

Other Programs and Considerations:

At this time, there are a number of other programs that are being implemented or could be considered in addition to the above recommendations.

1. California Senate Bill 32 (AB 32)

The California Air Resources Board is currently undergoing the statewide scoping phase of the implementation of AB 32. AB 32, the global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, seeks to lower California greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, or by about 10% from 2008 levels. There is also a California Executive Order #S-3-05 that requires California to reduce 1990 greenhouse gas emission levels by 80% by 2050.

At this time AB 32 is projected to attempt to lower greenhouse gas emissions through a combination of lowering energy use, greater efficiency of energy use and increased renewable energy production. An effective Culver City green building program may be considered part of implementing AB 32.

2. California Green Building program

On July 17, 2008 the California Building Standards Commission adopted the future implementation of a mandatory statewide California Green Building Code, which includes the following benchmarks:

July 2009: an increase in the energy efficiency requirements for new home construction which will make new homes 20% more energy efficient than homes constructed to the current California energy Codes.

July 2011: a 20% reduction in overall water use in new home construction.

July 2011: new air quality, moisture control, and resource conservation measures in new homes including low-VOC adhesives, paints, and coatings, high efficiency air conditioning filters and always on exhaust fans.

3. Mandatory Solar Photovoltaic Requirement

All new construction in Culver City of 10,000 sq. ft. or greater, additions of 10,000 sq. ft. or greater, and major renovations of 10,000 sq. ft. or greater are required to install 1 kw of solar photovoltaic power per 10,000 sq. ft. of applicable building area. The requirement doesn't apply to one and two family structures, garages, or parking structures. (Attachment No. 4)

The Public Works department is currently studying the opportunity to fit existing City facilities with solar power. At the present time, there does not appear to be any good applications for City buildings that are cost effective. To this end, other energy efficiently projects are being studied for existing City facilities.

4. Green Building Recognition Program

In the future, Culver City could recognize built green building projects with a notice on the Building Safety web page and/or a special recognition from the City Council.

5. Public Education and Outreach

Over the last four years, Culver City Building Safety has created various "green" handouts for the public. This information could be furthered enhanced for residential and commercial program efficiency as well as formulated into informative programs for presentation throughout the community and school district.