



BUILDINGS & NEIGHBORHOODS

INTERRELATED ACTIONS



Energy Efficiency



Transportation



Urban Nature

In an urban environment like Long Beach, homes, commercial buildings, streets and sidewalks cover the vast majority of the landscape. Therefore, an essential component of a sustainable city are buildings and neighborhoods that minimize our impact on the environment while creating an active, engaging city where daily needs can be met without the use of a car.

Green buildings reduce our impact on the earth because they use more environmentally friendly materials, emit less pollution and are healthier for its occupants. Green buildings have the added benefits of better indoor air quality and being less expensive to run due to reduced demand for heating, cooling, and water. The average green building uses 30% less energy and 30-50% less water than a comparable building. Buildings also account for 30% of greenhouse gas emissions. Green buildings have smaller carbon footprints than conventional ones, thus reducing our city's contribution to climate change. Encouraging residents to get out of their cars and into their neighborhoods also helps reduce emissions by decreasing car use.

A green foundation is also important to a sustainable city. Incorporating sustainable construction techniques into infrastructure projects will not only reduce the project's impacts, but also improve the surrounding area. More community gardens, enhanced public spaces, and increased community engagement also contribute to a sustainable city.

Neighborhoods with access to a variety of nearby amenities allow residents to conveniently walk or ride their bike instead of driving. Encouraging growth in these areas, especially in the downtown, promotes sustainable living while improving the sense of community in the neighborhoods.

The initiatives, goals and actions in this section will create more opportunities for green buildings and infrastructure while fostering a sense of community in neighborhoods. The actions in this plan are interrelated, and the goals that follow will contribute to energy and water consumption reduction goals and alternative transportation goals that are discussed in other sections. The City of Long Beach recognizes that in order to build a sustainable city, the City and community must work together to improve building efficiency and health and protect and enhance our neighborhoods.

SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

1. 100% of major city facilities are LEED certified (or equivalent) by 2020
2. At least 5 million square feet of privately developed LEED certified (or equivalent) green buildings by 2020
3. Double the number of LEED accredited professionals (or equivalent) in the City and community by 2012
4. 100% of city-owned vacant lots are utilized with interim green uses by 2012
5. Create at least 6 new community gardens by 2012
6. Plant at least 10,000 trees in Long Beach by 2020
7. 100% of suitable alley and parking lot projects use permeable pavement by 2020
8. 50% of Long Beach residents work in Long Beach by 2020
9. At least 60,000 residents in the downtown by 2020
10. By 2020, at least 20% of Long Beach residents use alternative transportation to get to work

*Together, we can
increase green building
and create healthy,
active neighborhoods*

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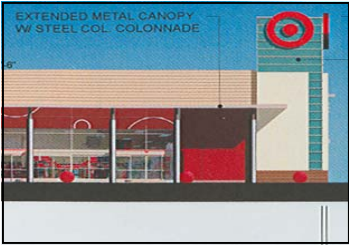


A HISTORY OF LEADERSHIP



MUNICIPAL GREEN BUILDING POLICY

The City of Long Beach adopted a Green Building Policy for Municipal Buildings in 2003, which states that all new construction of municipally owned and operated buildings will meet the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standard.



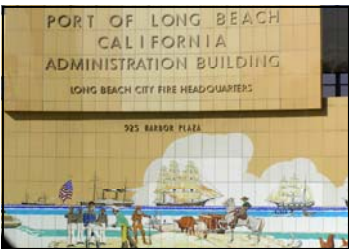
GREEN BUILDING FOR PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT POLICY

In November 2006, the City Council approved the creation of an interim green building policy for private development, which required as the first step to an ongoing stakeholder process to develop permanent Green Building Guidelines for Private Development in Long Beach. In October 2007, the City Council approved the creation of a permanent green building policy for private development, which will be release early 2009.



LONG BEACH 2030

Long Beach 2030, the update of the City's General Plan, is a major step towards sustainability with the comprehensive approach to land use, mobility, urban design, historic preservation and economic development. This comprehensive approach represents a new way of thinking about accommodating growth with well-designed, efficient new development linked to public transit options and jobs while maintaining and enhancing all the things that we value about Long Beach today.



PORT OF LONG BEACH GREEN BUILDINGS

The Port completed their LEED Silver Command and Control Center for security operations and is designing two LEED Gold fire stations. In November 2008, the Port approved the LEED Silver rated Administration and Operations Buildings (76,000 Square Feet) and the is designing the first Maintenance and Repair complex buildings to Silver LEED (100,000 Square Feet). This will be a first set of industrial open-bay buildings designed to this rating.



MARK TWAIN LIBRARY

The Mark Twain Library is the City's first LEED building constructed under the City's Green Building Policy (16,000 Square Feet). The Library opened in August 2007 and has received a LEED Silver rating, using 27% less energy than a comparable building. The Library is a model for future public buildings that are safe and healthy for people and that protect the environment.

