

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

September 24, 2015

TO: SBCCOG Board of Directors

FROM: Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG Executive Director  
Kim Fuentes, Deputy Executive Director

SUBJECT: Environmental Activities Report

## Adherence to Strategic Plan:

*Goal A: Environment, Transportation, and Economic Development.* Facilitate, implement and/or educate members and others about environmental, transportation, and economic development programs that benefit the South Bay.

## I. PROGRAMS - TECHNOLOGY, PLANNING, & RESEARCH

### **Climate Action Planning**

#### Climate Action Plans/Energy Efficiency Climate Action Plans (CAP/EECAP)

The contractor, Atkins, is recalculating the draft energy efficiency measures for each of the cities based on second set of city staff meetings and comments. These calculations will be used by the cities over the next three months to adopt energy efficiency measures. Many cities are on track with State greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals for both 2020 and 2035. Funding for the Energy Efficiency chapters ends in December, 2015 along with the technical resources that we have to develop this chapter.

#### Strategic Growth Council Grant

Energy Generation and Storage Chapter - As one of the chapters of a Climate Action Plan, the Energy Generation and Storage chapter will lay out strategies related to renewable energy and energy storage to help cities and their communities maintain their quality of life, while minimizing the use of foreign fossil fuels. Most of the initial strategy presentations to the cities have been completed and feedback has been collected for further strategy refinement. On an ongoing basis, cities will be provided information on these strategies through the EECAP/CAP and Energy Management Working Groups, as well as educational seminars and presentations to elected officials and city staff. If resources permit, field trips to demonstration sites with renewable technologies will also be planned.

Greening and Waste chapters – The SBCCOG staff has met with most of the cities to present and discuss the menu of strategies for the Greening and Solid Waste chapters of the Climate Action Plans. The staff is continuing to research the methodology for calculating greenhouse gas reduction potentials of the strategies. Information gained from city meetings will be used to start the calculation of the greenhouse gas reduction potentials.

CAPCOA Land Use and Transportation (under the direction of Wally Siembab and his team) - strategies and methodologies have been reviewed for: Density, Mixed-Use Development, and Accessibility; Pedestrian and Biking strategies; Parking and Transit Strategies; Electric Vehicle and Telecommuting strategies. In addition, the literature review is completed on other existing methodologies. A document has been created that lists each of these strategies, how the GHG reduction equations are computed, how existing CAPs have incorporated the strategies, and other recent academic work. Work has also begun on developing in-depth Land-use strategies including how to improve upon them, how to incorporate the South Bay Sustainability Strategy, and what additional research needs to be conducted on accessibility and diversity.

The SBCCOG continues to utilize volunteers to support the CAP efforts in researching and continuing to refine cities’ strategies. Currently, the CAP volunteers are developing the following:

- cost/benefit analysis
- list of cities’ General Plan policies that directly relate to implementing alternative energy and storage
- list of barriers from existing public agencies’ plans
- educational materials

**Energy Efficiency**

Energy Leader Partnership (ELP)

**2015 Status:** Completed 547,538 kWh (34.4% of 2015 kWh goal)

**2015 Goal:** 1,590,000 kWh

**2015 paid out incentives to cities:** \$76,978.92

Remaining to achieve 2015 goal: 1,042,462 kWh

Below is a summary of anticipated ELP progress for cities that currently have projects in the pipeline along with the estimated completion dates:

City	Current Tier Level	kWh Savings in Project Pipeline	Anticipated Tier Level	Anticipated Timeframe
Carson	Gold	1,094,144	Platinum	Q2 2016
Gardena	Valued	219,909	Silver	Q4 2015
Hawthorne	Gold	48,789	Platinum	Q2 2016
Hermosa Beach	Silver	367,088	Platinum	Q4 2015
Inglewood	Gold	1,452,029	Platinum	Q3 2016
<b>New Addition! - Manhattan Beach</b>	Platinum	51,309	n/a	Q1 2016
Rancho Palos Verdes	Gold	38,269	Gold	Q1 2016
Redondo Beach	Silver	120,916	Gold	Q1 2016
Torrance	Silver	570,779	Gold	Q4 2015

Totaling over 4 million kWh in the pipeline

## EEMIS

Extensive analysis of reporting functionalities and preparing reporting mechanisms that make sense to cities is underway at the SBCCOG. Also, anticipated in Fall 2015, EEMIS will have the following enhancements:

- updated dashboard visuals,
- compatibility with multiple browsers (previously only viewable in Internet Explorer), and
- smart phone accessibility

EEMIS in action with Green Charge Networks – A recent energy storage technology that uses peak shaving to minimize costs on cities’ electric bills has received interest from five South Bay cities. This free-of-charge energy storage program offers shared cost-savings paid to cities who qualify with their building demand use. EEMIS reporting functionalities are being used to generate one month of bill data to save city staff time – which normally would be about a week of searching to locate bills and about two days of actually looking through the bill to find accounts for specific facilities.

