BEACON
SPOTLIGHT AWARD
WINNER
BEST PRACTICE ACTIVITIES

City of Solana Beach
Sustainability Best Practices Activities

INSTITUTE FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT℠
Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

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 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.
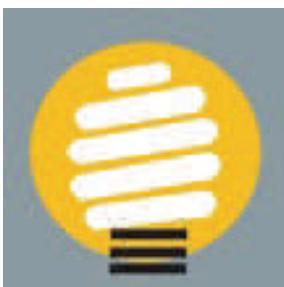
The Beacon Program is funded by California utility customers and administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas and Electric, Company, Southern California Edison, and Southern California Gas Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.

SPOTLIGHT AWARD
Areas of Accomplishment

	SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Agency GHG Reductions			
Community GHG Reductions	5%		
Agency Energy Savings		10%	
Natural Gas Savings			
Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2015	2016	

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city performed energy audits on facilities and operations through SANDAG's Sustainable Region Program in 2008, and the Energy Roadmap Program in 2015.	2015

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city performed an ENERGY STAR Assessment and benchmarking for city hall which resulted in an ENERGY STAR Certification for the facility in 2015. 2. The city performed a city-wide LED retrofit of 527 streetlight in 2011.	2015

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum		

Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city sponsors annual coastal cleanups in hopes to preserve coastline and natural resources.	2015

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Gold	1. Solana Beach offers educational resources on water quality, pollution prevention and watershed stewardship on the city's website.	2015
	2. The city administers xeriscaping on city-owned land to further promote the use of native plants and the conservation of potable water through landscaping techniques.	2016

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Platinum		

Green Building Activity

Level	Green Building Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city has a dedicated webpage, Greenflash, which provides information on reach code rebates and green building incentives.	2015

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city adopted its Green Building Standards in 2008 which requires new agency buildings to exceed minimum CalGreen Standards with a LEED-Silver minimum http://solanabeach.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=640&meta_id=70881	2015
	2. The city adopted a Construction and Demolition Recycling Ordinance which allows for the monitoring of construction and demolition debris that are recycled from projects.	2016

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum		

Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2012, the city became the first city in the San Diego County to adopt a plastic bag ban and encouraged the use of reusable bags.	**2015**

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Gold	1. Solana Beach has an extensive recycling program at the public works yard that recycles all asphalt, concrete, steel, metal, plastic, glass, aluminum and green waste that is generated at city facilities, public construction sites and maintenance projects. 2. The city established a Mandatory Commercial Recycling Ordinance in 2012 that requires all businesses to have a recycling program.	**2015**

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Platinum		

Climate-friendly Purchasing Activity

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city has conducted employee awareness training on the purchasing and use of green products and services for the agency.	**2015**

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city offers a bonus for projects that use local vendors considering the greenhouse gas emission impacts associated with transportation distances.	**2015**
	2. The city adopted an Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) ban at all food establishments that went into effect April, 2016. Solana Beach also partnered with the Surfrider Foundation to promote and support its Ocean Friendly Restaurant campaign. The intent is to have local food establishments move to a recyclable, reusable or compostable food container and eliminate EPS materials (https://sandiego.surfrider.org/ofr/).	**2016**

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Platinum		

Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activity

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Solana Beach participated in the San Diego Regional Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (REVI) working group to develop and implement Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS) for the community beginning in 2012.	2015

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Gold	1. The city purchased a neighborhood electric vehicle for its city fleet in 2014. 2. The city installed an electric vehicle charging station at city hall for public use in 2012.	2015

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Platinum		

Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2015, the city adopted its Comprehensive Active Transportation Strategy (CATS) plan that lays the foundation for improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the city and to connecting jurisdictions for the next 15 years.	2015

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Gold	1. The city partnered with Skyline Elementary and BikeWalkSolana on "Children's Bike Safety Skills at Skyline" to identify and implement safer active transportation travel opportunities for students.	2015
	2. The city collaborated with two North Coast jurisdictions, the Cities of Del Mar and Encinitas, on an AmeriCorps CivicSpark project targeting residential outreach for Transportation Demand Management.	2016

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Platinum		

Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city updated its circulation and land use section of their General Plan in 2014.	2015

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Gold	1. Solana Beach participates in regional planning efforts and aligns its local General Plan with SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). 2. The city joined the "International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives" (ICLEI), in 2008, which is an international association of local governments and national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development. By joining ICLEI, the city acquired software to help estimate its annual carbon footprint.	2015

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Platinum		2015

Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Silver	1. The City of Solana Beach adopted a Climate Action Plan that has strategies to reduce carbon emissions through open space	2015

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Gold	1. Assisted community groups and non-profit organizations to create the Solana Beach Community Garden (2012).	2015
	2. The city partnered with the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy and CalTrans to facilitate the purchase of 3.3-acres of property to preserve as open space and enforce conservation (2016). The piece of property borders the ecologically sensitive San Elijo Lagoon and will be preserved and maintained for the public to use for recreation purposes (trails, hiking, etc.).	2016

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Platinum		

Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Silver	1. City of Solana Beach has signed the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement to advance the goals of the Kyoto Protocol through leadership and action (2008).	2015

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city joined the "International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives" (ICLEI) which is an international association of local governments and national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development. By joining ICLEI, the city acquired software to help estimate its annual carbon footprint (2008).	2015
	2. The City of Solana Beach lists on its website energy efficient actions residents can perform to reduce their energy usage.	2016

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Platinum		

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