



# San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments\*

## NOTICE AND AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (EENR) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 – 1:00 PM

Teleconference Meeting:

Livestream Available at: <https://youtu.be/mMrEOUc-ZD8>

Chair  
**Denis Bertone**  
City of San Dimas

Vice Chair  
**Vacant**

**Members**  
*Claremont*  
*Covina*  
*Duarte*  
*El Monte*  
*Pomona*  
*Rosemead*  
*San Dimas*  
*San Gabriel*  
*Sierra Madre*  
*West Covina*

**Ex-Officio Member**  
*Jeffrey Lee*  
City of Temple City's  
Planning Commission

Thank you for participating in today's meeting. The EENR Committee encourages public participation and invites you to share your views on agenda items.

**MEETINGS:** *Regular Meetings of the EENR Committee are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 PM at the Monrovia Community Center, 119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016.* The EENR Committee agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government's (SGVCOG) Office, 1000 South Fremont Avenue, Suite 10210, Alhambra, CA, and on the website, [www.sgvcog.org](http://www.sgvcog.org). Copies are available via email upon request ([sgv@sgvcog.org](mailto:sgv@sgvcog.org)). Documents distributed to a majority of the Committee after the posting will be available for review in the SGVCOG office and on the SGVCOG website. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording of your voice.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Your participation is welcomed and invited at all EENR Committee meetings. Time is reserved at each regular meeting for those who wish to address the Committee. SGVCOG requests that persons addressing the Committee refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane or disruptive remarks.

**TO ADDRESS THE EENR COMMITTEE:** At a regular meeting, the public may comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee during the public comment period and may also comment on any agenda item at the time it is discussed. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public wishing to speak are asked to complete a comment card or simply rise to be recognized when the Chair asks for public comments to speak. We ask that members of the public state their name for the record and keep their remarks brief. If several persons wish to address the Committee on a single item, the Chair may impose a time limit on individual remarks at the beginning of discussion. **The EENR Committee may not discuss or vote on items not listed on the agenda.**

**AGENDA ITEMS:** The Agenda contains the regular order of business of the EENR Committee. Items on the Agenda have generally been reviewed and investigated by the staff in advance of the meeting so that the EENR Committee can be fully informed about a matter before making its decision.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Items listed on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Committee member or citizen so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar. If you would like an item on the Consent Calendar discussed, simply tell Staff or a member of the Committee.



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the SGVCOG office at (626) 457-1800. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the SGVCOG to make reasonable arrangement to ensure accessibility to this meeting.



**\*MEETING MODIFICATIONS DUE TO THE STATE AND LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE THREAT OF COVID-19:** On March 17, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 authorizing a local legislative body to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and allows for members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or electronically to promote social distancing due to the state and local State of Emergency resulting from the threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To follow the new Order issued by the Governor and ensure the safety of Board Members and staff for the purpose of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee meeting scheduled for January 20, 2021 at 1:00pm will not be allowed. Members of the public may view the meeting live at <https://youtu.be/mMrEOUc-ZD8>.

Submission of Public Comments: For those wishing to make public comments on agenda and non-agenda items you may submit comments via email or by phone.

- Email: Please submit via email your public comment to SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung ([afung@sgvcog.org](mailto:afung@sgvcog.org)), at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled meeting time. Please indicate in the Subject Line of the email “FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.” Emailed public comments will be part of the recorded meeting minutes. Public comments may be summarized in the interest of time; however, the full texts will be provided to all members of the Committee prior to the meeting.
- Phone: Please email your name and phone number to SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung ([afung@sgvcog.org](mailto:afung@sgvcog.org)), at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled meeting time for the specific agenda item you wish to provide public comment on. Please indicate in the Subject Line of the email “FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.” You will be called on the phone number provided at the appropriate time, either during general public comment or specific agenda item. Wait to be called upon by staff, and then you may provide verbal comments for up to 3 minutes.

Any member of the public requiring a reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (626) 457-1800 or email [afung@sgvcog.org](mailto:afung@sgvcog.org).

## **PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment (*If necessary, the Chair may place reasonable time limits on all comments*)
4. Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to next regular meeting (*It is anticipated that the EENR Committee may take action on the following matters*)

## **CONSENT CALENDAR** (*It is anticipated that the EENR Committee may take action on the following matters*)

5. EENR Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2020 (**Page 1**)  
*Recommended Action: Review and approve.*
6. Election of FY 2020-2021 EENR Committee Vice Chair  
*Recommended Action: Elect Claremont Mayor Jennifer Stark as the FY 2020-2021 EENR Committee Vice Chair.*
7. Appointment of SGVCOG Delegate to San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (**Page 6**)  
*Recommended Action: Recommend the Governing Board to appoint Claremont Mayor Jennifer Stark as the SGVCOG Delegate to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative.*
8. Appointment of Additional SGVCOG Representative to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) Board of Directors (**Page 10**)  
*Recommended Action: Recommend the Governing Board to appoint El Monte City Councilmember Victoria Martinez Muela to the Office of the Governor for appointment on the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board of Directors.*

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

9. Clean Power Alliance
10. San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative
11. San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District
12. Trust for Public Land
13. San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (**Page 14**)
14. Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
15. Southern California Edison
16. Southern California Gas Company (**Page 22**)
17. South Coast Air Quality Management District (**Page 26**)

## **DISCUSSION ITEM** (*It is anticipated that the EENR Committee may take action on the following matters*)

18. Revised SGVCOG Energy, Open Space Preservation, and Solid Waste Policies – Alexander Fung, Management Analyst, SGVCOG (**Page 31**)  
*Recommended Action: Discuss and provide direction to staff.*

## **PRESENTATIONS** (*It is anticipated that the EENR Committee may take action on the following matters*)

19. 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards Structure – Alexander Fung, Management Analyst, SGVCOG (**Page 42**)  
*Recommended Action: For information only.*
20. COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan – Melissa Acoba, Health Program Analyst, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (**Page 45**)  
*Recommended Action: For information only.*

## **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT**

- 21.** Next Committee Meeting  
*Recommended Action: For information only.*

**ADJOURN**



**SGVCOG EENR Committee Regular Meeting Minutes**

Date: November 18, 2020  
Time: 1:00 PM  
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

**PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

1. Call to Order  
D. Bertone called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.
2. Roll Call  
**A quorum was in attendance.**

**Committee Members Present**

Claremont	Jennifer Stark
Covina	Michele Saint
Duarte	Liz Reilly
Rosemead	Margaret Clark
San Dimas	Denis Bertone
Sierra Madre	John Capoccia

**Absent**

San Gabriel  
West Covina  
Temple City (Ex-officio)

**Guests**

Cambridge Systematics	David Von Stroh
ESA	Jeff Caton
Nature for All	Bryan Matsumoto
Sanitation Districts	Maria Rosales-Ramirez
SCAG	Kimberly Clark
SCAG	Lorianne Esturas
SCAG	Sarah Patterson

**SGVCOG Staff**

P. Hubler, Staff  
A. Fung, Staff

3. Public Comment  
There were no public comments at this meeting.
4. Changes to Agenda Order  
There were no changes to the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

5. EENR Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2020  
*Action: Approve.*
6. Correspondence  
*Action: Receive and file.*

**There was a motion to approve consent calendar items 5-6. (M/S: M. Clark/J. Capoccia)**

**[Motion Passed]**

<b>AYES:</b>	Claremont, Duarte, Rosemead, San Dimas, Sierra Madre
<b>NOES:</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	
<b>NO VOTE RECORDED:</b>	Covina
<b>ABSENT:</b>	San Gabriel, West Covina

### **LIAISON REPORTS**

*No verbal report was given unless otherwise noted.*

7. Clean Power Alliance
8. San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative
9. San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (MVCD)
10. Trust for Public Land
11. San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC)
12. Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
13. Southern California Edison
14. Southern California Gas Company
15. South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD)

### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **16. 2021 EENR Legislative Priorities**

SGVCOG staff provided an overview presentation on this item. The SGVCOG Governing Board adopts various legislative priorities in concurrence with the Strategic Plan on an annual basis. The purpose of the legislative priorities is to outline the position of the Governing Board on priority issues and matters that impact the San Gabriel Valley. These legislative priorities were developed based on feedback and input from the SGVCOG policy committees and aim to address several regulatory, funding, and structural challenges faced by San Gabriel Valley cities. SGVCOG staff is currently working to develop a list of environmental legislative priorities to be presented to the SGVCOG Governing Board for adoption.

#### Key Discussions/Questions:

- J. Stark inquired about additional clarifications to promote zero waste objectives given that many restaurants are currently using single-use plastics in their establishments. SGVCOG staff responded that the SGVCOG tracks waste reduction and zero waste legislation on an ongoing basis; however, SGVCOG staff is willing to collaborate with member agencies to expand zero waste outreach to local communities and businesses.
- M. Clark expressed a concern regarding the proposed clause to “support regional, state, and federal efforts to implement laws, policies, and regulations that promote zero waste objectives” due to difficult laws and regulations for local jurisdictions to comply with. Ms. Clark suggested to change the clause to “support regional, state, and federal efforts to implement policies that promote zero waste objectives.”

- M. Clark expressed another concern regarding the proposed clause to “support efforts to strengthen curbside recycling programs and oppose efforts to weaken such programs” and suggested to change to language to “support efforts to improve curbside recycling programs.”

**There was a motion made to recommend the SGVCOG Governing Board to adopt the 2021 EENR Legislative Priorities with the following changes:**

- Replace “Support regional, state, and federal efforts to implement laws, policies, and regulations that promote zero waste objectives” with “Support regional, state, and federal efforts to implement policies that promote zero waste objectives.”
- Replace “Support efforts to strengthen curbside recycling programs and oppose efforts to weaken such programs” with “Support efforts to improve curbside recycling programs.”

(M/S: L. Reilly/J. Stark)  
[Motion Passed]

<b>AYES:</b>	Claremont, Duarte, Rosemead, San Dimas, Sierra Madre
<b>NOES:</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	
<b>NO VOTE RECORDED:</b>	Covina
<b>ABSENT:</b>	San Gabriel, West Covina

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **17. Food Waste Recycling Program**

Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County Senior Engineer, Maria Rosales-Ramirez, provided a presentation on this item. After a decade of evolving economics and logistics to generate more renewable energy production using increased volumes of source separated organics, the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County have pivoted to a full-fledged commercial operation by transitioning their pilot food waste digestion and biogas generating system into one of the nation’s largest integrated, food waste recycling programs. In addition to receiving competitive rates to process food waste from private sector generators, the Districts’ ability to effectively utilize an unlevered asset in the form of excess digestion capacity has led to additional environmental benefits, such as achieving climate change goals and creating greenhouse gas credits due to the ability to divert energy-rich food waste from landfills to generate renewable energy.

#### Key Discussions/Questions:

- L. Reilly inquired about the facility’s energy-generating capacity. Ms. Rosales-Ramirez responded that the facility generates 20 megawatts of energy every year, which is enough to power 20,000 residential homes.

