

For Immediate Release

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One Election Is Decided: SF Zoo & Gardens Wins Top Honor in Sustainability by San Francisco Chamber of Commerce!

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — November 8, 2022 — There still may be time to vote in some states, but one election already has been decided! San Francisco Zoo & Gardens recently won the 2022 Sustainability Award at the Excellence in Business (“EBBIES”) given by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

“Animals amaze, but sustainability saves,” said Tanya M. Peterson, CEO and Executive Director of San Francisco Zoological Society, the non-profit that manages SF Zoo and Gardens. “As a conservation organization, we strive every day to provide Zoo visitors with meaningful ways to connect with concepts of sustainability and biodiversity, so that they will care and conserve resources to create a more sustainable environment for all. We are thrilled to be recognized by our community for an effort that is central to our mission.”

San Francisco-based Recology nominated the San Francisco Zoological Society for the EBBIE award based on the Zoo’s current “Zero-Waste” separation program. Recology is responsible for collecting and processing San Francisco’s municipal solid waste and reclaiming reusable materials. Recology noted that this past August alone, SF Zoo and Gardens recorded an 82% diversion rate, marking a new high for the organization.

“I am so proud to boast that each and every Zoo employee embraces a culture of sustainability from using water-filling stations instead of plastic bottles and bicycles instead of vehicles to ensuring compostable products are available for our visitors,” said Peterson. “While some efforts such as sustainable treatment of animal waste and water are not visible to the visitor, other efforts like converting ornamental fountains to drought-resistant gardens and the upcoming Lipman Family Madagascar Center intentionally showcase sustainable practices and highlight environmental threats to biodiversity.”

According to the Chamber of Commerce, the EBBIES were created in 1991 to honor San Francisco businesses for their innovation and to celebrate their vision and publicly appreciate their contributions to the quality of life in the community and at their workplace. This year, the San Francisco Zoological Society was selected out of three finalists, including Cruise (all-electric, driverless cars) and Volta (electric vehicle charging stations) for the top honor.

About San Francisco Zoo & Gardens

The San Francisco Zoological Society is a registered 501c3 non-profit that connects people to wildlife, inspires caring for nature and advances conservation action at San Francisco Zoo & Gardens. An urban oasis, SF Zoo & Gardens is home to more than 2,000 exotic, endangered and rescued animals representing more than 250 species as well as seven distinct gardens full of native and unusual plants. Located at the edge of the Pacific Ocean where the Great Highway meets Sloat Boulevard. Visit www.sfzoo.org for more information.