

# Gateway Cities

## 2022

# ENERGY

## ACTION AWARDS

### 2021 AWARDED CITIES



Paramount  
Lynwood  
Long Beach



South Gate  
Signal Hill  
Pico Rivera  
Norwalk  
Montebello  
Lakewood  
Downey  
Artesia



Whittier  
Santa Fe Springs  
Maywood  
La Mirada  
Bell Gardens  
Bell  
Avalon

- **Competition closes:**  
**November 15th**
- **Awards presented:**  
**Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> EWG Meeting**

The Gateway Cities Energy Action Awards (GCEAA) were designed to recognize cities for your actions to improve energy efficiency and sustainability and to provide motivation to continue your progress going forward.

The first year resulted in 18 of 27 Gateway cities earning an award, and the goal for 2022 is for all cities to reach Bronze or above!

### AWARD TIMELINE

The 2022 GCEAA framework was introduced at the March 8th Energy Working Group (EWG) meeting, and cities will have until Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> to continue to compete for points to progress to higher levels. Award presentations will take place at the December 13<sup>th</sup> EWG meeting. Those cities that attended and provided city updates at the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting have already earned two additional points for 2022!

### WHAT'S CHANGED? AWARD MODEL AND POINTS

Again, the GCEAA keeps it simple by continuing with most of the points earned by cities in the 2021 awards. In 2021, cities were recognized for 12 activities that were completed last year or in past years, with each activity counting for one point regardless of when the activity was completed. This year will roll all of those activity points forward in different ways, and also add five new opportunities to gain points for activities completed in 2022.

#### Ten activities from 2021 will carry over to 2022:

1. Enrolled in SoCalREN
2. Enrolled in Beacon Program
3. Member of SoCalGas Local Government Partnership
4. Requested or completed a Comprehensive Energy Analysis
5. Requested or completed Benchmarking
6. Completed Energy Efficiency Project in 2021 or earlier only; energy efficiency projects completed in 2022 will be counted in the next category.

7. Completed Energy Action Plan
8. Completed Climate Action Plan
9. Received a Categorical Beacon Award
10. Received an Overall Beacon Award

**Cities that have not yet completed the activity in any of these ten categories may still gain a point if they complete the activity in 2022.**

The following four activities will start new in 2022, and could add up to 8 points:

1. Complete at least one Energy Efficiency Project in 2022 (1 point)
2. Serve as an Energy Working Group Presenter or Panelist in 2022 (1 point)
3. Attend each 2022 quarterly EWG meeting. (**NEW: Up to 3 points** for March, June & September EWG meetings)
4. **NEW:** Provide a **City Update** at each EWG meeting (**Up to 3 points**)  
In 2022, there will be an opportunity for each city to provide a very brief update on any effort the city is working on to become more energy efficient or sustainable at every EWG meeting.

Each city has the possibility of earning up to eight points for these four activities. Nine cities already have a head start due to their participation at the March 2022 EWG meeting, **and many cities have the opportunity to rise one level just by participating in the next two EWG meetings in June and September for four additional points. Even if your city is starting with zero points today, you may rise to Bronze level with four points.**

There are five new opportunities to earn up to 6 points:

1. **NEW:** Adopt Electric Vehicle Charging Station Permit Streamlining
2. **NEW:** Attend a SoCalREN Educational Webinar
3. **NEW:** [Beacon Leadership & Innovation Award](#) (open to cities whether or not they are enrolled in the Beacon Program)
4. **NEW:** SoCalREN Annual Progress Report
5. **NEW:** Energy, Equity & Empowerment (**2 points**)

The **SoCalREN Progress Report** allows enrolled cities to request an annual SoCalREN Progress Report to review what has been accomplished by their city since enrolling and what's on the horizon for project opportunities. Requests may be submitted to your SoCalREN Project Manager or through the COG.

The **Energy, Equity & Empowerment** activity is broadly based on your city's efforts to partner and engage with the community-based organizations and community groups in your city's efforts to become more energy efficient and sustainable. A one-page description of your efforts must be submitted by November 1<sup>st</sup> on the attached form (Attachment A).

