

# Bay Watch

Summer 2013

A quarterly bulletin to inform local leaders of subregional progress and alert them to emerging issues

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## SBCCOG AWARDED FUNDING TO ACCELERATE CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING IN THE SOUTH BAY

Cities throughout California are creating plans to mitigate, and adapt to, the changing climate. Climate change is projected to impact the local region with increased threats of heat waves and firestorms, a more limited water supply, and coastal erosion and sea level rise. Climate Action Plans are a great opportunity for the South Bay cities to incorporate cost-effective, efficient and resourceful measures into city operations and long-term planning efforts. By taking a proactive approach to climate action planning, the SBCCOG and the South Bay cities are working to preserve the environment, grow the local economy and increase resiliency to climate change, while protecting the high quality of life for those who live and work in the South Bay.

This May, the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) announced an award of \$771,630 from Southern California Edison (SCE) to the SBCCOG to support and accelerate the climate action planning work in the South Bay. SCE awarded funds to different local governments in its region to support the strategies and local government goals found in the California Public Utilities Commission's California Long-Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan. SCE funded the SBCCOG to advance the Strategic Plan Goal 4: Local Governments lead their communities with innovative programs for energy efficiency, sustainability and climate change. With this funding, the SBCCOG and the South Bay cities will update greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventories and develop the energy efficiency chapters for each city's Climate Action Plan and for a South Bay sub-regional plan.

The SBCCOG and South Bay cities have been collaborating on climate action planning work for a number of years. After the California State Legislature adopted Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, and set statewide goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, the cities and the SBCCOG began the process for local and sub-regional climate action planning. To develop baselines as a first step, the SBCCOG and the South Bay cities completed GHG inventories for both the municipal operations and communitywide activities for each city. Emissions resulting from municipal activities include energy use for city-owned facilities and out-door lighting, city and contract vehicle fleets, employee commutes and municipal waste. Community emissions are the result of the energy, transportation and waste activities from residents, businesses and industries within each city.

With an understanding of the major sources of GHG emissions, the SBCCOG has begun to work with the South Bay cities to collect existing best practices and discuss potential strategies. The SCE funds will enable the SBCCOG to accelerate this work and provide cities with the technical analysis and information to identify the environmental benefits and cost-effectiveness of different strategies. The SBCCOG also will develop a South Bay energy efficiency chapter, which will include potential energy efficiency strategies to consider implementing on a sub-regional level to maximize resources and improve efficiencies.

As climate change legislation continues to be developed and adopted, local governments with visions for how to mitigate and plan for climate change will be well positioned both to guide the future direction of climate action planning and to receive funds to implement these plans. The SBCCOG and South Bay cities' past and current work on inventories and climate action planning demonstrates the South Bay's commitment to this work and also will enable SBCCOG staff and the technical consultants to hit the ground running with this next phase of work.

For further information contact Sabrina Bornstein, (310) 371-7222 



## LENDING LIBRARY PILOT PROGRAM: A SOUTH BAY PARTNERSHIP

Summer breezes and relaxing with a good book go hand in hand for quiet moments. You may not be aware that the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) owns a collection of reference books and resource materials on energy efficiency practices, water conservation, transportation options, climate action planning, and recycling measures that are housed at the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC). These books have been acquired for the most part to support educational workshops and trainings as part of our contracts with Southern California Edison (SCE) and The Gas Company (SCG). This summer they will be more easily available to you.

The collection will be lent to the City of Torrance and housed at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library for a limited time. The intent is for the public to gain better access and thereby create a deeper appreciation and understanding of environmental issues, programs and available services. The Library will house this collection in accordance with policy and procedures for general circulating collections. In other words, you will be able to check out these books just as you do other materials - including searching online - because a formal agreement has been made between the City of Torrance and the SBCCOG.

The library staff will affix a bookplate, "donated by..." and shelve the books accordingly in the respective areas throughout the library. The lending process will be administered by the library staff at no expense to the SBCCOG. The community benefits from having this educational resource more accessible. It is a "lend, lend scenario" - SBCCOG lends the collection to the City, and the City lends the collection from the library to the public. This is considered a pilot program and limited to a one year timeframe (July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014) in order to give other cities in the South Bay an opportunity to participate.

