



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# News Release

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## **League of California Cities Recognizes Riverside Mayor for Lifetime Achievement (Riverside also named by League as Tops in City-Business Relations )**

**RIVERSIDE, Calif.** – Just last week, at the League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo held in San Diego, California, Riverside received two distinguished recognitions.

Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge was recognized by the League with the 2012 Past President's Lifetime Achievement Award. The League's Past Presidents' Lifetime Achievement Award was established in 1996 and is given annually to an individual who has made a significant and unique contribution to the state or his or her community over an extended period of years. Preference is given to nominees with close ties to cities; however, nominees may also be selected from the categories of local government leaders, academics/teachers, authors, media producers, community leaders and state or national leaders.

According to release by the League, Mayor Ron Loveridge has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in public service working on behalf of the city of Riverside, California's 482 cities and every city nationwide. Click this link to read the League of California Cities Press Release <http://bit.ly/SC4GeH>

"Mayor Loveridge is the embodiment of public service. He has devoted himself to thoughtfully advocating for policies that strengthen cities and his work was instrumental in the successful passage of Proposition 1A in 2004," said League Executive Director Chris McKenzie. "The League's Past Presidents selection of the mayor is testament to his unwavering dedication to living a life of service to cities."

In his acceptance remarks, Mayor Ron Loveridge commented on why public officials run for office, "...we run to make a difference, to make our cities better places. Personally framed, it is an extraordinary opportunity. We can see the consequences of our own work." Loveridge, known as a skilled collaborator, also said, "...it is not a solitary effort... You work together, as partners, as members of team."

The League also awarded SmartRiverside with the League Partners Award for Excellence in City-Business Relations for collaborative efforts in engaging the leadership of the private, nonprofit and labor sectors in addressing community problems.

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**About the City of Riverside:** The City of Riverside, located in the Inland Southern California region, currently ranks as the 12th largest city in California, 6th in Southern California, and is the largest city in one of the fastest growing regions in the United States. Riverside's excellence in high technology, workforce development, digital inclusion, arts, innovation, collaboration and social capital resulted in the City being named the 2012 Most Intelligent Community in the World! As an economically vibrant and culturally diverse city, Riverside boasts high-end retail centers, a rapidly growing office population, and a charming historic downtown fused with upscale dining, shopping and entertainment venues. It is home to four internationally recognized universities and colleges which support a growing student population of more than 50,000. As an important financial and professional center, Riverside offers the support of numerous legal, accounting, brokerage, architectural, engineering, and technology firms as well as banking institutions. Businesses in the city benefit from city-owned electrical and water systems, high-speed fiber optic telecommunications, exceptional freeway system, BNSF and UPSP rail access, and a large corporate jet and general aviation airport.

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