

NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SUNNYVALE WORKS RECEIVES NATIONAL INNOVATIONS AWARD

SUNNYVALE, Calif. – *Sunnyvale Works!* has been named an Outstanding Achievement in Innovations Award recipient by the Alliance for Innovation. The national award recognizes the City's success in reinventing its processes for the benefit of the community.

The award states, "Sunnyvale, Calif., was selected for what began as an ambitious plan launched during one of the worst economic recessions we have seen. The goal was to undertake \$60 million in capital improvements program projects at an unheard-of rate. *Sunnyvale Works!* required the City to reinvent its processes related to capital works projects, finding new ways to expedite procedures, better utilize staff and accelerate what it takes to get a project under construction. The end result changed the way the City of Sunnyvale does business, becoming more agile, breaking down internal departmental barriers and adopting methods that have permitted the City to expand the original \$60 million in projects to more than \$80 million, without increasing costs to the City."

City Manager Gary Luebbers said the award comes at the right time. "It's very rewarding for the City to receive the Innovations award for *Sunnyvale Works!* The Alliance is dedicated to finding and reflecting on the best practices in government. *Sunnyvale Works!* empowered us to innovate and encouraged us to rethink and redesign how the City conducts business. As the *Sunnyvale Works!* program is now drawing to a

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close, the lessons we have learned are being incorporated into the City's daily operations, creating a legacy that will continue far into the future.”

The Alliance for Innovation is a network of local government professionals seeking innovation and governmental excellence. Membership consists of 300 innovative organizations in 34 states and two Canadian Provinces that are dedicated to making an impact on the communities they serve. A national selection committee consisting of U.S. city and county managers, Arizona State University faculty and Alliance staff, carefully reviewed the 40 applications for innovation, creativity, performance outcomes and the overall success of the programs before making the award to Sunnyvale.

The Alliance awards will be presented at their annual, conference June 1 – 3, in Clearwater, Florida. An Alliance representative is scheduled to attend the July 26 City Council meeting to present the award to Sunnyvale. For more information about the Alliance, visit transformgov.org; for more information on *Sunnyvale Works!*, visit SunnyvaleWorks.inSunnyvale.com.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: the Alliance for Innovation news release is also attached.



PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALLIANCE FOR INNOVATION ANNOUNCES SUNNYVALE, CA AS A 2011 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN INNOVATION AWARD RECIPIENT

The Alliance for Innovation proudly announces that the **City of Sunnyvale, CA** has been selected to receive a 2011 Outstanding Achievement Awards for its *Sunnyvale Works!* Program.

The Alliance received over 40 award applications from across the US and Canada to compete for the honor of being selected as an Outstanding Achievement in Innovation Award recipient for 2011.

A national selection committee consisting of US City and County Managers, Arizona State University Faculty and Alliance staff, carefully reviewed the 40 applications for innovation, creativity, performance outcomes and the overall success of the programs.

Sunnyvale, CA was selected for what began as an ambitious plan launched during one of the worst economic recessions we have seen. The goal was to undertake \$60 million in capital improvements program projects at an unheard-of rate. *Sunnyvale Works!* required the city to reinvent its processes related to capital works projects, finding new ways to expedite procedures, better utilize staff and accelerate what it takes to get a project under construction. The end result changed the way the City of Sunnyvale does business, becoming more agile, breaking down internal departmental barriers and adopting methods that have permitted the city to expand the original \$60 million in projects to more than \$80 million, without increasing costs to the city.

Awards will be presented at the Alliance's Annual Transforming Local Government Conference, June 1-3, 2011 in Clearwater, FL (www.transformgov.org). The Awards Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, June 2 for an expected audience of approximately 550 local government professionals.

Congratulations to the **City of Sunnyvale, CA** for setting an example of outstanding effort and achievements that clearly benefit the Sunnyvale community. For more information about the Alliance or the annual awards program, please contact Brandi Allen, Conference Director at ballen@transformgov.org or 866-778-8067.

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ABOUT THE ALLIANCE - The Alliance is a network of local government professionals seeking innovation and governmental excellence. Membership consists of 300 innovative organizations in 34-states and 2 Canadian Provinces that are dedicated to making an impact on the communities they serve. Dr. James Svara, Director of the Center on Urban Innovation at Arizona State University completed an analysis of the entire membership and concluded that "*82% of Alliance members are above the average city in their adoption of innovative practices*".

Membership provides opportunities to connect with the people, information and ideas needed to make your organization the best place to live, work, play and prosper. We do this by providing a blend of services, resources, information tools, publications, networking opportunities, workshops and conferences specifically targeted to local government.

There are many benefits with Alliance membership. Perhaps one of the most valuable is the Knowledge Network, which is an on-line tool that provides the entire city to access thousands of documents such as timely articles, ordinances, resolutions, policies, programs, strategic plans, budgets, white papers, etc.

Two of the newest member benefits added to the list of services available are:

1. Free access to GrantNavigator PE, an online database of Federal Grants; and
2. Free mobile-apps for smartphones combining the best of smartphone and web-based features

While belonging to the Alliance entitles the entire organization (every employee at every level in every department) to receive many benefits, equally as important is the opportunity belonging provides for you to contribute to best practices in local government. We provide a unique forum for reflection, analysis, debate, and sharing of the ideas and solutions needed in local government. Contributing members tell us that what they give has even greater value than what they receive.

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The Alliance primary purpose is to help you network with your colleagues, to provide resources and tools that are specific to your needs, to share pertinent information that

assists you and the organization as a whole in managing the ever-increasing demands of local government professionals.