

From: SustainLane Government
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Subject: The Latest News on Sustainable Development



Advancing Sustainability

February 22, 2007

Greetings!

Welcome to the latest issue of [SustainLane Government's](#) newsletter. Here's the skinny on the latest in state and local government sustainable development.

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What's Cleantech and Where is it?

SustainLane Government has just released its research findings on the [Top US cities for Cleantech Incubation Clusters](#).

[Cleantech](#) ("clean technologies") includes small companies innovating new energy solutions, transportation, advanced materials, and other technologies that could catalyze our shift to sustainability. Much of this happens across state and national borders, involving many locales at once.



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To contrast, SustainLane examined those US cities that are doing the most in terms of **clustering Cleantech activities in place** so that residents can benefit directly with jobs and services in research, testing, financing, and—most importantly—pilot implementation of sustainability advances.

For more information on Clean Tech in general, check out [Clean Edge](#) and the [Cleantech Venture Network](#) .

California Green Summit in March



The [Green California Summit in Sacramento](#) (March 13-14) is the first state event that we've heard about that is dedicated to bringing together state and local government officials and companies working together in sustainable development across all sectors. SustainLane Government's Warren Karlenzig will present March 13 at 11 a.m. on California city results from the SustainLane US City Rankings, and SustainLane will be hosting a booth along with 200+ other exhibitors at this event.

45 Days of Political Climate Change



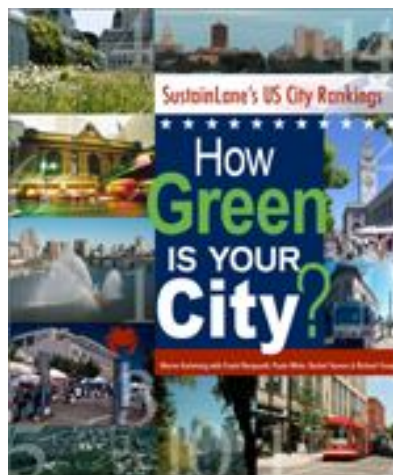
What a busy month and a half it's been for climate change policymakers! A major [scientific report](#) unequivocally correlates global warming with human fossil fuel use (90% probability); a [vanguard of corporations](#) clamored for

carbon caps, including DuPont, GE, Alcoa, BP, Caterpillar, ConocoPhillips and Lehman Brothers; the Senate [heard evidence](#) of climate science suppression from the Union of Concerned Scientists; ExxonMobil began reaching out to ["green" bloggers](#); and, the President finally mentioned "the serious challenge of global climate change" during his [State of the Union](#) speech.

Here in San Francisco, we at SustainLane met with Catalonia, Spain's [Director of Climate Change Policy](#) to compare notes on [climate change mitigation strategies](#). Whether from more and more press coverage or from all the strange winter weather, is anyone not hot and bothered yet? Clearly, the country has no more doubts about climate science and now embraces change—for the better.

[The 100th Best Practice Wins a Prize!!!](#)

We're nearing 100 Best Practices in our Knowledge Base. Thanks to all the cities, counties, and states that have contributed program documentation. We thought it'd be fun to throw a prize into the mix—so, yeah, the 100th Best Practice gets a free copy of our book [How Green Is Your City](#), coming in March!!!



Featured Best Practice: Sustainability Program Summary for Phoenix, AZ



The City of Phoenix has developed a variety of innovative, award-winning programs that demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and its strong environmental stewardship. The City has initiated and implemented many programs that go beyond regulatory requirements and laws, resulting in national recognition and a local leadership role.

What follows is a Sustainability Program Summary as it specifically relates to the City's Energy and Green Buildings including energy conservation programs/outreach, green buildings, solar energy, and energy efficient housing.

Program highlights include:

Energy Efficiency Retrofits for Air Conditioning and Lighting - The Energy Conservation Savings Reinvestment Fund (Pay-as-you-go) has provided the funding for Energy Management staff to work with customers citywide on a wide variety of retrofit projects. Most of these projects involve HVAC and lighting, which entail the most energy consumption and expense in City facilities. Projects include HVAC unit replacements with high efficiency units, variable speed drives (VSDs) on air and water distribution systems, energy management systems and controls, and light system retrofits from standard T-12 lamps and magnetic ballasts to T-8 lamps and electronic ballasts.

Design Standards for City Buildings - The City Building Standards were revised in 2006 to include additional energy related standards for City projects. The revisions supplement the Green Building Guidelines/LEED standards. Green Buildings are structures that over their lifetime will require less resources to operate. By design, these buildings use less water and energy, generate less waste products, provide a more comfortable environment for their occupants, and contribute to a more sustainable environment. Due to our climatic conditions, the City's standards are now more stringent than the LEED criteria and include:

- Landscape & exterior design to reduce Heat Islands

(non-roof).

- Landscape & exterior design to reduce Heat Islands (roof).
- Water efficient landscaping (reduce by 50%).
- Water use reduction (reduce by 20%).
- Optimize energy performance (by 30%).
- Construction waste management (divert 50%).
- LEED accredited professional on design team.

Buildings that were designated for LEED certification and have either received or are in the process of LEED certification are discussed under Green Buildings Section below.

Energy Conservation Outreach - The Public Works Department promotes energy conservation through presentations at various events including annual Engineering and Facility Management shows, Energy Association meetings, technical groups, City Council subcommittees, and the Environmental Quality Commission. Energy sustainability information is provided to City staff in appropriate venues.

Inter-Departmental Energy Management Task Force - The City Manager established the Energy Management Task Force in March 2001 to address electric deregulation and power supply issues in the western United States. The Task Force looked at reasonable ways to reduce energy needs of City facilities, particularly during summer demand months, and to develop contingency plans in the event of interruptions or reductions in availability of power. The Task Force also investigated citywide opportunities for energy efficiency, renewable energy projects, and initiated a series of Green Building pilot projects (see Green Building Section below).

Water Treatment Plant Optimization - Through an energy optimization program, the City's Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants and associated facilities run as energy efficiently as possible, reducing peak energy demands and overall energy usage. The City continuously strives to include energy efficiency into all new construction and upgrades at all Water Services Department facilities.

To obtain this Best Practice in its entirety, and others like it, please visit the Knowledge Base at SustainLane.us.

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