



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

3452 East Foothill Blvd., Suite 810, Pasadena, California 91107-3142 Phone: (626) 564-9702 FAX: (626) 564-1116 E-Mail SGV@sgvcog.org

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Committee Water Working Group

Mary Ann Lutz, Chair

June 11th, 2008
9:00 am

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
11310 Valley Blvd
El Monte, CA 91731

MINUTES

1.0 Preliminary Business

1.1 Self-Introductions

Present

M. Lutz, Chair, Monrovia

C. Montan, Alhambra

T. Tait, Arcadia

S. Pedroza, Claremont

K. Honish, Covina L. Alfonso, LA Co. DPW

D. Chaputa, Glendora

J. Ranells, La Verne

A. Heil, LA Co. Sanitation District

N. Steele, LA & SGV Rivers Watershed Council

M. Antos, LA & SGV Rivers Watershed Council

D. Ready, LA & SGV Rivers Watershed Council

R. Bow, Monrovia

B. Hoffman, LA Co. Dept of Parks & Recreation

J. Smith, LA Co. Dept of Parks & Recreation

C. Arriola, Monterey Park

M. McAustin, Pasadena

S. Tyler, Pasadena

J. Taylor, Pomona

T. Worley, Rivers & Mountains Conservancy

S. Ahmad, SA Associates

H. Baldwin, San Gabriel

H. Bennett, Southern California Edison

M. Huls, South El Monte

B. Kuhn, Three Valleys MWD

L. Garcia, Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD

P. Rodriguez, Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD

Staff

M. Creter

B. Cooke

2.0 Discussion Items

2.1 Working Group Overview

2.1.1 History of SGVCOG Water-Related Activities

The Working Group Chair discussed the formation of the COG Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) Committee approximately two years ago. Subsequent to its formation, the Committee recognized the need to develop five sub-working groups to tackle issues more thoroughly and with the involvement of important stakeholders. The five working groups developed were: Air Quality, Energy, Open Space, Solid Waste, and Water. These Working Groups will work on issues and make recommendations to the full EENR Committee and then to the Governing Board. Also, in Spring of 2007, the COG organized and hosted a Water Works 101 event to inform elected officials from the region about water operations and pressing issues. The event was very successful and served as a catalyst for inviting the area's

water purveyors to participate in the COG as a single member agency. This event also spurred the development of a Water Policy White Paper.

2.1.2 SGVCOG Water Policy

The Working Group Chair gave a brief overview of the policy and its function as a touchstone for COG activities.

2.1.3 Water District Membership

Recently, the three water agencies located in the San Gabriel Valley (San Gabriel Valley MWD, Three Valleys MWD, and Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD) executed a Joint Powers Authority Agreement and joined the COG Governing Board as a single voting member. Representative and Alternate responsibilities will rotate between the three agencies on a yearly basis.

2.1.4 SGVCOG Strategic Plan: May - Nov 2008

Every six-months COG Governing Board members, staff, and partners gather to develop The Working Group reviewed the objectives listed under the goal to "Improve the Environment," highlighting those that pertained to water activities.

2.2 Development of Working Group Purpose, Goals, and Objectives

Working Group participants shared the goals and objectives they would like to see the group pursue. COG Staff will consolidate and organize the information to present to the Working Group before its next meeting for approval. Please see the attached list of goals and objectives the Working Group named.

2.3 Watershed Coordinator Grant

COG staff gave an overview of the upcoming grant funded by the CA Department of Conservation. Staff reported that the grant work plan was developed with the knowledge that this Working Group would begin meeting in the near future and much of the work plan content is based on issues relevant to this group. Staff anticipates that the Watershed Coordinator will work closely with the Working Group to accomplish its three-year program goals. It is anticipated that the grant will be initiated by the first of August.

2.4 Legislative Update

COG staff provided Working Group members with a legislative matrix highlighting all water-related bills affecting the region. Staff shared that the COG has taken positions of support on two bills, AB 2823 (Eng) and AB 2938 (De Leon). Staff requested that Working Group members bring to their attention any legislation they would like the Working Group and COG Governing Board to review in the future.

3.0 Items for Future Meetings

- Review and finalize goals and objectives
- Present website and bulletin board tools
- 5 - 10 minute educational component at each meeting (Next Month: LA & SG River Watershed Council upcoming conference)

4.0 Set next meeting date

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9th at 9:00 am at the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Office (11310 Valley Blvd, El Monte, CA 91731). Meetings are tentatively scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am.

5.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 am.

SGVCOG Water Working Group Draft Goals and Objectives (6/11/2008)

1. Increase use of recycled/reclaimed/recharged water

- a) Determine which parks currently use recycled water and which do not
- b) Promote the Sanitation Districts efforts to protect waste water (“No drugs down the Drain”)
- c) Promote the Upper San Gabriel Water District’s “Toilet-to-tap” program.

2. Coordinate and collaborate efforts between agencies

- a) Provide for information exchanges between local agencies, including rebates, public information materials, workplans, upcoming events, and studies
- b) Participate in the development of a master plan that integrates open space and water issues and promote multi-benefit projects
- c) Communicate planning efforts with SCAG
- d) Develop a water project priority list that incorporates projects from all three water districts and other related agencies
- e) Coordinate with the Water Quality Authority to keep cities informed upcoming requirements

3. Pursue funding and other resources to complete needed water cleanup/quality projects

- a) Develop a water project priority list that incorporates projects from all three water districts and other related agencies
- b) Monitor and support relevant State and Federal legislation

4. Educate the public and elected officials on water issues including conservation, water quality, reliability, and future supply, in order to bridge the gap between cities and water agencies

- a) Promote the Sanitation District’s efforts to protect waste water (“No drugs down the Drain”)
- b) Present the Water Quality Authority’s DVD of coordinated cleanup efforts in the San Gabriel Basin at an upcoming COG Governing Board meeting.
- c) Promote ordinances and strategies that encourage low-impact development techniques
- d) Educate public and elected officials on native and drought resistant landscaping and promote the adoption of the State’s model landscape ordinance
- e) Support the Watershed Council’s efforts to develop a watershed and stream guide similar to Heal the Bay’s Beach Scorecard
- f) Promote the Upper San Gabriel Water District’s “Toilet-to-tap” program.

- g) Increase elected officials' awareness of issues surrounding MWD's recharge program
- h) Develop a unified water conservation message and strategy for informing the public through multiple avenues of communication