

Valley Forward event honors Metro, other sustainable projects

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The Metro light rail project received several accolades at Valley Forward Association's Environmental Excellence Awards Sept. 13, including the organization's President's Award as the top environmental project.

The \$1.4 billion light rail, which opened in December 2008, has provided a 20-mile corridor between Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa.

The project won top honors in the Livable Communities, Multimodal Transportation and Connectivity category. It also won two awards of merit in the Livable Communities Public Policy/Plans and Environmental Education/Communication Public Sector categories.



"While light rail won't solve the Valley's transportation challenges, it offers a flexible and cost-effective alternative to the automobile ..."
said **Diane Brossart**, president of Valley Forward. "In these challenging economic times, it's especially inspiring to see the

number and caliber of new projects in our region that enhance the sustainability of our communities and quality of life for our residents."

The 29th annual awards program featured 18 first-place awards and 31 awards of merit. More than 150 projects were entered into the program, a record.

Some of the other Crescordia award winners included:

- Taylor Place, Arizona State University Downtown Student Housing in Phoenix.
- Hanny's in downtown Phoenix: Karl Kopp, owner.
- Sundt Construction headquarters in Tempe.
- Tempe Transportation Center.
- ASU Polytechnic Academic Campus.
- Sunnyslope Office.
- "Habitat" at the Phoenix Convention Center.
- Tempe Transportation Center Plaza and Green Roof.

For a list of all of this year's Crescordia award winners, go to www.phoenix.bizjournals.com and click on latest news under the "news" tab.

