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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CELEBRATES 62 GREEN BUSINESS LEADERS AT ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

January 14, 2025 – Santa Cruz, CA – The County of Santa Cruz's Department of Community Development & Infrastructure and Environmental Innovations are proud to announce the recognition of 62 local businesses that achieved their Green Business certification since the last recognition ceremony in December 2023. The awards ceremony for the newly certified green businesses was held during the January 14 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Certified Green businesses report significant cost savings from energy efficiency, waste reduction, and water conservation efforts—savings that can be reinvested in local operations and workforce expansion. The honorees, range from small familyowned shops to larger enterprises, all demonstrating how eco-friendly practices are being adopted across the county.

The Santa Cruz County Green Business Program is a key member of the California Green Business Network (CAGBN), which collaborates with coordinators statewide to support certified businesses. Through the CAGBN's database, resource savings are tracked and verified to illustrate the environmental benefits of the program. Today, there are nearly 4,000 certified green businesses across California.

For more information on the Green Business Program and the certification process, contact Claudia Villalta-Mejia, Santa Cruz County Green Business Coordinator, at <u>claudiavmejia@environmentalin.com</u> or visit greenbusinessca.org.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

The County of Santa Cruz Department of Community Development & Infrastructure serves all unincorporated areas in the county. The department's mission is to improve customer service, streamline projects, and to align public infrastructure and private development to further County goals in attainable housing, reliable transportation and sustainable environment. For more information, visit https://cdi.santacruzcountyca.gov/ or follow the department on Facebook, Instagram, X and Nextdoor.

ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATIONS

We are Environmental Innovations, Inc., a certified B Corp and California Green Business dedicated to helping businesses, institutions, government and individuals innovate beyond the status quo toward more equitable and sustainable futures that benefit people, planet and profit. We turn environmental challenges into prosperous opportunities. To learn more visit: www.environmentalin.com

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