

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

June 8, 2020

TO: SBCCOG Steering Committee

FROM: Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG Executive Director
Kim Fuentes, Deputy Executive Director

SUBJECT: Environmental Activities Report – May 2020

Adherence to Strategic Plan:

Goal A: Environment, Transportation, and Economic Development. Facilitate, implement, and/or educate members and others about environmental, transportation, and economic development programs that benefit the South Bay.

I. PROGRAMS - TECHNOLOGY, PLANNING, & RESEARCH

Climate Adaptation

In May, the CivicSpark Fellow worked with cities to develop documents containing staff selected climate adaptation strategies. The Fellow will continue working with cities to finalized documents throughout June. Over the next months, the SBCCOG will continue to support cities as they work towards integrating climate adaptation into their city documents.

Water Conservation

West Basin Municipal Water District Programs (West Basin)

Contract year is July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Task 1. Educational Outreach Support

Exhibit Events

Contract goal: 100 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.

Status of goal: 104 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc. as of the month of May. **GOAL EXCEEDED**

Staff continues to work with West Basin and community event planners to identify opportunities to provide information virtually.

Water Bottle Filling Station Program

Contract goal: To assist with identifying locations for stations.

Status: Public sites are eligible to install two (2) water bottle filling stations per Tax ID.

West Basin is postponing this program until further notice.

Task 2. Support for Workshops & Events

Educational Classes

Contract goal: minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10

Status of goal: 5 completed; future in person classes are on hold **GOAL MET**

Staff continues to work with West Basin staff to explore holding classes via Zoom.

Rain Barrel Giveaway

Contract goal: 5 events

Status of goal: 5 completed; all future events are on hold **GOAL MET**

SBCCOG staff presented mapping analysis (i.e. GIS) of participation in the rain barrel giveaway covering the program's history (2015 – 2020), detailing high vs. low participation rates among nearly 6,000 documented residences. Additionally, SBCCOG staff shared possible program enhancements which included a pilot partnership between West Basin, Torrance, and LADWP, potential joint rain barrel purchase MOU and new event locations. SBCCOG staff will be meeting with these Partners next month to follow up on the prospect of these proposals.

Task 3. Cash for Kitchens

Revised Contract goal: follow up with 86 prior survey sites (kitchens) to distribute small devices

Status of goal: 0: outreach to business and agencies is on hold per West Basin

West Basin is temporarily postponing the Cash for Kitchens Program, including water efficiency surveys and outreach until further notice.

Task 4. IRWMP & Measure W Assistance

Contract goal: Assist West Basin as needed, including attendance at meetings, taking notes, assisting with reports, etc.

Status of goal: Staff has been attending meetings as they are scheduled.

Task 6. Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Water-Energy Savings Program (Change & Save)

Contract goal: Support West Basin efforts to conduct 500 energy-water surveys and promote the distribution of 714 high efficiency clothes washers' rebates

Status: SBCCOG supported activities that led to 422 phone and online surveys being completed.

West Basin's consultant, Allegra, continues door-to-door canvassing, and distribution of direct mailers and email flyers to the communities of Inglewood, Lennox, Gardena, Hawthorne, Del Aire, Lynwood, and Carson. SBCCOG staff continues to work with residents to provide rebate application assistance through the So Cal Water Smart website; assist over the phone to complete online surveys; obtain photos of water savings devices after installation; and encourage participation to SBESC callers.

Weekly check-in call meetings are held with Allegra, WBMWD, and SBCCOG staff. SBCCOG and Allegra staff continue to work towards the goal of completing 500 surveys by June 15th. SBCCOG staff is assisting in several ways such as: sending out e-blasts; utilizing SBESC website and social media platforms; sharing the flyer at City networking meetings;

and following up with city staff on referrals and further distribution of Change & Save flyers through their contact database as well as ensuring posting on City website for interested residents.

Torrance Water Contract year is July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Task 1: Support for educational classes - California Friendly Landscape Training (CFLT) or Turf Removal (TR) Class and community events (This goal is dependent upon Torrance establishing classes).

Contract goal: as requested

Status of goal: 7 completed; Previously scheduled classes have been postponed.

Task 2: Cash for Kitchens

Contract goal: 10 new commercial kitchens; 10 follow-up site visits

Status of goal: 3 water survey completed; 10 follow-up site visits completed

Torrance is temporarily postponing the Cash for Kitchens Program, including outreach. SBCCOG staff has submitted the new contract for 2020-2021.

Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD)

Contract year is July 1, 2019-September 30, 2020.

Ongoing promotion of WRD programs continues through the SBCCOG's e-newsletters and other social media channels.

Sanitation Districts of LA County (LACSD) Contract year is July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

Contract goal: 100 exhibit events, workshops, networking opportunities, etc.

Status of goal: 104 exhibit events, presentations, workshops, networking opportunities, etc. as of May **GOAL EXCEEDED**

Contract goal: 1 training for SBCCOG Volunteers on LACSD programs - *Status of goal:* **GOAL MET**

Contract goal: Schedule up to 3 Sanitation Districts-related presentations

Status of goal: 1 has been completed

At this time no future presentations have been scheduled. SBCCOG staff has reached out to LACSD staff to explore virtual presentations and submitted the draft FY2020-21 contract for their staff review.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

Contract year is January 1-December 31, 2020.

Contract goals:

- 8-12 targeted special exhibit events - *Status of goal:* 5 completed
- 1 training for SBCCOG Volunteers on LADWP programs - *Status of goal:* To be scheduled after July 2020.
- 6-8 commercial kitchens to be identified for water assessments and conservation training

Status of goal: Staff continues to work with business organizations to identify locations for future assessments and trainings.

Energy

Energy Efficiency Partnership Program – Southern California Gas Company (SCG)

SBCCOG staff met with SCG staff to review program activities and discuss coordination with the Regional Energy Network. SBCCOG staff is also updating the contact list for school districts. The next step is to meet with school district staff, virtually, to discuss gas incentives. The energy engineer completed the benchmarking update reports for the City of Torrance.

Energy Efficiency Partnership Program – Regional Energy Network (REN)

SBCCOG staff continues to meet with the REN staff weekly to discuss program implementation and status. An implementation plan has been developed with key dates to meet with city facility staff – June, Aug., and Nov. At these meetings, city staff will be introduced to the suite of REN programs, obtain information on Green Button Data software, and access assistance for identifying and implementing energy efficiency programs.

SBCCOG continues to promote PACE financing for homeowners.

YGRENE – PACE: Proceeds from Ygrene for 2020 Q1 = \$179.03. Total since the program start in 2015 = \$9,098.88. Payment for 2020 Q2 is expected in August 2020 and will be reported out in September 2020.

Total Lifetime Impacts from program - inception through May 2020			Total Annual Impacts			
District	Estimated Job Years Added	Estimated Annual Total Water Saved (gal)	Estimated Annual Total Electricity Saved (kWh)	Estimated Annual Total Natural Gas Saved (ccf)	Estimated Annual Total Utility Bill Savings (\$)	Estimated Annual Total Carbon Abated (metric tons)
Totals	275.58	4,709,302.19	2,109,330.97	35,268.52	426,865.14	767.22
Carson	93	1,517,686	497,029	12,143	\$112,177	\$202
El Segundo	3	118,646	9,848	86	\$2,489	\$3
Gardena	32	808,823	313,424	3,507	\$58,022	\$105
Hawthorne	32	435,615	210,144	5,592	\$44,795	\$88
Inglewood	26	269,145	156,075	3,459	\$31,819	\$61
Lomita	4	46,770	42,078	222	\$8,118	\$13
Los Angeles District 15*	58	803,203	583,712	7,129	\$112,431	\$198
Redondo Beach	7	57,089	87,323	1,679	\$18,100	\$33
Rolling Hills Estates	2	188,580	1,995	31	\$1,358	\$1
Torrance	19	463,746	207,703	1,421	\$37,556	\$64

HERO – PACE: As of Q4 2019, Western Riverside COG began issuing quarterly reports rather than monthly reports. Proceeds from HERO for 2020 Q1 = \$144.32. Total since program start in 2014 = \$31,270.37. Proceeds for 2020 Q2 will be reported out in Aug 2020.

CA Green Business Network (CAGBN) & South Bay Green Business Assist Program (GBAP):
(Contract period: Torrance – June 30, 2021; Hawthorne - Ongoing)

CAGBN – During the month of May, SBCCOG staff assisted the CAGBN cities of Hawthorne and Torrance in completing the Green Business Network services agreement and CAL EPA work plan.

Contract goals - City of Hawthorne: 20 certified green businesses; *Status of goals:* 20 certified businesses – **GOAL MET**

Contract goals - City of Torrance: 15 certified green businesses; *Status of goals:* 15 certified businesses and 6 additional businesses in the process of becoming certified – **GOAL MET**

New program funding will be available starting July - at which time, the SBCCOG will also receive new goals.

