



SGVCOG EENR Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: March 17, 2021
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	J. Stark
Duarte	T. Paras-Caracci
El Monte	P. Garcia
Pasadena	J. Guess
Pomona	J. Carver
Rosemead	M. Clark
San Dimas	D. Bertone
San Gabriel	C. Liao
Sierra Madre	R. Arizmendi
West Covina	T. Wu
Temple City (Ex-Officio)	J. Lee

Absent

Covina

Guests

City of South Pasadena	A. Tesfaye
Nature for All	A. Hernandez
Nature for All	B. Fasutinos
Nature for All	B. Matsumoto
Office of Cong. Napolitano	B. Pence
Sierra Club National	C. De La Cruz
Sierra Club National	Y. Kavezade
SoCalGas	H. Shaw
South Coast AQMD	I. MacMillan
South Coast AQMD	M. Cacciotti
South Coast AQMD	R. Yeung
South Coast AQMD	S. Rees
Tongva/Tataviam Land	R. Mo

SGVCOG Staff

P. Hubler, Staff
A. Fung, Staff

3. Public Comment
Y. Kavezade from the Sierra Club provided a verbal public comment on Item 17, AQMD Warehouse Indirect Source Rule (Proposed Rule 2305), to express appreciation for the South Coast AQMD to develop the Proposed Rule to address emissions from various parts of the warehouse industry.

H. Shaw from SoCalGas provided a verbal public comment on Item 18, AB 33 (Ting), to express opposition to AB 33 on behalf of SoCalGas. Ms. Shaw commented that school districts should be given the opportunity to decide on the forms of energy needed to power their facilities.

C. De La Cruz from the Sierra Club provided a verbal public comment on Item 18, AB 33 (Ting), to encourage individuals to examine AB 33 closely. Mr. De La Cruz commented that the bill further supports the State’s climate reduction and transportation electrification goals and does not restrict local controls.

- 4. Changes to Agenda Order
There were no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 5. EENR Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2021
Action: Review and approve.

There was a motion to approve consent calendar item 5. (M/S: C. Liao/R. Arizmendi)
[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Claremont, Duarte, El Monte, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, Sierra Madre, West Covina
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
NO VOTE RECORDED:	
ABSENT:	Covina

LIAISON REPORTS

No verbal report was given unless otherwise noted.

- 6. Clean Power Alliance
- 7. San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative
- 8. San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (MVCD)
- 9. Trust for Public Land
- 10. San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC)
- 11. Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
- 12. Southern California Edison
- 13. Southern California Gas Company
- 14. South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD)
R. Yeung provided a verbal report on AQMD’s guidebook for residents and stakeholders to identify agencies and organizations responsible for environmental concerns and other issues.

UPDATE ITEM

- 15. Protecting America’s Wilderness and Public Lands Act
SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided updates on this item. Last

month, Congresswoman Judy Chu (CA-27) re-introduced the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act to the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill was packaged under Congresswoman Diana DeGette's (CO-1) Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act, which is known as HR 803. The bill, if signed into law, would designate approximately 1.5 million acres of public land as wilderness, add 1,200 miles of rivers to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and withdraw over one million acres from new mining claims. Additionally, HR 803 expands national monuments and national recreation areas, creates new historic landscapes, and funds constructions of new hiking trails on public lands. The amount of land protected under HR 803 would be approximately three million acres of land in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, and Washington. The bill recently passed the U.S. House of Representatives and has been received in the U.S. Senate.

Key Discussions/Questions:

- M. Clark commented that the Cities of Glendora and Monrovia expressed concerns regarding this legislation due to concerns regarding property rights. Given their concerns, Ms. Clark suggested that the SGVCOG remains neutral or opposes this legislation.
- D. Bertone clarified that the SGVCOG has decided to remain neutral on this legislation.
- C. Liao inquired about potential funding that can result from the passage of HR 803. Mr. Fung responded that the designation of a national recreation area in the San Gabriel Mountains through HR 803 can lead to additional funding sources to hire additional rangers and improve facilities in the San Gabriel Mountains.

PRESENTATIONS

16. Nature for All 2020 Impact Report

Nature for All representatives provided a presentation on the organization's 2020 Impact Report. The Impact Report highlights achievements that the organization had accomplished last year and showcases various strategies for carrying out its mission through supporting policies to protect public lands.

Key Discussions/Questions:

- J. Stark inquired about funding from 30 by 30 that can increase open space in public land areas. Ms. Faustinos responded that the California Natural Resources Agency has been collaborating with Nature for All to identify state and federal resources to support acquisition of open space to support 30 by 30. Ms. Faustinos mentioned that a comparative bill analysis for AB 1500 and SB 45 will be shared with committee members.
- J. Stark also inquired about opportunities to address the poor road conditions on Mt. Baldy Road. Ms. Faustinos mentioned that it is possible that several agencies are responsible for maintaining Mt. Baldy Road and offered to contact Ms. Stark separately to address the issue.
- C. Liao commented that it may be possible to utilize Measure M funds to support road maintenance efforts in the mountains. Ms. Faustinos responded that a portion of Measure M funds was allocated towards access programs.

- C. Liao also inquired about using Proposition 68 funds to support parks and clean water efforts. Ms. Faustinos said that Proposition 68 dollars supported Nature for All's Transit to Parks Program, as well as the City of Duarte's efforts to reopen the Fish Canyon Falls Trail.
- J. Lee commented that Nature for All also supports local efforts to expand open space. Ms. Faustinos added that Nature for All hosts a Leadership Development Program and a Leadership Academy to provide opportunities for participants to learn civic engagements. These programs encourage participants to encourage the advocacy of additional access to open space through civic platforms.

17. AQMD Warehouse Indirect Source Rule (Proposed Rule 2305)

South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) representatives provided a presentation on this item. To assess and identify potential actions to further reduce emissions associated with emission sources operating in and out of warehouse distribution centers, the AQMD is currently pursuing a new rule to regulate warehouse operators and owners of existing and new warehouses with floor space greater than or equal to 100,000 square feet. Specifically, the Rule requires warehouse operators of warehouses subject to Proposed Rule 2305 to reduce emissions by completing specific actions or paying mitigation fees. The AQMD Governing Board is scheduled to review this item at its May meeting.

Key Discussions/Questions:

- M. Cacciotti added that the Proposed Rule, if approved, will be phased in over several years and that there are serious consequences if the region fails to meet federal emissions standards.

DISCUSSION ITEM

18. AB 33 (Ting)

SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided a legislative update on AB 33. Originally introduced in December 2020 as a bill to limit the use of natural gas in new public schools and state buildings, Assemblymember Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) gut-and-amended AB 33 earlier this week to require the California Energy Commission to provide grants and loans to local governments and public institutions to maximize energy use savings, expand installation of energy storage systems, and expand the availability of transportation electrification infrastructure.

Key Discussions/Questions:

- M. Clark requested staff to review the bill and provide additional updates at the next committee meeting.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

19. Next Committee Meeting

The upcoming committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 1:00pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no additional announcements.

ADJOURN

D. Bertone adjourned the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee meeting at 2:37 p.m.