trained PATH Navigators engage with, and provide intensive case management, to the South Bay's most vulnerable individuals who are homeless.

As part of the year-long contract that started in February 2016, PATH provides three key services: homeless outreach in partnership with local police departments, community engagement and mobilization, and localized communications efforts to further educate and engage the community, as well as the media, around homelessness. From the start of the program, thru June 2016, PATH has engaged 190 individuals experiencing homelessness, linked 28 people with primary care, substance abuse, mental health services, and benefits, and moved 6 people living on the street into interim housing or a home.

PATH's mission is to end homelessness for individuals, families, and communities. They do this by building housing and providing services throughout California. The goal is to provide a long-term solution to ending homelessness by helping people move into their own apartment and provide continued support so they never have to return to the streets. Just in the last three and a half years, PATH has helped over 6,100 people move into permanent housing.

As PATH's CEO, Joel John Roberts notes, "You can build a center but if no one comes to you, it doesn't help. We have to go to the people who have no

transportation, we have to go to the people who have been homeless for so long that they have no idea there is assistance for them. We have to be proactive in how we engage our homeless neighbors."

PATH practices the Housing First model, meaning that people experiencing homelessness are moved into their own home as quickly as possible while they continue to receive supportive services. This often helps people overcome their personal challenges, such as substance abuse or health issues, much faster. Housing First has been proven as a best practice and a cost-effective solution. According to an Economic Roundtable study, the average cost of someone living on the streets in Los Angeles can be around \$63,000

a year, paid by taxes. These costs include emergency services, jail, mental health and substance abuse costs. But when people move into permanent housing, have access to services and independent skills training, the cost is about \$16,900 per person.

For many people living on the street, lack of trust is a major barrier. This is why it can take months, even years, for someone who is

homeless to finally trust a provider enough to accept services. "It takes time to build the rapport and trust necessary to help people move forward, but we're up to the challenge. If we had more affordable housing, and it was easy to get people to accept services, we would have far less than 115,000 people living on the streets of California. Our teams are on the streets day after day, to educate people on the services available to them, and most importantly to help them understand that we truly want to help them, as we say, "Make It Home," says Meredith Berkson, Regional Director of South County at PATH.

Residents of the South Bay Cities are encouraged to learn more about PATH at www.epath.org. If you are experiencing homelessness or are concerned about an individual who is experiencing homelessness in the South Bay, please call the PATH hotline at: (562) 457-0205. Photo credit: PATH



PATH outreach



SOUTH BAY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CENTER TEAMS UP WITH LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER (LADWP) AND SOCALGAS

The SBCCOG is pleased to announce a new Sustainability Program Partnership with Southern California Gas Company and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power energy efficiency and water conservation programs. This partnership promotes LADWP efficiency programs to residents, businesses, community groups and agencies in the San Pedro, Harbor City/Harbor Gateway, and Wilmington areas of Los Angeles City Council District 15.

Activity highlights of the new partnership include the following:

- Exhibit or provide presentations at special events, such as Farmers Markets and community events such as the annual San Pedro Shred Festival of Skate and the annual Marine Mammal Care Center's Seal Day.
- Coordinate with LADWP to provide a training session on residential LADWP programs and services.
- Train SBCCOG volunteers on LADWP programs to assist at events and act as ambassadors in the community. Please contact www.sbesc.com if you are interested in volunteering.
- Provide assistance and relevant energy efficiency and water conservation information to LADWP customers in Council District 15 who visit the SBESC.
- Identify commercial kitchens for water assessments and conservation training and coordinate with SoCalGas Customer Service Technicians to clean and calibrate gas powered kitchen equipment and coordinate with LADWP regarding lighting upgrades or other electric energy efficiency enhancements.

