

# **The New Normal:**

## **Sustainable Communities that Thrive, Prosper and Compete**

**Contra Costa County Climate Leaders  
Cities + Businesses Working Together  
Thursday, October 20, 2016  
Lafayette, CA**

# Sustainability is the New Normal

- ▣ **Why** are so many communities choosing to become more sustainable?
- ▣ **How** can local leaders take advantage of emerging opportunities to create a more prosperous and thriving future for Contra Costa county communities?
- ▣ **What** next step can YOU take to set your community on the path to becoming a more prosperous, thriving and competitive place?

**SB 32**

**AB 32  
Scoping  
Plan**

**Prop 39**

**Renewable  
Energy  
Portfolio**

**SB 350**



**Climate  
Action  
is Here  
to Stay.**

**SB 375**

**PACE & HERO**

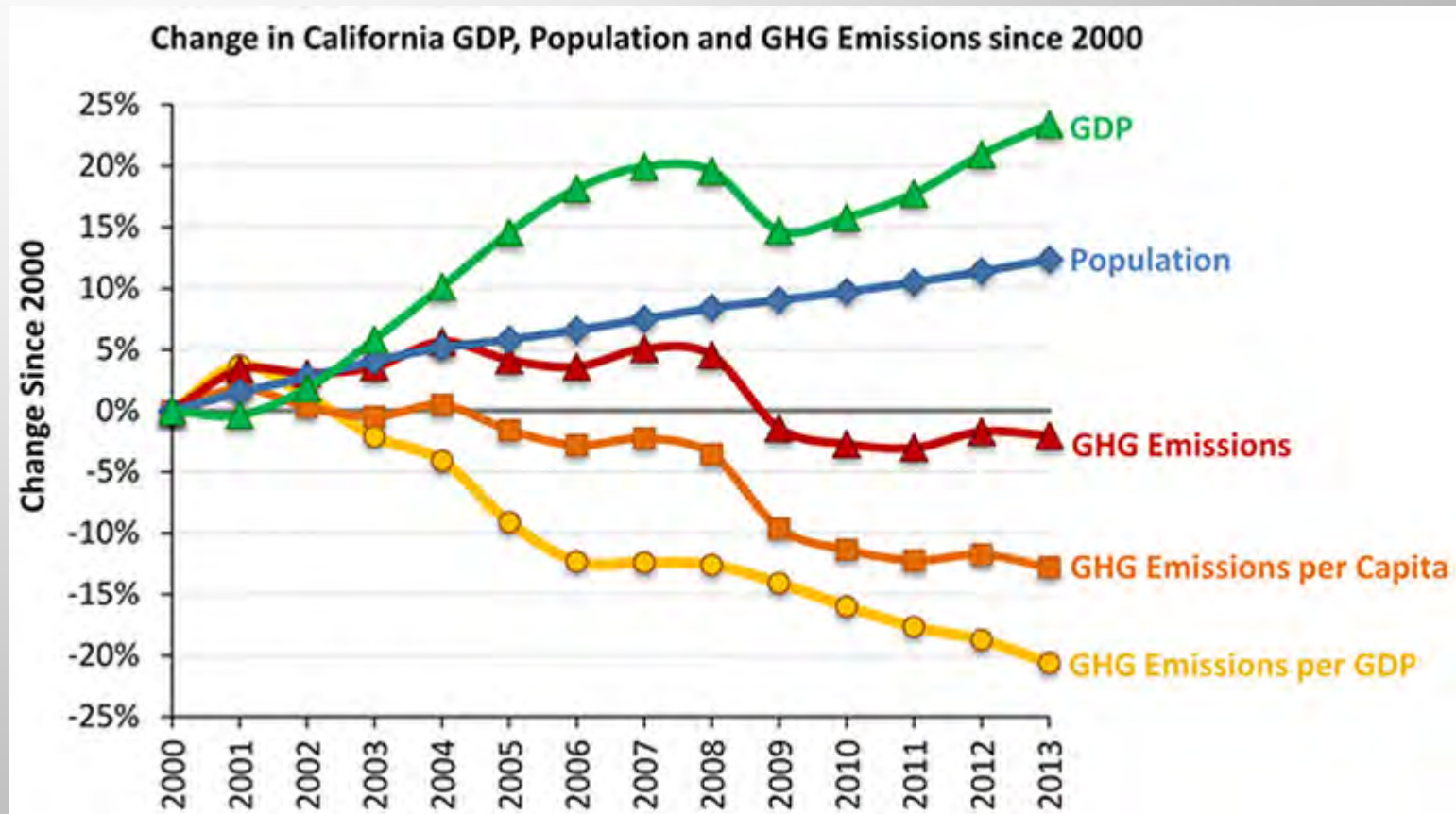
**Sustainable  
Communities  
Strategy**

