

**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors
AGENDA**

**Thursday, February 18, 2021
10:30 a.m.**

**No Location
Meeting will be Conducted Via Zoom**

SPECIAL NOTICE: VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE HAS DETERMINED THIS MEETING TO BE AN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC MEETING THAT WILL BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS N-29-20 AND N-33-20 AND VENTURA COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER'S ORDER

IN RESPONSE TO THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS, GOVERNOR NEWSOM HAS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED THE REQUIREMENT FOR LOCAL AGENCIES TO PROVIDE A PHYSICAL LOCATION FROM WHICH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN OBSERVE AND OFFER PUBLIC COMMENT AND HAS ORDERED ALL CALIFORNIANS TO STAY HOME EXCEPT AS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS OF CERTAIN CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

REGARDING MEETING PARTICIPATION:

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ACCESS THE MEETING TELEPHONICALLY, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO VCREA.ADMIN@VENTURA.ORG BY 5.00 PM THE DAY BEFORE THE MEETING AND ZOOM INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED.

REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENTS:

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE EITHER A GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT OR COMMENT ON A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM BEING HEARD, YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR COMMENT VIA EMAIL BY 9.00 AM THE DAY OF THE MEETING TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: VCREA.ADMIN@VENTURA.ORG. PLEASE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN YOUR EMAIL: (A) MEETING DATE, (B) AGENDA ITEM NUMBER, (C) SUBJECT OR TITLE OF THE ITEM, (D) YOUR FULL NAME. DURING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA ITEM SPECIFIED IN YOUR EMAIL, STAFF WILL READ ALOUD YOUR COMMENT FOR THE RECORD.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Staff

2. ROLL CALL

Kelly Cattanach

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW VCREA BOARD MEMBERS

5. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

6. MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 VCREA BOARD MEETING

Requested Action: Approve

7. AGENDA REVIEW

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

See Guidelines above

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

At this time members of the VCREA Board of Directors may comment on matters pertaining to VCREA

10. JAVIER SAUCEDO CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Requested Action: Approve

11. SERVICE RATES

Requested Action: Approve

12. 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

Requested Action: Approve

13. READY, SET, GO VENTURA COUNTY ELECTRIC VEHICLE PROJECT

Requested Action: Approve

14. PROGRAM UPDATE

Requested Action: Receive and File

15. GENERAL UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Potential Program Opportunities

Upcoming Programs and Activities

16. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

17. NEXT MEETING - TBD

18. ADJOURNMENT



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 6

Subject: Minutes from the September 17, 2020 Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Approve

Attachments:

1. Summary Minutes from the September 17, 2020 Board Meeting
-



Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

Action Minutes

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Board Meeting

September 17, 2020

10:30 a.m.

No Location- Zoom Meeting

1. Welcome/ Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Carmen Ramirez at 10:34 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present:

Carlos Juarez	City of Santa Paula
Scott Quady	Calleguas Municipal Water District-Alternate
Carmen Ramirez	City of Oxnard
Laura Hernandez	City of Port Hueneme
Jackie Moran	Ventura Unified School District
Mike Judge	City of Simi Valley
Linda Parks	County of Ventura
Lynn Edmonds	City of Fillmore
Christy Weir	City of Ventura

Not Present:

Ed Jones	City of Thousand Oaks
Bernardo Perez	Ventura County Community College District
Mark Austin	Ventura Regional Sanitation District

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Dr.Laki Tisopulos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Minutes from May 21, 2020 VCREA Board Meeting

Upon motion of Ms. Edmonds, seconded by Ms. Weir, the Board received and filed the Minutes of the May 21, 2020 meeting. Mr. Quady abstained.

5. Agenda Review

6. Public Comments

None Submitted

7. Board Member Comments

Ms. Parks shared that the Board of Supervisors adopted a new General Plan Update that includes a lot of measures focused on the environment and implementing such a plan will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and also push forward green energy solutions.

Mr. Juarez shared that the City of Santa Paula is moving forward with updating their lights to LEDs. Additionally, the city received a grant from the Air Pollution Control District to replace some of their gas-powered maintenance equipment to battery-powered equipment.

Ms. Ramirez shared information pertaining to the Clean Air Pledge and encouraged everyone to take action.

8. El Rio Battery Storage Facility Presentation

Will Mitchell, Vice President of Business Development from Strata Solar, presented on the El Rio Battery Storage Facility. Discussed was the local need, the competitive solicitation, project details and progress, health and safety aspects, as well as the benefits of such a facility. Questions were asked from the Board following the presentation and Mr. Mitchell addressed them.

