

Sustainability Tally for Cities of North Coast San Diego County, California

Compiled by the *League of Women Voters North Coast San Diego County*

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| <i>Current practices = through March 2009</i> | |
| Oceanside | Population – 178,806 Operating Budget (In Millions) for 2008-09 – \$120.4 |
| 1. Has the City been working on specific AB 32 requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions? Exactly which and what is the City doing? | Yes, three - The City of Oceanside is putting education at the forefront in regard to implementing standards that will result in compliance with this new piece of legislation. Currently the City has aggressive recycling, water conservation and stormwater pollution prevention, energy efficiency programs and campaigns that will definitely act as a basis for future infrastructure development that will be required to meet AB 32 standards. In addition to these efforts, in 2008 the first ever Oceanside Green Fleet team was established by staff members to research energy efficiency and less dependence on oil for transportation needs within the City. This team continues to look into ways to use alternative fuel use vehicles for everyday City services. The City of Oceanside is also looking into the possibility of requiring our Solid Waste Haulers to use LNG or CNG vehicles during the next contract period starting in 2012. |
| - Budgeted for 2009/10 | |
| 2. Has the City completed SANDAG's Sustainable Region energy audit? | No answer available at this time. |
| - Planned for 2009/10 | |
| 3. Has the City built "green" or "LEED" standard municipal buildings in the past two years? What buildings, square feet, why are they considered "green" or "LEED"? | No. But City staff has been looking into infrastructure possibilities that can count towards possible LEED credit if incorporated into a full project. Examples of this would include incorporating energy efficient appliances in existing City buildings and facilities, along with pursuing green cleaning alternatives in our daily maintenance operations. |
| - Budgeted for 2009/10 | |
| 4. What per cent of City fleet of vehicles is energy efficient, low greenhouse gas emitters? | Yes, two: Approximately 15% of City of Oceanside's vehicles are energy efficient. This 15% includes vehicles operated on Ethanol in a Flex Fuel process and 4 hybrid vehicles (gasoline/electronic). |
| - How many vehicles in fleet? What number are energy efficient? | |
| - Budgeted for 2009/10 | |
| 5. Do you promote energy conservation in the City and community? How is this being done? | Yes, four: In 2009 the City of Oceanside has launched its "Green Oceanside" campaign to promote environmental sustainability and conservation. Via this campaign the City has supported several events and distributed numerous outreach materials that educate and promote sustainability components that include but are not limited to energy conservation, waste reduction, recycling, reusing, pollution prevention, and water conservation. The City strives to educate community members to keep lights and appliances off when not in use, to conserve energy and resources and to utilize public transportation throughout the City. With the opening of the Sprinter in the past year, public transportation has been at the forefront of reducing our greenhouse gasses in Oceanside. These efforts along with light bulb exchange programs and water energy conservation kits being distributed at events have proven that Oceanside is committed to supporting the community in there efforts to reduce there environmental footprint. |

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| 6. Are you using alternative energy at municipal buildings. Where, how much energy in KWhs? | Yes: The City of Oceanside recently hired an energy consultant to identify the most feasible locations to install solar and energy efficient systems within our city facilities. The City provided the consultant with reports of energy usage and requirements for every City facility. The City is waiting for a final report from this consultant before pursuing installation of any solar infrastructure. |
| - Budgeted for 2009/10 | |
| 7. Recycling citywide | Yes four: Recycling is at the forefront of the recent launch of the Green Oceanside Campaign. In the past decade alone the City has implemented and supported several recycling campaigns that has allowed and supported the City's progress with keeping compliance with AB 939's 50% recycling mandate. In fact, in the last reporting year, the City of Oceanside boasted a 59% diversion rate, enabling the City to be considered a leader of recycling in the County and in the state. Aggressive recycling programs providing for the processing of all plastics #1-7, cans, aluminum, paper, mixed paper, newspaper, cardboard, asphalt, concrete, along with a very unique green waste recycling program definitely exemplifies the City's consistent drive to reduce there solid waste stream into the landfills. In fact one clear example of the City of Oceanside "closing the loop" locally in a sustainable manner that reduces our Greenhouse gasses is the operation of the El Corazon Compost Facility. Greenwaste collected commercially and at the residential curbside is brought to the El Corazon Compost Facility to be processed and composted locally into a valuable product that can be sold or provided free to residents of Oceanside to use at there home and garden, lessoning residents need for toxic chemical fertilizers and irrigation systems. Within the next year, the El Corazon Compost Facility will be expanding there operations and site, to include increased processing of materials, keeping it diverted from landfill; which will reduce the production of the Greenhouse Gas, Methane. This local process of transportation and recycling of compost inherently reduces the City's production of the Greenhouse Gas, Carbon Dioxide by reducing transportation impacts of taking this material to a distant landfill. The City also operates a HHW facility every other Saturday by appointment. However certain other HHW items like used oil may be accepted throughout the week Monday through Saturday. |
| 1) solid waste | |
| 2) paper, aluminum cans, plastics | |
| 3) hazardous materials | |
| 4) yard waste | |
| - Any plans for improvement? | |

