

The Department of the Environment City and County of San Francisco

Annual Report 2014

> SF Environment 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94103 SFEnvironment.org • (415) 355-3700



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I want to preserve our planet for our children's children: The information we provide to the public is playing a big role in doing just that, I'm blessed to be able to work for the Department of the Environment.

> Patrice Mack, Receptionist

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## What we do

The San Francisco Department of the Environment (SF Environment) creates visionary policies and innovative programs to improve, enhance, and preserve San Francisco's urban and natural environment and ensure our city's long-term sustainability. SF Environment develops cutting-edge yet practical wide-ranging environmental programs, fosters ground-breaking legislation, collaborates with key partners and educates the public on comprehensive sustainability practices. SF Environment makes it easy for everyone in San Francisco to protect our environment.

SF Environment is a one-stop resource for people who want to learn about how they can access resources to protect the environment locally. Each year, SF Environment provides support to elected officials, other city departments, businesses, community-based organizations, the media and the general public. SF Environment is responsible for providing expert information about environmental initiatives, programs, services, policies and incentives. Its work has helped San Francisco become an environmental leader and model for municipalities around the world. SF Environment's EcoCenter and website **www.sfenvironment.org**—have the latest departmental and Environment Commission news and archives as well as easy-to-read fact sheets about a wealth of environmental topics, many of which are in multiple languages including Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Tagalog. The website serves as a portal to a range of environmental issues and contains links to other city agencies and environmental organizations.

SF Environment understands that real change comes from face-to-face conversations and engagement, and we work in every neighborhood in San Francisco. We go door-to-door and participate in street fairs, farmers markets, concerts and other events to get information and resources to the people who want and need it most.

### Key to icons used throughout the report:





ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE







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1 11 11

I want to do work that restores the earth and the lives of people who live on it.

Pauli Ojea, Green Jobs Assistant Coordinator

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## Biodiversity

The Biodiversity program is a leader in urban biodiversity conservation efforts and develops model policies that support ecological restoration, biodiversity, and integration of nature in the built environment. It plays a key role in convening city and regional stakeholders to further the City's goals of restoring and increasing open and green space, natural areas, and green corridors in our urban environment. It advances eco-literacy by supporting local ecological and natural areas stewardship groups and increasing participation in their programs.



#### Accomplishments





SF Environment convened the city's local ecological education leaders for a week long Biodiversity Summit in the Bayview to initiate a SF Biodiversity education collaboration to increase awareness of and connection to the city's natural environment.



19 Plant Fasher is a community resource for gardeners, dasigners, cooligitti and others interested is genering neighborhoods and enhancing our orban scology. The Flast Finder recommends appropriate plants for delevality periods backyords and roots that are adapted to Sen Prioritor's intertority and cleants and highlight. Learn Mern.





In partnership with San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco Planning Department, Urban Forestry Council, and Nature in the City, the Biodiversity program launched **SFPlantFinder.org**. The website promotes urban greening by providing hyperlocal recommendations for native species that are drought tolerant and are habitat for wildlife.

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My work is driven by my belief that everyone should have access to options that help them think differently about how they travel and its impact on health and environment.

> Sue-Ellen Atkinson Commute Smart Program

# Clean Transportation

The Clean Transportation Program envisions a San Francisco where car ownership is the exception rather than the rule, and where convenient, carbonfree mobility options are readily available and regularly used by residents, commuters and visitors. Toward that vision, the City has set a goal that 50% of all travel be made by sustainable modes by 2017. This primarily means travel in modes other than in "drive-alone" personal vehicles.

Our programs work to achieve this goal by promoting clean transportation systems and choices that reduce congestion, improve safety, enhance air quality, and encourage healthy travel.



### Accomplishments





Launched San Francisco's first Carpool 2 School Week as part of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Partnership.

# 40%

Businesses reported starting a commuter benefits program because of the Commuter Benefits Ordinance Charging stations available to the public at over 120 locations citywide



Seeing more San Franciscans practice good environmental habits such as reduce, reuse and recycle motivates me to do the work I do.

> Lloyd Arcega Senior Account Clerk



# Climate



Climate change is the most pressing environmental issue of the 21st century. SF Environment is committed to developing and implementing policies and practices that protect our residents, businesses and visitors from the worst impacts of climate change. Since climate change is a complex issue, SF Environment works with experts and other City agencies to develop effective strategies to reduce emissions. Consistent with the scientific community's recommendations to reduce emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050 to stabilize our climate system, San Francisco has officially adopted ambitious emission reduction goals. The effects of climate change are now being felt sooner and stronger than expected. Collective action is needed and being taken by citizens, businesses, and government. The core of our climate strategy is renewable energy and energy efficiency, transportation by sustainable modes, and achieving zero waste. Greenhouse gas inventories for 2012 have been finalized and are in the process of third party verification.

