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Alameda County Wins Award for Being Most “EV Ready” Large Community in Bay Area

The Ready, Set, Charge! Bay Area EV Readiness Awards recognize leaders implementing programs, policies and infrastructure to support “EV ready” communities in the Bay Area.

Alameda County has been selected as the Bay Area’s Most “EV Ready” Large Community as part of the 2014 *Ready, Set, Charge!* Bay Area Electric Vehicle Readiness Awards, sponsored by the Bay Area Climate Collaborative (BACC) and Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

The Awards Committee selected Alameda County for incorporating electric vehicles (EVs) substantially into its Climate Action Plan and General Plans, its impressive EV infrastructure of 80 public and fee-free charging ports, and its expansion of EVs in its fleets - currently at 23 EVs and with 26 more to be deployed this year. Alameda County has also provided region-wide leadership heading a collaborative procurement of 90 electric vehicles and charging stations for 10 municipal agencies.

“We are thrilled to be recognized for the leadership Alameda County provides by adopting environmentally friendly policies that are transforming the way the County delivers services to residents,” said Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator. “We are also proud to be positively impacting our community by taking actions such as installing EV charging stations in our parking garages and parking lots and making them available to our employees and the public free of charge.”

Alameda County was one of four winners in the Bay Area competition announced Friday at the 2014 Silicon Valley Driving Charged & Connected Symposium in Palo Alto. The “EV Ready” award is the latest in a string of accolades Alameda County has received for its environmental stewardship. In 2013, Alameda County’s vehicle fleet was named for the fifth time as one of the Greenest in America in an annual review done by Green Fleet Magazine. In 2012, the County also won a Green California Leadership Award, earning top honors in the category of “Pioneer” for its program of Comprehensive Climate Action for Government Operations and Services.

Keith Carson, President of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, says honors such as the “EV Ready” award help to validate the board’s decision in 2008 to adopt a long-term Strategic Vision in which Environment and Sustainability are among the core principles for preserving and enhancing the County’s reputation as a leading place to live, work and do business.

“We are dramatically reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, opening new facilities on the leading edge of Green-building trends and sharply curbing the amount of waste we produce as an organization,” Carson said. “Most importantly, we are getting buy-in from all of our 9,000-plus employees who are challenging themselves to think differently and tread more lightly on the environment.”