



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

AGENDA AND NOTICE

OF THE MEETING OF THE ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (EENR) COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – 12:30 PM

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (602 E. Huntington Dr; Monrovia, CA)

Chair
Denis Bertone
City of San Dimas

Vice Chair
Liz Reilly
City of Duarte

Members
Claremont
Duarte
Glendora
Rosemead
San Dimas
Sierra Madre
South Pasadena
West Covina

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 12:30 PM at the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, 602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA.* 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. Copies are available via email upon request (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.

CITIZEN 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 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.



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 *Recommended Action: Approve.*
6. Correspondence - Page 3
Recommended Action: Receive and File.

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

7. EENR Legislative Priorities – Christian Cruz, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments - Page 7
Recommended Action: Discuss and provide direction to staff.

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

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

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

8. Los Angeles Community Choice Energy JPA
Recommended Action: For information
9. National Forest Foundation Community Collaborative
Recommended Action: For information.
10. SGVCOG Water Committee Update
Recommended Action: For information.
11. San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership
Recommended Action: For information.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN



SGVCOG EENR Committee Unapproved Minutes

Date: September 20, 2017

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: Jeff Seymour Family Center (10909 Emery St, Monrovia)

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
This meeting was called to order at 1:07 pm

2. Roll Call

Members Present

Claremont	S. Pedroza
Duarte	L. Reilly
Rosemead	M. Clark
San Dimas	D. Bertone
South Pasadena	D. Mahmud
West Covina	J. Toma

Absent

Sierra Madre
Glendora

COG Staff

Christian Cruz, Staff

3. Public Comment
No public comment.
4. Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to next regular meeting
There were no changes to the Agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. EENR Meeting Minutes
6. Correspondence
There was a motion to approve consent items 5-6. (M/S: L. Reilly / S. Pedroza).

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Claremont, Duarte, San Dimas, Rosemead, San Dimas, South Pasadena, West Covina
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	Sierra Madre, Glendora

PRESENTATIONS

7. Jeff Seymour Community Center Tour – Wes Reutimann, Bike SGV, and Belinda Faustinos, San Gabriel Mountains Forever.
Andrew Yip and Belinda Faustinos presented on this item.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ACTION ITEMS

UPDATE ITEMS

8. Los Angeles Community Choice Energy JPA
C. Cruz and D. Mahmud reported on this item.
9. National Forest Foundation Community Collaborative
L. Reilly reported on this item.
10. SGVCOG Water Committee Update
D. Mahmud reported on this item
11. San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership
No report given.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Trump positioned to impose potentially crushing tariffs on solar industry



U.S. trade officials on Friday empowered President Trump to impose tariffs that could cut off the solar energy industry from the cheap foreign-made panels that have driven its explosive growth. (Sept. 22, 2017) (Sign up for our free video newsletter here <http://bit.ly/2n6VKPR>)



By **Evan Halper**

SEPTEMBER 22, 2017, 12:25 PM | REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON

US. trade officials on Friday empowered President Trump to impose tariffs that could cut off the solar energy industry from the cheap foreign-made panels that have driven its explosive growth and helped create tens of thousands of jobs in California.

The tariffs under consideration are meant to protect a small number of American solar-panel manufacturers reeling in the face of cheap imports. The U.S. International Trade Commission voted to enable Trump to impose them at the behest of two distressed firms that warned the American panel manufacturing industry is in a state of collapse.

The commission ruled that the cheap foreign panels are “being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury, or threat of serious injury, to the domestic industry.”

But most of the solar industry fiercely opposes the levies, which independent analysts warn would drive up consumer prices and cause the number of annual solar installations in the U.S. to plunge. Only a fraction of American solar companies make the panels. Most rely on imports to keep prices competitive with other forms of electricity. More than 90% of solar installations in the U.S. use imported panels.