Energy Management Working Group – The last EMWG was held in early August 2015 and a speaker from Green Charge Networks discussed the energy storage program referenced above. Also, best practices were shared among city staff as well as new projects to be added to pipeline so that cities can take advantage of the financial incentives offered through our partners.

## Southern California Gas Company (SCG)

**2015 Status:** 14,414 therms (144% of 2015 therm goal)

**2015 Goal:** 10,000 therms

**2015 paid out incentives to agencies:** \$17,940

Remaining to achieve 2015 goal: **0** therms

Pending projects:

- City of Carson – pool cover and boiler replacement (3,635 therms)
- Marymount California University – solar thermal heating (in planning)
- Torrance USD – boilers (in planning)

## Energy Upgrade California Community Outreach Ambassador

Contract goals: 6 outreach events and 6 presentations to be completed by January 1 - December 31, 2015

Status of goals: 4 outreach completed; 6 presentations completed – Goal Met

The Environmental Charter High School (ECHS) Green Ambassador Students partners with the SBCCOG on this program:

ECHS has contract goals as well: 3 outreach events and 3 presentations

Status of ECHS goals: 3 outreach events completed [events completed in March (1), April (1), May(1)]; 3 presentations completed [presentations given in March (1) and May(2)] – Goal Met

Home Upgrade (The Energy Network) Contract period is May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015  
Contract goals: exhibit at 8-10 community events and provide 2-4 workshops/presentations.

Status of goals: 9 outreach events completed; 2 presentations completed (1 additional event has been identified in September; 2 presentations have been scheduled in October)

### Green Building Challenge

The GBC website has been populated with the Challenge description, rules, and activities. Outreach meetings to review the program and provide a demo are being held with local businesses, city staff, chambers of commerce and environmental committees/commissions. Meetings held included: Continental Dev. Corp., Watson Land, Beach Cities Health District, Manhattan Village Shopping Center, Mar Ventures, Honda, and Smart & Final. Staff also made presentations to El Segundo Environmental Commission and Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission. A press release on the launch was issued to local media on August 27. The SBCCOG and our technology partner, Green Per Square Foot, have commenced phone outreach to a list of over 900 buildings and businesses to encourage their participation by informing them of the Challenge and offering a demo.

Golden State Water Company (GSW) has committed to sponsor the program at the \$7,500 level. GSW resources and rebates will be integrated into the Challenge, adding value for participants. Additional partners may be added throughout the program period.

The official online launch of the Challenge is September 1<sup>st</sup>, with a press event scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2015, 9:00 AM at the SBCCOG.

### Holiday Light Exchange

SBCCOG staff received 250 shower timers from West Basin Municipal Water District to be handed out with the boxes of LED holiday lights. The value is \$790.50. We received payment for a \$250 sponsorship from Continental Development and a commitment for a \$250 sponsorship from Athens Services. Save the date for the Holiday Light Exchange and All Partner Exhibit Event on November 12 and 13 from 9am to 5pm.

### **Water Conservation**

West Basin Municipal Water District Programs (West Basin) Contract year is Sept. 1 through Aug. 31

#### Water Reliability (WR) 2020

Contract goal: 427 WR 2020 support cards to be collected by August 31, 2015.

Status of goals: 463 cards collected in total. Goal met.

Contract goal: Up to 40 WR 2020 presentations to be scheduled.

Status of goals: 30 have been scheduled as of Aug. 31, 2015. (Note: this goal is dependent upon West Basin's availability.)

SBCCOG staff continues to contact Commission/ Committee staff liaisons via email to schedule presentations. During August, SBCCOG staff followed up with Homes Associations and leads

which resulted in scheduling Old Torrance Neighborhood Association for September 16; PVE residents for September 30; and Xi Xi Theta Sorority for October 28. Also, 5 Torrance homes associations are checking with their boards to set dates for presentations.

Contract goal: Up to 24 tabletop WR2020 business briefings to be scheduled.

