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NEWS RELEASE

ICLEI USA AND OFFICE DEPOT AWARD CUPERTINO \$20,000 FOR GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Cupertino, CA – May 19, 2014 — [ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability-USA](#) (ICLEI), in partnership with Office Depot, Inc., awarded \$20,000 in support to the City of Cupertino for the national [Green Business Challenge](#). The City of Cupertino joins Houston, TX, West Palm Beach, FL, and Lexington, KY as one of four cities in the nation to receive the Green Business Challenge implementation pack. Valued at \$20,000, this competitive award includes in-kind contributions, software, and technical assistance.

The City will use the award to enhance its already award-winning green business program, [GreenBiz Cupertino](#). GreenBiz provides technical assistance local businesses, property managers, and other organizations to conserve resources, reduce waste, save utility costs, improve purchasing decisions, and prevent pollution. The Green Business Challenge will expand on these existing services, help businesses track and elevate environmental performance, and recognize them for their environmental achievements.

“GreenBiz Cupertino is a highly successful program in our community. ICLEI’s Green Business Challenge will take our program to the next level by having businesses compete against each other to achieve environmental excellence,” said Cupertino Mayor Gilbert Wong. “This support from ICLEI and Office Depot will help us strengthen the program and improve our community.”

Launched in Chicago in 2008, the Green Business Challenge now serves as a model for communities nationwide seeking to drive environmental action in the private sector through friendly competition. Participating businesses compete for points, and access resources and best practices identified by the community and ICLEI, using an online software platform. Since its launch, over 124 million kilowatt-hours of electricity and more than 85,000 metric tons of carbon emissions have been saved among the Challenge’s Round 2 participants.

“Since we helped launch the first Green Business Challenge with ICLEI and the City of Chicago in 2008, the program has grown into a powerful national movement,” said Yalmaz Siddiqui, Senior Director of Environmental and Supplier Diversity Strategy for Office Depot. “The success and expansion of Green Business Challenge shows that by working together the public and private sector can create a very meaningful positive change towards environmental sustainability.”

The Green Business Challenge will launch here in Cupertino in the coming months with ICLEI’s support.

To learn more about ICLEI's Green Business Challenge, visit:

www.icleiusa.org/greenbusinesschallenge.

For more information about Office Depot's environmental initiatives, visit:

<http://www.officedepot.com/environment>.

To learn more about GreenBiz Cupertino, visit:

www.cupertino.org/greenbiz.

About ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability USA

ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability is the world's leading association of cities and local governments dedicated to sustainability, with more than 1,000 local government members in 84 countries. ICLEI USA’s mission is to build, serve and drive a movement of local governments to advance deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and achieve tangible improvements in local sustainability. As the only global organization helping cities and counties of all sizes achieve sustainability and climate planning goals, ICLEI provides tools and resources, delivers innovative programming, and fosters a robust network of local governments across the U.S. who are committed to sharing solutions and scaling local sustainability efforts.

About Office Depot, Inc.

Formed by the merger of Office Depot and OfficeMax, Office Depot, Inc. is a leading global provider of products, services, and solutions for every workplace – whether your workplace is an office, home, school, or car.

Office Depot, Inc. is a resource and a catalyst to help customers work better. We are a single source for everything customers need to be more productive, including the latest technology, core office supplies, print and document services, business services, facilities products, furniture, and school essentials.

The company has combined pro forma annual sales of approximately \$17 billion, employs over 60,000 associates, and serves consumers and businesses in 57 countries with more than 2,200

retail stores, award-winning e-commerce sites and a dedicated business-to-business sales organization – all delivered through a global network of wholly owned operations, joint ventures, franchisees, licensees and alliance partners. The company’s portfolio of leading brands includes Office Depot, OfficeMax, OfficeMax Grand & Toy, Viking, Ativa, TUL, Foray, and DiVOGA.

Office Depot, Inc.’s common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ODP. Additional press information can be found at: <http://news.officedepot.com>.

Additional information about the recently completed merger of Office Depot and OfficeMax can be found at <http://officedepotmaxmerger.com>.

About Cupertino

Cupertino, CA, is on the western edge of Silicon Valley against the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains. With a population of 58,000 within 13 square miles, Cupertino is 42 miles south of San Francisco and home to Apple Inc. and many other high-tech companies. Additional information about Cupertino is available at www.cupertino.org.

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