



# 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, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
11:30 a.m.

Monrovia City Yard Building  
600 S. Mountain Avenue  
Monrovia, CA, 91016

#### 1.0 Preliminary Business

##### 1.1 Call to Order

M. Lutz called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m.

##### 1.2 Self-Introductions

###### **Present**

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

###### **Absent**

None

###### **Other Agencies**

R. Yeung	AQMD
D. Iwata	City of Monrovia
E. Joffe	Clean Fuel Connection, Inc.
A. Heil	L.A. County Sanitation Districts
B. Faustinos	Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
H. Shaw	Southern California Gas

###### **SGVCOG Staff**

M. Creter  
B. Cooke

#### 2.0 Public Communications

None.

#### 3.0 Consent Items

##### 3.1 April 30<sup>th</sup> Minutes

##### 3.2 Correspondence

#### 4.0 Discussion Items

##### 4.1 EENR Objectives: May – November 2008

The Chair reported that the COG held a successful strategic planning session on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> where a list of seven objectives were identified under the goal to “Improve the Environment.” She noted that one of the objectives was related to AB 32 and would be dealt with primarily through the City Managers and Planning

Technical Advisory Committees. There was discussion regarding the AB 32 scoping plan to be released next month. Staff noted that they were in the process of planning a presentation regarding AB 32 for the Planning TAC.

#### 4.2 Recommended Positions for Pending Legislation

Staff gave an overview of the following legislation:

- AB 2058 (Levine): Staff explained that this bill is the newest version of plastic-bag related legislation. AB 2829, which the COG had formally supported in May, died in the Assembly under the conditions that many of its provisions be included in AB 2058. AB 2058 would require a per fee bag fee of 0.25 cents – this fee would apply to both plastic and paper bags. Currently, businesses would retain the funds to implement recycling, cleanup, or waste reduction programs. LA County, among other organizations, is working to change the language to allow funds collected to go to local jurisdictions for clean-up activities. Under this proposal, the funding would be distributed on a per capita basis rather than through a competitive grant process. Staff noted that the Solid Waste Working Group would like to see a presentation given to the Governing Board regarding plastic bag issues in the future. Also, the Solid Waste Working Group recommended a position of “support in concept” to the EENR Committee.

There was a motion to recommend to the Governing Board a position of “Support in Concept” for AB 2058 (M/S/C: D. Bertone, S. Pedroza, Unanimous)

- AB 2823 (Eng) **San Gabriel Valley Water Quality Authority Act:** Staff reported that the COG has submitted a letter in support of this legislation which establishes the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority and provides for its powers and duties relating to the cleanup of contaminated groundwater within the boundaries of the authority.

There was discussion to include a few bills on next month’s legislative matrix including various bills tracked by the Rivers & Mountains Conservancy.

Committee members directed staff to add a column to the legislative matrix showing the current COG position taken, if any.

#### 4.3 Air Working Group Update

The Chair reported that this Working Group has a potential Chair, however, this development is still being finalized.

#### 4.4 Energy Working Group Update

Alternative Fuel Vehicle/Fleet Management Workshop Planning Committee Chair gave an update on the workshop’s development. The Workshop has been scheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup> at the Monrovia Community Center. The Committee has begun developing the training content which largely focuses on federal and state requirements, technology, funding opportunities, and joint purchasing coalition options. The Committee referenced the upcoming car show in South Pasadena scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup> where alternative fuel vehicle manufacturers will have their vehicles on display. The planning committee is planning to meet again to finalize training elements.

#### 4.5 Open Space Working Group Update

Rivers & Mountains Conservancy staff reported that they have held meetings recently regarding Proposition 84 grant funding. RMC staff has analyzed Tier Two Projects to determine if there are any eligible to be promoted to a Tier 1

status. Staff would like to preview their final recommendations to the RMC Board with the EENR Committee.

RMC Staff also reported that federal Representative Schiff's bill, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, was recently signed into law by President Bush. This bill will extend the Rim of the Valley designated area. Another bill authored by Representative Solis would authorize a feasibility study for national recognition of the San Gabriel River Watershed and Mountains.

#### **4.6 Solid Waste Working Group Update**

The Solid Waste Working Group Chair and staff gave an overview of events from the Solid Waste meeting the previous day. They announced that Trash 101 will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup> and the Los Angeles County Sanitation District will host. The main topics will include Waste-by-Rail, Conversion Technology, Zero Waste (emphasizing reduce & reuse), and AB 32 impacts. The critical factor is that the content not be overly-technical, but rather provide an introduction to solid waste issues for elected officials. There was discussion as to whether the Solid Waste Working Group White Paper should be completed prior to Trash 101, but a decision was not made at this time.

Staff gave an overview of the potential for the COG to partner with the California Product Stewardship Council to apply for funding from the upcoming California Integrated Waste Management Board's Household Hazardous Waste funding cycle. Staff shared that the Solid Waste Working Group is reviewing a list of potential project ideas related to CFL-collection and will report back to the committee when recommendations are developed.

#### **4.7 Water Working Group Update**

The Water Working Group Chair announced the first meeting scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Staff also provided an update regarding the Watershed Coordinator Grant. Staff has been working with the Department of Conservation and Rivers & Mountains Conservancy to refine performance measures included in the work plan. Staff anticipates the starting date to be approximately July 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff from COG and RMC are working to iron out logistics of the grant administration. The Committee discussed having a presentation by the Foothill Water Coalition, an organization the COG has formally supported in the past. Committee members directed staff to forward the letter of support submitted in February 2007 to the Foothill Water Coalition again.

#### **4.8 Strategic Plan Update**

Discussed under 4.1

#### **5.0 Items for Future Meetings**

- MWD staff requested the Committee's future assistance in providing support and advise regarding a Council of Chambers event to recognize municipalities' efforts to buy clean fuel vehicles.
- Gas Company staff will report on the Sunrise Power Link

#### **6.0 Set next meeting date.**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at the Monrovia City Yard Building.

#### **7.0 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.