



# THE CITY OF MONTEREY

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MONTEREY CONFERENCE CENTER CERTIFIED LEED PLATINUM

Monterey, CA. – The Monterey Conference Center has officially been certified LEED® Platinum, the highest recognition for sustainable buildings by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is a globally recognized symbol of excellence in green building. The program focuses on energy, indoor air quality, water usage, materials, and the sustainability of the site.

“Since the 2014 approval of the renovation through today, City of Monterey staff and our project management and architectural firm partners have worked hard to design, construct and operate a sustainable facility,” said Mayor Clyde Roberson. “We are proud of the teamwork to reach this major milestone.”

LEED buildings earn points by adhering to prerequisites and credits across nine measurements for building excellence from integrative design to human health to material use. Green Business Certification Inc (GBCI®) noted the Conference Center’s walking distance to services and public transportation, and exemplary water use reduction both indoors and outdoors with water-efficient landscaping. The facility’s 330 panel, 132-kilowatt solar energy system won a Solar Builder Editor's Choice Project of the Year Award in 2019.

The facility also received points for renovating an existing building, green purchasing, recycling policies, and for its indoor environmental quality, including low-emitting materials, ventilation, controllability of lighting and thermal comfort, air quality and pollutant source control.

“In the competitive meeting market, meeting planners and attendees are increasingly looking to reduce their environmental footprint,” said Conference Center General Manager Doug Phillips. “This certification will not only align with our customer’s values and policies, but also the City Council and community’s commitment to climate protection .”

Other honors for the Monterey Conference Center include the Outstanding Architectural Engineering Project Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) San Francisco Section, Smart Meetings’ 2018 Smart Stars Award for Best Conference Center and an accreditation as a Global Biorisk Advisory Council GBAC STAR™ facility for its outbreak prevention, response and recovery policies.

The Monterey Conference Center opened in 1977 and helped grow the hospitality and tourism industries in Monterey County. A \$60 million renovation project was funded in partnership with Monterey hotels and motels. Located in the heart of Downtown Monterey, the new facility has 40,000 square feet of flexible meeting space and a capacity of 3,200 people. Learn more about the Monterey Conference Center at [montereyconferencecenter.com](http://montereyconferencecenter.com).



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