

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

July 28, 2022

TO: SBCCOG Board of Directors

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Activities Report – June 2022

## 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

Inventories are moving forward for cities that have submitted their energy data requests to SCE and SoCalGas. The energy sector, including emissions from electricity and natural gas use, will be completed first. This is one of the largest emissions sectors. Emissions related to the water and wastewater sectors will be added as received. The SBCCOG continues to collect data across sectors and completed inventories across sectors will be received in the next CivicSpark program year (anticipated start is September 2022). The SBCCOG continues to research and identify optimal methods for calculating emissions to best represent member cities. This work includes consulting with ICLEI. The SBCCOG is also preparing templates to streamline future iterations of the inventory process.

### **Energy Efficiency**

#### Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN): CITY SUPPORT

*Contract period is January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2022*

*Contract goal: Work Plan (including goals) are underway for 2022*

The SBCCOG's CivicSpark Fellow is working to update City ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM) portfolios to ensure utility energy data from SCE and SoCalGas are properly flowing on a monthly basis. Each city portfolio contains property and energy usage of all city-owned buildings, thus provides an opportunity for cities to understand their energy usage in greater detail. To date, SBCCOG staff has met with the following cities to train staff, and grant access to ESPM: Carson, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, and Rolling Hills Estates. Data is requested from the utilities using CISR forms and must be submitted directly by city staff. The SBCCOG is coordinating with cities to complete the forms and follow up with the utilities to help ensure requests are being processed.

Staff has also met with cities to support state benchmarking compliance requirements. Under the Building Energy Benchmarking Program (AB802), property owners with buildings greater than 50,000 SqFt are required to submit annual energy usage reports to the California Energy

Commission by June 1st. SBCCOG staff has submitted reports for the following cities who are now in compliance for 2022: Carson, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, and Torrance.

SBCCOG staff continues to collect utility data for SoCalREN agencies 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, Lawndale, Manhattan Beach, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance and to El Segundo Unified School District, Redondo Beach Unified School District, and Torrance Unified School District.

In the coming months, the SBCCOG team will be promoting the LA County Public Power Up program that provides free installation of EV charging stations to cities enrolled in the SoCalREN. SBCCOG staff will be providing program information, acquiring interest forms, and scheduling meetings with interested agencies. The program is first come first serve and will be available to sites within a five-mile radius from a Multifamily Unit Dwelling that is within a Disadvantaged Community (as determined by CalEnviroScreen 4.0).

*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, Redondo Beach Unified School District, and Torrance Unified School District.

Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN): MULTIFAMILY

*Contract period is September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2022*

*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.

SBCCOG continues to seek outreach opportunities to promote the multifamily program. SBCCOG staff discussed opportunities to partner with member cities to introduce the program advantages and incentives available. The SBCCOG will be reaching out to city staff in planning and building safety departments.

Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN): Kits for Kids

SBCCOG staff continues to promote the Kits for Kids SoCalREN program focused on providing energy efficiency education to third and fourth grade students. SBCCOG staff reviewed marketing materials provided by ICF in mid-June. SBCCOG is requesting changes to the updated materials to better present testimonials and pictures from the Towne Elementary grant award ceremony. Once revisions have been made, the SBCCOG will provide the resource kit to the South Bay school district public information and/or communication contacts.

PACE

SBCCOG continues to promote PACE financing for homeowners through Ygrene. For 2022 Q1 payments total \$24.66

**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 met on June 8th to discuss implementation of programs

Task – Educational Outreach Support - Exhibit Events

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

*Status of goal:* 104 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc. **GOAL MET**

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

West Basin staff received and approved the following applications:

CA State University Dominguez Hills, Environmental Charter High School, Inglewood, Gardena and Lawndale, City of Hermosa Beach, El Segundo High School, and El Segundo Middle School.

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

*Contract goal:* 5 physical classes or virtual webinars

*Status of goal:* 5 completed (virtual classes) **GOAL MET**

Staff continues to work with West Basin staff to hold virtual classes and plan for the 2022-23 program year.

Task - Rain Barrel Giveaway

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

*Status of goal:* Assist West Basin with rain barrel distribution **GOAL MET**

SBCCOG and West Basin staff have started discussions on the next program year's rain barrel distribution. Some distribution events could be scheduled as early as this fall.

