



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*

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

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 – 1:00 PM

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/93151682000>

Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/TcPJbhbEoo8>

Chair
Denis Bertone
City of San Dimas

Vice Chair
Jennifer Stark
City of Claremont

Members
Claremont
Covina
Duarte
Pasadena
Pomona
Rosemead
San Dimas
San Gabriel
Sierra Madre
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 1:00 PM at the Monrovia Community Center, 119 W. Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016.* The agenda packet is available at the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government's (SGVCOG) Office, 4900 Rivergrade Road, Suite A120, Irwindale, CA, and on the website, www.sgvkog.org. A copy of the agenda is also viewable at Alhambra City Hall, 111 S 1st St, Alhambra, CA. 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.

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 EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM THE THREAT OF COVID-19:** AB 361 (Rivas), signed by California Governor Gavin Newsom on September 16, 2021, authorizes local agencies 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 emergency resulting from the threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To follow the new provisions in AB 361 and ensure the safety of Committee Members and staff for the purpose of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee meeting will not be allowed. To allow for public participation, the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee will conduct its meeting through Zoom Video Communications. To participate in the meeting, download Zoom on any phone or computer device and copy and paste the following link into your browser to access the live meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/93151682000>. You may also access the meeting via the livestream link on the front of the agenda page.

Instructions for Public Comments: For those wishing to make public comments on agenda and non-agenda items, but within the SGVCOG's subject matter jurisdiction, you may submit written comments via email or provide a verbal comment by participating through Zoom.

- Written Comments (Email): If you wish to submit written public comments to be distributed to the committee members prior to or during the meeting, please submit these materials via email to SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, at 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 read into the record and will be part of the recorded meeting minutes. Written public comments may include, but are not limited to letters, reports, and presentations. While there is no page or word count limit for written comments, the time for reading written public comments into the record will be limited to three minutes, which is the same time allotted for verbal comments.
- Verbal Comments (Zoom): Through Zoom, you may provide a verbal comment by using the web interface "Raise Hand" feature. Wait to be called upon by staff, and then you may provide verbal comments for up to 3 minutes. Public comment is taken at the beginning of the meeting for items not on the agenda. Public comment is also accepted at the beginning of each agenda item.

Any member of the public requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in this meeting should contact SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (626) 457-1800 or at 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.

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

5. Adoption of Resolution 22-03-EENR Enabling the EENR Committee to Continue Holding Meetings via Teleconferencing (**Page 1**)
Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 22-03-EENR making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in-person, thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconference.
6. EENR Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2022 (**Page 3**)
Recommended Action: Review and approve.
7. Joint Capital Projects and Construction Committee, EENR Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2022 (**Page 6**)
Recommended Action: Review and approve.

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

8. Bassett/Avocado Heights Advanced Energy Community (**Page 9**)
Recommended Action: For information only.
9. State Water Resource Control Board Emergency Water Conservation Mandates (**Page 10**)
Recommended Action: For information only.
10. San Gabriel Valley Regional Food Recovery Program Study Findings (**Page 12**)
Recommended Action: For information only.

LIAISON REPORTS

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

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

20. Committee Meeting Schedule

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

DATE: March 16, 2022

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

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 22-03-EENR ENABLING THE EENR COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE HOLDING MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 22-03-EENR making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in-person, thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconferencing.

BACKGROUND

Introduced by Assemblymember Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) on February 1, 2021, AB 361 codifies portions of Governor Gavin Newsom's existing Ralph M. Brown Act exemptions pertaining to teleconferencing if a local agency issues an emergency finding, and reissues it every 30 days, that it is unsafe to meet in person. Specifically, the Brown Act exemptions include requirements to provide a public teleconference location, to maintain a member quorum within the agency's jurisdiction and to provide for public comment at each teleconference location, such as a private residence. The legislation expires in December 2024. On September 16, 2021, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 361 into law, effective immediately.

