

BEACON



SPOTLIGHT
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



BAKERSFIELD
THE SOUND OF *Something Better*

City of Bakersfield

Sustainability Best Practice Activities



INSTITUTE FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM

Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

City of Bakersfield

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			
	Agency Energy Savings			
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2020		
	Beacon Vanguard 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. Through a partnership with PG&E, the City of Bakersfield retrofitted 12,856 streetlights with energy efficient LEDs, saving the city nearly \$700,000 per year.

Gold

Platinum





Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

Silver

1. The city requires that newly constructed medians utilize water-conserving landscaping alternatives, such as synthetic turf, hardscaping or xeriscaping.

Gold

Platinum





Green Building Activities

Silver

1. The city installed smart irrigation controllers in all parks, reduced the time and frequency of park and streetscape irrigation, and utilizes tertiary treated water for the State Farm Sports Village.

Gold

Platinum





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Silver

1. City operations accept organics from commercial businesses throughout the county in a system designed to separate plastic bags, reduce barriers to participation and increase the amount of landfill diversion tenfold while producing viable compost that is sold to nearby orchards and vineyards.

Gold

2. Bakersfield partnered with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District to switch to electric conveyors and the use of electric blowers to induce airflow through the covered compost piles. This innovative method produces an increased volume of high-quality compost for use by the agricultural industry and reduces emissions at the facility.

Platinum





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

Silver

1. The city of Bakersfield routinely purchases recycled paper and products and implements a recycling program in all city facilities.

Gold

Platinum





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

Silver

1. The city offers expedited residential solar energy permitting and provides an inspection guide, standard plans and structural criteria to streamline the installation and approvals processes.

Gold

Platinum





Efficient Transportation Activities

Silver

1. The city conducted public engagement for the new Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Plan via an interactive online platform. Community members shared thoughts and identified walking and biking destinations in the community directly on the webmap. The city will use these comments to develop a new Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan that builds upon Bakersfield's bicycle transportation network that interconnects miles of bike paths, lanes, and routes.

Gold

Platinum





Land Use and Community Design Activities

Silver

1. The city is the recipient of a Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant, which is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through a combination of community-driven climate projects in the downtown area that link to the upcoming high speed rail station. The projects are selected and developed in collaboration with the community to address local housing, transit, urban greening, energy/water efficiency, active transportation options and more.

Gold

Platinum





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

Silver

1. The city partnered with Kern County to propose the Bakersfield Habitat Conservation Plan (BHCP), which is intended to provide regional conservation strategies and specific development guidelines to protect natural resources while improving and streamlining the permit process. The BHCP will support an effective and streamlined framework for agencies to conserve, protect, enhance and restore natural resources in the area addressed by the Metropolitan Bakersfield General Plan, while allowing appropriate and compatible growth and development.

Gold

Platinum





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

Silver

1. The city supports Keep Bakersfield Beautiful (KBB), a community coalition of volunteers from the public and private sectors that focus on litter control and prevention, beautification, education, and volunteer recruitment. The City of Bakersfield Mayor and City Councilmembers each appoint one board member and one alternate board member to the KBB Committee.

Gold

Platinum



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