

GOLD LEVEL AWARD WINNER



City of National City

Sustainability Best Practices Activities



ILG INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM
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 in 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.



Supporting California local governments

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			
	Agency Energy Savings			
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities		3 in each of 10 categories	





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city participated in the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Energy Roadmap Program where energy audits of city buildings and facilities were completed.	2015

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city participates in the South Bay Energy Action Collaborative (SoBEAC), a collaborative between the three other South Bay cities in the region to help residents and businesses save energy, reduce utility bills, and become more green. 2. The city has adopted several Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs to help homeowners save energy and water.	2015

Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. National City's City Hall has been certified as an ENERGY STAR Building for its excellence in energy savings.	2015





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The "A" Avenue Green Street and Pedestrian Pathway secured and approved Prop 84 funding for the project which implements low impact development infiltration measures to improve water quality of urban runoff entering the storm drain system; creates a safe, environmentally friendly walking path connecting to key cornerstones of the city; and provides educational opportunities for the community.	2015

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The City of National City in partnership with ARTS created interpretative signage, creek-themed art, and a 300 foot mural to depict storm water runoff; all of which act as an educational tool showing the impact humans have on watersheds and steps the community can take to better conserve this natural resource. 2. The City of National City supports the Sweetwater Authority's Rebate Program and works with the Chamber of Commerce to promote water conservation via the Chambers Green Business Program. 	2015





Green Building Activity

Level	Green Building Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city provides the public with information on green building and sustainability at the city permitting counter.	2015

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Through South Bay Energy Action Collaborative, the City of National City has offered staff trainings on green building and new Title 24 standards. 2. The city, in collaboration with the City of Chula Vista and South Bay Energy Action Collaborative, offers a Free Resource & Energy Business Evaluation (FREBE) Program that requires businesses in the city to perform on-site energy and water audits in order for buildings to be as efficient as possible. 	2015

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. All of the furniture in the city parks is made from recycled materials.	2015





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city implemented rubberized asphalt concrete overlay in pavement construction/rehabilitation projects, like the resurfacing of Highland Avenue.	2015
Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city offers free e-waste events for city residents and businesses to create a cleaner environment for the community. 2. The city work areas are equipped with special recycling containers for waste paper, cans and bottles. 	2015
Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city emphasizes re-use between departments, such as any property declared "surplus" by one department is offered to others and any that is no longer needed, is sold or donated instead of being sent to a landfill. 2. The city makes scratch pads from waste paper that would otherwise be thrown away. 3. When the city forces trees to be trimmed around the city, the scrap is sold for use as firewood or mulch, preventing it from going to the landfill. 	2015





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activity

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city buys 100% post-consumer recycled-content paper for use in all copy machines, printers and fax machines.	2015

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city's equipment maintenance division occasionally purchases re-tread tires for use on city vehicles. 2. All city letterheads, envelopes and business cards are made from 100% recycled content paper that also qualifies for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification. 	2015

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city purchases various recycled-content janitorial papers, and various chemicals that are "Green Seal" certified. 2. The city departments buy remanufactured toner cartridges (instead of new ones) for their printers, and return the used ones to the vendor rather than send them to the landfill. In 2007, the city's use of remanufactured cartridges saved 45 gallons of oil that would have been used to manufacture new cartridges. 3. The equipment maintenance division occasionally purchases re-tread tires for use on city vehicles, when it is determined safe to do so. When the tread wears out, a new tread can sometimes be adhered to prolong the life of the tire. 	2015





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activity

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city completed its Citywide Bus Shelter Project which installed solar powered bus shelters at bus stops.	2015

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The City of National City worked with the City of Chula Vista and the AmeriCorps Civic Spark Program to develop permitting guidance for the installation of EVcharging in National City. 2. The City of National City received Active Transportation Grant Program (ATGP) funding for its Bike Parking Enhancements Project to install bike racks throughout the city's bike network. The ARTS (A Reason to Survive) organization is partnering with Sweetwater Union High School's welding academy to design and construct the bike racks. 	2015





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The National City Bike Master Plan presents a new vision for bicycle transportation, recreation, sustainability and quality of life in National City.	2015
Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The City of National City implemented a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program and a Citywide SRTS Pedestrian Enhancements Project that aims to improve pedestrian safety, the health of the community, and increase biking and walking as safe and viable means of transportation. 2. The city is completing the D Avenue Community Corridor and Roundabout project which will improve traffic flow, enhance pedestrian safety and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. 	2015





Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city received cap-and-trade funding for its Westside Infill Transit-Oriented Development (WI-TOD) project, a transit-oriented affordable housing development.	2015

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2012, the city council of National City adopted the Comprehensive Land Use Update, which included a General Plan Update, a Climate Action Plan, a Downtown Specific Plan Amendment, and Five Conceptual Development Proposals; this update changed almost all commercial zones to mixed use zones to encourage and facilitate smart growth and other sustainable principles. The City of National City participated in ICLEI's development of the San Diego Bay Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy, which provides recommendations for building the resilience of the Bay's community assets. 	2015





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Silver	1. The City of National City is home to the Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center which provides science based environmental education lessons, hands-on gardening and hands-on cooking to students and families from underserved communities.	2015
Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city is performing a creek restoration project in Kimball Park to revert some area back to a native wetland. 2. The City of National City is constructing an Aquatic Center in the Port District that will provide residents with opportunities for recreational use and increased accessibility to the waterfront.	2015





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Silver	1. National City became the first city in the South Bay region to be designated as a Live Well San Diego City in 2013 as it improves health, safety and well-being for all residents.	2015

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The City of National City participated in Sage Program with San Diego State University to identify projects related to smart growth, quality of life and sustainability goals. 2. National City was recognized with the top score in San Diego County for walkability according to Walk San Diego, an organization that promotes pedestrian safety and less dependence on the conventional car. 	2015



Notes:







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