**Cap & Trade**

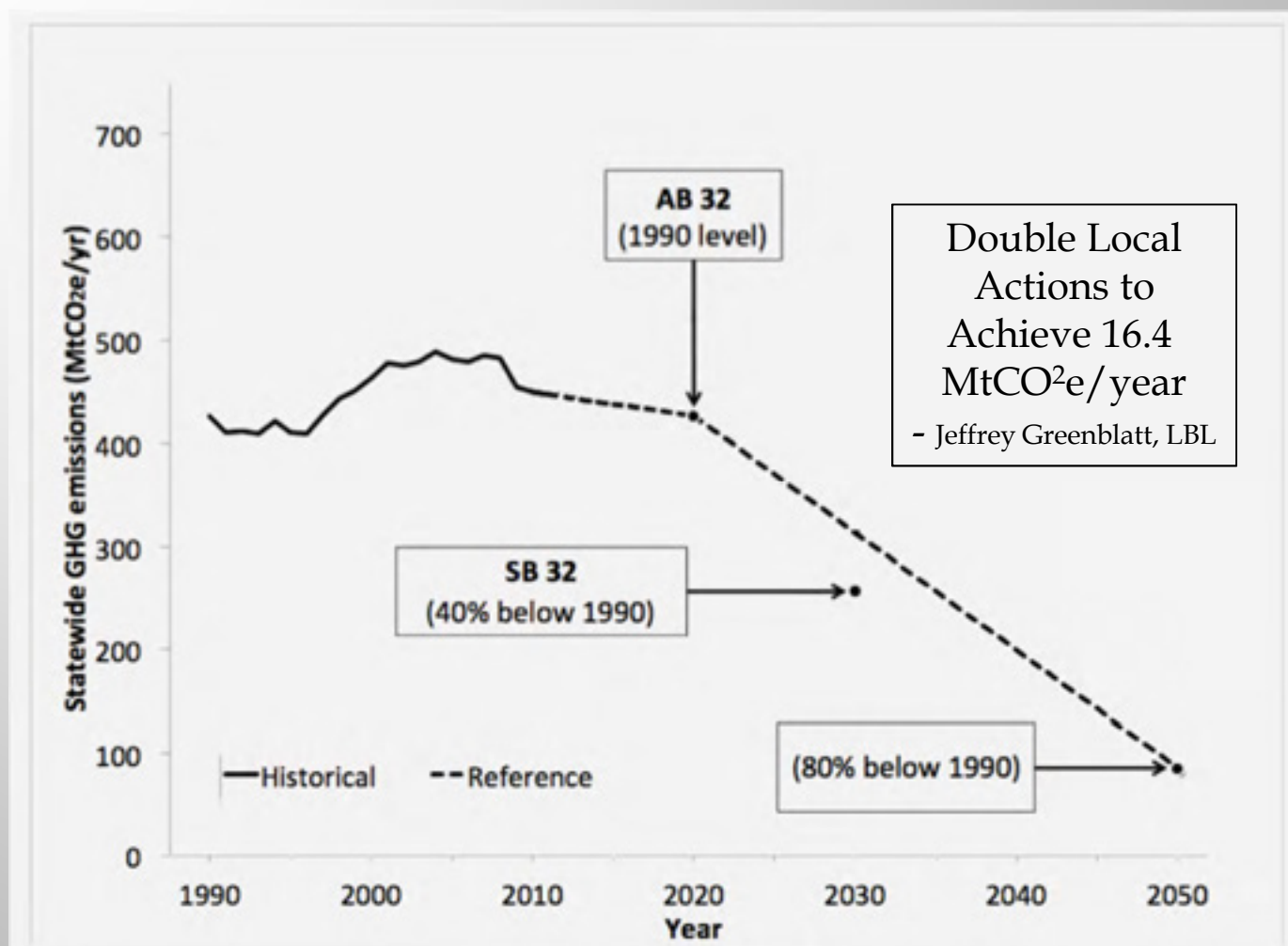
# What is a Sustainable Community?