- M. Clark inquired about whether plastic bags would be taken out before the food waste is shredded by the processing facility. Ms. Rosales-Ramirez responded that the facility automatically removes plastic bags and plastic utensils from the food waste.
- M. Clark inquired about the process to remove food waste from general trash bins. Ms. Rosales-Ramirez responded that some haulers have specific trucks and routes dedicated to collecting source-separated food waste from residential and commercial units.

**18. San Gabriel Mountains Transit and Infrastructure Program**

Nature For All Program Organizer, Bryan Matsumoto, provided a presentation on this item. Nature For All recently launched the San Gabriel Mountains Transit and Infrastructure Program to accelerate the planning and pilot demonstrations for Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) Gold Line rail connector shuttles, walk routes, and related programs to the San Gabriel Mountains and nearby natural spaces. The program aims to address critical regional needs by connecting "park poor" communities to open space and providing access for disadvantaged communities to visit the San Gabriel Mountains.

Key Discussions/Questions:

- J. Capoccia inquired about whether Nature For All would consider establishing a bus station near the Mt. Wilson trailhead in Sierra Madre. Mr. Matsumoto responded that Nature For All will reach out and follow up with Mr. Capoccia.
- L. Reilly commented that the program's support letters should be directed at Metro to obtain additional funding for the program.
- M. Clark inquired about whether Nature For All requires additional support letters from the SGVCOG. Mr. Matsumoto responded that Nature For All will reach out to SGVCOG staff after the meeting to request additional support letters.

**19. Southern California Regional Climate Adaptation Framework**

SCAG representatives provided a presentation on this item. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) developed the Regional Climate Adaptation Framework to assist local and regional jurisdictions to manage the negative impacts of climate change. The study explores how Southern California jurisdictions can collaborate and prepare for the impacts of sea level rise, extreme heat, increasingly frequent and damaging wildfires, and other climate-related issues. As part of this effort, SCAG has worked closely with local jurisdictions, advocacy groups, universities, and other stakeholders to assess the unique issues affecting the SCAG region, available planning tools and resources, scientific data, and outreach strategies.

Key Discussions/Questions:

- M. Clark commented that accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations from the State can possibly lead to a reduction of trees in residential areas, thereby causing heat island effects in the community.



**STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT**

**20. Next Committee Meeting**

The upcoming committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 1:00pm.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

L. Reilly and J. Capoccia announced that they will be retiring from the committee after this meeting given that they will be leaving their respective city councils next month. Committee members expressed their appreciation for Ms. Reilly and Mr. Capoccia for their dedication to serving the San Gabriel Valley.

**ADJOURN**

D. Bertone adjourned the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee meeting at 2:57 p.m.

DATE: January 20, 2021

TO: Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **APPOINTMENT OF SGVCOG DELEGATE TO THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE**

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Recommend the Governing Board to appoint Claremont Mayor Jennifer Stark as the SGVCOG Delegate to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative.

## **BACKGROUND**

The National Forest Foundation (NFF), which serves as one of the nonprofit partners of the United States Forest Service, offers neutral facilitation services for collaborative efforts that benefit the lands of the National Forest System. The NFF plays a unique role that enables community organizations and agencies to collaborate closely with the Angeles National Forest to promote the health and enjoyment of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

Facilitated by the NFF, the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) represents the general public by integrating diverse perspectives to identify, analyze, prioritize, and advocate for values, resources, investments, management objectives, and implementation practices that sustainably benefit all communities throughout the San Gabriel Valley, the Angeles National Forest, and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

The Collaborative also works with the United States Forest Service to achieve the following goals for the Angeles National Forest and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument:

- Identify and prioritize sustainable opportunities;
- Maintain an open line of communication and relationship with the United States Forest Service;
- Provide a forum for different communities and individuals to express their views and identify areas of agreement to inform Forest Service decisions and activities; and
- Actively engage with the broader community.

SGMCC meets on the fourth Thursday of every other month from 9:00am to 1:00pm at the Altadena Community Center unless stated otherwise. The SGVCOG currently holds one seat on the Collaborative and the appointed representative must be an existing Governing Board delegate, alternate, or a city councilmember from a SGVCOG member jurisdiction. The membership structure of the SGMCC can be found in Attachment A.

Ms. Liz Reilly, who recently served as the EENR Committee's Vice Chair and the SGVCOG's Delegate to the SGMCC, departed from the Duarte City Council in November 2020. As a result,

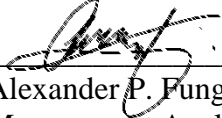
## REPORT


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the EENR Committee was provided with the opportunity to recommend the Governing Board to appoint a representative to serve as the SGVCOG Delegate on the Collaborative.

SGVCOG staff released a call-for-nominations for the vacant position and received one nomination for Claremont Mayor, Jennifer Stark, to be appointed as the SGVCOG Delegate to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative.

SGVCOG staff will provide a presentation on the background of the SGMCC at this meeting.

Prepared by:   
Alexander P. Fung  
Management Analyst

Approved by:   
Marisa Creter  
Executive Director

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Membership Structure

**San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) Members List**

Amigos de los Rios  
Angeles National Forest  
Antelope Valley Unit, Backcountry Horseman of California  
Arroyo Seco Foundation  
Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (A3PCON)  
Association of Rural Town Councils (Antelope Valley) and Acton Town Council  
Bike San Gabriel Valley  
Cal Fire  
California Department of Transportation, District 7  
California Rifle and Pistol Association  
City of Claremont  
City of Santa Clarita  
City Project  
Community Hiking Club  
Community Partners, Trust for Public Land  
Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)  
Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica (COFEM)  
El Monte City School District, El Monte Promise Foundation  
Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps (FRVC)  
Friends of the Angeles National Forest  
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation  
Gateway Council of Governments  
Gateway Water Management Authority  
City of Glendora  
John Minch & Associates  
LA County Board of Supervisors – 1st District (Solis)  
LA County Board of Supervisors – 5th District (Barger)  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
Mount Wilson Bicycling Association  
Mountain High

Mountain High & Stevens Pass  
Mt Baldy Ski Lifts  
Mt. Baldy Lodge  
National Forest Foundation  
National Forest Homeowners  
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County  
Nature for All  
Palmdale Water District  
Pasadena Casting Club  
REI  
Rivers & Mountains Conservancy  
San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors (Rutherford)  
San Gabriel Mountain Regional Conservancy  
San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy  
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers  
San Gabriel Valley Water Association  
Southern California Association of Districts  
Southern California Edison  
Southwest Council of Fly Fishers International  
The Sierra Club  
The Wilderness Society  
Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA)

**For questions regarding the SGMCC, please contact:**

Dania Gutierrez, [dgutierrez@nationalforests.org](mailto:dgutierrez@nationalforests.org)

Sarah Di Vittorio, [sdivittorio@nationalforests.org](mailto:sdivittorio@nationalforests.org)

Brian Robey, [brobey@nationalforests.org](mailto:brobey@nationalforests.org)

\*updated 07/2020

DATE: January 20, 2021

TO: Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL SGVCOG REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Recommend the Governing Board to appoint El Monte City Councilmember Victoria Martinez Muela to the Office of the Governor for appointment on the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board of Directors.

## **BACKGROUND**

The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) was established in 1999 to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within its jurisdiction. The RMC covers a vast area that includes mountains, valleys, rivers, coastal plains, and coastlines in eastern Los Angeles County and western Orange County. A map of RMC's jurisdiction can be found in Attachment A.

The RMC Board of Directors, known as the RMC Governing Board, is comprised of 15 voting members and 9 non-voting members who are appointed or designated by virtue of the local, state, or federal offices they hold. The Conservancy has no power of condemnation or authority over local zoning laws. The Board holds its regular meetings on the fourth Monday of January, March, May, June, July, September, and November at 1:30pm.

The composition of the Board is specified by California Public Resources Code Section 32605, which designates that three voting members of the Board are recommended and/or appointed by the SGVCOG:

1. One SGVCOG Governing Board member who serves as a mayor or city councilmember of a city bordering the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, appointed by the SGVCOG;
2. One SGVCOG Governing Board member who serves as a mayor or city councilmember of a city bordering the San Gabriel Mountains, San Jose Hills, and Puente Hills, appointed by the California Senate Rules Committee at the recommendation of the SGVCOG; and
3. One resident from a city bordering the San Gabriel River, appointed by the Office of the Governor at the recommendation of the SGVCOG.<sup>1</sup>

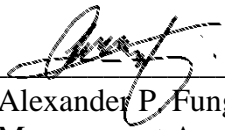
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<sup>1</sup> On April 21, 2016, the SGVCOG Governing Board voted to limit the nominations of this seat to mayors and councilmembers from eligible cities. The SGVCOG must submit two eligible nominees to the Office of Governor for consideration.

Seat #3 is currently open for re-appointment given that former Councilmember Liz Reilly recently departed the Duarte City Council in November 2020. The EENR Committee is now provided with the opportunity to recommend the SGVCOG Governing Board to submit two eligible nominees to be recommended for appointment on the RMC Board of Directors.

The two nominees must be mayors or city councilmembers from cities bordering the San Gabriel River, which include the Cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Duarte, El Monte, Industry, Irwindale, and South El Monte. A map of the cities bordering the San Gabriel River in the SGVCOG's jurisdiction can be found in Attachment B.

SGVCOG staff released a call-for-nominations for the vacant position and received one nomination for El Monte City Councilmember, Victoria Martinez Muela, to be appointed on the RMC Board of Directors.

