



green
CALIFORNIA

Summit and Exposition

2012
LEADERSHIP
AWARDS

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TRANSPORTATION

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PRESIDIO PARKWAY PLANT COLLECTION AND SALVAGE PROJECT

A California Department of Transportation, or Caltrans, roadway construction project in San Francisco's Presidio required extensive clearing of vegetation, including trees, shrubs and many native plants. In a unique and far-sighted effort, the agency created an advance contract to salvage and propagate seeds, remove trees, implement measures to prevent storm water pollution and establish access and a staging area for the civil contractor within the Presidio. The plant collection and tree removal was set during critical windows for tree removal with bird nesting constraints. Ground disturbing work occurred during the dry season to avoid water pollution control problems. Caltrans worked in partnership with the Presidio Trust of San Francisco and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy to collect cuttings and seed to propagate 45,000 native plants from over 50 different species. Additionally, over 25 large Oso and elderberry shrubs were transplanted. The Presidio is a 1,491-acre national park, and this project forwards the goal of the Presidio Trust to restore cleared lands back to historic landscape and the goals of the Parks Conservancy to conserve the parks for future users.

PIONEER

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION FOR GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND SERVICES

Addressing the need for local government leadership in the area of climate action, the County of Alameda created a climate action plan to ensure that its government operations and services are delivered in the most efficient and environmentally-responsible manner possible. With 9,000 employees and 120 facilities, government is the third-largest employer in the county. The Board adopted greenhouse gas reduction targets, a climate action plan with 16 specific Climate Commitments and a clear approach to implementation of the plan. It has set clear targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions 15 percent by 2020 and 80 percent by 2050. The Climate Action Plan for Government Services and Operations identifies and prioritizes reducing greenhouse gas emissions from areas such as building energy use, transportation and employee commutes and waste disposal. It ensures the County will promote energy efficiency in its facilities and vehicle fleet, and by 2020 that 20 percent more employees will be using alternative commute modes, will use at least 40 percent clean alternative energy, reduce water use at least 20 percent and meet a 75 percent waste reduction goal. It has also committed to environmentally preferable purchasing and forward-thinking land use decisions.

ENERGY INNOVATION

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT

SOLAR FOR ALL CALIFORNIA

Solar for All California, a pilot program designed to install rooftop photovoltaic solar systems on the homes of more than 1,000 low-income families throughout California at no cost to the resident, is a project by the California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD). A recent study showed that low-income households can spend as much as 16.4 percent of their income on residential energy services, while an average household spends only 7.2 percent. The CSD administers the federally-funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and developed this project through this block grant, which kicked off in 2010. On the open market, the installed solar systems would range in price from approximately \$17,000 - \$46,000, but by bringing together a diverse group of public and private partners, taking advantage of solar rebates offered by the California Public Utilities Commission's California Solar Initiative program and using federal funding, CSD was able to offer these potentially life-changing PV systems to some of California's neediest families. The project has the additional benefit of developing green jobs by training low-income workers to become solar installers.

GREEN BUILDING

CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION

CALGREEN, THE 2010 CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE

CALGreen, the nation's first mandatory green building code, was developed in an effort to reduce the impact buildings have on the environment. CALGreen requires that all buildings in California now be constructed with the environment in mind, including energy and water conservation measures along with the use of renewable, recyclable and recycled materials. The elements of CALGreen included a three-year comprehensive and transparent rulemaking process and a tremendous collaborative effort, with stakeholders throughout the state participating in the code development process, including local jurisdictions, private interest groups and members of the public. CALGreen has impacted the development of green building goals and efforts other states in the U.S., as well as in other countries and was used as a reference guide in the development of the International Green Construction Code. Originally a voluntary code, CALGreen evolved into mandatory measures that were written into the California Code of Regulations in 2011. It will continue to evolve in response to California's ongoing efforts to preserve its environment and lower its carbon footprint.

GREEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

THE CLEAN ENERGY SACRAMENTO PROGRAM

The City of Sacramento's Clean Energy Program enables building owners to finance renewable energy and energy efficiency upgrades over the long-term through their property taxes. The city has partnered with Ygrene Energy Fund to administer and fund the program with \$100 million in private capital. Essentially, building owners will be able to apply for funding of up to 10 percent of the value of their property, for up to a 20-year term, and pay back the funding via an assessment on their property tax bill. Clean Energy Sacramento was designed to meet a number of challenges. Among them are the city's 14 percent unemployment rate, which will be positively impacted by the creation of up to 1,100 jobs over the next 5 years. The program will also eliminate the up-front costs for installing renewable energy and energy efficiency retrofits for commercial buildings by providing 100 percent financing for such projects and bring new private investment into the city through the \$100 million commitment by Barclay's Capital. Finally, it will help the city reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions to meet AB 32 and Sacramento's Climate Action Plan goals.

CLIMATE CHANGE

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

STATEWIDE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM

The Department of General Services Renewable Energy Program is designed to take advantage of the well-established third-party ownership business model within the solar industry and break new ground with the same model for wind, solar thermal and combined heat and power (CH&P) technologies. Given California's current fiscal environment, the ultimate goal was to find a way to cut costs that are burdening tax payers without expending scarce state capital. Additionally, the program had to remain conscious of the increasing workload faced by facility staff and avoid developing projects that would add further stress on already strained resources. The program achieved this through the use of a Power Purchase Agreement, which has resulted in the construction of large-scale solar photovoltaic arrays with zero capital expenditure by the State. The power generated by the systems is then purchased by the host facility and used on site at a cost less than that paid to utility provider which results in a savings over the term of the contract. Additionally, because the system is owned, operated and maintained by the developer, the staff at the host facility is not required to further divide their limited time to the maintenance of a new system.

WATER MANAGEMENT

CITY OF OXNARD

ADVANCED WATER PURIFICATION FACILITY

The City of Oxnard is a community highly focused on the agricultural industry, and changes in the cost and supply of water are a direct threat to the local economy and way of life. Oxnard and many other communities throughout California are facing shrinking water supplies and are forced to import more water from the State Water Project. Water supplies are in jeopardy due to low precipitation rates, statewide overuse of supplies, pumping restrictions, impacts of climate change and threats to rich aquatic habitats and endangered species. In addition, regional and local groundwater resources are threatened by coastal seawater intrusion and over-pumping to meet customer needs. As an innovative and aggressive approach to these problems, Oxnard implemented a Groundwater Recovery Enhancement and Treatment (GREAT) Program in 1999. It combines wastewater recycling and reuse, brackish groundwater desalination, groundwater injection, storage, and recovery and restoration of local wetlands. The Advanced Water Purification Facility is a cornerstone of this program, and water produced from the facility undergoes one of the world's most highly developed purification processes. Treated water that is usually sent to the ocean will instead be further purified and result in high-quality recycled water to be used in various ways throughout the city.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

KEEP BAKERSFIELD BEAUTIFUL

In three months last year, the Keep Bakersfield Beautiful program's Great American Cleanup included 7,133 volunteers who put in 14,371 hours to clean up a staggering 254,271 pounds of litter, illegal dumping, and debris. With a mission to "Engage individuals to take greater responsibility for improving their community," the program accomplished the cleanup through collaboration with the area's local haulers, sponsors and volunteer groups. Eco-friendly volunteers recycled or composted 24,610 pounds of material collected from among 166 clean-up sites and had a volunteer appreciation picnic. A major part of the city's Keep Bakersfield Beautiful program is the Greater Bakersfield Green Expo, underwritten by the local refuse haulers' Metropolitan Recycling Corporation. The Expo focuses on student education through a "Recycled Material Art Competition" and public education. The event is the largest green expo in Kern County, and fees collected from 45 vendors enabled more than \$21,500 in student scholarships and teacher stipends. Keep Bakersfield Beautiful is a model collaborative effort between local government entities, local private waste haulers, non-profit organizations and Kern High School District's 22 high schools.



LEADERSHIP AWARD SPONSORS