**Sustainable communities are places where people from all walks of life prosper and thrive, now and over the long term.**

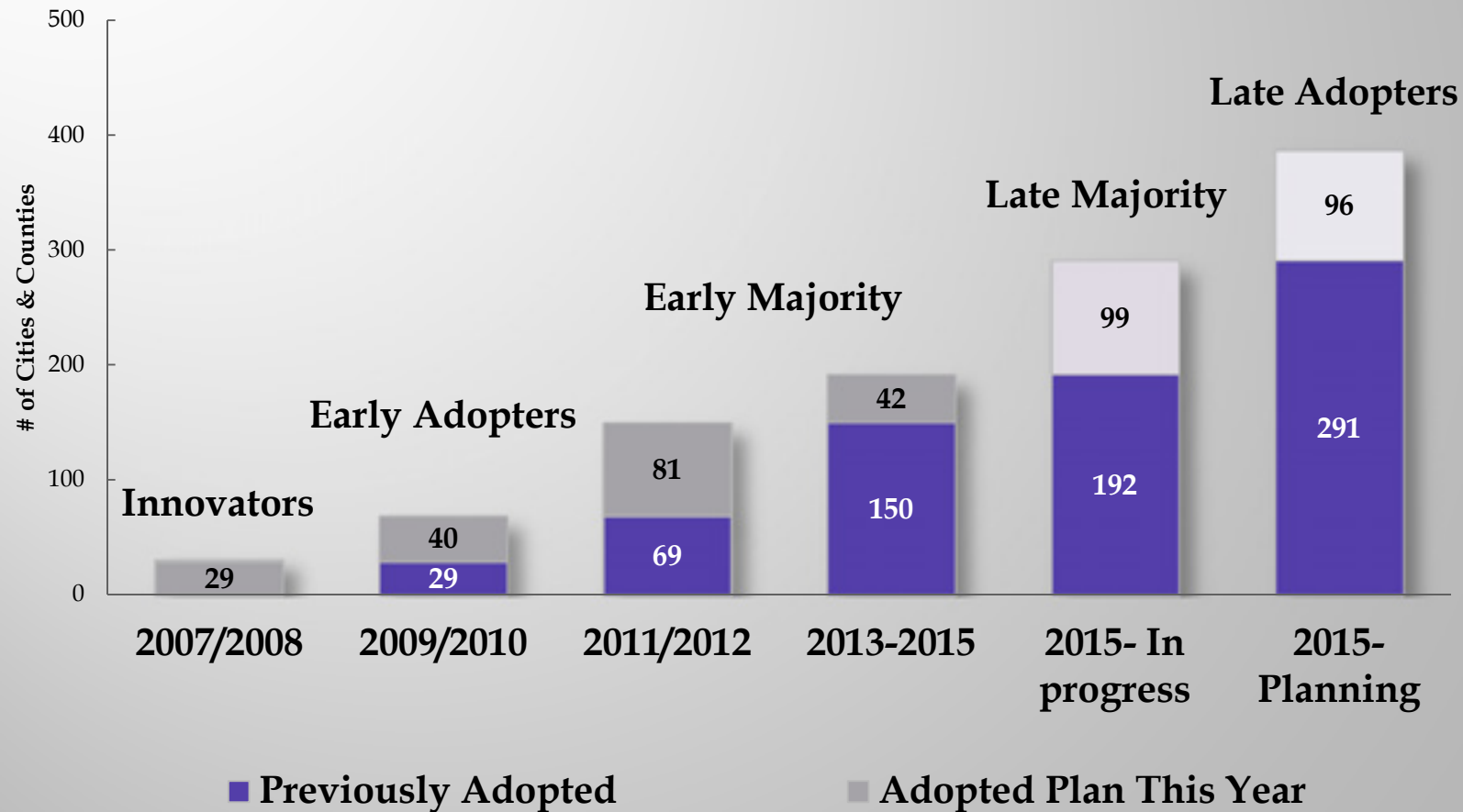
# Trends in Meeting AB 32 Goals



## SB 32 – Ambitious New State GHG Reduction Goals



# Climate Action Plans: From Innovators to the Mainstream





# Capitalizing on the New Normal

Where can your community start?

Where are you already making progress?