A local agency wishing to rely on the provisions of AB 361 must meet one of the following criteria:

1. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or
2. The local holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or
3. The local agency holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote, that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

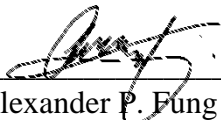
On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency in California due to the threat of COVID-19 and shortly thereafter issued Executive Order N-29-20 suspending certain Brown Act provisions relating to teleconferencing as public meetings began to be held online.¹

¹ Similarly, on March 4, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Los Angeles County Health Officer declared a local and health emergency due to the threat of COVID-19.

However, this Executive Order expired on September 30, 2021, despite the State of Emergency remaining in place.

The threat that COVID-19 has presented continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to conduct Governing Board/committee meetings safely in person. Updated guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in July and August 2021 advise governmental entities to refrain from conducting indoor meetings and consider moving operations outdoors, where feasible, to prevent transmission. SGVCOG staff finds it has been unable to find a suitable outdoor space with the requisite audio/visual capabilities at which the monthly committee meetings can be held safely. Similarly, an indoor space with sufficient capacity to accommodate safe social distance practices among members, staff, and the public could not be identified.

In order to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner and to prevent unnecessary COVID-19 exposure to members, staff and the public, staff is recommending that the EENR Committee adopts a resolution making certain findings in order to be able to continue teleconferencing for its meetings.

Prepared by: 
Alexander P. Fung
Senior Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – Resolution 22-03-EENR](#)



SGVCOG EENR Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: February 16, 2022
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
D. Bertone called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
2. Roll Call
A quorum was in attendance.

Committee Members Present

Claremont	J. Stark
Covina	M. Flores Jr.
Duarte	V. Truong
Pasadena	J. Guess
Pomona	J. Carver
Rosemead	M. Clark
San Dimas	D. Bertone
West Covina	T. Wu

Absent

San Gabriel
Sierra Madre

Guests

City of South Pasadena	A. Kasparian
Council for Watershed Health	D. Ready
Los Angeles County DPW	C. Darensbourg
Los Angeles County DPW	C. Sheppard
MSGB Watermaster	L. Augino
SoCalGas	H. Shaw
South Coast AQMD	R. Yeung
The Energy Coalition	N. Espinoza

SGVCOG Staff

P. Hubler, Staff
A. Fung, Staff
V. Guerra, Staff
J. Read, Staff
T. Egan, Lobbyist

3. Public Comment
Rainbow Yeung from the South Coast AQMD provided a verbal public comment to invite San Gabriel Valley cities and community organizations to partner with the South Coast AQMD to host events for middle school students or high school students.

Tony Wu from the City of West Covina provided a verbal public comment to invite community members to attend the upcoming West Covina Spring Festival.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Adoption of Resolution 22-02-EENR Enabling the EENR Committee to Continue Holding

Meetings via Teleconferencing

Action: Adopt Resolution 22-02-EENR making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of the SGVCOG to hold public meetings safely in-person, thereby necessitating an ability to continue holding meetings via teleconference.

6. EENR Committee Minutes – January 12, 2022
Action: Review and approve.
7. Joint Capital Projects and Construction Committee, EENR Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2022
Action: Review and approve.
8. EENR Committee Minutes – January 19, 2022
Action: Review and approve.
9. Joint Capital Projects and Construction Committee, EENR Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – January 20, 2022
Action: Review and approve.

There was a motion to approve consent calendar items 5-9. (M/S: T. Wu/V. Truong)
[Motion Passed]

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

PRESENTATION

10. 2022 Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) Public Agency Programs Overview
 The Energy Coalition Program Manager, Natalie Espinoza, and SGVCOG Management Aide, Vanessa Guerra, provided a presentation on this item.

ACTION ITEM

11. SB 45 (Portantino): Local Government Assistance for Organics Reduction
 SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided a presentation on this item.

There was a motion to recommend the Governing Board to support SB 45 (Portantino).
(M/S: J. Stark/J. Guess)

[Motion Passed]

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

UPDATE ITEMS

- 12. 2022 Solid Waste Legislative Updates
LACDPW Senior Civil Engineer, Christopher Sheppard, provided updates on this item.