Prepared by:   
Alexander P. Fung  
Management Analyst

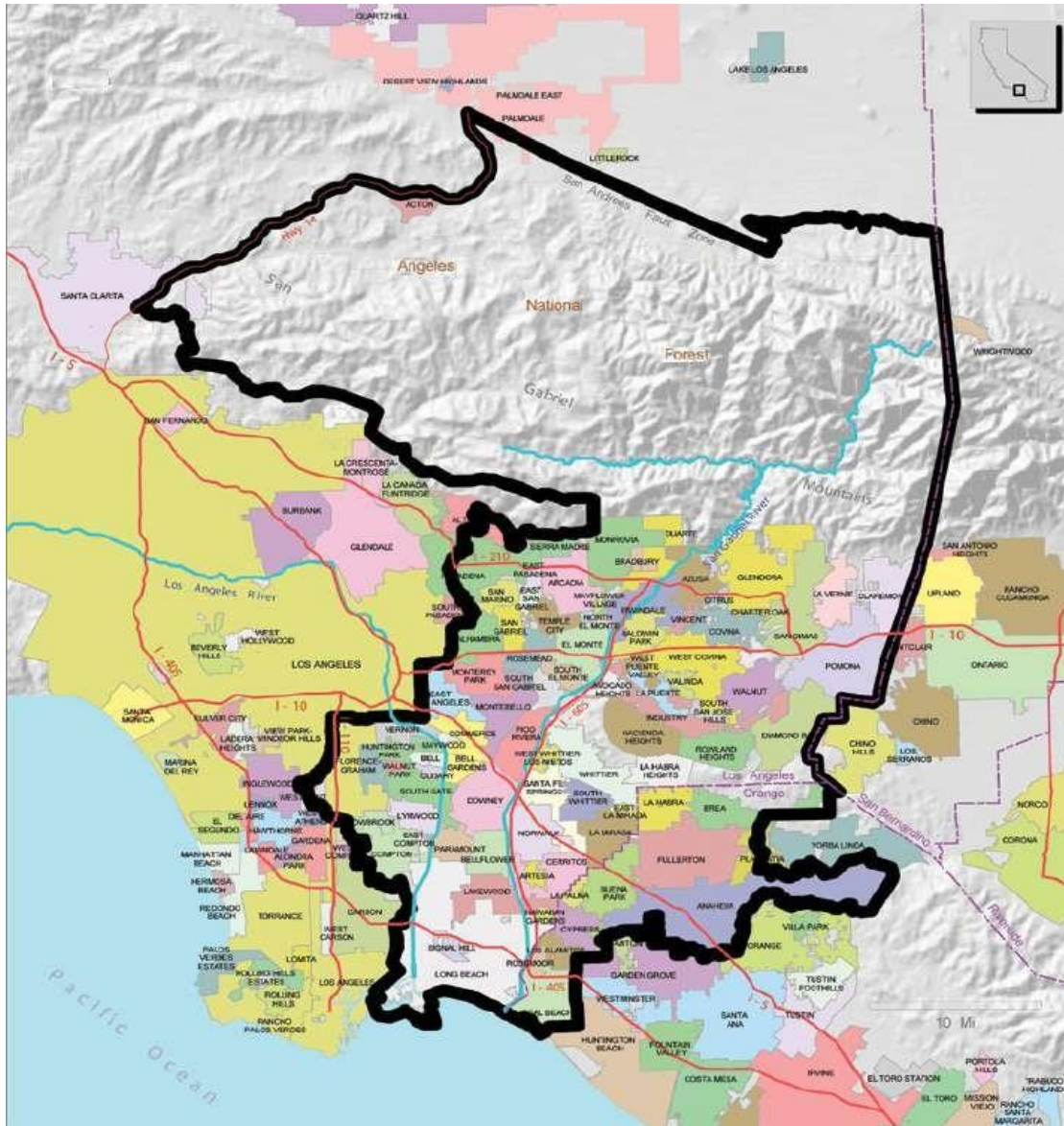
Approved by:   
Marisa Creter  
Executive Director

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A – Map of RMC's Jurisdictional Boundaries

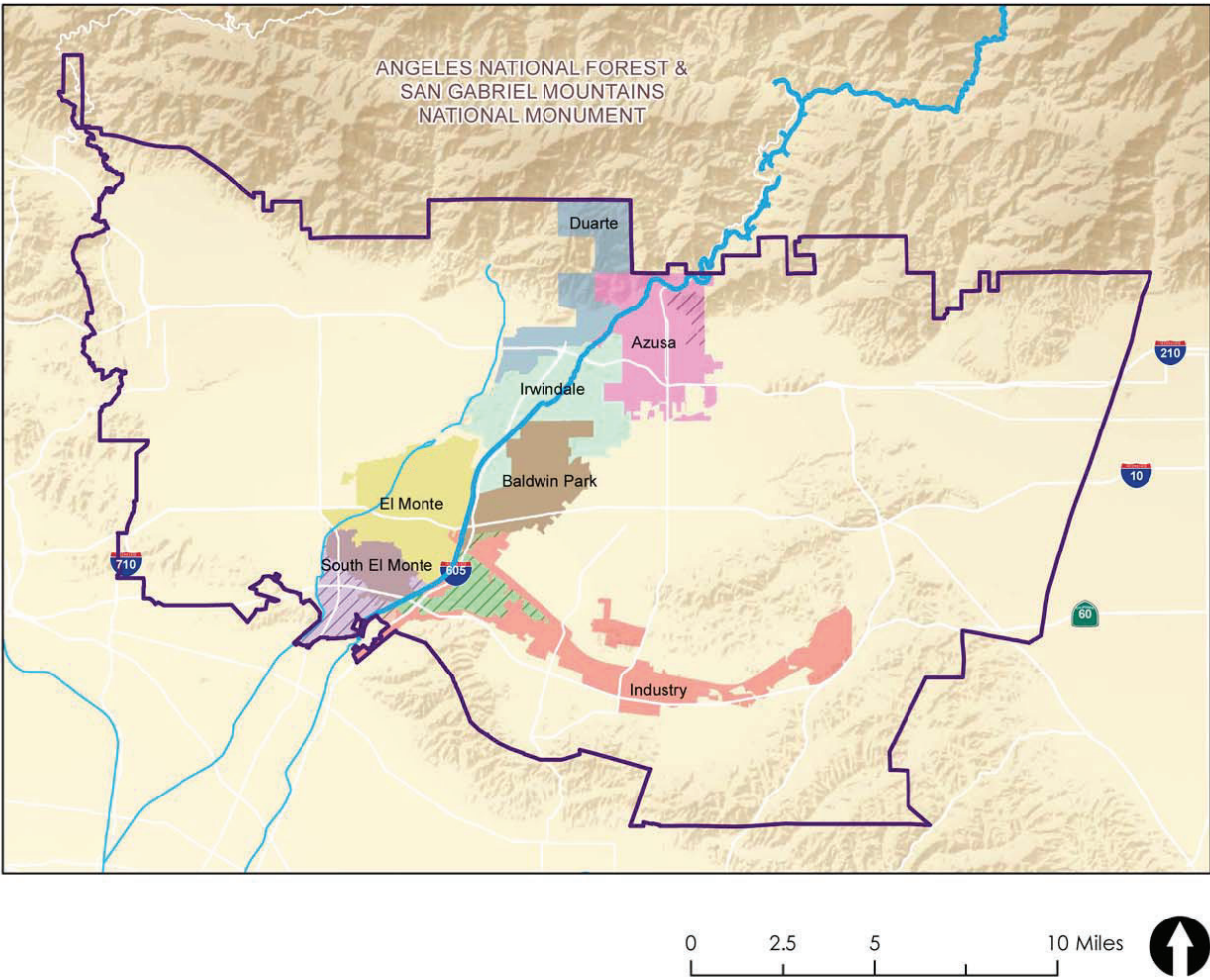
Attachment B – Map of Cities Bordering the San Gabriel River

# **JURISDICTION MAP** **San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy**





# Upper San Gabriel River Communities



# January 2021 RMC Newsletter



January 11th, 2021

Welcome to RMC's monthly newsletter! We are thrilled to share our new communication with you to give you a snapshot of RMC's work. In this monthly newsletter, we will provide project spotlights, news on recently approved projects, updates on active projects and our Joint Powers Authority projects. We will also share any events, funding opportunities, as well as announcements.

## *A Message from RMC's Executive Officer*

Welcome to 2021!

I, like most of you, could not wait for 2020 to end. After we learned the hard reality of how to be resilient in a world crisis, we are cautiously optimistic and are hopeful for better days. This month we celebrate the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. who sacrificed his life to fight for civil rights and racial equality. As a nation, there is much work to be done and we each have a responsibility to continue to fight for a more just society.



At the RMC, we are honored and humbled by our role and responsibility to accomplish our mission to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within our jurisdictions.

To kick off 2021, the RMC looks forward to funding projects under the conservancy Prop 68 grant program, provide assistance under the new program components such as small and very small project funds, particularly for cities that needs technical assistance funds. This year will see the completion of park open space and passive recreation projects along our major waterways, the San Gabriel River and Los Angeles Rivers.

The conservancy looks forward to implementing the first of four demonstration project areas for the Los Angeles River Ranger Program and continue the excitement around all the other capital projects that have and are coming out of the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan. Plans will continue to enhance the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument area user experience and habitat preservation. One of the last pristine coastal wetlands lies within the city of Long Beach and

we will see the adaption of plans to restore the greater area.

RMC's funding area is vast, expansive and naturally diverse to continue to fulfill our conservancies mission. We look forward to continuing to partner, engage, listen, think forward, and be resilient alongside all of you, because together, we make better tomorrows.

Be Safe and Well,  
Mark

## Project Spotlights



### Wilderness Park

The funding provided to the City of Downey by the RMC (Over \$4 Million) was allocated from the State's Proposition 1 Water Bond, and approved by voters in 2014. The grant included the installation of a new irrigation system, aeration system for the Lakes, California native & drought tolerant plants, and improved trails and interpretive signage. The City used Measure S and other matching funds for other improvements to the community center, park playgrounds, and general park renovation. The RMC congratulates the City of Downey for the completion and opening of the Wilderness Park in Downey. Located adjacent to the San Gabriel River, just north of Florence Avenue, this 26-acre City park that serves the larger Southeast region is now open for the public to enjoy. After a few procurement delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic which impacted the construction schedule, the City has successfully completed several park improvements, including the critical restoration of the Northern and Southern Lakes which function as wetlands for the migratory birds and aquatic species that call the park their home.

The ribbon cutting for this park was on December 10, 2020. It was attended by Mayor Blanca Pacheco, Vice-Mayor Claudia Frometa, Alex Rodriguez, Alex Saab, and RMC Board Member Liz Reilly. Public Works Director John Oskui oversaw the park construction and Marybeth Vergara was Project Manager for the RMC.

## Project Updates

**Thank You**  
for attending the LLAR Reconvening  
on December 10, 2020!



The Working Group for the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan reconvened on Thursday, December 10th, 2020. The meeting was co-hosted by the Implementation Advisory Group for the Lower LA River, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (63rd District), the LA County Flood Control District, and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. The reconvening provided updates about Lower LA River projects, and the opportunity to share thoughts about ongoing and new efforts to improve the LLAR corridor and communities.

An Open House Application was created for the event and additional materials from the reconvening may be found [here](#).



# Joint Powers Authorities

## Watershed Conservation Authority

### *Vasquez Acquisition and Interim Land Management Guideline*

The biological field survey of the newly acquired Vasquez Overlook (Vasquez II) has concluded. The report notes post-fire recovery of the Vasquez II property and high invertebrate and wildlife diversity. Currently, Cooper Ecological Monitoring is conducting rapid assessments of nearby undeveloped lands along the Wildland Urban Interface to assess the regional context of biodiversity management priorities that should inform land management on Vasquez lands, as well as future priorities for conservation acquisition.

In their successive surveys of recent conservation acquisitions, Tidal Influence (Vasquez I, 2019) and Cooper Ecological Monitoring (Vasquez II, 2020) point out that active management of these high quality ecosystems has potential to create negative impacts that must be weighed against benefits. This coming year, WCA will seek to develop interim management guidelines that include removing/managing select high priority invasive species on both Vasquez properties, and will seek to implement this plan in Spring 2022.