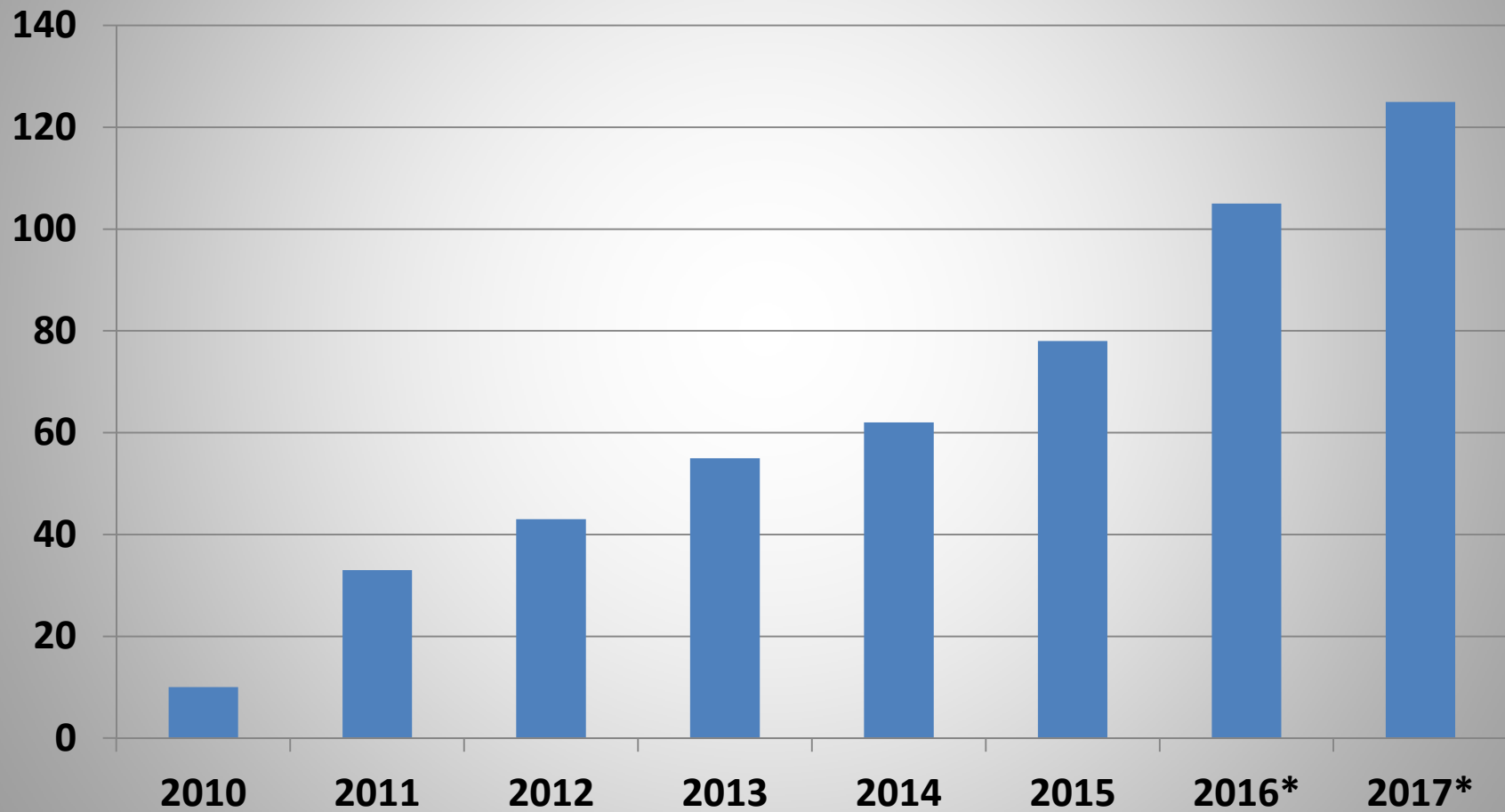
# The Beacon Program



The Beacon Program provides resources and services to help local governments reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and adopt sustainability best practices.

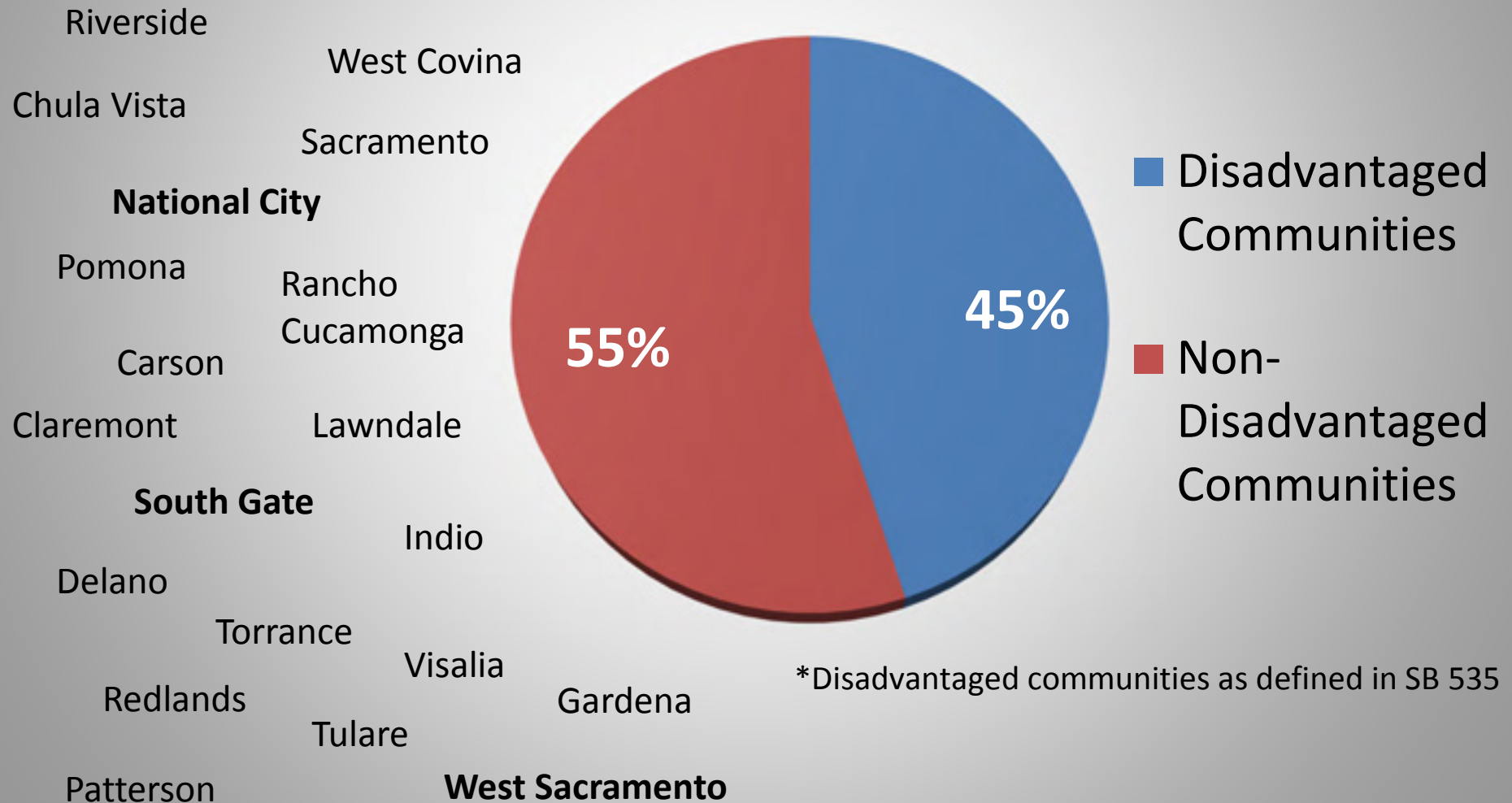
Currently **99** communities  
30% of California residents

