(Stockton, CA) – The California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED) has selected the City of Stockton Economic Development Department’s Food and Agriculture Action Plan for the Awards of Excellence Program, Award of Merit. The award will be presented in Monterey on March 16, 2018, at the CALED 38th Annual Conference themed, “Celebrating Success.”

The City’s Economic Development Department submitted the Food and Agriculture Action Plan, which creates a roadmap for addressing food insecurity, policy, branding, workforce development, value-added manufacturing, and healthy food education. The Action Plan is available on the City’s website at www.stocktonca.gov/files/Food_and_Ag_Plan.pdf

The CALED Awards in the Economic Development Program category honors outstanding programs that have made a significant contribution to the field of economic development in 2017. This award recognizes programs that manage resources to influence or carry out progressive, timely, and cost-effective economic development policy.

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“I am extremely proud of our team,” shared Micah Runner, Director of Economic Development. “This award represents hours of research and planning internally and includes additional insights from local partnerships with Valley Vision, Visit Stockton, Refresh San Joaquin, iHub San Joaquin, and Central Valley AgPLUS. The expertise of everyone involved with the Food and Agriculture Action Plan resulted in this achievement and recognition of the team’s hard work and extra effort.”

Other cities receiving the CALED Award of Merit include: City of Burbank, City of Walnut Creek, and City of Riverside. For additional information, please visit www.caled.org