

BEACON

SPOTLIGHT  
AWARD

WINNER

BEST PRACTICE  
ACTIVITIES



# City of San Leandro

## Sustainability Best Practice Activities



**ILG** INSTITUTE FOR  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT<sup>SM</sup>  
*Promoting Good Government at the Local Level*

# City of San Leandro

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		2020 (10%)	
	Community GHG Reductions			2020 (20%)
	Agency Energy Savings		2020 (32%)	
	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. San Leandro replaced 4,730 city street lights with energy saving LED smart lights since 2016.

## Gold

2. The city won a grant from the California Energy Commission in 2017 to upgrade the Water Pollution Control Plant. Upgrades included LED lighting installation, HVAC improvements and a new automation system.
3. San Leandro has four authorized PACE providers in its jurisdiction - CaliforniaFIRST, AllianceNRG, HERO and YGreene.

## Platinum





# Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

## Silver

1. The San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant provides free treated recycled water to the public.

## Gold

2. San Leandro has an active Adopt-a-Drain Program where residents can volunteer to keep a storm drain free of debris.
3. The San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant procured a high efficiency turboblower for the activated sludge aeration basin. This installation is expected to save over \$60,000 in electricity costs a year and greatly improve the efficiency of the biological processes.

## Platinum





# Green Building Activities

## Silver

1. The city's green building ordinance specifies that all building projects valued at \$3 million or more on city facilities must be at least LEED Silver rating from the US Green Building Council.

## Gold

2. The San Leandro Senior Community Center received a LEED Gold rating for its construction in 2011.
3. The city is home to the first commercial zero net energy (ZNE) retrofit of an 1980s office building in California. The ZNE Center is the result of a partnership between IBEW Local Union 595 and the Northern California Chapter NECA and provides education/training for apprentice and journey-level electricians.

## Platinum





# Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

## Silver

1. San Leandro's Public Works Department provides free compost to residents annually.

## Gold

2. The city's Public Works Department organizes an annual household hazardous waste recycling event.
3. The Public Works Department organizes an annual shredding and techno trash recycling event.

## Platinum





# Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

## Silver

1. The Solid Waste and Recycling website provides public resources on environmentally preferable purchasing for residents and businesses.

## Gold

2. San Leandro fuels all of its city diesel vehicles with 100% renewable diesel to achieve up to 80% reduction in GHG emissions in comparison to fossil diesel.
3. The city promotes use of recycled paper in a city facilities.

## Platinum





# Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

## Silver

1. The San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant had a 1 MW solar power generation system installed in 2019.

## Gold

2. San Leandro has a dedicated solar landing page on the city website for solar resources.
3. The city is enrolled in the East Bay Community Energy CCA with 33,959 accounts active, 310 of which opted up to Brilliant 100 and 97 opted up for Renewable 100 options for electricity (as of December 2019).

## Platinum

4. The city has a total of 13,074 kW solar PV and 1,378 kW battery storage installed in the community as of May 2020.







# Efficient Transportation Activities

## Silver

1. In operation since 2001, the San Leandro LINK shuttle provides free transit between San Leandro BART and certain neighborhoods and sites, such as Kaiser.

## Gold

2. San Leandro High won the 2019 Platinum Sneaker Award from Alameda County Safe Routes to School Program for their participation in the Safe Routes to School events.
3. The San Leandro Bikeway East Improvement project added 2.3 miles of Class II bikeways and 10.5 miles of Class III Bikeways in 2015.

## Platinum

4. The City of San Leandro completed a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan in 2017.





# Land Use and Community Design Activities

## Silver

1. The city received a grant from the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority in 2018 to design and permit the conversion of a wastewater storage basin at the San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant into a multi-benefit treatment wetland.

## Gold

2. The San Leandro Water Pollution Control Plant's administrative building is Silver LEED and is the site of a Bay Area Friendly Landscaping Project. More than half the plants used are native plants and saves more than 220,000 gallons of water every year.
3. The City of San Leandro completed a Fiber Optic Master Plan to better connect neighborhoods to fast internet.

## Platinum





# Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

## Silver

1. San Leandro has been named a Tree City of USA since 1996.

## Gold

2. The city's Public Works Department oversees an active city tree program that allows residents to request a new street tree in the public right-of-way. Currently the city maintains approximately 20,000 trees.
3. The San Leandro Creek is an important waterway that runs through the city from Chabot Regional Park down to San Leandro Marina. The Friends of the San Leandro Creek runs regular environmental education events/ tours and creek clean ups.

## Platinum





# Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

## Silver

1. San Leandro 2050, the only environmental nonprofit in San Leandro, won a 2019 Community Air Grant from California Air Resources Board to hold community listening sessions and outreach for the climate action plan to ensure participation from all neighborhoods.

## Gold

2. The city has a dedicated hub for volunteerism for organizations to list their volunteer opportunities and for people to sign up as volunteers.
3. San Leandro has a food access map of places where people can pick up groceries or meals to go.

## Platinum

4. The city has a dedicated website for residential household sustainability behavior change at [GoGreenSL.org](http://GoGreenSL.org). Nearly 400 homes are signed up on the website. San Leandro partners with Community Impact Lab to roll out campaign.







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