



BEACON  
SPOTLIGHT  
AWARD  
WINNER  
BEST PRACTICE  
ACTIVITIES



# City of Redlands

## Sustainability Best Practice Activities



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



# City of Redlands

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

SPOTLIGHT AWARD		SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Areas of Accomplishment				
	Agency GHG Reductions			
	Community GHG Reductions			
	Agency Energy Savings	2013 (5%)		
	Natural Gas Savings			
	Sustainability Best Practice Activities	2013		
	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. Established Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing program to provide commercial property owners upfront financing for energy and water efficiency building upgrades and renewable energy systems.

## Gold

2. Installed pilot controlled lighting on the runway of the airport. This feature enables pilots to activate the runway lights at night on approach which saves energy by allowing the lights to be off except when activated.
3. Installed LED lights in all existing traffic signals in the city and established specifications for requiring LED lights in all new traffic signals. This action resulted in a 90% reduction of energy usage with a 3.7 year payback for the cost of installation.

## Platinum

4. The city is currently benchmarking four of its buildings. Energy benchmarking helps the city set investment priorities in regards to its Energy Leader Partnership with Southern California Edison and grant funds acquired to help improve the energy efficiency of city operations. Energy benchmarking offers the city an established strategy in energy management that aides in gauging current performance, setting goals for future performance, following savings and rewarding improvements.
5. The city has received an allocation from the Department of Energy under the 2010 Energy and Water and Other Related Agencies Appropriations Act to provide targeted upgrades to operations requiring the highest energy usage intensity among all city facilities. Upgrades include: heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment and controls, outdoor lighting, and water conveyance system management.





# Water & Wastewater Systems Activities

## Silver

1. The city offers rebates on water efficiency products including high efficiency toilets, synthetic turf, high efficiency washing machines; weather based smart irrigation timers and high efficiency nozzles.

## Gold

2. Upon request, water conservation staff will conduct a site visit to discuss needs or questions regarding ways to reduce water consumption in irrigation, leak detection and through general water conservation tips. In addition, we offer free water surveys to customers within the service area.
3. Established Water Conservation Native Plant Demonstration Garden as an example of “xeriscape landscaping”, which requires minimal watering and is encouraged by water conservation experts.

## Platinum

4. The city has undertaken a comprehensive evaluation of the waste water treatment plant's energy usage and implemented a pumping system overhaul and optimization to result in saving of 200,000 kWh per year and a demand reduction of 60 kW.
5. The city has also performed a thorough evaluation of its fresh water production and distribution systems and has implemented a pumping system overhaul that resulted in a saving of 705,000 kWh and a demand reduction of 173 kW.





# Green Building Activities

## Silver

1. The city streamlined the permitting process for projects pursuing LEED certification. The streamlined process applies to commercial or residential LEED certified development.

## Gold

2. The city recently modified the Residential Development Allocation to include, but not limited to, new incentives and points for LEED development, energy reduction, increased recycling, use of recycled content building and construction materials and incentives for pedestrian and transit oriented development.
3. The city offers incentivized utility impact fees for LEED development. Utility impact fees are reduced when developers can demonstrate reduced impacts resulting from water saving measures, reduced solid waste generation, etc.

## Platinum





# Waste Reduction and Recycling Activities

## Silver

1. The city has partnered with a company to offer residents and business owners the opportunity to stop receiving catalogs, phone books, coupons and weekly circulars to reduce curb waste sent to landfills.

## Gold

2. The city is working with individual property managers and apartment complexes to increase subscription to recycling services in multifamily housing units. Staff will provide follow up and educational materials to prevent problems endemic to multifamily recycling programs.
3. The city adopted Construction and Demolition Recycling Requirements.

## Platinum

4. The city's Fire Department has implemented a weekly collection service for electronic devices and all e-waste at their collection facility. It is held every Saturday morning (weather permitting).





# Climate-friendly Purchasing Activities

## Silver

1. The city adopted a Recycled Product Preference Policy. This policy provides for increased procurement of products and supplies by the city with a higher post-consumer, recycled content.