GBAP – SBCCOG continues to provide information to local businesses on opportunities to implement sustainability programs. In addition, businesses received information on the status of our utility partners operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As businesses are certified through CAGBN, they also become GBAP participants. GBAP by city: Torrance (60), Lawndale (27), Hawthorne (43), Redondo Beach (16), El Segundo (15), Gardena (15), Carson (12), Inglewood (10), Manhattan Beach (8), Palos Verdes Estates (7), Rancho Palos Verdes (7), Hermosa Beach (5), Rolling Hills Estates (4), Lomita (3), Lennox (2), and Los Angeles County – Community of Westmont (1) for a total of **234** businesses in the program as of the end of May 2020.

Transportation

Shared Mobility Program (Contract period July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2022)

Contract goals: 72 outreach events; 36 vanpool, rideshare, telework meetings or events; 8 Marketing/Media Survey Engagements

Status of goals: 69 outreach events; 5 vanpool or rideshare meetings; 2 Survey Engagement

During May, in response to the COVID-19 emergency, SBCCOG staff moved its public outreach efforts to virtual platforms. Metro Shared Mobility materials and emergency updates to rideshare and vanpool programs along with resources for teleworking were shared through 6 different online meetings. Additionally, SBCCOG staff facilitated a Zoom Webinar, presented by Elham Shirazi of e-Planning, entitled, “Teleworking During COVID-19: Strategies and Best Practices for Employers”. 31 individuals from South Bay Cities and other public agencies in attendance. A video of the presentation has been posted to the SBCCOG website as a telework resource for ETCs and employers in the South Bay.

Metro Express Lanes (MEL) (Contract period Nov. 15, 2019 – Nov. 14, 2020)

Work continued to organize and plan for a virtual calendar of events where Metro’s MEL program materials will be distributed. During this period, MEL materials were distributed as part of the SBCCOG information packets at 8 SBCCOG virtual outreach events.

II. MARKETING, OUTREACH, & IMPLEMENTATION

Outreach Events

In May/1 Virtual Business Event

- 6 Virtual Networking Meetings

For the period July 1, 2019 through May 30, 2020

- 29 Community Events
- 14 Business Events
- 15 residential workshops
- 46 Networking Meetings

Media

Social Media (*during the month of May*)

- **SBCCOG** -- Totals for Social Media (SBCCOG) (*top tweet – right*)
 - Twitter: 244 followers total, 2,500 impressions*
 - Facebook: 123 likes total, 117 impressions
- **SBESC** -- Totals for Social Media (*top tweet – right*)
 - Twitter: 556 followers total, 4,200 impressions*
 - Facebook: 754 likes total, 184 impressions
 - LinkedIn: 134 followers total, 29 impressions

* *Impressions: the number of times a post has been viewed during the specified month*

Earned Media/Articles/Network TV

- “West Basin Water – Change and Save” – *Culver City Crossroads* (5/5/2020) <https://culvercitycrossroads.com/2020/05/05/west-basin-water-change-and-save/>
- “Facing schedule delays, L.A. Metro seeks \$120 million more for Crenshaw Line” – *Los Angeles Times* (5/26/2020) <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-05-26/crenshaw-line-schedule-delays-budget-overrun-la-metro-construction>
- “Settlements, problems, delays dim any bright side of L.A.’s Crenshaw Line” – *RT&S* (5/26/2020) <https://www.rtands.com/rail-news/settlements-problems-delays-dim-any-bright-side-of-l-a-s-crenshaw-line/>

Volunteer Program

Status of Program: 8.85 hours for May 2020

Grand total as of 5/31/2020 - 20,281.17 (starting April 2008)

Volunteer participation remains low. At present only a few volunteers are contributing to SBCCOG programs working from their homes.

Top Tweet earned 681 impressions

Register for "Small Business Week 2020" via @metrolosangeles now: bit.ly/3b0kzVp pic.twitter.com/Aed8m99u5u



Small Business Week 2020
May 4-8

Top Tweet earned 670 impressions

LOOK @CityofInglewood residents! @WestBasin "Change & Save" program has put MONEY back in your neighbors' POCKETS. Learn more at change-save.com. #Inglewood #SouthBay pic.twitter.com/xbXEEGcgMF



1