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Find SBESC at www.sbesc.com

Saving Energy

Energy efficiency and conservation strategies, also known as Demand-Side Management, play a key role in the LADWP environmental sustainability. Reducing energy use in Los Angeles directly lowers greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the LADWP's electric generating facilities. It also helps customers lower their energy bills and improves electrical system reliability by reducing demand on the system. The least expensive kilowatt is the one not generated; energy conservation is the cheapest way to provide power for the LADWP's increasing population.

LADWP offers a variety of energy efficiency rebates and incentives for residential and commercial users. The Consumer Rebate Program offers rebates for the purchase and installation of energy efficient appliances, home cooling equipment, pool pumps and motors. Rebates are offered to residential customers who recycle older refrigerators and freezers.

The commercial program features incentives that can assist both small and large businesses with reducing energy consumption. These programs offer rebates for energy efficient lighting, refrigeration, and cooling, as well as custom programs that evaluate energy efficiency improvements on an individual basis. A commercial direct install program is also available for LADWP businesses who are electric customers that have an average monthly electrical demand of 200 kilowatts (kW) or less. Typical items that may be installed are: upgrades to energy efficient lighting systems and lamps, LED exit signs, pre-rinse spray valves and low-flow showerheads and toilets.

Saving Water

LADWP is working to develop a local water supply and invests approximately \$100 million in water recycling, stormwater capture, and water conservation annually (approximately 10% of the Water System's annual budget). LADWP is also investigating opportunities for increased storage of groundwater, both in the Los Angeles basin and in areas outside of the city. LADWP offers water conservation programs for residential and commercial customers. Additionally, for commercial customers, there is the Technical Assistance Program (TAP). For more information about LADWP residential and non-residential energy efficiency and water conservation programs, visit www.ladwp.com or www.sbesc.com.




June 5 Shred Festival of Skate, San Pedro: SBESC Volunteer James Gross (left), LA Councilmember Joe Buscaino and Grace Farwell-Granger, SBCCOG Staff member



June 26 Marine Mammal Care Center, Annual Seal Day, San Pedro

GREEN BUILDING CHALLENGE UPDATE

The South Bay Cities Green Building Challenge is a competition designed to drive sustainability improvements in the categories of energy, water waste and transportation. Participation has reached 162, with over 260 actions reported through the online platform. These actions include participation in partner rebate and incentive programs, lighting upgrades, water conservation, waste reduction, employee engagement and other sustainability initiatives, saving resources and money. The Challenge was featured at the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) Forum poster session, which focused on energy efficiency programs, best practices, and projects. View the poster and learn more about program progress at www.southbaycities.org\programs.

The SBBCOG thanks the following local elected officials who have helped promote the Challenge by joining staff on outreach walks and providing program leads: Hawthorne Councilmember Olivia Valentine, Inglewood Councilmember Ralph Franklin, Lawndale Councilmember James Osborne, Palos Verdes Estates Councilmember James Goodhart, and Redondo Beach Councilmember Steve Sammarco. Businesses can still enroll in the Challenge by contacting us at (310) 371-7222 or gbc@southbaycities.org 

