

GOLD LEVEL AWARD WINNER

BEACON
SPOTLIGHT
AWARD
WINNER
BEST PRACTICE
ACTIVITIES



City of Hermosa Beach

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			30%
	Natural Gas Savings -N/A			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities		2018	





Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. Audited municipal buildings to identify opportunities for energy savings. See GSE report. (2013)	2016

Level	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Activities	Reported
Gold	<p>1. Participated in SCE’s Energy Leader Program to access technical assistance and financial incentives.</p> <p>2. In 2012, city council adopted a resolution to join the Home Energy Renovation Opportunity (HERO), which is a PACE program for residential upgrades, administered by the Western Riverside Council of Governments. Projects eligible under the HERO program include lighting upgrades, building insulation improvements, water efficiency enhancements, renewable energy production, water heating technologies, and mechanical system upgrades. (Climate Action Plan 2017 pg. 17). In 2013, city council adopted a resolution to also participate in the California Figtree program, which is a PACE program to help commercial and certain residential property owners improve their properties and lower their utility bills with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation upgrades. The program helps property owners voluntarily finance technologies such as a solar panels, cool roofs, insulation, windows, doors, heating and cooling equipment, lighting and plumbing equipment. (Climate Action Plan 2017 pg. 17). The city has adopted a resolution to participate in Los Angeles PACE. This financing option is available to Los Angeles County commercial, industrial, and multi-family property owners to on-site efficiency, renewable energy, and water saving improvements. Under the program, the county issues a bond to a lender, which secures funding for the construction of the energy upgrade. Property owners then repay financing twice a year through an assessment on their property bill. (Climate Action Plan 2017 pg. 17)</p>	2018

Level	Energy Efficiency & Conservation Activities	Reported
Platinum		





Water & Wastewater Systems Activity

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2011, Hermosa Beach adopted an efficient landscape ordinance that exceeds state regulations.	2016

Level	Water & Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city is actively reducing turf and grass in city landscaped areas. In 2015, the turf replacement was installed at the surf memorial. 2. The city uses recycled water on 75% of parks, greenbelts and medians. 	2016

Level	Water and Wastewater Systems Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city uses compost and mulch on city landscapes to conserve water. 2. The city implemented the Clean Bay Restaurants Inspection Program which recognized restaurants that integrate sustainability and ocean-mindedness into their business practices. This helps improve water quality by reducing storm water run off pollution generated by restaurant activities. 3. The city installed smart irrigation systems on city landscapes. 	2016





Green Building Activity

Level	Green Building Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city trained its staff in green building standards and technologies.	2016

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city rebates building fees by 50% for improvements that qualify for Energy Upgrade California. 2. In 2015, the city installed a water efficient demonstration garden at city hall. 	2016

Level	Green Building Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the Hermosa Plan Policy 5.2 requires high quality and long-lasting building materials on all new development projects to reduce the need for wasteful replacements and upgrades and improves (Plan Hermosa, Chapter 2, Goal 5 pg. 93 http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872) 2. City council adopted the Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance on February 9, 2010, adding Chapter 8.56 to the Municipal Code. The plan was adopted to increase the conservation and efficient use of potable water, maximize the use of recycled water, and provide a drought management plan. The plan consists of both permanent water efficiency regulations on an ongoing basis, and restrictive levels of drought response actions during times of drought. (CAP 2017, pg. 18) 3. The city adopted the 2013 Editions of the California Building Code including various “reach” codes including a requirement that new buildings and remodels when a building is expanding or remodeled more than 50% achieve 15% above Title 24, installation of cool roofs for all new roofs and re-roofs, requirement that new buildings be “solar ready”, per Chapters 15.32, 15.48, and 15.52 of the Municipal Code, among other provisions. http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872 	





Waste Reduction and Recycling Activity

Level	Waste Reduction Activity	Reported
Silver	1. City facilities and operations are evaluated to identify opportunities to increase waste recovery.	2016

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city recycles all ink and toner cartridges. 2. The city recycles all green waste (grass & tree trimmings) from city facilities 	2016

Level	Waste Reduction Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city adopted and implemented a ban on single-use plastic bags. 2. The city distributes a quarterly newsletter highlighting municipal and residential waste reduction programs. 3. City provides link to subsidized compost and worm bins for city residents. http://www.hermosabch.org/index.aspx?page=834 4. The city provides information about local recycling for solvents, automotive, flammable, and e-waste on their website. http://www.hermosabch.org/index.aspx?page=834 	2016





Climate-friendly Purchasing Activity

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2013 the city council adopted the Clean Fleet Policy and Action Plan as a step towards the city's carbon neutral goal for municipal facilities and operations. The policy requires a progressive transition to alternative fuel and zero and low emissions vehicles and on-off-road equipment as well as improved fleet management and operations. These measures accelerate GHG reduction, improve air quality and health, reduce petroleum dependence and increase energy security in Hermosa Beach and beyond. 2016, the city updated and implemented a clean fleet policy and action plan.(CAP 2017, pg. 18)	2016