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| 8. Have you implemented tighter construction standards to improve energy conservation? | Yes, three: The City of Oceanside is dedicated to promoting sustainable construction and development. Recently the City has pushed to educate commissioners, developers and staff on the benefits of Green Building. The City strives to promote the City policy to recycle as much Construction debris as possible. The City supports both a green waste facility but also a C&D recycling facility that recycles asphalt and concrete (Moody's at El Corazon). Developers and contractors are encouraged on a daily basis by the Community Services Department to use sustainable design and practices with all proposed projects. The Integrated Waste Commission along with Solid Waste and Recycling staff are researching the possibility of developing a mandatory construction recycling ordinance that would reduce the amount of construction debris going into the landfill. |
| - Residential, commercial, industrial? | |
| - Planned for 2009/10 | |
| - Is City landscaping drought tolerant? | |
| - Is planting of native trees encouraged? | |
| 9. Is water conservation stressed for municipality and community. How? | Yes, and three, The Water department supports aggressive educational campaigns supporting water conservation and stormwater pollution prevention. They conduct outreach education programs throughout the City at various school, community organization and businesses. They support several beach clean-ups a year along with continued maintenance and testing of our City's waterways to ensure the safety and health of our public beaches. Water department personnel conduct training for all City employees every year to teach about the importance of stormwater pollution prevention and conservation. |
| - Planned for 2009/10 | |
| - Is City landscaping drought tolerant? | Yes, and three, Frequently specifying the use of composts and mulches produced at El Corazon Compost Facility on city property in order to improve water conservation. Using locally produced composts and mulches improves soil quality and moisture retention. Citizens are also educated about and encouraged to use these products on their own landscapes in order to conserve water. |
| - Is planting of native trees encouraged? | Yes, and three. The City of Oceanside encourages the planting of native trees in all new developments, park upgrades and/or Capital Improvement Projects. The City understands that this is vital in an area where water is scarce for landscaping and maintenance of non-native plants |
| 10. Is open space and habitat conservation in the General Plan? What per cent of area of city? Any plans to change? When and how much? | This question is out of my expertise, so therefore I do not have an answer at this time. I would recommend speaking to someone in the Community Development Department. I will refer this question forward to that department. |

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| 11. Have climate change predictions from the “Focus 2050” report been studied and plans made to cope are being developed? | Unknown – N/A |
| - Who is making the plans, what is being done? | |
| 12. Is the City website easy to use. | Yes |
| - Is information easily found related to conservation? | Yes four: City website identifies all environmental resources and programs available to the community. The City strives to keep the website updated and current with any existing and future environmental events. |
| - energy efficiency, transportation? | Yes four: See above |
| - alternatives, alternate energies, etc? | |
| 13. Has City inventoried greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations? When? Results? | |
| - Budgeted for 2009/10 | |
| 14. Has City set emission reduction targets and created an action plan to achieve those targets.? When? We would like a copy. | |
| 15. Does the City have an environmental or climate change advisory committee? | |
| - When was it created? Names of members and contact info. | |
| - Is it staff members only? | |
| - Is it a citizens committee with staff assistance? | |
| Optional. What is the one thing your City is most proud of accomplishing during last two years to deal with climate change, energy or water conservation, or alternate energy use? | |