



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Aug. 6, 2015

**Contact:**

Phil Pitchford  
Intergovernmental and Communications Officer  
951-826-5975  
[ppitchford@riversideca.gov](mailto:ppitchford@riversideca.gov)

## **Riverside Named 3-STAR Community in Sustainability**

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside has been named a 3-STAR Community by the national STAR Communities program for its social, economic, and environmental leadership in sustainability.

“We are very proud to receive this recognition for our ongoing efforts to make Riverside a more sustainable place to work, play, and live,” said Riverside’s Mayor Rusty Bailey. “The rating system will continue to help us to promote a healthy environment and a strong economy for the benefit of all our residents.”

The Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating (STAR) Communities program is the nation’s first framework and certification program for measuring social, economic, and environmental sustainability.

It provides a clear, data-driven approach to assessing social, economic, and environmental progress in built environments; climate and energy; economy and jobs; education, arts, and community; equity and empowerment; health and safety; and natural systems.

“Because the rating system requires extensive data, we worked closely with all city departments to gather information on where we are today, and where we can be tomorrow with our sustainability efforts,” Riverside’s Sustainability Officer, Michael Bacich, said. “This coordination allows us to track our progress as we reach our sustainability goals and provides direction on new tools we can implement citywide.”

Riverside joins El Cerrito as California’s only STAR-rated communities.