Some 16,000 California jobs could disappear if the heavy tariffs being sought by the distressed manufacturers are imposed, according to an estimate from the Solar Energy Industries Assn. That is more than a quarter of the solar jobs in California. Nationwide, the association projects 88,000 jobs would vanish.

The governors of Nevada, Colorado, Massachusetts and North Carolina had implored the trade commission not to authorize tariffs in a last-ditch lobbying effort Thursday. Their letter warned of a “devastating blow on our states’ solar industries” and “unprecedented job loss, at steep cost to our states’ economies.” In California, which would get hit with more job losses than any state, the governor’s office has also been closely watching the situation.

Congress also weighed in, with 69 Republicans and Democrats urging commissioners against greenlighting the tariffs. Several think tanks on the right that have long tangled with the solar industry also lobbied against the tariffs, warning they would be an affront to free trade.

Now the matter is in Trump's hands. The president has been eager to use tariffs in a bid to revive flagging U.S. manufacturing industries, and the commission vote will test his resolve as a protectionist. The White House was noncommittal following the 4-0 vote at the commission. "The President will examine the facts and make a determination that reflects the best interests of the United States," said its statement. But the White House signaled it sympathizes with the distressed companies, saying their corner of the solar industry "contributes to our energy security and economic prosperity."

Commissioners will take the next few weeks to consider how steep the tariffs should be and make a recommendation to the White House. Trump is not obligated to follow their advice.

Solar companies worry the administration will heed the request of the firms that brought the action and hit foreign manufacturers with a tariff that will raise the price of their panels from 35 cents per watt to 78 cents, which is around the cost of the American product.

Analysts project such a price hike would quickly cut in half the number of annual solar power systems installed in the U.S.

The action was filed by Georgia-based Suniva, a firm that is in bankruptcy. Joining Suniva in requesting the levies was Oregon-based SolarWorld Americas, a struggling subsidiary of the bankrupt German firm SolarWorld AG.

"We welcome this important step toward securing relief from a surge of imports that has idled and shuttered dozens of factories, leaving thousands of workers without jobs," said Juergen Stein, CEO and president of SolarWorld Americas. The company said 30 solar manufacturers shut down operations between 2012 and 2016 as foreign imports quintupled.

The case was filed under a rarely exercised provision of trade law called Section 201, which enables the president to broadly impose tariffs if the commission finds such a drastic move is needed to protect an American industry from a deluge of foreign imports. It hasn't been exercised since 2001, when George W. Bush invoked it in an effort to protect the U.S. steel industry from Mexican and Canadian imports. The move sparked retaliation, and the [World Trade Organization](#) ultimately voided the steel levies two years later.

Other tariffs imposed by the U.S. under the so-called "safeguard" provision being invoked in the solar case have run into trouble at the WTO. The international body applies a high standard for proving that imports actually caused the injury to domestic producers, and not other factors. Yet an appeal to the WTO would take time, and the Trump administration does not have to wait for its ruling. Officials can assess the duties immediately upon presidential action, which is expected by January.

Solar industry officials are now focusing their efforts on persuading U.S. trade officials and the White House to pursue the least disruptive "remedy" possible for addressing the grievances of Suniva and SolarWorld. That could be a negligible tariff or possibly even some other form of light sanction on the manufacturers of the cheap imports. Tom Werner, CEO of the large California-based solar firm SunPower, warned in a blog post Friday that anything else "could undermine an American industry that has been experiencing exponential growth and creating jobs at an unprecedented rate."

He expressed hope that Trump would come to see that steep tariffs would give foreign competitors an advantage, pushing innovation in the industry abroad. Others have pointed out that most of the jobs that would be lost to high tariffs belong to installers who do not need a college degree, the exact group of voters Trump is promising to help.

But the president has been eager to impose exactly the type of tariff that the commission has now put on the table to strike a symbolic blow against cheap foreign imports that have been a scourge of U.S. manufacturing jobs. He talked about invoking Section 201 during the campaign, and a trade agenda his administration presented to Congress signaled that Trump intended to be far more aggressive than his predecessors in using it to slow imports.