*“Based on our surveys during spring/summer 2020, we find that the majority of the Vasquez Overlook property is covered with a scrubby plant community recovering from a major wildfire (Colby Fire) in 2014, but that it still retains important habitat for native chaparral species typical of the lower foothill ecosystem in the San Gabriel Mountains. We documented 100 plant species (80 native), 65 species of birds, 10 species of mammals, and 20 species of butterflies, among other taxa. These species, which include such uncommon taxa as mountain lion (Puma concolor), Merriam’s chipmunk (Tamias merriami), and Greater Roadrunner (Geococcyx californianus), indicate the high ecological integrity of the property. We documented three special-status plant taxa and six special-status animals on or adjacent to the property, and discovered a population of native plant (California copperleaf Acalypha californica) that appears to be the only known occurrence in Los Angeles County (and the northernmost in the world). “ (Cooper Ecological Monitoring, 2019).*



Cooper Ecological  
Monitoring, Inc.



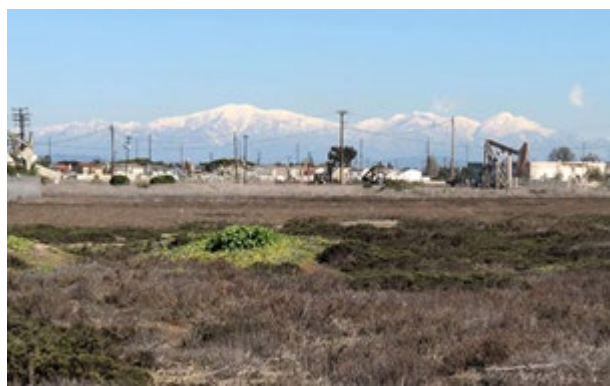
**Figure 6**  
**Camera Locations and Wildlife Movement**

APN 8684-024-001 | Habitat Assessment | Azusa, CA | October 2020

## Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

On Thursday January 7, 2021, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority certified the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Plan. As the first-tier environmental document, this PEIR will serve as the foundation for subsequent CEQA analysis (e.g., project-level EIRs, addendums) which may be conducted for project-specific restoration designs in the Los Cerritos Wetlands. The Final PEIR is available at: [The Los Cerritos Wetlands EIR – Into Los Cerritos Wetlands.](#)

The LCWA's next steps are to complete an Optimized Restoration Plan and implement the Los Cerritos Wetlands Southern Area Planning and Permitting Project. With the support of Senator Tom Umberg (SD 34), Assemblyman Tyler Diep (AD 72), and non-profit organizations: the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust, Los Cerritos Wetlands Fund, El Dorado Audubon and Sea and Sage Audubon, the LCWA was recently awarded a grant of \$250,000 from the State Coastal Conservancy to initiate the next steps in restoration planning. These matching funds will support previously awarded funding from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to carry out the Southern Area project.



### Announcement

**RMC Prop. 68 Grant Deadline Extension  
and Lower LA River Prop 68 and Prop 1 Grant Programs**

After hosting 3 virtual grant workshops in Fall of 2020, which were attended by cities, non-profit organizations, and the community at large, the RMC has extend the deadline for its competitive Regionwide Grant program to **January 13, 2021**. This deadline only applies to our Regionwide Program. **Please note that the Lower LA River Grant Program, Small Grants (\$50K-\$300K), and Very Small Grants Programs (Under \$50K), do NOT have a grant deadline.** Those grants are accepted on an ongoing basis and until bond funds are depleted. For more information, please go to the following link on the RMC website: <http://rmc.ca.gov/grants/>

If you have a project idea and would like to ask us a question, e-mail us at [Prop68@rmc.ca.gov](mailto:Prop68@rmc.ca.gov)

### **Departing Board Member: Liz Reilly**



The RMC would like to extend its sincere appreciation to our outgoing Board Member Liz Reilly. Mrs. Reilly has served as a member of our Governing Board since 2016 and is a voting member representing the San Gabriel Valley portion of the RMC territory. Her position is confirmed by the Governor's office, once the recommendation is made by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG).

Thank you for your many years of dedication to the RMC and always being supportive of our mission to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within our jurisdiction.

Liz Reilly served on the Duarte City Council since 2011 was re-elected in 2015. She has a great track record of representing the San Gabriel Valley at the RMC Board meetings and attended various project related events. She will be missed! The position will remain vacant until a recommendation by the SGVCOG is confirmed.



## **New Board Member: Denise Diaz**

The RMC would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest Board Member, Councilmember Denise Diaz of South Gate. Denise will be a voting member of the conservancy's Governing Board and represents the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG). She is a Councilmember for the City of South Gate, first elected in 2017 to serve a 4-year term. Welcome to the RMC Denise!



# SOCALGAS® STANDS WITH YOUR **COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19**



The end of the year is often a time to reflect on the successes and struggles of the last 12 months. No one could have imagined what 2020 would bring, or that we would be in the midst of a large outbreak in COVID-19 cases as the holidays approached. Our holiday celebrations will likely look a little different this year, but hope is on the way in the form of a vaccine. Until then, we can all do our part to slow the spread.

Despite the year's changes and challenges, the men and women of SoCalGas® take great pride in knowing they continue to safely provide the natural gas service your communities count on. Day in and day out, our essential employees are on the job responding to emergency service appointments and performing work needed to safely maintain our infrastructure.

And our work doesn't end there. I am proud of the efforts SoCalGas employees have taken in their communities. Whether it is safely volunteering at local shelters or donating food, toys and other essentials to our community partners, we are here to serve.

I look forward to what 2021 will bring and wish you a happy holiday season.

Andy Carrasco  
Vice President, Communications,  
Local Government & Community Affairs

## **DELIVERING THE NATURAL GAS YOU DEPEND ON**

The cold weather is moving in as winter approaches and we know that some customers may have questions about their natural gas service. We want to ease those worries. The natural gas Southern Californians depend on to heat their homes and hot water and to cook their food continues to safely flow through our pipelines, that has not changed. We have, however, made some service changes to help protect our customers and employees from COVID-19.

We continue to make essential and emergency service appointments, including reports of suspected natural gas leaks, carbon monoxide checks, gas meter turn-ons, natural gas outages and pilot re-lights. But for now, some appliance check-ups and non-essential service calls - things like inoperative barbecues, and fire pits are suspended.

Customers will be asked three health questions before a SoCalGas technician visits their home for an appointment. During service visits, SoCalGas technicians will ask homeowners to relocate to another room in the home to maintain a 6-foot distance, per CDC guidelines. Our employees also wear masks, in compliance with public health regulations.

Our branch payment offices remain closed to customers, but our customer service representatives are available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week to answer customer questions, help customers select a payment option, or determine whether customers are calling about a service issue that needs our attention right away.

For more information about SoCalGas' coronavirus response. Please visit [socalgas.com/Coronavirus](https://socalgas.com/Coronavirus)





## SOCALGAS DONATES ADDITIONAL \$200,000 TO THE GAS ASSISTANCE FUND

We know that many of our customers are concerned about being able to pay their bills, including their natural gas bill. And we recognize that need is even greater this year. That is why SoCalGas recently donated an additional \$200,000 to the Gas Assistance Fund. The Gas Assistance Fund is administered by the United Way of Greater Los Angeles and provides a one-time grant of up to \$200 to eligible customers for the payment of their natural gas bill.

The Gas Assistance Fund is just one tool available. Customers may also qualify for a 20% discount on their natural gas bill, through our CARE program. CARE applications are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese. For more information, please visit [socalgas.com/Care](https://socalgas.com/Care) or call 1-800-427-2200.

As a reminder, SoCalGas is not disconnecting natural gas service to customers who are unable to pay their bill at this time.

Apply for the Gas Assistance Fund [here](#).

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## SOCALGAS IN THE COMMUNITY

Giving back to the communities we serve has always been important to SoCalGas employees, and we are continuing this commitment to service during the holiday season. Here are just some recent examples of what those efforts looked like across Southern California:

- Over the last few weeks, SoCalGas employees at our Huntington Park and Belvedere bases collected toys which were donated to the "Spark of Love" toy drive. SoCalGas also [donated](#) an additional \$20,000 to the toy collection drive.
- SoCalGas recently sponsored [Sowing Seeds for Life's](#) 14th Annual Holiday Pantry event which provided food, toys & gift cards to more than 2,000 attendees in the Inland Valley.
- Distributed toys and clothing to kids in need at 16 [LA Family Housing](#) sites in partnership with the LA Kings.
- On [Giving Tuesday](#), SoCalGas donated an additional \$100,000 to support local food distribution events and holiday toy drives.

Since March, SoCalGas has donated more than \$3.2 million to nonprofit organizations for COVID-19 recovery efforts, including supporting the region's workforce, feeding the hungry, providing bill assistance to customers, and more. The company has provided COVID-19 relief grants to more than 200 nonprofit organizations throughout its service territory during this time.

For more on our community efforts, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



Please visit our COVID-19 support and response page at [socalgas.com/Coronavirus](https://socalgas.com/Coronavirus) for the latest information.





# SOCALGAS® SE UNE A SU **COMUNIDAD DURANTE LA COVID-19**



El fin de año suele ser una época para reflexionar acerca de los logros y luchas de los últimos 12 meses. Nadie podría haber imaginado lo que 2020 traería, o que nos encontraríamos en medio de un fuerte brote de casos de COVID-19 ahora que las fiestas decembrinas se acercan. Nuestras celebraciones de diciembre probablemente tendrán un aspecto distinto este año, pero la esperanza viene en camino en forma de una vacuna. Hasta entonces, todos podemos hacer la parte que nos corresponde para detener la propagación.

A pesar de los cambios y desafíos de este año, a los hombres y mujeres que colaboramos en SoCalGas® nos enorgullece saber que continuamos suministrando de manera segura el servicio de gas natural con el que cuentan sus comunidades. Día tras día, nuestros empleados esenciales desempeñan sus funciones respondiendo a citas de servicio de emergencia y realizando los trabajos necesarios para dar mantenimiento de forma segura a nuestra infraestructura.

Y nuestro trabajo no termina allí. Estoy orgulloso de los esfuerzos que los empleados de SoCalGas han emprendido en sus comunidades. Ya sea prestando servicio como voluntarios, de manera segura, en refugios locales o donando alimentos, juguetes y otros productos esenciales a los socios de nuestras comunidades, estamos aquí para servir.

Aguardo con interés lo que 2021 traerá y les deseo una feliz temporada de fiestas.

Andy Carrasco

Vicepresidente de Comunicaciones y Asuntos con Gobiernos y Comunidades Locales

## **SUMINISTRAMOS EL GAS NATURAL DEL QUE USTED DEPENDE**

El frío se instala a medida que se acerca el invierno, y sabemos que algunos clientes pueden tener dudas acerca de su servicio de gas natural. Queremos aliviar esas preocupaciones. El gas natural del que dependen los sudcalifornianos para calentar sus hogares, tener agua caliente y cocinar sus alimentos sigue fluyendo de manera segura a través de nuestras tuberías, y eso no ha cambiado. Sin embargo, hemos hecho algunos cambios en el servicio para ayudar a proteger a nuestros clientes y empleados de la COVID-19.

Continuamos atendiendo citas de servicios esenciales y de emergencia, entre los que se incluyen reportes de sospechas de fugas de gas natural, verificaciones de presencia de monóxido de carbono, conexiones de medidores de gas, interrupciones del servicio de gas natural y reencendido de pilotos. Pero por ahora, algunas verificaciones de aparatos domésticos y citas de servicios no esenciales –cosas como parrillas y braseros de exterior que no funcionan– están suspendidas.

