



City of Sacramento City Council

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814
www.CityofSacramento.org

Meeting Date: 1/31/2012

Report Type: Consent

Title: Beacon Award: Local Leadership Toward Solving Climate Change

Report ID: 2012-00028

Location: Citywide

Recommendation: Pass a Resolution approving City of Sacramento participation in the Institute for Local Government's Beacon Award: Local Leadership Towards Solving Climate Change recognition program.

Contact: Erik deKok, Senior Planner, (916) 808-2011, Community Development Department

Presenter: None

Department: Community Development Dept / General Services Dept

Division: Long Range Planning

Dept ID: 21001222

Attachments:

- 1- Description/Analysis
- 2- Background
- 3- Resolution

City Attorney Review

Approved as to Form
Sabina D. Gilbert
1/13/2012 4:09:21 PM

City Treasurer Review

Reviewed for Impact on Cash and Debt
Janelle Gray
12/14/2011 4:26:23 PM

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Department Director or Designee: Max Fernandez - 1/12/2012 2:41:05 PM



Description/Analysis

Issue: The Beacon Award: Local Leadership toward Solving Climate Change is a voluntary program of the Institute for Local Government designed to recognize and celebrate cities and counties that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy use, adopt policies and programs to address climate change, and promote sustainability. The Institute for Local Government is the non-profit research and education affiliate of the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties.

Participation in the Beacon Award program is an opportunity for the City to showcase its efforts to promote sustainability and lead by example, as well as benchmark and recognize future achievements and measurable outcomes as specified in the Sustainability Master Plan and Climate Action Plans. Additional program benefits to the City will include special recognition provided by the League of California Cities and California State Association of Counties at various events, highlights of City achievements on the Beacon Award website, certificates and other materials to display in City facilities, and other appropriate and visible public tributes.

Policy Considerations: Participation in the Beacon Award program is consistent with the key themes, goals, policies and programs contained in the 2030 General Plan which call for saving energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and promoting sustainability. Program participation is also consistent with the Sustainability Master Plan (see Sustainability Considerations below).

Environmental Considerations: Participation in a voluntary awards program is not considered a project subject to environmental review as defined by CEQA.

Sustainability: Participation in the Beacon Award is consistent with the Goals and Targets as set forth in the Sustainability Master Plan, Focus Area 9, Public Involvement and Personal Responsibility. Focus Area 9 calls for the City to commit to leading by example to foster behavioral change throughout the city, promote an ethic of conservation and stewardship, and optimize opportunities to showcase Sacramento's environmental leadership.

Commission/Committee Action: None

Rationale for Recommendation: Participation in the Beacon Award program is an opportunity for the City to showcase its past and present efforts to promote and incentivize sustainability, as well as benchmark and recognize future achievements as the City works towards measurable outcomes as specified in the Sustainability Master Plan and Climate Action Plan.

Financial Considerations: Program participation is voluntary. There is no deadline or timeline for meeting award level criteria, as participating agencies work towards achieving award levels at their own pace. Staff will provide periodic information to Institute for Local Government staff to demonstrate progress in achieving measurable outcomes as the result of Climate Action Plan implementation. Data and other information required for program participation are to be collected as part of existing 2030 General Plan and Sustainability Annual Reporting programs.

Participating in the program may increase the City's competitiveness for future state or other grant funding.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): No goods or services are being purchased as a result of this program.

Background

The Beacon Award: Local Leadership toward Solving Climate Change is a voluntary program of the Institute for Local Government (ILG) designed to recognize and celebrate cities and counties that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy use, adopt policies and programs to address climate change, and promote sustainability. ILG is the non-profit research and education affiliate of the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties.

The Beacon Award 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.

In order to participate in the Beacon Award, cities and counties must complete a simple application and do the following (note that the City of Sacramento's status relative to each is summarized under each item):

- Adopt a resolution by the governing body committing the agency to participate in the program: A resolution is proposed for adoption by City Council as part of this staff report.
- Designate a lead staff person as a point of contact: Erik de Kok, Senior Planner, Community Development Department (808-2022), will be lead staff person.
- Prepare, or commit to prepare, a baseline greenhouse gas emissions inventory for agency facilities and the community as a whole (previously completed inventories using a commonly accepted methodology will be accepted): A comprehensive 2005 baseline greenhouse gas emissions inventory was completed in 2009 and amended in 2010-2011 as part of the Climate Action Plan process.
- Prepare, or commit to prepare, a climate action plan that includes actions in each of the California Climate Action Network's Best Practice Areas (previously completed plans using a commonly accepted methodology will be accepted): Staff has reviewed both the Phase 1 Climate Action Plan (adopted in February 2010) and the proposed Phase 2 Climate Action Plan (scheduled for adoption on January 31, 2012) and has determined that they are consistent with the Best Practice Areas.
- Demonstrate compliance with AB 939, the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989: The City of Sacramento is in compliance with AB 939 for most recent calendar year for which reporting is available (2010).
- Achieve specified measurable greenhouse gas reductions and energy savings in agency facilities, and achieve measurable greenhouse gas reductions and promote energy conservation activities in the community: Implementation of both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 Climate Action Plans will achieve the specified

measurable results noted above. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the Plans' effectiveness in meeting specified program award levels will be accomplished through data collection and annual reporting activities already in place for both the Sustainability Master Plan and 2030 General Plan.

