



January 7, 2020

KERN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ANNOUNCES REGIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM WINNERS

For additional information, contact:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Organization: Kern Council of Governments

What: 29th Annual Regional Awards Program winners

When: 5:30 p.m. Reception/Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Awards program, Thursday, March 5, 2020

Where: Seven Oaks Country Club

Why: To honor outstanding achievements and significant contributions to this region's quality of life in 2019.

Kern Council of Governments will honor 13 individuals and programs for making significant contributions to this area's quality of life through innovative, cooperative efforts during its annual Regional Awards Program on March 5, 2020.

The winners, divided among nine broad categories, are:

Local Government:

- Mayor Peggy Breeden and Chief of Police Jed McLaughlin – Leadership during the July 2019 Ridgecrest Earthquakes

Community Involvement:

- West Side Health Care District – New and Expanded Health Care Facility
- Golden Empire Transit District – Food Distribution Program

Journalism:

- City of Tehachapi – Educational Videos for the Power Safety Shutoffs.

Transportation:

- City of Taft – Downtown Revitalization with New Transit and Community Center
- Golden Empire Transit District – Half-off-Pass (HOP)
- City of Tehachapi – New Park & Ride Facility and Transit Center

Richard A. Maxwell Public Safety:

- Bike Bakersfield – Bike/Pedestrian Safety Programs
- Captain Diana Burnett – City of Shafter Police Department

Darrel Hildebrand Distinguished Leadership – Public Official:

- Ron Hughes – CalVans

Darrel Hildebrand Distinguished Leadership – Elected Official:

- Mayor Dave Noerr – City of Taft

Ronald E. Brummett Lifetime Achievement:

- City Manager Alan Tandy – City of Bakersfield

Chairman's Award of Regional Cooperation:

- Mark Evans – Kern County Public Works

Kern COG is celebrating 29 years of recognizing those programs and people in our region whose ideas and hard work have made life in Kern County better for us all.

The awards banquet will be held beginning at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 5, 2020, at Seven Oaks Country Club, 2000 Grand Lakes Ave., Bakersfield, Calif. 93311. Cost is \$55 per person, which includes a two-entree dinner buffet.

Reservations and payment are due by noon **Monday, March 2, 2020**, by calling 661-635-2903 or emailing vmcculloch@kerncog.org. No money will be accepted at the door.