

GOLD LEVEL AWARD WINNER

BEACON

SPOTLIGHT
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



County of San Diego

Sustainability Best Practices Activities



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








Supporting California local governments

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.



SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Areas of Accomplishment

		SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
	Agency GHG Reductions		12%	
	Community GHG Reductions			
	Agency Energy Savings			23%
	Natural Gas Savings			22%
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2012	2013	





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Implementing a Green Business Program that includes mailing thousands of energy surveys to restaurants throughout the county. The surveys will also be available online.	5-2014

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged in a local government partnership with San Diego Gas & Electric which aims to inform, educate, and implement energy efficiency practices to the county's employees, businesses, residents and other entities within the County of San Diego. Participates in SANDAG's Regional Energy Working Group which provides input and feedback on issues related to the Regional Energy Strategy and tasks of the Regional Energy Planning Program. 	5-2014

Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Participates in SANDAG's Energy Roadmap Program for Local Governments to develop an energy action plan tailored to the unique characteristics of their community. Investing in power metering, building controls and energy monitoring systems in all of the larger County buildings. New meters will better enable facility managers to automate demand responses and allow them to pinpoint the causes for unreasonable spikes in energy usage. Working with SDG&E to create a system that will provide custom energy usage reports to facility managers. The manager of a courthouse, for example, would receive an e-mail about the building's energy consumption. It would contain charts and graphs showing energy use throughout the day. He or she could then compare weekday usage to weekend or holiday usage to search for irregularities. 	5-2014



Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="342 201 1260 296">4. Completed eight lighting modernization projects which are expected to save about 973,00 kWh per year which is enough energy to power about 90 average homes. <li data-bbox="342 323 1260 506">5. Completed retro-mission (a process for identifying where a facility's equipment, lighting and control systems can be improved and making the necessary adjustments) at the East Mesa Detention Facility, North County Regional Center, and Health Services Complex. The expected annual energy savings for these facilities is 1,678,00 (kWh) and 73,700 (Therms) enough energy to power about 157 average homes. <li data-bbox="342 533 1260 627">6. Streamlined and updated the county administrative policy that provides the standards, guidelines and procedures for implementing energy conservation at county facilities. <li data-bbox="342 655 1260 720">7. The county's first Zero Net Energy building has been approved to begin design/build and is expected to be completed in 2016. <li data-bbox="342 747 1260 993">8. The county deployed a network enterprise wide Building Automation System to control, monitor and report on various building, mechanical and utility (e.g., air conditioning, heating, lighting, water meters, distributed generation, etc.) systems. By using this technology the county has the ability to take advantage of data analytics and manage energy demand from a central point. During FY 2013-2014 this technology was deployed at the South Bay Regional Center, South East Family Resource Center the energy savings have been 11% this far. 	5-2014





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Uses recycled water for agency facilities and operations, including parks.	5-2014

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Incentivizes the installation of residential graywater systems through the Green Building Incentive Program. Encourages residents to consider harvesting rainwater and hosts how-to resources on the county's website. 	5-2014

Level	Water and Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completed a water retrofit project at the Vista Jail to replace sink fixtures, toilet flush valves and shower heads. The new efficient equipment is expected to save approximately 21 million gallons of water annually or about 42% of the total water consumption at that facility. That's enough water to supply about 128 average households per year. The project will also save about 7,100 therms of natural gas . A similar project is planned for Juvenile Hall. Adopted a Landscape Water Conservation Ordinance on January 13th, 2010. The ordinance requires new single-family residential projects to conserve water in landscaping by establishing and adhering to water budgets and using recycled water, where available. Published a Water Efficient Landscape Design Manual that explains how the public can comply with the Water Conservation Ordinance, while also creating beautiful landscapes and protecting people from wildfires. The County received an award for Outstanding Environmental Resource Document from the Association of Environmental Professionals in 2011. Adopted a County Parks Water Conservation Plan in 2011 to identify strategies for water conservation at county parks. The plan includes strategies implemented by other agencies, details on efficient irrigation methods, and an implementation strategy for achieving water use reductions at county park facilities. 	5-2014