- 13. SGVCOG Wildfire Adaptation and Prevention Updates
SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided updates on this item.

LIAISON REPORTS

No verbal report was given unless otherwise noted.

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

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 23. Committee Meeting Schedule
SGVCOG staff announced that the Committee will reconvene on Wednesday, March 17, 2022 at 1:00pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no additional announcements.

ADJOURN

D. Bertone adjourned the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee meeting at 2:06pm.

SGVCOG Special Joint Meeting of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Meeting

February 17, 2022
4:00 PM



SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Unapproved Special Joint Meeting Minutes

Date: February 17, 2022
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
SGVCOG President, Becky Shevlin, called the Joint Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Meeting to order at 4:02pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
City of Industry Mayor, Cory Moss, led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call
A quorum for the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee was in attendance.

Committee Members Present

Alhambra	A. Andrade-Stadler
Arcadia	A. Verlato
Azusa	R. Gonzales
Baldwin Park	E. Estrada
Bradbury	R. Barakat
Claremont	E. Reece
Covina	P. Cortez
Diamond Bar	N. Lyons
Duarte	J. Schulz
El Monte	M. Morales
Glendora	M. Allawos
Industry	C. Moss
La Cañada Flintridge	R. Gunter
La Puente	G. Quiñones
La Verne	T. Hepburn
Monrovia	B. Shevlin
Montebello	S. Peralta
Monterey Park	H. Lo
Pasadena	V. Gordo
Pomona	T. Sandoval
Rosemead	S. Dang

Absent

Irwindale
Sierra Madre
L.A. County District #4

SGVCOG Staff Present

M. Creter, Executive Director
D. DeBerry, General Council
T. Egan, Lobbyist
A. Fung, Staff
B. Acevedo, Staff
B. Ruano, Staff
C. Sims, Staff
E. Shen, Staff
K. Ward, Staff
M. Sharkey, Staff
P. Hubler, Staff
S. Hernandez, Staff
S. Pedersen, Staff
S. Sousa, Staff
T. Lott, Staff
V. Guerra, Staff

SGVCOG Special Joint Meeting of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Meeting

February 17, 2022

4:00 PM

San Dimas	D. Bertone	V. Urenia, Staff
San Gabriel	D. Menchaca	
San Marino	S. Jakubowski	
South El Monte	G. Olmos	
South Pasadena	D. Mahmud	
Temple City	C. Sternquist	
Walnut	N. Tragarz	
West Covina	T. Wu	
L.A. County District #1	E. Gonzalez	
L.A. County District #5	S. Croxton	
SGV Water Districts	C. Goyita	

4. Public Comment

West Covina Councilman, Tony Wu, provided a verbal comment inviting committee members to attend West Covina’s first Annual Spring Festival.

JOINT MEETING BUSINESS/ACTION ITEM

5. Adopt Resolution 22-12 of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Making Findings to Enable Them to Continue to Hold Meetings Via Teleconferencing
 SGVCOG President, Becky Shevlin, provided verbal remarks on this item.

There was a motion to adopt Joint Resolution 22-12 making certain findings that the existence of a local and state of emergency in California exists, that social distancing being mandated or recommended by state or local officials due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and that meeting in person presents an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees. (M/S: R. Gonzales/C. Moss)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Alhambra, Arcadia, Bradbury, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, El Monte, Glendora, Industry, La Verne, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, West Covina, L.A. County District #1, L.A. County District #5, SGV Water Districts
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
NO VOTE RECORDED:	Azusa, Baldwin Park, Duarte, La Cañada Flintridge, La Puente, Walnut
ABSENT:	Irwindale, Sierra Madre, L.A. County District #4

ADJOURN JOINT MEETING

SGVCOG President, Becky Shevlin, adjourned the Joint Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee Meeting at 4:12pm.