9. 3C-REN Presentation

Ms. Telléz, VCREA Staff, provided an overview of the County's Tri-County Regional Energy Network (3C-REN) program. Presented was the purpose of 3C-REN and the programs offered.

10. Program Update

Heather Allen, VCREA staff, provided an overview and update on CALeVIP Project Area, Electric Vehicle Blueprint Phase 2, National Drive Electric Week, California Clean Air Day, Beacon Award Recipients, and recent Letters of Support.

Ms. Parks shared information about her Clean Air Day event efforts.

Information was provided in the agenda packet.

Upon motion of Ms. Weir, seconded by Ms. Moran, the Board received and filed the Program Update.

11. General Updates and Announcements

None

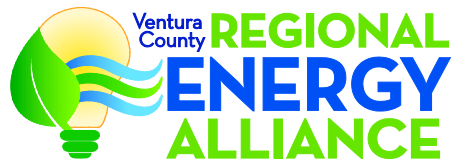
12. Items for Future Agendas

None

13. Next Meeting- Tentatively Scheduled for November 19, 2020

14. Adjournment

Chair Ramirez adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 10

Subject: Javier Saucedo Contract Amendment

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Approve

Attachments:

1. Javier Saucedo Contract Amendment
-

Ventura County Regional Energy
Alliance Amendment #9 for Consulting
Services

As per page 6, item 14 the Scope of Services is hereby amended as seen in Exhibit C that now replaces Exhibit A

Time is of the essence in the performance of this contract.

Continuation of the contract is subject to the appropriation of funds for such purpose by the VCREA Board of Directors. If funds to affect such continued payment are not appropriated, VCREA may terminate this project as thereby affected and Contractor will relieve the VCREA of any further obligation therefore.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Contract.

VCREA

CONTRACTOR

By: _____

By: _____

Sue Hughes

Luis Javier Saucedo

VCREA Executive Director

Contractor

Date: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit C

SCOPE OF WORK

VCREA recognizes the need to contract for project site analysis and technical assistance to develop introductory and in-depth strategies to position energy efficiency projects for public agencies, non-profit organizations and residential or commercial utility customers served throughout the region. This contractor has demonstrated expertise with energy efficiency contracts, energy efficiency installation programs and services for residential, municipal and commercial customers, and can add value to the VCREA and its various programs as funded through contracts, grants and utility ratepayer funds.

CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES/DELIVERABLES

Green Business Program

- Provide technical support to businesses wishing to enroll in Green Business Program including initial site visit, evaluation of energy consumption patterns and equipment operations as well and data collection.
- Assist businesses with the completion of the Green Business Certification Measures and rebate application.
- Support marketing and outreach efforts required to advance the Ventura County Green Business Program to all cities including unincorporated Ventura County to all commercial, small businesses and home-based businesses.
- Support marketing and outreach to Spanish-speaking business owners, communities of color as well as those businesses experiencing financial distress and disinvestment in the region.
- Recruit local manufacturing companies that supply green, recyclable or reusable options and connect them with businesses applying for Green Business certification.
- Engage, support and participate in Stakeholder outreach and partnership, including the California Green Business Network (CAGBN).
- Monitor and report Green Business participating businesses for emission reduction measures including water, wastewater, solid waste, pollution, transportation and energy as well as community strategies and initiatives.
- Provide support services to the CAGBN in meetings, strategy development, planning efforts or other services as deemed appropriate to the CAGBN

mission and its programs.

- Bring in utility support to provide additional resources, incentives and rebates to reduce energy costs to participating businesses including Southern California Gas and Southern California Edison.
- Update GreenBiz Tracker to report on success of program.
- Other duties as needed

Local Government Partnership

- Assist in the completion of utility reports and incentive documents.
- Provide support services to the VCREA staff in meetings, strategy development, planning efforts or other services as deemed appropriate to the VCREA mission and its programs.
- Support marketing and outreach efforts required to advance energy efficiency and utility program to residential and small business customers.
- Support marketing and outreach to Spanish speakers in the region
- Stakeholder outreach and partnership.

General Deliverables that advance VCREA' s Mission

- Provide technical support for project site surveys, energy consumption patterns and data collection from sites, and equipment operation at various sites.
- Stakeholder outreach, support and partnership.
- Emission reduction strategies and initiatives.
- Provide support services to the VCREA in meetings, strategy development, planning efforts or other services as deemed appropriate to the VCREA mission and its programs.

