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Link to Photo: Environmental Innovation Center
<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/86973>

City's "Green Enterprise" Facility Certified LEED Platinum

The San José Environmental Innovation Center has been certified LEED Platinum for Building Design and Construction by the U.S. Green Building Council, becoming the first City of San José building to earn that distinction

SAN JOSE, Calif. – The San José Environmental Innovation Center, a sustainability showcase featuring eco-friendly tenants and programs, has been certified LEED Platinum for Building Design and Construction by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The EIC is the first municipal building to earn LEED Platinum certification for new construction, which includes major renovations. (San José City Hall is certified LEED Platinum for existing construction.)

Originally a wax paper factory, the EIC was overhauled through a collaboration between the San José Environmental Services and Public Works departments. It debuted in 2014 and completed the LEED certification process this year.

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, helps buildings and communities achieve high performance in key areas of human and environmental health.

"I want to thank the U.S. Green Building Council for recognizing this unique, pioneering facility and the partnership that built it," said Kerrie Romanow, director of ESD and the chief sustainability officer for San José. "Though it predates Climate Smart San José, the City's climate action plan, the EIC is truly a Climate Smart building and a model for how our community can improve not only energy and water efficiency but also quality of life."

The EIC was developed under the San José Green Vision, the City's sustainability plan that preceded Climate Smart. It has more than 20 green features, including solar-tracking skylights, electric vehicle charging stations, composting toilets, drought-tolerant landscaping, pervious pavement, and a 1,164-panel solar power system. The EIC is a zero net energy facility, generating more energy than it consumes.

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The facility is home to three environmentally friendly tenants:

- The Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Program's busiest drop-off site, providing residents a free, safe and convenient place to properly dispose of household hazardous waste.
- A Habitat for Humanity ReStore that sells new and gently used furniture, appliances and home improvement materials.
- Prospect Silicon Valley, a nonprofit clean-tech innovation hub.

The LEED Platinum certification is the latest recognition of the City's environmental leadership. Last year, San José became the first city in California to earn LEED for Cities Platinum certification, a new USGBC program recognizing cities' efforts to improve sustainability and quality of life.

For more information on the EIC, visit www.sjenvironment.org/EIC. To learn more about USGBC and LEED, go to the [website of the USGBC](#).

About the City of San José

With more than one million residents, San José is one of the most diverse large cities in the United States and is Northern California's largest city and the 10th largest city in the nation. San José's transformation into a global innovation center has resulted in one of the largest concentrations of technology companies and expertise in the world. In 2011, the City adopted Envision San José 2040, a long-term growth plan that sets forth a vision and a comprehensive road map to guide the City's anticipated growth through the year 2040.

About the Environmental Services Department

The San José [Environmental Services Department](#) leads Climate Smart San José and manages garbage and recycling services; watershed protection and pollution prevention; municipal drinking water and recycled water; sustainability initiatives; and the operation and infrastructure improvements of the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility. ESD's mission is to deliver world-class utility services and programs to improve our health, environment and economy. Follow us on Facebook ([SJEnvironment](#)), Twitter ([@SJEnvironment](#)) and Instagram ([@SJEnvironment](#))

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