



Valley Voice

The Pulse of the San Gabriel Valley



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SGVEWP Recognizes Leaders in Energy Efficiency

Each year, the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP) — a partnership between the COG, Southern California Edison (SCE), and Southern California Gas Company— holds an Awards Luncheon to celebrate the accomplishments of the SGVEWP over the past year and to recognize cities within the Valley that have been leaders in energy efficiency. In 2013, the SGVEWP has had the following accomplishments:

- ◇ 15 municipal projects completed
- ◇ Over 1.4 million kilowatt-hours in energy savings and 18,000 therms in energy projects from installed municipal projects
- ◇ Equivalent energy savings of approximately \$215,270
- ◇ Approximately \$163,000 in cash rebates for implementing those measures
- ◇ Attended 33 community events
- ◇ Presented at 25 City Council meetings and held 8 check presentations at City Council meetings
- ◇ Held 9 holiday light exchanges

In addition, the following cities were recognized for their leadership in energy efficiency:

Energy Savings Impact Award: South Pasadena

The City upgraded its water pump at Wilson Reservoir, saving 203,707 kWh, equivalent to

an estimated annual utility savings of approximately \$30,000, and improving overall plant efficiency by 22%. The City also received a one-time incentive payment of \$25,717.

Excellence in Demand Response: Arcadia

Demand Response (DR) focuses on installing efficient equipment that is dynamically interactive and that helps to avoid adding more generation to our system at peak times. Over the past year, the City has enrolled 21 accounts in a DR program. This includes 19 facility accounts enrolled in DR Contracts (DRC), 1 account enrolled in the Summer Discount Plan (SDP), and 1 account enrolled in the Critical Peak Pricing (CPP) program.

Innovation Award: Montebello

The City upgraded its digital billboard at the Montebello Golf Course and Quiet Cannon Banquet Center from incandescent light bulbs to a full-color LED light display. The City utilized on-bill financing (OBF) — the first in the San Gabriel Valley — which provides zero-interest loans to complete energy efficiency projects that is repaid through monthly payments on the utility bill. The project saved the City 163,030 kWh, which is equal to an estimated annual utility savings of \$25,000 and a one-time incentive payment of \$17,117 (cont. on next page).



#factcheck: Healthy Living in Baldwin Park, p. 2

The City of Baldwin Park has accomplished a lot in its efforts to help its residents get healthier through access to more nutritional food and promotion of physical activity.

Happy Holidays and a
Happy New Year!
See you in 2014!

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SGVEWP Moves into 2014!

Green Leadership Award: South El Monte

The City is being recognized for its efforts to implement its Energy Action Plan (EAP). Completed by funding from the COG, South El Monte has initiated work on all major municipal energy efficiency projects, including indoor lighting upgrades, variable speed drives on its pool pumps and upgrades to the pool heaters, and streetlight upgrades. The indoor lighting project was completed in November 2013, and had an energy savings of 100,156 kWh, equal to an annual energy cost savings of approximately \$15,000.

Energy Savings Impact Award (Gas Company): El Monte

Evaporation is by far the largest source of energy loss for swimming pools. Pool covers minimize evaporation from both outdoor and indoor pools. Covering a pool when it is not in use is the single most effective means of reducing pool heating costs, with potential savings of 50%–70%. In 2013, the City of El Monte installed a pool cover at its aquatic center, producing an energy savings of 18,407 therms and an estimated annual utility savings of \$11,965. The City also received a one-time incentive payment of \$15,723.

After the success of 2013, the SGVEWP looks forward to 2014. In 2014, the SGVEWP will have a kilowatt-savings goal of 1.7 million kWh and a therms savings goal of 40,000.

These are also a few of the activities that the SGVEWP will be undertaking in 2014 in partnership with SCE and SCG:

- ◇ Host Holiday Lights Exchanges
- ◇ Host community workshops to promote energy efficiency
- ◇ Redesign SGVEWP website
- ◇ Host toolbox trainings for cities to assist in identifying projects
- ◇ Continue SGVEWP eNewsletters
- ◇ Develop project case studies

The SGVEWP looks forward to 2014!



The Cities of Arcadia and South El Monte were just two of the cities that were recognized as awardees at the Annual Awards Luncheon



#factcheck

Healthy Living in Baldwin Park

The City of Baldwin Park has long been committed to improving the health of its residents and has consistently undertaken projects to do just this. In 1999, the People on the Move team was formed, a grassroots effort that included representatives from the School District, the City, Kaiser Permanente, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health — to help improve the environment in order to improve the health of residents. Since that time, many other residential groups have formed to promote healthy living in the community: the Healthy Teens on the Move subcommittee advises People on the Move on the barriers to healthy eating and physical activity that teens face at school and in the community; the Baldwin Park Resident Advisory Committee (BP-RAC) leads community activities and trainings that support youth and parents in leading healthier lives and advises People on the Move on such programs.

In 2005, Baldwin Park the City was selected as one of six Healthy Eating, Active Communities (HEAC) in the State, receiving

\$1.8 million from the California Endowment from 2004 to 2010 to institute policy changes and practices to improve access to healthy food options and encourage physical activity in low-income communities in order to prevent childhood obesity. As a result of all of these efforts, the City has implemented a wide range of policies that demonstrate its commitment to healthy living, including the following:

- ◇ Adopted a Complete Streets Policy in August 2011
- ◇ Passed first City ordinance in California to ensure that in City-sponsored youth facilities, 100% of foods and beverages sold must comply with the State nutrition standards required in schools under SB 12 and SB 965
- ◇ Assisted corners stores and small grocery stores in completing “healthy floorplan” makeovers
- ◇ Adopted Healthy Eating Acting Living Resolution
- ◇ Adopted ordinances banning smoking in



and around city-owned facilities and public parks, a variety of areas where people congregate, and in and around multi-family housing.

