

CITY OF LONG BEACH

C-11

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

333 West Ocean Blvd., 3rd Floor Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-5237 Fax: (562) 570-6205

August 13, 2013

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 2013-2014 Sustainable City Commission Annual Work Plan. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The Sustainable City Commission Ordinance was adopted by a unanimous vote of the City Council on May 15, 2007. This Ordinance established the Sustainable City Commission (Commission), 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 2013-2014 Sustainable City Commission Work Plan (Work Plan) was unanimously approved by the Commission on July 25, 2013. The Work Plan lists accomplishments from 2012-2013 and includes multiple actions to be taken between July 2013 - June 2014. These actions are consistent with the Commission's seven focus areas of 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 Linda Vu and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on July 22, 2013.

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 25, 2013. City Council action is requested on August 13, 2013, to enable the Sustainable City Commission to move forward with new business at their monthly meetings.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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Page 2 of 2

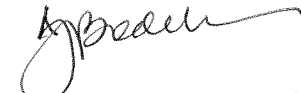
FISCAL IMPACT

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 2013-2014

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER



SUSTAINABLE
LONG BEACH

Sustainable City Commission Work Plan 2013 - 2014

Robin Thorne, Chair
Elliot Gonzales, Vice Chair

Accomplishments 2012-2013

2012-2013

Awards & Distinctions

In 2012-2013, 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 2012-2013, the City received numerous grants by which Long Beach will be able to invest in sustainable infrastructure:

- Awarded \$5,000 for environmental improvements to the Civic Center Edible Garden
- Awarded \$5.3 Million for improvements to Armory Park and Drake/Chavez Park
- Awarded \$150,000 for the development for a city-wide Park Trees Inventory
- Awarded \$1.3 Million from the Port of Long Beach for Green House Gas Mitigation Projects

Events & Celebrations

In 2012-2013, the City celebrated with local events:

- Participated in Park(ing) Day
- Celebrated the 43rd annual Earth Day with GrowECO 2013
- Celebrated Arbor Day
- Ribbon Cutting Civic Center Edible Garden
- Grand Opening Willow Springs Park

Commission Recommendations

The Sustainable City Commission addressed the following issues from the 2012-2013 Work Plan:

- Green Business Recognition Program
- Tree Planting Program
- Laundry to Landscape Pilot Program
- Mulch Pickup Program
- Urban Agriculture Policies
- Civic Center Edible Garden Project
- Urban Forest Management Plan
- Southern California Edison Partnership
- Low Impact Development Ordinance
- Sustainable Transportation Programs
- Sustainability Outreach & Education Initiatives

Accomplishments 2012-2013

2012-2013

The Office of Sustainability successfully implemented the following programs in 2012-2013:

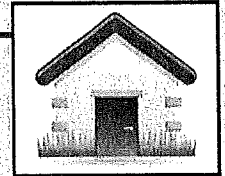
- In January 2012, the City expanded its' plastic bag ban to smaller retailers
- In January 2012, the Office of Sustainability hosted a kick-off event with Energy Upgrade California to invite residents to make energy efficient improvements to their homes to receive rebates of up to \$8,000 from LB and SCE
- Between 2010-2012, the City achieved 1,625,429 kWh in energy savings with the Southern California Energy Leadership Partnership.
- In February 2012, the Office of Sustainability submitted a Port of Long Beach Greenhouse Gas Emissions Grant application, \$1.3 million in funds were awarded for three projects in water efficiency, energy efficiency and urban forestry categories.
- From February 2012 through June 2013, the Office of Sustainability completed thirty-three Laundry to Landscape installations.
- In March 2012, the Office of Sustainability was awarded a \$5,000 grant from EcoMedia to add a vertical gardening component to the existing Civic Center Edible Garden.
- In March 2012, the Office of Sustainability presented the Sustainable City Commission with a summary of animal husbandry polices for 10 cities. The update was a response to the City Council Environmental Committee's request in October 2011 for more information on urban agricultural practices.
- In 2012 - 2013 , 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.
- On November 1, 2012, a portion of Willow Spring Park was opened to the public, called Long view point. This feature included 7,850 - square - foot, geological map created by local artist. Eventually the area will be turned into a 47 - acre park space, potentially including restored wetland habitat.
- On July 27th, 2012, Civic Center Edible Garden added vertical garden components and educational sign display.
- In 2012 - 2013, two local businesses have been recognized through the Green Business Program; Aquarium of the Pacific and the Boeing C-17 Program.
- So far in 2013, a cumulative total of more than 1000 trees were planted through the City's Tree Planting Program.
- Approximately 580 deliveries of Mulch were made in 2012, an average of 14 deliveries per week.
- In late May 2013, the Mulch Wall Project, a 600-foot-long fence barrier housing mulch, was erected. This is a cost-effective method to control noise pollution and absorb air contaminants from vehicle emissions.
- Civic Center Edible Garden donated approximately 188 lbs of produce between 2012 and 2013.
- In June 2013, Civic Center Edible Garden completed native plant component, displaying landscaping ideas using California native, drought tolerant plants.