Grant Funded Deliverables

If any grant funding is managed by VCREA and the tasks and or deliverables for such grant fit the deliverables mentioned above. Javier Saucedo can be asked to

participate in those as long as full cost recovery is identified.

General and Administrative Tasks

- Meet weekly with VCREA staff
- Will follow all IT policies when using email and calendar of VCREA
- The Contractor will be responsible for providing a monthly invoice for services by the 5th of each month and will provide a monthly status report that includes dates of work, number of hours worked, and detailed description of task completed.
- Contract is month-to-month, based on the needs of VCREA and as funds are available.

COMPENSATION SCHEDULE

Contractor will be reimbursed at the rate of \$65 per hour.

Contractor will be reimbursed for travel at the rate of \$0.58 cents per mile.

Contractor compensation will not exceed \$35,000.

TERM

As per Amendment #8, the term of the Contract in effect from June 1, 2014 through December 31, 2020 subject to all the terms and conditions set forth; may, upon mutual agreement, be extended for additional one (1) year period. Contract is now in force through December 31, 2021.



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 11

Subject: Service Rates

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Approve

Attachments:

1. None
-

Approval of Service Rates is typically included in the adoption of VCREA’s Fiscal Year General and Administrative Budget process. However, with the Ready, Set, Go Ventura County Electric Vehicle Project to launch in March (Agenda Item #13), we are asking for approval at this time.

The positions listed below are currently available for use by the County of Ventura’s Sustainability Division however, utilization of such positions is dependent on available funding and staffing needs. Currently, three staff, in a part-time capacity, support the VCREA’s efforts.

It is recommended that your Board approve the following Service Rates for Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance’s supporting staff.

Position Title	Rate
Management Analyst II	\$146.36
Management Assistant IV-C	\$95.03
Program Admin I	\$97.59
Program Admin II	\$113.86
Program Admin III	\$125.46
Program Assistant	\$106.62
Program Management Analyst	\$175.09
Senior Program Admin	\$114.99
Student Worker	\$27.63
Snr Deputy Executive Officer	\$235.56



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 12

Subject: 2021 Meeting Schedule

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Approve

Attachments:

1. None
-

Historically, VCREA Board met four times a year. In 2017 there was a suggestion that the Board meet six times a year.

The following two VCREA Board meeting schedules are presented for your Board for consideration and approval.

Four Times Yearly

February 18, 2021

May 20, 2021

August 19, 2021

November 18, 2021

Six Times Yearly

February 18, 2021

April 15, 2021

June 17, 2021

August 19, 2021

October 21, 2021

December 16, 2021



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 13

Subject: Ready, Set, Go Ventura County Electric Vehicle Project

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Approve

Attachments:

1. Board Letter
-



VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE

800 South Victoria Avenue · Ventura, California 93009
(805)654-3874 vcreea.admin@ventura.org
www.vcenergy.org

A Joint Powers Authority to develop and implement sustainable energy.

February 18, 2021

Board of Directors
Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Delegate Authority to the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA) Executive Director to: Approve and Sign the Clean Transportation Program Grant Agreement with the California Energy Commission to Implement the Ventura County Electric Vehicle (EV) Ready Community Blueprint; Approve and Sign Contract with Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project (MICOP) to Implement the Community Electric Vanpool; Approve and Sign Contract(s) for Yet to Be Determined EV Coach(es); Approve and Sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Gold Coast Transit District to Implement the GOnow Microtransit Route; Approve and Sign MOU with City of Thousand Oaks to Implement the Electric Bus Accelerator Pilot Project; Approve and Sign MOU with County of Ventura General Services Agency to Implement the Electric Remote Motor Pool Expansion; and Manage and Administer the Ready, Set, Go Electric Ventura County Project

Recommendation:

It is recommended that your Board delegate authority to the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Executive Director to:

1. Approve and Sign the Clean Transportation Program Grant Agreement with the California Energy Commission to Implement the Ventura County Electric Vehicle Ready Community Blueprint.
2. Approve and Sign Contract with Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project to Implement the Community Electric Vanpool.
3. Approve and Sign Contract(s) for Yet to Be Determined EV Coach(es).
4. Approve and Sign Memorandum of Understanding with Gold Coast Transit District to Implement the GOnow Microtransit Route.
5. Approve and Sign Memorandum of Understanding with City of Thousand Oaks to Implement the Electric Bus Accelerator Pilot Project.
6. Approve and Sign Memorandum of Understanding with County of Ventura General Services Agency to Implement the Electric Remote Motor Pool Expansion.
7. Manage and Administer the Ready, Set, Go Electric Ventura County Project.

