

PLATINUM LEVEL AWARD WINNER

BEACON
SPOTLIGHT
AWARD
WINNER
BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Moorpark

Sustainability Best Practices Activities



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About This Document

This document tracks and shares local agency best practice activities completed and counted as part of a city or county's participation in the climate change and sustainability recognition program, the Beacon Program. The Beacon Program is a statewide program recognizing cities and counties that are working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and adopt policies and programs that promote sustainability.

The Beacon Program is sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative. The Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) provides support to cities and counties to help them reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy. SEEC is an alliance between three statewide non-profit organizations and California's four Investor-Owned Utilities. It builds upon the unique resources, expertise and local agency relationships of each partner.



Supporting California local governments

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.



SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Areas of Accomplishment

	SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Agency GHG Reductions			
Community GHG Reductions			
Agency Energy Savings		12%	
Natural Gas Savings			
Sustainability Best Practice Activities			2017





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2013, the city completed an Integrated demand side management audit of all eligible facilities that use more than 200kW. As a result of the audit, the city installed a new energy efficient roof at the community center and Arroyo Vista Recreation Center.	2016

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2012, the city implemented a community initiative to increase residential and commercial energy efficiency through retrofitting, weatherization, and replacing equipment and appliances. The city participates in the Southern California Edison's Energy Leader Partnership and has attained the Silver Level Tier. The partnership assists with identifying and addressing energy efficiency opportunities in municipal facilities and pays increased incentives for city energy efficiency projects. 	2016

Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2013, Campus Park, the Police Services Center and Poindexter Park received lighting retrofits. The retrofits consist of replacing all park and parking lot lighting with energy efficient LED luminaires. Since 2014, the city has offered emPower Central Coast and CaliforniaFIRST as energy financing programs for residential property owners. Please see the following link for more information: www.moorparkca.gov/622/Lower-Your-Utility-Bills. The city completed retro-commissioning studies for several agency buildings to ensure they are operating as designed and installed. The studies resulted in replacing nine HVAC units at the community center and administrative buildings. 	2016





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city replaced 62 existing irrigation controllers at city parks with WeatherTRAK ET Pro2 irrigation controllers. WeatherTRAK controllers receive real time weather and evapotranspiration data via HydroPoint's system software and adjust irrigation schedules on a daily basis to reduce overall irrigation water consumption. This action will reduce irrigation water use by over 16 percent.	2016

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city replaced 10 percent of turf areas with bark mulch and replaced planting areas with drought tolerant materials thereby reducing the city's irrigation water use by 15 percent. 2. The city's zoning ordinance contains a standard development condition, which requires the use of reclaimed water for landscape areas, when available, subject to the approval of the community development director, the city engineer/public works director and Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1. 	2016

Level	Water and Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. The city participates in the emPower Central Coast program. emPower Central Coast provides free faucet aerators and water-efficient shower heads to residents during Energy Coach site visits as well as community events. The faucet aerators and low-flow shower heads are provided by Southern California Gas Company.	2016





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water and Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
<p>Platinum</p>	<p>2. In 2013, staff coordinated a demonstration project consisting of native, drought landscaping on Tierra Rejada Road, within the property owned by Southern California Edison (SCE). The result is a meadow of native grasses and shrubs specifically chosen to compliment the meadow appearance of the streetscape on Tierra Rejada Road. Since the plant material was installed, staff has had an opportunity to monitor the plant types and has found that they have established well, with minimal water and maintenance. Due to the success of the project, in 2014 the Moorpark City Council approved a project along the north side of Tierra Rejada Road, from the SCE property to Walnut Creek. The project includes the same plant types installed within the SCE property, which primarily consists of Carex pansa (Meadow Sedge) - a low growing bunch grass native to central California, and Rhamnus Californica (Coffee Berry) - a mid-height shrub native to the California foothill regions. The project includes retrofitting the existing irrigation system with low precipitation spray nozzles and installing bubblers at each of the remaining healthy Sequoia trees to supplement their water needs. Staff estimates a 50% reduction in water use based on the type of California native plant material and the installation of the low volume irrigation system. The city also provided information on drought tolerant gardens in their Spring 2016 city newsletter, https://www.moorparkca.gov/374/City-of-Moorpark-Newsletter.</p> <p>3. In 2011, the city initiated a bi-annual bark mulching program for both city parks and landscape maintenance districts. Bark mulch has been applied to over 15 acres of planting areas. The city anticipates a 2.5 percent reduction in irrigation water use, which is equivalent to approximately 826,608 gallons/year and a reduction in maintenance activities, such as weeding, fertilization, and a reduction in the use of chemical herbicides.</p>	<p>2016</p>





