



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 Monday, Feb. 4, 2019

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# **City of San Diego Business Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards Application Submission Ends Feb. 8**

**CITY TO RECOGNIZE LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVING NATURAL RESOURCES**

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego is encouraging large and small businesses located within the city limits to submit applications for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards before the deadline closes on Friday, Feb. 8. The annual competition honors top recyclers for their efforts to protect the environment and conserve natural resources.

**“If your business took steps in 2018 to decrease the amount of non-recyclable waste it produces, we want to hear about it and recognize those efforts,” said the City’s Environmental Services Department Director, Mario X. Sierra. “Business recycling is critical in helping the City meet its landmark Climate Action Plan goals, including zero waste by 2040.”**

Last year, the City recognized and awarded several area businesses for substantially reducing their waste stream, including:

- The San Diego Convention Center for diverting 68 percent (1,918 tons) of their total waste from local landfills and for donating 58.4 tons of untouched food to the San Diego Rescue Mission, which is enough to plate 93,440 meals for needy individuals;
- Qualcomm’s sustainability team significantly improved their collection container labeling, as well as training and communication of their E-waste streams to employees, resulting in 15 tons of scrap metal and E-waste recycled monthly. Qualcomm achieved an amazing 95 percent diversion rate through better waste management; and
- Snooze an AM Eatery for diverting an impressive 85 percent of their waste by utilizing resources from the City’s [composting and recycling programs](#). They also required their employees to use reusable cups for drinks and provide reusable cups to children, avoiding the use of 15,000 disposable cups annually.

Award applications can be downloaded at [www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/business/advantage](http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/business/advantage) or by contacting Jennifer Hobbs at [JHobbs@sandiego.gov](mailto:JHobbs@sandiego.gov) or 858-492-5076. Applications must be delivered, emailed or postmarked by Friday, Feb. 8, 2019 to Jennifer Hobbs, City of San Diego, Environmental Services Department, Waste Reduction Division, 9601 Ridgehaven Court, Suite 320, San Diego, CA 92123. Winners will be announced and honored at an awards ceremony held at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common in May. All applicants will be invited to the awards ceremony.

The Environmental Services Department provides local businesses with assistance in developing waste reduction and recycling programs with a free comprehensive waste analysis. For more information about Environmental Services' programs, call 858-694-7000, or visit the website at [www.recyclingworks.com](http://www.recyclingworks.com).



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