



**SGVCOG EENR Committee Regular Meeting Minutes**

Date: January 20, 2021  
Time: 1:00 PM  
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

**PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

1. Call to Order  
D. Bertone called the meeting to order at 1:03pm.
2. Roll Call  
**A quorum was in attendance.**

**Committee Members Present**

Claremont	Jennifer Stark
Covina	Michele Saint
El Monte	Priscilla Garcia
Pomona	Julie Carver
Rosemead	Margaret Clark
San Dimas	Denis Bertone
San Gabriel	Chin Ho Liao
Sierra Madre	Rachelle Arizmendi
West Covina	Tony Wu
Temple City	Jeffrey Lee (Ex-officio)

**Absent**

Duarte

**Guests**

L.A. County DPH	Melisa Acoba
L.A. County DPH	Jocelyn Estiandan

**SGVCOG 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 – November 18, 2020  
*Action: Review and approve.*
6. Election of FY 2020-2021 EENR Committee Vice Chair  
*Action: Elect Claremont Mayor Jennifer Stark as the FY 2020-2021 EENR Committee Vice Chair.*
7. Appointment of SGVCOG Delegate to the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative  
*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  
*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.*

**There was a motion to approve consent calendar items 5-8. (M/S: C. Liao/R. Arizmendi)**

**[Motion Passed]**

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

#### **LIAISON REPORTS**

*No verbal report was given unless otherwise noted.*

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

#### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

- 18.** Revised SGVCOG Energy, Open Space Preservation, and Solid Waste Policies  
SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided a presentation on this item. 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.

#### Key Discussions/Questions:

- M. Clark suggested adding the support of balanced energy solutions in the Revised Energy Policy.
- J. Stark expressed concerns of including language on balanced energy solutions in the Revised Energy Policy given that the State's plan to move towards electrification also includes the use of natural gas. Ms. Stark emphasized that the

committee should be mindful about not including language that reflects a company’s marketing campaign.

- C. Liao and T. Wu expressed that the committee should include balanced energy solutions in the Revised Energy Policy given that communities should have the opportunity to choose to use clean and affordable energy options.
- D. Bertone suggested the inclusion of “clean balanced energy” in the Revised Energy Policy.
- J. Stark suggested to include “promoting a regional effort to protect and enhance open space connectivity for all San Gabriel Valley communities” in the Revised Open Space Preservation Policy.
- M. Clark recommended that the Revised Solid Waste Policy should include language that ensures organic waste regulations do not further the spreading of diseases and contaminations.

**There was a motion made to include “Support balanced energy, including clean natural gas” in the Revised Energy Policy. (M/S: M. Clark/T. Wu)**

**[Motion Passed]**

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

**There was a motion made to include “Promote a regional effort to protect and enhance open space connectivity for all San Gabriel Valley communities” in the Revised Open Space Preservation Policy. (M/S: J. Stark/D. Bertone)**

**[Motion Passed]**

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

**There was a motion made to include “Ensure that organic waste regulations prevent the spreading of diseases and contaminations” in the Revised Solid Waste Policy. (M/S: M. Clark/C. Liao)**

**[Motion Passed]**

<b>AYES:</b>	Claremont, El Monte, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, Sierra Madre, West Covina
<b>NOES:</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	

<b>NO VOTE RECORDED:</b>	Covina
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Duarte

**There was a final motion made to recommend the SGVCOG Governing Board to adopt the Revised SGVCOG Energy, Open Space Preservation, and Solid Waste Policies with the approved changes. (M/S: C. Liao/J. Stark)**

**[Motion Passed]**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

**19. 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards Structure**  
 SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided a presentation on this item. Last year, the SGVCOG launched the San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards to encourage cities and agencies to implement energy efficiency actions and engage in long-term strategic energy planning activities. Witnessing the success of implementing the awards structure in 2020, the SGVCOG revamped the recognition model and introduced the 2021 San Gabriel Valley Energy Champion Awards last month. Requirements for cities and agencies to be awarded include implementing a combination of activities such as attending energy trainings and meetings, benchmarking municipal facilities, and conducting outreach activities.

**20. COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan**  
 Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) representatives provided a presentation on this item. The representatives 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. It is anticipated that vaccines will be made available to the general public starting in Spring/Summer 2021. 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.

Key Discussions/Questions:

- C. Liao inquired about the vaccines’ side effects on individuals’ reproductive health. DPH representatives responded that individuals who are pregnant should discuss the risks and benefits of being vaccinated with their healthcare providers.
- C. Liao also inquired about CDC’s vaccination guidelines for individuals with underlying health conditions. DPH representatives responded that the vaccine studies did not include individuals with weak immune systems. The studies, however, did conclude that the vaccine is safe for individuals with stable HIV

conditions. Individuals with underlying health conditions or weak immune systems should consult their healthcare providers prior to being vaccinated.

- J. Stark inquired about the County of Los Angeles' plan to coordinate with cities and community partners to set up vaccine sites. DPH representatives responded that the Department is currently working with local cities to identify and assemble vaccination sites to ensure that the County has adequate infrastructure in place to vaccinate all residents and workers. Once additional vaccination doses arrive, the Department hopes to quickly set up additional sites with the cities' assistance.
- M. Clark inquired about other existing vaccines that utilize mRNA technology. DPH representatives responded that mRNA technology has been studied for over a decade and has been used for other vaccines. mRNA does not affect an individual's genes.
- R. Arizmendi inquired about the use of mRNA technology in the Johnson & Johnson vaccines. DPH representatives responded that Johnson & Johnson uses a different technology known as the adenovector and not mRNA in its vaccine trials.

#### **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT**

##### **21. Next Committee Meeting**

The upcoming committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 1:00pm.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

C. Liao requested staff to provide a presentation on HVAC systems that can prevent the spread of COVID-19 at a future committee meeting.

#### **ADJOURN**

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