SoCalREN 2020 Year in Review

SoCalREN agencies continued to achieve savings in 2020

In a year that posed myriad and unique challenges, SoCalREN agencies demonstrated leadership and created lasting impacts on Southern California communities. The graphic below summarizes overall program benefits to date since the programs launched in 2013.

Cumulative Impacts on Communities Served*

- 166 Agencies enrolled
- 1,190+ Job opportunities
- $120M+ Lifetime energy cost savings
- $413M+ Financing obtained
- 81M+ Annual kWh savings
- 131k Annual therm savings
- 2,280M+ Gallons of water
- 12,400+ Cars off the road

*Cumulative impacts based on first year energy savings and assumed benefits per kWh/therm reduced.

Photo: Cumulative impacts of SoCalREN Public Agency Programs projects, as of December 2020. Some savings/benefits for 2020 still pending CPUC verification.

SoCalREN’s public agency network gained 29 members in 2020

We are proud to welcome the following agencies to SoCalREN: City of Victorville, Newport-Mesa Unified School District, City of Lindsay, City of Farmersville, City of Adelanto, City of Woodlake, City of Tulare, City of Pico Rivera, City of Industry, City of Seal Beach, City of San Gabriel, City of Baldwin Park, City of Irwindale, East Orange County Water District, Hilton Creek Community Service District, City of Torrance, City of Hermosa Beach, June Lake Public Utilities District, City of Redondo Beach, Eastern Sierra Community Services District, City of Hawthorne, City of Rolling Hills Estates, City of Bishop, Colton Joint Unified School District, City of Bradbury, City of Westlake Village, City of Hanford, City of Bell, Irvine Unified School District.

In 2020 we expanded our network to 166 agencies, our largest increase in new agencies since 2016! This shows that even during an unconventional year, building resilient communities and tackling sustainability issues are still important to our California communities. We look forward to continuing working with everyone in 2021.
SoCalREN received 92% satisfaction rating

Thank you to the agencies who participated in our 2020 satisfaction survey for the valuable feedback on the benefits of SoCalREN and how we can improve our services. Key takeaways include:

- Agencies expressed high interest in support identifying and pursuing funding opportunities for energy efficiency projects;
- SoCalREN continues to be a highly effective third-party objective resource;
- Ongoing communication between agency Energy Champions and SoCalREN Project Managers is key.

We are always looking for opportunities to better serve public agencies. Have additional feedback you’d like to provide? Email us at info@socalren.org.

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Spotlight: Los Angeles County

Pictured: Centro Maravilla Service Center (Left), San Gabriel Valley Service Center (Right)

We’re starting 2021 off by celebrating a huge success for Los Angeles County. In November 2020, the County completed several energy efficiency upgrades at their Centro Maravilla and San Gabriel Valley Service Centers. These upgrades resulted in over $839,000 in lifetime cost savings! Since the project's inception in November of 2019, we’ve thoroughly enjoyed working with the County, which leveraged SoCalREN’s no-cost services through the Project Delivery Program and Metered Savings Program including comprehensive audits, technical specifications, design review, financial analysis, measurement and verification, and more.

These projects were pursued in an effort to meet the County’s ambitious goals related to sustainability and their Facility Reinvestment Program, which prioritize improvements to buildings that provide valuable public services to the Community. The projects were funded through Los Angeles County’s Facilities Reinvestment Program budget, which supports retrofits to the facilities in most need of upgrades. Savings generated from these projects will go back into the service centers, which provide the community with a range of health, educational, social, and recreational services.

Project Details:

- Average 42% reduction in energy and gas usage
- Measures upgraded: interior lighting controls, exterior lighting controls, HVAC zoning and controls, HVAC system replacement, constant air volume (CAV) to variable air volume (VAV) conversion
- $839,000+ lifetime cost savings
- Average measure estimated useful life: 13 years (Centro Maravilla) and 11 years (San Gabriel Valley)
- 378,000+ kWh in annual energy savings
- 6,300+ therms in annual gas savings
- Energy and gas savings equivalent to 65 cars taken off the road
- Project timeline: 1 year from audit through construction completion

To access the full case study and to read other stories like this, visit socalren.org/casestudies.
Faces of SoCalREN: Meet Mallory!

At SoCalREN, we have an impressive team implementing our energy efficiency services for public agencies. Faces of SoCalREN allows you to get to know the team behind the energy savings!

This month: Meet Mallory Schaefer, Project Coordinator

**Meet Mallory | Project Coordinator**

Describe your role at SoCalREN:
I work on the Engagement team for SoCalREN where I help engage and enroll new agencies into our energy saving programs! Within TEC, I also work on our Education & Training team, where I help create engaging energy curriculum and programs.

How did you get started in the sustainability field?
I worked to get my degree in Environmental and Sustainability Studies while simultaneously working in outdoor education, and that really propelled me into the career I have now. I have known for a long time that I wanted to work for an environmental non-profit and I feel very lucky that I am getting to follow that dream.

What is one of your favorite projects you’ve worked on so far?
Since I am not a native Californian, I love being able to do research on all of our agencies as we work to enroll them to gain a better understanding of each community. My favorite project so far has been Colton Joint Unified School District because the agency already had some projects in mind and it was exciting to see how we could help them realize those projects.

Recent Happenings

**Welcome to our Network! The Newest SoCalREN Public Agency Enrollments**

We are excited to welcome 3 new agencies to SoCalREN!

- City of Hanford
- City of Bell
- Irvine Unified School District

Each new enrollment is unique and adds to the diverse portfolio of public agencies that SoCalREN serves. Stay tuned as we welcome more public agencies in the near future! Interested in joining us? Click here to get started!

**Catch the Latest Webinar - Getting to Yes: Energy Efficiency Project Financing** *(December 8th)*

The recording for our latest Conversations with SoCalREN webinar is now in the network toolkit! We had an engaging and candid discussion with the City of Yorba Linda, Culver City and PFM about ‘getting to yes’ on financing energy efficiency projects. We recommend this webinar for any agency looking for insights into funding energy projects.

*Haven’t registered for our network toolkit yet? Eligible agencies can sign up today at socalren.org/join!*

**Energy Efficiency Twitter Chat with SGVCOG** *(December 2nd)*
Did you miss our latest Twitter Chat hosted by San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG)? We shared energy efficiency tips and experiences. Catch the conversation at SGVCOG’s Twitter or follow us on @SoCalREN so you don’t miss the next one!

Join the SoCalREN Public Agency Programs’ network to receive our toolkit with a resource library, tips to get started on energy efficiency, and an exclusive member web badge.

Join the Network

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