

South Bay Environmental Services Center

The South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC), a program of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG), serves as a clearinghouse for information on environmental and sustainable programs including energy efficiency, water conservation and reliability, recycling, and transportation as well as assisting cities in implementation of sustainability projects.

Collaboration with South Bay Member Municipalities

Working with utility partners, the SBESC helps identify opportunities for energy efficiency and water conservation improvements for municipal facilities and coordinates regional plans to achieve environmental sustainability across the South Bay. Services provided include:

- Promoting the *Green Business Challenge* - a free online program for commercial buildings and businesses in the South Bay designed to drive sustainable actions, while providing recognition opportunities.
- Assisting in developing *Climate Action Plans (CAP)* - local and subregional climate action plans which include carbon emission inventories and transportation, land use, greening, waste, and energy efficiency strategies to reduce greenhouse gases.
- Analyzing energy use information to help cities better manage their municipal facilities energy use.
- Providing support from an energy engineer who conducts audits, and offers advice and assistance for the completion of rebate/incentive applications for municipal facility projects.
- Assisting businesses in forming vanpools for their employees.
- Assisting Metro with Transportation and Mobility programs that reduce traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions while improving air quality.

Services for Residents and Businesses

Outreach - Maintaining a sustainable South Bay requires access to resources which can be found at www.sbesc.com; subscribing to the SBESC e-newsletter (with over 15,000 recipients); and following SBESC on Twitter and Facebook (search SBESC). These tools provide the latest environmental news in the South Bay; tips on how to improve the environment; and the latest on the programs and trainings that are available. Other resources include:



- *FREE training classes and workshop* topics include energy efficiency, water conservation, laundry to landscape grey water, zero waste, alternative transportation, and other topics concerning sustainability.

- *Speakers Bureau* – speakers available for your clubs or professional organizations.

- *Exhibits* at community events throughout the South Bay (be on the lookout for the SBESC booth) – program, rebate/incentive, and other educational information is available.

- *Call Center* – assistance with finding rebates and incentives for building and/or landscape retrofits and other equipment/appliances that can save money on utility bills.



- *Lending Library* at the City of Torrance's Katy Geissert Civic Center Library. Reference books and resource materials on energy efficiency practices, water conservation, transportation options, climate action planning, and recycling measures are available.

- *South Bay Travel Pal* (www.southbaytravelpal.com) – to promote, educate and facilitate trip planning, ride sharing and alternative transportation choices for local businesses and residents.

How to Get Involved

Become a part of our team, as a *volunteer*, if you are interested in supporting our work through:

- community outreach
- office support
- inventory control
- photography
- creative services
- grant writing
- research & analysis
- preparation for events

For more information, please visit www.sbesc.com or contact Volunteer Coordinator, Martha Segovia, at 310-371-7222 x 209. Volunteer applications can be found at www.sbesc.com/volunteer/application.



Our Partnerships

Southern California Edison (SCE)

SBESC's Energy Efficiency Partnership Program with SCE is a long standing local government program that provides technical assistance as well as coordination of various strategic planning activities to South Bay cities. Working with SCE also enables the SBESC to inform the community about the latest in energy efficiency rebates/incentives. SCE is also one of the founding partners in the South Bay Green Building Challenge.

Southern California Gas Company (SoCal Gas)

SBESC's relationship with SoCal Gas facilitates the discovery of therm savings opportunities for South Bay cities and school districts through comprehensive audits of their municipal and school facilities and provides support for the filing of their rebate/incentive applications. As with SCE, SBESC also supplies current energy efficiency rebate/incentive information and assists SoCal Gas residential customers to sign up for Energy Efficiency Kits. SoCalGas is also one of the founding partner in the South Bay Green Building Challenge.

West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin)

Facilitating public outreach for West Basin's water conservation programs, SBESC works with West Basin on California Friendly Landscape Workshops, Grey Water Workshops, Weather-Based Irrigation Controller Exchanges, Cash for Kitchens audits, and various other incentives for residential and commercial communities to save water. Additionally, SBESC collects signed support cards and schedules presentations to groups and businesses for West Basin's Water Reliability program which explains the importance of local control of water and developing drought-proof resources.

City of Torrance Water

As with West Basin, SBESC carries out and promotes water conservation programs such as California Friendly Landscape Workshops, Grey Water Workshops, and Cash for Kitchens audits specifically for residents and commercial businesses in the City of Torrance.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)

The communities of Harbor City, Harbor Gateway, San Pedro, and Wilmington of the City of Los Angeles, District 15 located within the SBCCOG boundaries, are served by SBESC with LADWP education and information regarding saving water and energy. A pilot group of commercial kitchens are also targeted for water assessments and conservation training.

Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts)

SBESC maintains up-to-date information on its website about where residents can safely dispose of unused prescription drugs at Sanitation Districts-sanctioned facilities. Alerts are also sent when the Sanitation Districts' Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Program is coming to a South Bay location -- where hazardous materials can be dropped off safely. Sanitation Districts also supplements the residential workshop curriculum with information and best practices for those in the community who desire to move toward zero waste.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)

Metro is working with SBESC to reach employers and multi-tenant building owners/managers interested in making vanpooling available to their employees or tenants. Specifically, SBESC coordinates meetings with employers and informs them of the on-going monthly subsidy of up to \$400 for qualified vanpools as well as other ways that vanpooling provides valuable savings. Information on obtaining Metro's ExpressLanes Transponders for the I-110 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes is also provided; additionally, the SBESC works with Metro to test new tools like the South Bay Travel Pal that support ride-sharing, transit and other alternative trip choices.

More information on all of the above including event/workshop dates is available by:

- calling 310-371-7222
- visiting our website www.sbesc.com
- sending us an email at info@southbaycities.org
- following us on social media