What types of books are we talking about? Here are a few examples for the do it yourself homeowners, facility managers, contractors and interested parties:

- Building Like a Pro: Insulate and Weatherize
- Energy Free Homes for a Small Planet
- Energy Management Handbook
- Green Building
- Handbook of Energy Audits
- How to Lower Home Energy Bills
- HVAC Fundamentals
- Lighting Upgrades: A Guide for Facility
- Measuring Up: The Business Case for GIS
- Passive Solar Energy House Projects
- Retrofitting
- Solar Living Sourcebook
- Sustainable Renovation
- Two Billion Cars
- Web Based Enterprise Energy and Building Automation Systems Managers

We hope to grow the collection. It is certainly not stagnant. Partnering organizations such as the West Basin Municipal Water District, SCE and SCG have already offered to add to the collection and we expect others to do so once the word gets out. These donations may include children's books as well. If you would like to donate to the collection, please contact Jenn Alderete at [jennifer@sbesc.com](mailto:jennifer@sbesc.com) or (310) 371-7222.

The Katy Geissert Civic Center Library is located at 3301 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, CA, 90503.

Please note that you do not have to be a Torrance resident to check out the books. Anyone who has a library card within the State of California is eligible. 



Katy Geissert Civic Center Library

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Find SBESC at [www.sbesc.com](http://www.sbesc.com)

## LOMITA REACHES PLATINUM!

Congratulations to the City of Lomita, which recently became the first South Bay city to attain the highest of four tiers (Platinum) in the SBCCOG's Energy Leader Partnership Program. In partnership with the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC) and Southern California Edison, Lomita achieved this goal by implementing cost-saving energy efficiency projects that had been identified in an energy audit. Lomita saved 159,281 kWh and received \$22,349.00 in incentives. The project will yield annual ongoing energy cost savings of \$22,299.00!

All of the South Bay cities are active in this program, and are making great progress: at the Gold level working towards Platinum are El Segundo, Hawthorne, Rancho Palos Verdes, and Manhattan Beach. At the Silver level, working towards Gold are Inglewood, Torrance, Carson, Hermosa Beach, and Redondo Beach and at the Valued level, working towards Silver are Lawndale, Gardena, Palos Verdes Estates, Rolling Hills Estates and Rolling Hills. We congratulate all the cities in working hard to achieve their energy efficiency goals. 

# WORKING WITH THE CALIFORNIA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (CPSC)

In April, the SBCCOG heard an engaging presentation by Heidi Sanborn, the Executive Director of the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC). Board members were intrigued by the concept of improving product design for recycling and reducing public costs by working with producers of products to “close the loop”. The SBCCOG subsequently adopted a resolution supporting the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). The purpose of this article is to explain EPR, and its benefits.

CPSC formed in 2007 as a 501c3 non-profit association of local governments and their associations such as the California State Association of Counties, Association of Bay Area Governments, and the California Council of Directors of Environmental Health and industrial partners including waste haulers such as Republic Services, Recology, South San Francisco Scavenger Company and Marin Sanitary Service as well as producers such as Peninsula Packaging. The Council’s Board is comprised of 14 members, 5 private sector and 9 public sector. CPSC’s mission is to shift costs for recycling back to those in the product chain and to give feedback to product designers who can then reduce recycling costs through design changes.

CPSC’s priorities are on the most costly products to recover that are banned from disposal including paint, mercury lamps, and sharps. However, CPSC also works on issues such as pharmaceuticals and carpet which are not yet banned, but are problematic for other reasons.

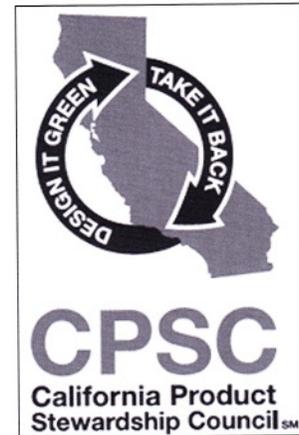
In just five short years, major successes include the passage of the first EPR bill in California on mercury thermostats in 2008; in 2010, CPSC worked hard to pass paint, carpet, brake pads and green chemistry legislation. All these bills were passed with industry support and are already saving California local governments millions of dollars a year in managing paint and thermostats. Hundreds of jobs have been saved and grown in paint and carpet recycling, and water systems have been saved millions in reduced copper contamination mitigation due to the brake-pad legislation. Collection of paint has been made much more convenient for consumers. California now has over 400 new collection locations at paint stores near you: ([http://www.paintcare.org/docs/ca\\_site\\_list.pdf](http://www.paintcare.org/docs/ca_site_list.pdf)).

