



PRESS RELEASE

May 09, 2025
2025 – 010

CALED Honors City of Hemet with Award of Merit for Innovative "Hemet RISES" Economic Strategy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEMET, CA – May 9, 2025 – The City of Hemet is proud to announce it has received a prestigious Award of Merit from the California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED) for its visionary "Hemet RISES" Economic Strategy. Hemet Mayor Jackie Peterson states, "This CALED recognition is a pivotal moment for our City. We are thrilled to be recognized for our proactive efforts to cultivate an attractive business environment that will drive economic growth and enhance prosperity for all Hemet residents."

Adopted by the Hemet City Council in August 2024, *Hemet RISES* is a comprehensive, forward-thinking roadmap featuring 30 strategic initiatives aimed at accelerating economic development. The plan focuses on attracting new businesses, supporting local enterprises, creating jobs, enhancing workforce development, and improving overall quality of life for Hemet residents.

"This Award of Merit from CALED is a tremendous honor and a powerful validation of the hard work and dedication the City of Hemet has built into the 'Hemet RISES' plan," said Benigno Sandoval, Economic Development Manager. "For the first time in our City's long history, we stand recognized by the State's leading Economic Development Association for our Strategic Vision. This isn't just an award; it's a testament to our unwavering commitment to creating a vibrant and prosperous Hemet for generations to come."

The award also underscores the City's proactive approach to economic development, its commitment to encouraging private investment, and its success in engaging community stakeholders in shaping long-term economic planning. This recognition marks a significant turning point for Hemet, further solidifying the City's growing reputation as a leader in economic development within the Inland Empire.

The City of Hemet looks forward to leveraging this recognition to further attract investment, cultivate partnerships, and implement the "*Hemet RISES*" strategy to its fullest potential.

About the City of Hemet:

Located in the heart of the Inland Empire, the City of Hemet boasts a rich history and a strong sense of community. With a focus on economic opportunity and quality of life, Hemet is dedicated to a thriving environment for its businesses and more than 90,000 residents.

About CALED:

The California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED) is the premier statewide organization dedicated to advancing economic development and the economic development profession in California. CALED's mission is to provide leadership, education, and advocacy for economic development professionals and organizations to enhance California's communities and economy.

For more information about Hemet RISES Economic Strategy or upcoming initiatives, contact the City of Hemet's Economic Development Manager, Ben Sandoval Department, at (951) 669-0265 or bsandoval@hemetca.gov

###