



BEACON



SPOTLIGHT
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Moorpark

Sustainability Best Practice Activities



INSTITUTE FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM


Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

City of Moorpark

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	2020 (8%)		
	Agency Energy Savings		2016 (12%)	
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities		2016	2017
	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. In 2013, the city completed an integrated demand side management audit of all eligible facilities that use more than 200kW. As a result of the audit, the city installed a new energy efficient roof at the community center and Arroyo Vista Recreation Center.

Gold

2. In 2012, the city implemented a community initiative to increase residential and commercial energy efficiency through retrofiting, weatherization, and replacing equipment and appliances.
3. The city participates in the Southern California Edison's (SCE) Energy Leader Partnership and has attained the Silver Level Tier. The partnership assists with identifying and addressing energy efficiency opportunities in municipal facilities and pays increased incentives for city energy efficiency projects.

Platinum

4. In 2013, Campus Park, the Police Services Center, and Poindexter Park received lighting retrofits. The retrofits consisted of replacing all park and parking lot lighting with energy efficient LED luminaires.
5. Since 2014, the city has offered emPower Central Coast and CaliforniaFIRST as energy financing programs for residential property owners.
6. The city completed retro-commissioning studies for several agency buildings to ensure they are operating as designed and installed. The studies resulted in replacing nine HVAC units at the community center and administrative buildings.





Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

Silver

1. The city replaced 62 existing irrigation controllers at city parks with WeatherTRAK ET Pro2 irrigation controllers. WeatherTRAK controllers receive real time weather and evapotranspiration data via HydroPoint's system software and adjust irrigation schedules on a daily basis to reduce overall irrigation water consumption.

Gold

2. The city replaced 10% of turf areas with bark mulch and replaced planting areas with drought tolerant materials, thereby reducing the city's irrigation water use by 15%.
3. The city's zoning ordinance contains a standard development condition, which requires the use of reclaimed water for landscape areas, when available.

Platinum

4. The city participates in the emPower Central Coast Program. emPower Central Coast provides free faucet aerators and water-efficient shower heads to residents during energy coach site visits, as well as community events.
5. In 2013, staff coordinated a demonstration project consisting of native, drought landscaping on Tierra Rejada Road, within the property owned by SCE. The result is a meadow of native grasses and shrubs specifically chosen to compliment the meadow appearance of the streetscape on Tierra Rejada Road. Since the plant material was installed, staff has had an opportunity to monitor the plant types and has found that they have established well, with minimal water and maintenance.
6. In 2011, the city initiated a bi-annual Bark Mulching Program for both city parks and landscape maintenance districts. Bark mulch has been applied to over 15 acres of planting areas.





Green Building Activities

Silver

1. The city has completed two projects that incorporate sustainable construction techniques and practices. The Moorpark Police Services Center exceeds Title 24 Standards by 10% through incorporating elements of smart design, including utilizing recycled and local building materials. The second project, the Ruben Castro Human Services Center, includes reflective roofing materials, skylights, low-e windows, and drought tolerant landscaping.

Gold

2. The city has a practice to seek LEED certification for all future facility construction projects.
3. The recreational trail improvements at Arroyo Vista Community Park have been designed to incorporate pervious concrete in the parking lot and pervious asphalt for the bike trail to enhance groundwater replenishment.

Platinum

4. The emPower Program includes an energy coach service where coaches spend up to two hours with a homeowner at their residence, providing them with information on green building techniques and recommendations to improve their home's energy efficiency. The program also works with contractors to provide them with training on green building techniques.
5. The emPower Central Coast Program has teamed up with the statewide Energy Upgrade California Program to provide homeowners with increased utility rebates for implementing energy efficient upgrades.
6. The city is a participating member of the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA). VCREA offers utility sponsored quarterly green building standards trainings to staff from member agencies. These trainings include, but are not limited to, updates to Title 24, benchmarking, and HVAC trainings.





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Silver

1. The city provides a Residential Composting Program, which offers home compost bins for a discounted price and composting educational materials. Between 2012 and 2013, 44 home composting bins were delivered to city residents.