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Buildings & Neighborhoods Initiative 1:

Accelerate the use of green building techniques in new development, renovations and retrofits to improve building efficiency and health

SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

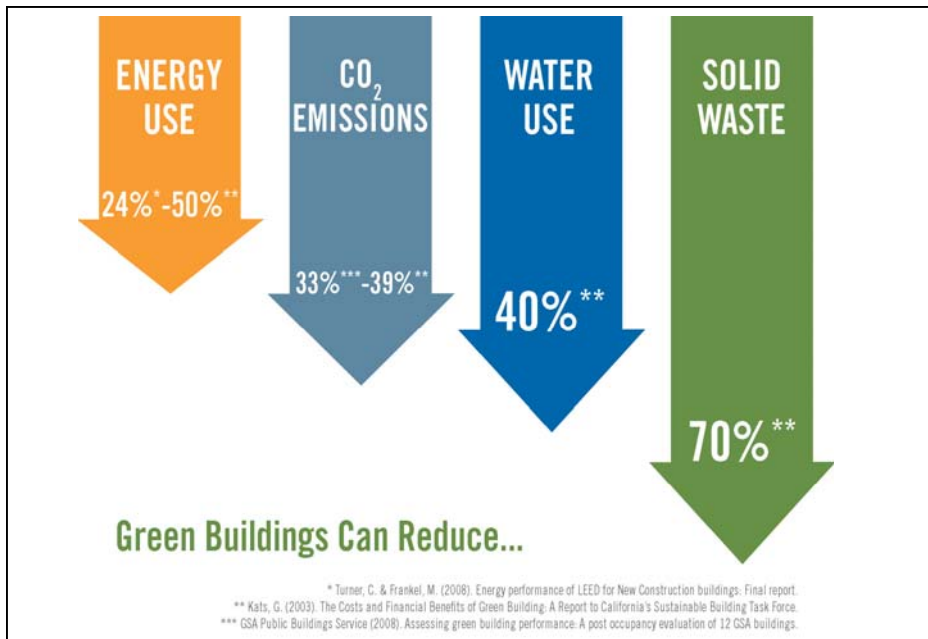
100% of major city facilities are LEED certified (or equivalent) by 2020

At least 5 million square feet of privately developed LEED certified (or equivalent) green buildings by 2020

Double the number of LEED accredited professionals (or equivalent) in the City and community by 2012

STATISTICS

- Today, 10 municipal developments have registered as LEED buildings
- Currently, there are 9 private developments registered as LEED projects in Long Beach
- In California, commercial buildings account for 36% of the state's electricity use
- Building materials like wood, concrete, brick and carpet account for almost 22% of the waste stream going to landfills
- There are 15 LEED accredited green building professionals on staff at the City



ACTIONS

1. Explore green development requirements for the Long Beach Redevelopment Agency and any private project that includes public/city money
2. Incorporate sustainability strategies such as transit-oriented development, green buildings in the General Plan (Long Beach 2030)
3. Create a green affordable housing strategy and implement a green development policy for affordable housing projects in the city
4. Upgrade roofs to be solar ready and engage in site leases for solar projects
5. Implement solar and wind demonstration projects such as solar/wind-powered bus stops, pay stations, signage and erect solar/wind displays in vacant city-owned lots
6. Create opportunities for community members to participate in fix-it green programs that demonstrate how to incorporate green techniques and products in home renovation
7. Provide training and funding to increase the number of LEED accredited employees
8. Explore the development of assessment districts for the funding of green improvements throughout the city

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Buildings & Neighborhoods Initiative 2:

Enhance and enliven corridors and neighborhoods with green infrastructure and public spaces

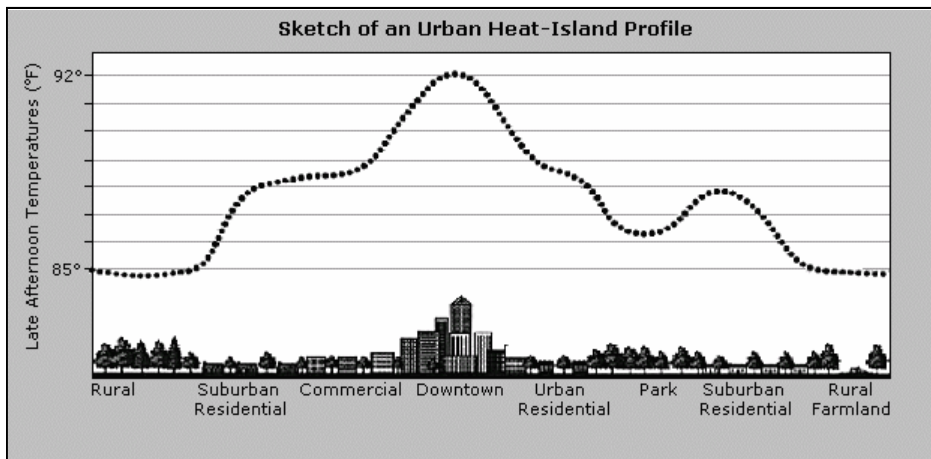
SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