A los clientes se les harán tres preguntas de salud antes de que un técnico de SoCalGas visite su casa para atender una cita. Durante las visitas de servicio, los técnicos de SoCalGas pedirán a los propietarios trasladarse a otra habitación de la casa para mantener una distancia de seis pies, conforme a las pautas de los CDC. Nuestros empleados también usan mascarillas, para dar cumplimiento a las reglamentaciones de salud pública.

Nuestras oficinas de pago permanecen cerradas a los clientes, pero nuestros representantes de servicio al cliente están a su disposición 24 horas al día, siete días a la semana para responder a preguntas de los clientes, ayudarles a seleccionar una opción de pago o determinar si los clientes están llamando por un asunto de servicio que requiere nuestra atención inmediata.

Para obtener más información acerca de la respuesta de SoCalGas al coronavirus, visite [socalgas.com/es/coronavirus](https://socalgas.com/es/coronavirus)





## SOCALGAS DONA \$200,000 ADICIONALES AL FONDO DE ASISTENCIA DE GAS

Sabemos que a muchos de nuestros clientes les preocupa poder pagar sus facturas, incluida la factura de gas natural. Y reconocemos que esa necesidad es aún mayor este año.

Por ello, SoCalGas donó recientemente \$200,000 adicionales al Fondo de Asistencia de Gas. El Fondo de Asistencia de Gas está administrado por la organización United Way of Greater Los Angeles y ofrece una subvención única de hasta \$200 a los clientes que reúnen los requisitos para el pago de su factura de gas natural.

El Fondo de Asistencia de Gas es sólo una de las herramientas que existen. Los clientes también pueden tener derecho a un 20% de descuento en su factura de gas natural, a través de nuestro programa CARE. Hay formularios de solicitud CARE disponibles en inglés, español, chino, coreano y vietnamita. Para obtener más información, visite [socialgas.com/CAREparami](https://socialgas.com/CAREparami) o llame al 1-800-342-4545.

A manera de recordatorio, SoCalGas no está desconectando el servicio de gas natural a los clientes que no pueden pagar su factura en este momento.

Presente su formulario de solicitud para el Fondo de Asistencia de Gas [aquí](#).

## SOCALGAS EN LA COMUNIDAD

Retribuir a las comunidades que servimos siempre ha sido importante para los empleados de SoCalGas, y mantenemos este compromiso con el servicio durante la temporada de fiestas decembrinas. Éstos son solo algunos ejemplos recientes de cómo se vieron estos esfuerzos en todo el Sur de California:

- Durante las últimas semanas, empleados de SoCalGas en nuestras bases de Huntington Park y Belvedere recolectaron juguetes que se donaron a la campaña de recolección de juguetes "Spark of Love". SoCalGas también [donó](#) \$20,000 adicionales a la iniciativa para recolectar juguetes.
- SoCalGas patrocinó recientemente la edición 14 del evento anual de alacenas decembrinas Annual Holiday Pantry de [Sowing Seeds for Life](#), en el que se distribuyeron alimentos, juguetes y tarjetas de regalo a más de 2,000 asistentes en Inland Valley.
- Se distribuyeron juguetes y ropa entre niños necesitados en 16 sitios de [LA Family Housing](#), en asociación con los LA Kings.
- En el martes de dar o [Giving Tuesday](#), SoCalGas donó otros \$100,000 para apoyar eventos locales de distribución de alimentos y campañas decembrinas de recolección de juguetes



Desde marzo, SoCalGas ha donado más de \$3.2 millones de dólares a organizaciones sin fines de lucro para esfuerzos de recuperación por la COVID-19, entre los que se incluyen respaldar a la fuerza de trabajo de la región, alimentar a las personas con hambre, ofrecer asistencia en la factura a los clientes y más. La compañía ha proporcionado subvenciones de alivio debido a la pandemia de la COVID-19 a más de 200 organizaciones sin fines de lucro en todo su territorio de servicio durante esta época.

Para conocer más acerca de nuestros esfuerzos comunitarios, síganos en [Facebook](#) y [Twitter](#).

Visite nuestra página de apoyo y respuesta a la COVID-19 en [socialgas.com/es/Coronavirus](https://socialgas.com/es/Coronavirus) para obtener la información más reciente.





South Coast  
Air Quality  
Management  
District

# 2020 PROPOSITION 1B

## Goods Movement Emission Reduction Program

Funding Available for Port Drayage and Other Goods Movement Heavy-Duty Trucks

### Who may apply:

- The owner of an on-road, heavy-duty diesel truck with a manufacturer's Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 16,001 lbs or greater (Class 5-8) used to move goods as part of a sales transaction for a majority of the time.
- Any entity who plans to own and operate the Program-funded electrification infrastructure at a truck stop, rail yard or freight facility, with an agreement from the site owner, or own and operate an electric charging or hydrogen fueling station.

### What are the minimum eligibility requirements?

- The applicant must be the "legal owner" of the heavy-duty diesel truck(s)
- The existing truck must be used to transport goods for sale a majority of the time
- Class 5 or 6 truck with Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) between 16,001 and 26,000 lb and Engine Model Year (EMY) 2007 to 2009 (w/possible exceptions)
- Class 7 or 8 truck with Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) equal to or greater than 26,001 lb and Engine Model Year (EMY) 2005 to 2009
- Completed the following for the past 2 years:
  - Minimum 75% of operations in California
  - California DMV registered
  - Class 5 or 6 — traveled at least 10,000 miles
  - Class 7 or 8 — traveled at least 20,000 miles



### Notes:

- For awarded truck, owner must commit to 90% operation in California and 50% travel within California's four trade corridors
- Ownership of the existing truck shall not change from the time of application to invoice payment
- Fleets must be in compliance with CARB's Truck and Bus Regulation or Drayage Truck Regulation

### Funding Options:

- Truck Replacement\*

Old Truck	Zero Emission	Hybrid with ZE Miles	Optional Low NOx**	Hybrid	Natural Gas***
Class 8	\$200,000	\$150,000	\$100,000	\$80,000	\$65,000
Class 7	\$200,000	\$150,000	\$100,000	\$80,000	\$65,000
Class 6	\$100,000	\$65,000	\$50,000	\$45,000	\$40,000
Class 5	\$80,000	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$35,000	\$25,000

\* Replacement Truck must be new and have a Model Year (MY) 2019 or newer engine

\*\* Optional Low NOx Truck must have engine certified at 0.02 g/bhp-hr

\*\*\* Truck with Natural Gas engine certified at the compliant NOx level of 0.20 g/bhp-hr

- Truck Engine Repower (Small Fleet Only)
  - \$10,000 to \$20,000/truck for repower with a new MY2019+ optional low-NOx or zero emission engine
- Funding also available for electrification infrastructure at truck stop, rail yard or other freight facility, and electric charging station or hydrogen fueling unit.

Equipment specifications for each of these project options can be found here:

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/proposition-1b-goods-movement-emission-reduction-program>

The Program Announcement and on-line application portal can be found here: <http://www.aqmd.gov/Prop1B>



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## MEDIA ADVISORY

**DATE:** January 4, 2021

**CONTACT:** Tina Landis, 415-940-3585

### **\$5 million Volkswagen Light Duty Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program to open in February**

*Public feedback sought on draft guidance document*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Volkswagen Light Duty Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program, a \$5 million statewide program funding electric vehicle infrastructure, is scheduled to open February 2021.

The funding will be available to purchase and install new charging stations for battery-electric vehicles while:

- Directing a minimum of 50 percent of funds to disadvantaged and low-income communities; and
- Expanding EV charging access statewide and closing geographic gaps in coverage.

In advance of the solicitation, the VW administrator developed a draft guidance document and is seeking comments from interested parties. Deadline for feedback is January 28, 2021.

The VW administrator will also be holding two pre-solicitation webinars where they will review the proposed criteria for eligibility, funding restrictions and evaluation:

- January 11, 10 a.m. ([Register here](#))
- January 21, 3 p.m. ([Register here](#))

Public comments and questions may also be submitted online through the program website at <https://www.californiavwtrust.org/ev-infrastructure>, by emailing [CaliforniaVWTrust@baaqmd.gov](mailto:CaliforniaVWTrust@baaqmd.gov), or by calling 1-844-9VW-FUND.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is serving as the statewide administrator of the funding for the VW Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grant under contract with the California Air Resources Board.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

# # #

## Energy Commission Approves Plan to Invest Up to \$115 Million for Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure

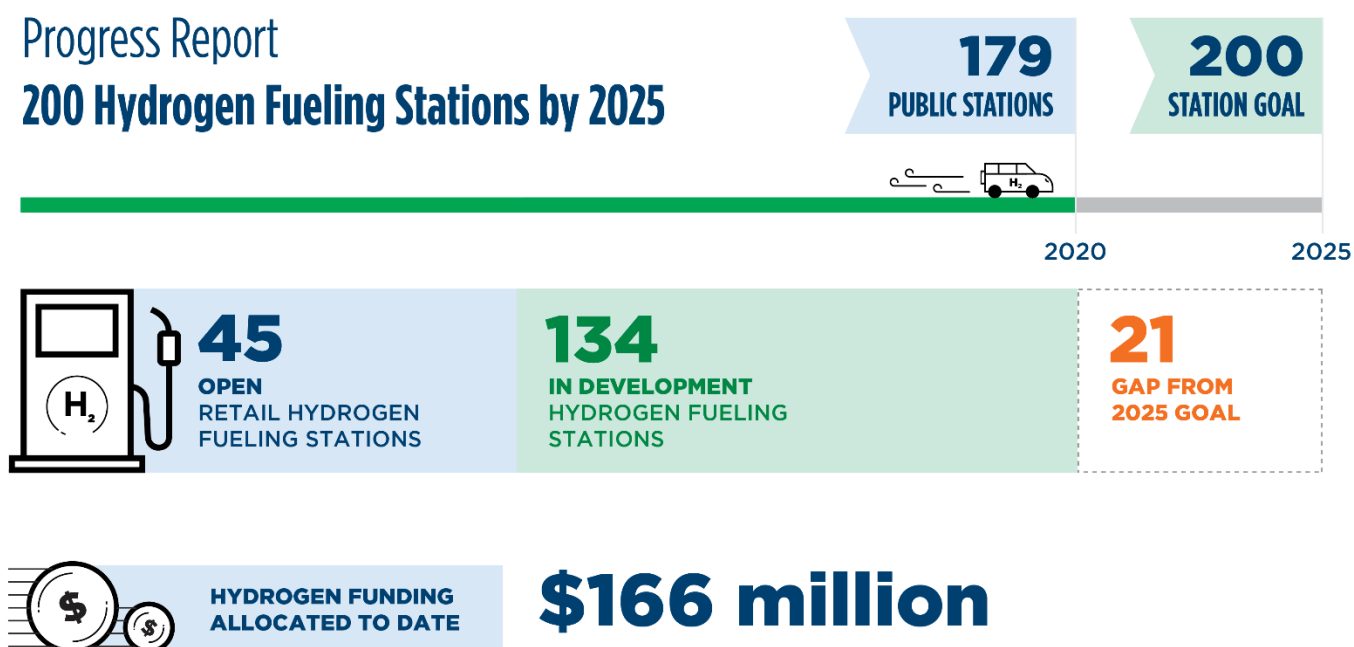
For Immediate Release: December 9, 2020

*Commissioners Approve \$25 Million for First 30 Stations*

**SACRAMENTO** – The [California Energy Commission](#) (CEC) approved a plan today that will invest up to \$115 million to significantly increase the number of fueling stations in the state that support hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs). The funding nearly doubles the state’s investments to date and will help California nearly achieve its goal to deploy 200 public hydrogen fueling stations.

