

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

January 10, 2022

TO: SBCCOG Steering Committee

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Activities Report – December 2021

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

GHG emission inventory updates – CivicSpark Fellow

The SBCCOG hosted a kickoff meeting with member cities on December 8. The agenda included the SBCCOG's previous work on climate action plans (CAP), greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventories, and adaptation planning. At the meeting there was a discussion of the GHG emissions inventory update process, timeline, and next steps for initiating this process with member cities. The SBCCOG also presented on relevant legislative context for the effort, including statewide targets. Representatives from 9 member cities attended including Carson, El Segundo, Gardena, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, and Torrance. The SBCCOG will follow up with cities regarding data requests and next steps to initiate the inventory update process. The SBCCOG also met with the City of Manhattan Beach to discuss climate action planning best practices, opportunities for collaboration, and related needs.

Energy Efficiency

Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN); CITY SUPPORT

Contract period is January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2021

Contract goal: enroll 6 public agencies GOAL MET

Staff continues to collect utility data for new enrollees in order to complete city specific comparative energy analysis (CEA) which helps identify energy efficiency projects. To date, CEA reports have been presented to the cities of Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills Estates, and Torrance. The City of Lomita and El Segundo Unified School District will be receiving their SoCalREN CEA soon.

SBCCOG is preparing to host the next Energy Management Working Group in January 2022 that will discuss benchmarking initiatives, state benchmarking compliance, and upcoming third-party program opportunities for cities coming online in the new year.

SBCCOG is continuing to work with SoCalREN on developing a municipal equipment inventory and is coordinating a January meeting with the SoCalREN representative to discuss plans for 2022. A literature review and workplan have been created for future reference in this process.

Agencies enrolled in SoCalREN to date: Carson, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, El Segundo Unified School District, and Redondo Beach School District.

Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN): MULTIFAMILY

Contract period is September 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021

Contract goals: Contact, track progress, and outreach to local community organizations; track number of virtual events held, and number of attendees; distribute program collateral to local community organizations.

The SBCCOG staff continues to promote the Kits for Kids SoCalREN program focused on providing energy efficiency education to 3rd and 4th grade students. Program flyers were mailed to 14 schools (Hawthorne, Lomita, Manhattan Beach) to generate more interest and participation. Two classrooms from Towne Elementary in Carson are the first in the South Bay to sign up for the program. One classroom has reached the required 65% participation and ICF is following up with the other classroom. Once the program activities have been completed, each classroom will receive a \$1,000 grant and the SBCCOG will coordinate being part of the grant award ceremony to help incentivize other South Bay schools to participate.

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas)

Contract period is January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021

Contract goals: 8,000 therms

Status of goals: 2,056 therms saved (SBCCOG Staff is following up with SoCalGas to obtain information on additional savings received from school district participation.)

Benchmarking initiatives continue for partnership cities inputting city account data into Energy Star Portfolio Manager (state tool). SBCCOG staff also met with SoCalGas Web Services to help expedite input.

SBCCOG staff has also been working to connect cities to the SoCalGas Direct Install program that offers free energy efficiency equipment to public agencies. The City of Carson and El Segundo USD have received a Direct Install visit to identify potential equipment. Staff recently met with the City of Hawthorne to confirm therm-saving project priorities. The onsite visit also gave insights on gas meter identification so that SBCCOG staff can aide in future meter check-ups and troubleshooting.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

Contract period is July 2021 through June 30, 2022

Follow up phone calls were conducted to local businesses and outreach walks were conducted in the City of Wilmington and Harbor City.

PACE

SBCCOG continues to promote PACE financing for homeowners through Ygrene. For 2021 Q3 payments totaled \$184.75.

Water Conservation

West Basin Municipal Water District Programs (West Basin)

Contract period is July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022

SBCCOG and West Basin staff meet weekly to discuss implementation of programs.

Task – Educational Outreach Support - Exhibit Events

Contract goal: 100 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.

Status of goal: 46 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.

Staff continue to work with West Basin and community event planners to identify opportunities.

Task – Water Bottle Filling Station Program

Contract goal: To assist with identifying locations for stations.

Status: Public sites are eligible to install two (2) water bottle filling stations per Tax ID

Staff continues outreach efforts to promote the Water Bottle Filling Station Program through the SBCCOG city and school district networks.

Task - Support for Workshops, Events, & Webinars Educational Classes

Contract goal: 5 physical classes or webinars/virtual

Status of goal: 5 completed (virtual classes)

Staff continues to work with West Basin staff to hold virtual classes.

Task - Rain Barrel Giveaway

Contract goal: Home delivery pilot program and/or distribution events

Status of goal: West Basin launched its home delivery program in November, and it will continue through January 2022. In addition, the SBCCOG will support 2 in-person distribution events in January and February 2022.

The home delivery program currently has 460 registrations while the in-person distribution events currently have 40 registrations.

