



Community-driven Environmental Solutions in EPA's Pacific Southwest Region



Communities thrive when they receive both EPA program support and resources to generate community-driven solutions. These integrated efforts:

- Break down traditional EPA program silos to deliver creative services and streamline existing resources for communities.
- Leverage resources and expertise from across EPA and a range of outside partners to advance the environmental and health goals of communities.
- Make EPA more responsive and let communities set the agenda.



"EPA funding has helped Imperial Valley Child Asthma Program by providing the needed technical support, partnership and local representation for the advocacy of reduction of environmental triggers in our community."

*- Aide Fulton, Director,
Imperial Valley Child Asthma Program*

Imperial Valley

- Helped to continue vital asthma services by developing sustainable financing strategy for in-home asthma providers.
- Mitigated environmental asthma triggers by funding home visits for 175 low-income families of children with asthma.
- Supported the Imperial County Community Air Monitoring Project, a local citizen science effort, to make neighborhood-level air monitoring data publicly available by loaning meteorological stations.
- Trained local partner on EPA's Air Sensor Toolbox to support citizen science efforts.
- Funded California Air Resources Board to monitor air toxics from Salton Sea windblown dust.
- Built community capacity by providing diesel emissions reduction workshops and co-sponsored the 2015 and 2016 Environmental Health Leadership Summit.



Solar Plant on Ta'u Commissioned in 2016

"This resource is extremely valuable when applied to the science behind developing sustainable, affordable groundwater and lifting the Boil Water Notice."

- Tim Bodell, American Samoa EPA

American Samoa

- Reduced percentage of treated water that is lost from leaks or is not billed from as high as 73% down to 59%.
- Reprioritized millions of dollars in EPA funding for critical drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.
- Funded and conducted a Groundwater Exploration Plan to identify and prioritize new safe drinking water sources.
- Helped lift boil-water notices for over 6,500 residents by closing two contaminated drinking water wells.
- Assessed contamination at the former Rainmaker Hotel to inform redevelopment of the brownfield site and support economic development.
- Helped island of Ta'u reach 100% energy independence through public-private partnerships and federal funding.



Design Option for Las Vegas Complete Street

“EPA’s assistance has resulted in tangible change in Southern Nevada. Thanks to the support we received...we have been able to advance the conversation of transit-oriented development and why it is important to our region.”

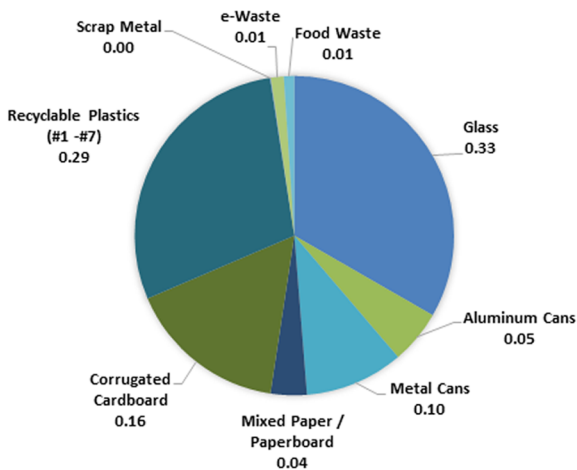
*- Tina Quigley, Executive Director,
Regional Transportation Commission
of Southern Nevada*

Las Vegas Valley

- Educated local partners on tools and strategies to implement transit-oriented development to reduce the environmental and health impacts of growth.
- Built local government capacity to overcome barriers to transit-oriented development and developed an action plan.
- Engaged local developers, housing stakeholders, and civic leaders to inform a transit-oriented development demonstration project.
- Provided designs and expertise to transform an underserved neighborhood’s main street into a green and complete street.
- Funding inventory[ing] and assessment, community engagement, and cleanup and reuse plans for brownfield sites.
- Worked to improve recycling rates by convening local leaders to assess needs and conducted a food waste characterization.

Gila River Indian Community

- Developed a Zero Waste Plan and Implementation Strategy that supports recycling, reuse, and reassessing the tribe’s waste management needs.
- Informed strategies to reduce diesel emissions in tribal fleets by conducting a workshop on the impacts of diesel particulates from the mobile and stationary industry sectors.
- Strengthened the tribe’s update of its green building codes by reviewing and making technical recommendations.
- Funded additional tribal environmental staff to develop, manage and implement community-based projects.



Data from tribe’s Zero Waste Plan: Non-Diverted Recyclables and Compostables (Tons/Year)

Gilroy

- Advanced redevelopment and economic development by conducting targeted brownfields assessments on two properties near the high speed rail alignment.
- Generated greater participation in the City’s public meetings by supporting outreach to the Spanish-speaking community.
- Convened HUD to provide technical assistance to address homelessness and housing issues.
- Facilitated additional state grant and state staff support for station-area planning outreach and visioning activities.



Future Site of High Speed Rail Station