

CITY OF LONG BEACH

C-12

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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September 16, 2014

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 2014-2015 Sustainable City Commission Annual Work Plan.
(Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The Sustainable City Commission Ordinance was adopted by a vote of the City Council on May 15, 2007. This Ordinance establishing the Sustainable City Commission (Commission) requires that, "Each year the Commission shall prepare a work program and provides outlining the focus for the Commission for review and approval by the City Council."

The attached 2014-2015 Sustainable City Commission Work Plan (Work Plan) was approved by the Commission on July 24, 2014. The Work Plan lists accomplishments from 2013-2014 and includes multiple actions to be taken between July 2014 - June 2015. These actions are consistent with the Commission's seven focus areas: Buildings & Neighborhoods, Energy, Green Economy & Lifestyle, Transportation, Urban Nature, Waste Reduction and Water. These focus areas provide a holistic approach to sustainability and will be used to guide the Commission in its work. In accordance with the Ordinance, the attached Work Plan is provided for City Council's approval.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Amy Webber on August 04, 2014, and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on August 08, 2014.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Work Plan is intended to guide the Commission and City staff in creating green projects, programs and policies, and making recommendations to the City Council over the next year.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

The Sustainable City Commission approved the Work Plan on July 24, 2014. City Council action is requested on September 16, 2014, to enable the Sustainable City Commission to move forward with new business at their monthly meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact and no local job impact as a result of this recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



AMY J. BODEK, AICP
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

AJB:LR:TC
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Attachment: Sustainable City Commission Work Plan 2014-2015

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER



SUSTAINABLE

LONG BEACH

Sustainable City Commission Work Plan 2014 - 2015

**Daryl Supernaw, Chair
Gordana Kajer, Vice Chair**

HISTORIC 1961-1990

INNOVATIVE 1991-2013

SUSTAINABLE 2014-PRESENT

Long Beach Office of Sustainability
562.570.6396 sustainablelb.com

Accomplishments 2013-2014

2013-2014

Awards & Distinctions

In 2013-2014, the City received numerous awards and distinctions toward becoming a sustainable city:

- Best Coalition Collaboration for the Long Beach Clean Cities Coalition, managed by the Fleet Services Bureau, by the U.S. Department of Energy
- 93% of the City's beaches received "A" grades (with one "B") for water quality during the summer from Heal the Bay
- Silver Bike Friendly City rating from the League of American Bicyclists
- Silver Walk Friendly Communities Award

Green Grants

In 2013-2014, the City received numerous grants by which Long Beach will be able to invest in sustainable infrastructure:

- Awarded \$924,000 for wetlands improvements and increasing accessibility at Willow Springs Park
- Awarded funds for 5,000 trees to be planted in Long Beach through CalTrans and TreePeople

Events & Celebrations

In 2013-2014, the City celebrated with local events:

- Participated in Park(ing) Day
- Celebrated the 44th annual Earth Day with Green Prize Festival 2014
- Celebrated Arbor Day

Commission Recommendations

The Sustainable City Commission addressed the following issues from the 2013-2014 Work Plan:

- Report on the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant
- Final Evaluation of the Laundry to Landscape Pilot Program
- Update on the Urban Agriculture Ordinance
- Report on the 2013 Park(ing) Day Celebration
- Final Report on the AQMD Tree Planting Partnership
- Approve to join the 2014 Cool California City Challenge
- Update on Sustainable Outreach, Earth Week and Arbor Day Celebrations
- Recognized Green Businesses: Wes Harding Construction, Dream Inspired Design, Averyboo Arts, Steamed Organic Vegetarian Cuisine, Tiny EcoUrbanite

Accomplishments 2013-2014

2013-2014

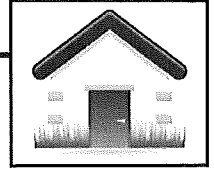
The Office of Sustainability successfully implemented the following programs in 2013-2014:

- The City of Long Beach continued its Energy Efficiency Partnership with Southern California Edison. Through the Partnership, the City achieved over 35,000 kWh in municipal energy savings from energy efficiency projects in 2014 that has helped to lower costs, reduce pollution and put less strain on the City's power grid.
- From February 2013 through July 2014, the Office of Sustainability hosted 18 Civic Center Garden Workshops for residents, community members, and City staff to learn about how to successfully garden in small spaces. The workshop topics ranged from composting, space utilization, how to prepare your garden for each seasons, how to build your own planter boxes, and more.
- In August of 2013, the Office of Sustainability, in partnership with the Port of Long Beach and Council District 7 unveiled the nations first 600ft in length wall of mulch, with a height of 9ft and width of 3ft. This wall serves as an environmental visual and sound barrier to the adjacent park.
- In 2013 - 2014 , the Office of Sustainability has assisted in educating and providing experience for youth workers in transitional work programs. Youth workers continue to contribute valuable work to the Mulch Delivery and Laundry to Landscape programs, native and drought-tolerant gardens, tree plantings and community gardens.
- In 2013 - 2014, five local businesses have been recognized through the Green Business Program; Wes Harding Construction, Dream Inspired Design, AveryBoo Arts, Steamed Organic Cuisine, and Tiny EcoUrbanite
- With funding from the Port of Long Beach, the Office of Sustainability continued to partner with Neighborhood Resources to plant California native, drought tolerant, and low volatile organic compound (VOC) emitting trees, accounting for over 800 trees planted so far in 2014. Approximately 580 deliveries of Mulch were made in 2012, an average of 14 deliveries per week.
- Civic Center Edible Garden donated approximately 200 lbs of produce between 2013 and 2014.
- The City of Long Beach continued its free Mulch Delivery and pickup program, offsetting over 2,000 tons of tree trimmings in this past year alone that would otherwise go to the landfill.

Work Plan 2014 - 2015

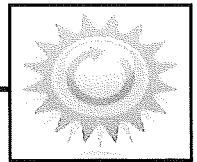
These actions, which are part of the Sustainable City Action Plan, were chosen by the Sustainable City Commission to be included in the 2014-2015 Work Plan. These complementary actions are intended to guide the Commission and City Staff in creating green projects, programs and policies and making recommendations to the City Council over the next year.

Buildings and Neighborhoods



- Green Spaces and Community Gardens: Continue identifying Community Gardens, parks, and green places to promote the use of open space for green uses.
- Certified Green Buildings: Identify/promote Certified Green Buildings Citywide and encourage the use of green certification measures for construction and renovation.
- Green Residential Renovation: Identify and provide a resource library of how residents in Long Beach can move forward with home renovations focusing on green improvements and options for historic preservation with energy efficiency retrofits.
- Residential Green Site Audits: Research and develop comprehensive sustainable landscape implementation measures.
- Public Infrastructure Green Rating System: Research relevant rating systems used for public infrastructure projects to measure sustainability and environmental impacts.
- Civic Center Landscape Improvements: Complete the native plant landscaping at the Civic Center Berms.

Energy



- Southern California Edison Partnership: Continue efforts to implement energy saving measures in municipal facilities.
- Energy Upgrade California: Continue as a participating City to establish decreased long-term energy use with qualifying residential energy-efficiency upgrades.
- Energy Efficiency Campaign: Develop comprehensive community-wide education and outreach opportunities.
- Renewable Energy Portfolio: Identify opportunities to increase the City's renewable energy portfolio.
- Regional Energy Network Program: Work with the Energy Coalition to benchmark and identify energy efficiency projects in municipal facilities.

Green Economy & Lifestyle



- Green Business Recognition Program: Continue to promote this program and recognize local businesses who participate.
- Green Jobs: Generate a working database of identified Green Jobs in Long Beach for opportunities and development.
- Green Business Workshops: Facilitate a workshop for small businesses to provide education materials and resources on how to be a greener business
- Local Food Network: Support local food networks by sharing resources, participating in community meetings, and identifying opportunities to educate residents.