### **Accomplishments**





Recognized by the White House and Department of Energy as a Climate Action Champion





Released the Climate Action Strategy in print, with a companion website



Today, President Obama recognized San Francisco as a Climate Action Champion for our steadfast leadership on climate change. The President's recognition of San Francisco's leadership affirms the important role of cities in fighting climate change while actions at the national and international levels continue to stagnate.

As a global center of innovation and environmental action, San Francisco is setting aggressive goals and reducing carbon pollution while saving residents money, improving their health, addressing equity, and creating jobs. In fact, San Francisco has successfully reduced our greenhouse gas emissions while our economy and population have both grown.

I thank the President for his continued leadership on climate change and the recent historic joint announcement with China. As a Climate Action Champion, San Francisco is ready to extend our leadership and leverage the opportunities for Federal technical and financial assistance offered by the Obama Administration.

-Mayor Ed Lee

### The Carbon Fund



The SF Carbon Fund invests funds from activities that produce greenhouse gas pollution into local projects that reduce emissions and deliver other environmental benefits within the City and County of San Francisco. It differs dramatically from many carbon-offset programs in that it supports local projects as opposed to projects implemented far away from where greenhouse gas pollution is created.

The SF Carbon Fund is supported by a fee on municipal employees' business related air travel. It also provides an opportunity for conferences and conventions to mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions generated by their events in San Francisco.

In its most recent round of funding, the SF Carbon Fund invested in nine local projects that mitigate and sequester carbon. Projects use widely accepted protocols to estimate carbon savings and include creating community gardens, greenways, parklets, and planting trees throughout the city. They will ultimately improve San Francisco's natural infrastructure and enhance San Francisco's livability for residents throughout the City.

### Accomplishments





AsianWeek's Community Green Space removed nearly an acre of hard-packed soil to create a community garden in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood. The garden is an inviting gathering space that features native plants, trees and plots for neighbors to plant gardens.

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When I see students making daily choices, from composting to using less water, in order to protect the things they hold so dear in nature, I am motivated to show up proudly and tell the truth that we all—through small actions—truly have the power to positively transform this world!

> AeJay Mitchell Environmental Education Associate

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# Community Engagement



### 1455 MARKET

In 2014, our new offices at 1455 Market Street were awarded the LEED Platinum Certification by the US Green Building Council. Our LEED Platinum office space reflects the daily work of SF Environment by efficiently using energy and water, diverting discards, and creating a healthy environment. The space and SF Environment were further recognized as the department received two awards acknowledging the initiative taken in designing and building out our office. Breathe California named SF Environment a 2014 Clean Air Award winner in Smart Growth and Acterra honored SF Environment and RMW architecture and interiors with the 2014 Business Environmental Award for Sustainable Built Environment.

### **Accomplishments**



Breathe California Clear Air Award for Smart Growth

2014 Business Environmental Award for Sustainable Built Environment





Office at 1455 Market receives LEED Platinum certification

8,500+

People participated in events at the EcoCenter in 2014

#### **EDUCATION**

SF Environment's Environmental Education program serves as catalyst for change in the community by offering award-winning projects that serve more than 225 public and private schools in San Francisco, annually reaching 20,000 students and 1,000 teachers. Our environmental education staff encourage positive behavior change that increases composting and recycling at schools, promotes water conservation and protects our water from pollution, inspires sound environmental stewardship, and helps stop litter.

### Accomplishments





In partnership with San Francisco Public Works, we promoted the City's Giant Sweep reaching 2,757 students in 2014.





SF Environment partnered with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to teach 5,780 students about water conservation, pollution prevention, and our Hetch Hetchy system. Due to the drought, we created a special assembly about water conservation to help youth understand the drought and take action.





#### **ENVIRONMENT NOW**

The Environment Now green careers program prepares individuals for jobs in the green economy through a combination of classroom workshops and practical hands-on work experiences. Participants function as the department's grassroots outreach team, promoting behavior change in San Francisco's multicultural and multilingual neighborhoods. Through these grassroots efforts, Environment Now supports all SF Environment program areas, including energy conservation, zero waste, biodiversity, toxics reduction, clean transportation, and environmental justice.

### Spotlight on Tina Addi

When opportunity knocks, it sometimes looks like Tina Addi. That's because when Tina comes to the door, she finds opportunities for residents and business owners to save money and reduce their environmental impact. Tina is one of Environment Now's most recent graduates, and upon completing her two years with the program, she went to work as a sustainability consultant for a national environmental consulting firm.

Several years ago, Tina came to the door when opportunity knocked for her. In 2011, she was living with her two young daughters, trying to make ends meet by piecing together several low-wage jobs. With a desire to find work that she could be proud of, Tina enrolled in a solar installation job training program. While she was there, she learned two important things about herself: 1) she did not like working on roofs, and 2) she had a knack for chatting people up and sharing her knowledge with them. So, when her boss told her about the grassroots outreach jobs at SF Environment, Tina lit up. She applied right away and joined Environment Now soon after. Tina's work at Environment Now helped prepare her well for the next step in her journey. During her time at SF Environment, Tina gained valuable job skills in computer literacy, writing, customer service, effective selling, zero waste, toxics reduction, and energy efficiency. She learned how to walk into a business and identify opportunities for waste reduction on the spot, as well as talk to a home owner about how an energy upgrade could make their house feel cozier. Today, these skills are paying off for her, for her new employers, and for the community members she helps every day.







