

# NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY  
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For more information, contact  
David Wert, Public Information Officer  
(909) 387-4717  
[dwert@sbcounty.gov](mailto:dwert@sbcounty.gov)

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## High Desert Government Center earns LEED Gold rating

SAN BERNARDINO – The County of San Bernardino’s newly opened Jerry Lewis High Desert Government Center in Hesperia and neighboring Sheriff’s Department police station this week were awarded LEED Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council for their environmentally friendly features.

“I am proud the county was able to construct an energy-efficient building that saves tax dollars and protects the environment,” said Board of Supervisors Vice-Chairman Brad Mitzelfelt, whose First District includes Hesperia.

The 66,000-square-foot Jerry Lewis High Desert Government Center is one of only six structures in the county to earn LEED Gold certification. LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) is an internationally recognized green building certification system that provides third-party verification that a building was built using strategies intended to improve performance in energy savings, water efficiency, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

To achieve this standard, the county installed three solar panel carports, which are projected to offset more than 70 percent of the building’s energy consumption. The building is surrounded by drought-tolerant landscaping intended to use as little water as possible, and is topped by a “cool roof” to reflect the sun’s heat and reduce the need for air conditioning. Crews installed energy-efficient dual-glazed exterior windows, as well as plumbing fixtures that will reduce water consumption by 40 percent compared to standard fixtures. The paint emits a minimum amount of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and 85 percent of the waste generated during construction was diverted away from landfills.

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The Jerry Lewis High Desert Government Center is the High Desert's first county office building, containing the County Clerk and Recorder, Assessor, Code Enforcement, Environmental Health, Public Works, Planning, Building & Safety, County Fire, and Veterans Affairs.

The building was dedicated on November 10, 2010, and is located at 15900 Smoke Tree Street in Hesperia.