Participating cities and counties will be recognized with Silver, Gold, and Platinum Beacon Awards for achieving specified measurable reductions. The program will also recognize participants for interim accomplishments. Awards are achieved through the tiered scale of criteria below:

<i>Silver Beacon Award</i>	
Agency Facilities & Operations	
GHG Reduction:	5 percent in agency facilities & operations
Energy Savings:	5 percent in agency facilities & operations from energy efficiency retrofits
Community	
GHG Reduction:	5 percent in the community as a whole
Energy Savings:	1 activity that promotes energy efficiency in the community
Best Practice Areas:	One activity in each of the ten Best Practice Areas

<i>Gold Beacon Award</i>	
Agency Facilities & Operations	
GHG Reduction:	10 percent in agency facilities & operations
Energy Savings:	10 percent in agency facilities & operations from energy efficiency retrofits
Community	
GHG Reduction:	10 percent in the community as a whole
Energy Savings:	2 activities that promote energy efficiency in the community
Best Practice Areas:	2 activities in each of the ten Best Practice Areas

<i>Platinum Beacon Award</i>	
Agency Facilities & Operations	
GHG Reduction:	20 percent in agency facilities & operations
Energy Savings:	20percent in agency facilities & operations from energy efficiency retrofits
Community	
GHG Reduction:	20 percent in the community as a whole
Energy Savings:	4 activities that promote energy efficiency in the community
Best Practice Areas:	3 activities in each of the ten Best Practice Areas

Once a city or county is accepted as a Beacon Award participant, it will work towards achieving one or more of the three award levels at its own pace. There is no deadline or timeline for meeting award level criteria; awards will be given out on an ongoing basis. However, participants will be asked to provide periodic information about their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy and as well as progress in completing a greenhouse gas inventory, climate action plan, and undertaking activities in the ten best practice areas.

Participants will receive special recognition at League of California Cities and California State Association of Counties events, be highlighted on the Beacon Award website, and receive certificates and other materials to display in agency facilities. They may also receive other appropriate and visible public tributes acknowledging their accomplishments.

Additional detailed information about the program can be found at www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward.



RESOLUTION NO. 2012-

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

APPROVING CITY OF SACRAMENTO PARTICIPATION IN THE INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S BEACON AWARD PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

- A. The City of Sacramento is undertaking policies, programs and activities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy.
- B. The Sustainability Master Plan, adopted by City Council in 2007, established sustainability goals and measurable targets in nine focus areas that will help save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in City operations as well as communitywide.
- C. The 2030 General Plan, adopted by City Council in 2009, sets forth goals, policies, and implementation programs to implement the City's Smart Growth and Sustainability principles, including the development of a Climate Action Plan to help meet the City's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.
- D. Phase 1 of the Climate Action Plan, adopted by the City Council on February 16, 2010, identified specific strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the City's internal municipal operations by more than 15% below 2005 levels by the year 2020.
- E. Phase 2 of the Climate Action Plan, scheduled for final hearing and adoption by the City Council on January 31, 2012, identifies specific strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from communitywide sources to at least 15% below 2005 levels by the year 2020.
- F. These policies, programs and activities conserve natural resources, save energy and money, and promote sustainable land use and transportation planning in the community.
- G. Cities and counties statewide are leading by example by adopting innovative sustainability programs and policies, including working with community residents, business groups, and others.

- H. The City of Sacramento wishes to expand these activities, share its experiences with other communities, and be recognized for its accomplishments.
- I. The Beacon Award: Local Leadership Towards Solving Climate Change is a voluntary program of the Institute for Local Government, the non-profit research and education affiliate of the California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities.
- J. The Beacon Award recognizes and celebrates achievements of cities and counties that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy.
- K. Participating in the Beacon Award is an opportunity for the City of Sacramento to be recognized for its efforts to promote sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and save energy.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. The City of Sacramento agrees to participate in the Beacon Award: Local Leadership Towards Solving Climate Change.
- Section 2. The City of Sacramento will work towards achieving the Silver, Gold and/or Platinum Beacon Award levels as specified in the Beacon Award “Guidelines for Participation & Recognition.”