Green Building Challengers

1 Day Kitchen • 3 Leaf Realty • 707 Silver Spur • 9Round Fitness • Active Security Solutions • All Yellow Taxi • Angelito's Market • Art Flying Aerial • Art Flying Yoga • AstroMotive • Automobile Driving Museum • BabyMAX • Bagels Galore Baskins Robbins - Carson & RPV (2)* • Beach Cities Health District (2)* • Blue Basil • Blue Lotus • Boulevard Florist Butler Inc. • Carpets by Monte • Century Carwash • Century 21 Union Realty • Chapin Restaurant and Bakery Children's Orchard MB • Cilajet • Cook's Doors & Windows • Corner Burger • Corner Joint • Courtyard Marriot - Torrance/Palos Verdes & Torrance/South Bay (2)* • Crawfish Corner • Critics Choice Catering • Crowne Plaza Redondo Beach • Custom Video Productions • Delia's Restaurant • Dick Wagoner AC • DoubleTree Torrance • E3 Vehicles El Baja Chef • El Segundo Chamber of Commerce • Extra Space Storage • Farmer's Insurance (2)* • Farmer's Insurance - Alex Cainglet • Fat Tomato • Fiesta Martin Mexican Grill • Fiesta Time Tacos • Fitch's Kitchen • Fitness and Fun Body Transformation Center • Fitness Strong • Flip it Café • Global Paratransit • Golden Lion Liquor • Grades of Green Grande Law Firm • Green Hapas Recycling • Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce • Hawthorn Suites • HazAwayToday.com HD Conservation • Hermosa Mexican Cuisine • Hustler Casino • Indian Summer Grill • Insight Structural Engineers JBJ's Bakery • Joy Bakery • Kaiser Permanente Carson and Manhattan Beach (2)* • Kilroy Realty (5)* • King Shabu Shabu (2)* Laced • The Lawndale Laundromat • LEDtronics • Leo's Mexican Food • Liberty Tax Service - Hawthorne and Torrance (2)* Lomita's Best • Lopez Tax Service • Lucky Donuts • Maki Yaki • Malaga Cove Library • Malaga Cove Ranch Market Manhattan Bread & Bagel • Manhattan Plaza • Mar Ventures (2)* • Maritz • Memo's Mexican Grill • Mezontle Mexican Grill MG's Barbershop • Mi California • Mima's Bakery • Miraleste Library • Music Works • Naja's Place • Normandie Casino One Stop Career Center - Gardena & Inglewood (2)* • Optima Energy Group • Our Lady of Guadalupe Church • Pacific Auto Cleaning • Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce • Pediatric Therapy Network (4)* • Peninsula Center Library Pepe the Tailor • Philly's Best • Pier to Pier Brokers • Poblanita Express • Press Box Barber Shop • Providence Little Company of Mary • PV Beach & Athletic Club • PV Golf Club • PV Land Conservancy • PV Tax Service • PV Tennis Club • Raytheon Red Car Brewery • Redmond Aviation Lock & Key • REMS Inc. • Restoration Kitchen & Wine • Rinconcito Ecuatoriano Rico's Tacos El Tio Inc. • Rosie's Hair Salon • Saigon Dish • SaveSorb • Shade Hotel • Slider Stop • Soul Performance Surf Shop • South Bay Workforce Investment Board/Squeegy • Stitches N' Screens • St. Margaret's Center • Stream Realty Sunflower Farms Nursery • Sunrise Senior Living Hermosa Beach • Tacos El Unico • Terranea • The Slip Bar • The Village Restaurant • Tom's Tacos • Torrance Travelodge • T4T.org • Trump National Golf Course • Union Bank - Gardena and Hawthorne (2)* • Urban Trans • U.S. Hybrid • Verengo Solar • Walser's • Watson Land • Wilson's Unique Designs (2)* Zentis. *multiple locations 

Thank you to our program partners



SANITATION DISTRICTS WIN AWARD FOR PROJECT THAT CONVERTS FOOD WASTE INTO ENERGY

At its annual national technical conference in April, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists (Academy) presented the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts) the Grand Prize in the category of Operations/Management. The Sanitation Districts were recognized for their food waste research project that converts food waste into energy and a beneficial nutrient rich soil amendment. The many benefits of the project include reduced landfilling and reduced greenhouse gas emissions through the generation of energy by a biogas rather than fossil fuels. The project is consistent with the Sanitation Districts' mission of converting waste into resources for a sustainable community and as of June, 2016, has diverted more than 19,000 tons of food waste from landfilling.

The successful food waste project was implemented in partnership with USA Waste of California (Waste Management). Source separated food waste is collected, processed, and delivered by Waste Management to an anaerobic digester located at the Sanitation Districts' largest wastewater treatment facility, the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant (JWPCP) in Carson, CA. A digester is used in wastewater treatment to process the solids (biosolids) removed from the wastewater by reducing the volume of the organic material and reducing pathogens. Excess capacity in the digester is now being used to co-digest up to 61 tons per day (tpd) of food waste with wastewater biosolids.

