

SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

SEC VISION

The Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC) envisions a county with cities where local government and citizen choices/actions create a quality and sustainable environment such that:

- Water and air are clean;
- Land is productive and conserved for all uses;
- Natural resources are protected and utilized in a sustainable manner;
- Energy is renewable;
- People, plants, and animals thrive in a healthy and sustainable ecosystem;
- Neighborhoods are clean and healthy;
- Food is safe; and
- Residents can walk, bicycle, carpool, or ride public transit as their first choice of transportation.

The SEC defines sustainability as a characteristic of a process or activity that can be maintained indefinitely.

SEC MISSION

The SEC mission is to provide environmental leadership, assistance and analysis, and provide advice to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of Folsom, Galt, Isleton, and Sacramento. In this role, the SEC works with City and County agencies and strives to forward its vision of environmental quality, conservation, public health and environmental management, environmental justice and sustainability throughout the County. The SEC serves as the oversight and advisory body for the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD).

SEC HISTORY

The SEC was established in 1988 by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of Folsom, Galt, Isleton, and Sacramento. The ordinance establishing the SEC defines a broad charter that covers a range of environmental areas. In recent years the SEC has focused its efforts on working closely with the Sacramento EMD and its jurisdiction throughout the county. The SEC has undertaken programs ranging from review and analysis of specific projects to larger more comprehensive environmental policy reviews.

Specifically, the SEC has identified a series of environmental indicators that reflect environmental quality and trends and has produced an Environmental Health Report summarizing these indicators and their trends.

The SEC has rewarded individuals, organizations and industry that share in our vision and mission to make a positive contribution toward environmental quality and health. The SEC established the annual Environmental Recognition Awards in 1999 to recognize the accomplishments and leadership of those who have promoted a healthy and quality environment within the Sacramento Region.

WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY

SEC members come from within the jurisdictions in Sacramento County and have diverse backgrounds, frequently representing the areas of environmental law, community advocacy, environmental regulation, industry, and land use planning.

SEC AREAS OF INTEREST

The environmental industry sectors presented below are general areas of interest to the SEC and which the SEC is planning to focus their efforts in the coming years as they pertain to a sustainable Sacramento County.

The SEC monitors and reports on these industry sectors to the extent they impact the vision and mission of the SEC.

AREA	GOALS
Solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efforts by City and County agencies to increase recycling to beyond the state diversion mandate • Increase collaboration with the California State Integrated Waste Management Board • Monitor local landfill issues • Support long range planning to meet regional diversion and disposal needs • Support land use planning that establishes a sufficient buffer around the Kiefer Road Landfill • Support commercial recycling, construction and demolition material recycling, and food waste recycling programs • Support the reduction of green house gas emissions through enhanced waste management programs
Energy	<p>Increase SEC interaction with SMUD and PG&E.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efforts to increase energy efficiency and renewable where appropriate • Support Dark Skies advocacy
Air Quality/ Greenhouse Gases (GHG)	<p>Support efforts to improve air quality within the Sacramento region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efforts by local agencies to develop green house gas baselines and reduction plans
Community Planning	<p>Support efforts by the City and County planning departments to incorporate open space and conservation areas, where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support more open space in new developments • Support planning for conservation areas • Establish relationship with the planning commission • Support Superfund and Brownfields redevelopment efforts
Water Quality	<p>Support efforts by regional agencies to improve water quality in the Sacramento region.</p> <p>Support efforts by EMD's UST group to ensure groundwater impacts are meeting clean up goals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase contact and involvement with regional agencies involved with larger contaminated sites in the region • Support permitted well construction/destruction
Water Supply	<p>Support efforts by regional agencies to develop sustainable and reliable water supplies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support long range planning for water supply needs • Monitor agency actions related to water resources protection • Work with EMD to support small water system supply

Environmental Health	<p>Support efforts by EMD to assure safe food facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Green/Yellow/Red Placard Program • Support EMD's efforts to develop measurable program goals. • Support EMD's public pool program • Support hazardous materials programs • Support public health programs and initiatives
Pollution Prevention	<p>Work with local agencies to support pollution prevention within their operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticide runoff • County-wide storm water controls • Hazardous materials operations
Transportation	<p>Support efforts within the Sacramento region to provide a variety of mobility/transportation options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support regional transit long range planning • Support efforts to incorporate transportation planning into future land use planning
Environmental Justice	<p>Support efforts by City and County agencies to design and enforce environmental programs that are fair and equitable to all Sacramento area residents. (§65040.12) Government Code.</p>
Agriculture/Land Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support accessible parks and open spaces • Preserve prime farm land and critical habitat resources • Protect and restore urban and rural creek systems