

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

August 8, 2022

TO: SBCCOG Steering Committee

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Activities Report – July 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

Emissions inventories for the energy sector are done for the five cities who have completed the energy data request process with SCE and SoCalGas. This sector is one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions. The SBCCOG has also acquired additional data from the LA County Sanitation Districts and multiple water providers that will be used to calculate emissions from the water and wastewater sectors. The SBCCOG is working to document and streamline the emissions inventory process to enable both completion of this inventory cycle by the next CivicSpark fellow (anticipated start date in September 2022) and future iterations of the process. The SBCCOG is developing draft figures to communicate energy-related emissions information to cities, and consulting with ICLEI for guidance and review of the process. Simultaneously, the SBCCOG continues to support additional cities in the energy data request 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 continues 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 providing 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 which must be signed 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.

SBCCOG staff continues to support 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 El Segundo Unified School District, Redondo Beach Unified School District, and Torrance Unified School District.

Currently, the following projects are being pursued by SoCalREN enrolled agencies:

- City of Carson: Pursuing boiler retrofit, HVAC and chiller installation at City Hall and Community Centers. SBCCOG and SoCalREN met with the City this month to discuss Public Power Up (EV Charging Infrastructure) opportunities.
- City of Gardena: SoCalREN is finalizing project proposals for City Hall and Nakaoka Community Center to present opportunity and financial metrics to the City
- City of El Segundo: Pursuing project identification at City Hall
- City of Manhattan Beach: Energy audits will be completed at Police & Fire Station

Staff has met with SoCalREN and an outside contractor regularly to coordinate a Facility Equipment Inventory pilot project. This project will create an organized system to monitor facilities' energy-using equipment as well as other assets that affect energy efficiency, such as windows. SBCCOG staff will coordinate with some of these cities on site visits in the coming months.

*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 is following up with cities to identify opportunities and next steps. Discussions are ongoing regarding time extension on the contract.

#### 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 is working with ICF to update the marketing materials to include testimonials 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. Ygrene announced that the residential PACE offerings will be suspended starting Aug. 15. They believe that this is a temporary suspension. They will still continue to support existing projects and complete projects that are in the approval process. For Q1 of 2022 (Jan-Mar services), a full

payment of \$24.66 was received. As for Q2 (Apr-Jun), Sharon Link at Ygrene has been contacted as we have yet received our quarter end report to finalize our invoice to them.

### **Water Conservation**

#### West Basin Municipal Water District Programs (West Basin)

*Contract period is July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023*

SBCCOG and West Basin staff met on July 25 to discuss implementation of programs

#### Task – Educational Outreach Support - Exhibit Events

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

*Status of goal:* 7 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.

#### Task - Speakers Bureau

*Contract goal:* identify and coordinate 14 speaking opportunities

*Status of goal:* 1 completed

#### Task – Water Bottle Filling Station Program

*Contract goal:* To assist with identifying locations for stations.

(Conduct outreach and marketing for program until grant dollars are fully expended or until West Basin reaches its maximum number of applicants)

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

Currently no applications have been processed for the new contract year. SBCCOG staff continues to do outreach to market the program and reach the goal.

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

*Contract goal:* 13 physical classes or virtual webinars

*Status of goal:* 1 completed (virtual classes) 1 in person class.

Staff continue to work with West Basin to hold virtual and in person classes to execute the 2022-23 program year goals.

#### Task - Commercial Water Efficiency Program

*Contract goal:* Assist the program consultant in identifying up to 12 commercial sites

*Status of goal:* 0/12

SBCCOG staff is working with the West Basin team to set up new program and coordination. More details to follow over the next few months.

#### Task - Rain Barrel Giveaway

*Contract goal:* 5 Rain barrel distribution events

*Status of goal:* 0/5

SBCCOG and West Basin staff are finalizing dates for the events, recruiting staff and volunteers, preparing databases and marketing materials in preparation for the rain barrel season.

#### Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD)

*The 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 July 30, 2023*

Task – Community Outreach and Promotional Events

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

*Status of goal: 0 exhibit events completed*

Task - Commercial Kitchen Water Assessments

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

*Status of goal: 0 water assessments completed, and materials and packages were distributed*

SBCCOG staff is in the process of setting up a meeting with the LADWP to discuss the next 12 months of activity and set new goals.

**Waste Reduction**

Sanitation Districts of LA County (LACSD)

*Contract period is July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023*

Educational Outreach Support Exhibit Events

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

*Status of goal: 0 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.*

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

*Status of goal: SBCCOG staff scheduled a total of 0 presentations, 0 presentations have been completed.*

SBCCOG is currently working with LACSD to establish new goals for 2022-23.

**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 and connect business owners with utility incentives and programs. The team is also working with city staff to promote businesses that have received certification and reaching out to elected officials for potential business walks.

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 July 2022.

### **Transportation**

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 18 events.

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

### Outreach Events

In July

- 4 – Virtual Networking
- 10 - Workshops
- 2 – In Person Event
- 2 - Presentation