Waste Management obtains the food waste via customer agreements that prohibit disposal of glass, metals, plastics, wood, fiber products, hazardous materials and cleaning solvents in the food waste. Remaining non-food waste contaminants are removed using a system that refines the food waste to a clean feedstock. The raw feedstock is blended into small food particles, screened, and then mixed with water to create an "engineered bio-slurry".

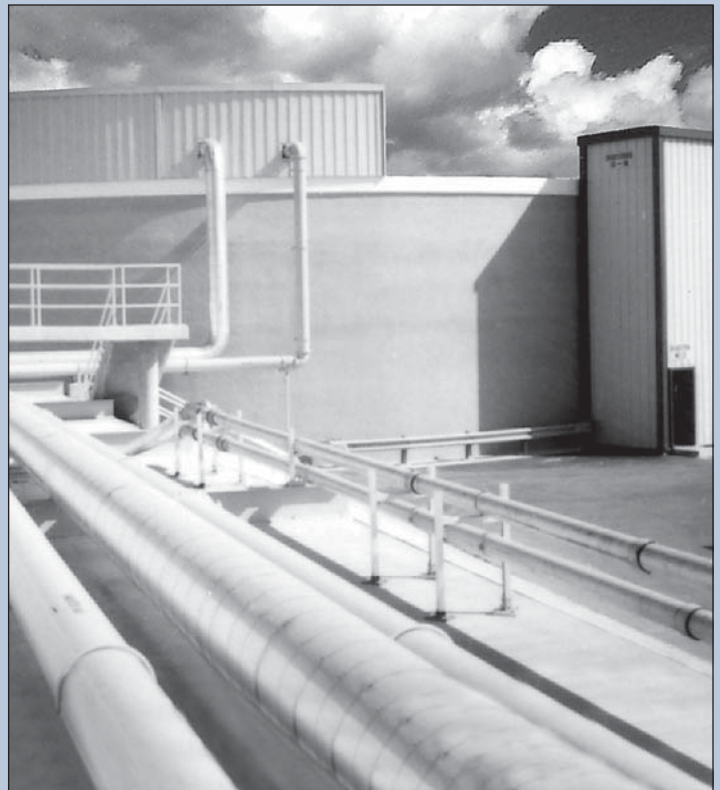
Through this project, food waste is diverted from landfill disposal and converted in the digester into renewable energy, and after additional processing, into a beneficial nutrient rich soil amendment. The JWPCP facility operates a combined cycle combustion turbine facility that typically generates 20 megawatts of electricity for onsite use. This facility has a spare capacity that is able to use most of the additional digester biogas produced by the project to generate an additional 250 kilowatts of electricity. Diverting organic waste away from landfills is a key part of California's strategy to reach 75 percent recycling by 2020. Existing recycling rates in California have largely been reached through traditional materials recycling of paper, glass, metals, and plastic. Much of the remaining waste going to landfills is organic material and it will be necessary to divert this material if the statewide goal is to be met.

"Our wastewater treatment infrastructure provides an attractive option for food waste digestion since the digestion facilities already exist," stated Grace Robinson Hyde, Chief Engineer and General Manager for the Sanitation Districts. "The additional biogas generated by the food waste can also be utilized at an existing power generation facility. Utilizing existing infrastructure avoids significant capital expenditures compared to developing new facilities from scratch."

For more information regarding the Sanitation Districts' pilot food waste to energy project go to:

www.aaees.org/e3scompetition-winner-2016gp-operationsmanagement.php

The Sanitation Districts consist of 24 independent special districts serving the wastewater and solid waste management needs for approximately 5.6 million people in 78 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. The Sanitation Districts pioneered the use of recycled water for beneficial reuse over 50 years ago and remain strong proponents of expanding reuse and recycling options in both wastewater and solid waste management. In addition, the Sanitation Districts continually research efforts to advance state-of-the-art treatment practices in both efficiency and effectiveness.