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Gold	1. The city adopted a "buy recycled" policy for agency departments. 2. The city instituted special events sustainability requirements.	2016

Level	Climate-Friendly Activity	Reported
Platinum	1. The city purchases environmentally friendly municipal cleaning supplies. (Climate Action Plan 2017, pg. 20)	





Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activity

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city installed solar powered flashing red lights at 8 locations.	2016

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning fees are waived and building fees are rebated for small wind energy systems (excludes contract service/out of pocket fees paid by the city and any building permit fees to upgrade the structure to accommodate the installation) (CAP 2017 pg. 19)The city rebates building fees for those that contain photovoltaic panels. 2. The city offers 100% rebates for building permit fees for photovoltaic installations. Excludes any building permit fees to upgrade the structure to accommodate the installation. (Climate Action Plan 2017, pg. 19) 	2016

Level	Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Fuels Activity	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city installed solar powered flashing red lights at 8 locations. 2. The city amended its zoning code to allow small wind energy systems. 3. The city offers free parking for all electric vehicles. 4. Free parking and charging at the City of Hermosa Beach public charging stations (city hall, Upper Pier Avenue) (notes that EV charging at the municipal parking structure is fee-based) (CAP, pg. 19) 	2016





Efficient Transportation Activity

Level	Efficient Transportation Activity	Reported
Silver	1. In 2016, the city implemented an employee commute reduction plan.	2016

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Gold	1. In 2016, the city installed bike sharrows on Monterey Blvd. 2. In 2016, the city installed bike mini-corrals in the downtown commercial district.	2016

Level	Efficient Transportation Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. The city supports the location of transit stations and enhanced stops near the intersection of Aviation Blvd. and PCH, and adjacent to Gateway Commercial to facilitate and take advantage of transit services, reduce vehicle trips, and low residents without private vehicles to access services. (Plan Hermosa, Access to Transit, policy 4.7 Goal 4. http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872) 2. The city provides building permit fees for service upgrades rebated for 100% alternative fuel vehicles (e.g. electric charging and clean natural gas (CNG)) (CAP 2017 pg. 19) 3. City silver parking meter fees waived for 100% electric or 100% CNG vehicles. (CAP 2017, pg. 19)	2018





Land Use and Community Design Activity

Level	Land Use and Community Activity	Reported
Silver	1. The city passed a Low Impact Development (LID) ordinance. The most significant changes in the ordinance are related to new development and redevelopment projects. For more information visit: www.easyreadernews.com/108154/city-of-hermosa-beach-05-21-2015/ . (2015)	2016

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city adopted a form-based pedestrian oriented zoning for Pier Avenue in an effort to make it a vibrant pedestrian environment. The city actively supports regional transportation and infrastructure projects and investment decisions that benefit the city and the region. (Hermosa Plan, Goal 4.4, pg. 44) http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872 	2016

Level	Land Use and Community Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The city is working to create sustainable development patterns such that the majority of residents are within one-half mile walking distance to a variety of neighborhood goods and services, such as supermarkets, restaurants, churches, cafes, dry cleaners, laundromats, farmers markets, banks, personal services, pharmacies and similar uses. Policy 1.4, Land Use and Design chapter. (Plan Hermosa Goal 1, pg. 88) http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872 The city is working to ensure all neighborhoods are complete and well-structured with the following characteristics; contain a high level of connectivity for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles, homes with entries and windows facing the street, have goods and services within a short walking distance, address the needs of multiple ages and physical abilities. (Plan Hermosa, Complete Neighborhood Policy 2.1 pg. 89) http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872 	





Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activity

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Silver	1. In 2009-2010, the city prepared its first greenhouse gas emissions inventory.	2015

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Gold	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 2010, the city council set a goal of becoming carbon neutral, meaning all municipal and community operations will come from renewable sources, or offset. 2. In 2010, the city council set a goal of becoming carbon neutral, meaning all municipal and community operations will come from renewable sources, or offset. http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872 	2015

Level	Open Space Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities	Reported
Platinum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain a coordinated working relationship with the Coastal Commission to maximize public access to the California Coast. (Plan Hermosa 4.5 Coast Collaboration pg. 44 http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872) 2. The city proactively beautifies existing streetscapes with street trees, landscaping and pedestrian-scaled lighting. (Plan Hermosa Streetscaping. 6.2 http://www.hermosabch.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=9872) 	2015





Promoting Community and Individual Action Activity

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Silver	1. The City of Hermosa Beach became the first South Bay city to join the "Cool Cities" initiative. (2006)	2015

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Gold	1. The City of Hermosa Beach appointed a Green Task Force to advise on green initiatives and prepare a sustainability/climate action plan (2009). 2. The city sponsors an annual beach clean-up day.	2015

Level	Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities	Reported
Platinum	1. The city implemented a residential worm bin and compost bin program, which offers these bins to community members at discounted prices in order to encourage composting. 2. The city conducts annual compost give-a-ways for residents.	2015







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