#### **GRANT MAKING**

SF Environment works with a range of community-based organizations to help achieve San Francisco's ambitious sustainability goals in areas of zero waste, carbon mitigation, toxics reduction and environmental justice. Over the past three years, we have provided approximately \$5 million in grant funding to more than 60 community-based organizations throughout the city. Projects have been as diverse as ensuring food is redistributed through the SF Foodbank rather than going to landfill, engaging communities on climate change adaptation, planting trees and gardens, and creating jobs in the zero waste economy.

### ECOCENTER

SF Environment's EcoCenter at 1455 Market Street continues to be a thriving center for environmental resources. Since our move in early 2013, the EcoCenter has drawn more than 8,500 visitors by hosting more than 20 national and international business and government delegations, two art openings, as many as 30 community groups and 8 brown bag lunches.



#### **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**



#### 2014 Coastal Cleanup Day

SF Environment volunteers participated in the 30th Anniversary of Coastal Cleanup Day by hosting a site at Yosemite Slough. Over **30** volunteers, Environment Now staff, and Literacy for Environmental Justice staff picked up litter along the coastline. Across the City and County of San Francisco and throughout the Golden Gate National Park, over **2,650** volunteers scoured our spectacular coastline and inland parks, collecting **2,648** pounds of debris.



One of the greatest moments of the day was watching my son so proudly dragging a huge bin full of junk he'd picked up. The grin on his face showed he felt environment stewardship for the first time and liked it!" - Cris Powers and her son Nick Powers, 11 years old at Coastal Cleanup Day

#### **ONLINE ENGAGEMENT**

SF Environment's online media channels support the goals and services of all programs by providing clear, concise, and objective information about policies and initiatives. SF Environment provides environmental educational resources and tools for action to a wide variety of San Francisco constituencies, and strives to reach the diverse communities of San Francisco in strategic and thoughtful ways.

### Accomplishments





Re-launch of **SFApproved.org** 





Connect with us for breaking-news and resident resources:

Follow us on Twitter: **@sfenvironment** Like us on Facebook: **SF Environment** Follow us on LinkedIn: **SF Environment** Follow us on Instagram: **sfenvironment** 





I enjoy working at SFE because it is very fulfilling! It is a double-win situation; I help people save energy and money while lessening the impact to the environment.

66

Claudia Espino, Associate Engineer San Francisco Department of the Environment

# Energy



Since over 50% of the city's greenhouse gas emissions come from buildings, SF Environment's Energy program targets energy use in private sector commercial and residential buildings. The primary goal is to reduce energy use in these buildings through efficiency and renewable energy resources. Ultimately, we want all San Francisco's buildings and neighborhoods to achieve as close to zero net energy use as possible.

SF Environment has made great strides in establishing highly effective energy efficiency programs. Energy Watch, funded by PG&E ratepayers, is one of the largest city-run energy efficiency programs in California. The program serves approximately 1000 customers annually. Bay Regional Energy Network, also ratepayer funded, serves multifamily and single-family customers while also developing financing services and providing training and research to improve compliance with energy codes.

### Accomplishments



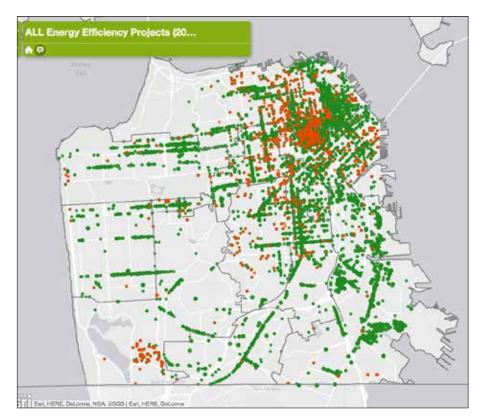


SF Environment's part of the Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancement Program has served over 8,500 units. More than 25% of them have implemented energy efficiency measures, saving more than 10% in annual energy use. To date, the program has paid out \$1.4 million in rebates.

# \$38.4M

Provided to 15,061 projects through the Department's different commercial Energy Efficiency programs since 2001

### **Accomplishments**



#### Color Code

Green = Commercial Projects Orange = Multifamily Projects



The map represents energy efficiency projects implemented by SF Environment during the following programs:

**Power Savers (2001-2002)** Over 4,000 small businesses

**Peak Energy Program (2003-2005)** Almost 2,000 businesses

**SF Energy Watch (2006-2014)\*** Almost 5,000 commercial and over 1,500 multifamily properties\*

\*SF Energy Watch totals from 2006 to August 2014

\$20.8M

Incentives paid through SF Energy Watch since 2006



Projects installed since 2006 through SF Energy Watch

### **Cliffhouse Energy Upgrades**

After enrolling in SF Energy Watch, Cliff House, a landmark facility overlooking the ocean, carried out efficiency upgrades and refrigeration retrofits for an estimated annual savings of \$19,252.



