

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

April 27, 2023

TO: SBCCOG Board of Directors

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Activities Report – February 2023

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

### **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 March 6 and March 19 to discuss implementation of programs.

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

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

*Status of goal: 77 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.*

#### Task - Speakers Bureau

*Contract goal: identify and coordinate 14 speaking opportunities.*

*Status of goal: 7 completed*

#### *Upcoming:*

*April 6, 2023 – SBCCOG Volunteer Training Meeting*

*April 10, 2023 – Carson Senior Advisory Commission*

#### 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*

SBCCOG staff continues to conduct outreach to market the program. Information is included in discussions with public agencies when meetings on environmental topics. Additional applications were received for the following locations:

- Environmental Charter School, Inglewood
- City of Torrance, Victor Park
- City of Hermosa Beach, Community Center

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

*Contract goal: 13 physical classes or virtual webinars*

*Status of goal: 10 completed (virtual classes/in-person)*

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

**Know Your H2O Classes**

- May 17, 2023 – The Politics of Flowing Water
- July 19, 2023 - Water Quality & Monitoring

**Recycled Water Facility Tours**

- April 22, 2023
- June 17, 2023

**West Basin Chats – Grass Replacement**

- April 5, 2023
- June 7, 2023

Task - Commercial Water Efficiency Program

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

*Status of goal: The SBCCOG staff provided GIS maps of locations that are participants of the green business program. The information will be used to help identify opportunities for this new program.*

Task - Rain Barrel Giveaway

*Contract goal: 5 Rain barrel distribution events*

*Status of goal: 5/5 **GOAL MET**- All Rain Barrel distribution events for program year are complete.*

Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD)

*The contract period is January 1-December 31, 2023*

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.

**Completed Virtual Classes:**

*March 14, 2023 - Leak Detection Class*

*March 21, 2023 - Sustainable Landscape Design*

*March 23, 2023 - Edible Gardening*

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

*Contract period is July 29, 2021, through July 29, 2024*

Task – Community Outreach and Promotional Events

*Contract goal: Exhibit or present at 24-36 targeted special events.*

*Status of goal: 16 exhibit events completed.*

Task - Commercial Kitchen Water Assessments

*Contract goal: Conduct 18-24 commercial kitchens in CD15 for water assessment.*

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

SBCCOG staff conducted outreach walks in District 15 and scheduled appointments for the Commercial Water Kitchen Assessments.

## **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: 80 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 3 presentations, 4 presentations have been completed. **GOAL MET***

SBCCOG is currently working with LACSD to identify topics the organization would like to promote through community presentations.

Upcoming Sanitation Presentations:

*April 6, 2023 – Volunteer Training*

*April 12, 2023 – Rotary Club Redondo Beach*

## **Green Business**

### California Green Business Network (CAGBN):

*Contract period February 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023*

*Contract goals: 20 certified businesses for the City of Torrance, Hawthorne, and El Segundo (total 60)*

CAGBN – The SBCCOG is continuing to work with the cities of El Segundo, Hawthorne, and Torrance to “green” certify local businesses. SBCCOG staff conducted business walks in the month of March to schedule audits and to help identify opportunities for sustainable improvements and connect business owners with utility incentives and programs.

### South Bay Green Business Assist Program (GBAP): Ongoing

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’ programs. GBAP by city: Carson (18), El Segundo (35), Gardena (26), Hermosa Beach (12), Hawthorne (65), 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 (75) and Los Angeles County – Community of Westmont (1) for a total of **346** businesses in the program as of March 2023.

## **Climate Action**

The CivicSpark Fellow is making progress on the greenhouse gas emissions inventory update. Percent change tables have been calculated with existing data for both community and municipal emissions, with the municipal tables nearly complete. The Fellow is working with the remaining cities to obtain the rest of the community data. The data request to SCAG for transportation source data has been fulfilled. The Fellow is working with SBCCOG contractor, Jon Rodman, to assess the data.

**Energy Efficiency**

**Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) CITY SUPPORT**

*Contract period is January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023  
Contract goal: Work Plan (including goals) are underway for 2023*

**FACILITY EQUIPMENT INVENTORY PILOT PROJECT**

SBCCOG staff and the Civic Spark Fellow conduct on-site visits to collect equipment information which will be used to identify energy efficiency projects.

16 – Site Visits Completed for Facility Equipment Inventories

- CITY OF CARSON (1)
- CITY OF EL SEGUNDO (4)
- CITY OF HAWTHORNE (3)
- CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH (3)
- CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH (3)
- CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES (2)

The team is working to complete all city halls by fall 2023.

**ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM)** - contacted all South Bay cities to confirm buildings that require Building Energy Benchmarking (AB802) reporting. As part of AB802, owners of buildings greater than 50,000 square feet are required to submit annual energy use reports to the California Energy Commission by June 1. Staff will help draft energy use reports in April for cities’ approval prior to submitting them to the California Energy Commission.

**SOUTH BAY ENERGY & CLIMATE RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

This program recognizes SoCalREN-enrolled cities in the South Bay for their efforts in pursuing energy efficiency initiatives and sustainability related tasks. Cities must complete activities by the third Monday of November annually to achieve points. In April, SBCCOG staff will provide each city their Q1 report containing the city's current recognition status and recommended activities to complete.

**Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) MULTIFAMILY & KITS FOR KIDS**

**Multifamily**

Energy Efficiency incentives and technical support for multifamily – continue to work with a 21-unit condominium property in Rancho Palos Verdes to add energy efficiency elements as they upgrade this 50-year-old complex

**Kits for Kids**

<p><i>Contract period is January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023</i></p> <p><i>Contract goals: Contact, track progress, and outreach to local community organizations; track number of virtual events held and attendees; distribute program collateral to local community organizations</i></p>	<p>SoCalREN program focuses on providing energy efficiency education to third and fourth grade students. To date, 4 schools have signed up for the program; 1 in Hawthorne, 1 in Carson and 2 in Torrance. ICF is in the process of creating a shared log to track the progress of the outreach and participating schools. A new program post card was developed to capture program results, and this is available in Spanish where needed. The SBCCOG is updating the list of eligible elementary schools and preparing next outreach steps.</p>
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**PACE**

SBCCOG continues to promote PACE financing for homeowners through Ygrene. Residential PACE offerings are still suspended. The company continues to support existing projects and complete projects that are in the approval process. For Q2 (Apr-Jun 2022) and Q3 (Jul-Sep 2022), Ygrene has been billed \$114.02 and \$92.89 respectively. There was no billing for Q4 (Oct-Dec 2022). Follow up is scheduled on 4/3/2023 to touch-base with Ygrene regarding Jan-Mar 2023 billing.

**Transportation**

Metro Express Lanes (MEL) (Contract period November 18, 2022 – November 17, 2023)

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. Metro Express Lanes attended and exhibited at the SBCCOG’s 2023 General Assembly. In total, the SBCCOG/SBESC distributed MEL materials at 7 events.

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

Outreach Events

In March 2023

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

For the period July 1, 2022, through February 2023

- 21 - Virtual Networking
- 23 - Workshop
- 41- In-person Community Event
- 1 - Business Event
- 7 - Presentation