**Successes**

The first phase of BRIP enabled the City of Benicia to benefit 23 businesses and make significant progress in reducing GHG emissions in the Benicia Industrial Park.

The City of Benicia has received three prestigious awards for the Business Resource Incentive Program and the unique approach to promoting both economic development and environmental sustainability in one program:

- **2012 International Economic Development Council - Excellence in Economic Development Gold Award.**
- **2012 California Association for Local Economic Development – Economic Development Program Award of Merit.**
- **2014 League of California Cities Helen Putnam Award for Excellence in City-Business Relations.**
The Business Resource Incentive Program (BRIP) grew out of the City of Benicia’s two top priorities: economic development and environmental sustainability; which means retaining and growing businesses in the Benicia Industrial Park in a sustainable manner.

The Benicia Industrial Park is the economic engine of the City of Benicia. It generates more than half of the community’s tax revenue which is critical to sustaining the quality of life Benicia is known for. The Benicia Industrial Park has a healthy mix of industrial and related uses including manufacturing, wholesale trade, transportation, suppliers to major anchor businesses, and emerging new technologies. The industrial park encompasses 19.5 million square feet located on 3,000 acres with approximately 450 businesses employing some 6,500 people.

Background

Projects that reduce natural gas, water, fuel, and waste use or include combine heat options.

$20,000 grant – City reimbursement of costs upon completion of approved improvements.

0% Loan of up to $50,000 for 80% of approved costs.

Tracking and Measuring Results – Participating businesses will have access to Greentraks, a web based monitoring system that measures energy, water, recycling, and fuel use to assist businesses in managing their resource improvement projects. The set-up and monitoring fee is covered by the City of Benicia for 12 months after the installation of improvements. Greentraks monitoring will verify that businesses realize the expected financial savings and that the City of Benicia reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Benicia Industrial Park.

Green Business Designations – Businesses participating in the BRIP and that meet certain criteria may be eligible for the prestigious designation as a Benicia Green Business.

Program Overview

BRIP includes 4 major components

1. Resource Use Assessment – Businesses interested in the BRIP can apply to have a professionally prepared Resource Use Assessment provided at NO COST to the applicant business that may include the reduction in some or all of the following:

   - Electrical and natural gas use,
   - Water use,
   - Solid waste and recycling,
   - Transportation fuel use, and
   - Potential for combined heat projects.

2. Funding to Implement Resource Use Assessment recommendations

   - Electrical use reduction projects -
     - $10,000 grant - City reimbursement of costs upon completion of approved improvements.
     - 0% Loan of up to $50,000 for 80% of approved costs.

3. Tracking and Measuring Results – Participating businesses will have access to Greentraks, a web based monitoring system that measures energy, water, recycling, and fuel use to assist businesses in managing their resource improvement projects. The set-up and monitoring fee is covered by the City of Benicia for 12 months after the installation of improvements. Greentraks monitoring will verify that businesses realize the expected financial savings and that the City of Benicia reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Benicia Industrial Park.

4. Green Business Designations – Businesses participating in the BRIP and that meet certain criteria may be eligible for the prestigious designation as a Benicia Green Business.

Application Process

- Contact the City of Benicia Office of Economic Development for an application and business visit by calling (707) 746-4202 or emailing edev@ci.benicia.ca.us.
- Application review by City Staff.
- Upon approval, City Staff will assign a pre-selected consultant to undertake the Resource Use Assessment.
- City staff will work with businesses on implementing the recommended improvements and provide funding.