Status of goals: 17/24

August business briefings included a meeting with the Publisher of Herald Publications. Both WBMWD Director Houston and WBMWD staff member Ron Wildermuth presented. During August, SBCCOG staff reached out to Inglewood Chamber of Commerce and to several businesses. Staff will continue to follow-up.

#### Lunch & Learn educational workshops

Contract goal: complete 2 educational workshops by August 31, 2015

Status of goals: 2 have been completed.

A second workshop on Greywater was hosted by SBCCOG (Client Theater) on August 25th. There were 86 registrations; 49 people attended. Feedback was very positive. West Basin staff will be presenting to the WB Board in September or October and recommend that they budget and fund 5 more workshops next year; one in each of their Divisions.

#### Cash for Kitchens

Contract goals: 40 kitchen audits to be completed by Aug 31, 2015.

Status as of August 31, 2015: 40 audits completed – Goal Met

Contract goals: 50 follow-up visits at 50 previously audited sites.

Status as of August 31, 2015: 50 follow-up visits completed – Goal Met

Activities for August included SBCCOG staff contacting the following businesses: Akbar Cuisine of India (Hermosa Beach) and Inglewood Unified School District (Inglewood).

Contract goals: 2 training sessions to be completed by August 31, 2015.

Status as of August 31, 2015: 2 training sessions completed – Goal Met. (First training completed on June 26 at the Trump National Golf Club, Rancho Palos Verdes. Second training completed on August 20 at the Inglewood Unified School District, Inglewood).

#### Rain Barrel

During the month of August, 113 individuals were recorded as indicating interest in the Rain Barrel Giveaway. This information will be used to plan for future giveaways which are currently in the development stages by West Basin.

#### Car Wash

Contract goal: “Re-sign” for next year the 7 car wash companies that are participating in the program.

Status of goal: 7 of the 7 current car wash companies have renewed - Dominguez Car Wash (Carson), Crenshaw Imperial Car Wash (Inglewood), Lennox Car Wash (Lennox), Carson Car Wash (Carson), Gardena Car Wash (Gardena), Bellagio Car Wash (Lawndale), and Rock n Roll Car Wash (Hermosa Beach). – Goal Met

SBCCOG staff re-visited the following Car Wash business in August to promote the program: Rock n Roll Car Wash (Hermosa Beach)

Contract goal: strive to enroll 2-3 new car wash companies by August 31, 2015.

Status of goal: 2 new car wash companies have signed up - Go Eco Express (Lawndale) and Green Forest Car Wash (Hawthorne). – Goal Met

#### Weather-Based Irrigation Controller Exchanges

Contract goal: 3 exchanges to be completed by August 31, 2015.

Status: 3 exchanges has been completed. – Goal Met

#### West Basin's Water Conservation Microsite

West Basin is developing a microsite, specifically for its water conservation programs, to accompany their main website. They have hired a 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractor (Droplet Technologies) to develop the microsite. SBCCOG staff will be working closely with both West Basin and Droplet Technologies as they develop components of the microsite that will interface with the SBESC's website (e.g. registration forms and interest lists for classes and giveaway events). The microsite is set for a "soft launch" in mid-September.

#### Water Harvest 2015

We are working with the SBWIB to secure 10-15 high school volunteers to assist at the Water Harvest Festival.

#### Sanitation Districts

Contract goal: Schedule 5 Sanitation Districts-related presentations to be completed by December 31, 2015.

Status: 5 presentations have been scheduled; 5 presentations have been given.

#### MWD Caucus Meeting

August meeting focused on the "Mid-Cycle Biennial Budget Update" presented by Gary Breaux, Assistant GM/CFO, MWD. Highlights included: Water Supply Allocation Plan Level 3 was implemented for FY2015-2016 (roughly a 15% reduction in wholesale water use on a regional level and established a surcharge of roughly 4 times the normal price of an acre foot of water for use beyond the allocated amount); sales for May, June, and July 2015 were below forecasted sales; water sales trend is lower than last two calendar years; hydrology for calendar year 2016 is unknown. Emerging issues for FY 2016-2017 and FY 2017-2018: strategy to replenish storage; State Water Contract and California Water Fix; treated water costs; update 10-year forecast (including funding of key priorities while keeping water rates low – target 3% increase overall for both fiscal years).

### **Transportation**

#### Vanpool Program

Contract goal: 72 outreach events; 18 information/formation meetings to be completed by February 15, 2016.