Green Building Activity

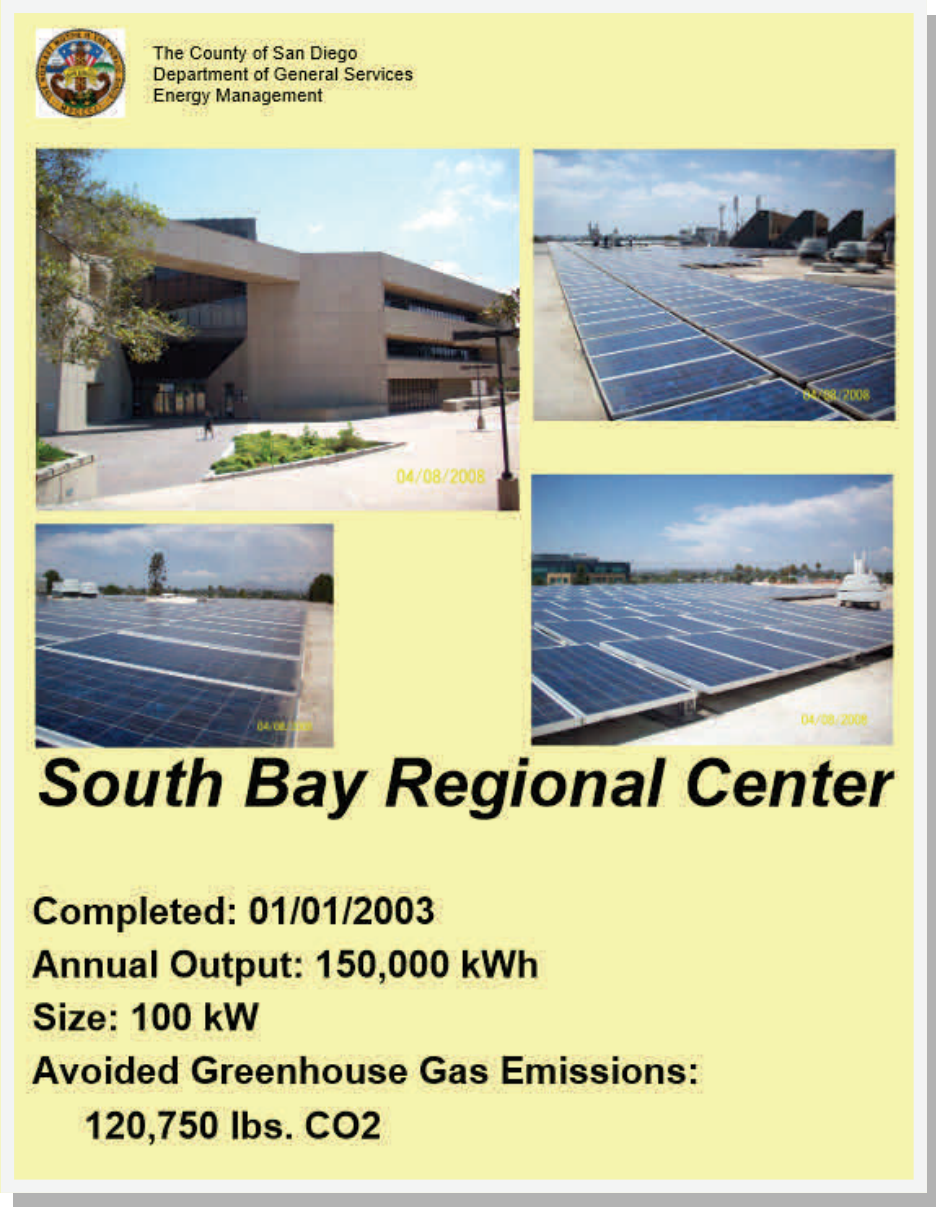
Level	Green Building Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Requires all new agency buildings and facilities to meet at least LEED Silver certification standards.	5-2014

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Established Green Building Incentive Program is to encourage homeowners and builders to use environmentally sound practices. 2. Four new County facilities completed construction and were LEED certified including Registrar of Voters (Gold), Rancho San Diego Sheriff Substation (Silver), East Mesa Detention Facility addition (Silver) and Los Colinas Women's Detention facility (Silver). 	5-2014





Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Constructed the San Elijo Nature Center, the first LEED Platinum certified building in San Diego County. 2. Continued to implement the Green Building Incentive Program, which is designed to promote the use of resource-efficient construction materials, water conservation and energy efficiency in new remodeled residential and commercial buildings. The program offers incentives of reduction in plan check and building permit fees for projects meeting program requirements. In 2013, the county permitted 13 projects that used the program. 3. Adopted amendments for building and energy codes incorporating the 2011 California Green Building Standards and Energy efficiency codes published by the California Energy Commission. 4. Initiated a Planning and Development Services (PDS) staff training program to prepare for and implement the 2013 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards, which became effective July 1, 2014. 5. Initiated the development of a form-based code for the Valley Center South Village, which will include energy efficiency requirements. 	5-2014



Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum	6. Constructed the LEED certified County Operations Complex .	5-2014



The County of San Diego
Department of General Services
Energy Management

South Bay Regional Center

Completed: 01/01/2003
Annual Output: 150,000 kWh
Size: 100 kW
Avoided Greenhouse Gas Emissions:
120,750 lbs. CO2





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Instituted a comprehensive waste reduction and recycling program in agency offices and facilities.	5-2014

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Gold	1. Adopted a construction and <u>demolition debris ordinance</u> . 2. Implementing <u>fluorescent light recycling project</u> for the community.	5-2014

County of San Diego

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
 COMMUNITY HEALTH DIVISION
 5500 Overland Ave. #110 SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
 Phone: (656) 495-5799 FAX: (656) 495-5004
www.dehceb.org

FLUORESCENT LIGHT RECYCLING PROJECT

Participating Business Information Sheet

Disposal of Fluorescent Lamps (tubes and bulbs) to the trash is prohibited in California.

Spent fluorescent lamps must be managed as Universal Waste and properly recycled according to Section 86273.33 of Title 22, California Code of Regulations. The County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health has a limited supply of Fluorescent Lamp recycling kits available Free of Charge to small businesses. To qualify for this opportunity, businesses must be located in San Diego County. The pre-postage paid kits can be filled & shipped directly to a recycler for proper management of spent fluorescent lamps. Kits are available on a first come, first served basis, and are limited to four per business (accommodating approximately 200 bulbs or tubes).

To participate, please fill in the information requested below. Completed form may be faxed to 858-495-5004, or mailed to: County of San Diego, DEH
 Attn: Cher Vue
 5500 Overland Ave., Suite 110, San Diego, CA 92123

Business Name:		Business Phone:	
Business Site Address:		()	
Business Site City:		CA	Zip Code:
Type of Business:		Number of Employees:	
Primary Contact Name:		E-mail:	

Please provide the following information about the lamps you will be recycling (required):

Approximate number of lamps for recycling: (check the lamp type)	4' Tubes (QT-8 or QT-12)	8' Tubes (QT-8 or QT-12)	CFLs ¹
---	------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------

Are the waste lamps the result of an energy efficiency retrofit project? Yes No

Would you prefer to pick up kits at our office or have them delivered to your business?
 (Delivery may take 2-4 weeks) Delivery Pick up

Anticipated date by which you intend to ship lamps for recycling: Month _____ Year _____

By submitting this form, the participating business agrees that it will, within one year of its receipt of the kit(s), either send the full box(es) to the recycler or return unused kit(s) to the County of San Diego at the above-listed address.

How did you hear about this opportunity?

¹CFLs means compact fluorescent lamps/bulbs

For additional information on the proper disposal of Hazardous or Universal Wastes from businesses, please contact the Hazardous Materials Duty Desk Specialist at 656-665-6860.

Acknowledgment: This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy under Award Number DE-EE0000902.





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activity

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Adopted Recycled Products Procurement Policy .	5-2014

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourages consultants, contractors and grantees to conform to the Recycled Products Procurement Policy. 2. Price preference of up to 5% is given to recycled products when offered as an alternative to non-recycled products. The preference percentage is based on the lowest bid or price quoted by the supplier or suppliers offering non-recycled products. 	5-2014

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requires the county to solicit bids to the maximum extent possible, from recycled content vendors when purchasing products and supplies for the county. 2. Requires all county departments and agencies to utilize, to the maximum extent practical, products made with recycled materials, reusable products, and products designed to be recycled and shall encourage public and private agencies to do so. 3. Requires the county acquire equipment (i.e., photocopier, typewriter, facsimile, laser printer machines) that is compatible, whenever practicable, with the use of recycled-content paper products. 	5-2014





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activity

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Promotes renewable energy rebate and incentive program on the county website .	5-2014

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Installed PV solar arrays at the County Operations Center, the library, the North County Regional Center, and the South Bay Regional Center. 2. The county's fleet composition has 131 hybrid and five compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles. Additionally, 36 electric vehicles are used in campus environments in lieu of gasoline powered transportation. Over the life of a typical vehicle, the current hybrids alone will save approximately 304,000 gallons of fuel for a financial savings of \$1.3 million. The county is also pursuing the possibility of vehicles that use alternate fuels like ethanol, biodiesel and even propane. 	5-2014



Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fee Waivers: PDS Building Division continues to offer building fee waivers for residential solar PV electrical system permits (since 2011) and residential small wind turbine electrical system permits (since 2008). 2. Permit Streaming: Effective July 2013, PDS offers online permitting for residential roof-mounted solar PV projects that do not require a meter upgrade. Effective April 2014, roof-mounted PV systems with electrical upgrades to an existing main panel up to 400 amps are eligible for online processing. PDS also created a step-by-step guide for online PV permit processing. 3. Permit Streaming Adopted amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to codify the use of on premise energy systems including height and setback exceptions for solar PV systems and establishing an administrative permit process to smaller (<10acre) PV distribution facilities. 4. Permit Streaming: Approved a Wind Energy Ordinance to provide an update set of definitions, procedures, and standards for review and permitting of small wind turbines. Zoning Ordinance amendments also establish a framework for Large Wind Turbine Systems for off-site energy use through the Major Use Permit process. 5. Initiated the first phase of the Comprehensive Renewable Energy Plan to increase renewable energy opportunities, reduce costs for consumers, and minimize impacts to community and its resources. The first phase will include research, analysis and outreach to stakeholders. 	5-2014





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Established reductions in vehicle-miles traveled (VMT) as a high-priority criterion in evaluation of policy, program and project alternatives.	5-2014

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fleet maintenance staff provides drivers with fuel saving tips when they take their vehicles to the shop and mechanics will enact preventative maintenance that will include tire pressure and other checks/corrections that affect fuel economy. 2. GPS systems assist departments to control vehicle assets, eliminate misuse, and increase vehicle efficiency through trip planning and vehicle location information. 	5-2014

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. Hosted a workshop with San Diego Safe Routes to help applicants apply to the 2014 Active Transportation Program.	5-2014





Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Worked with SANDAG to create the "Riding to 2050, San Diego Regional Bicycle Plan," which is intended to guide the development of the regional bicycle system by creating interconnected bicycle corridors, support facilities, and programs to make bicycling more practical and desirable to a broader range of people.	5-2014

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopted Pedestrian Area Plans for five unincorporated areas of San Diego County look at existing pedestrian conditions, identify deficiencies, and recommend solutions. 2. Implementing design standards that require streets and sidewalks to be designed for multi-modal mobility and access, including walking and bicycling, to ensure that new development is designed, sited and oriented to facilitate pedestrian, bicycle and other mobility and access. 	5-2014



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Silver	1. Established Multiple Species Conservation Program to preserves San Diego's unique, native habitats and wildlife for future generations.	5-2014

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Gold	1. Funded Mount Hope Community Garden in Southeast San Diego. 2. Acquired 4000 acres of parkland in 2009. The parks department currently manages more than 40,000 acres of parks and preserved land.	5-2014

Current View

Site Potential

health

Potted Orchard
Garden Plots

ecology

Future Mt. Hope Community Garden

beautification

Community Shed

community

Mt. Hope Community Garden
Southeastern San Diego, CA
Project New Village

Supporting the Health & Wellbeing
of Neighborhoods in Southeastern San Diego

Site Plan Designed By: Rachelle Andrews





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Silver	1. The county is participating in a local government collaboration that is developing a Climate Change Website Portal to share information about best practices and provide the San Diego region with information on government adaptation strategies that are planned in their area.	5-2014

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides residents with information and resources relates to planning, air quality, and waste and recycling, water, energy and gardening on the county's website. 2. Educates residents about water conservation through a media campaign including a tip-sheet, magnet, billboards, bench ads and public service announcement. 	5-2014

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued the Department of Parks and Recreation Energy Efficiency and Conservation Outreach Program, which aims to inform and educate the County of San Diego, its residents, businesses and other entities with in the unincorporated county to implement energy efficiency programs. Participated in over 250 outreach events, interfacing with over 93,000 event attendees to promote energy efficiency and conservation, highlighting the County's partnership with SDG&E. 2. Supported SDG&E conservation programs by providing a link to program information on the county's website and maintaining an informational display in the PDS Lobby. 3. Moving Down Pollution Lawnmower Event: The 15th Annual Mowing Down Pollution Lawnmower exchange was resounding success. County residents were offered an opportunity to "go green" by turning in their old, working gasoline-powered mower and purchasing a new cordless rechargeable electric mower at a deeply discounted price. A total of 586 polluting mowers were scrapped and replaced with new, environmentally friendly electric mowers. Not only was future pollution avoided, but the event also eliminated around 69 metric tons of greenhouse gasses, equivalent to at least 164,000 fewer miles of driving by the average car. 	5-2014





INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM

Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

© 2014 by Institute for Local Government
1400 K Street, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-658-8208
www.ca-ilg.org