What’s next? CPSC is currently co-sponsoring SB 727 (Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Santa Barbara) to develop a statewide program for pharmaceutical collections that is sustainably funded. CPSC supported Alameda County in adopting the first in the nation ordinance to have EPR for pharmaceuticals soon followed by King County Washington.

CPSC works hard on educating elected officials and other stakeholders on the benefits of having more shared responsibility for the end of life costs of waste products and the need to reduce waste and the cost of recycling when products are in the design phase. This is based on the belief that it is only through strong communication and partnerships across the product chain that public costs can be reduced and ultimately, ensure that all products are designed for composting or recycling.



CPSC has already saved Californian’s jobs and millions of dollars through just its first few efforts – it welcomes help in promoting its work, participating in its organization, and donations. If you would like a presentation to your council or group, or would like to be involved with CPSC, there are many opportunities to help with monthly statewide local government calls, the policy committee, social media links and more. For further information, contact Heidi Sanborn, at 916-706-3420 or [heidi@calpsc.org](mailto:heidi@calpsc.org) or visit their website: [www.calpsc.org](http://www.calpsc.org)



# City Showcase

## GARDENA PUTS A HIGH PRIORITY ON BEAUTIFICATION

Under the Chairmanship of Mayor Pro Tem Dan Medina, the Gardena Beautiful Committee involves its 15 members in all aspects of improving the physical environment of Gardena. The Committee's projects include: elimination of graffiti; beautification of streets and parkways; planting of trees; "Home of the Month" recognitions; sponsoring a Flag Day Celebration each June; hosting a series of "Concert on the Lawn" performances each summer; and promoting an annual community-wide "Keep Gardena Beautiful Day" each September.

A City Councilmember serves as Chair along with ten (10) volunteer citizens and four (4) City staff persons who support the Committee as advisors. The Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month, at 9:00 a.m., in the City Council Chamber / Management Information Center (M.I.C.), located at 1700 West 162nd Street, in Gardena.

On Friday, June 14, 2013, the Gardena Beautiful Committee presented its Annual Flag Day Celebration. The program featured members of the "Go For Broke" 442nd Regimental Combat Team - the most decorated unit of military veterans in our Nation's history. It also featured the recognition of an essay winner and eight (8) finalists, chosen from essays submitted by over 100 local elementary school students who had written about "What the American Flag Means to Me."

Also, as a fitting way to honor America, the City of Gardena's "Walkway of Flags," a beautiful and impressive display of American flags along the sidewalks leading up to the main entrance of City Hall, is flown every day beginning on Flag Day (June 14) through Independence Day (July 4) each year.

Upcoming activities for the Gardena Beautiful Committee include a "Concert on the Lawn," which is scheduled on Saturday, August 10, 2013. It will be held on the Civic Center grounds in front of the Nakaoka Community Center, at 1670 West 162nd Street.



WW II Veterans - Members of the "Go For Broke" 442nd Regimental Combat Team



Walkway of Flags - Gardena City Hall

Also, Saturday, September 13 is the date for the Annual "Keep Gardena Beautiful Day" when over 200 volunteers gather at Mas Fukai Park, 15800 South Brighton Avenue, then set out for a busy morning of weeding, planting, and picking up trash and debris throughout the community. The City is always looking for volunteers for this most productive beautification day, which always ends with a most delicious lunch, hosted by the Gardena Beautiful Committee.

For more information on the Gardena Beautiful Committee or any of its activities, please call the City at (310) 217-9570.

### DRIVE THE FUTURE: SBCCOG BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLE (BEV) PROGRAM

The results are in for the SBCCOG's initial Local Use Vehicle (LUV) program (see report posted @ [www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org)). About 100 drivers found that low speed, low range NEVs (Neighborhood Electric Vehicles) could satisfy their travel needs for an average of 26% of their total trips while reducing the emissions from 23 to 33%.