San Francisco's acknowledgement of urban environmental problems and commitment to solving them enables us to focus on how and when a problem will be resolved, rather than if.

56

Barry Hooper, Green Building Program

24 The San Francisco Departme

## Green Building



The overarching goal of the Green Building program is to ensure that all new and existing buildings in San Francisco are built and operated according to third-party verified standards such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), GreenPoint Rated, or EnergyStar. It is a technical resource for standards setting and project development; facilitates and stimulates ongoing training for a wide range of building professionals; educates and builds support for green building policies with the public, tenants, and building owners; and administers the only mandatory energy benchmark & audit program in California.

### Accomplishments





In partnership with the San Francisco Planning Department, SF Environment secured a 2-year grant to create the "Sustainable Chinatown" plan. "Sustainable Chinatown" coordinated in partnership with San Francisco Foundation, Enterprise Community Partners, and Chinatown Community Development Corporation identifies strategies to improve the environmental performance of the neighborhood's infrastructure and buildings.

### 5

Municipal building projects completed LEED certification, bringing the total to **31** citywide

# 600

Commercial building audits identified more than \$200M of cost effective energy efficiency opportunity

### Accomplishments





Two LEED Platinum certified municipal projects: Exploratorium and SF Environment Office and EcoCenter

### Accomplishments





Helped launch the San Francisco 2030 District, which comprises 22 properties covering more than 9 million square feet of commercial building space committed to energy efficiency, water conservation and reducing transportation emissions.

### 66

Providing energy efficiency incentives to apartment buildings is a win-win-win - for the owners, the tenants and the city of San Francisco, and I enjoy the technical challenge of working with our talented multifamily team to find opportunities in beautiful old San Francisco buildings.

-Gail Brownell, Engineer, Energy Program

۲۵ I want to make the world a better place for our kids.

> Nicole Wu, Environment Now

## Environmental Justice

SF Environment's Environmental Justice program promotes environmental sustainability and economic opportunities in the city's low-income neighborhoods. We provide technical support to nonprofit groups to help prepare workers for employment in the city's green economy and make grants to community-based organizations. Since 2001, the program has granted more than \$11 million to community-based organizations for renewable energy, energy conservation and efficiency, food security, air quality and environmental justice projects in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point and Potrero neighborhoods.

### Accomplishments



Photo by Pestec



The program conducted Integrated Pest Management services and trainings to public and affordable housing sites to improve quality of life and health outcomes by reducing pest and pesticide exposure. Integrated Pest Management services removed and prevented return of cockroaches, mice, and bed bugs by sealing openings, vacuuming insects and their eggs, placing baits and traps, and other targeted methods.

16

Peer educators trained extensively at HOPE SF sites 679

Public housing residents educated about IPM through door-to-door outreach

### "

I enjoy helping smaller businesses navigate the green economy and helping them to find value in sustainability.

> Keith Dews Green Business Aide

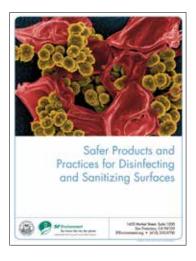
### Toxics Reduction



San Francisco was the first city in the country to adopt the Precautionary Principle as a foundation for its environmental and public health policies, requiring City government to seek out the safest alternatives when making choices ranging from products and services to building designs and landscape management. The Toxics Reduction Program implements the Precautionary Principle most directly through its programs in green purchasing, green business, and integrated pest management. Program staff are also active in regional, national and international policy efforts to reduce toxic pollution and exposure in the San Francisco area.

The toxics program coordinates hazardous waste collection and recycling services for unwanted or expired hazardous household products. It advocates extended producer responsibility, requiring manufacturers to become financially responsible for collection and recycling of their products, through supporting product stewardship legislation at the local, state and federal levels.

### **Accomplishments**





SF Environment partnered with the Responsible Purchasing Network to complete an extensive analysis of disinfectant products and cleaning processes to help consumers make better choices based on safety, germ-killing ability, compatibility with surfaces, and environmental impacts.

Green Businesses recognized in 2014 217 currently recognized Green

Businesses citywide

### Accomplishments





Released Custodial Green Cleaning Curriculum aimed at reducing workers' exposure to harmful chemicals typically used in cleaning operations by switching to greener cleaning products and methods.





The SF Environment Green Cleaning Resource



Released Custodial Green Cleaning Curriculum in both Spanish and Chinese, as well.

300

Custodians trained under the Green Cleaning pilot program



Gallons of harmful cleaning chemicals eliminated from custodial use each year I believe in using scientific data to provide solutions to stop toxic exposure at its source, because it is everyone's right to have a healthy and safe environment.