Green Building Activity

Level	Green Building Activity	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city has completed two projects that incorporate sustainable construction techniques and practices. First, the Moorpark Police Services Center exceeds Title 24 Standards by 10 percent through incorporating elements of smart design, including utilizing recycled and local building materials. The second project constructed is the Ruben Castro Human Services Center. The Services Center includes reflective roofing materials, skylights, low-e windows, and drought tolerant landscaping. 	2016

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city has a practice to seek LEED certification for all future facility construction projects. For example, in 2014 the city's civic center was certified LEED Platinum. The civic center features solar panels, stormwater retention areas, and utilizes recycle and local materials. The Architect's agreement for the new city hall project also includes a provision to obtain LEED certification. 2. The recreational trail improvements at Arroyo Vista Community Park have been designed to incorporate pervious concrete in the parking lot and pervious asphalt for the bike trail to enhance groundwater replenishment. The project will serve as a test to see how these types of pavements perform over time. It will be one step in the evaluation to require the use pervious materials in new private and public projects. 	2016





Green Building Activity

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="345 537 1253 856">1. The city has participated in the emPower Central Coast Program since 2014. The emPower Programs includes an Energy Coach service where coaches spend up to two hours with a homeowner at their residence providing them with information on green building techniques and recommendations to improve their home's energy efficiency. The emPower Program also works with contractors to provide them with training on green building techniques. Please see the following link for more information: www.empowersbc.org/its-easy-get-started/energy-advice. <li data-bbox="345 863 1253 1037">2. The emPower Central Coast Program has teamed up with the statewide Energy Upgrade California program to provide homeowners with increased utility rebates for implementing energy efficient upgrades. Please see the following link for more information on emPower's rebate program: www.empowersbc.org/about-program. <li data-bbox="345 1043 1253 1257">3. The city is a participating member of the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA). VCREA offers utility sponsored quarterly green building standards trainings to staff from member agencies. These trainings include but are not limited to updates to Title 24, benchmarking, and HVAC trainings. Please see the following link for more information: www.vcenergy.org/newsevents/upcomingevents.html. 	2016





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city provides a residential composting program, which offers Earth Machine home compost bins for a discounted price and composting educational materials. Between 2012 and 2013, 44 home composting bins were delivered to city residents. Please see the following link for additional information on the city's composting program: www.moorparkca.gov/156/Compost-Mulch-and-Grasscycling .	2016

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Gold	1. In 2010, the city implemented a new Construction and Demolition Materials Management Plan (C&D Plan) Program to require contractors for certain construction and all demolition projects to file a C&D Plan Deposit with the city. Documentation filed with the C&D Plan Deposit is submitted by the contractor to identify any construction debris that is expected to be recycled. Upon completion of the project, contractors file for a C&D Plan Deposit refund. The objective to this C&D Plan is to provide the city with a measureable and comprehensive evaluation of diverted construction debris. The city can now state, with confidence and documentation (gate tickets or weight receipts identifying diverted material and the weight of the diverted material) the amount of construction material diverted from landfills. 2. The city holds household hazardous waste (HHW), electronic waste, universal waste, and paper shredding collection events. These events are held throughout the year to provide a location for residents to take their hazardous, electronic and universal waste.	2016





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="342 516 1265 621">1. The city's website provides information to residents about how to stop receiving unwanted junk mail, www.moorparkca.gov/175/Reduce-Junk-Mail.<li data-bbox="342 625 1265 873">2. The City of Moorpark's Resolution 2012-3091 contains Policy 7.7: Waste Reduction and Recycled Content Product Procurement Practices, is distributed to all city employees. Policy 7.7 asks that all city employees to adopt sustainability practices at their workplaces such as reduce energy usage, practice waste reduction techniques, and minimize use of disposables. For more than ten years, city employees have been recycling paper waste at their desk.<li data-bbox="342 877 1265 947">3. The city includes information about recycling opportunities on the agency's website, https://www.moorparkca.gov/469/Recycling.	2016





