

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SBCCOG AIMS TO SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS WITH RESTAURANTS AND COMMERCIAL KITCHENS FOR CASH FOR KITCHENS PROGRAM

SOUTH BAY, CA (February 26, 2015) – The South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) is working with West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) in providing water-use efficiency program, Cash for Kitchens. This program is designed to provide water-use assessments, for restaurants, and commercial kitchens in West Basin's South Bay service area. Owners and managers of restaurants and commercial kitchens, including public agency, non-profit, corporate, and hotels are encouraged to call the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC) to schedule a Cash for Kitchens appointment.

The Cash for Kitchens program is free and has many benefits. Participants may qualify to receive free water-saving devices such as pre-rinse sprayers, a water broom, faucet aerators, and faucet flow control valves, along with information on rebates for ice machines and kitchen steamers. Participants will receive conservation training for staff. Restaurant staff is encouraged to participate in a survey after the appointment which also enters them into a drawing for prizes. Winners were selected last year, winning a Kindle Fire and other small prizes.

The Gas Company and Southern California Edison also partner with West Basin on the program offering access to more resources. Gas equipment is cleaned and calibrated by the Gas Company's Customer Service Technicians (CSTs). CSTs accompany SBCCOG staff on visits and are trained in best practices and impart information on rebates. Owners and/or managers that have kitchens needing lighting upgrades or other energy efficiency enhancements are referred to a Southern California Edison representative trained to assist them.

Owners and managers of restaurants and commercial kitchens are encouraged to call SBESC at (310) 371-4633 to schedule a Cash for Kitchens visit. Additional information is available at www.westbasin.org/C4K.

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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.

SBESC

The South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC) 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 CompanySM, Southern California Edison, West Basin Municipal Water District, City of Torrance Water Department, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Energy Upgrade California®. Visit www.sbesc.com for the latest activities, schedules and opportunities to participate in a greener South Bay.