



**SOUTH BAY CITIES**  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



**SOUTH BAY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CENTER**

Carson • El Segundo • Gardena • Hawthorne • Hermosa Beach • Inglewood • Lawndale • Lomita • Los Angeles • Manhattan Beach  
Palos Verdes Estates • Rancho Palos Verdes • Redondo Beach • Rolling Hills • Rolling Hills Estates • Torrance • Los Angeles County

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SBCCOG Lends Library Collection to Katy Geissert Civic Center Library**

Torrance, CA (November 18, 2013) – The South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) today announced the launch of a pilot Lending Library Program with the City of Torrance. The SBCCOG will lend a collection of reference books and resource materials on energy efficiency practices, water conservation, transportation options, climate action planning, and recycling measures, which have been housed at the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC). The one year pilot program allows the collection to be integrated into the current collection at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library in Torrance.

“We want to share our books with a larger audience and that’s why this program makes sense. It offers the public access to books in a place they expect to find them – a library,” said Dan Medina, SBCCOG Chair, and Mayor Pro Tem, City of Gardena. The South Bay community benefits from having this resource more accessible. It’s a “lend – lend” scenario.

SBCCOG started their collection when they acquired books on energy efficiency to support educational workshops and trainings as part of its contracts with Southern California Edison and The Gas Company. West Basin Municipal Water District, another partner of the SBCCOG, made a generous donation of \$1,000 for the purchase of books on water topics. These books cover the history of water in California, current water issues in the state, gardening books with information on water conserving plants, practices, and designs, and California native plants.

The SBCCOG continues to accept donations of both adult and children’s books from its other partners as well as the general public.

The collection is available now and will be searchable by entering SBCCOG or SBESC into the database search. A Torrance Library card is necessary for book checkout however any California

resident may register for a Torrance Library card by filing out an application and presenting a photo identification and proof of current address.

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Photo Credit: Marilyn Lyon

Caption Info: SBCCOG Chair & Gardena Mayor Pro Tem, Dan Medina (left) and Torrance Mayor, Frank Scotto (right) and pictured with a small sample from the lending library book collection.

### **SBCCOG**

*The South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) is a joint powers authority of 16 cities and the County of Los Angeles that share the goal of maximizing the quality of life and productivity throughout the South Bay and surrounding communities. Members are Carson, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, and the Harbor City/San Pedro communities of the City of Los Angeles, along with the County of Los Angeles District 2 and 4. The SBCCOG values what makes its cities unique and independent, and realizes there are times when collective endeavors get better results. This vision of what it can do for its communities drives SBCCOG efforts and motivates its members. It can best be described three ways: Partnership, Persuasion and Performance. Since its inception in 1994 the SBCCOG has been successful in achieving goals toward that end. Visit us at [www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org).*

### **SBESC**

*The South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC) is a program of the SBCCOG and is the South Bay's resource center for residents, businesses and municipalities to access information and best practices related to energy efficiency, water conservation, recycling and transportation alternatives and the environment. SBESC staff is working with the South Bay cities to develop Climate Action Plans that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions through local actions. Materials and tools are provided to assist in better understanding the potential for energy efficiency and water savings within homes and businesses that may very well reduce costs. A wide variety of educational seminars and practical training sessions are hosted by SBESC. In addition, staff and volunteers participate year-round in community events to assist consumers in making informed decisions about their personal use of natural resources. The SBESC is a major program of the SBCCOG which partners with The Gas Company, Southern California Edison, West Basin Municipal Water District, City of Torrance Water Department, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, and Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Visit [www.sbesc.com](http://www.sbesc.com) for the latest activities, schedules and opportunities to participate in a greener South Bay.*