Gold

2. In 2010, the city implemented a new Construction and Demolition Materials Management Plan (C&D) Program to require contractors for certain construction and all demolition projects to file a C&D Plan Deposit with the city. Documentation filed with the C&D Plan Deposit is submitted by the contractor to identify any construction debris that is expected to be recycled. Upon completion of the project, contractors file for a C&D Plan Deposit refund.
3. The city holds household hazardous waste (HHW), electronic waste, universal waste, and paper shredding collection events. These events are held throughout the year to provide a location for residents to take their hazardous, electronic, and universal waste.

Platinum

4. The city's website provides information to residents about how to stop receiving unwanted junk mail.
5. The city's Waste Reduction and Recycled Content Product Procurement Practices is distributed to all city employees. It asks that all city employees adopt sustainability practices at their workplaces, such as reduce energy usage, practice waste reduction techniques, and minimize use of disposables.
6. The city includes information about recycling opportunities on the agency's website.





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

Silver

1. The Waste Reduction and Recycled Content Product Procurement Practices directs the city to purchase reusable, recyclable, and recycled products whenever possible.

Gold

2. The policy also calls for all departments to review their purchasing practices and encourages the practice of not purchasing new materials, such as office supplies and furniture, through the reuse of existing items in surplus when appropriate and feasible.
3. Achievements relating to the policy are reported to the city council on a bi-annual basis as part of the city's Sustainability Report.

Platinum

4. The city considers efficient transportation methods when purchasing goods and services, such as using local vendors and/or locally produced goods to reduce GHG emissions.
5. The city has reviewed current purchasing practices to identify possible green procurement opportunities.
6. The city considers life cycle pricing to ensure that the maintenance, operating, insurance, disposal, and replacement cost of producers or services are considered when evaluating purchase options.





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

Silver

1. The city converted four city buses from diesel to CNG fuel. As a result, the city trained agency fleet mechanics to service alternative fuel vehicles.

Gold

2. The city has a policy to replace city vehicles, where feasible, with alternative fuel or hybrid vehicles. For example, the city has leased an electrical vehicle to determine if such a vehicle is a feasible choice for city use.
3. In 2013, the city installed four EV charging stations at various locations in the downtown area of Moorpark. Two stations are located at the Metrolink Station, one station was installed at the post office parking lot on High Street, and the last station was installed at the civic center parking lot.

Platinum

4. The city has installed bicycle racks and other amenities at agency facilities to promote bicycle use by agency employees and visitors.
5. The city has consolidated offices that community members often visit at the same time, such as building permitting and environmental health permitting, to reduce vehicle miles traveled.
6. City staff have planned various bike routes, trails, and sidewalks throughout the City of Moorpark. The city has secured funding for adding bike lanes to Princeton Avenue, the Arroyo Vista Recreation Center sidewalk/bike path from the pedestrian bridge to the park entrance, and sidewalk/accessibility improvements at the civic center. Funds have also been secured to design a bike lane/pedestrian sidewalk from Collins Drive to the Simi Valley city limit. Additionally, the city has planned for eight future projects that include installing bike lanes, feasibility studies for pedestrian bridges, new sidewalks, and trails.





Efficient Transportation Activities

Silver

1. The city established a Traffic System Management (TSM) fund in 2004. The TSM fund collects fees from projects that exceed federal, state, and local air quality regulations. Since 2004, the TSM fund has been used to help install bus turnouts and shelters, purchase three hybrid vehicles, fund trail studies, and help fund the Moorpark Transit System and associated use of CNG fuel.

Gold

2. Resolution 2012-3091, Policy 7.8 requires use of rubberized asphalt in all new street construction projects. The city uses Asphalt Rubber Aggregate Membrane (ARAM), which is a rubberized asphalt sealing treatment using recycled tires. Since 2007, the city has placed 26 miles of rubberized asphalt resulting in diversion of approximately 50,000 scrap tires from landfills. The city has also placed 17 miles of ARAM, diverting 10,500 tires from the landfill.
3. In 2008, the city completed installation of two traffic signal synchronization systems on two of the city's main thoroughfares, Los Angeles Avenue and Tierra Rejada Road. A total of 21 new signals were installed, which increased the average speed and decreased the number of stops on both thoroughfares.