SGVCOG Special Joint Meeting of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee, Energy, Environment,
and Natural Resource Committee, Executive Committee, Governing Board, and Transportation Committee
Meeting

February 17, 2022

4:00 PM

BOARD APPROVED

Date

Marisa Creter

Marisa Creter, Secretary

REPORT

DATE: March 16, 2022
TO: Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **BASSETT/AVOCADO HEIGHTS ADVANCED ENERGY COMMUNITY**

RECOMMENDED ACTION


For information only.


BACKGROUND

The Bassett/Avocado Heights Advanced Energy Community (BAAEC) was formed to remove barriers to energy projects and inspire community members to build an advanced energy community in Bassett and Avocado Heights. The organization secured grant funding from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to reduce costs on energy bills, decrease local pollution, and support the community to transition to a clean energy future. Specifically, the organization provides services to support energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other new energy technology efforts to meet the energy needs of local residents and support grid reliability and safety.

The Energy Coalition (TEC) is leading the organization and is working with a variety of project partners, including the County of Los Angeles, Clean Power Alliance, and Bassett Unified School District, to implement BAAEC. Additional information regarding the organization can be found on <https://advancedenergycommunity.org/about/>.

BAAEC representatives will provide a presentation on this item.

Prepared by: 
Alexander P. Fung
Senior Management Analyst

Approved by: 
Marisa Creter
Executive Director

DATE: March 16, 2022

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

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **STATE WATER RESOURCE CONTROL BOARD EMERGENCY WATER CONSERVATION MANDATES**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BACKGROUND

California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a statewide drought emergency mandate on October 19, 2021. The drought has put a large strain on the State's water supply; therefore water conservation plays an important role in combatting and ending the drought. Governor Newsom signed an executive order calling for a 15% reduction of water consumption across the state; however, the order is voluntary.

DISCUSSION

In early January 2022, the State Water Resource Control Board approved emergency water conservation mandates in place for cities, individual property owners, and residents restricting the water activities they can conduct. These statewide rules are put forth in an effort to prevent wasteful water use and promote water conservation.

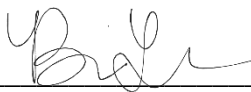
As per the new regulations, the following water uses are now prohibited:

1. The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes more than incidental runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures;
2. The use of a hose that dispenses water to wash a motor vehicle, except where the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle or device attached to it that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use;
3. The use of potable water for washing sidewalks, driveways, buildings, structures, patios, parking lots, or other hard surfaced areas, except in cases where health and safety are at risk;
4. The use of potable water for street cleaning or construction purposes, unless no other method can be used to protect the health and safety of the public;
5. The use of potable water for decorative fountains or the filling or topping-off of decorative lakes or ponds, with exceptions for those decorative fountains, lakes, or ponds that use pumps to recirculate water and only require refilling to replace evaporative losses;
6. The application of water to irrigate turf and ornamental landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall of at least one fourth of one inch of rain; and

7. The use of potable water for irrigation of turf on public street medians or publicly owned or maintained landscaped areas between the street and sidewalk.

The State Water Board did not provide guidance on how cities should relay these new mandates to their residents. Water retailers are the parties typically responsible for disseminating new water conservation mandates like these to their customers. However, the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District) shared with the SGVCOG Water Policy Committee and the SGVCOG Water Technical Advisory Committee that they have water conservation and drought focused social media templates and other resources for cities in their [Producer Toolkit](#). Upper District is also considering creating their own outreach campaign for Summer 2022, which could be used as a regional resource for all San Gabriel Valley cities.

SGVCOG staff will provide a detailed presentation on this item.

Prepared by: 

Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 

Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – State Water Resources Control Board Text of Emergency Regulations](#)

REPORT

DATE: March 16, 2022

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

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY REGIONAL FOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM
STUDY FINDINGS**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

For information only.