– Swati Sharma Senior Commercial Toxics Reduction Coordinator



### 66

FRIENDS OF THE

I believe that it is imperative that we understand the role that we play in causing climate change for future generations to come and how we, as individuals, can change the course that we are on by making simple choices in our lives.

> Sachiko Tanikawa Municipal Climate Action Coordinator

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# Urban Forestry

SF Environment's Urban Forest program promotes a healthier urban forest by implementing the Urban Forestry Council Ordinance, providing education programs and information on tree management, and creating innovative funding strategies for the City's urban forest. The program develops legislation and serves as an information hub to other agencies and the general public to improve the health of the urban forest and increase its benefits to residents. In partnership with Friends of the Urban Forest, SF Environment promoted living holiday trees that residents could decorate and would then be planted on San Francisco streets. Trees planted clean the air, reduce storm-water runoff into the ocean and bay, and provide wildlife habitat.



### Accomplishments





Released twice annual newsletter, *The Compost* 

30+

Fruit trees planted at Kaiser Permanente's Geary and Divisidero campus. The orchard offers fresh fruit and a natural environment for visitors and staff, and all extra fruit is donated to the closest neighborhood food pantry.





"If you want save the planet for your kids, you will start to do it yourself."

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WASTE ZERO

Sergey Ratnikov, Environment Now

### Zero Waste



The Zero Waste program has instituted a wide array of policies and convenient services to achieve the City's goal of zero waste by 2020. The Zero Waste program encourages all sectors (municipal, commercial and residential) to comply with the City's zero waste policies and use services properly. The program's primary focus is securing citywide compliance with the Mandatory Recycling and Composting Ordinance. Financial incentives for generators and service providers are continually updated to enhance waste diversion opportunities. The program also promotes waste prevention and environmentally preferable purchasing, and advocates for local and state legislation to increase consumer and producer responsibility.

### Accomplishments





Registered 199 construction & demolition debris transporters, maintained 12 registered facilities and approved 65 demolition debris recovery plans

# 99.5%

Service compliance at city departments, with audits at 32 locations citywide.



zero waste training

#### CHINATOWN CAMPAIGN

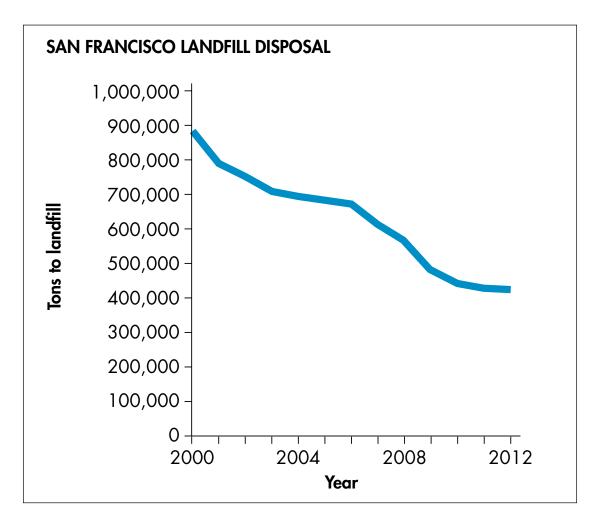
Historically businesses in Chinatown have under performed in recycling and composting participation in comparison with other areas of the city. Targeting restaurants and small grocers in Chinatown, SF Environment and Recology created an integrated campaign. The strategies utilized for this campaign focused on a single premise: composting is a part of the Chinese community. The campaign incorporated beliefs of Chinese culture, such as the continuation of life as food returns to the soil and that food should not be wasted because every grain is made from hard work of farmers. The tag line "Turn food into gold" (點食成金) was a play on a culturally significant Chinese proverb. Placement of the advertising component of the campaign was designed intentionally to reach our targeted audience at a very high frequency. Advertising took advantage of local, culturally relevant media outlets and our partnership with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency.

To follow-up on the advertising element, direct mail was sent to 1,000 Chinese businesses with information on the campaign. Environment Now staff then conducted one-on-one outreach to 200 businesses where the conversations focused on recognition and best practices. This method was supported by the creation of a "Compost Commitment – Community" decal. 114 businesses earned the decal after demonstrating their commitment to the program by diverting 75 percent of discards. When the need arose, multilingual Environment Now staff provided resources and training to businesses to help businesses meet this goal. In total, 99 businesses received trainings, reaching 540 employees, managers, and owners.

Compliance achieved at apartment buildings.

## Accomplishments

97%



This graph illustrates the city's landfilling trends from 2000 to 2012. While the City has made a substantial impact increasing the amount of material collected for recycling and composting, the most important data point is the amount of material the City landfills. Please note, we only have verified landfill data through 2012.

Compliance achieved at small businesses, supported 1,981 small businesses with composting and recycling consulting.