Through efforts like these, Baldwin Park demonstrates how it can positively impact its built environment to improve the lives of its residents.

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number of businesses that received store makeovers, including the addition of a new “Healthy Selection” section of the store, as a part of Baldwin Park HEAC

Transportation Spotlight State Route 710 North Environmental Study

The State Route 710 North (SR 710) Study evaluates transportation options to improve mobility and relieve congestion in the area between the State route 2, Interstates 5, 10, 210, and 605 freeways in East/Northeast Los Angeles and the western San Gabriel Valley.

The purpose of the study is to address the following considerations:

- Improve efficiency of the existing regional freeway and transit networks;
- Reduce congestion on local arterials adversely affected by regional traffic volumes; and
- Minimize environmental impacts related to mobile sources

The Study Team, led by Metro and Caltrans, is undertaking an environmental review process in order to arrive at the best Alternative consistent with State and Federal requirements. The five Alternatives being considered include:

- **No Build Alternative**
- **Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM) Alternative:** This includes pedestrian and bike improvements, intelligent transportation systems, local street improvements and substantially more bus service within the Study area. These strategies may also be included as part of the other Alternatives.
- **Bus Rapid Transit Alternative (BRT):**

This would expand rapid bus service to key destinations from East Los Angeles to Pasadena, starting just south of the Gold Line Atlantic Station at Atlantic and Whittier Boulevards.

- **Light Rail Transit Alternative (LRT):** This alternative would bring a new, light rail transit line from East Los Angeles to Pasadena, connecting to the existing Gold Line at the East Los Angeles Civic Center Station at Mednik Avenue and proceeding north. All construction would be within existing SR 710 right-of-way.
- **Freeway Tunnel Alternative:** This alternative would extend the 710 as a high speed, limited-access roadway with up to four lanes in each direction. The initial concept calls for separate tunnels for north and southbound traffic. All construction would be within existing SR 710 right-of-way.

To learn about the multi-modal alternative concepts under evaluation in the SR-710 Study process visit: http://www.metro.net/projects_studies/route_710/images/Sr710openhousepresentation.pdf.

Additional information is available on the program website at www.metro.net/sr710study. Online comments can be submitted through a Twitter account @SR710Study or through a Facebook page, [facebook.com/sr710study](https://www.facebook.com/sr710study), and a hotline number: (855) 477-7100.

Project Milestones

- ⇒ **November 2008**
2/3rd of LA County voters approved use of Measure R funds to address the condition of growing congestion on freeways and arterials, and poor transit operations within the SR 710 North study area.
- ⇒ **December 2012**
Alternatives Analysis Report completed. To review the Report visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/disto7/resources/envdocs/docs/710study/>.
Five (5) alternatives advanced to draft environmental impact report/statement (Draft EIR/EIS) for further study.
- ⇒ **Late Spring/Early Summer 2014**
Draft EIR/EIS expected to be released.
- ⇒ **2015**
Final EIR/EIS anticipated to be released.



Executive Director Message

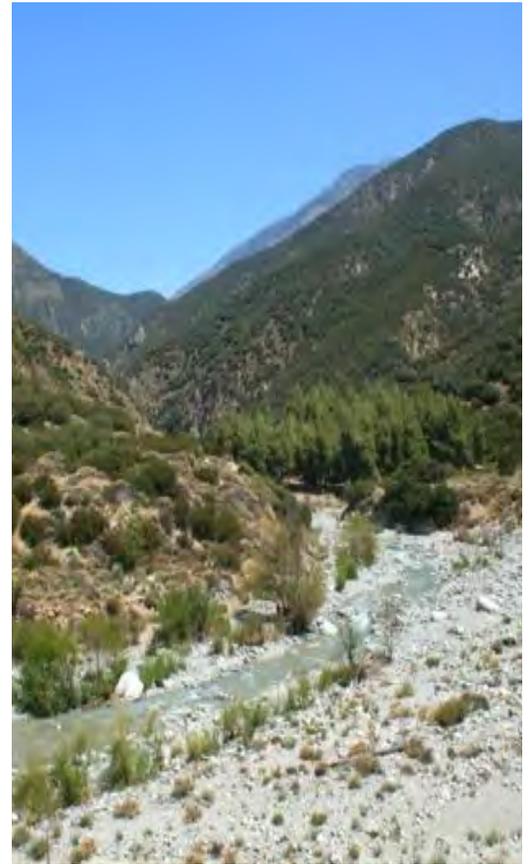
Once again it's the Holiday Season. The joyous and blissful festival of the holidays reminds us of beautiful moments and happy memories celebrated in the past, giving us another chance to relive them and create new ones. The Holiday Season also brings with it the time to stop and reflect on those things that have happened in the last year and be thankful for the things that went well.

We are thankful for our member agencies and the opportunity you give us to use our time to create moments of success for you, your agency, and the San Gabriel Valley. 2013 has been a year marked with significant change and success, and we owe this success to you and your trust and confidence in our abilities and the impact that we, as a Council of Governments working collaboratively, can have in our communities and on the region. We thrived because of your amazing dedication and the hard work and creativity of the SGVCOG staff and the staff of the member agencies who are committed to working collaboratively to address regional issues. I am personally grateful to you and all those who are actively involved for their tremendous efforts.

The Holiday Season is a personal time too. A time to reflect on what each of us has been allowed to achieve as part of a much bigger picture. However you choose to think of it, this is a time of reflection and thankfulness as we finish this year and plan for next year, in our best efforts to meet your expectations in 2014.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a rewarding, joyous new year! We look forward to our work together in 2014.

Andrea M. Miller
Executive Director



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