

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

September 12, 2022

TO: SBCCOG Steering Committee

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Activities Report – August 2022

I. PROGRAMS - TECHNOLOGY, PLANNING, & RESEARCH

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 Energy Efficiency CivicSpark Fellow completed the service term on August 12. Project accomplishments include 11 cities' utility data request (CISR) forms submitted, 9 cities' annual AB802 reports submitted for 2022, 2 agencies newly enrolled in the SoCalREN, and a literature review and workplan to support the SBCCOG and SoCalREN's Facility Equipment Inventory Project. A new Energy Efficiency CivicSpark Fellow will be continuing this work. The next Fellow will start in September 2022.

SBCCOG staff continue 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 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 El Segundo: Pursuing project identification at City Hall

- 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 Hawthorne: Pursuing project identification and discussing Public Power Up opportunities with SoCalREN
- City of Lawndale: Pursuing project identification and discussing Public Power Up opportunities with SoCalREN
- City of Manhattan Beach: Energy audits will be completed at Police & Fire Station

Staff continue to meet 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 to arrange for 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. Discussions are ongoing regarding time extension on the contract.

SBCCOG is assisting a 21-unit condominium property in Rancho Palos Verdes which is interested in adding energy efficiency elements as they upgrade this 50-year-old complex. The HOA reached out to learn more about how they can qualify for the multifamily energy efficiency rebates. ICF will be providing a list of qualified contractors to assess the opportunities.

SBCCOG continues to seek outreach opportunities to promote the multifamily program. SBCCOG staff is following up with cities to identify opportunities and next steps.

Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN): Kits for Kids

SBCCOG staff continue to promote the Kits for Kids SoCalREN program focused on providing energy efficiency education to third and fourth grade students. There have been some ICF staff changes, so we are working with the new group to re-launch the program now as the new school year is starting. 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 were suspended Aug. 15. They believe that this is a temporary suspension. The company continues 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), the quarter end report required for invoicing is expected in October.

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 will meet on September 14 to discuss implementation of programs

Task – Educational Outreach Support - Exhibit Events

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

Status of goal: 19 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.

Task - Speakers Bureau

Contract goal: identify and coordinate 14 speaking opportunities

Status of goal: 2 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 continue 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: 3 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 the new program. 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. A tour of the Albert Robles Center for Water Recycling and Environmental Learning was conducted for the SBCCOG Partner organizations.

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: 10 exhibit events completed

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

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: 18 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:** 7 certified; 3 enrolled; **Hawthorne:** 8 certified; 2 enrolled; **Torrance:** 3 certified (completed sustainable actions); 2 enrolled (indicated interest in the program & enrolled)*

CAGBN – The SBCCOG is working with the cities of El Segundo, Hawthorne, and Torrance to “green” certify local businesses. SBCCOG staff conducted 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 (35), 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 (64) and Los Angeles County – Community of Westmont (1) for a total of 322 businesses in the program as of August 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 August

- 3 – Virtual Networking
- 2 - Workshops
- 9 – In Person Event
- 1 – Presentation

For the period July 1, 2022, through August 2022:

- 7 - Virtual Networking
- 12 - Virtual Workshop
- 11 - In-person Community Event
- 0 - Business Event
- 4 - Presentation

Staff continue to meet with SoCalRen, West Basin, and enrolled Agencies to plan community facing outreach upcoming events. The City of El Segundo is doing a hybrid community outreach event on 9/19. The City of Hermosa Beach will be conducting a virtual community event on 10/12.