# Zero Waste Textile Initiativ

Sites

## **TEXTILE RECYCLING PRESS EVENT**

The Zero Waste Textile Initiative encourages residents and businesses to recycle used apparel, footwear and other textiles. Upon campaign launch, SF Environment hosted a press event to call attention the "SF Save Fashion" collection bins and the amount of textiles currently being sent to the landfill. Seventy volunteers under the direction of artist Derick Melander created towers of textiles to represent the 4,537 pounds of textiles sent to the landfill each hour in San Francisco. The textile towers served as a stirring visual backdrop for the press event, which included speeches from campaign partners Goodwill, i:Collect, Levi's, American Eagle Outfitters, H&M, and the Cradle to Cradle Innovation Institute.

The press event garnered media coverage in 20 news outlets across print, radio, television and online platforms, along with substantial web traffic. Visitors to the SF Environment Textiles page stayed for an average of 10 minutes and 30% of visitors took the extra step to search for a drop off location. After the successful launch of the Initiative, the outreach team coordinated additional marketing to increase participation in the program, including: targeted mailers, online advertisements, promotional video, and social media campaign.

37 lbs



I can only quote Buckminster Fuller. I want "a world that works for everyone, with no one and nothing left out".

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- Shawn Rosenmoss, Senior Environmental Specialist Development, Community Partnerships, SF Carbon Fund



RECYCLE

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# Funding Partners and Sponsors

SF Environment does not receive any funds from the City's General Fund. We rely on fundraising to support many of our programs and help the city achieve its sustainability goals. We receive grants from foundations and other government entities. We also provide opportunities for businesses and others to support SF Environment and be recognized for their environmental leadership. Over the years, SF Environment sponsors have participated in the Mayor's Annual Earth Day Breakfast, EcoCenter Art Openings, the Green Business Awards Ceremony, the Green and Blue Awards, and quarterly SF Environment Open Houses.

#### Government

- Altamont Education Advisory Board
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- Bay Area Climate Initiatives
- California Department of Pesticide Regulation
- Cal Recycles
- California Energy Commission
- California Public Utilities Commission
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission
- San Francisco County Transportation Authority
- US Department of Energy Clean Cities
  Coalition
- US Department of Energy Sunshot Initiative

#### Foundations

- 11th Hour
- Campbell Foundation
- Kresge Foundation
- Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund
- San Francisco Foundation
- SEED Fund
- Summit Foundation
- Partners for Places

#### Mayor's Earth Day Breakfast Sponsors

- Another Planet Entertainment
- Blue Shield of California
- Hudson Properties
- Labors International Union of North
- America-Local 261

- RMW architectures and interiors
- San Francisco Platinum Advisors
- Salesforce
- United Airlines
- Zip Car

#### **EcoCenter Grand Opening**

- Blue Shield of California
- CH2MHILL
- Cole Hardware
- ESA Sustainable Communities
- ICF International

#### Other event sponsors

- 25 Lusk
- AlterEco
- Aquarium of the Bay
- Benzinger Family Winery
- CitiBank
- Honig Vineyard and Winery
- Jamber Wine
- Madrone Vineyards
- McCalls Catering
- Napa Valley Vintners
- Orange Photography
- Peju
- Thirsty Bear
- Thomas John Events
- Tournesol







## COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2014

### **Commission on the Environment**

The mission of the Commission on the Environment is to improve, enhance, and preserve the environment and to promote San Francisco's long-term environmental sustainability as set forth in Section 4.118 of the City Charter. The Commission on the Environment sets policy for the Department of the Environment and advises the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and other City departments on environmental matters. Appointed by the Mayor, the seven-member commission develops policies and programs on a wide range of environmental topics including zero waste, toxics reduction, environmental justice, clean air, energy efficiency, green building, habitat restoration, commute alternatives, greenhouse gas reduction, green jobs, biodiversity, and the city's urban forest. The Commission's office is located at 1455 Market Street, 12th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103.

### Commission and Committee Membership - 2014

Joshua Arce, President; Angelo King, Vice President and Operations Committee Chair; Ruth Gravanis (Policy Committee); Nicholas Josefowitz (Policy Committee); Heather Stephenson (Operations Committee) Johanna Wald (Policy Committee Chair); Sarah Wan (Operations Committee).

### **Commissioners Leaving Office in 2014**

Special thanks to two commissioners who left office in 2014: Commissioner Ruth Gravanis and Commissioner Nicholas Josefowitz. Commissioner Josefowitz served on the Commission from January 31, 2013 to May 28, 2014. Commissioner Gravanis served on the Commission from July 12, 2006 to November 30, 2014. Both Commissioners Gravanis and Josefowitz also served as members of the Policy Committee.

### **Meetings**

All meetings of the Commission on the Environment and its committees are open to the public. The full Commission meets bimonthly on the fourth Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. in January, March, May, July, September and November. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 416, in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

The Commission's Policy Committee meets monthly on the second Monday at 5:00 p.m. with the exception of the fourth Monday in October. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 421 in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

The Commission's Operations Committee meets quarterly on the second Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. in February, May, August and November. Meetings are held at City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place, Room 421 in the City and County of San Francisco unless otherwise noted.

