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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRISBANE BECOMES THE FIRST CITY TO RECEIVE GOLD LEVEL RECOGNITION FOR ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

The City of Brisbane is the first local government in the state of California to receive a gold level Beacon Award from the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency collaborative for its comprehensive approach to addressing climate change and measureable reductions in energy and greenhouse gas emissions. Mayor Terry O'Connell accepted the award on behalf of the City of Brisbane in front of hundreds of local elected officials at a special presentation at the League of California Cities conference in San Jose on October 1st.

The City of Brisbane received a gold level Beacon Award and five Beacon Spotlight Awards for the following achievements:

- Agency GHG Reductions: Gold Level 19% reductions
- Community GHG Reductions: Gold Level 10% reductions
- Agency Energy Savings: Gold Level- 17% savings
- Natural Gas Savings: Platinum Level 24% savings
- Sustainability Best Practices: Gold Level

"The Institute for Local Government is excited to honor its first gold level Beacon Award winner," said Martin Gonzalez, Director, Institute for Local Government. "The City of Brisbane is leading by example with projects such as the rain garden at City Hall".

Brisbane has been working to address transportation related emissions with its Safe Routes to School Program and subsidizing a commuter shuttle program available for residents and employees within the City. The City of Brisbane recently adopted a Climate Action Plan which will serve as a blueprint to implement additional sustainability programs and policies in the future. "I'm just astounded by the work that's been done by the committees and staff and so proud to be a part of it and that we're going to try and make some headway and to make a difference. It all starts small, and hopefully has an influence in the big picture," said Mayor O'Connell.

For more about Brisbane's sustainability efforts, visit <u>www.ca-ilg.org/beacon-participant-profile/city-brisbane</u>.

About the Institute for Local Government

The Institute for Local Government is the nonprofit research and education affiliate of the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties and the California Special Districts Association. The Beacon Program was created by the Institute for Local Government in 2009 to assist local governments in producing measureable achievements in five areas: Agency Greenhouse Gas Reductions, Community Greenhouse Gas Reductions, Agency Energy Savings, Natural Gas Savings and Sustainability Best Practices. Within each area, a participant can earn Beacon Spotlight Awards- silver, gold and platinum- based on level of achievement. To win a full Beacon Award, participants are required to demonstrate achievement in all five areas. There are currently 76 local agencies throughout the state participating in the Beacon Program. The Beacon Program is sponsored by the Institute for Local Government and the Statewide Energy Efficiency Collaborative. It is funded by California utility customers and administered by Southern California Gas Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison, under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. Visit <u>www.ca-ilg.org/BeaconProgram</u> for more information.

About the City of Brisbane

The City of Brisbane is a full-service City situated in Northern San Mateo County and nestled in the base of San Bruno Mountain. It is a "tiny town" with just 4,400 residents but boasts of magnificent views of the San Francisco Bay, the Brisbane Lagoon, and of course, the San Bruno Mountain range. The City of Brisbane is fondly known as "The City of Stars", whose residents enjoy a relaxed, small-town atmosphere. There is intense town spirit and pride here, and the friendliness of small community that is growing harder to come by in the thriving San Francisco Bay Area. For more information about the City, visit its website, <u>www.brisbaneca.org</u>.