Anaerobic digester unit

TRAVEL PAL BRINGS TRAVEL OPTIONS TO THE SOUTH BAY

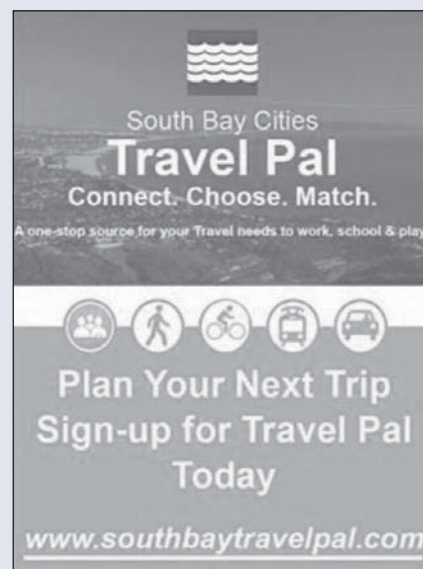
South Bay Travel Pal was inaugurated on May 16th with a Launch Contest for early sign-ups. It is a website designed to display travel choices for your regular trips and for special events. It also will provide ridesharing options.

In the first couple of days over 500 people explored the new web site to “test-drive” Travel Pal. By the end of June, over 180 people had signed up to begin their journey of Connecting, Choosing, and Matching with like-minded people who want to better understand and make sustainable travel choices.

Who can use the Travel Pal? Anyone who wants to learn more about their travel options and who wants to consider alternative ways of getting around besides driving alone. Travel Pal is a great tool for those who want to discover what their actual transportation costs are; what their mobility carbon footprint really is; and, should they choose an active transportation mode – like bicycling or walking - how many calories they’ll burn.

Transit, bicycling, walking and carpooling are all options that users of Travel Pal can explore. Individuals, employers and managers of event facilities are all finding creative ways to lessen congestion, ease parking challenges and find ways to share the trip!

Visit the website at www.southbaytravelpal.com to register and start logging your trips today! 



COMMERCIAL ORGANIC RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS NOW IN EFFECT

Assembly Bill 1826 (AB 1826), passed in 2014, expanded mandatory commercial recycling to include organic materials. Under the new law, in effect on January 1, 2016, all businesses and 5-unit or more apartment complexes that generate certain amounts of organic waste are required to arrange for organic waste recycling. (For apartment complexes, however, the mandate applies only to non-food organics).


The segment of the waste stream referred to as “organics” includes food scraps, green waste (leaves and grass), landscaping waste (prunings, trimmings, branches and stumps), non-hazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper. The primary goal of AB 1826 is to divert organic materials from landfills and its implementation represents a next step towards achieving California’s aggressive recycling and greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals.

AB 1826 phases in the mandatory recycling requirements over the next few years. Beginning April 1, 2016, all businesses that generate at least 8 cubic yards of organic waste per week are required to recycle organics. On January 1, 2017, the requirements will expand to businesses that generate 4 cubic yards of organic waste weekly. Finally, as of January 1, 2019, all businesses that generate at least 4 cubic yards of any type of solid waste per week will be required to recycle organics.

The target of AB 1826 is to, by 2020, divert up to 50% of the organics going to landfills on a statewide basis, compared to

the level that was disposed in 2014. The law provides also, should the state fail to meet this target, the organics recycling requirement will further expand to apply to all businesses that generate as little as 2 cubic yards or more per week of all types of solid waste. The State Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) will be looking at waste disposal reports filed by local jurisdictions in 2017 and 2020 in making this determination.

