



# INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **San Carlos Recognized for Sustainability Accomplishments City Achieves a 12 Percent Reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

Sacramento, CA – The Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative honored the City of San Carlos' sustainability accomplishments as a part of its participation in a statewide sustainability and climate change recognition program, the Beacon Award: Local Leadership toward Solving Climate Change.

San Carlos is being recognized for its continued progress in its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adopt environmental policies that reduce energy consumption, reduce costs, address climate change and promote sustainability. The recently completed and approved City Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory report for the year 2010 revealed that since 2005, the city government has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 12 percent. This achievement is in line with the city's continued work towards a goal of a 20 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020.

Examples of San Carlos' sustainable green programs and climate protection projects include:

- Working with Rethink Waste, Recology and South Bay Recycling to bring Weekly Single Stream Recycling and Food Scrap and Organics Recycling to single family residential customers. These new programs have led to the recycling rate among these customers increasing from around 50 percent to almost 70 percent in just two years.
- Purchasing hybrid vehicles in the city vehicle fleet as vehicles comes up for replacement, thus reducing gasoline use and saving the city money.
- Retrofitting over 100 city street lights along Industrial Road and Brittan Avenue with more energy efficient LED lights, thus saving energy and money.



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- Installing more energy efficient lighting at city buildings using EECBG grant funding from the State and Federal Government that was matched with city funds and PG&E rebates.
- Initiating a compost recycling program at all city buildings to reduce the amount of green waste being disposed at the land fill.

“San Carlos continues to make progress on its efforts to make our community and region a better place to live through environmental programs and climate protection measures. We are developing strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that will continue to reduce San Carlos’ impact on global warming,” stated Assistant City Manager Brian Moura. “We are taking proactive steps that simultaneously improve the quality of our services, reduce costs and inspire our residents to join in our climate protection program.”

In addition, the City has embarked upon additional energy savings programs since 2010 with the help of San Mateo County Energy Watch, Bright Lights and PG&E. These measures have resulted in additional reductions in energy use and cost savings to the City and will be reflected in the next City Government Agency Greenhouse Gas Inventory report, scheduled in the near future.

“We applaud San Carlos’ leadership to promote sustainability at the local level,” said James Keene, chairman of the Institute for Local Government’s board of directors and Palo Alto city manager. “San Carlos’ accomplishments save money, foster vibrant communities and ultimately help local residents and businesses. Cities and counties around California can learn from San Carlos’ efforts.”

## **For More Information**

Additional information about San Carlos’ participation in the Beacon Award program is available at [www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanCarlos](http://www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanCarlos).

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## **About the City of San Carlos**

The City of San Carlos is a city of 28,400 that is located in Silicon Valley and is one of 20 cities in San Mateo County. Well known as “The City of Good Living”, San Carlos continues to be a leader in the region and the state in adopting environmental programs and measures to respond to resident and business desires to become a better place to live, work and visit. For more information visit: [www.cityofsancarlos.org](http://www.cityofsancarlos.org)



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## **About the Beacon Award**

The Beacon Award: Local Leadership Toward Solving Climate Change, sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative, is a statewide program recognizing California cities and counties that are working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and adopt policies and programs that promote sustainability. The Beacon Award program is funded by California utility ratepayers and administered by Southern California Gas Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison, under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. [www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward](http://www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward)

## **About the Institute for Local Government**

The Institute for Local Government is the nonprofit research and education affiliate of the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties. The Institute's mission is to promote good government at the local level with practical, impartial and easy-to-use resources for California communities. [www.ca-ilg.org](http://www.ca-ilg.org)

## **About the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative**

The Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative (SEEC) is an alliance to help cities and counties reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save energy. SEEC is a collaboration between three statewide non-profit organizations, including the Institute for Local Government, and California's four Investor Owned Utilities. [www.californiaseec.org](http://www.californiaseec.org)

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RECOGNIZING LOCAL LEADERSHIP

PROUD PARTICIPANT



Local Leadership Toward Solving Climate Change

**City of San Carlos**  
Interim Accomplishments

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

5% Agency Greenhouse Gas Reductions	1/2013
10% Agency Greenhouse Gas Reductions	1/2013



BEACON AWARD CRITERIA

Learn more about San Carlos' accomplishments at [www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanCarlos](http://www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconAward/SanCarlos).

This program is funded by California utility companies and administered by Southern California Gas Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison, under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.




Local Leadership Toward Solving Climate Change