The plan also supports Governor Gavin Newsom’s executive order phasing out the sale of new gasoline-powered passenger vehicles by 2035 by providing essential infrastructure to meet the fueling needs of the increasing number of zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) anticipated on the road in the next decade. While battery electric vehicles (BEV) are the most common ZEV in the state, [more than 8,000 FCEVs have also been leased or sold](#).

Under the plan, up to 111 new hydrogen fueling stations will be built in the state by 2027, including many designed for multi-use by passenger vehicles, trucks and buses. Total project funding is subject to annual approval of both the state budget and allocations from the CEC.





To date, the CEC has funded 45 open retail hydrogen stations with an additional 16 under construction. Altogether with today's approved plan, there could be up to 179 stations in the state, including seven privately funded stations.

During today's business meeting, commissioners awarded three grants totaling nearly \$25 million for the installation of the first 30 stations under the plan. More than half of the stations approved today will be built in or near disadvantaged communities.

Irvine-based FirstElement Fuel, Inc., received \$15.5 million. San Francisco-based Equilon Enterprises (doing business as Shell Oil Products U.S.) received \$7.3 million, and the Santa Clara-based Iwatani Corporation of America, received \$1.9 million.

"We are proud to support these important infrastructure projects to ensure fueling is available as more Californians choose clean cars and trucks," said CEC Commissioner Patty Monahan. "As the zero-emission vehicle market grows, drivers need to feel confident that they can refuel their vehicles, whether they are downtown or driving across the state."

First Element Fuel also received \$5 million from the [Volkswagen \(VW\) Environmental Mitigation Trust](#), a nationwide program that provides funding for states to mitigate the excess NOx emissions caused by VW's use of illegal emissions testing defeat devices in their diesel vehicles. The additional funds are designed to accelerate the development of additional hydrogen fueling stations in California.

Today's grants were awarded through the CEC's [Clean Transportation Program](#), which invests more than \$100 million annually to support transportation-related innovations and accelerate the development and deployment of advanced transportation and fuel technologies. About \$20 million from the program – the maximum allowable under state law – is invested each year to support an initial network of at least 100 public hydrogen stations.

Created by Assembly Bill 118 (Núñez, 2007) and reauthorized by Assembly Bill 8 (Perea, 2013), the Clean Transportation Program is one of the first transportation-focused funding efforts established to help advance the state's climate change policies. Now in its 12th year, the program has provided nearly \$900 million to projects across the state covering a broad spectrum of alternative fuels and technologies.

According to the California Air Resources Board, the transportation sector is responsible for more than half of all of the state's carbon pollution, 80 percent of smog-forming pollution and 95 percent of toxic diesel emissions

More details on California's hydrogen investments are available in the [2020-2023 Investment Plan Update for the Clean Transportation Program](#).

## FAQs

### **How much has been spent on hydrogen fueling infrastructure in the state?**

Since 2009, \$125 million has been invested through the Clean Transportation Program to install or upgrade 62 publicly available hydrogen stations capable of light-duty vehicle fueling. The plan approved today provides up to an additional \$115 million. These investments complement the CEC's hydrogen fueling investments in medium and heavy-duty vehicles. The Clean Transportation Program also supports private hydrogen infrastructure investments for trucks and buses.

**How many hydrogen stations will this grant fund?**

The grants awarded today will see 30 stations installed within the next 30 months with the possibility of up to 84 more being built in the future (subject to state budget appropriations and annual approval of the Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan).

**Where will the stations be located?**

They will be located throughout the state with more than half located in or within a 15-minute drive of a community identified as disadvantaged by CalEnviroScreen. Almost all stations will be located at existing gasoline stations.

**When will the stations approved today open?**

It is expected that station developers will obtain the necessary approvals from their jurisdictional authorities within 18 months of the CEC approving the station under the agreement, and that stations will open within 30 months.

**How many hydrogen stations are either under construction or are being built in California?**

Thirty were approved today, 45 have achieved open retail status and are operating, and 16 are in various stages of planning or construction.

**Are all of the hydrogen fueling stations in the state funded through the CEC?**

No. FirstElement Fuel, Inc., plans to build eight stations without any CEC funding in the initial batch and eight more stations in a subsequent batch. [Iwatani](#) plans to build seven stations without any state funding.

**What will be the renewable hydrogen content of the stations approved today?**

All of the stations approved today will meet the renewable hydrogen requirement of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure program (currently 40%).

FirstElement and Equilon are procuring 100% renewable hydrogen for their existing 28 open retail stations.

**Will the stations approved today support medium-and heavy-duty hydrogen fuel cell vehicles?**

- **FirstElement Fuel** -- Five stations (in subsequent batches) will be designed specifically as dual-purpose stations that can fill heavy-duty vehicles in separate area to light-duty vehicles.
- **Shell** -- Some stations in the next batch will serve nearby tethered fleets.
- **Iwatani** -- Will look for opportunities to serve medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles in the next funding batch.

###

***About the California Energy Commission***

*The California Energy Commission is leading the state to a 100 percent clean energy future. It has [seven core responsibilities](#): developing renewable energy, transforming transportation, increasing energy efficiency, investing in energy innovation, advancing state energy policy, certifying thermal power plants, and preparing for energy emergencies.*

DATE: January 20, 2021

TO: Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **REVISED SGVCOG ENERGY, OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION, AND SOLID WASTE POLICIES**

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Discuss and provide direction to staff.

## **BACKGROUND**

The SGVCOG adopts various policies and white papers to outline the position of the agency on priority issues and matters that impact the San Gabriel Valley. These documents are developed based on feedback and input from SGVCOG policy committees, city staff, and stakeholders. SGVCOG staff is currently working to revise the dated Energy Policy, Open Space Preservation Policy, and Solid Waste Policy to be presented to the Governing Board for adoption.

## **ENERGY POLICY**

The Energy Policy was adopted by the Governing Board on September 24, 2009 (Attachment A) with aims to support clean energy goals by increasing energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and decreasing overall energy usage in municipal facilities. The SGVCOG recognizes the impact of carbon emissions and supports energy policies that spur economic growth, protect public health, and maintain quality of life while minimizing our impact on natural resources and greenhouse gas emissions.

Updates to the adopted Energy Policy demonstrate the SGVCOG's continuous and steadfast commitment to reduce energy usage, provide for energy security given recent rolling blackouts and provide recommendations on how the SGVCOG can better support member agencies to attain and enhance energy efficiency in municipal operations. The draft of the proposed revisions to the Energy Policy can be found in Attachment B.

The proposed revisions build upon the Policy that was adopted in 2009. Items that have been updated are italicized below as a reference:

- 1) *Support policies that allow flexibility in member agencies' efforts to cost-effectively meet energy security goals;*
- 2) *Encourage local agencies to complete an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, set appropriate reduction targets, and create greenhouse gas emission reduction plans;*
- 3) *Support and implement programs that provide resources for local agencies to implement energy efficiency actions and projects;*
- 4) *Support transparency in energy procurement practices;*

- 5) *Support tax credits, grants, loans, and other incentives to assist the public and local agencies that invest in energy-efficient equipment and technology, as well as fuel-efficient and low- and no-emission vehicles, in meeting emission reduction goals;*
- 6) Ensure energy security while limiting dependence on foreign sources of energy;
- 7) Employ diverse strategies for conserving energy including: Energy efficiency, land use strategies, urban forest management, and infrastructure improvements (i.e. green building);
- 8) Develop and pursue innovative and affordable financing options for energy efficiency;
- 9) *Support effective leveraging of energy efficiency programs tailored to address local needs;*
- 10) Support member agencies to move towards a cost-effective “net-zero energy” model where the amount of energy provided by on-site renewable energy sources is equal to the amount of energy used by a building;
- 11) *Support the expansions of battery energy storage systems and microgrids in the San Gabriel Valley;*
- 12) Support advancement of technology that expands renewable energy generation;
- 13) *Support community choice aggregates (CCAs); and*
- 14) Promote public education of energy efficiency and conservation opportunities.

### **OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION POLICY**

The Open Space Preservation was adopted by the Governing Board on July 21, 2011 (Attachment C) to promote open space through appropriate use of natural resources and proper placement of developments. Updates to the adopted Open Space Preservation Policy demonstrates the SGVCOG’s continued commitment to promote quality of life for all citizens, protect the San Gabriel Valley’s unique watershed and natural environments while guarding against wildfires, and prevent illegal activities (dumping and arson) and the spread of invasive species.

The draft of the proposed revisions to the Open Space Preservation Policy can be found in Attachment D. These proposed revisions build upon the Policy that was adopted in 2011. Items that have been updated are italicized below as a reference.

- 1) Identify and protect open space for the multi-benefit enhancement of natural resources and enjoyment for the public;
- 2) *Recognize and preserve open space, watersheds, environmental habitats, and agricultural lands while accommodating new growth with strategies that de-emphasize automobile dependency, create a diversity of affordable housing near employment centers, and provide job opportunities for individuals of all ages and income levels;*
- 3) Develop greenbelts and greenways along and within urban development to limit unsuitable development and provide buffers to wildlife habitat;
- 4) Acquire and preserve open space at high risk of ecological degradation, primarily along the foothills, waterways, flood plains, and within the upper watershed;
- 5) Promote connectivity of wildlife corridors;
- 6) Promote development of diverse and localized recreational opportunities;
- 7) Promote public outreach and interpretation to foster awareness, knowledge and stewardship of open space as a valuable resource; and
- 8) Advocate for parks and open space state and federal appropriations and bond measures as well as funding from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, *California Natural Resources Agency*, and/or loan programs for open space

acquisition, development, restoration, and management.

## **SOLID WASTE POLICY**

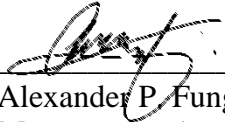
The Solid Waste Policy was adopted by the Governing Board on January 15, 2009 (Attachment E) to identify and implement pragmatic strategies that assist the San Gabriel Valley to plan for integrated, long-term, and reliable solid waste management needs. Since the adoption of the Solid Waste Policy, the SGVCOG supported continued efforts by local agencies to reduce and eliminate waste generation. In 2020, the SGVCOG adopted a Zero Waste Policy to provide a long-term guide for the agency's commitment to eliminating waste and provide a framework for San Gabriel Valley cities and agencies.

Updates to the adopted Solid Waste Policy demonstrate the SGVCOG's continuous commitment to secure resources and technical guidance if needed by local jurisdictions to efficiently reduce waste generation to meet State waste reduction goals. The draft of the proposed revisions to the Solid Waste Policy can be found in Attachment F.