As the law has only recently become effective, compliance with AB 1826 is in the early stages. Cities and local waste haulers are engaged in outreach and educating commercial businesses that generate food waste regarding the requirements and various options. Options to comply include: separating organic wastes from other waste and subscribing to an organic waste collection service; recycling organic waste on site, or self-hauling organic waste for organic recycling; subscribing to an organic waste recycling service that includes mixed-waste processing that will specifically recycle organic waste, or selling or donating organic waste.

Organic waste producing businesses are encouraged to contact their waste hauler for assistance in meeting the new mandatory organics recycling requirements. More information including a list of frequently asked questions about AB 1826 can be obtained at: www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/FAQ 

Food *for* Thought

NEW WATER SUPPLY STANDARDS TAKE EFFECT CONSERVATION AND SUPPLY DIVERSIFICATION STILL CRUCIAL

West Basin Municipal Water District, June, 2016

Southern California water agencies, including Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin), will soon report little or no water supply shortage based on a three-year dry period “stress test” (based on hydrology patterns in 2013 – 2015) established by the State Water Resources Control Board. Due to collective investments in water use efficiency, local supply projects and storage programs over the past two decades, the region has sufficient water supplies for the next three years.

Continued Conservation is Essential

While rainfall and snowpack in Northern California helped to replenish state reservoirs, Southern California has received less than half its normal rainfall this winter. We’re still experiencing the effects of a prolonged drought, climate differences and continued restrictions on removing water from the environment. What’s more, tree ring studies indicate that the Southwest has experienced past droughts lasting over 100 years in length.

To ensure enough water for the years ahead, it is vital that we remain diligent in pursuing a long-term water conservation ethic and drought-proof supplies. While water agencies no longer have to reach state-specified conservation targets, they must determine how best to conserve and prove supplies are sufficient under enduring dry conditions.

A Diversified Water Portfolio

To further protect us against future water challenges, a diverse water supply portfolio is also necessary. Since its formation in 1947, West Basin established a vision of water reliability for the South Bay communities. Initially formed when the West Basin region’s fresh water supplies were threatened by salt water intrusion, West Basin understood early on the importance of protecting and producing local water supply.

In the early 1990s, West Basin made a strategic decision to strive for improved water reliability in the face of another severe Southern California drought. In addition to providing imported water from Northern California and the Colorado River, the District further expanded its water supply portfolio and began desalting groundwater, recycling wastewater and implementing water conservation programs to reduce its dependency on water imported from hundreds of miles away. These sound investments made more than 20 years ago to develop local projects and increase water reliability are significantly helping the West Basin communities today as we again face severe drought conditions and new emergency regulations from the State Water Board.

Given this history and the uncertainty of what the future will bring, it is prudent that we explore viable water supply alternatives while remaining committed to long-term conservation. For West Basin, this includes expanding water recycling and conservation efforts, and continuing to explore ocean water desalination as a new supply of drinking water.

Learn More

We invite our communities to learn about West Basin efforts to diversify our water supply portfolio by joining free conservation workshops, attending free water recycling or ocean water desalination tours, participating in a fall Recycled Water Workshop and taking part in the annual Water Harvest Festival.

For more information about West Basin Water Reliability Programs, please visit www.westbasin.org.

For more information about State Water Board conservation approach, visit www.drought.ca.gov.



CALENDAR

All meetings are open to the public

August

- 8 Steering Committee
- 9 GIS Working Group
- 17 Infrastructure Working Group
- 18 Economic Development
Directors’ Roundtable
- 25 Board of Directors**

September

- 8 Social Media Working Group
- 12 Steering Committee
- 13 GIS Working Group
- 21 Infrastructure Working Group
Livable Communities
Working Group
- 22 Board of Directors**
- 27 Senior Services Working Group

October

- 10 Steering Committee
- 11 GIS Working Group
- 13 Legislative Briefing
- 19 Infrastructure Working Group
- 20 Economic Development
Directors’ Roundtable
- 27 Board of Directors**

Contact jacki@southbaycities.org for further information.

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