## Gold

2. The Municipal Utilities and Engineering Department has instituted a program under which all street reconstruction/construction will be required to utilize rubberized street pavement treatments. These rubberized street pavement treatments use recycled tires to improve pavement performance and re-use the expended tires to their highest and most beneficial reuse.

## Platinum





# Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Fuels Activities

## Silver

1. Installed a 115-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system at the wastewater treatment plant. The plant is a high-intensity energy user and this PV system will save \$16,000/year and 200,000 kilowatt hours per year over an expected lifespan of 30 years.

## Gold

2. The city fleet includes 18 vehicles fueled by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), and 10 vehicles fueled by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).
3. The city operates a CNG/LNG fueling station that has recently expanded the sale of LNG and CNG fuel to outside users. This shift in policy will promote the use of alternative fueled vehicles on a regional basis by making LNG/CNG fuel available to private fleets and to operators of alternative fuel cars and sedans.

## Platinum

4. The city's waste water treatment plant is using methane/hydrocarbon fuel produced from its daily operations to power a portion of the facility's power generation needs. This use of renewable energy, produced as a by-product of the plant's operations, reduces the city's consumption of non-renewable energy sources from the power grid.





# Efficient Transportation Activities

## Silver

1. The city developed a Non-Motorized Connectivity Plan to identify and connect networks of non-motorized travel routes, supporting safe travel to/from schools, parks, neighborhoods, essential services and major employment centers. The routes will connect to future light rail stations to enable rail-based travel for employment and leisure.

## Gold

## Platinum





# Land Use and Community Design Activities

## Silver

1. The city adopted the Downtown Redlands Specific Plan, which identifies four goals to guide the future of Redlands, including: a) promote Downtown Redlands' economic vitality by encouraging a mix of uses and by encouraging transit-oriented development in the vicinity of the proposed railway station, b) create a pedestrian-oriented environment, c) maintain and enhance a distinct Redlands character, which is based upon its historical elements, and d) enhance and extend the civic realm through vibrant streetscapes.

## Gold

2. Developed the Orange Blossom Trail Master Plan to identify opportunities and constraints to increasing multi-modal connectivity in the city.
3. In 2011, the city adopted a countywide Non-motorized Transportation Plan for the purpose of establishing a document to guide the development of the local non-motorized system for cycling and walking. As a part of this, the city is implementing sections of the plan that address cycling and walking issues and the needs in the City of Redlands.

## Platinum

4. The city has recently completed the placement of nine lane miles of traffic calming measures and bicycle lanes, as a part of a comprehensive plan to institute such measures city-wide. These bicycle lanes provide bicycle access to transit services on major transit corridors and other routes that attract bicyclists, serving schools and the University of Redlands.





# Open Space and Offsetting Carbon Emission Activities

## Silver

1. The city is working with the South Coast Air Quality Management District to plant over 1500 low-VOC citrus trees.

## Gold

2. The city owns and manages 16 citrus groves throughout the city, totaling 209 acres of preserved open space.
3. The city planted 1,046 trees in 2008, as a part of its ongoing Tree Planting Program. Annually the city plants 200 – 300 trees on average.

## Platinum

4. The city recently approved a study that allows rural property owners to transfer the development rights for their property to would-be developers in urban areas, thereby allowing the rural areas to stay rural and also promoting higher urban density and infill development, as opposed to urban sprawl.
5. The city acquired a piece of property formerly held by private landowners through a partnership with the City of Loma Linda and using grant funds from the Environmental Protection Agency in 2007. The purpose of this acquisition was to acquire open space and maintain a conservation easement over the property with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District.





# Promoting Community and Individual Action Activities

## Silver

1. The city engaged in Southern California Edison Energy Leader Partnership Program ,which contains an element to implement public outreach and education. The program includes outreach events and materials. Outreach will focus on CORE programs offered by SCE to residential and commercial clients.

## Gold

2. The city established the Climate Protection Task Force in 2009, consisting of a group of community volunteers for the purpose of developing a comprehensive list of climate protection recommendations for presentation to the city council. The task force developed and delivered the city's Sustainability Plan in March 2011, using the Institute for Local Government's Best Practices Framework as a guide.
3. In 2011, the city adopted the Redlands Community Sustainability Plan as a formal act by the city council.

## Platinum







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