# Participating Beacon Communities by Year



\*Projected

# Disadvantaged Communities Benefit from the Beacon Program



# West Sacramento AHSC Project

Delta Lane Mixed Use & Grand Gateway Improvements



**Part of the city's long-term vision and strategy.**

\$6,730,888 Strategic Growth Council grant – the missing piece to make the project a reality.

# PARADISE CREEK



NATIONAL CITY, CALIFORNIA

## TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT and PARK



SPURLOCK POIRIER  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS









Materials and furnishings are found in their 'natural' or minimally shaped state reflecting a heavy-duty, minimal rustic park environment

### PARK - PLAY + GATHERING

- Located near school and off-street parking
- Naturalized play environment
- Boulders, logs, and mounds to play around
- Kiosko provides sheltered small event space

### PARK - RECREATION

- Large open space allows for a range of informal activities
- Hedgerows frame and define lawn and space across creek
- Adjacent slopes provide watching opportunities
- Space mirrors similar use across creek in residential area

### PARK - COMMUNITY GARDEN

- Program requirements are still undefined
- Easily viewed from motorists
- Located at southern access point for ease of delivery



Site programming with Community Input





**Forward thinking -  
a model for future T.O.D. infill projects**

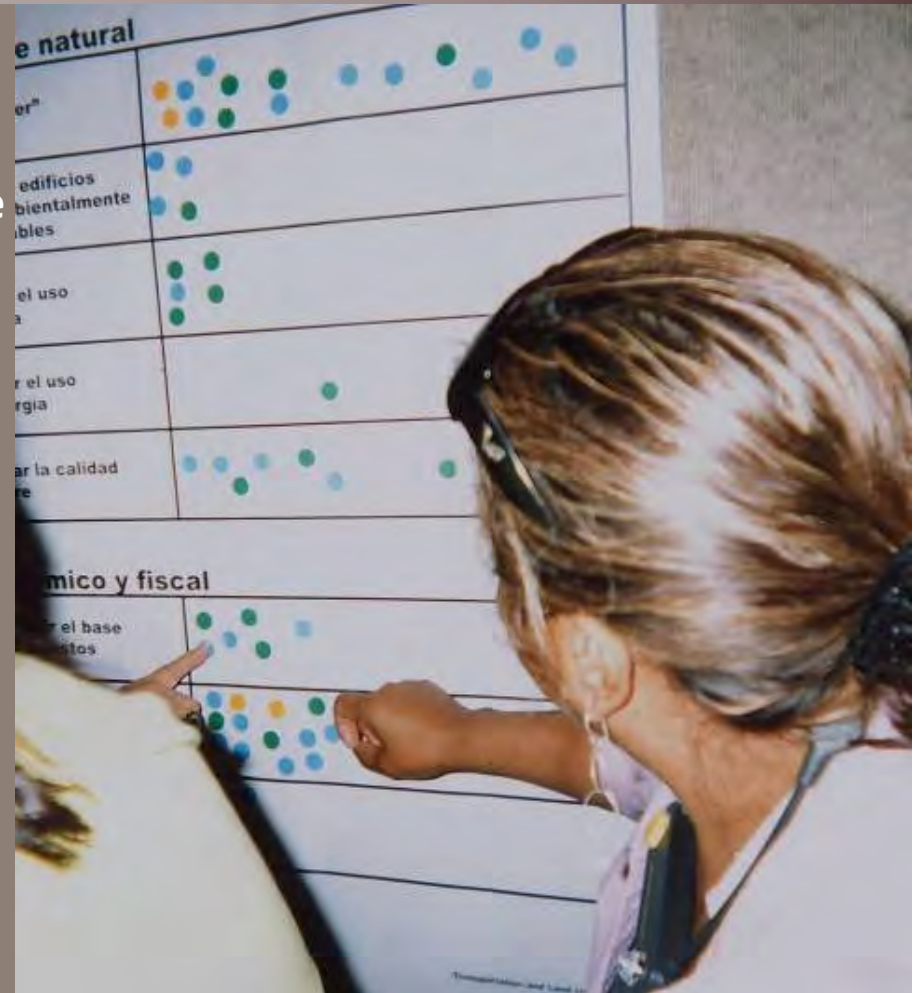
# City of South Gate





# Grant Funding Sources

1. California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) Grants \$970,000 (2)
2. SCAG Compass Blueprint and Sustainable Communities Grants - \$525,500 (2)
3. SCAG Alternative Analysis/Station Location Grant - West Santa Branch
4. Kaiser Foundation/Healthy Community Grant \$75,000