The proposed revisions build upon the Policy that was adopted in 2009. Items that have been updated are italicized below as a reference:

- 1) Encourage the diversification of solid waste management strategies, including conversion technology, that will create new markets and that are feasible given the landscape and conditions of the San Gabriel Valley;
- 2) *Support efforts to improve curbside recycling programs;*
- 3) *Support reducing the amount of single-use plastic packaging and products that enter the waste stream;*
- 4) *Encourage alternative renewable energy generation from organic waste, including biogas production;*
- 5) *Place a heavier emphasis on implementation of waste diversion programs and less strict mathematical accounting;*
- 6) Promote shared responsibility waste management principles, such as product stewardship, throughout the entire life cycle of a product, from design to disposal;
- 7) Advocate for state and federal appropriations and/or loan programs for solid waste management programs and initiatives;
- 8) *Support efforts to streamline and coordinate hazardous materials regulation among various levels of government;*
- 9) *Support regional, state, and federal efforts to implement policies that promote zero waste objectives;*
- 10) *Support regionwide, statewide, and nationwide efforts to address issues caused by electronic wastes;*
- 11) Provide a strong commitment to utilizing financial incentives rather than mandatory requirements;
- 12) Ensure local jurisdictions are not subject to duplicative or contradictory legislative requirements; and
- 13) Promote public education of solid waste issues affecting the San Gabriel Valley.

SGVCOG staff will provide a detailed presentation and solicit feedback from committee members at this meeting.

Prepared by:   
Alexander P. Fung  
Management Analyst

Approved by:   
Marisa Creter  
Executive Director

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment A – Adopted SGVCOG Energy Policy (September 24, 2009)
- Attachment B – Proposed Revisions to the SGVCOG Energy Policy
- Attachment C – Adopted SGVCOG Open Space Preservation Policy (July 21, 2011)
- Attachment D – Proposed Revisions to the SGVCOG Open Space Preservation Policy
- Attachment E – Adopted SGVCOG Solid Waste Policy (January 15, 2009)
- Attachment F – Proposed Revisions to the SGVCOG Solid Waste Policy

## **San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments**

### **Energy Policy**

Adopted September 24, 2009

California's economy is dependent on reliable, affordable supplies of energy that provide for the state's growing population and increasing demand for energy. The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) supports energy policy that spurs economic growth, protects public health, and maintains quality of life while minimizing our impact on natural resources and greenhouse gas emissions. The passage of AB 32, which requires the State to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, focuses energy policy on mitigating the effect of energy consumption on the environment using a wide range of strategies. SGVCOG represents local governments that will lead their communities to support clean energy goals by increasing energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing overall energy usage in municipal facilities.

In addition, SGVCOG advocates and supports programs and legislation that will:

- 1) Make energy costs affordable and stabilized;
- 2) Ensure energy supply while limiting dependence on foreign sources of energy;
- 3) Employs diverse strategies for conserving energy including: energy efficiency, land use strategies, urban forest management, and infrastructure improvements (i.e. green building);
- 4) Develop innovative and affordable financing options for energy efficiency;
- 5) Move towards a "zero net energy" model where the amount of energy provided by on-site renewable energy sources is equal to the amount of energy used by a building;
- 6) Support advancement of technology that expands renewable energy generation;
- 7) Promote public education of energy efficiency and conservation opportunities;
- 8) Ensure local jurisdictions are not subject to duplicative or contradictory legislative requirements; and
- 9) Advocate for state and federal appropriations and/or loan programs for energy programs and initiatives

## **San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Revised Energy Policy**

In 2009, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) adopted an Energy Policy with aims to support clean energy goals by increasing energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and decreasing overall energy usage in municipal facilities. The passage of AB 32 in 2006 outlined the goal of reducing statewide greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. In 2016, SB 32 extended the reduction goal to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. Additionally, SB 100 in 2018 required renewable energy and zero-carbon resources to supply 100% of electric retail sales to end-use customers and 100% of electricity procured to serve state agencies by December 31, 2045. The SGVCOG recognizes the impact of carbon emissions and supports energy policies that spur economic growth, protect public health, and maintain quality of life while minimizing our impact on natural resources and greenhouse gas emissions. Updates to the adopted Energy Policy demonstrate the SGVCOG's continuous and steadfast commitment to reduce energy usage, provide for energy security given recent rolling blackouts and provide recommendations on how the SGVCOG can better support member agencies to attain and enhance energy efficiency in municipal operations.

As a result, the SGVCOG advocates and supports programs and legislation that will:

- 1) Support policies that allow flexibility in member agencies' efforts to cost-effectively meet energy security goals;
- 2) Encourage local agencies to complete an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, set appropriate reduction targets, and create greenhouse gas emission reduction plans;
- 3) Support and implement programs that provide resources for local agencies to implement energy efficiency actions and projects;
- 4) Support transparency in energy procurement practices;
- 5) Support tax credits, grants, loans, and other incentives to assist the public and local agencies that invest in energy-efficient equipment and technology, as well as fuel-efficient and low- and no-emission vehicles, in meeting emission reduction goals;
- 6) Ensure energy security while limiting dependence on foreign sources of energy;
- 7) Employ diverse strategies for conserving energy including: Energy efficiency, land use strategies, urban forest management, and infrastructure improvements (i.e. green building);
- 8) Develop and pursue innovative and affordable financing options for energy efficiency;
- 9) Support effective leveraging of energy efficiency programs tailored to address local needs;
- 10) Support member agencies to move towards a cost-effective "net-zero energy" model where the amount of energy provided by on-site renewable energy sources is equal to the amount of energy used by a building;
- 11) Support the expansions of battery energy storage systems and microgrids in the San Gabriel Valley;
- 12) Support advancement of technology that expands renewable energy generation;
- 13) Support community choice aggregates (CCAs); and
- 14) Promote public education of energy efficiency and conservation opportunities.



## San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

### Open Space Preservation Policy

*Adopted July 21, 2011*

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) seeks to promote quality of life for all citizens by preserving and protecting the watershed and natural environment that has given the San Gabriel Valley much of its unique character. Our communities are supportive of policies that promote open space through appropriate use of natural resources and placement of development, as well as preventing illegal activities (dumping and arson) and the spread of invasive species. In order to address these issues and preserve open space in our communities, SGVCOG will abide by the following principles:

- Open spaces are land parcels that can be small to large, found both in undeveloped areas and within urban settings that provide natural and cultural resources
- Open spaces generally should be accessible for passive public use and enjoyment
- Trails should be developed where possible to provide access, including trails for horseback riding, hiking, bicycling, and off-highway vehicles, where appropriate
- Open space should provide recreation and cultural opportunities for all age groups
- Open space should be recognized for its health and economic benefits, and as a tool to assist with local governments' compliance with state and federal mandates
- Concerns of local governments and private property owners should be respected and taken into consideration

With these guiding principles in mind, SGVCOG and local governments shall lead their communities to achieve the goal of open space protection, conservation, enhancement, and acquisition by supporting programs and legislation that will:

- 1) Identify and protect open space for the multi-benefit enhancement of natural resources and enjoyment for the public;
- 2) Plan for growth by incentivizing compact development in some areas that in turn prevent open space development in other areas;
- 3) Develop greenbelts and greenways along and within urban development to limit unsuitable development and provide buffers to wildlife habitat;
- 4) Acquire and preserve open space at high risk of ecological degradation, primarily along the foothills, waterways, flood plains, and within the upper watershed;
- 5) Promote connectivity of wildlife corridors;
- 6) Promote development of diverse and localized recreational opportunities;
- 7) Promote public outreach and interpretation to foster awareness, knowledge and stewardship of open space as a valuable resource; and
- 8) Advocate for state and federal appropriations, funding from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, and/or loan programs for open space acquisition, development, restoration, and management.

## San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Revised Open Space Preservation Policy

In 2011, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) adopted an Open Space Preservation Policy to promote open space through appropriate use of natural resources and proper placement of developments. Updates to the adopted Open Space Preservation Policy demonstrates the SGVCOG's continued commitment to promote quality of life for all citizens, protect the San Gabriel Valley's unique watershed and natural environments while guarding against wildfires, and prevent illegal activities (dumping and arson) and the spread of invasive species.

The SGVCOG continues to uphold the following principles when supporting open space preservation policies:

- Open spaces are land parcels that can be small to large, found both in undeveloped areas and within urban settings that provide natural and cultural resources.
- Open spaces generally should be accessible for passive public use and enjoyment.
- Trails should be developed where possible to provide access, including trails for horseback riding, hiking, bicycling, and off-highway vehicles, where appropriate.
- Open space should provide recreation and cultural opportunities for all age groups.
- Open space should be recognized for its health and economic benefits, and as a tool to assist with local governments' compliance with state and federal mandates.
- Concerns of local governments and private property owners should be respected and taken into consideration.

As a result, the SGVCOG and local governments shall lead their communities to achieve the goal of open space protection, conservation, enhancement, and acquisition by supporting programs and legislation that will:

- 1) Identify and protect open space for the multi-benefit enhancement of natural resources and enjoyment for the public;
- 2) Recognize and preserve open space, watersheds, environmental habitats, and agricultural lands while accommodating new growth with strategies that de-emphasize automobile dependency, create a diversity of affordable housing near employment centers, and provide job opportunities for individuals of all ages and income levels;
- 3) Develop greenbelts and greenways along and within urban development to limit unsuitable development and provide buffers to wildlife habitat;
- 4) Acquire and preserve open space at high risk of ecological degradation, primarily along the foothills, waterways, flood plains, and within the upper watershed;
- 5) Promote connectivity of wildlife corridors;
- 6) Promote development of diverse and localized recreational opportunities;
- 7) Promote public outreach and interpretation to foster awareness, knowledge and stewardship of open space as a valuable resource; and
- 8) Advocate for parks and open space state and federal appropriations and bond measures as well as funding from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, California Natural Resources Agency, and/or loan programs for open space acquisition, development, restoration, and management.

