

**TOWN OF
APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

AGENDA MATTER

Subject Item:

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION PROGRAM, THE BEACON AWARD: LOCAL LEADERSHIP TOWARD SOLVING CLIMATE CHANGE.

Summary Statement:

The Beacon Award: Local Leadership toward Solving Climate Change is a newly established program of the Institute for Local Government (ILG) recognizing and celebrating cities and counties that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy use; adopt policies and programs to address climate change; and promote sustainability. ILG is the non-profit research and education affiliate of the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties.

In order to participate in the Beacon Award, cities or counties complete an application and perform the following actions, several of which the Town has already accomplished:

- Adopt a resolution by the governing body committing the agency to participate in the program;
- Designate a lead staff person as a point of contact;
- Prepare, or commit to prepare, a baseline greenhouse gas emissions inventory for agency facilities and the community as a whole (previously completed inventories using a commonly accepted methodology will be accepted);
- Prepare, or commit to prepare, a climate action plan that includes actions in each of the Best Practice Areas (previously completed plans using a commonly accepted methodology will be accepted);
- Demonstrate compliance with AB 939, the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989; and
- Achieve specified measurable greenhouse gas reductions and energy savings in agency facilities, and achieve measurable greenhouse gas reductions and promote energy conservation activities in the community.

Recommended Action:

Adopt Resolution No. 2011-05 and direct staff to complete application to participate in the Beacon Award program.

Proposed by Diana McKeen **Item Number** _____

T. M. Approval: _____ **Budgeted Item** Yes No N/A

Town Council Meeting: 2/8/11

16-1

Participating cities and counties will be recognized with Silver, Gold and Platinum Beacon Award for achieving specified measurable reductions. The program will also recognize participants for interim accomplishments.

The 10 Best Practice Areas referenced are from ILG's California Climate Action Network's Best Practices Framework which offers suggestions for action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in each of the areas, for both agency facilities and the community at large. The ten Best Practice Areas are:

1. Energy Efficiency & Conservation
2. Water & Wastewater Systems
3. Green Building
4. Waste Reduction & Recycling
5. Climate-Friendly Purchasing
6. Renewable Energy & Low-Carbon Fuels
7. Efficient Transportation
8. Land Use & Community Design
9. Open Space & Offsetting Carbon Emission
10. Promoting Community & Individual Action

Once a city is accepted as a Beacon Award participant, it works towards achieving one or more of the three award levels at its own pace. There is no deadline or timeline for meeting award level criteria; awards will be given out on an ongoing basis. Participants will be asked to provide periodic information about their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy and as well as progress in completing a greenhouse gas inventory, climate action plan and undertaking activities in the 10 best practice areas.

Participants will receive special recognition at League of California Cities and California State Association of Counties events, be highlighted on the Beacon Award website, and receive certificates and other materials to display in agency facilities. They may also receive other appropriate and visible public tributes acknowledging their accomplishments.

Participating in the Beacon Award program will increase the Town's visibility within our region and statewide. It is an opportunity for the Town to showcase its accomplishments to promote sustainability and save energy, even while we are working towards one of the three award levels. Further, participating in the program may increase the Town's competitiveness for future state or other grant funding.

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION PROGRAM, THE BEACON AWARD: LOCAL LEADERSHIP TOWARD SOLVING CLIMATE CHANGE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Apple Valley has undertaken many policies, programs and activities to save energy, reduce waste and reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions and; and

WHEREAS, these policies, programs and activities conserve natural resources, save energy and money, and promote sustainable land use and transportation planning in the community; and

WHEREAS, cities and counties statewide are leading by example by adopting innovative sustainability programs and policies, including working with community residents, business groups and others; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Apple Valley has already conducted a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and adopted a Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Apple Valley wishes to expand these activities, share its experiences with other communities, and be recognized for its accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the Beacon Award: Local Leadership Toward Solving Climate Change is a voluntary program of the Institute for Local Government, the non-profit research and education affiliate of the California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities; and

WHEREAS, participating in the Beacon Award is an opportunity for the Town of Apple Valley to be recognized for its efforts to promote sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Apple Valley agrees to participate in the Beacon Award: Local Leadership toward Solving Climate Change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Apple Valley will work towards achieving the Silver, Gold and/or Platinum Beacon Award level as best serves its residents.

The foregoing resolution was passed by the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley this 8th day of February, 2011.

Scott Nassif, Mayor

ATTEST:

LaVonda M-Pearson, Town Clerk

Town Council Meeting: 2/8/11

16-3