

**MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS
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The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works is a recognized regional and national leader in the design and implementation of sustainable policies, programs, and projects. As a major provider of regional infrastructure—from water to transportation systems and beyond—the County has the opportunity and responsibility to build infrastructure in a way that improves the environment, public health, and the quality of life for residents. Adopting a single green rating system for infrastructure projects could help ensure that sustainability practices are consistently and thoughtfully incorporated in this critical area, while also resulting in infrastructure projects that are less expensive to maintain over the long term.

For several years, the Department has been using the Envision[®] rating system, developed by the non-profit Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI), on a project-by-project basis to holistically evaluate community, environmental, and economic benefits of infrastructure projects. Envision[®] incorporates sustainability criteria that are arranged in five categories relating to key sustainability impact areas: Quality of Life, Leadership, Resource Allocation, Natural World, and Climate and Risk.

MOTION

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The County's Sun Valley Watershed Multi-Benefit Project received a Platinum Award from ISI. The project is a first-of-its-kind managing storm water and provided much needed flood protection for the San Fernando communities. The project improved the health of the watershed and increased the wildlife habitat, all while maximizing the opportunities of an existing park. The Envision[®] framework has also informed the planning of the pioneering Rosemead Boulevard improvement project, a major thoroughfare that cuts through Whittier Narrows, in the unincorporated communities of Supervisorial District 1. This project will transform the area from a barren State highway to an LA County road with landscaping, bikelanes, bioswales, and street calming measures to complement the 1,492-acre park. Based on lessons learned from these and other efforts, Envision[®] has great potential to ameliorate infrastructure projects to better serve residents Countywide. Both the City of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach are likewise considering adoption of Envision[®] for infrastructure projects.

While other ratings systems are evolving on the market, the Department of Public Works has evaluated and championed Envision[®], and has already utilized it successfully for several completed multi-benefit projects. Moreover, Department of Public Works staff actively participates in the ongoing development of the Envision[®] criteria through serving on various Envision[®] advisory boards. Adoption of Envision[®] as a proven tool will enable expanding the use of Envision[®] to the County's future projects. Further, similar to the LEED policy that has led to the County's sustainable building initiative, Envision[®] will drive sustainable infrastructure development throughout the County.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Public Works, in coordination with the new Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) and Chief

Executive Officer, to:

- Expand and adopt the use of Envision[®] as a standard for County infrastructure projects and programs as appropriate, including those related to energy, water, waste, transportation, landscape, and information;
- Reach out and engage with construction and small business community to assist them with implementation including training and workshops
- Coordinate with cities and public agencies within the County including Metropolitan Transit Authority that may be interested in adopting the Envision[®] framework through the dissemination of information, provision of technical assistance, and pursuit of joint infrastructure projects;
- Continue to participate in ISI and the Envision[®] Review Board in order to influence the development of Envision[®] in accordance with Board policies related to environmental sustainability, neighborhood quality of life enhancement, inclusive economic development, and social justice, and to promote its widespread adoption; and
- Evaluate existing policies that relate to infrastructure planning and development and to report back to the Board in 180 days with a recommended approach to revise these policies to incorporate Envision[®] in the most environmentally sustainable manner, including undertaking an analysis of the relative costs/benefits of adopting various levels of Envision[®] accreditation.

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