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activity

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The City of Moorpark's Resolution 2012-3091 contains Policy 7.7: Waste Reduction and Recycled Content Product Procurement Practices, which directs that the city to purchase reuseable, recyclable, and recycled products whenever possible.	2016

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy 7.7 calls for all departments to review their purchasing practices and encourages the practice of not purchasing new materials, such as office supplies and furniture, through the reuse of existing items in surplus when appropriate and feasible. 2. Achievements relating to Policy 7.7 are reported to the City of Moorpark City Council on an bi-annual basis as part of the city's Sustainability Report. The bi-annual Sustainability Report is also posted on the city's website, www.moorparkca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2265. 	2016

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city considers efficient transportation methods when purchasing goods and services, such as using local vendors and or locally produced goods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. 2. The city has reviewed current purchasing practices to identify possible green procurement opportunities. 3. The city considers life cycle pricing to ensure that the maintenance, operating, insurance, disposal, and replacement cost of producers or services are considered when evaluating purchase options. 	2016





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activity

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city converted four city buses from diesel to CNG fuel. As a result, the city trained agency fleet mechanics to service alternative fuel vehicles.	2016

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city has a policy to replace city vehicles, where feasible, with alternative fuel or hybrid vehicles. For example, the city has leased an electrical vehicle to determine if such a vehicle is a feasible choice for city use. 2. In 2013, the city installed four electric vehicle charging station at various locations in the downtown area of Moorpark. Two stations are located at the Metrolink Station, one station was installed at the post office parking lot on High Street, and the last station was installed at the civic center parking lot. 	2016

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city has installed bicycle racks, and other amenities at agency facilities to promote bicycle use by agency employees and visitors. 2. The city has consolidated offices that community members often visit at the same time (such as building permitting and environmental health permitting) to reduce vehicle miles traveled. 3. City staff have planned various bike routes, trails, and sidewalks throughout the City of Moorpark. The City has secured funding for adding bike lanes to Princeton Avenue, the Arroyo Vista Recreation Center sidewalk/bike path from the pedestrian bridge to the park entrance, and sidewalk/accessibility improvements at the civic center. Funds have also been secured to design a bike lane/pedestrian sidewalk from Collins Drive to the Simi Valley city limit. Additionally, the city has planned for eight future projects that include installing bike lanes, feasibility studies for pedestrian bridges, new sidewalks, and trails. 	2016





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city established a Traffic System Management (TSM) Fund in 2004. The TSM Fund collects fees from projects that exceed Federal, State, and local air quality regulations. The TSM Fund includes six categories for expenditures: bicycle facilities, trails, transit, alternative fuel vehicles, building technology, and administrative. Since 2004, the TSM Fund has been used to help install bus turnouts and shelters, purchase three hybrid vehicles, fund trail studies, and help fund the Moorpark Transit System and associated use of CNG fuel.	2016

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City Council Policies Resolution 2012-3091, Policy 7.8 requires use of rubberized asphalt in all new street construction projects. The city uses Asphalt Rubber Aggregate Membrane (ARAM) which is a rubberized asphalt sealing treatment using recycled tires. ARAM is used under a slurry seal or asphalt top coat. Recycled asphalt and concrete are used in road base and new asphalt pavement. Recycled scrap tires are also used in asphalt pavement. Since 2007, the city has placed 26 miles of rubberized asphalt resulting in diversion of approximately 50,000 scrap tires from landfills. The city has also placed 17 miles of ARAM, diverting 10,500 tires from the landfill. 2. In 2008, the city completed installation of two Traffic Signal Synchronization systems on two of the city's main thoroughfares, Los Angeles Avenue and Tierra Rejada Road. A total of 21 new signals were installed, which increased the average speed and decreased the number of stops on both thoroughfares. 	2016

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. The city has installed a roundabout in lieu of a signalized intersection as a way to improve traffic flow, reduce accidents, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	2016





