CITY OF MONTEREY EARNS HONORS
AT CLEAN AIR AWARDS CEREMONY

Monterey, CA. – The City of Monterey was honored with two awards and a third nomination at the Clean Air Leaders Awards Ceremony last night, hosted by the Monterey Bay Air Resources District. The awards recognize initiatives undertaken by individuals, organizations and agencies in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties.

Traffic Engineers Rich Deal and Andrea Renny each received individual Clean Air Leader Awards for Technology for the Lighthouse Adaptive System installed this spring between Hoffman and Reeside. Adaptive traffic control systems are the latest technology for improving traffic conditions by better synchronizing and controlling traffic signals.

“Beyond the significant benefits to air quality, there is travel time savings, quality of life, economic, and safety benefits,” said City of Monterey Traffic Engineer Andrea Renny. “We know driving Lighthouse Avenue can be challenging and we are working to make improvements that will benefit all commuters.”

The system uses vehicle detection and artificial intelligence software to respond accurately and immediately to real-time traffic conditions. This enables the system to use green light time efficiently and to progress traffic through a corridor with few or no stops,
resulting in less fuel consumed and fewer emissions. By eliminating idling due to stops and the resulting acceleration, vehicles burn less fuel and expel fewer pollutants and particulate matter.

This Lighthouse Adaptive System project was funded by AB2766 Emissions Reduction Grant funding and the City's Neighborhood Improvement Program. The cost of research, design and installation was $668,000.

The next phase of this project is to procure funding and install the same adaptive system on Lighthouse between David and Hoffman, Del Monte Avenue and North Fremont Avenue Corridors.

Two other awards also went to the City of Monterey: The Environmental Programs division accepted a Clean Air Leader Award for reducing community greenhouse gas emissions by 7% (2005-2012) and also for a 15% reduction in municipal energy usage (2010-2016). Building Official John Kuehl was nominated for an individual award for his work with asbestos renovation, demolition, and compliance.

Photo of Technology Award: www.monterey.org/Portals/0/News/Clean-Air-Awards.jpg

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