Work Plan 2014 - 2015

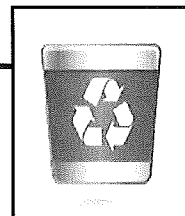
Urban Nature

- Tree Planting Program: Assist in the promotion of the POLB tree planting program, and begin working with the Department of California Transportation and TreePeople to plant 5,000 trees in the City.
- Willow Springs Park: Continue the development of the Longview hilltop with native plantings and additional educational material. Begin the Willow Spring Wetlands restoration project, and start construction of an outdoor classroom area.
- The Civic Center Edible Garden Project: Continue with the maintenance of the Garden and develop ongoing workshops and classes to illustrate how to grow edible foods in any space.
- Urban Forest Management Plan: Develop a comprehensive management plan for the City's Street, Park, Heritage, Facility, and Open Space Trees.
- Adopt-a-Tree Program: Develop an adopt-a-tree program to provide ongoing street tree and parkway tree plantings.



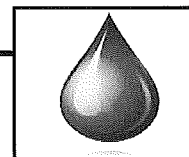
Waste Reduction

- Residential Mulch Delivery and Pickup Program: Continue with the Residential Mulch Delivery program through the Low Impact Development Academy and the Free Mulch Pick Up Program.
- Food Service Waste Reduction Program: Continue with the restaurant compost pick-up pilot program with local participating restaurants. Work with Environmental Services Bureau to develop a Citywide restaurant compost pick-up program and provide resources for ways to reduce waste.



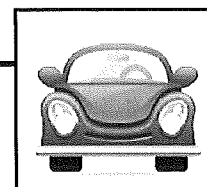
Water

- Rain Catchment Program: Promote the MWD Rainbarrel rebate program and assist in installations from Lawn to Garden requests.
- Gray Water Pilot Project: Continue the follow up of Laundry to Landscape participants and track ongoing water conservation. Develop and conduct residential training workshops.
- Low Impact Development Municipal Projects: work with Public Works to identify and develop municipal LID projects.
- Water Conservation Campaign: Continue to work with the LBWD to promote and encourage water conservation citywide.



Transportation

- Sustainable Transportation Programs: Identify opportunities and support the city's sustainable mobility policies.
- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Development: Move forward with municipal EV Charging installations Citywide.
- Car Share Program: Explore opportunities for a citywide Car Share program





SUSTAINABLE LONG BEACH

Staff Work Plan 2014-2015

Climate Action

The City of Long Beach plans to release an annual greenhouse gas inventory to monitor our progress towards reducing GHG emissions by 15% by 2020

- **Task 1:** Continue working with City Departments to collect GHG data
- **Task 2:** Explore ways to move forward with GHG reporting for the City
- **Task 3:** Participate in the LA Regional Collaborate for Climate Action & Sustainability
- **Task 4:** Participate in the Carbon Disclosure Report for global results on Climate Action

Green Progress Reporting

Finalize and continue to develop a system to report the City's Green initiatives and progress

- **Task 1:** Tracking and Measuring the City's Green Initiatives and Progress
- **Task 2:** Create online tool that allows for interactive visual displays and links
- **Task 3:** Research Sustainable Awards & Rating Systems for the City's Green Progress
- **Task 4:** Join other Regional, National, and Global Sustainable Networks

Education and Outreach

The Office of Sustainability plans to establish new educational and community outreach materials.

- **Task 1:** Identify and utilize all outreach resources
- **Task 2:** Create Program Handout with other languages to service citywide demographics
- **Task 3:** Continue with Social media outreach (Facebook, Youtube)
- **Task 4:** Increase Web Platform, developing standalone pages for programs
- **Task 5:** Research various sustainable promotional materials
- **Task 6:** Continue with the Quarterly Sustainable Long Beach Newsletter
- **Task 7:** Environmental Education & Stewardship workshops for students
- **Task 8:** Continue with the Annual Internship Programs and explore opportunities to partner with local schools & universities.

HISTORIC

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