

SILVER LEVEL AWARD WINNER

BEACON
SPOTLIGHT
AWARD
WINNER
BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of West Hollywood

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 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			
	Community GHG Reductions			
	Agency Energy Savings			
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2017		





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2016 the city expanded the number of PACE programs available in the city. West Hollywood now participates in four PACE programs. www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments-divisions/community-development/property-assessed-clean-energy-pace-programs	2017

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Gold		

Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum		





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In March 2017, the city in conjunction with West Basin Municipal Water District completed an ocean-friendly drought tolerant demonstration garden in the median of Santa Monica Blvd. The 14,685 sf. garden was designed using xeriscaping principles and efficient irrigation systems. (www.weho.org/Home/Components/News/News/6639/23) 	2017

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Since 2000, the City of West Hollywood has been installing pet waste collection stations at city parks and busy areas of town to prevent pet waste from polluting stormwater. The city currently maintains 84 stations. In 2016 the city transitioned its irrigation system to CalSense irrigation controllers. It now has nine stations throughout the city. The CalSense water management system has allowed the City to realize landscape water savings of 20-40% a year on average. 	2017

Level	Water and Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2009, the city installed dual flush toilets in the restrooms throughout West Hollywood City Hall as well as other city facilities. The city has promoted West Basin Municipal Water District water efficiency device rebates to residents through its active water conservation campaign. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/public-works/environmental-services/water-conservation) The city is in compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit as part of the Ballona Watershed group and is offering educational resources to the community such as discharge inspections, smart gardening information, and pet waste collection stations to control stormwater pollution. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/public-works/environmental-services/stormwater-and-urban-runoff-pollution-control) 	2017





Green Building Activity

Level	Green Building Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2007 the city implemented its pioneering Green Building Program. Due to its high level of success in pushing other cities and the state to make their building requirements more robust, the city is reimagining its Green Building Program in 2017 to continue its leadership in this topic area. www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/community-development/building-and-safety/green-building-program .	2017

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Gold	1. Beginning in 2017, the city requests that a Sustainable Design Questionnaire be completed and returned with each building permit application to encourage the city's development community to go beyond mandatory 2016 municipal and CALGreen code requirements. It asks questions to provoke thought regarding voluntary sustainable design measures. (www.weho.org/Home/ShowDocument?id=31648) 2. West Hollywood streamlined its solar permitting process in 2014 to make it easier for residents to install simple PV arrays, solar water heating, and solar pool heating systems. As part of this process the city developed a series of guides to assist with the expedited approval process. These checklists help to determine if a project qualifies for expedited permitting, the types of permits and approvals needed, and to provide information that will help with plan submittal, fees, and inspections. (weho.org/city-hall/city-departments-divisions/community-development/building-and-safety/solar)	2017

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. Completed in 2016, the automated parking garage at City Hall is an innovative solution to parking needs. The garage provides 200 parking spaces and reduces tailpipe emissions by eliminating vehicle idling and circling for parking. The reduction in carbon emissions from the project is the equivalent of taking 92 cars off the road or planting 67,000 trees. The structure also has a 52.7 kW photovoltaic array, incorporates recycled materials, and drought-tolerant landscaping. (www.weho.org/automatedgarage)	2017





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activity	Reported
Silver	1. West Hollywood has partnered with Athens Services, the city's waste hauler, to implement a commercial food waste recycling program, which helps businesses divert organics from landfill and into compost.	2017

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In August 2012, West Hollywood City Council approved a single-use plastic bag ban from all pharmacy, grocery, and retail stores as well as required stores to charge 10 cents per paper bag, which encourages customers to bring their own bags. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/community-development/long-range-and-mobility-planning/plastic-bag-ban) The city provides a free Sharps Disposal by Mail program to all residents. The kit stores used sharps to be mailed to a facility where they are properly disposed of as biohazardous waste. This service protects families, sanitation workers, and the environment. There are also five available sharps drop-off locations throughout the City. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/public-works/environmental-services/trash-and-recycling/sharps-program) 	2017

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. The city hosts annual free e-waste recycling events. This year the city is partnering with Homeboy Recycling to collect and properly dispose of all types of electronics. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/public-works/environmental-services/document-shredding-and-e-waste-collection)	2017





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activity

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city purchases 30% post-consumer content paper.	2017

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2012 the city stopped purchasing bottled water for City Hall and instead started providing filtered water for employees. The city resells or donates used office supplies and equipment. Items are first offered to local social service agencies, if they do not accept, items are then put up for auction, and any items that are not sold are then donated to Out of the Closet. 	2017

Level	Climate-Friendly Activities	Reported
Platinum		





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activity

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2014, the City of West Hollywood installed eight EV charging stations in municipal parking garages throughout the city. It plans on installing several more curbside charging stations in the next 12-18 months.	2017

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted in April 2017, the city now provides a two hour parking validation credit for electric vehicles while charging at the City's charging stations located in municipal parking garages. (www.weho.org/Home/ShowDocument?id=31453). Completed in June 2016, the City of West Hollywood partnered with a UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs Masters student to conduct a curbside EV charging study for the city entitled Charged Up West Hollywood! This study identified nearly 60 potential installation locations for curbside EV chargers based on community characteristics, power sources, and existing chargers. 	2017

