It's Better Together: Regional Collaboration to Advance Climate and Energy Initiatives

Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG)





"It's [Better] Together"

More effective
More efficient
Cost effective
Comprehensive
Holistic
Economical
Productive
Practical



Innovation

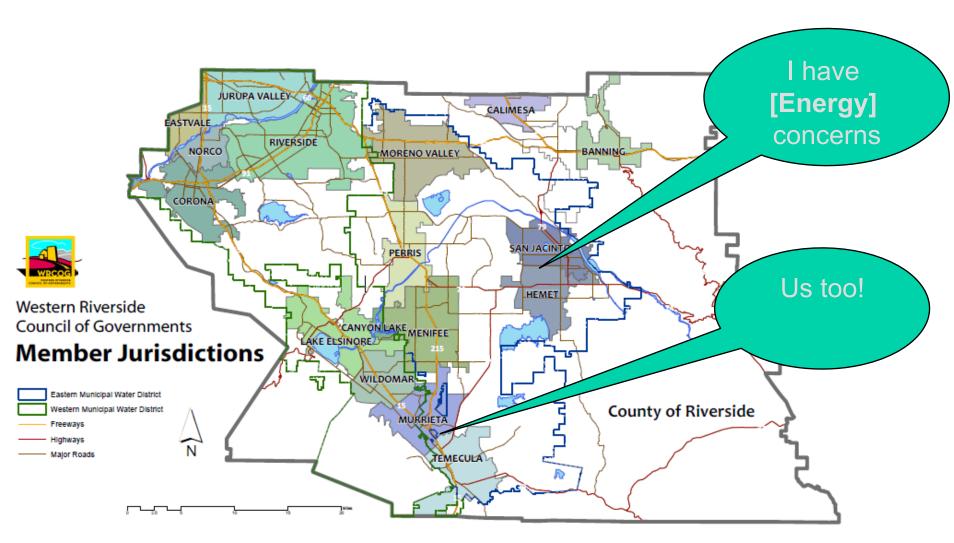
- Creativity is innovative
 - Creativity if also abundant
 - The wheel was invented in 3500-5000 B.C



Innovation

- Regional Collaboration
 - Transforms the wheel into something more...
 - Ideas become vehicles to deliver you to your goal





Notes: Areas in white are unincorporated Riverside County
Eastern Municipal Water District, Western Municipal Water District, and the Morongo Band of Mission Indians are also members of WRCOG. The Riverside County
Superintendent of Schools is an ex-oficio member.

Example: Regional Streetlight Program

- Streetlights are a high utility cost for jurisdictions
 - 63,000+ Utility-owned streetlights in WRCOG subregion
 - \$10,000,000+ in annual utility costs
 - 70 gWh = 70,000,000 kWh annual outdoor lighting usage

Program objectives:

- Assist the jurisdictions with streetlight system purchase
- Retrofit all lamps to LED
- Operate and manage all operations/maintenance through regional contract
- Support Smart-City future



What will the Regional Streetlight Program accomplish?

- 1 regional program vs. multiple (up to 16) separate similar programs
 - Administrative, operational, and maintenance cost efficiencies
- Reduction in jurisdictional utility bill costs
- Reduction in energy consumption
- Reduction in streetlight maintenance costs
 - Regional O&M opportunities
- Improvements for public safety
- Assists in meeting local and statewide energy and greenhouse gas goals
 - AB 32, SB 350, and local Energy Action Plan and Climate Action Plan goals

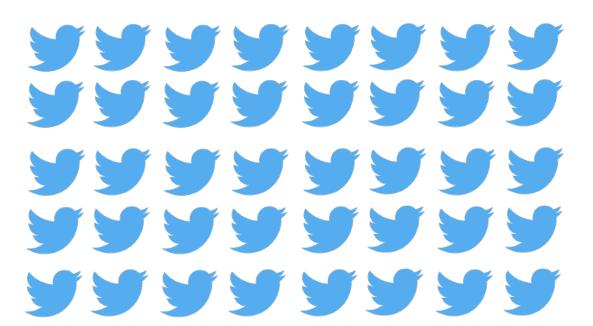
Benefits to regional collaboration

- Cost sharing
- Best practice / experience sharing
- "Two sets of eyes are better than one"



Example: Tri-COG CCA Study

- CVAG/SANBAG/WRCOG Regional CCA Study
 - Collective participation from 48 jurisdictions <u>DOES NOT</u> necessarily mean the price of a CCA Study is 48x more expensive than a single City Study
 - Two 48 birds, one stone







Example: Mid-Managers Association

- Subregional collaboration in Western Riverside County has always been important.
- The Cities of Lake Elsinore, Murrieta and Temecula developed a Mid-Managers Association to collaborate on items of similar importance.
 - Participation has increased to include most of Riverside County
- Have you ever find yourself writing an ordinance, standard, or researching items you have no expertise in?
 - If you answer is "I am an expert in everything"
- Keeping local talent ... local.



Opportunities to collaborate regionally

- Attend workshops and actively listen to others who have implemented projects that address concerns your area encounters
- Network
- Engage / create your regional entities
- Identify / use existing resources
- Bring an open mind to specific tasks
 - Energy efficiency can learn a lot from non-energy related projects
 - Outreach, funding, administrative, etc services are universal.

"Don't re-invent the wheel"

Just re-align, and perfect, it.

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