100% of city-owned vacant lots are utilized with interim green uses by 2012

Create at least 6 new community gardens by 2012

Plant at least 10,000 new trees in Long Beach by 2020

100% of suitable alley and parking lot projects use permeable pavement by 2020



STATISTICS

- When resurfacing streets, the City uses rubberized asphalt containing up to 15% recycled material including recycled rubber tires
- The City reuses materials from street projects by recycling asphalt or utilizing it as base material on other street improvements
- When resurfacing streets, the City expedites work to reduce emissions from the construction equipment as well as idling cars
- There are 6 community gardens in Long Beach
- There are approximately 330,000 trees in Long Beach's parks and urban forest

ACTIONS

1. Implement interim green uses in vacant city-owned lots by utilizing mulched green waste from city operations, developing solar, wind or landscaping pilot projects or locating community gardens
2. Implement public-right-of-way enhancements such as energy efficient street lights/signs, street furniture and public art
3. Designate locations throughout the City for community gardens
4. Plant landscaping demonstration projects that showcase native, drought-tolerant landscape techniques
5. Incorporate neighborhood elements like roundabouts, meandering sidewalks, street trees, public plazas and bike and pedestrian improvements that create a sense of place
6. Encourage neighborhood and business groups to sponsor and participate in community clean-up and beautification programs like tree plantings, coastal cleanups, etc.
7. Create a program that enables greening of alleys throughout the city
8. Incorporate green construction techniques in sidewalks, street maintenance and pothole repair and initiate pilot infrastructure projects that test green construction techniques such as permeable pavement
9. Survey City's watersheds to assess appropriate placement/suitability for permeable pavement

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Buildings & Neighborhoods Initiative 3:

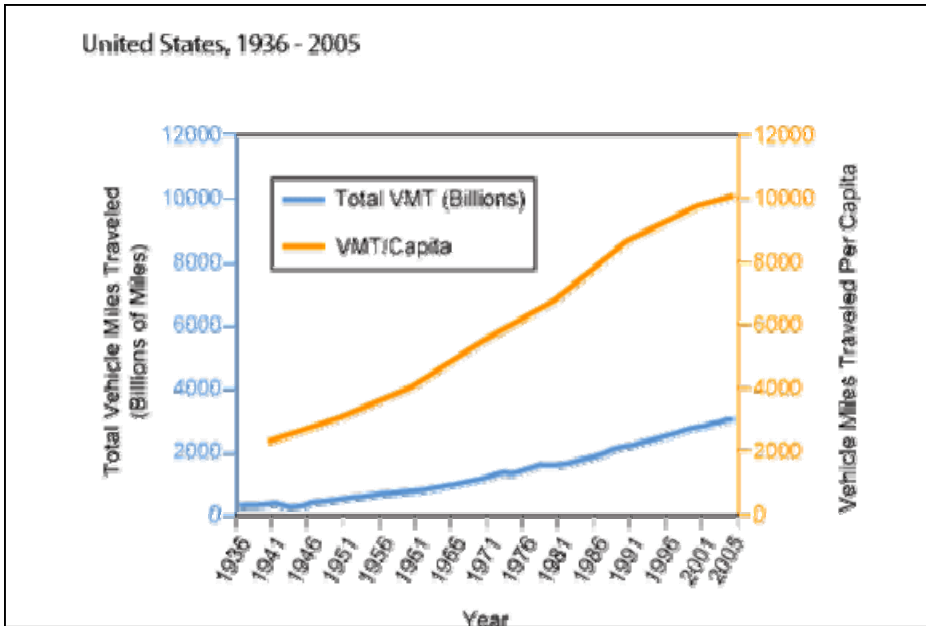
Enhance our community to encourage people to get out of their cars and into their neighborhoods

SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

50% of Long Beach residents work in Long Beach by 2020

At least 60,000 residents in the downtown by 2020

By 2020, at least 20% of Long Beach residents use alternative transportation to get to work



STATISTICS

- 33% of Long Beach residents work in Long Beach while the majority, or 66% commute out of Long Beach for work
- As of 2000, there were 37,000 downtown residents
- Only 36% of Long Beach residents get to work in less than 20 minutes
- In 2000, 3.3% of Long Beach residents biked or walked to work while 6.6% rode public transit to work
- Downtown Long Beach is ripe for sustainable development as a nexus for transit, job center and buildings prepared for commercial retail
- There are 5 farmers markets held in Long Beach each week.
- There are 140 registered neighborhood organizations in Long Beach

ACTIONS

1. Establish live/work districts and establish incentives to encourage living near work
2. Establish workforce housing projects near large job centers in Long Beach such as Downtown, CSULB, Hospitals and Boeing
3. Encourage grocery stores and healthy food options in neighborhood centers
4. Create car-sharing and bike-sharing opportunities in neighborhood centers
5. Encourage additional locations for farmers markets throughout the City
6. Implement incentives to reduce vehicle miles traveled and save fuel
7. Encourage and expand local, neighborhood events and festivals
8. Incorporate traffic calming measures to make neighborhood streets more inviting and keep pedestrians and bicyclists safe
9. Create and expand unique neighborhood identity through the use of special signage and public art and adhering to unique architectural styles

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