



BEACON
SPOTLIGHT
AWARD
WINNER
BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Hermosa Beach

Sustainability Best Practice Activities








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

City of Hermosa Beach

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

SPOTLIGHT AWARD		SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Areas of Accomplishment				
	Agency GHG Reductions	2016 (9%)		
	Community GHG Reductions	2016 (8%)		
	Agency Energy Savings	2016 (9%)		2018 (30%)
	Natural Gas Savings	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2016	2018	
	Beacon Award	2016		

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.

The Beacon Program is sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC). SEEC is an alliance between three statewide non-profit organizations and California's four Investor-Owned Utilities. 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.



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities

Silver

1. Audited municipal buildings to identify opportunities for energy savings.

Gold

2. Participated in SCE's Energy Leader Program to access technical assistance and financial incentives.
3. In 2012, city council adopted a resolution to join the Home Energy Renovation Opportunity (HERO), which is a PACE program for residential upgrades, administered by the Western Riverside Council of Governments. Projects eligible under the HERO program include lighting upgrades, building insulation improvements, water efficiency enhancements, renewable energy production, water heating technologies, and mechanical system upgrades. In 2013, city council adopted a resolution to also participate in the California Figtree program, which is a PACE program to help commercial and certain residential property owners improve their properties and lower their utility bills with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation upgrades. The program helps property owners voluntarily finance technologies such as a solar panels, cool roofs, insulation, windows, doors, heating and cooling equipment, lighting and plumbing equipment. The city has adopted a resolution to participate in Los Angeles PACE.

Platinum





Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

Silver

1. In 2011, Hermosa Beach adopted an efficient landscape ordinance that exceeds state regulations.

Gold

2. The city is actively reducing turf and grass in city landscaped areas. In 2015, the turf replacement was installed at the surf memorial.
3. The city uses recycled water on 75% of parks, greenbelts and medians.

Platinum

4. The city uses compost and mulch on city landscapes to conserve water.
5. The city implemented the Clean Bay Restaurants Inspection Program, which recognized restaurants that integrate sustainability and ocean-mindedness into their business practices. This helps improve water quality by reducing storm water run off pollution generated by restaurant activities.
6. The city installed smart irrigation systems on city landscapes.





Green Building Activities

Silver

1. The city trained its staff in green building standards and technologies.

Gold

2. The city rebates building fees by 50% for improvements that qualify for Energy Upgrade California.
3. In 2015, the city installed a water efficient demonstration garden at city hall.

Platinum

4. In the Hermosa Plan, Policy 5.2 requires high quality and long-lasting building materials on all new development projects to reduce the need for wasteful replacements and upgrades.
5. City council adopted the Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance on February 9, 2010, adding Chapter 8.56 to the Municipal Code. The plan was adopted to increase the conservation and efficient use of potable water, maximize the use of recycled water, and provide a Drought Management Plan. The plan consists of both permanent water efficiency regulations on an ongoing basis, and restrictive levels of drought response actions during times of drought.
6. The city adopted the 2013 editions of the California Building Code, including various “reach” codes with a requirement that new buildings and remodels when a building is expanding or remodeled more than 50% achieve 15% above Title 24, installation of cool roofs for all new roofs and re-roofs, requirement that new buildings be “solar ready”.





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Silver

1. City facilities and operations are evaluated to identify opportunities to increase waste recovery.

Gold

2. The city recycles all ink and toner cartridges.
3. The city recycles all green waste (grass & tree trimmings) from city facilities.

Platinum

4. The city adopted and implemented a ban on single-use plastic bags.
5. The city distributes a quarterly newsletter highlighting municipal and residential waste reduction programs.
6. City provides link to subsidized compost and worm bins for city residents.
7. The city provides information about local recycling for solvents, automotive, flammable, and e-waste on their website.





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

Silver

1. In 2013, the city council adopted the Clean Fleet Policy and Action Plan as a step towards the city's carbon neutral goal for municipal facilities and operations. The policy requires a progressive transition to alternative fuel and zero and low emissions vehicles and on-off-road equipment, as well as improved fleet management and operations. These measures accelerate GHG reduction, improve air quality and health, reduce petroleum dependence and increase energy security in Hermosa Beach and beyond.

Gold

2. The city adopted a "buy recycled" policy for agency departments.
3. The city instituted special events sustainability requirements.

Platinum

4. The city purchases environmentally friendly municipal cleaning supplies.





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

Silver

1. The city installed solar powered flashing red lights at 8 locations.

Gold

2. Planning fees are waived and building fees are rebated for small wind energy systems. The city rebates building fees for those that contain photovoltaic panels.
3. The city offers 100% rebates for building permit fees for photovoltaic installations. Excludes any building permit fees to upgrade the structure to accommodate the installation.

Platinum

4. The city installed solar powered flashing red lights at 8 locations.
5. The city amended its zoning code to allow small wind energy systems.
6. The city offers free parking for all electric vehicles.
7. Free parking and charging at city hall and Upper Pier Avenue.





Efficient Transportation Activities

Silver

1. In 2016, the city implemented an Employee Commute Reduction Plan.

Gold

2. In 2016, the city installed bike sharrows on Monterey Blvd.
3. In 2016, the city installed bike mini-corrals in the downtown commercial district.

Platinum

4. The city supports the location of transit stations and enhanced stops near the intersection of Aviation Blvd. and Pacific Coast Highway, and adjacent to Gateway Commercial to facilitate and take advantage of transit services, reduce vehicle trips, and low residents without private vehicles to access services.
5. The city provides building permit fees for service upgrades rebated for 100% alternative fuel vehicles, such as electric charging and clean natural gas.
6. City silver parking meter fees waived for 100% electric or 100% CNG vehicles.





Land Use and Community Design Activities

Silver

1. The city passed a Low Impact Development (LID) Ordinance. The most significant changes in the ordinance are related to new development and redevelopment projects.

Gold

2. The city adopted a form-based pedestrian oriented zoning for Pier Avenue in an effort to make it a vibrant pedestrian environment.
3. The city actively supports regional transportation and infrastructure projects and investment decisions that benefit the city and the region.

Platinum

4. The city is working to create sustainable development patterns, such that the majority of residents are within one-half mile walking distance to a variety of neighborhood goods and services, such as supermarkets, restaurants, churches, cafes, dry cleaners, laundromats, farmers markets, banks, personal services, pharmacies and similar uses.
5. The city is working to ensure all neighborhoods are complete and well-structured with the following characteristics: contain a high level of connectivity for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles, homes with entries and windows facing the street, have goods and services within a short walking distance, address the needs of multiple ages and physical abilities.





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

Silver

1. In 2009-2010, the city prepared its first greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

Gold

2. In 2010, the city council set a goal of becoming carbon neutral, meaning all municipal and community operations will come from renewable sources, or offset.
3. The city maintains a coordinated working relationship with the Coastal Commission to maximize public access to the California Coast.

Platinum

4. The city proactively beautifies existing streetscapes with street trees, landscaping and pedestrian-scaled lighting.





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

Silver

1. The City of Hermosa Beach became the first South Bay city to join the “Cool Cities” initiative.

Gold

2. The City of Hermosa Beach appointed a Green Task Force to advise on green initiatives and prepare a Sustainability/Climate Action Plan.
3. The city sponsors an annual beach clean-up day.

Platinum

4. The city implemented a residential worm bin and compost bin program, which offers these bins to community members at discounted prices in order to encourage composting.
5. The city conducts annual compost give-a-ways for residents.





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