Work Plan 2013 - 2014

These actions, which are part of the Sustainable City Action Plan, were chosen by the Sustainable City Commission to be included in the 2013-2014 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.

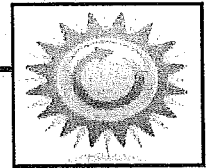
Buildings and Neighborhoods

- 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 and 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.
- Residential Green Site Audit: Develop comprehensive sustainable landscape implementation measures.



Energy

- Southern California Edison Partnership: Continue working on partnership goals to elevate the City's status to a Silver Level Partner and 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: Identify and provide resources for renewable energy generation citywide.



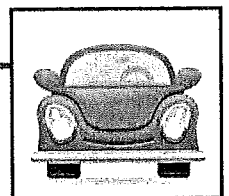
Green Economy & Lifestyle

- Green Business Recognition Program: Continue to promote this program and recognize local businesses who participate.
- Green-Collar Jobs: Generate a working database of identified Green Collar Jobs in Long Beach for opportunities and development.



Transportation

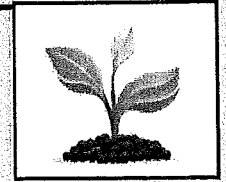
- Sustainable Transportation Programs: Identify opportunities and support the installation of bike boulevards, pedestrian improvements, bike share programs, and other sustainable mobility policies.
- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Development: Move forward with municipal EV Charging installations Citywide.
- Car Share Program: Explore opportunities for a citywide Car Share program
- Bicycle Recycling Program: Develop a citywide bicycle recycling program.



Work Plan 2013 - 2014

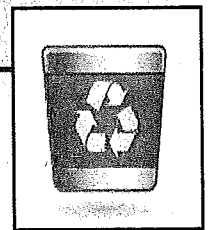
Urban Nature

- **Tree Planting Program:** Complete the AQMD tree planting program, assist in the promotion of the POLB tree planting program, and continue to pursue funding for additional tree plantings
- **Willow Springs Park:** Continue the development of the Longview hilltop with native plantings and additional educational material. Begin the restoration of the Willow Spring property, 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.



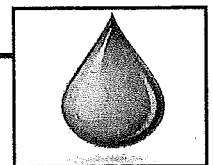
Waste Reduction

- **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.
- **Municipal Biochar:** Explore the creation of Biochar from municipal tree trimming as a measure for carbon sequestration.



Water

- **Low Impact Development Policy:** Implement the low impact development ordinance, incorporate this policy in the City's new MS4 permit, track LID projects and provide ongoing training assistance.
- **Rain Catchment Program:** Identify funding to facilitate another round of the City's Rain Barrel Program and identify City facilities for rain catchment system installations.
- **Gray Water Pilot Project:** Complete installation of Gray Water systems in residential homes as a part of the Low Impact Development Academy. Finalize the Laundry to Landscape Systems Maintenance Manual for all current and future property owners. Develop and conduct residential training workshops.
- **Gray Water Project Registration:** Establish an online process where local residents can register their gray water systems and provide best practices and information to the community.
- **Low Impact Development Municipal Projects:** work with Public Works to identify and develop municipal LID projects.





SUSTAINABLE LONG BEACH

Staff Work Plan 2013-2014

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

Municipal Green Purchasing Policy

The City of Long Beach plans to increase City green spending to 100% by 2020

- **Task 1:** Continue working with Purchasing Department to track and improve the City's Green Purchasing Initiatives
- **Task 2:** Encourage paperless options

Green Progress Report

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

- **Task 1:** Create online tool that allows for interactive visual displays and links

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 (bilingual)
- **Task 3:** Social media outreach
- **Task 4:** Website updates
- **Task 5:** Promotional materials
- **Task 6:** Generate a Sustainable Long Beach Newsletter
- **Task 7:** Environmental Education & Stewardship workshops