Fiscal Impacts:

Source of Funding: \$2.5 million in funding from the California Energy Commission's Clean Transportation Project Grant. To be distributed as follows:

- \$548,063 to VCREA
- \$99,960 to MICOP
- \$622,000 to Gold Coast Transit District
- \$177,087 to City of Thousand Oaks
- \$1,052,890 to County of Ventura General Services Agency

Funding Match Required: \$1,434,248 (36 percent) Total match share as follows:

- \$40,290 from VCREA
- \$37,350 from MICOP
- \$606,254 from Gold Coast Transit District
- \$427,087 from City of Thousand Oaks
- \$323,267 from County of Ventura General Services Agency

Discussion:

On October 23, 2020, VCREA applied for a Clean Transportation Program Grant to implement five projects described in the Ventura County EV Ready Blueprint. The Clean Transportation Program Grant solicitation was only open to previous recipients of the California Energy Commission's Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Grant (now called the Clean Transportation Program) to develop an EV Ready Community Blueprint. For the Southern California Region, VCREA competed against the County of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach for up to a \$2.5 million grant award.

The Ventura County EV Blueprint includes 49 implementation projects and has a goal to accelerate the deployment of electrified transportation within the Ventura County Region. VCREA staff engaged past EV Blueprint stakeholders for interest in submitting project proposals for the grant application. Seven stakeholders submitted project proposals. VCREA staff narrowed down the proposals to five projects that fit the Clean Transportation Grant criteria. VCREA staff worked with MICOP, Gold Coast Transit District, City of Thousand Oaks, and County General Services Agency to further refine the five project proposals included in the Ready, Set, Go Electric Ventura County EV Blueprint Implementation grant application. The five projects include:

- EV Coach: VCREA's proposal for a 3-year EV Coach to 1) increase EV access and adoption, especially at workplaces and among lower-income and disadvantaged households; 2) coordinate EV awareness activities including EV Ride and Drives and EV 101s; 3) provide EV and charging infrastructure related technical support including assistance with applying for incentives and rebates; 4) support development of local EV-focused workforce education and training at Ventura County Community College's Moorpark Campus; and 5) capacity building/support for electrified transportation-related grant opportunities.
- Community Electric Vanpool: Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project's (MICOP) proposal, with support from the EV Coach, to provide reliable and clean mobility services to state designated Low-income and Disadvantaged Community census tracts. MICOP staff will use a plug-in hybrid electric minivan to transport community program participants and community leaders to and from meetings, events, appointments, and activities. The proposal also includes the purchase and installation of a fully autonomous, transportable, solar powered EV ARC charging station and funding for MICOP staff to work with the EV Coach to develop multilingual resources and media campaigns to increase awareness of EVs.
- GOnow Microtransit: Gold Coast Transit District's proposal to accelerate the electrification of their public paratransit light-duty fleet by providing a new clean mobility solution with the

purchase of a light-duty electric bus to service state designated Low-income and Disadvantaged Community census tracts.

- Electric Bus Accelerator Pilot: City of Thousand Oaks' proposal to accelerate the electrification of a public transit fleet with the purchase of two light-duty electric buses.
- Electric Remote Motor Pool Expansion: County of Ventura General Services Agency Fleet Services' proposal to implement their Strategy for Electric Vehicle Transition by expanding EV offerings at three remote motor pool locations.

On January 8, 2021, the California Energy Commission posted the Notice of Proposed Awards outlining that VCREA was selected for the \$2.5 million grant. The total budget to implement the five projects included in the grant application is \$3,934,248 and includes a local match of \$1,434,248 (36 percent of the total project cost) provided by five project partners, as previously noted. The recommendation for approval of VCREA's grant agreement will be included in the Energy Commission's March 17, 2021, business meeting agenda. Once the grant agreement is approved, VCREA will begin work in late March on the three-year grant. VCREA will be the administrative lead and will manage the EV Coach, which could include one full-time or two part-time contract staff. MICOP, Gold Coast Transit District, City of Thousand Oaks, and County General Services Agency will implement their projects in coordination with VCREA staff.

