



# San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

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## Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee Solid Waste Working Group

Sam Pedroza, Chair

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008

11:30 am

MINUTES

### 1.0 Preliminary Business

#### 1.1 Call to Order

S. Pedroza called the meeting to order at 11:48 am.

#### 1.2 Self-Introductions

##### Present

S. Pedroza	LACSD, Claremont
N. Morell	LACSD
S. Green	LACSD
M. Rodriguez	Arcadia
M. Mohajer	Los Angeles County IWM Task Force
V. Castro	Covina
M. Juarez	Covina
P. Gallegos	Diamond Bar
P. Alva	LA County Public Works
C. Skye	LA County Public Works
D. Iwata	Monrovia
H. Morris	Pomona
D. Figoni	San Dimas
Clay Curtin	West Covina

##### SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter, Staff  
B. Cooke, Staff

### 2.0 Discussion Items

#### 2.1 Legislative Update

LACSD staff led discussion of the following legislative items:

- AB 2640 (Huffman): The first hearing is scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>, therefore, any city wishing to write a position letter should plan to submit it prior to this date. Group members noted that when possible, letters should be submitted one week prior to the scheduled hearing date. Group members requested a listing of jurisdictions and agencies opposing and supporting this measure. LACSD staff requested that cities' email a carbon copy of the letter to LACSD ([sgreen@lacsdc.org](mailto:sgreen@lacsdc.org)) as well as the League of California Cities ([kross@cacities.org](mailto:kross@cacities.org)). COG staff noted that all sample letters and supporting documents will be available on the new SGVCOG Bulletin Board site ([www.sgvkog.org/forum](http://www.sgvkog.org/forum)). In addition, a list of Assembly Natural Resources Committee members will be distributed to the working group email list.
- SB 1016 (Wiggins): This 2-year bill is sponsored by the Waste Board and intends to move away from disposal measurement into an average number estimate system tracked from per capita disposal rate. Currently, meetings are being held with stakeholder groups to modify language. Requirements for a 75% diversion rate have been eliminated from the bill language, however, the latest version of the bill has not been distributed to stakeholder groups. It is likely to be heard before the Appropriations Committee in May. The Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force has sent a letter requesting amendments to the bill.
- AB 2866 (De Leon): This bill would raise the disposal fee to \$2 per ton. The monies earned would be distributed to four programs: (1) providing matching grants to operators of solid waste landfills to comply with the requirements to provide enhanced control of methane emissions from solid waste landfills, (2) to fund demonstration projects to accelerate the commercialization of hybrid trucks for the collection of recyclables, yard waste, and garbage, (3) to fund projects to demonstrate the commercial viability of producing clean transportation fuels from municipal solid waste and landfill gas, and (4) deposited in the State Solid Waste Closure Trust Subaccount. It is uncertain how the monies collected will specifically go to benefit this region although 1/3 of the funds will come from Southern California.

Los Angeles County Public Works Department staff highlighted the Plastic Bag measure adopted on January 22, 2008. A five-signature letter was sent to all cities in Los Angeles County urging these jurisdictions to join in this program. The letter and supporting documents will be posted on the SGVCOG bulletin board. Another plastic bag-related bill, AB 2866 (Davis), would delete the prohibition on a city, county, or other public agency from imposing a plastic carryout bag fee upon a store. In addition, it would declare the intent of the Legislature to assess a statewide charge on plastic carryout bags, and to direct the revenues raised by that charge to local governments, on a per capita basis, to fund litter prevention programs and source reduction efforts.

## 2.2 Trash 101 Update

The Chair updated the working group on progress in planning Trash 101. He shared that the conference is intended to be an introduction to Solid Waste Management issues in San Gabriel Valley and the target audience is elected officials in the region. Staff has begun drafting an agenda and will bring it to the subsequent meeting for review and feedback. It will also be posted on the Bulletin Board. The Chair identified the major items of discussion for Trash 101 to be the Sanitation District's Waste-By-Rail project as well as conversion technology.

## 2.3 Westlake Farms Composting Facility

The Chair distributed a memo giving an update of the Westlake Farms Composting Facility status. The facility is located in King's County and will process biosolids and green waste.

## 2.4 Los Angeles County Conversion Facility

LACSD staff presented an overview of the County's conversion technology report. Phase II, completed in 2007, identified existing technology providers and material recovery facilities in Southern California that may take part in the development of a commercial facility in LA County. Staff anticipates a site to be identified by May 15<sup>th</sup> and the County to break ground on construction in 2-3 years.

## 3.0 Items for Future Meetings

None at this time. Any suggestions should be emailed to Bekah Cooke ([bcooke@sgvcog.org](mailto:bcooke@sgvcog.org)).

## 4.0 Set next meeting date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup> (or possibly the 29<sup>th</sup>) at 11:30am at West Covina City Hall.

## 5.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.