As a next step, the SBCCOG has implemented a BEV demonstration program, to explore electric vehicles that can operate for longer ranges at higher speeds than the NEV's. Similar to the LUV program, the BEV program rotates vehicles among South Bay residents providing an opportunity for people to use an electric vehicle in their everyday life. The fleet of four BEV's being driven include a BMW ActiveE, a Honda Fit, and two Nissan Leafs.

While there is currently a waiting list for participation in the program, this project requires that specific drivers be included such as those living in multi-family buildings or of various income ranges. If you would like to see if you qualify or for more information including an application to participate in the BEV program, visit the SBCCOG website at:

<http://www.southbaycities.org/projects/electric-vehicles/drive-future>

### CONGRATULATIONS, YOUR HONOR!!

To former Rancho Palos Verdes Mayor Douglas Stern who was appointed by Governor Brown to a Superior Court judgeship. Stern served a total of 12 years on the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council, twice as Mayor in 2003 and 2008.

Fiscal challenges are nothing new to California cities, but one city's entrepreneurial solution has not only made a significant and beneficial difference to its bottom line, but also helped more than 60 sister cities in California and beyond by providing innovative and cost-effective products and services through a Government-to-Government (G2G) model.

More than a decade ago, the City of Inglewood recognized that it had a special talent for operating its parking program. It did a great job, in part because it administered its parking management program as a successful business enterprise. Inglewood also had the foresight to recognize that the elements of this program could be put into service for more than just the City of Inglewood, including its core parking management technology system, technical and operational support personnel, large-scale payment and document processing capabilities, and excellent customer service capabilities.

Establishing itself as "Inglewood Citation Management Services (ICMS)," Inglewood's business model had three primary benefits to its partner cities:

- Higher Caliber Services while Eliminating Burdens, Hassles, and Distractions.
- Efficiency and Cost Savings Driven by Economies of Scale.
- Simplified Procurement and Purchasing.

A key part of Inglewood's strategy is partnerships. The City of Inglewood partnered with Duncan Solutions in 2007 to take its parking ticket processing service to the next level. The partnership provided answers to the City's two major challenges: how to effectively respond to its customers' requests for proposals and how to handle the badly needed upgrade to its mainframe-based parking ticket processing system.

The computer system challenge would have taken between \$1.5 and \$3 million to rectify. By partnering with Duncan, ICMS was not only able to forego those capital expenditures; it was also able to discontinue wasting more than \$30,000 per month for operation and maintenance of its existing system, freeing up those precious funds.

The City rebranded the service, now powered by Duncan's state-of-the-art technology solution and complete processing services, as ICMS. ICMS now generates revenue for the City of Inglewood allowing it to recover its costs, generates revenue for Duncan Solutions, and provides a cost-effective service for Inglewood's municipal clients—a true win-win-win scenario!

One of the benefits municipalities derive from being part of ICMS is that even a small agency that issues 10,000, 50,000, or 100,000 citations per year can obtain the same extended benefit as though it were issuing 900,000 tickets a year. The volume ICMS does as an entity allows for more attractive pricing for services, equipment, or any of its offerings. As more municipalities join ICMS, the entire program becomes more effective, and everyone benefits.



An additional benefit municipalities derive from working with ICMS is that, as a City, Inglewood shares the same perspective as its clients. This is particularly beneficial in terms of crafting solutions and meeting the citation processing challenges faced by municipalities, including providing a modern and efficient infrastructure, equipment that communicates wirelessly, and processes that are efficient and lend themselves to high-quality customer service. In addition to Inglewood, in the South Bay, ICMS currently has partnerships with Hawthorne, Lawndale, Palos Verdes Estates and Torrance.

ICMS provides a comprehensive range of citation management services to support parking citation processing for its clients, including: image capture and data entry of parking citations, providing a real-time online citation processing system, printing and mailing of delinquent notices, customer services, research of registrations, online adjudication, coordination of appeal hearings, filing DMV liens and Tax Offsets on behalf of its clients, payment processing services using lockbox services for remittance processing, credit card payment services using Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system and website payment processing, and delinquent account collection services using Duncan's outsourced collection agency. ICMS can also provide handheld ticket writing equipment that can communicate with the processing database in real-time.

