

BEACON

SPOTLIGHT  
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE  
ACTIVITIES



# City of Solana Beach

## Sustainability Best Practice Activities



INSTITUTE FOR  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT<sup>SM</sup>

*Promoting Good Government at the Local Level*









# City of Solana 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

Areas of Accomplishment		SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
	Agency GHG Reductions			
	Community GHG Reductions	2016 (5%)		
	Agency Energy Savings		2015 (10%)	
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2015	2016	
	Beacon 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.

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. The city performed energy audits on facilities and operations through SANDAG's Sustainable Region Program in 2008 and the Energy Roadmap Program in 2015.

## Gold

2. The city performed an ENERGY STAR Assessment and benchmarking for city hall which resulted in an ENERGY STAR Certification for the facility in 2015.
3. The city performed a city-wide LED retrofit of 527 streetlight in 2011.

## Platinum





# Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

## Silver

1. The city sponsors annual coastal cleanups in hopes to preserve coastline and natural resources.

## Gold

2. Solana Beach offers educational resources on water quality, pollution prevention and watershed stewardship on the city's website.
3. 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.

## Platinum





# Green Building Activities

## Silver

1. The city has a dedicated webpage, Greenflash, which provides information on reach code rebates and green building incentives.

## Gold

2. The city adopted its Green Building Standards in 2008, which requires new agency buildings to exceed minimum CalGreen Standards with a LEED-Silver minimum.
3. The city adopted a Construction and Demolition Recycling Ordinance, which allows for the monitoring of construction and demolition debris that are recycled from projects.

## Platinum





# Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

## 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.

## Gold

2. 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.
3. The city established a Mandatory Commercial Recycling Ordinance in 2012 that requires all businesses to have a recycling program.

## Platinum







# Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

## Silver

1. The city has conducted employee awareness training on the purchasing and use of green products and services for the agency.

## Gold

2. The city offers a bonus for projects that use local vendors considering the greenhouse gas emission impacts associated with transportation distances.
3. 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.

## Platinum





# Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

## 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.

## Gold

2. The city purchased a neighborhood electric vehicle for its city fleet in 2014.
3. The city installed an electric vehicle charging station at city hall for public use in 2012.

## Platinum





# Efficient Transportation Activities

## 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.

## Gold

2. 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.
3. 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.

## Platinum





# Land Use and Community Design Activities

## Silver

1. The city updated its Circulation and Land Use section of their General Plan in 2014.

## Gold

2. Solana Beach participates in regional planning efforts and aligns its local General Plan with SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
3. 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.

## Platinum





# Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

## Silver

1. The City of Solana Beach adopted a Climate Action Plan that has strategies to reduce carbon emissions through open space.

## Gold

2. Assisted community groups and non-profit organizations to create the Solana Beach Community Garden.
3. 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.

## Platinum





# Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

## 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.

## Gold

2. 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.
3. The City of Solana Beach lists on its website energy efficient actions residents can perform to reduce their energy usage.

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1400 K Street, Suite 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916-658-8208  
[www.ca-ilg.org](http://www.ca-ilg.org)

