



NEWS RELEASE

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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Supervisor Sheila Kuehl & Board Present County's 10th Annual Green Leadership Awards, April 24



LOS ANGELES - Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Chair of the Board of Supervisors, and members of the Board will present the 10th Annual Green Leadership Awards (GLA) on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, in downtown Los Angeles. "The County's Green Leadership Awards honor commitment to environmental sustainability and remind us that we have to take steps, as individuals, to educate the next generation in ways they can reduce their carbon footprint" said Supervisor Kuehl.

The GLA honors will be handed out during the regular weekly meeting of the Board of Supervisors, which begins at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday in the Board Hearing Room 381-B, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple Street, downtown Los Angeles.

The 2018 Green Leadership Honorees are:

- **CHAIR AWARD:** Michele Prichard, Director of Common Agenda, Liberty Hill Foundation
- **BUSINESS:** Next Level Sustainability, Los Angeles Convention Center Managed by AEG Facilities
- **PUBLIC AGENCY:** Go Human Active Transportation Campaign, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
- **NON-PROFIT:** GRID Alternatives Los Angeles Nonprofit Solar Opportunities, GRID Alternatives Greater Los Angeles
- **LOS ANGELES COUNTY:** Los Angeles County Clean Energy Program, Department of Internal Services with Treasurer and Tax Collector

"The Green Leadership Awards were established by the Board in 2008 to promote citizen community involvement in energy and water conservation, environmental sustainability and natural resource preservation," said Gary Gero, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Officer.

The Chair's Green Leadership Award recipient was selected for the following accomplishments:

Michele Prichard has created new grant programs addressing poverty, racial justice and environmental health. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the GREEN LA Coalition, a collaborative effort involving more than 100 environmental and environmental justice organizations to inform and support the City of Los Angeles in advancing ambitious policies for a sustainable future.

She also serves on the steering committee of the California Health and Environmental Funders Network, and is President of the Board of Directors of the Venice Community Housing Corporation. Ms. Prichard received the "Best Friend in Hard Times Award" from the LA Coalition to End Hunger and Homelessness, and the Founders Award from Strategic Actions for a Just Economy. She earned a Master's Degree from the UCLA School of Urban Planning and an undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Los Angeles County Green Leadership award winners were selected for the following accomplishments:

Business Category – Los Angeles Convention Center, Managed by AEG Facilities

The “Next Level Sustainability Program” was started to elevate and expand its sustainable practices across five areas – waste and recycling, energy and climate, water, purchasing and education/communication - while reducing the company’s carbon footprint.

More than 30 environmentally friendly practices and procedures were implemented, ranging from a management program for compostable kitchen waste to cool roofs that reflect sunlight and heat away from the buildings. The program saved more than 1 million kilowatt hours and \$180,000 annually.

Public Agency Category – Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)

A six-County community outreach and advertising campaign, Go Human Active Transportation, was launched to reduce bicycle injuries and fatalities, change travel behaviors and meet regional transportation planning goals. The desired outcome was to encourage more bike riding and walking by the public.

The campaign successfully implemented three, core strategies: advertising to remind drivers to be aware of walkers and bikers, collaborating with cities to establish protected bike lanes, bulb-outs and crosswalks, and distributing toolkits to empower elected officials to institute change at the local level. Community participation was enhanced with creation of a Go Human pass, which served as an incentive to connect bicyclists and pedestrians with transit.

Non-Profit Category – GRID Alternatives – Greater Los Angeles

Non-profit organizations, operating on a tight budget, often do not have the resources to access renewable energy as a low-cost investment. The Non-Profit Solar Opportunities program provides a free technical assessment to agencies that includes an estimate for the system size, cost and savings, while identifying options for funding. GRID Alternatives added a job training component for low-income residents served by the agencies.

The program has reduced operating costs for non-profit organizations, reinvested energy savings back into the services provided, and increased awareness of solar energy, environmental justice, and workforce development.

L.A. County Department – Internal Services Department with the Treasurer and Tax Collector

The Los Angeles County Clean Energy Program was launched in 2015 by the Internal Services Department in collaboration with the Treasurer and Tax Collector. It encourages residential property owners to retrofit buildings and adopt energy efficient practices using the County’s Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) initiative.

More than 30,000 projects, at a value in excess of \$800 million, have been financed to date. Other program outcomes include saving more than 3 billion kilowatt hours of electricity, nearly 2.9 billion gallons of water, and more than 1 million tons of CO2 emissions.

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The Green Leadership Awards Committee consists of the County’s Chief Sustainability Officer, Gary Gero, Chair, and subject matter experts from the Departments of Internal Services, Public Works, Regional Planning, Public Health and the Chief Executive Office, who review and evaluate all entries.

The County honors the GLA recipients as part of its annual observance of Earth Week. For more information, contact Laura Perez, Program Manager, at (213) 974-1390 or lperez@bos.lacounty.gov.