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completed in 2016, the municipally owned automated parking garage at City Hall includes a 52.7 kW PV array that has generated over 101,000 kWh since January 2016, saving 72 tons of carbon emissions. (www.weho.org/automatedgarage) In June 2017 the city kicked off its Solar Technical Assistance program to assist interested commercial and multi-family properties with the installation of solar arrays by providing technical advice and facilitating a matchmaking in the solar marketplace. In 2016 West Hollywood received SolSmart Bronze recognition. SolSmart is a national designation program recognizing communities that have made significant effort to address barriers to solar energy and foster growth of local solar markets. (www.weho.org/Home/Components/News/News/6270/23) 	2017





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city's Cityline local transportation system provides free mini bus rides around the city operating between 9am and 6pm daily. CitylineX also serves as a free connector to the Hollywood and Highland Metro Red Line station during morning and evening rush hour. (www.weho.org/services/public-transportation-transit-options/cityline).	2017

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 2013 West Hollywood introduced the PickUp Line, a free late-night entertainment shuttle on weekends and special holidays. This line enhances the walkability of the city, reduces congestion, and emissions. (www.wehopickup.com/) 2. West Hollywood's bike share program, WeHo Pedals launched in August 2016. It currently offers 150 smart bikes at 28 stations throughout the city and has reduced carbon emissions by over 12,750 lbs. Through the bike share's expanded system area and partnership with the Westside Regional Bike Share Program, riders can access regional destinations and over 1,000 bikes. (http://wehopedals.com/) 	2017

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. Since 2016, the city has continued to install bike racks throughout the city to make cycling in West Hollywood more feasible and secure. The city has now installed 270 bike racks.	2017





Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activity	Reported
Silver	<p>1. In 2011 the city adopted the West Hollywood General Plan 2035. This plan provides a roadmap for the city to continue building on its success. It outlines long-term strategies that address the unique characteristics and needs of West Hollywood over the next 25 years. It also includes the West Hollywood Climate Action Plan adopted as an implementation measure of the General Plan 2035. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/community-development/general-plan-2035).</p>	2017

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Gold	<p>1. Adopted in 2017, the city's community-generated Pedestrian and Bicycle Mobility Plan provides a vision and set of prioritized strategies and tools to enhance the city's streets to be more comfortable, safe, and inviting to pedestrians and cyclists using a "complete network approach." (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments-divisions/community-development/long-range-and-mobility-planning/ongoing-plans-studies/ped-bike-mobility-plan-update)</p> <p>2. The city launched a micro-park pilot program beginning in 2016. The three micro-parks activate underutilized space, create additional recreational space, display public art, and foster opportunities for communal engagement and recreation. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments-divisions/community-development/long-range-and-mobility-planning/)</p>	2017

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Platinum	<p>1. Adopted in 2016, the Aging in Place, Aging in Community five-year strategic plan is designed with a community-based approach to wellness. The goal of this Plan is to identify and address needs through innovation, policy and programs, community connectivity, and city partnerships with support organizations. (www.weho.org/residents/aging-in-place)</p>	2017





Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Platinum	2. The Eastside Community Plan, adopted in 2017, is an implementation plan that provides specific recommendations including physical improvements, policy changes, and programs to improve quality of life in the neighborhood. The Plan prioritizes the following topics: housing, urban design, economic development, mobility, arts and events, and sustainability and greening. (http://www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments-divisions/community-development/long-range-and-mobility-planning/ongoing-plans-studies/eastside-community-plan)	2017





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Silver	1. The city launched its Edible Parkways program in 2015. This program encourages residents to plant edible gardens in their parkways by providing resources and inspiration. A City designed brochure provides design guidelines and a sample plant list. (www.weho.org/edibleparkways)	2017

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The city started the Community Garden program in the early 1990s. The city leases vacant lots from owners until they are developed. At the height of the program the city had three gardens with 125 plots. Community members are able to lease plots from the City to plant edible gardens. Unfortunately, the final garden will close this year. (www.weho.org/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/23/773)	2017

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Platinum		





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Silver	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016 the city launched a water conservation public awareness campaign that included an Emmy Award winning PSA entitled “Winter Is Coming! But the Drought is Far From Over,” which spoofed HBO’s <i>Game of Thrones</i> and depicted what a fictional West Hollywood might look like if the drought continued; and the city’s Keep it Dirty campaign aimed at encouraging residents and businesses to make adjustments to their daily routines to help save water. (www.weho.org/city-hall/city-departments/public-works/environmental-services/water-conservation) 	2017

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016 The city partnered with West Basin Municipal Water District and Beverly Hills water to host residential California-friendly landscaping and turf removal classes. The city plans to host additional workshops in 2017. The city tables at various community events throughout the year. This year, environmental information was distributed at Kids Fair 2017. 	2017

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016 the city published the <i>WeHo to Go</i> guidebook to help visitors and residents navigate West Hollywood car free. The guidebook highlights the many ways people can get around the city without a car including on foot, by bike, or using public transportation. The guide suggests walking tours, provides maps, and other car free resources. (www.weho.org/carfreeweho) The city published its Go Green website in 2010. It connects West Hollywood residents and businesses to city sustainability programs, information, and resources. This access to knowledge empowers people make easy environmentally conscious choices as part of their daily lives. (www.weho.org/residents/go-green) 	2017





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Platinum	3. The city provides WeHo Arts Grants and Opportunities which allow artists and community members to make an impact in their City. Funded projects help create a sense of place and enrich the identity of West Hollywood. Grant funding is awarded for various types of projects including: a cultural resource development grant, community enrichment grant, HATCH digital incubation program, WeHo Little Free Library, and transgender arts initiative grant. (http://www.weho.org/residents/arts-and-culture/)	2017





INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM

Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

© 2017 by Institute for Local Government
1400 K Street, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-658-8208
www.ca-ilg.org