Today, ICMS operates through the City's Parking and Enterprises Department and is a leading provider of parking management solutions to governments and is the only G2G value-added reseller in the U.S. with a track record of more than twenty years for service delivery, revenue enhancement, and innovation.

For further information, contact: Dean Viereck, Manager, Parking and Enterprise Services Department, at (310) 412-4270, [dviereck@cityofinglewood.org](mailto:dviereck@cityofinglewood.org) | <http://www.g2gparkingservices.com>



# Food for Thought

## REALIGNMENT: A POLICE CHIEF'S PERSPECTIVE

By Edward Medrano, Chief of Police, City of Gardena, and Immediate Past President, Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association.

**D**id you know that in October 2011, our State experienced one of the largest transformations in criminal justice history? This exceptional change is the result of AB 109, more commonly referred to as Realignment.

Despite this transformation to our criminal justice system, I can candidly tell you that until recently, the proper infrastructure had not been put into place to actually handle such a change. This is an unfortunate, unnecessary reflection on the preparation and thoughtfulness of our State to implement such an important program for the safety of our communities. I can tell you that probation departments throughout our State and other local law enforcement partners have been diligently working out the details to fully execute the mission that realignment gave us all.

I'm pleased to report that in L.A. County, the Los Angeles County Police Chiefs' Association (LACPCA) has worked tirelessly to implement a comprehensive, yet practical approach to assisting the Probation Department and the Sheriff's Department in their efforts to monitor our Post-Release Community Supervision Population (formally called Parolees). Through LACPCA's approach, each county region has its own set of teams under the guidance of the Regional Chief's Association Presidents to help implement this program, monitor our offenders, and keep our community secure.

Here in the South Bay, we have two regional teams: one is hosted by the City of Torrance, while the other is hosted by the City of Gardena. These teams extend from Palos Verdes in the south to Santa Monica in the north. The joint efforts of county probation and local law enforcement in our regional approach have helped us in reducing the overall impact of realignment.

We all are wondering whether this social experiment in criminal justice will be effective or not. Along this journey, many questions have been raised whether or not this will be successful and if the recent uptick in crime in the South Bay is a result of realignment. From my perspective, it's too early to tell.

A major concern that I have is that by the time we know realignment is a failure, it will take a significant amount of time to repair the damage to our criminal justice system. In other words, once the failure of realignment is identified, it will take an even greater amount of time, money and resources to put things back on track. Additionally, along the way, crime will undoubtedly rise; but, in reality, an increase in crime equates to additional victims. I am hopeful that we are successful in this venture; however, if not, we need to stay vigilant that we will take the necessary steps to admit if it is not working and take the proper and immediate corrective action to remedy the problems.

These are my thoughts about realignment. If you have any questions or would like to reach out to me, please feel free to contact me at [chief@gardenapd.org](mailto:chief@gardenapd.org).

## CALENDAR

All meetings are open to the public

### August

- 12 Measure R Oversight Committee Steering Committee
- 14 GIS Working Group
- 21 Livable Communities Working Group Infrastructure Working Group
- 22 **Board of Directors**

### September

- 9 Measure R Oversight Committee Steering Committee
- 11 GIS Working Group
- 19 Livable Communities Working Group Infrastructure Working Group
- 19 Economic Development Roundtable
- 26 **Board of Directors**

### October

- 9 GIS Working Group
- 14 Measure R Oversight Committee Steering Committee
- 16 Livable Communities Working Group Infrastructure Working Group
- 24 **Board of Directors**

Contact [jacki@southbaycities.org](mailto:jacki@southbaycities.org) for further information.

## SBCCOG LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE!

**T**he SBCCOG and the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC) program have a new look! Check it out!

[www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org) for information about the SBCCOG - meeting agendas and information about our programs such as the South Bay Measure R Highway program, Climate Action Planning, Electric Vehicles and the South Bay Sustainable Strategy. Visit the site and you can even sign up to drive an electric vehicle through our Drive the Future program!!

[www.sbesc.com](http://www.sbesc.com) is your micro-site portal to information on programs and green tips on energy and water conservation as well as other environmental programs. You can register for workshops or sign up for our volunteer program.

We hope you will put these sites on your list of Favorites!

The quarterly South Bay Watch is available electronically by email or at [www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org). To receive by email, please send your email address to [sbccog@southbaycities.org](mailto:sbccog@southbaycities.org)