

News Release

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Contact: Phil Pitchford Public Information Officer 951-826-5975 ppitchford@riversideca.gov

City of Riverside Relaunches its Green Business Program

Free voluntary program to help businesses save money, operate more sustainably

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside has partnered with the <u>California Green Business Network</u> to provide environmental consulting at no cost to local businesses to help them save money, operate more sustainably, and receive public recognition for their efforts.

<u>The City of Riverside Green Business Program</u> provides each business with tailored, personalized tools and recommendations to help that business become a Certified Green Business. Registered businesses will receive assistance in how to reduce energy and water consumption, prevent pollution, divert waste from landfills and educate their staff in creating a cleaner healthier environment for all.

"This program offers a range of benefits to help businesses grow and thrive while contributing to a greener, more sustainable future," Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson said. "The enrollment, site assessment and recommendations are all free."

To become a certified business, the first step is to sign up and register the business online using <u>this</u> <u>link</u>. After completing the registration, businesses receive a checklist of Green Business Program measures. Then, a representative from the Green Business Program will reach out to explain the certification process, answer questions, and schedule a preliminary visit.

"Joining this network of sustainable Riverside businesses demonstrates environmental stewardship and saves money," said Fortino Morales, Sustainability Manager of the City of Riverside. "We are proud to bring back this program to the city, help businesses, and empower them to make a positive environmental impact."

Businesses that complete the process will be recognized as Riverside's newest Certified Green Business and receive a Certificate of Completion, a digital version of the Green Business logo and other promotional materials. Depending on the level of certification, the business can receive a listing in the statewide Green Business Directory. "The Riverside Green Business Program, along with the programs in the other 50 California cities that are part of the California Green Business Network, meets businesses exactly where they are on their sustainability journey," said Sandrine Cassidy, Program Supervisor and CAGBN representative. "We guide them through every step of the certification process."

More information can be found <u>here</u>. To schedule a meeting with a program consultant: Sandrine Cassidy, California Green Business Network -- <u>scassidy@environmentalin.com</u>.

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