Task - Cash for Kitchens (CFK)

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

*Status of goal:* 100 water assessments completed, materials and packages were distributed. **GOAL MET**

Follow up phone calls were conducted to local businesses and outreach walks were conducted in the communities of Gardena, Carson, Manhattan Beach, Inglewood, and El Segundo. 16 water assessments were conducted in the month of June.

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:* 500 water conservation packages were distributed

*Contract goal:* Obtain up to 25% photos of installed devices

*Status of goal:* 26 photos collected – **GOAL MET**

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.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

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

Task – Community Outreach and Promotional Events

*Contract goal:* Exhibit or present at 8-12 targeted special events.

*Status of goal:* 10 exhibit events completed – **GOAL MET**

Task - Commercial Kitchen Water Assessments

*Contract goal:* Conduct 6-8 commercial kitchens in CD15 for water assessment.

*Status of goal:* 8 water assessments completed, and materials and packages were distributed – **GOAL MET**

**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:* 106 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc. as of June 2022. **GOAL MET**

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

*Status of goal:* SBCCOG staff scheduled a total of 4 presentations, 2 presentations have been completed. **GOAL MET**

**Green Business**

California Green Business Network (CAGBN):

*Contract period February 28, 2022 – December 10, 2022*

*Contract goals:* 15 certified business per city (total 30)

*Status of goal:* El Segundo: 6 certified; 3 enrolled; Hawthorne: 8 certified; 2 enrolled; Torrance: 2 certified; 1 enrolled

CAGBN – The SBCCOG is working with the cities of El Segundo, Hawthorne, and Torrance to “green” certify local businesses. SBCCOG staff conduct onsite audits in each of these cities to help identify opportunities for sustainable improvements. SBCCOG staff also connect business owners with utility incentives and programs. Once improvements identified are completed, SBCCOG staff will verify that the business has met the criteria for becoming a green business. The team is also working with city staff to promote businesses that have received certification. SBCCOG staff also attended the City of El Segundo Environmental Committee Meeting on 6/8/2022 to promote the program.

South Bay Green Business Assist Program (GBAP):

*Ongoing*

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 (18), El Segundo (34), Gardena (26), Hermosa Beach (12), Hawthorne (55), Inglewood (20), Lawndale (30), Lennox (10), Lomita (9), Manhattan Beach (10), Palos Verdes Estates (9), Rancho Palos Verdes (11), Redondo Beach (6), Rolling Hills Estates (6), Torrance (63) and Los Angeles County – Community of Westmont (1) for a total of **320** businesses in the program as of June 2022.

## **Transportation**

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

*Contract goals:* 85 outreach events; 36 vanpool, rideshare, telework meetings/events; up to 8 Marketing/Media Survey Engagements

*Status of goals:* 268 outreach events - **GOAL MET**; 14 vanpool or rideshare meetings; 5 Survey Engagements (dependent on Metro requests)

SBCCOG staff successfully completed ETC training administered by SCAQMD in June. SBCCOG held a meeting with LAWA to collaborate on shared mobility objectives. SBCCOG and LAWA discussed promoting LAWA's empty vanpool seats to South Bay residents in the SBESC e-newsletter. SBCCOG conducted a survey engagement on social media platforms to gauge interest and willingness of carpooling and vanpooling in the region. SBCCOG staff continued to distribute Shared Mobility materials at virtual meetings and online events as well as outdoor events. In addition, Shared Mobility information was distributed through SBCCOG social media platforms – 9 such engagements took place during the month of June, 4 of the events were in-person.

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

South Bay events are being held both virtually and in-person. SBCCOG staff continue to prepare, update, and share the SBCCOG outreach calendar for events that provide opportunities to support the mission and goals of the Metro Express Lane program. In total, the SBCCOG/SBESC distributed MEL materials at 9 events.

## **II. MARKETING, OUTREACH, & IMPLEMENTATION**

### Outreach Events

#### In June

- 4 – Virtual Networking
- 0 – Business Event
- 1 - Workshops
- 4 – In Person Event

#### For the period July 1, 2021, through June 2022:

- 39 Virtual Networking
- 18 Virtual Workshop
- 39 In-person Community Event
- 10 Business Event
- 2 Presentation