



# Sustainability *for a* Strong Alameda County Economy

Our sustainability programs support California's economy, create well-paying jobs, and increase our nation's energy independence.

## Green Businesses Boost Our Economy

Our Green Business Program helps local businesses find cost savings and gain a marketing edge by obtaining California Green Business certification.

**552**

certified green businesses, more than any other county



**\$7 million**

saved by certified businesses through conserving energy and water



## Solar Creates Jobs and Supports Energy Independence

Alameda County has long owned the most on-site solar power generation of any local government. We are part of a movement supporting the solar power industry, which creates well-paying jobs in our region.

*\*Source:* 2016 National Solar Jobs Census by the Solar Foundation. Median hourly wages are for the U.S. Census Pacific Division, which includes California, Oregon, and Washington.

**\$700,000**

saved each year thanks to our use of solar energy



**3,000**

homes could be powered by our 3.5 megawatts of on-site solar systems



**7,300 solar jobs\***

in Alameda County

**\$28/hour\***

median installer wage

## Energy Projects Offer Consumers Choices

We developed East Bay Community Energy to introduce competition into our energy market and reduce costs for local businesses and residents. Our electric vehicle charging stations offer residents a clean way to power their vehicles.

**550,000**

households will have access to clean power from a community-governed regional energy authority



**47**

electric vehicle charging stations open to the public



Alameda County  
**SUSTAINABILITY**  
*Local Action, Global Impact.*



## Five Years of Benefits to the Community

By doing business sustainably, we support the local economy, save taxpayer dollars, and provide healthy and safe community spaces. Over the last five years...

**60**

**small local businesses gained valuable experience** in sustainable construction on our largest construction project, Highland Hospital.

**\$402 million**

**in County funds—two-thirds of all contracts up to \$500,000—**were directed to local businesses.



*“Because Alameda County helped us become a certified Green Business, we learned about resources to do an energy efficiency upgrade. Now our utility costs are a thousand dollars less per month.”*

— Reem and Ahmed Rahim,  
Co-Founders of Numi Organic Tea



**\$30 million**

**were saved** through energy efficiency retrofits at County buildings.

**\$1.2 million**

**were saved through one LED streetlight replacement project.** Small and local businesses completed 70% of the work.

**\$563,000**

**were raised through selling** used equipment, furniture, and recyclables.