## San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

### Solid Waste Policy

*Adopted January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009*

Solid waste management is a vital public service that impacts our environment, natural resources, and quality of life, ranging from public health to watershed well being and air quality. The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) seeks to identify and implement environmentally-beneficial and pragmatic strategies that assist our region in planning for integrated, long-term and reliable solid waste management needs, controlling costs, maintaining regulatory compliance, and ensuring environmental sustainability. When pursuing this goal, SGVCOG will abide by the following principles:

- Solutions should emphasize the protection and enhancement of public health and well-being, while conserving our natural resources
- Solutions should be cost-effective while maximizing the availability of quality services for San Gabriel Valley residents
- Solutions should promote opportunities where trash could be viewed as a resource rather than discarded waste
- Solutions should emphasize a balanced approach to “reduce, reuse, and recycle” strategies
- Strategies should be developed to address the infrastructure needs that provide low-cost, low-impact services for San Gabriel Valley residents
- To the highest extent possible, decision-making and regulatory authority should be maintained at the local level

With these guiding principles in mind, SGVCOG advocates and supports programs and legislation that will:

- 1) Encourage the diversification of solid waste management strategies, including conversion technology, that will create new markets and that are feasible given the landscape and conditions of the San Gabriel Valley
- 2) Promote shared responsibility waste management principles (ie. product stewardship) throughout the entire life cycle of a product, from design to disposal
- 3) Encourage the participation of product manufacturers in end-of-life product recovery, reuse, and recycling, with an emphasis on those products banned from disposal
- 4) Provide a strong commitment to utilizing financial incentives rather than mandatory requirements
- 5) Ensure local jurisdictions are not subject to duplicative or contradictory legislative requirements
- 6) Promote public education of solid waste issues affecting the San Gabriel Valley
- 7) Advocate for state and federal appropriations and/or loan programs for solid waste management programs and initiatives

## **San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Revised Solid Waste Policy**

In 2009, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) adopted a Solid Waste Policy to identify and implement pragmatic strategies that assist our region to plan for integrated, long-term, and reliable solid waste management needs. Since the adoption of the Solid Waste Policy, the SGVCOG supported continued efforts by local agencies to reduce and eliminate waste generation. In 2020, the SGVCOG adopted a Zero Waste Policy to provide a long-term guide for the agency's commitment to eliminating waste and provide a framework for San Gabriel Valley cities and agencies. Updates to the adopted Solid Waste Policy demonstrate the SGVCOG's continuous commitment to secure resources and technical guidance if needed by local jurisdictions to efficiently reduce waste generation to meet State waste reduction goals. The State has set ambitious goals of 75 percent recycling, composting or source reduction of solid waste by 2020 as called for by AB 341 (Chesbro, Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011). In addition, SB 1383 (Lara, Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016) establishes targets to achieve a 50% reduction in the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2020 and a 75% reduction by 2025. The bill also sets a target to reduce edible food disposal by at least 20% by 2025.

The SGVCOG continues to uphold the following principles when supporting waste reduction goals and policies:

- Solutions should emphasize the protection and enhancement of public health and well-being, while conserving natural resources.
- Solutions should be cost-effective while maximizing the availability of quality services for San Gabriel Valley residents.
- Solutions should promote opportunities which view trash as a resource rather than discarded waste.
- Solutions should emphasize a balanced approach to “reduce, reuse, and recycle” strategies.
- Strategies should be developed to address the infrastructure needs that provide low-cost, low-impact services for San Gabriel Valley residents.
- To the maximum extent possible, decision-making and regulatory authority should be maintained at the local level.

As a result, the SGVCOG advocates and supports programs and legislation that will:

- 1) Encourage the diversification of solid waste management strategies, including conversion technology, that will create new markets and that are feasible given the landscape and conditions of the San Gabriel Valley;
- 2) Support efforts to improve curbside recycling programs;
- 3) Support reducing the amount of single-use plastic packaging and products that enter the waste stream;
- 4) Encourage alternative renewable energy generation from organic waste, including biogas production;
- 5) Place a heavier emphasis on implementation of waste diversion programs and less strict mathematical accounting;

- 6) Promote shared responsibility waste management principles, such as product stewardship, throughout the entire life cycle of a product, from design to disposal;
- 7) Advocate for state and federal appropriations and/or loan programs for solid waste management programs and initiatives;
- 8) Support efforts to streamline and coordinate hazardous materials regulation among various levels of government;
- 9) Support regional, state, and federal efforts to implement policies that promote zero waste objectives;
- 10) Support regionwide, statewide, and nationwide efforts to address issues caused by electronic wastes;
- 11) Provide a strong commitment to utilizing financial incentives rather than mandatory requirements;
- 12) Ensure local jurisdictions are not subject to duplicative or contradictory legislative requirements; and
- 13) Promote public education of solid waste issues affecting the San Gabriel Valley.

DATE: January 20, 2021

TO: Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **2021 SAN GABRIEL VALLEY ENERGY CHAMPION AWARDS**

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

For information only.

## **BACKGROUND**

Last year, the SGVCOG launched the San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards to encourage San Gabriel Valley cities and agencies to implement energy efficiency actions and engage in long-term energy planning activities. Jurisdictions that were interested in participating were given until the end of 2020 to complete the required activities in the Energy Champion Awards. As a result, a total of 15 cities and agencies achieved recognizable tiers and received awards for their energy efficiency accomplishments.

Witnessing the success of implementing the awards structure last year, the SGVCOG revamped the recognition model and introduced the 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards this month. Requirements for cities and agencies to receive an award include implementing a combination of activities such as attending energy efficiency trainings and meetings, benchmarking municipal facilities, and conducting energy efficiency outreach activities.

Requirements for the 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards are separated into four separate categories as follows:


<b>Categories</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
Energy Work Group	<b>Silver:</b> Attending 1 Energy Work Group meeting <b>Gold:</b> Attending 2 Energy Work Group meetings <b>Platinum:</b> Attending 3 Energy Work Group meetings
Education & Trainings	<b>Silver:</b> Attend 1 energy efficiency training or provide 1 energy efficiency presentation <b>Gold:</b> Complete a combination of 2 activities that include attending energy efficiency training (s) or providing energy efficiency presentation(s) <b>Platinum:</b> Complete a combination of 3 activities that include attending energy efficiency training (s) or providing energy efficiency presentation(s)
Outreach & Marketing	<b>Silver:</b> Refer 1 agency that has not been previously engaged with the SGVCOG's energy efficiency efforts or implement 1 energy efficiency marketing campaign <b>Gold:</b> Complete a combination of 2 activities that include referring agencies that have not been previously engaged with the SGVCOG's energy efficiency efforts or implement energy efficiency marketing campaigns <b>Platinum:</b> Complete a combination of 3 activities that include referring

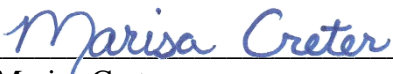
# REPORT

	agencies that have not been previously engaged with the SGVCOG's energy efficiency efforts or implement energy efficiency marketing campaigns
Benchmarking, Audits, and Projects	<p><b>Silver:</b> Complete 1 of the following menu items  <b>Gold:</b> Complete 2 of the following menu items  <b>Platinum:</b> Complete 3 of the following menu items</p> <p><u>Menu Items:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with the SGVCOG, SoCalGas, and the SoCalREN to benchmark all facilities on Energy Star Portfolio Manager or host a Comparative Energy Analysis meeting with the SGVCOG in 2021.</li> <li>• Conduct at least 1 municipal facility audit in 2021.</li> <li>• Participate in the SoCalGas Direct Install Program.</li> <li>• Participate in one of the following SoCalREN programs to install a gas project: Metered Savings Program, Revolving Savings Fund, and Pathway to Zero.</li> <li>• Install a gas energy efficiency project in 2020 or 2021.</li> </ul>

Jurisdictions have most of the year to complete the necessary requirements to reach the highest tier. Requirements in the "Benchmarking, Audits, and Projects" Category must be completed by November 1, 2021. Requirements in all other categories must be completed by December 1, 2021. Cities and agencies that have reached recognizable tiers by the stated deadlines will receive their awards at the Energy Work Group meeting in December 2021.

A graphical summary of the 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards can be found in Attachment A. Additionally, monthly reports will be made available on the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership website at <https://www.sgvenergywise.org/2021-sgv-energy-champion-awards>. SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, will provide a presentation on this item. Questions and inquiries can be directed to Mr. Fung at [afung@sgvcog.org](mailto:afung@sgvcog.org).

Prepared by:   
 Alexander P. Fung  
 Management Analyst

Approved by:   
 Marisa Creter  
 Executive Director

## ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Graphical Summary of the 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards

## SILVER LEVEL

Attend **1** EWG Meeting

**1** Training or Presentation

**1** Referral or Marketing Campaign

Complete **1** Action Listed Below



## GOLD LEVEL

Attend **2** EWG Meetings

**2** Training(s) and/or Presentation(s)

**2** Referral(s) and/or Marketing  
Campaign(s)

Complete **2** Actions Listed Below



## PLATINUM LEVEL

Attend **3** EWG Meetings

**3** Training(s) and/or Presentation(s)

**3** Referral(s) and/or Marketing  
Campaign(s)

Complete **3** Actions Listed Below



- Collaborate with the SGVCOG, SoCalGas, and the SoCalREN to benchmark all facilities on Energy Star Portfolio Manager **OR** host a Comparative Energy Analysis meeting with the SGVCOG in 2021.
- Conduct at least 1 municipal facility audit in 2021.
- Participate in the SoCalGas Direct Install Program.
- Participate in one of the following SoCalREN programs to install a gas project: Metered Savings Program, Revolving Savings Fund, and Pathway to Zero.
- Install a gas energy efficiency project in 2020 or 2021.



# REPORT

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DATE: January 20, 2021

TO: Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **COVID-19 VACCINE DISTRIBUTION PLAN**

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

For information only.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) has recently confirmed that both Pfizer and Moderna vaccines have been proven to be safe and effective in large studies that involved a diverse mix of individuals. These vaccines have prevented over 94% of COVID-19 infections. While the vaccines stop individuals from getting sick, DPH emphasizes that it is unclear if the vaccines will prevent immune individuals from spreading COVID-19 to others. The length of the immunity on vaccinated individuals is also unclear at the moment. As a result, the Department continues to strongly encourage every resident to wear face coverings, physical distance, and not gather.

DPH stated that COVID-19 vaccines will be made available for free to every resident and will be offered to different groups in various phases. Priorities are based on the risk of becoming ill and the need to maintain the existing healthcare system. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is responsible for recommending groups and individuals who receive the vaccinations first; however, state governments are responsible for making the final decisions. As for the County of Los Angeles, DPH is responsible for distributing the vaccines.

All individuals who are vaccinated require two doses for the most effective protection against COVID-19. The first dose primes the immune system and the second dose strengthens the system's immune response. After vaccination, individuals may experience short-lived side effects such as fever, muscle aches, headache, fatigue, and sore/red arm. While experiencing the side effects may not be a pleasant experience, DPH states that these side effects indicate good immune responses. It is important to return for the second dose even if the first dose resulted in unpleasant side effects.

Individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 are also recommended to be vaccinated, as it is evident that individuals can be infected by COVID-19 multiple times. Individuals that have recently been infected by COVID-19 should wait until the end of their isolation periods before receiving their vaccines to protect healthcare workers and local residents.

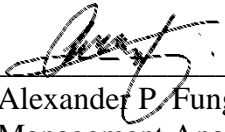
DPH anticipates that the vaccines will be made available to the general public starting in Spring/Summer 2021. Residents and cities are encouraged to contact the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs at (800) 593-8222 to report possible vaccination

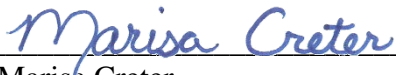
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scams. To sign up for DPH's COVID-19 vaccine newsletter updates, please visit <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/vaccine/>.

DPH Health Program Analyst, Melisa Acoba, will provide a detailed presentation at this meeting.

Prepared by:   
Alexander P. Fung  
Management Analyst

Approved by:   
Marisa Creter  
Executive Director