### THREE AWARD LEVELS

Three award levels will again be available: Gold, Silver and Bronze. The following table shows how activity points are clustered, and which cities have reached that level as of April, 2022.

LEVEL	ACTIVITIES	CITIES
Gold	14 - 24 completed	None yet
Silver	9 - 13 completed	Downey (10) Paramount (9) Pico Rivera (11)
Bronze	4 - 8 completed	Artesia (7) Bell (4) Bell Gardens (5) La Mirada (4) Lakewood (6) Long Beach (8) Lynwood (7) Maywood (5) Montebello (5) Norwalk (6) Signal Hill (7) South Gate (8) Whittier (5)
In Progress	0 - 3 completed	Avalon (2) Bellflower (2) Cerritos (1) Commerce (0) Compton (0) Cudahy (0) Hawaiian Gardens (0) Huntington Park (2) Industry (2) Santa Fe Springs (3) Vernon (0)

- \* The cities highlighted in green gained two additional points for (1) attending the March Energy Working Group and (2) giving a brief City Update. There are still two opportunities to earn up to 4 points by attending the Energy Working Group meeting and providing a brief City Update at the June and September meetings.

Cities currently with zero points may gain four points to reach the Bronze level before the November 15<sup>th</sup> deadline by attending the next two Energy Working Group meetings and giving a City Update at each EWG meeting in June and September (4 points).

## TRACKING AWARD ACTIVITY

Award activities are tracked by city on the attached tracking tool devoted solely to tracking points earned toward the GCEAA (Attachment B). Updated points and levels will be reported out at the end of each month. As mentioned previously, cities will have an opportunity to complete additional actions for the 2022 awards through November 15<sup>th</sup> after which cities will be notified of their highest level achieved.

## AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of awards will take place at the December EWG meeting and will also include recognition at the COG Board meeting. Special recognition will be given for cities that achieve Gold status. In addition to receiving the award recognition, the COG's Executive Director attended the City Council meetings of all Gold cities to present the awards which will be available again in 2022. There are also plans to produce another GCEAA video in 2022 which will be shared widely.

## QUESTIONS, CORRECTIONS, UPDATES

Questions, corrections and updates to activities may be directed to Sumi Gant at (562) 397-7849 or by email to [sumi@sumiregantconsulting.com](mailto:sumi@sumiregantconsulting.com).

Questions about the Beacon awards program may be directed to Nikita Sinha at [nsinha@ca-ilg.org](mailto:nsinha@ca-ilg.org)

Questions about the SoCalREN Annual Progress Report/Energy Assessment may be directed to Elaina Lee at [elee@energycoalition.org](mailto:elee@energycoalition.org).

Attachment A

**ENERGY, EQUITY & EMPOWERMENT (2 points)**

**Due by Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022**

City planning often requires engaging with the public, and grant opportunities increasingly require that cities partner authentically with their communities in order to compete for funding. Cities are invited to submit one project or program that primarily occurs in 2022 that demonstrates your city's efforts to collaborate authentically with your community to increase energy efficiency, sustainability and/or climate resilience.

The project or program should demonstrate inclusive public engagement practices that advance equity and empowerment by collaborating with community-based organizations (CBOs) and community groups to improve the city's energy efficiency, sustainability and/or climate resilience, whether a physical project or a planning effort.

Submissions should be limited to one to two-pages, and should demonstrate how the project or program addresses three categories:

ENERGY EFFICIENCY, SUSTAINABILITY AND/OR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

- Describe how the project or program increases the city's energy efficiency, sustainability and/or climate resilience. What need was this project or program developed to address?
- Please describe the overall benefits of the project or program in terms of cost and measurable outcomes or savings?

EQUITY

- Describe the community groups and/or CBOs that you engaged with in delivering this project or program, and how your engagement practices advanced equity within your city's communities.
- Please describe the inclusive public engagement practices that your city used that were incorporated into the project or program.

EMPOWERMENT

- Describe the benefits that this equitable engagement had on the project or program outcomes.
- Please describe how this effort empowered the community to partner authentically with the city to better address their priorities.

[Deadline to submit: Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.](#)