

BEACON



SPOTLIGHT  
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE  
ACTIVITIES



# City of Cathedral City

## Sustainability Best Practice Activities




# City of Cathedral City

California communities are leading the fight against climate change. From small projects to large-scale programs, cities and counties are making great strides to create healthy, sustainable and economically prosperous communities. Participants in ILG's Beacon Program serve as leaders in this effort, making measureable contributions to reducing energy and greenhouse gas emissions, and sharing their sustainability best practices.

This document represents a collection of activities your agency has completed in 10 areas of sustainability. While local governments have a wide range of choices available to address climate change, these activities represent the unique opportunities and values in your community. These voluntary actions are essential to achieving California's goals to save energy, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and create more sustainable communities.

## SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Areas of Accomplishment		SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
	Agency GHG Reductions			
	Community GHG Reductions			
	Agency Energy Savings	2018 (8%)		
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2017		
	Beacon Award			

Cities and counties throughout the Golden State should be proud of the accomplishments made through the hard work, innovation and collective community action. The Institute for Local Government applauds your achievements and thanks you for your continued participation in the Beacon Program.

The Beacon Program is sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC). SEEC is an alliance between three statewide non-profit organizations and California's four Investor-Owned Utilities. The Beacon Program is funded by California utility ratepayers and administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison and Southern California Gas Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.





# Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities

## Silver

1. The city distributed energy-efficient light bulbs to residents for \$1 each at an event called "Buck a Bulb".

## Gold

## Platinum





# Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

## Silver

1. Cathedral City Watersmart Landscapes Grant Program was created to encourage and educate residents to be more responsible with water usage with their landscape.

## Gold

## Platinum





# Green Building Activities

## Silver

1. There are guidelines and a 12-step document on how to make new building designs more efficient and environmentally friendly.

## Gold

2. Clean Energy CV Upgrade is a program for financing building upgrades that are energy and water efficient.

## Platinum





# Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

## Silver

1. Re-usable bag program was something the city did for a while where they provided residents free re-usable grocery bags in order to help community members be more responsible. These bags reduce the amount of wasteful plastic and paper bags normally given out by grocery stores.

## Gold

## Platinum





# Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

## Silver

1. The city received a grant and it decided to use part of the money to purchase a Vector compressed natural gas (CNG) truck, which is used to clean sewer lines. This is an environmentally responsible purchase because vehicles that size generally are harmful to the environment if they are not CNG.

## Gold

2. The city has committed in their Energy Action Plan 2013 that they will continue to purchase vehicles that are energy efficient, plug in, hybrids, or natural gas running, even if they cost more money to purchase initially because they know that it will pay off in the long-run.
3. The city purchased two heavy duty natural gas vehicles and installed a CNG station with grant money totaling at \$225,000.

## Platinum





# Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

## Silver

1. With the help of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, the city upgraded the lighting and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems at its Civic Center and Library. These changes have reduced energy consumption in city buildings.

## Gold

## Platinum





# Efficient Transportation Activities

## Silver

1. Cathedral City is now the new home of a Tesla showroom and service station. These "green" cars energy efficient and do not run on gasoline.

## Gold

2. Cathedral City has implemented its first EV charging station (2 of them) that residents are able to use. The city also plans to build more in the future, but the two new stations were partially paid for by a grant that the city received.

## Platinum





# Land Use and Community Design Activities

## Silver

1. The city is proposing to redevelop two vacant lots where an Imax theater was in order to put in a two-block festival corridor in the downtown area. The development would feature two amphitheatres with stages, an outdoor art gallery, multi-use trails, and water and energy conservation exhibits.

## Gold

## Platinum





# Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

## Silver

1. The North City area of Cathedral City is a large portion of land that is home to many different types of wildlife and vegetation. Over half the North City area is allocated to open space in support of the regional preservation effort.

## Gold

## Platinum





# Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

## Silver

1. Cathedral City partnered with three private companies to create an energy efficiency program called Community Energy Partnership. Through this partnership the city was able to distribute hundreds of energy-efficient fans to residents, go door to door in order to educate community members, and focus on helping individuals living in low-income areas.

## Gold

2. The city has also partnered with the Energy Coalition in order to complete activities such as home building envelope tune-ups, halogen torchiere exchanges, and CFL giveaways.

## Platinum







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