Task - Cash for Kitchens (CFK)

Contract goal: conduct up to 100 water assessments and distribute water efficiency packages

Status of goal: 30 water assessments were conducted, and materials package was distributed.

SBCCOG staff will continue to meet with West Basin staff weekly to discuss program implementation and status. Follow up phone calls were conducted to local businesses and outreach walks were conducted in the cities of El Segundo, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Inglewood. Twelve water assessments were conducted in the month of December and marketing materials were distributed at the locations of El Segundo and Palos Verdes Chamber of Commerce to promote the program.

Task - Change & Save (DAC) Program

Contract goal: Receive, document, and track customer calls; assist customers with online survey and applying for \$500 High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebate

Contract goal: Distribute up to 500 conservation kits, based on qualified surveys

Status of goal: 116 water conservation packages were distributed

Contract of goal: Up to 125 photos of installed devices

Status of goal: 0

SBCCOG staff promoted this program at the Lomita Farmer's Market, the LA County Parks and Recreation Holiday in the Park in the City of Carson, and the City of Hawthorne's Winter Wonderland Community Events.

Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD)

Contract period is July 1, 2021-December 31, 2022.

Ongoing promotion of WRD programs continues through SBCCOG's e-newsletters and other social media channels. In addition, SBCCOG posts WRD events on the website and sends out e-blasts to increase attendance at events.

Waste Reduction

Sanitation Districts of LA County (LACSD)

Contract period is July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Educational Outreach Support *Exhibit Events*

Contract goal: 100 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.

Status of goal: 47 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc. as of the month of December 2021.

Contract goal: Schedule up to 3 Sanitation Districts-related presentations

Status of goal: 0 presentations have been completed

SBCCOG staff will begin scheduling presentations in January 2022.

Green Business

South Bay Green Business Assist Program (GBAP):

Ongoing

CAGBN – State funding has been confirmed and the SBCCOG team is ready to move forward with the subcontracts with the City of Hawthorne and Torrance. The cities of El Segundo contract has already been approved and Staff is coordinating to set up a kick off meeting in Jan. 2022.

GBAP - SBCCOG continues to provide information to local businesses on opportunities to implement sustainability programs. In addition, businesses receive information on the status of SBCCOG utility partners' operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. GBAP by city: Carson (13), El Segundo (15), Gardena (17), Hermosa Beach (9), Hawthorne (52), Inglewood (16), Lawndale (30), Lennox (3), Lomita (6), Manhattan Beach (8), Palos Verdes Estates (7), Rancho Palos Verdes (7), Redondo Beach (6), Rolling Hills Estates (4), Torrance (63) and Los Angeles County – Community of Westmont (1) for a total of **279** businesses in the program as of the end of December 2021.

Transportation

Shared Mobility Program (Contract period July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022)

Contract goals: 85 outreach events; 36 vanpool, rideshare, telework meetings or events; 8

Marketing/Media Survey Engagements

Status of goals: 222 outreach events; 12 vanpool or rideshare meetings; 4 Survey Engagements

SBCCOG staff continued to distribute Shared Mobility materials at virtual meetings and online events as well as socially distant outdoor events. In addition, Shared Mobility information was

shared through SBCCOG social media platforms. Six (6) such engagements took place during the month of December– 3 of the events were “in-person” community outreach events. SBCCOG looks forward to follow-up activities with LAWA and the vanpool service providers after their introductions with SBCCOG were conducted in November. SBCCOG also anticipates corresponding with Metro’s Shared Mobility team to discuss potential updates from Metro and further program planning.

Metro Express Lanes (MEL) (Contract period November 15, 2019 – November 14, 2022)

Most SBCCOG outreach events continue to be held virtually. Staff continues to prepare, update, and share the SBCCOG outreach calendar for both virtual and in person outreach events that would provide opportunities to support the mission and goals of the Metro Express Lane program. In total, the SBCCOG/SBESC distributed MEL materials at eight (8) events.

II. MARKETING, OUTREACH, & IMPLEMENTATION

Outreach Events

In December

- 2 – Virtual Networking
- 1 – Business Event
- 3 – In Person Event

For the period July 1, 2021, through December 2021:

- 19 Virtual Networking
- 12 Virtual Workshop
- 10 In-person Community Event
- 6 - Business Event

II. OTHER

GIS Services

SBCCOG is offering its member cities/agencies services, reporting the following highlights:

- SBCCOG staff developed several a GIS map in December highlighting the South Bay subregion in the final proposed redistricted supervisorial districts to be reviewed by SBCCOG Executive Director and Steering Committee
- SBCCOG continues to work with cities to identify requests for contracted GIS services (i.e. 20-hour allotment included in membership dues)
- SBCCOG staff is using GIS mapping and analysis to support West Basin programs such as Rain Barrel Distributions, Cash for Kitchens, Change & Save, Water Bottle Filling Stations
- GIS Working Group continues to meet on the first Tuesday of each month (see City Meeting Attendance spreadsheet for attendance)