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Since 2005, the city has required the develop of six multi-use trails at Meridian Hills, Spring Road, Ridgecrest Drive, Grimes Canyon Road and Championship Drive, Serenata, and Moorpark Highlands through development agreements.3. To increase Moorpark Transit ridership, the city established Saturday service and extended service from 6 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday to 5 am to 8 pm, Monday through Friday.	2016





Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activity	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city participated in Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) development of the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), in compliance with SB 375. The addition of the sustainable communities strategy to the RTP means that the RTP now integrates not only transportation and land-use planning, but also housing and environmental planning with the goal of reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions. The city uses the RTP/SCS when conducting its own transportation, land use, and environmental planning to assist in efforts to reduce regional greenhouse gas emissions. 	2016

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the general plan housing element update, the city identified potential infill development sites, and maintains a community-wide database of vacant and underutilized infill sites to monitor the community's growth and change. Since 2014, the city has offered CaliforniaFIRST program as an energy financing program for commercial industrial and multifamily property owners to install energy efficient retrofits, solar photovoltaic, or hot water systems on new or existing residential and commercial buildings. Please see the following link for more information: www.moorparkca.gov/622/Lower-Your-Utility-Bills 	2016

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city has reviewed zoning codes and development policies to identify changes that could improve implementation of land use and transportation policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Policy 5.3 of the city's Land Use Element requires proposed residential, commercial, and industrial developments to include bikeways in their street improvement plans, consistent with the City's Circulation Element Bikeway Network Plan, and to construct the bicycle paths, or lanes, or routes as a condition of project approval: https://www.moorparkca.gov/212/General-Plan. Policy 5.6 of the city's Land Use Element requires bicycle racks and encourages the installation of storage facilities at new or modified public, commercial, and industrial building sites. 	2017





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Silver	1. The city offers a container gardening class at the Active Adult Center on the third Thursday of the month.	2016

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city implemented a program to demonstrate the importance of urban waterways to school aged children. The program is funded by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife through the summer camp program at the Arroyo Vista Recreation Center. The program includes a native landscaping component where the children will learn about the different types of native landscape plants and learn hands-on how to plant and manage these types of landscapes. 2. The city is preparing a master plan for Monte Vista Nature Park to include drought tolerant demonstration gardens, walkways and seating areas. The city plans to remove all the non-native landscape material within the park over the next three years and prepare a comprehensive plan of the entire park so that volunteer organizations, such as the Boy Scouts of America, can install portions of the park in phases. It is the intent that this park will showcase a wide range of native plant types with identification and interpretative signage. 	2016

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city maintains a tree inventory for all trees owned by the City of Moorpark. In 2013, 234 additional trees were added throughout the city. The city also diverts 350 tons of green waste annually from tree maintenance services to the landfill by recycling woodchips for use in city planters. Also in 2013, the city provided 100 Afghan Pine trees to Moorpark residents during the Arbor Day celebration. 2. In 2014, the city completed the Urban Forest Management Plan for all city trees. The plan provides a vision and mission statement, current status of our urban forest and information on the overall management of our current tree population. 3. The city has been awarded Tree City USA status several years in a row and the National Arbor Day Foundation has presented the City of Moorpark with the tree growth award in recognition of the city's commitment to the environment and urban forest work. 	2016





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Silver	1. The city's website, government channel, and publications include sustainability information. The sustainability section of the website is updated with new information relevant to the City of Moorpark as it is received. City departments that have implemented conservation measures are also encouraged to submit articles for the city newsletter to keep residents informed of actions the city is taking to conserve natural resources.	2016

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city participates in the emPower Central Coast Program, which provides LED lightbulbs, reusable bags, and other give-away items at community events in Moorpark to encourage environmental responsibility. 2. The city participates in California Coastal Clean-up Day, which is held on the third Saturday of September. Volunteers are educated on the importance of recycling and sustainability. 	2016

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city distributes maps showing the community bicycle and walking trail systems to encourage reduction of vehicle miles traveled. 2. The city collaborates with other local government agencies to share information about climate change and best practices to reduce greenhouse gases. For example, the city participates on an advisory working group for implementing a community choice aggregation program in Ventura County. 3. The city hosts numerous events throughout the year that highlight and promote sustainability programs, such as e-waste collections, plant a tree events, and bike to work day. 	2016





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