5. MTA/SAFETEA-LU Grant via FHWA, Caltrans and Eco-Rapid Transit. \$214,000
6. Southern California Edison (SCE) Local Government Strategies Program \$886,000



# South Gate Sustainable Economic Development

- ▣ **Azalea Regional Shopping Center (LEED certified)**
- ▣ **The Crossing at Firestone**
- ▣ **Calden Court Apartments**
- ▣ **El Paseo Shopping Center renovation**
- ▣ **Glasswerks industrial rehab**



# South Gate Beacon Accomplishments

## 2015 Silver Beacon Award

Agency GHG: 11% (Gold)

Community GHG: 7% (Silver)

Agency Electricity: 12% (Gold)

Agency Natural Gas: NA

Sustainability Best Practice Activities: 3+ (Gold)

SPOTLIGHT AWARD AREAS OF ACCOMPLISHMENT	SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Agency GHG Reductions	5% Reduction	10% Reduction	20% Reduction
Community GHG Reductions			
Agency Energy Savings			
Natural Gas Savings			
Sustainability Best Practice Activities	1 in each of 10 categories	3 in each of 10 categories	6 in each of 10 categories
FULL BEACON AWARD	Silver Level Beacon Award	Gold Level Beacon Award	Platinum Level Beacon Award



**South Gate Mayor Jorge Morales Accepts the 2015  
Beacon Climate Action & Sustainability Award  
League of California Cities Annual Conference, October 1, 2015**



## Join Beacon

The Beacon Program provides a framework for local governments to share best practices that create healthier, more efficient, vibrant communities. The program honors voluntary efforts by local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and adopt policies and programs that promote sustainability.

- ▶ To learn more about the Beacon Program, visit [www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconProgram](http://www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconProgram).

