



SUSTAINABLE
LONG BEACH

SUSTAINABLE

Sustainable City Commission Work Plan 2011 - 2012

**Gordana Kajer, Chair
Lisa Wibroe, Vice Chair**

HISTORIC PAST

INNOVATIVE PRESENT

SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Accomplishments 2010-2011

2010-2011

Awards & Distinctions

In 2010-2011, the City received numerous awards and distinctions for its sustainable city efforts:

- 13th most solar-friendly municipality
- No. 3 in the nation for the most community garden plots per 10,000 people (Trust for Public Land)
- No 5 Green Fleet in the nation for 2010, the City's third year in a row in the top 10
- The Environmental Services Bureau received the 'Nation's Best Solid Waste Management Award'

Green Grants

In 2010-2011, the City received numerous grants that will facilitate investment in sustainable infrastructure:

- Awarded \$108,025 for tree planting
- Awarded \$500,000 for implementing a safe routes to school program
- Awarded \$3.5 million from two grants for the DeForest Wetlands Restoration Project (*joint with County*)
- Approved \$3.3 million by State Water Board for final cleanup and restoration of Colorado Lagoon
- Awarded \$4.3 million in Federal Stimulus to clean the underground culvert connecting Alamitos Bay

Events & Celebrations

In 2010-2011, the City celebrated sustainable local events:

- Celebrated Earth Week 2010 & Earth Week 2011
- Hosted Earth Day 2011 at City Hall
- 3rd Annual Bike Festival
- 7th Annual Green Port Fest
- Participated in the 3rd Annual Green Long Beach Day Festival
- Participated in the 1st Creative Reuse Day
- Participated in the 1st Really Really Free Day
- Participated in CSULB's Eco Week
- Participated in CSULB's Green Generation Mixers
- Promoted car free Fridays and Bike To Work Day
- Promoted and participated in several beach clean ups, including the 22nd Annual Great LA River Cleanup

Commission Recommendations

The Sustainable City Commission addressed the following issues from the 2010-2011 Work Plan:

- Green Business Recognition Program
- Low Impact Development Ordinance
- Bike Boulevard Project
- Urban Agriculture Ordinances Update
- Municipal Mulch Delivery Program
- Grey Water Pilot Program
- Green Purchasing Policy Update
- Plastic Ban Ordinance

Accomplishments 2010-2011

2010-2011

The City of Long Beach successfully implemented the following programs in 2010-2011:

- In July 2010, the Sustainable City Commission approved the Work Plan 2010-2011.
- Since July 2010, the Office of Sustainability has assisted in educating and placing over thirty individual youth workers in Green Job Training programs. Youth workers continue to contribute valuable work to the Mulch Delivery and Rain Barrel programs, native and drought-tolerant gardens, tree plantings, community gardens, and urban farms
- In August 2010, the City and Southern California Edison implemented the Energy Efficiency Opportunity Drawing to encourage Long Beach residents from the nine council districts to complete and build energy efficient installations.
- In August 2010, the City of Long Beach started to complete municipal building energy efficiency retrofits as part of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. Seven municipal buildings have completed these retrofits.
- In August 2010, the City of Long Beach started construction on the LA Gateway Cities Catch Basin Insert Project, a program aimed at stopping debris at its source before it reaches public waterways. The program began retrofitting an estimated 12,000 storm drains with catch basin screens to capture trash and other debris before it enters the Los Angeles River.
- Starting in the 2010-11 school year the City implemented the Safe Routes to School Program which provides workshops for elementary and middle school children to improve bike safety.
- In December 2010, the Office of Sustainability implemented the Mulch Delivery Program. The mulch is made available by the City's tree trimming maintenance, which generates 6,000 tons of green waste annually. The program delivers mulch to residential, commercial and municipal buildings.
- In January 2011, Long Beach started to enforce the 2010 Edition of California Building Standards Codes, which is also known as CALGreen which institutes minimum green building requirements for all construction projects.
- In January 2011, the Vista Bike Boulevard was opened. Bike Boulevard's facilitate safe and convenient bicycle travel for cyclists of all ages and skill levels. The Vista Bike Boulevard extends along Vista Street from Temple Avenue to Nieto Avenue.
- In April 2011, the City Council approved the implementation of the Graywater Pilot Project, which will provide laundry-to-landscape graywater systems for thirty-six Long Beach residents.
- Also in April 2011, the creation of Long Beach's first separated bikeways was completed. The separated bikeways extend along Broadway and 3rd Street from Alamitos Avenue to Golden Avenue.
- In May 2011, the Council voted unanimously to pass a Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance, which will start being phased in starting August 1, 2011. The ban is in line with the County's similar ordinance in December 2010.
- As of July 2011, 380 residents have participated in the lawn-to-garden program in the City through the Long Beach Water Department.
- As of July 2011, five local businesses have been recognized through the Green Business Program.
- In the past year Long Beach Airport has continued to implement green programs that are aimed at reducing congestion, utilizing solar power, reducing water consumption and reducing emissions.

Work Plan 2011 - 2012

These actions, which are part of the Sustainable City Action Plan, were chosen by the Sustainable City Commission to be included in the 2011-2012 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: Develop Vacant Lot and Community Garden Database to promote the use of open space for green uses.
- City of Long Beach Street Tree Policy and Urban Forestry Policy: Develop and update the City's approved street tree list to incorporate a diverse species list including California Native, Drought tolerant, and low VOC emitting trees.
- 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.

Energy



- Southern California Edison Partnership: Continue working on partnership goals to elevate the City's status to a Silver Level Partner.
- Continue efforts to implement energy saving measures in municipal facilities.
- Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant: Complete expenditure of EECBG funds through residential rebate and city facility energy retrofit programs
- Energy Upgrade California: Become a participating City to establish decreased long-term energy use

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.
- Participation with the Southern California Green Economic Council and the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce of Green Business Council

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) Infrastructure Plan: Identify opportunities for EV installations and create opportunities to test new EV technology in Long Beach.

Work Plan 2011 - 2012

Urban Nature



- Urban Agriculture Policies: Continue to support the establishment of policies that enable and allow for urban agriculture practices, such as urban farms, chickens, bees, and other agricultural practices, throughout Long Beach.
- Tree Planting Program: Complete the AQMD tree planting program and continue to pursue funding for additional tree plantings
- Longview Eco Park and Willow Spring Gulch: Begin construction of the Vista Lookout Park on the hilltop.
- The Civic Center Edible Garden Project: Generate new educational and promotional materials and develop ongoing workshops and classes to illustrate how to grow edible foods in any space.

Waste Reduction



- Commercial Recycling Policy: Work with the Environmental Services Bureau to explore the creation of a commercial property recycling policy.
- Residential Mulch Delivery Program: Continue with the residential mulch delivery program through the Low Impact Development Academy and launch a Free Mulch Pick Up Program.
- Plastic Bag Ban Policy: Work with the Environmental Services Bureau to promote and educate the public about the plastic bag ban in the City and the use of reusable bags.
- Food Service Waste Reduction Program: Develop a restaurant compost pick-up program and provide resources for ways to reduce waste.
- Architectural Salvage Yard: Identify locations for salvaged architectural pieces to be repurposed in home renovations.

Water



- Low Impact Development Policy: Implement the low impact development ordinance and incorporate this policy in the City's new MS4 permit.
- 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: Implement the installation of Gray Water systems in residential homes as a part of the Low Impact Development Academy .
- 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.