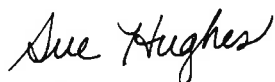
For these reasons it is recommended that your Board delegate authority to the VCREA Executive Director to approve and sign the Clean Transportation Program grant agreement; approve and sign a contract with MICOP; approve and sign Contract(s) for yet to be determined EV Coach(es); approve and sign MOU with Gold Coast Transit District; approve and sign MOU with City of Thousand Oaks; approve and sign MOU with County of Ventura General Services Agency; and manage and administer activities related to the Ready, Set, Go Electric Ventura County Project.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Heather Allen, Program Administrator, at (805) 654-2871.

Sincerely,



Heather Allen
Program Administrator



Sue Hughes
Executive Director



**Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance
Board of Directors**

Item 14

Subject: Program Update

Date: Thursday, February 18, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Receive and File

Attachments:

1. Program Update
 2. Upcoming Programs
-



VCREA Program Update

Electrified Transportation Updates

Electric School Buses

In 2019, two Ventura County school districts were awarded Energy Commission grants to purchase five new electric buses (eBuses) – two for Ocean View School District and three for Oxnard Union High School District. On January 26th, Ocean View School District's two eBuses were the first to arrive in the County.



Additionally, over the last two years Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has awarded grant funding for the purchase of additional eBuses - one for Moorpark Unified School District, two for Ventura Unified School District, two more for Ocean View School District, and one more for Oxnard Union High School District. All six buses are funded through the Community Air Protection Program. Ventura County APCD has also awarded accompanying grants to install the necessary charging infrastructure to go with each school bus.



Therefore, eleven aging diesel buses will be replaced by electric school buses, which have zero tailpipe emissions and will carry our students on a daily basis with less exposure to toxic fumes. Additionally, these eBuses will benefit the school districts as they cost less to maintain and to operate per mile.

As shown, green wheels and bumpers are mandated for electric school buses.

Energy Efficiency Updates

kWh Countdown Summary

[kWh Countdown](#) is a free energy audit and benchmarking pilot program for Ventura County businesses. Funding, in the amount of \$160,000, was provided by the California Energy Commission's Local Government Challenge Grant for VCREA to contract with TRC and Abraxas engineering firms to conduct ASHRAE Level II energy audits and solar analysis - when feasible, at no cost to local businesses.

The kWh Countdown pilot project is ending in March 2021 and is no longer taking applications as all grant funding has been earmarked. The table below summarizes the audits conducted, grouped by city, from January 2019 through January 2021:

kWh Countdown - Free Business Energy Audits		
City	Organization	Audit Cost
TO	Selvin Property	\$2,185.00
	Community Conscience	\$5,000.00
	Planned Parenthood - TO	\$5,600.00
	Regal Cinemas	\$5,212.47
	LBA Realty	\$12,739.37
Ventura	Key Investments, LLC- VTA	\$7,123.00
	Planned Parenthood - VTA	\$5,600.00
	Asian American Market	\$5,000.00
	Pierpont Racquet Club	\$5,600.00
	Community Memorial Hospital	\$1,115.00*
Fillmore	One Step a la Vez	~\$5,600.00**
Camarillo	Regal Cinemas - Camarillo	\$4,331.68
Simi Valley	Regal Cinemas - Simi Valley	\$3,948.79
	Vallarta – Simi Valley	~\$11,105.60**
Oxnard	Vallarta – A ST	~\$5,600.00**
	Vallarta – Vineyard	~\$9,568.96**
	Northrop Grumman - Astro Aerospace	~\$28,000.00**
Moorpark	Denny's	~\$5,000.00**
Lompoc	City of Lompoc Facilities	\$30,000.00

* Started energy audit work but audit was canceled due to pandemic.

** Awaiting final invoice.

Energy Action Plan Update

In 2017, VCREA was awarded funding from the California Energy Commission's Local Government Challenge Grant as well as Strategic Plan Program funding from Southern California Edison and Southern California Gas Company to develop Energy Action Plans (EAPs) for the cities of Ventura, Thousand Oaks, and Moorpark. VCREA, in partnership with Community Environmental Council and staff from the three cities are developing these EAPs to assist each City in planning for greenhouse gas emissions reductions associated with the generation and consumption of energy over the next ten years. The EAPs include goals, strategies, and actions for each City to plan for increased renewable energy development, energy conservation measures, energy efficiency implementation, and to increase the adoption of EVs. The strategies were developed to reduce community-wide emissions; however, the EAPs also include specific strategies to reduce emissions associated with City operations.