Anxiously awaiting the president's move are the directors of big solar projects, like utilities in the Southeast, which have plans to add more than 4,000 megawatts of solar in their region. It all adds up to a roughly \$4-billion investment in the local economies, according to Stephen Smith, executive director of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy.

"All those jobs, property values and clean energy opportunities are now at serious risk," he said.

Times staff writer Don Lee in Washington contributed to this report.

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ALSO

After months of challenges and controversy, Trump's travel ban expires Sunday — and a new one may be coming

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos rescinds Obama-era guidelines on campus sexual assault

These are the 10 ecologically sensitive landscapes and marine preserves Trump may be targeting

Will a trade fight with Asia sabotage the U.S. solar industry? That may be up to Trump

UPDATES:

12:25 p.m.: This article was updated with reaction from the firms and additional analysis.

This article was originally published at 8:20 a.m.

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This article is related to: [Donald Trump](#), [World Trade Organization](#)

DATE: October 18, 2017
TO: Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee
FROM: Marisa Creter, Interim Executive Director
RE: **EENR LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discuss and provide direction to staff.

BACKGROUND

Staff is currently working to develop a list of legislative priorities to present to the EENR Committee. Three areas of consideration were identified based on past policy adoption of the SGVCOG, including energy, open space and solid waste. Background information is provided below that expands on these priority areas. Most recently the COG Water Committee adopted a legislative storm water policy (Attachment A).

ENERGY

On September 24, 2009, the SGVCOG adopted an energy policy (Attachment B) that supports legislation that spurs economic growth, protects public health, and maintains quality of life while minimizing our impact on natural resources and greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, the policy advocates and supports energy programs and legislation that will:

- Make energy costs affordable and stabilized;
- Ensure energy supply while limiting dependence on foreign sources of energy;
- Employs diverse strategies for conserving energy including: energy efficiency, land use strategies, urban forest management, and infrastructure improvements (i.e. green building);
- Develop innovative and affordable financing options for energy efficiency;
- 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;
- Support advancement of technology that expands renewable energy generation;
- Promote public education of energy efficiency and conservation opportunities;
- Ensure local jurisdictions are not subject to duplicative or contradictory legislative requirements; and
- Advocate for state and federal appropriations and/or loan programs for energy programs and initiatives.

The SGVCOG has adopted several resolutions recently that supports these topic areas, including supporting the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy (LACCE) JPA, and the Los Angeles County Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs. Additionally, the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership supports the implementation of residential and commercial energy

efficiency programs for SGV residents.

OPEN SPACE

On July 21, 2011, the SGVCOG adopted an open space preservation policy (Attachment C) that promotes 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 addition, SGVCOG will look to achieve the goal of open space protection, conservation, enhancement, and acquisition by supporting programs and legislation that will:

- Identify and protect open space for the multi-benefit enhancement of natural resources and enjoyment for the public;
- Plan for growth by incentivizing compact development in some areas that in turn prevent open space development in other areas;
- Develop greenbelts and greenways along and within urban development to limit unsuitable development and provide buffers to wildlife habitat;
- Acquire and preserve open space at high risk of ecological degradation, primarily along the foothills, waterways, flood plains, and within the upper watershed;
- Promote connectivity of wildlife corridors;
- Promote development of diverse and localized recreational opportunities;
- Promote public outreach and interpretation to foster awareness, knowledge and stewardship of open space as a valuable resource; and
- 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.

The SGVCOG on September 15, 2016 supported Measure A, the LA County Parks measure. This measure provides stable funding for parks and open space County wide to allow all equitable access to park and open space for all communities. Additionally, the SGVCOG adopted a resolution identifying priority open space projects including:

- Emerald Necklace;
- Duck Farm River Park;
- River Wilderness Park;
- Cattle Canyon Confluence with East Fork; and
- San Gabriel Valley Regional Greenway Network.

