

BEACON



SPOTLIGHT
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Palmdale

Sustainability Best Practice Activities



ILG INSTITUTE FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM
Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

City of Palmdale

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			2022 (43%)
	Natural Gas Savings			2022 (46%)
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities			2022
	Beacon Vanguard 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.



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities

Silver

1. The city is a member of the SoCalREN Public Agency Program - Energy Efficiency Upgrade Audits for city-owned facilities.

Gold

2. The city completed a street lighting LED retrofit.
3. Palmdale completed a city facilities lighting retrofit.

Platinum

4. The city completed the Marie Kerr Park Lighting retrofit project.
5. The city completed Chimbole Cultural Center Lighting improvements.
6. The city implemented "daylighting" measures in construction of Legacy Commons for Active Seniors.
7. The city completed LED lighting retrofit at City Transportation Center and all Park-n-Ride lots.





Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

Silver

1. The city completed the Upper Amargosa Water Recharge Project, a collaborative effort that pipes State Water Project water from the California Aqueduct to a series of recharge ponds where the water percolates through the ground into the aquifer beneath.

Gold

2. The city established the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority, a partnership between Palmdale and Palmdale Water District to use and manage recycled water resources.
3. The city operates Palmdale's Industrial Waste Program, created to protect and lengthen the lifespan of the public sewer system.

Platinum

4. The city uses Smart Irrigation controllers in 85% of city parks and 80% of Landscape Maintenance Districts.
5. The city installed California Irrigation Management Information System Monitor.
6. The city uses recycled water in McAdam Park.
7. The city hosts an annual Irrigation Technician Training Academy for local agencies.





Green Building Activities

Silver

1. The city adopted the Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance.

Gold

2. The city passed Ordinance 5.52, Solid Waste Handling and Recycling Services.
3. The city received CA Natural Resources Agency's Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant project for the Ave. S Landscape Improvement Project, which will enhance landscaping, water conservation irrigation and drought tolerant plant palettes.

Platinum

4. The city passed a Construction and Demolition ordinance.
5. The city promotes work from home and remote learning.
6. The city secured funding for a complete streets project on Avenue R.





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Silver

1. The city has the MyWaste Application Public Reporting Tool to report illegal dumping and traffic signal outages.

Gold

2. Palmdale operates a Brag about Your Bag Campaign, which celebrates reusable bags.
3. Palmdale has the MORE (Mandatory Organics Recycling) Program, which requires businesses and multi-family properties to recycle their organic waste depending on the amount of waste they generate per week.

Platinum

4. The city operates an Edible Food Recovery Program.
5. The city operates a Paint Recycling Program.
6. The city hosts Used Oil Collection events.





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

Silver

1. The city encourages recycled copy paper for printing.

Gold

2. The city operates a Green Purchasing Program.
3. Public Electric Vehicle charging stations have been installed to help elevate Palmdale as a leader in zero and low emission vehicles and equipment.

Platinum

4. The city purchased street lights and converted them to LED light bulbs.
5. The city adopted a Hazard Plan.
6. The city purchased six hybrid lift trucks, one hybrid pool sedan, two electric box trucks, two electric forklifts, and one electric pool vehicle.





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

Silver

1. The city installed 976 kW solar photovoltaic power on city buildings.

Gold

2. Palmdale completed public EV charging station installations citywide.
3. The city participates in several PACE programs.

Platinum

4. The city passed an Ordinance-Streamlining Solar System Permitting Process.
5. The city offers clean energy through the Energy for Palmdale's Independent Choice (EPIC) program.
6. The city is partnering with Schneider Electric on microgrid projects.





Efficient Transportation Activities

Silver

1. The city offers a GreenCommuter partnership, which offers residents vanpool and carshare services.

Gold

2. Palmdale has an EV Box Truck, which drives sustainable mobility by providing smart and scalable charging infrastructure.
3. The city has a Complete Streets Corridor Study for High Speed Rail System Connectivity.

Platinum

4. The city completed a Safe Routes to School Project on Avenue R.
5. The city completed a complete streets project on Avenue S.
6. The city is partnered with the Antelope Valley Transit Authority—an all electric transit agency.





Land Use and Community Design Activities

Silver

1. Palmdale completed the Upper Amargosa Creek Recharge Project-Nature Trail preservation and restoration.

Gold

2. The U.S. Air Force owns a plant in Palmdale, for which the city participates in sustainable planning.
3. The city adopted a Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance.

Platinum

4. The city completed a General Plan Update
5. The city completed the Rancho Vista Boulevard Active Transportation gap closure.
6. The city participates in High Speed Rail partnership with other agencies and members of the public.





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

Silver

1. Palmdale adopted the Energy Action Plan in 2011.

Gold

2. The city's General Plan Advisory Committee for Palmdale 2045 meets regularly to discuss parks, open space, conservation and natural resources.
3. Palmdale adopted a Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Cultural Master Plan.

Platinum

4. The city passed Ordinance 952 for Joshua Tree and Native Desert Vegetation Preservation.
5. The city completed the Marie Kerr playground.
6. The city completed the Pelona Vista Park fitness court.





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

Silver

1. Palmdale participates in a Community Choice Aggregation Program, which purchases and provides electricity to city customers at a lower cost than Southern California Edison.

Gold

2. The Palmdale Partners Academy is designed to give residents a firsthand look at city operations and services. Participants interact with city staff, learn about the challenges facing local government and gain insight into the city's goals and objectives.
3. Palmdale Partners are ambassadors who engage residents in community outreach throughout the City. To apply to become a Palmdale Partner, you must be a Palmdale resident who has completed the Palmdale Partners Academy.

Platinum

4. The city hosts a tree circus event.
5. The city hosts e-waste events.
6. The city partnered with the county to publish and distribute the Annual Antelope Valley Environmental Pride Insert in the local paper.
7. Palmdale is part of the North County Organics Diversion Group, an informal group of seven cities to help with SB1383 implementation.





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