BACKGROUND

At the recommendation of member agencies, the SGVCOG launched the San Gabriel Valley Regional Food Recovery Program to support San Gabriel Valley cities with complying to SB 1383 (Lara, 2016) regulations. The Program, which began in September 2021, included activities such as assessing potential food recovery agencies and their capacities for cities to utilize for SB 1383 requirements, identifying Tier 1 and Tier 2 commercial edible food waste generators and assessing their current compliance with SB 1383's food recovery regulations, preparing guidance, assisting with education and outreach efforts, and implementing inspection and enforcement programs.

The following 14 cities participated in the SGVCOG's Regional Food Recovery Program:

Alhambra	Irwindale	San Marino
Azusa	La Cañada Flintridge	South Pasadena
Covina	Monrovia	Temple City
Duarte	Monterey Park	Walnut
Glendora	Pomona	

Last month, a draft report was released to the participating cities regarding the region's food recovery organizations and their capacities to process and recover edible food. While the report is still being finalized, SGVCOG staff desires to share the study's capacity analysis with the Committee to highlight food recovery resource needs of the San Gabriel Valley as a region.

Based on the results of surveys conducted for the study, existing capacity appears to be somewhat sufficient to recover the amount of edible food generated by Tier 1 and Tier 2 edible food waste generators in the 14 participating cities as follows:

Edible Food Recovery Capacity (Pounds)	Edible Food Recovery Generation (Pounds)
Low Estimate: 15,059,924	Tier 1 Generators: 14,974,285
High Estimate: 17,365,852	Tier 2 Generators: 400,447
<i>Overall Capacity: 15,059,924 – 17,365,852</i>	<i>Total Capacity Required: 15,374,732</i>

It is important to note that the available capacity will rapidly diminish if all of the participating

cities' Tier 1 and Tier 2 generators begin donating their edible food. Given that not all generators are currently donating, it is anticipated that the amount of food donated will significantly increase in the next few years as a result of SB 1383. Should the existing processing capacity of food recovery organizations remain unchanged, the 14 participating cities would not have the capacity needed to recover the additional amount of donated food in the near future.


In order to increase the food recovery organizations' processing capacity, it is recommended that participating cities review the food recovery organizations' resource needs as follows:

- **Staffing:** Many food recovery organizations do not have adequate staff and rely entirely on volunteers.
- **Space Needs:** Most existing food recovery organizations need to increase space for dry goods storage and refrigeration.
- **Transportation:** Many food recovery organizations do not have their own or enough vehicles and rely on volunteers' vehicles.
- **Incidental Expenses:** Many food recovery organizations require pallet jacks, scales, boxes, bags, ice chests, and refrigeration blankets to transport, store, and distribute food.
- **Agreements:** Most food recovery organizations do not generate written agreements themselves. Some of them collect food with no written agreements in place and may need additional assistance to develop these documents to comply with SB 1383's recordkeeping requirements.
- **Grantwriting:** Many food recovery organizations do not have the personnel and resources needed to seek out and apply for grants. Most of them are not in positions to incur costs up front while waiting for grant reimbursements.

Cities are recommended to review the identified resource needs to ensure that they can support local food recovery organizations through existing or additional municipal activities to avoid donated food being spoiled in the redistribution chain. Additionally, cities should consider developing stand-alone pantries and feeding sites to redistribute the influx of food collected. Through SB 1383, cities are required to inspect their local edible food waste generators and food recovery organizations. Such inspections will ensure that all Tier 1 and Tier 2 food waste generators are donating food and provide cities with a clearer understanding of the edible food recovery capacity in their jurisdictions.

As a subsequent phase to this study, the SGVCOG is working to partner with 9 San Gabriel Valley cities to facilitate the establishment of subregional food recovery hubs and conduct additional SB 1383 food recovery outreach activities. It is anticipated that work for the subsequent phase will launch in Summer 2022.

SGVCOG Senior Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, will provide a detailed presentation on this item.

Prepared by: 
Alexander P. Fung
Senior Management Analyst

REPORT

Approved by: Marisa Creter
Marisa Creter
Executive Director