Additionally, the EAPs are intended to inform each City's General Plan Update and associated climate policies. Therefore, the EAPs include a comprehensive GHG inventory from a baseline year of 2010 and a

greenhouse gas emission forecast for 2030 by considering the following: 1) future growth projections under a business-as-usual scenario; 2) an adjusted business as usual scenario that represents projected emissions reductions due to federal and state legislative actions in addition to joining CPA; and 3) implementing the goals, strategies, and actions identified by the EAP.

All three EAPs will be completed in April 2021. Stayed tuned for a summary of the EAP efforts in early Summer 2021.

Holiday Light Exchange

VCREA hosted a Holiday Light Exchange in December 2020 in which more than 125 boxes of new LED light strands were distributed in exchange for approximately 145 incandescent light strands. The incandescent lights were taken to and recycled at the County's Pollution Prevention Center. Due to COVID restrictions, this event was a much smaller one than previous light exchange events. However, for those that did participate, they were "merry" to receive new energy efficient, cost-saving, and safer lights for the holidays!



Lights were provided with funding from the Local Government Partnership.

2020 Year in Review (attached)

Please check out VCREA's 2020 Year in Review for an overview of what we have been up to.

Support Letter (attached)

VCREA would like to share the following letter supporting electrified transportation efforts in our region:

To Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), on behalf of [Electric Drive 805](#), to support SBCAG and the Association of Monterey Bay Area of Governments' application to the Department of Transportation under the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program for the Central Coast Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy. VCREA, Ventura APCD, Ventura County Transportation Commission, Gold Coast Transit District, Port of Hueneme, and Naval Base Ventura are collaborating with SBCAG, AMBAG, and other regional partners to accelerate zero emission vehicle infrastructure.



Taking the lead addressing good energy stewardship and sustainability practices in the region.

Year in Review 2020

Board of Directors

City of Oxnard
Carmen Ramirez, Chair

County of Ventura
Linda Parks, Vice Chair

City of Fillmore
Lynn Edmonds

City of Port Hueneme
Laura Hernandez

City of Santa Paula
Carlos Juarez

City of Simi Valley
Mike Judge

City of Thousand Oaks
Ed Jones

City of Ventura
Erik Nasarenko

Calleguas Municipal Water
District
Scott Quady

Ventura County
Community College District
Bernardo Perez

Ventura Regional
Sanitation District
Mark Austin

Ventura Unified School
District
Jackie Moran

What We Have Been Up To



Local Government Partnership

Promoted energy efficiency services and resources to local governments, K-12, higher ed, and local businesses including outreach for SoCalGas trainings, energy audits, and free lighting retrofits.



Local Government Challenge Grant

Worked with three cities and Community Environmental Council to develop three Energy Action Plans and associated community outreach.



kWh Countdown

Collaborated with two engineering firms and Community Environmental Council to provide \$160,000 in energy audits at no costs to 20 local businesses.

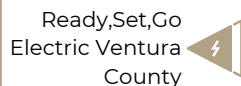


Transportation Electrification

Coordinated with Community Based Organizations, Air Pollution Districts, Clean Power Alliance, and cities to achieve a rapid, equitable transition to EVs.



Partnered with regional entities to bring ~\$13.5M in charging infrastructure incentives to the South Central Coast Region.



Submitted an Energy Commission grant for ~\$4M to implement five projects identified in the Ventura County EV Blueprint.



Participated on the Steering Committee to conduct multi-lingual EV outreach and advocate for Electrify America to development new charging infrastructure in the South Central Coast Region.



Hosted five online events to heighten awareness of the availability and benefit of EVs.



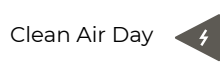
Home Energy Savings DIY Toolkit

Partnered with 3C-REN and local libraries throughout the Tri-County region to launch a DIY Home Energy Savings program that enables residents to checkout a toolkit that includes items to measure their home's energy use and install free energy and water saving devices to help them save money.

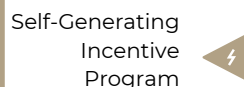


Solar and Battery Storage

Coordinated with Community Based Organizations, Clean Power Alliance, and Southern California Edison to support distributed energy resources.



Cohosted a Residential Solar and Battery Systems 101 webinar with Community Environmental Council.



Conducted extensive outreach for Energy Commission's battery storage incentives.

