

Best Practice Activities & Accomplishments to Date

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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 the climate change and sustainability recognition program, the Beacon Award: Local Leadership toward Solving Climate Change. The Beacon Award 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 Award 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.

















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Best Practice Activities www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanRafael



1. Energy Efficiency & Conservation

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	1. Converted traffic signals to LEDs.	07-2011
Gold	 Converted signature downtown "twinkle lights" to LEDs. 	07-2011
	2. Performed energy audits of city facilities.	07-2011
Platinum	Implemented City Hall lighting retrofit.	07-2011
	2. Implementing City Hall HVAC replacement.	07-2011
	3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities

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2. Water & Wastewater Systems

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Audited city facilities for water use and will be implementing upgrades 	07-2011
Gold	Gold 1. Required dual plumbing for reclaimed water in Northgate Mall renovation and in an 82-unit condominium project.	
	Adopted a Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance in partnership with local water district.	07-2011
Platinum	1. TBD 2. TBD 3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities

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3. Green Building

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Adopted green building ordinance - one of the most stringent in the nation. 	07-2011
Gold	 Facilitated collaborative process with building trades and community organizations to create a model green building ordinance which has been adopted by four Marin jurisdictions. 	
	2. Require home performance audits for any residential remodel exceeding \$50,000 in valuation.	07-2011
Platinum	1. TBD2. TBD3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanRafael



4. Waste Reduction & Recycling

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Initiated a curbside residential composting program. 	07-2011
Gold	In the process of creating a mandatory multi-family and commercial recycling ordinance.	
	2. Adopted zero-waste resolution.	07-2011
Platinum	1. Conducted a waste audit of city facilities.	
	 Facilitated a collaborative process with local businesses and community organizations to develop a model plastic bag ban ordinance and Styrofoam take-out food container ban ordinance. Adopted Construction & Demolition ordinance requiring residential remodels exceeding \$10,000 in valuation to recycle or reuse 70% of the project's waste. 	07-2011 09-2011

Best Practice Activities

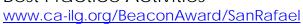
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5. Climate-Friendly Purchasing

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Adopted green purchasing criteria for photocopiers and computer hardware. 	07-2011
Gold	 Adopted a plastic water bottle prohibition among city departments. Established purchasing requirements for minimum recycled content paper purchases for city 	
Platinum	departments. 1. TBD 2. TBD 3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities





6. Renewable Energy & Low-Carbon Fuels

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Participated in formation of the Marin Energy Authority - the only operating Community Choice Aggregation program in California. 	07-2011
Gold	 Installed four EV charging stations in public garages. 	07-2011
	Require pre-wiring and pre-plumbing for PV and solar hot water installations in new buildings.	07-2011
Platinum	Platinum 1. Facilitating a commercial food waste-to-energy project, partnering with our local wastewater treatment facility and waste franchisee.	
	2. TBD	
	3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities

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7. Efficient Transportation

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Adopted a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, with significant implementation through the Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program (one of four communities in the nation). 	07-2011
Gold	 Adopted the Canal Neighborhood Transportation Plan for a dense, low-income neighborhood. 	07-2011
	Adopted the Canal Waterfront Design Plan for waterfront bicycle and pedestrian mobility.	07-2011
Platinum	Platinum 1. Adopted bicycle parking requirements based on the CalGreen code.	
	2. TBD	
	3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanRafael



8. Land Use & Community Design

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Adopted a Qualified Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Strategy. 	07-2011
Gold	old 1. Adopted a Sustainability Element to the General Plan.	
	Preparing station area plans for two planned SMART commuter rail stations.	07-2011
Platinum	1. TBD 2. TBD 3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanRafael



9. Open Space & Offsetting Carbon Emissions

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Promoting local purchasing, including local organic food, through the Resilient Neighborhoods Program. 	07-2011
Gold	1. TBD 2. TBD	
Platinum	1. TBD 2. TBD 3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities





Promoting Community & Individual Action 10.

Level	Completed Activities	Reported
Silver	 Sponsoring the Resilient Businesses Program to take Natural Capitalism's small business program to 36 local businesses to "green" their operations. 	07-2011
Gold	e .	
Platinum	1. TBD 2. TBD 3. TBD	

Best Practice Activities www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanRafael



Beacon Award Accomplishments to Date

(As of 1/3/2013)

PROGRAM CRITERIA	AWARD LEVELS		
	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
	Agency Fac	ilities	
GHG Reductions	-	-	-
Electricity Savings	5%	-	-
Natural Gas Savings	-	-	-
	Comm	nunity	
GHG Reductions	-	-	-
Activity Promoting Energy Efficiency	-	-	-
Best Practice Areas			
Completed Activities in Each Area	1	-	-