Status of Goals: 76 outreach events; 16 information/formation meetings

SBCCOG staff distributed Vanpool information at 6 community outreach events in August. Outreach efforts were facilitated between employees from Providence Little Company of Mary

Hospital and employees at the City of Torrance in the hopes of assisting several individuals to find seats on 1 or more of the City’s vanpools. Continued outreach has taken place to assist California State University Dominguez Hills to explore creative ways to expand their van pool program with the City of Carson as well as nearby employers; on-site meetings are expected to take place in late September. Follow-up work continues with the City of Inglewood as well as with Harbor UCLA medical center and the Divco property management group in El Segundo.

Metro Express Lanes (MEL)

The goal of the MEL Contract is to continue to build awareness and increase the number of FasTrak® transponder accounts for vehicles using the I-110 corridor Express Lanes as well as encourage use of the Silver Line bus services and vanpools.

Status: 6 community events; 1 MEL email update; 1 SBCCOG Newsletter  
 SBCCOG participated and distributed MEL materials at 6 South Bay community events in August. SBCCOG staff continues to advise the MEL support Team of marketing opportunities in the South Bay though the MEL team has indicated that it will selectively target and allocating marketing resources as they deem appropriate.

II. MARKETING, OUTREACH, & IMPLEMENTATION

Workshops, Trainings & Exchanges

The following chart lists an overview of all workshops held in August 2015:

Event Date	Event Name	No. Attended/ No. of RSVPs	Marketing Info. (how did they hear about the workshop):	Staff Lead
8/22/15	Weather-Based Irrigation Controller (WBIC) Exchange	24/30 (27 controllers exchanged)	Email: 13 Flyer: 3 Friend or Family: 4 Local Publication: 5 Social Media: 1 Website: 2 Other: 2	RD
8/25/15	Residential Greywater Workshop	46/86	Email: 67 Flyer: 3 Friend or Family: 5 Local Publication: 2 Social Media: 4 Website: 6	GFG
8/29/15	Weather-Based Irrigation Controller (WBIC) Exchange	??/??	Email: Flyer: Friend or Family: Local Publication: Social Media: Website: Other:	AB

SCE Workshops – SCE seminar on Basic HVAC is scheduled for October 9, 2015, hosted by SBCCOG.

Palos Verdes Library District – Partnering with West Basin (Water Reliability presentation) and Cal Water Services (update on the drought and water restrictions), the second workshop was given in August on Zero Waste and included the Sanitation Districts. The third workshop will be given in September and will focus on the future of transportation in the South Bay.

### Outreach Events

- 5 community events;
  - Scheduled to attend 4 community events in September
- 4 presentations/workshops (overview of SBCCOG);
  - Scheduled to give 1 presentation in September
- Calendar year-to-date through August 2015:
  - 51 - community events
  - 7 - Employee events
  - 7 - Business or business card events
  - 37 - Presentations/workshops

During the month of August staff coordinated with Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' Senior Environmental Deputy Karly Katona, who put us in touch with the Supervisor's Constituent Team to present our SBCCOG programs. They identified groups for us to outreach to in his district.

### **Media**

#### Earned Media Received in August 2015

“Palos Verdes Library and SBESC Present Environmental Impact Workshop” – PV Patch – August 28, 2015

#### Social Media

As of August 26, 2015 social media following is as follows:

Facebook: 414 likes, 752 impressions\*

LinkedIn: 76 followers, 603 impressions

Twitter: 340 followers, 1,954 impressions

*\*Impressions: the number of times a post has been viewed*

**Top Tweet** earned 520 impressions

Reuse single-side printed paper for grocery shopping and errands list... [ow.ly/Qr3Mv](http://ow.ly/Qr3Mv)

**#greentip #EcoMonday**

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View Tweet activity

View all Tweet activity



### Social Media Working Group Meeting

This month's meeting was another well attended meeting with a newcomer from Palos Verdes Estates, representing the City's initiative to move forward with developing a social media presence. Guest speakers Nancy Casanova and Michael Padian were insightful, providing the group with detailed examples of SCE's social media development over the past years as well as access to resources used for measuring and reporting on social media (e.g. Pulse reports). For the group's next meeting, Nextdoor, Southern California Gas Company, and LA County Sheriff's Department are among the targeted guest speakers of interest.

### **Volunteer Program**

#### Volunteers

Volunteer hours for the month of July 2015 are as follows:

- 308 hours
- Grand total as of 7/31/15 = 14,369.43 (Starting April 2008)