



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

Wednesday, November 21st
11:30 a.m.

Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO)
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Malibu Room – 25th Floor

1.0 Preliminary Business

1.1 Call to Order

M. Lutz called the meeting to order at 11:48 am.

1.2 Self-Introductions

Present

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

Absent

E. Joffe, Sierra Madre

Other Agencies

B. Faustinos RMC
R. Yeung AQMD
L. Cetina MWD

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter
B. Cooke

2.0 Public Communications

B. Faustinos reminded the EENR Committee that the application for the Department of Conservation's Watershed Coordinator grant is due December 18th.

3.0 Consent Items

3.1 October 24th Minutes

3.2 Correspondence

There was a motion to approve the consent calendar (M/S/C: S. Pedroza, D. Bertone, Unanimous, Abstain: Cacciotti)

4.0 Discussion Items

4.1 EENR 2007 Strategic Plan: Goals and Objectives

Review of Current Objectives:

1. Ensure that Amigos de los Rios and Emerald Necklace Coalition make a presentation to the SGV COG on the Emerald Necklace concept.

This objective was achieved.

2. Develop and recommend to the Board for action a legislative agenda to influence the Steinberg and DeLeon bills to ensure that SGV gets its share of the \$400 million from Prop 84.

These two bills have been carried over to the next legislative session. B. Faustinos recommended the committee consider broader input into the programming of the IRWMP funding. The DeLeon bill would focus resources into impacted urban areas and it is unclear how this would affect funding opportunities for cities of the San Gabriel Valley. The RMC is doing an analysis to determine the effect on cities. This information should be prepared by February.

3. Review a complete list of open space projects from the RMC and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Develop principles for creating a priority for this list.

This objective was achieved.

4. Have an informational and strategic discussion regarding the upcoming countywide stormwater quality measure.

Public Works TAC is responsible for accomplishing this objective.

5. Recommend to their cities the adoption of resolutions for hybrid fuel and to use alternative fuels and hybrid fuels in their fleets.

It is very difficult to track what ordinances have been adopted by each city in relation to low emission vehicles.

6. Hold a Trash 101 Program.

This objective will be charged to the Solid Waste working group when it is formulated. This may include a presentation to the SGVCOG Governing Board.

7. Recommend to the Board for action a resolution supporting the Emerald Necklace concept and encouraging other cities to do the same.

This objective was achieved.

8. Inform and encourage attendance at public environmental events that educate and make the public aware of air quality, water quality, waste management and energy (solar, wind) issues.

This is an ongoing objective.

Potential Future Objectives:

1. RMC will present an analysis of the impact of the DeLeon bill to the EENR Committee in February/March.
2. Develop a legislative matrix working group that would be charged with developing a white paper that incorporates all SGVCOG environmental sensibilities. This would enable city representatives to present a unified message to legislators in Sacramento and Washington D.C. The working group would prioritize open space and air in developing the white paper.
3. Develop a legislative clearinghouse for all environmental ordinances adopted by SGV cities.
4. Implement some type of recognition program for model ordinances. This could include press releases or partnering with local chambers to give out awards.
5. EENR Committee members will outreach to school districts and chambers of commerce to encourage them to adopt hybrid fuel or low emission vehicles.
6. COG Staff will present research on developing a joint purchasing coalition for low emission vehicles. This would include researching the State's master contract and role as purchasing agent for low emission vehicles.
7. The EENR Committee will implement the following working groups:
 - Energy – E. Joffe
 - Open Space – D. Bertone
 - Water – M. Lutz
 - Solid Waste – S. Pedroza
 - Air – M. Cacciotti

These working groups would meet on an as needed basis. Prior to their first meeting, the Committee will design working group descriptions that include participants and responsibilities. These working groups would be lead by one official from the EENR Committee and there would be a joint meeting of all working groups once a year.

4.2 SGV Cities' Model Environmental Ordinances

The Committee requested that staff begin collecting city environmental ordinances. They also requested that reclaimed water be added to the list of issue areas.

4.3 SB 886 - Reconfiguration of AQMD Governing Board

Committee members interested in pursuing this position were encouraged to submit their name to the COG offices.

4.4 L.A. County Plastic Bag Study

COG Staff gave a brief presentation on the findings of this study. The EENR Committee members requested that this item be discussed again once the LA County Board has taken action.

4.5 Draft Legislative Matrix

Committee members reviewed the legislative matrix used by the Integrated Waste Management Board. COG Staff will also bring a copy of SCAG's legislative matrix for review. There was discussion for the need to develop a protocol for adopting legislative policy positions.

5.0 Items for Future Meetings

There will be a presentation from the California Wild Heritage Campaign. Committee members requested that there be discussion about developing a policy for responding to requests for presentations or other agenda items.

6.0 Set next meeting date

The next meeting will be held on January 23rd at 11:30 a.m. at the Metropolitan Water District.

7.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m by M. Lutz.