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WRCOG Teams with City for Gardening Success

The Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) is one of two premium agencies that partnered with the City of Perris to make the recently unveiled community garden another rousing success for Perris residents.

The top-tier “Platinum Partners” include WRCOG and Eastern Municipal Water District.

WRCOG contributed funds for garden development and construction.

Jennifer Ward, Director of Government Relations at WRCOG, said the City is a leader in sustainable, healthy, water-wise, community-engaging projects, such as the “Green City Farm Project” and the Live Well Perris healthy eating active living campaign. The Green City Farm continues the ongoing Live Well Perris effort.

The Western Riverside Council of Governments includes representatives from 23 cities and agencies.

“Lots of our agencies can learn from Live Well Perris program,” she said. “Your City staff and elected officials all work together. Perris is an great example to other communities who would like to initiate healthy living programs. You should be very proud of what you have accomplished.”

Ward attended the April 23rd Health Fair in Perris and spoke to children and adults who said they want to learn more about healthy eating choices. She commended Perris for creating programs through its Live Well campaign that engage the complete range of community residents.

The City of Perris is accepting applications from people interested in taking part in the Green City Farm Project as a garden volunteer. The garden incorporates modern growing systems such as aeroponics, aquaponics, hydroponics and other growing techniques that can cut water use by 90 percent compared to traditional growing methods.

The project also allows members of the Youth Ecology Corps, who are interested in possible careers in the water industry, on-the-job training.

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch said the City is grateful for its platinum level sponsors, whose support already has elevated the community garden to elite status.

“I want to thank and congratulate them for their commitment to Perris and to our Green City Farm Project,” Busch said. “I have a heard a lot of positive comments from the community—people are really excited and impressed by what they’ve seen. Without the support of our sponsors, we could not have done the job that we did. We are really proud they chose this project.”

More information about the Green City Farm Project is available at www.cityofperris.org/livewell/community-garden.

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