### **Background on the Commission**

In carrying out its mission, the Commission and its two committees engage in three general types of activities: 1) providing oversight of and strategic advice on the work of the Department of the Environment and its staff; 2) generating and reviewing new policies, practices and ideas relating to sustainability for consideration by the staff, the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors and by other city agencies as relevant; and 3) providing public outreach and education. The Commission carries out its responsibilities principally by reviewing and commenting on oral and written presentations from the staff at both full Commission meetings and at committee meetings.

The Commission is directly responsible for a number of San Francisco's most well known environmental initiatives and achievements including the Mandatory Composting and Recycling Ordinance its groundbreaking ordinance on check-out bags. 2014 saw the groundwork laid by the city's bag ordinance taken to the state level, when Governor Jerry Brown signed a similar bag ordinance into law. Other major initiatives that the Commission has spearheaded include the Department's green careers program, its Existing Commercial Building Ordinance and support of our Clean Fuels and Commuter Benefits program. As the result of these initiatives, the city has accomplished:

- Successfully achieved 99% composting and recycling service compliance in the municipal sector.
- Successfully achieved 97% composting and recycling service compliance in the commercial sector.
- Successfully achieved 99% composting and recycling service compliance in all apartment buildings.
- Since 2006, 6,374 projects have been completed through the Energy Watch program, resulting in \$20.8 million in incentives paid out.
- Over 300 EV charging stations are now publically available throughout the city, with over 100 of them on city property.
- 31 municipal projects have achieved LEED certification
- 387 citywide projects have achieved LEED certification
- Over 80 participants have been through the Environment Now program

# Major accomplishments of the Commission in 2014

In 2014, the Commission's major accomplishments included:

- Adopting a Resolution to support Supervisor Chiu's proposed ordinance amending the Environment Code to restrict the sale or distribution on City property of drinking water in plastic bottles of 21 ounces or less, setting City policy to increase the availability of drinking water in public areas, and barring the use of City funds to purchase bottled water.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of amendments to the Clean Construction Ordinance.
- Adopting a Resolution approving the Department of the Environment's Integrated Pest Management 2014 Reduced Risk Pesticide List for City Properties.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of San Francisco Solar Policy for New Construction.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of working with the Port of San Francisco to create a policy prohibiting transportation and export of hazardous fossil fuel materials such as coal, crude oil, and petroleum coke in the City and County of San Francisco.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of San Francisco's Vision Zero Program to eliminate all traffic-related fatalities in the next ten years.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of Assembly Bill (AB) 2188 (Muratsuchi), "Solar energy: permits".
- Adopting Resolutions commending Commissioners Emeritus Alan Mok and Nicholas Josefowitz for their service to the Commission on the Environment as well as Resolutions commending Melanie Nutter, Director; David Assmann, Acting Director/ Deputy Director; and Ann Kelly, San

Francisco Department of the Environment Senior Manager, Energy Programs, for their service to the Department and the San Francisco Commission on the Environment.

- Approval of the 2012 Buy Green Ordinance for City Staff Annual Report: Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Ordinance.
- Providing education and outreach presentations to the public on Department of the Environment programs such as the Tenant Bicycle Parking in Existing Commercial Buildings Ordinance and Energy Upgrade California, energy efficiency for city residents.
- Briefing on the previous year's implementation of the Healthy Air and Clean Transportation Ordinance.
- Providing guidance and recommendations on updated Climate Action Strategy Priorities for 2014.
- Approval of the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 Budget.
- Providing recommendations to the Mayor on the Department of the Environment's Executive Director-position.
- Holding a public joint meeting with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to discuss shared responsibilities and plans to advance the City's environmental goals in toxics reduction and environmental safety, water conservation, wastewater management, clean vehicle adoption, and renewable generation and energy efficiency, including a discussion of opportunities, challenges, and potential future collaboration in pursuit of environmental objectives.
- Holding a full Commission community meeting in the Mission neighborhood of San Francisco and providing a forum for discussion of (1) community resiliency and

# Oversight activities of the Commission in 2014 included:

Approving the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget on March 25, 2014 and recommending approval of that budget by the full Commission.

Adopting a Revised Reduced Risk Pesticides list for 2014. On January 28, 2014, the Commission approved this list as required by Environment Code Chapter 2, Section 203, Ordinance 115-05. In so doing, the Commission and the Department help the City protect residents, visitors, City staff and the City's biodiversity from the effects of unnecessary and avoidable pesticide use.

### Accomplishments of Environment Commission Committees

- In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2014 activities of the Operations Committee included:
- Reviewing and providing input into the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget recommendation to the Commission and make recommendations on unfunded mandates.
- Recommendations made on the Department of the Environment's Comprehensive Grantmaking Program.
- Reviewing and making recommendations on the process for Commission on the Environment's community meetings and outreach component.
- In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2014 activities of the Policy Committee included:
- Adopting Committee Resolution in support of proposed San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) Commuter Shuttle Policy and Pilot Program.
- Adopting Committee Resolution in support

of the Municipal Transportation Agency's Transit Effectiveness/MUNI Forward Project (TEP).

