**Beacon Program**

**Sample Staff Report for Adoption of Agency Resolution**

City/County of

**Memorandum**

DATE:

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT: Participation in the Institute for Local Government’s Beacon Program

**Recommendation**

That council adopt the attached resolution supporting the CITY/COUNTY’S participation in the Beacon Program.

**Summary & Discussion**

The Beacon Program is an established program of the Institute for Local Government (ILG), the nonprofit training and education affiliate of the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties and the California Special Districts Association.

The Beacon Program provides a framework for local agencies to implement and share best practices that create more vibrant and resilient communities. The program honors voluntary efforts by local governments to save energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adopt policies and programs that promote sustainability.

Beacon Program participants receive valuable support and encouragement from ILG to understand and apply sustainability best practices, collect and organize data to advance participants’ achievements within the program’s five areas of accomplishment. Within each area, the participant can earn Beacon Spotlight Awards based on level of achievement. To win a Beacon Vanguard Award, participants are required to demonstrate achievements in all five areas and adopt a climate action plan.

In addition to award recognition, participants receive monthly communications about innovative practices, funding opportunities, access to peer-to-peer networking opportunities and invitations to highlight sustainability leadership.

In order to participate in the Beacon Program, cities and counties must complete a simple application, adopt a resolution by the governing body committing the agency to participate in the program and designate a lead staff person as a point of contact.

Additional detailed information about the program can be found at [www.ca-ilg.org/beacon-program](http://www.ca-ilg.org/beacon-program)

**Background**

The CITY/COUNTY of has made great strides in addressing sustainability including:

* EXAMPLES:
* Completing three community GHG inventories
* Finishing a new Climate Action and Resiliency Plan
* Banning single-use plastic straws
* Updating the Zero Waste Implementation Plan

**Fiscal Impacts**

Program participation is voluntary. The program is designed to complement existing efforts of our energy and climate action plans which would translate to little or no fiscal impact. Participating in the program may increase the city’s competitiveness for future state or other grant funding.

**Action Required**

Adopt the attached Resolution approving participation in the Institute for Local Government’s Beacon Program.