

Office of the County Administrator

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Yolo County General Services Department Receives 2024 Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County General Services Department has been honored with the 2024 Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award by the National Procurement Institute, Inc. (NPI). This prestigious award recognizes organizations that excel in innovation, professionalism, productivity, leadership, and e-procurement.

Lucas Frerichs, Chair of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, remarked, "This award recognizes Yolo County staff's leadership in implementing innovative procurement practices. I'm proud of our staff for their thoughtful stewardship of tax-payer dollars."

The General Services Department plays a crucial role in Yolo County's operations, managing facilities, parks, the airport, and overseeing countywide procurement and contracting processes. By ensuring the efficient acquisition of essential goods and services, the department supports Yolo County's mission of Making a difference in the lives of Yolo County residents by enhancing the quality of life of our community. This award underscores the county's leadership in advancing procurement practices and streamlining systems to better serve its operations.

Procurement is vital for the effective and competitive functioning of any organization. It involves the systematic process of acquiring goods and services needed for day-to-day operations while promoting transparency, efficiency, and responsible stewardship of taxpayer funds. The AEP Award recognizes Yolo County's commitment to maintaining high standards in these areas, reinforcing its reputation for ethical and effective management.

Tonia Murphy, Deputy Director of the Yolo County General Services Department, expressed her pride in the achievement, stating, "We are deeply honored to receive the 2024 Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team. Our commitment to procurement excellence supports not only the efficient operation of Yolo County but also aligns with our mission to enhance the quality of life for our residents. This award highlights our ongoing efforts to lead by example and drive continuous improvement."

Since its inception, the AEP Award program has grown significantly, with nearly 200 organizations recognized in recent years. For 2024, 198 entities, including cities, counties, special districts, school districts, and higher



education agencies, received this esteemed accolade. The program encourages procurement professionals to exceed standard requirements and acknowledge innovative solutions that advance the field.

The General Services Department oversees Yolo County's procurement and contracting processes, ensuring the effective acquisition of necessary goods and services. This includes managing competitive solicitations, surplus functions, and maintaining strong vendor relations. The department is committed to ensuring procurement efficiency and effectiveness, valuing positive vendor relationships, and upholding a strict policy against accepting gifts or gratuities from vendors, thereby maintaining the highest standards of integrity and professionalism.

For further details about Yolo County's procurement leadership and innovations, please visit <u>www.YoloCounty.gov</u>.

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