- Recommending that the Commission approve the 2012 Buy Green Ordinance for City Staff Annual Report.
- Providing guidance on updated Climate Action Strategy priorities for 2014.
- Providing guidance and recommending that the Commission adopt Resolutions referenced in the section of this report entitled "Major Accomplishments of the Commission in 2014.
- Adopting a Resolution to support Supervisor Chiu's proposed ordinance amending the Environment Code to restrict the sale or distribution on City property of drinking water in plastic bottles of 21 ounces or less, set City policy to increase the availability of drinking water in public areas, and bar the use of City funds to purchase bottled water.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of amendments to the Clean Construction Ordinance.
- Adopting a Resolution approving the Department of the Environment's Integrated Pest Management 2014 Reduced Risk Pesticide List for City Properties.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of San Francisco Solar Policy for New Construction.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of working with the Port of San Francisco to create a policy prohibiting transportation and export of hazardous fossil fuel materials such as coal, crude oil, and petroleum coke in the City and County of San Francisco.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of San Francisco's Vision Zero Program to eliminate all traffic-related fatalities in the next ten years.
- Adopting a Resolution in support of

Assembly Bill (AB) 2188 (Muratsuchi) "Solar energy: permits".

- Adopting Resolutions commending Commissioners Emeritus Alan Mok and Nicholas Josefowitz for their service to the Commission on the Environment; Melanie Nutter, Director; David Assmann, Acting Director/Deputy Director; and Ann Kelly, San Francisco Department of the Environment Senior Manager, Energy Programs, for their service to the Department and the San Francisco Commission on the Environment.
- Approval of the 2012 Buy Green Ordinance for City Staff Annual Report: Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Ordinance (EPP).
- Providing education and outreach presentations to the public on Department of the Environment programs such as the Tenant Bicycle Parking in Existing Commercial Buildings Ordinance and Energy Upgrade California, energy efficiency for city residents.
- Briefing on the previous year's implementation of the Healthy Air and Clean Transportation Ordinance.
- Providing guidance and recommendations on updated Climate Action Strategy Priorities for 2014.
- Approval of the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 Budget.
- Providing recommendations to the Mayor on the Department of the Environment's Executive Director-position.
- Holding a public joint meeting with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to discuss shared responsibilities and plans to advance the City's environmental goals in toxics reduction and environmental safety, water conservation, wastewater management, clean vehicle adoption, and renewable generation and energy efficiency, including a discussion of

opportunities, challenges, and potential future collaboration in pursuit of environmental objectives.

 Holding a full Commission community meeting in the Mission neighborhood of San Francisco and providing a forum for discussion of (1) community resiliency and empowerment in the neighborhood; (2) the Office of Economic and Workforce Development's Invest in Neighborhoods Initiative on Lower 24th Street; and (3) sustainable community efforts to establish the Calle 24 Latino Cultural District. Resolution was adopted in Support of Calle 24 Latino Cultural District.

# Oversight activities of the Commission in 2014 included:

Approving the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget on March 25, 2014.

Adopting a Revised Reduced Risk Pesticides list for 2014. On January 28, 2014, the Commission approved this list as required by Environment Code Chapter 2, Section 203, Ordinance 115-05. In so doing, the Commission and the Department help the City protect residents, visitors, City staff and the City's biodiversity from the effects of unnecessary and avoidable pesticide use.

#### Accomplishments of Environment Commission Committees

In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2014 activities of the Operations Committee included:

Reviewing and providing input into the Department of the Environment's Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget recommendation to the Commission and make recommendations on unfunded mandates.

Recommendations made on the Department of the Environment's Comprehensive Grantmaking Program. Reviewing and making recommendations on the process for Commission on the Environment's community meetings and outreach component.

In addition to the accomplishments referenced above, 2014 activities of the Policy Committee included:

Adopting Committee Resolution in support of proposed San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) Commuter Shuttle Policy and Pilot Program.

Adopting Committee Resolution in support of the Municipal Transportation Agency's Transit Effectiveness/MUNI Forward Project (TEP).

Recommend that the Commission approve the 2012 Buy Green Ordinance for City Staff Annual Report.

Provide guidance on updated Climate Action Strategy priorities for 2014.

Provide guidance and recommend that the Commission adopt Resolutions:

- To support Supervisor Chiu's Proposed Ordinance amending the Environment Code to restrict the sale or distribution on City property of drinking water in plastic bottles of 21 ounces or less, set City policy to increase the availability of drinking water in public areas, and bar the use of City funds to purchase bottled water;
- 2. To support San Francisco Solar Policy for New Construction;
- 3. To adopt amendments to the Clean Construction Ordinance;
- 4. In support of Vision Zero to implement an action plan to eliminate all traffic-related fatalities in the next ten years.

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