

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: May 29, 2014

Dazzling Energy & Water Efficiency at PAOC and VMWare in Palo Alto

Many pay lip service to “being green” and “promoting sustainability,” but two very different kinds of business locations in Palo Alto are garnering both recognition and big savings for going way beyond talking the talk...

Palo Alto Mayor Nancy Shepherd emphasizes how companies like these who do the right green thing don't just help themselves, but help all of Palo Alto...and for that matter, everyone on the planet!

Here's the scoop on who did what:

1) Palo Alto Office Center is Golden---“LEEDing the way” with a perfect score



PHOTO: At LEED Certification ceremony last week Mayor Nancy Shepherd, Council Member Gail Price and USGBC Board member Dennis Murphy congratulate PAOC's team of building owners and managers. (see full photo ID list below)

Palo Alto Office Center (525 University Avenue), maintained their very prestigious LEED Gold certification by knocking the ball out of the park in 2014 with a recertification proposal that earned them a perfect score---72 out of 72 LEED credit points attempted. This achievement also

makes them the first building to be awarded LEED for Existing Buildings Recertification in the City of Palo Alto.

Among the reasons PAOC is certifiably awesome:

- Their ENERGY STAR[®] score of 93 shoots them into the top 7% of all comparable office buildings nationwide
- Their occupants demonstrated an amazing alternative commuting rate of over 37%
- By continually updating an ongoing efficiency improvement program, increasing energy savings has become routine
- They keep the joint clean with products so green
- They conducted operational audits and surveys to monitor indoor air quality, cleaning effectiveness and occupant comfort

The [United States Green Building Council](#) has a simple goal: “transforming the way we design, build, maintain and operate our buildings, homes and communities.” To that end they developed the prestigious national LEED certification process, to rate buildings and their operations in terms of their energy efficiency, encouraging businesses to light the way towards *profitable* sustainability.

(continued)

2) VMWare Reinvents the Efficient Corporate Campus

When VMWare World Headquarters (3401 Hillview Ave) decided to do a major makeover of their sprawling Palo Alto facilities, they committed to creating a campus that was, as Mayor Nancy Shepherd remarked, “a model of energy efficiency.”

VMWare’s design and construction teams worked closely with Palo Alto Utilities staff to ensure the company took full advantage of the incentives, rebates and construction efficiency services available to them. Given that all new construction must now meet *very* stringent current Title 24 and California Green Building standards---the fact that VMWare *exceeded* those standards is positively heroic!

Among the progressive features VMWare incorporated in their new campus design are a 1 megawatt solar system and 56 reserved parking spaces for electric vehicles. Showing dramatic support for Palo Alto’s need for water use efficiency, 85% of VMWare’s new landscaping is native and drought-tolerant.

In addition to the Mayor, City Manager Jim Keene, Council Member Larry Klein and Stanford President John Hennessey were on hand last night to join VMWare executives and employees at an event celebrating their achievement.



PHOTOS: In a unique, collaborative gesture, VMWare arranged for everyone at the event to take part in the actual “ribbon-cutting” for the new corporate campus. Mayor Nancy Shepherd and Stanford President John Hennessey were among the featured speakers at the event.

Both sites welcome inquiries: [VMWare](#) PAOC—Chris Boretta, CBRE, (650) 322-2592

Debra Katz
Utilities Communications Manager, City of Palo Alto
debra.katz@cityofpaloalto.org
(650) 329-2474

LEED Certification Ceremony Photo IDS--from left to right

Gary Thomas – Director CBRE LEED Consulting
Emily Kirk Wilson - Program Manager CBRE LEED Consulting
Dave Pogue – CBRE (Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis) Global Director of Corporate Responsibility
Rina Bhagwati – CM Capital Managing Director and Director, Real Estate Operations
Dennis Murphy - Board Member of the Northern California Chapter US Green Building Council
Bruce Madding – CM Capital CEO
Nancy Shepherd - Mayor of City of Palo Alto
Josh Wallace - City of Palo Alto Utilities Rep
Gail Price – Palo Alto City Council Member
John Couch – CM Capital Vice Chairman
Chris Boretta – CBRE Senior Real Estate Manager