



BEACON
SPOTLIGHT
AWARD
WINNER
BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Rancho Palos Verdes

Sustainability Best Practice Activities



ILG INSTITUTE FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENTSM
Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

City of Rancho Palos Verdes

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	2018 (8%)		
	Agency Energy Savings		2018 (10%)	
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2018		
	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 of Rancho Palos Verdes is partnered with energy efficiency and conservation programs, such as HERO, PACE, and Los Angeles PACE. These programs help home and business owners finance renewable energy and energy efficiency upgrades to their homes and businesses.

Gold

2. The city is partnered with various utility companies to provide rebates for energy efficient and quality appliances, air condition alternatives, electric water heaters, light bulbs, space heaters, water heaters, pool heaters, showerheads, washers, and insulation.
3. The city provides electronic brochures on Energy Upgrade California.

Platinum

4. The city provides a Residential Energy Inspection Checklist for newly constructed buildings and additions.





Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

Silver

1. The city is currently partnered with the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) to promote free rain barrel giveaways and greywater workshops.

Gold

2. The city passed a Storm Water and Urban Runoff Pollution Control amendment to Municipal Code. Includes guidelines and city actions to prevent contamination of storm drains. Amendment lists forbidden activities and chemicals, active public outreach and education programs, installation of special filters in high priority catch basins, implementation of best management practices on city construction and maintenance activities, and requirements for regular storm drain maintenance.

Platinum





Green Building Activities

Silver

1. The City of Rancho Palos Verdes' Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance provides procedural and design guidance for landscaped areas, altered landscaped areas, and landscape area irrigation systems for all public agency projects and private development projects with a landscape area equal to or greater than 2,500 square feet.

Gold

Platinum





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

Silver

1. The city offers a Composting Rebate and Grass Recycling Program, which includes workshops for residents and rebates for the purchase of worm bins and composting bins.

Gold

2. The city conducts a "Recyclers of the Month" drawing. Residents who recycle using curbside bins can enter a drawing to win \$250. Annually, there are 48 lucky recipients.
3. The city annually hosts household hazardous waste/electronic waste roundup events. The roundup attracts over 1,000 area residents.

Platinum

4. The city actively posts waste reduction and recycling information on the city's website with respect to recycling dos and don'ts, composting websites, instructions to opt out of junk mail, and other waste reduction and prevention practices.





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

Silver

1. In 2017, the city adopted the ERAP, which outlines the city's goals to establish a Municipal Purchasing Policy. The purchasing policy would require reducing purchases of disposable items, and require environmentally preferable products to be purchased when possible and reasonable.

Gold

2. In 2017, the city adopted the ERAP, which seeks to establish climate friendly purchasing policies to encourage paper reduction through various activities, such as reducing margins and logos on templates, letterheads, and memos, upload bid documents using online resources instead of printing for contractors; require fewer or smaller-sized copies of project plans, using electronic devices for meetings, requiring double sided printing when feasible.

Platinum





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

Silver

1. The city provides an eligibility checklist for expedited solar photovoltaic permitting for one and two-family dwellings and solar domestic water heating permitting. Additional information about permitting can be found on the city website.

Gold

2. The city's contracted street sweepers meet SCAQMD standards; the trucks use CNG fuel and are equipped with a water system to minimize and control dust.

Platinum





Efficient Transportation Activities

Silver

1. The city participates in SBCCOG's Sustainable South Bay Strategy (SSBS). Strategies include Neighborhood Oriented Development (NOD) to cluster destinations to reduce VMT.

Gold

2. The City of Rancho Palos Verdes began planning for a non-motor vehicle transportation circulation system for pedestrians, equestrians and bicyclists as early as the adoption of the city's General Plan in 1975. The trails are recognized as an integral part of the city's circulation system and play an important role in contributing to the successful integration of residential, institutional, commercial and recreational zoning districts within the city, while encouraging recreational and fitness opportunities. The city council adopted the city's Trails Networks Plan intended to serve as an advisory tool for the funding and implementation of city trails. In the past few years the city has actively sought to acquire and preserve permanent open space.

Platinum





Land Use and Community Design Activities

Silver

1. As part of the stewardship of city-owned lands, the city adopted trail plans for the Forrestal Nature Preserve in 2001 and the overall Preserve Trails Plan for the entire Palos Verdes Nature Preserve in 2008. We managed the preserve according to guidelines outlined in the Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) Program of the Department of Fish and Game. The NCCP Program is a cooperative effort by the State of California and numerous private and public partners that takes a broad-based ecosystem approach to planning for the protection and perpetuation of biological diversity. The NCCP identifies and provides for the regional protection of plants, animals, and their habitats, while allowing compatible and appropriate economic activity.

Gold

Platinum





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

Silver

1. Rancho Palos Verdes Natural Communities Conservation Planning: the purpose of this plan is to identify and provide for the area-wide protection of natural wildlife diversity, while allowing for compatible and appropriate development and growth. Because of the relatively high concentration of federally protected coastal sage scrub habitat in the city, and the growing intensity of development pressures, the city entered into a planning agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to develop an NCCP subarea plan and create the Rancho Palos Verdes Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). This plan was approved for filing with the federal register by the city council in March 2018.

Gold

2. The city adopted the Preserve Habitat Management Plan for the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. The city adheres to this plan for the management of the preserve and trails includes species monitoring, predator control, habitat restoration, exotic plant removal, and habitat tracking.

Platinum





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

Silver

1. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC) serves as the city's habitat manager. The PVPLC provides guided tours and hikes of natural areas in the city and provides volunteer opportunities to restore the habitat of the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. Volunteer projects include native plant nursery, adopt-a-plot, invasive species removal, and native plant garden beautification projects.

Gold

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