



# San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

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## Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee

Mary Ann Lutz, Chair  
Denis Bertone, Vice-Chair

### MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Offices

#### 1.0 Preliminary Business

##### 1.1 Call to Order

M. Lutz called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

##### 1.2 Self-Introductions

#### **Present**

S. Pedroza, Claremont  
M. Lutz, Monrovia  
D. Bertone, San Dimas

#### **Absent**

E. Joffe, Sierra Madre  
M. Cacciotti, South Pasadena

#### **Other Agencies**

H. Brolo Intergy Corporation  
B. Faustinos RMC  
R. Yeung AQMD

#### **SGVCOG Staff**

N. Conway  
M. Creter  
B. Cooke

#### 2.0 Public Communications

M. Lutz distributed an LA Times article on water conservation.

R. Yueng distributed an AQMD advisory on air quality in response to the wildfires.

#### 3.0 Consent Items

##### 3.1 September 26<sup>th</sup>

##### 3.2 Correspondence

A motion was made to approve the consent calendar (M/S/C: S. Pedroza/D. Bertone/ Unanimous).

#### 4.0 Discussion Items (Recommended Action: Discussion with possible action.)

4.1 New EENR Staff

N. Conway introduced the committee to the new staff member, Bekah Cooke.

4.2 EENR Meeting Time, Date, and Location

Committee members discussed moving the time of the meeting to midday. However, this creates a conflict with the Sanitation District meeting. These meetings would occur downtown. In order to address the schedule conflict, the Committee members decided that the meeting will be held at 11:30 am on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at either the SGVCOG or MWD offices.

4.3 EENR 2007 Strategic Plan: Goals and Objectives

N. Conway stated that one of the major issues that the EENR Committee must consider at the December strategic planning exercise is the structure of the committee in relation to the new proposed committees (Water, Solid Waste). There was extended discussion on this matter. There was consensus among the committee members present that the COG would best be served by making these new committees (Water, Solid Waste) subcommittees or working groups of the EENR Committee. This umbrella concept would ensure that these closely related issues are discussed by the EENR Committee rather than in isolated settings. M. Lutz suggested that at least one member of the EENR Committee serve on each of the subcommittees and possibly serve as the Chair. There was consideration to make it a working group rather than a subcommittee because it would not be subject to the Brown Act. Committee members also suggested that there be other subcommittees or working groups for other issues such as energy, air, and open space.

B. Faustinos indicated to the committee that funding is available from the Department of Conservation for the position of Watershed Coordinator. If the COG is to apply for this three-year grant, they would have funding for a staff member to coordinate water related activities. There was a motion made to submit a grant application for this funding (M/S/C: S. Pedroza, D. Bertone, Unanimous).

M. Lutz suggested that the Committee devote a significant amount of time at their November meeting to reviewing progress on the Committee's current goals and objectives as well as forming goals and objectives for the upcoming 6-month period.

4.4 SGV Water Agencies admission to SGVCOG

N. Conway stated that the Valley's water agencies are interested in becoming members of the COG. The JPA will be presenting to the Governing Board at its November meeting. He expects that they will be seated on January 1<sup>st</sup>. He also stated that the Sanitation District will be

seeking ex-officio membership and will be assisting with the reinstatement of the Solid Waste Committee.

#### 4.5 SGV Cities' Model Environmental Ordinances

M. Lutz stated that one of the major challenges in developing model ordinances such as the LED policy is following up with cities to determine whether they have actually adopted these ordinances. In order to address this, the Committee requested that COG staff work on developing a data collection system. N. Conway stated that because of the wide range of topics that fall under the environmental ordinance umbrella Committee members should prioritize the list by topic area. This will be discussed at the November meeting. N. Conway also stated that the redesign of the COG's website which will include interactive bulletin boards may facilitate this process.

#### 4.6 SGV Legislative Caucus - Open Space Projects

M. Lutz stated that it is important to inform the Legislative Caucus about the Valley's open space projects as well as discuss Proposition 84 policies. The upcoming caucus meeting already has the water bonds agendaized for discussion. Committee members were encouraged to attend this upcoming meeting on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### 5.0 Items for Future Meetings

D. Bertone requested that the California Wild Heritage Campaign have opportunity to present to the Committee at an upcoming meeting. The Committee decided to invite them to the January meeting.

R. Yueng discussed the recently passed legislation (SB 886) that will create additional seats on the AQMD Board. One of the new seats will represent the majority of the San Gabriel Valley. This will be discussed at the November EENR Committee meeting.

B. Faustinos stated that the RMC is receiving applications under their current call for projects and preliminary recommendations will be made in January. She will present the initial findings at the January meeting of the EENR Committee.

#### 6.0 Set next meeting date

The next meeting will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup> at 11 am.

#### 7.0 Adjournment

M. Lutz adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.