## Achieve Results

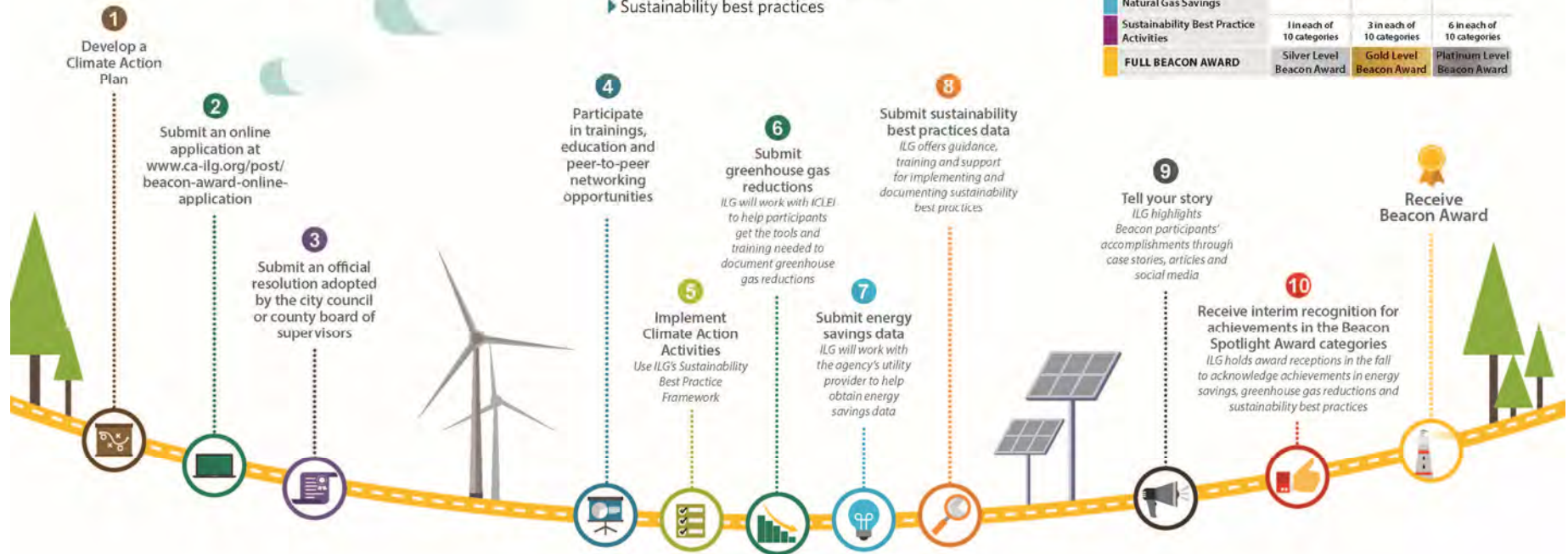
The Institute for Local Government provides resources and technical support to assist participants in their journey through the Beacon Program. Through our partnerships within the SEEC collaborative, we are able to help participants obtain and record achievements in five areas of accomplishment.

- ▶ Reducing agency greenhouse gas emissions
- ▶ Reducing community greenhouse gas emissions
- ▶ Electricity savings in agencies facilities
- ▶ Natural gas savings in agency facilities
- ▶ Sustainability best practices

## Celebrate Success

Within each area, a participant can earn Beacon Spotlight awards-silver, gold and platinum- based on level of achievement. To win a full Beacon award, participants are required to demonstrate achievement in all five areas.

SPOTLIGHT AWARD Areas of Accomplishment	SILVER LEVEL	GOLD LEVEL	PLATINUM LEVEL
Agency GHG Reductions			
Community GHG Reductions	5% Reduction	10% Reduction	20% Reduction
Agency Energy Savings			
Natural Gas Savings			
Sustainability Best Practice Activities	1 in each of 10 categories	3 in each of 10 categories	6 in each of 10 categories
<b>FULL BEACON AWARD</b>	<b>Silver Level Beacon Award</b>	<b>Gold Level Beacon Award</b>	<b>Platinum Level Beacon Award</b>



Supporting California local governments



# To Learn More



Institute for Local Government  
Sustainable Communities Program  
Steve Sanders, Program Director

[ssanders@ca-ilg.org](mailto:ssanders@ca-ilg.org)  
(916) 658-8245

[www.ca-ilg.org](http://www.ca-ilg.org)