SOLID WASTE

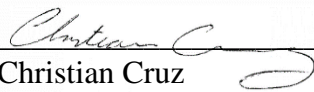
On January 15, 2009, the SGVCOG adopted a solid waste policy (Attachment D) to identify and implement environmentally-beneficial and pragmatic strategies that assist our region in planning for integrated, long-term and reliable solid waste management needs, controlling costs, maintaining regulatory compliance, and ensuring environmental sustainability. In addition, the policy advocates and supports energy programs and legislation that will:

REPORT

- 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
- Promote shared responsibility waste management principles (ie. product stewardship) throughout the entire life cycle of a product, from design to disposal
- Encourage the participation of product manufacturers in end-of-life product recovery, reuse, and recycling, with an emphasis on those products banned from disposal
- Provide a strong commitment to utilizing financial incentives rather than mandatory requirements
- Ensure local jurisdictions are not subject to duplicative or contradictory legislative requirements
- Promote public education of solid waste issues affecting the San Gabriel Valley
- Advocate for state and federal appropriations and/or loan programs for solid waste management programs and initiatives

The purpose of these legislative priorities is to advocate for San Gabriel Valley interests at the County, State, and Federal level, as it pertains to Energy, Environment and Natural Resources.

There are a variety of potential environmental legislative issues that would significantly impact the health of the environment and San Gabriel Valley residents. The review of these legislative items will help improve quality of life regionally.

Prepared by: 
Christian Cruz
Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Interim Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – 2017 SGVCOG Stormwater Legislative Agenda

Attachment B – COG Energy Policy

Attachment C – COG Open Space Preservation Policy

Attachment D – COG Solid Waste Policy

RESOLUTION NO. 16-31

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SGVCOG) AFFIRMING STORMWATER
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2017**

WHEREAS, the SGVCOG adopted a Stormwater Policy on November 17, 2016; and

WHEREAS, that policy includes a set of regulatory and legislative changes the COG will pursue in support of its member cities; and

WEREAS, the SGVCOG seeks to specifically define those legislative priorities for the year 2017;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board does hereby adopt the following SGVCOG Stormwater Legislative Priorities for 2017 and directs the Water Policy Committee to engage with State and Federal legislators to support these priorities.

- Establish a new tire fee to address stormwater pollution.
- Establish cost recovery from identified sources of stormwater and dry weather runoff pollution.
- Establish either exemption from potential municipal liability or a state indemnity fund for personal injury or property damage caused by pollutants collected in stormwater/dry weather runoff projects undertaken pursuant to an MS4 permit.
- Modify the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act to adopt Financial Capability Assessment guidance issued by United State Environmental Protection Agency, such as economic analysis of the costs and benefits of water quality improvements, in consideration of MS4 permits.
- Clarify that MS4 permittees shall enjoy entitlement to use the stormwater and dry runoff they have captured.
- Modify criteria for appointment of Regional Water Board membership to require more expertise in the field of water supply, water rights and water quality.
- Create a municipal ombudsman position at the State Water Resources Control Board and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- Allow the use of flood control infrastructure that convey stormwater and urban runoff to transport flows to sites that more cost-effectively and environmentally capture, treat, and infiltrate/reuse stormwater runoff to improve water quality and augment groundwater supplies.
- Direct the State Architect to require new school construction and substantial remodeling of existing school facilities to capture and infiltrate stormwater at the school site.
- Enact legislation that requires capital projects funded with state funds provide for infiltration to capture, to the maximum extent reasonably feasible, stormwater and dry weather runoff.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, County of Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, on the 19th day of January 2017.

Gene Murabito, President
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Attest:

I, Philip A. Hawkey, Executive Director and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, do hereby certify that Resolution 16-31 was adopted at a regular meeting of the Governing Board held on the 19th day of January 2017, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

Philip A. Hawkey, Secretary

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

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

Solid Waste Policy

Adopted January 15th, 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