

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 14, 2009

Contact: Erik Johnson
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SACOG HONORS REGION'S BEST AT AWARDS CEREMONY

Who: The Sacramento Area Council of Governments is honoring outstanding regional efforts in transportation, smart-growth planning and air quality with the 2009 SACOG Salutes! Regional Awards Program.

What: Eight organizations and individuals whose achievements and innovations made a significant difference in the Sacramento region in 2009 will be honored. This is the 11th year SACOG has recognized outstanding work by organizations, businesses and individuals through this program.

Organization of the Year: Sacramento Metro Chamber
for collaborative efforts to represent the Sacramento region in local, state and federal advocacy

Project of the Year: City of Folsom
for multi-agency collaboration and project delivery for the Folsom Lake Crossing

Blueprint Excellence: City of Winters
for downtown redevelopment and Blueprint implementation

Business of the Year: VSP Vision Care
for CO₂ reductions through alternative mode transportation, and use of eco-friendly materials and operations

Employee of the Year: Toni Barry, Sacramento County
for collaboration to create the Sacramento Green Partnership and its work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region

Employee of the Year: Jim Mills, Produce Express
for creating local farm distribution to restaurants and helping to build a market for local small farms

Mary Brill Youth Excellence: El Dorado Youth Commission
for community organizing that informed the Environmental Vision for El Dorado County

Special Recognition: El Dorado County Department of Transportation
for El Dorado trail improvements that add connectivity to major business hubs

When: **Thursday, December 17 – 9:00 a.m.**

Where: Sacramento Area Council of Governments (Meridian Plaza Building)
1415 L Street, Suite 300, Sacramento

Contact: For further information on the awards, categories and past recipients, please contact Erik Johnson at 916-321-9000 or visit: www.sacog.org/about/categories.cfm.

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