Ventura County Green Business

2020 Program Accomplishments

& Savings

45

Total Certifications

8

Total Recertifications

60

On Thier Way to Certification



More than 320,000 lbs of GHG emissions avoided



More than 472,000 kWh and 15,000 therms saved



Nearly 1.4 million gallons of water saved



More than 7 large garbage trucks worth of solid waste diverted from our landfills



FIND LOCAL CERTIFIED GREEN BUSINESSES AT

GREENBUSINESSCA.ORG

What We Do



Residents

Improve Energy Savings, Home Comfort and the Environment



Business

Provide solutions to Save Energy, Improve Efficiency, and Increase Profit Margins



Local Government

Support Public Agency Collaboration for Healthy and Sustainable Communities



Education and Special Districts

Assistance in Achieving Sustainability Goals

What We Have Been Up To Continued...

Strategic Planning



Developed community and municipal greenhouse gas inventories for three cities and reported annual benchmarking reports for municipal facilities as required by the Energy Commission's Building Energy Benchmarking Program.

Climate Adaption Initiatives



Participated as Vice Chair on the Central Coast Climate Collaborative's Steering Committee. Coordinated a meeting with Federal Agencies and municipal staff to discuss bringing Federal climate adaptation funding to Ventura County as well as help apply for grant funding to conduct multi-lingual outreach on climate impacts to hard-to-reach communities.

2020 Beacon Award Winners



Simi Valley Agency Energy Savings: Gold, 13%

Moorpark Community GHG Reductions: Silver, 7%

Ojai Sustainability Best Practices: Platinum

Ventura Community GHG Reductions: Silver, 9%

Thousand Oaks Agency GHG Reductions: Platinum, 20%

Participating Members



Funding Partners





air pollution control district
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



Air Pollution Control District
San Luis Obispo County



Ventura County
Air Pollution
Control District



February 8, 2021

Marjie Kirn, Executive Director
Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
260 N. San Antonio Rd., Suite B
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Subject: Support of the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and the Association of Monterey Bay Area of Governments' (AMBAG) Department of Transportation Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application for the Central Coast Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy.

Dear Mrs. Kirn:

I am writing to express Electric Drive 805's support of SBCAG and AMBAGs' application to the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program (Sustainable Communities) for the Central Coast Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy (CCZEVS).

The Electric Drive 805 coalition (formerly Plug-in Central Coast) is a partnership, formed in 2011, to encourage and support the adoption of zero emission vehicles and infrastructure. Electric Drive 805 partners coordinate efforts across San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties, which all share the 805 area code.

The CCZEVS application is a regional effort that builds upon previous zero emission and alternative fuel vehicle readiness planning efforts, several of which the Electric Drive 805 coalition has either led or participated in. This proposal seeks to identify gaps and opportunities to implement ZEV infrastructure on the Central Coast in areas such as Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito counties and specifically examines opportunities on or near the State Highway System, major freight corridors, and transit hubs. The objectives of the CCZEVS were closely coordinated with stakeholders including Central Coast Coalition member agencies from six regional transportation planning agencies and Metropolitan Planning Organizations within the Caltrans District 5 jurisdiction boundaries, air districts, transit agencies, central coast cities and counties, nongovernment organizations as well as other regional zero emission vehicle leaders.

The CCZEVS will continue the successful regional collaboration efforts to support and accelerate ZEV infrastructure, and will offer another tool to help residents, public transit agencies, local municipalities, and nongovernmental organizations accelerate ZEV infrastructure deployment throughout the Central Coast.

For these reasons, Electric Drive 805 strongly supports SBCAG and AMBAGs' Sustainable Communities grant application and urge your full consideration of their application.

Sincerely,

Members of the Electric Drive 805 Steering Committee:



Alex Economou
Coordinator
Central Coast Clean Cities Coalition (C5)



Tyler S. Harris
Supervising Air Quality Engineer
Ventura County Air Pollution Control District



Andy Mutziger
Planning, Monitoring & Grants Division Manager
San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District



Molly Pearson
Planning Division Manager
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District



Michael Chiacos
Director of Energy and Climate Programs
Community Environmental Council of Santa Barbara



Heather Allen
Program Administrator
Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

cc: Marjie Kirn, Executive Director, SBCAG
Pete Rodgers, Executive Director, SLOCOG
Maura Twomey, Executive Director, AMBAG
Guy Preston, Executive Director, SCCRTC
Mary Gilbert, Executive Director, SBCOG



VCREA Upcoming Programs

Electrified Transportation Upcoming Programs

California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project (CALeVIP)

The South Central Coast Incentive Project (SCCIP), is proposed to launch in the third quarter of 2021 and will be the 11th CALeVIP project. The Energy Commission has proposed to provide \$2,646,000 in rebates for Ventura County to support the project goals of installing 1,173 Level 2, and 20 Level 3 (DCFC) chargers. Ventura County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and Clean Power Alliance (CPA) have proposed to provide a combined total of approximately \$3,099,000 (subject to their Board approval) in additional funding for the three-year SCCIP.