Platinum

4. The city has installed a roundabout in lieu of a signalized intersection as a way to improve traffic flow, reduce accidents, and reduce GHG emissions.
5. Since 2005, the city has required the development of six multi-use trails at Meridian Hills, Spring Road, Ridgecrest Drive, Grimes Canyon Road and Championship Drive, Serenata, and Moorpark Highlands through development agreements.
6. To increase Moorpark Transit ridership, the city established Saturday service and extended service.





Land Use and Community Design Activities

Silver

1. The city participated in SCAG's development of the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The addition of the SCS to the RTP means that the RTP now integrates not only transportation and land-use planning, but also housing and environmental planning with the goal of reducing regional GHG emissions. The city uses the RTP/SCS when conducting its own transportation, land use, and environmental planning to assist in efforts to reduce regional GHG emissions.

Gold

2. As part of the General Plan Housing Element Update, the city identified potential infill development sites and maintains a community-wide database of vacant and underutilized infill sites to monitor the community's growth and change.
3. Since 2014, the city has offered the CaliforniaFIRST Program as an energy financing program for commercial industrial and multifamily property owners to install energy efficient retrofits, solar photovoltaic, or hot water systems on new or existing residential and commercial buildings.

Platinum

4. The city has reviewed zoning codes and development policies to identify changes that could improve implementation of land use and transportation policies that reduce GHG emissions.
5. Policy 5.3 of the city's Land Use Element requires proposed residential, commercial, and industrial developments to include bikeways in their street improvement plans, consistent with the city's Circulation Element Bikeway Network Plan, and to construct the bicycle paths, or lanes, or routes as a condition of project approval.
6. Policy 5.6 of the city's Land Use Element requires bicycle racks and encourages the installation of storage facilities at new or modified public, commercial, and industrial building sites.





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

Silver

1. The city offers a container gardening class at the Active Adult Center on the third Thursday of the month.

Gold

2. The city implemented a program to demonstrate the importance of urban waterways to school aged children. The program includes a native landscaping component where the children will learn about the different types of native landscape plants and learn hands-on ways to plant and manage these types of landscapes.
3. The city is preparing a master plan for Monte Vista Nature Park to include drought tolerant demonstration gardens, walkways, and seating areas. The city plans to remove all the non-native landscape material within the park over the next three years and prepare a comprehensive plan of the entire park so that volunteer organizations, such as the Boy Scouts of America, can install portions of the park in phases. It is the intent that this park will showcase a wide range of native plant types with identification and interpretative signage.

Platinum

4. The city maintains a tree inventory for all trees owned by the City of Moorpark. In 2013, 234 additional trees were added throughout the city. The city also diverts 350 tons of green waste annually from tree maintenance services to the landfill by recycling woodchips for use in city planters. Also in 2013, the city provided 100 Afghan Pine trees to Moorpark residents during the Arbor Day celebration.
5. In 2014, the city completed the Urban Forest Management Plan for all city trees. The plan provides a vision and mission statement, current status of our urban forest and information on the overall management of our current tree population.
6. The city has been awarded Tree City USA status several years in a row and the National Arbor Day Foundation has presented the City of Moorpark with the tree growth award in recognition of the city's commitment to the environment and urban forest work.





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

Silver

1. The city's website, government channel, and publications include sustainability information. The sustainability section of the website is updated with new information relevant to the City of Moorpark as it is received. City departments that have implemented conservation measures are also encouraged to submit articles for the city newsletter to keep residents informed of actions the city is taking to conserve natural resources.

Gold

2. The city participates in the emPower Central Coast Program, which provides LED lightbulbs, reusable bags, and other give-away items at community events in Moorpark to encourage environmental responsibility.
3. The city participates in California Coastal Clean-up Day, which is held on the third Saturday of September. Volunteers are educated on the importance of recycling and sustainability.

Platinum

4. The city distributes maps showing the community bicycle and walking trail systems to encourage reduction of vehicle miles traveled.
5. The city collaborates with other local government agencies to share information about climate change and best practices to reduce GHGs. For example, the city participates on an advisory working group for implementing a CCA Program in Ventura County.
6. The city hosts numerous events throughout the year that highlight and promote sustainability programs, such as e-waste collections, tree planting events, and Bike to Work Day.





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