



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments*

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

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 – 1:00 PM

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81400261195>

Livestream Link: <https://youtu.be/YBIR1GX5Fxl>

Chair
Jennifer Stark
City of Claremont

Vice Chair
Vinh Truong
City of Duarte

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

Ex-Officio Member
Jeffrey Lee
Temple City 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 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 SGVCOG during the public comment period at the beginning of the agenda, on any item(s) that is on the Consent Calendar prior to action taken on the Consent Calendar, and on any other agenda item prior to the time it is considered by the Committee. At a special meeting, the public may only comment on items that are on the agenda. Members of the public are requested to state their name prior to speaking, and comments are limited to a maximum of three minutes per person. The Committee Chair may impose additional time limits if comments become repetitious, an individual member of the public seeks to speak on numerous items, or a large number of members of the public seek to speak on an item. The Committee may not take action on items not on the agenda and is restricted in discussing items 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 so requests. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered after the Consent Calendar.



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://us06web.zoom.us/j/81400261195>. 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 Management Analyst, Brianne Logasa, at blogasa@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 Management Analyst, Brianne Logasa, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at (626) 457-1800 or at blogasa@sgvcog.org.

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment

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

4. Adoption of Resolution 22-10-EENR Enabling the EENR Committee to Continue Holding Meetings via Teleconferencing **(Page 4)**

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution 22-10-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.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. Committee Meeting Schedule

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

REPORT

DATE: September 14, 2022

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

FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director

RE: **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 22-10-EENR ENABLING THE EENR COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE HOLDING MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 22-10-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: 

Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by: 

Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – Resolution 22-10-EENR](#)