The proposed SCCIP rebate levels are as follows:

- Level 2 Base Rebate—up to \$3,500 per connector or up to 75% of the total project cost, whichever is less.
- Level 2 MUD Adder—\$2,000 per connector.
- 50kW-99.9kW DCFC Base Rebate—up to \$30,000 per charger or up to 75% of the total project cost, whichever is less.
- 50kW-99.9kW DCFC DAC/LIC—up to \$40,000 per charger, or up to 75% of the total project cost, whichever is less.

Please contact VCREA staff if your agency is thinking about installing charging stations so we can provide additional information on available electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure incentives.

Drive Electric Earth Day

Drive Electric Earth Day ([DEED](#)) is a national campaign to promote EVs as better driving options for the environment, more fun to drive, more convenient to fuel, and less expensive to operate than gasoline vehicles. Plug-in America (PIA) and Southern California Edison (SCE) have microgrants available for online EV events for DEED. VCREA has received similar microgrants from PIA and SCE over the past two years for National Drive Electric Week (NDEW). Thus, VCREA would like to build upon the success of last September's NDEW events and apply to the current DEED grant. Our microgrant proposal includes hosting five online events during the week of April 19th through 23rd, with a special event planned for Earth Day on April 22nd. The proposed events are described below:

- **Monday 4/19: Evie McWheelie Contest** – VCREA, in partnership with interested teachers from Ventura County school districts, will launch an EV McWheelie coloring contest. All participating students will be entered to win ten \$10 gift cards.
- **Tuesday 4/20: EV 101 in English** – VCREA, EV Advocates of Ventura County, and Ventura County APCD will host a webinar providing an overview of EVs including available EVs and their range, charging options, and available incentives. There will also be a question and answer session with webinar hosts, including EV drivers and some local dealerships.
- **Wednesday 4/21: EV Permit Streamlining Webinar:** VCREA, in partnership Southern California Association of Governments and California Governor's Office of Business and Economic

Development (GO-Biz), will host a webinar focused on AB 1236 EV Permit Streamlining requirements.

- **Thursday/Earth Day 4/22: EV 101 in Spanish and Mixteco** – VCREA, in partnership with Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project (MICOP), Farmworker Resources Program, and EV Advocates of Ventura County, will host a webinar in Spanish and Mixteco to provide an overview of EVs including available EVs and their range, charging options, and available incentives. There will also be a question and answer session with webinar hosts, including EV drivers and some local dealerships.
- **Friday 4/23: EV Movie Night** – EV Movie Streaming Days – VCREA will email links to movies, TV shows, and YouTube videos that highlight EVs.

Lastly, VCREA is proposing to have additional raffle prizes for webinar participants and to provide EV toolkits to MICOP and the Farmworker Resources Program to distribute to the communities they represent. Please note, that the proposed events are subject to grant funding and the dates and partnerships may change. More information will be provided at the next VCREA Board meeting.

Energy and Water Efficiency Updates

Home Energy Savings DIY Toolkit

Since simple Do-It-Yourself (DIY) home improvements can help increase the energy efficiency of a home to make it more comfortable, affordable, and resilient, VCREA, 3C-REN, and Ventura County Library have partnered to launch a [Home Energy Savings DIY Toolkit](#) program. Each DIY kit includes tools to help measure a home's current energy use, along with helpful tips on ways to make homes more energy smart. These kits include free items to keep like LED lightbulbs, low-flow showerheads, and other items to help homes use less energy and water.

As of February 16, 2021, Ventura County residents can check out the DIY toolkits at [County libraries](#) and use the kit's free tools and supplies to complete home DIY projects. When finished, the kits can be returned to Ventura County libraries. The free DIY Home Energy Savings Toolkit will give residents the knowledge, tools, and equipment to improve their home with easy upgrades.