



## **San Diego County Taxpayers Association Announces Finalists for Golden Watchdog & Fleece Awards**

*Annual awards dinner recognizes best and worst use of public funds*

**San Diego (May 10, 2018)** --- The San Diego County Taxpayers Association released the list of finalists for its 23rd annual Golden Watchdog and Fleece Awards. The awards recognize the best and worst in local government spending, decision-making, and efficiency. Winners will be announced at the #Goldens awards dinner on Thursday, May 17.

“We’re very excited to recognize the good work done this year,” said Haney Hong, President and CEO, San Diego County Taxpayers Association. “The Golden Awards Dinner is a great time – our theme this year is “America’s Finest Fairytale”—to acknowledge local government’s biggest achievements and also the flops from the past year. We appreciate all the elected officials and notable San Diegans who come from across the region to participate in this event.”

Nominees this year are as follows:

### **Metro Golden Watchdog Award**

City of San Diego: *Adult-Use Cannabis Regulations*

City of San Diego: *Chollas Creek Project Cost Savings*

City of Escondido: *Library Outsourcing*

### **Regional Golden Watchdog Award**

SDCERA: *Expense Reductions and Organizational Improvements*

San Diego Community College District: *Props S & N Bond Funds*

San Diego County Water Authority: *Emergency and Carryover Storage Project*

San Dieguito Union High School District & Solana Beach School District: *Collaboration During Construction*

### **Public-Private Partnership Award**

Downtown San Diego Partnership, San Diego Housing Commission, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, Sharp HealthCare, and Traveler’s Aid: *Family Reunification Program*

City of Del Mar and Del Mar Thoroughbred Club: *2017 Breeders’ Cup*

City of San Diego Fire-Rescue, General Atomics and University of California, San Diego: *San Diego Airborne Intelligence Reconnaissance System*



### **Metro Golden Fleece Award**

City of Encinitas: *Not in My Gingerbread House's Backyard!*

City of San Diego: *When You Wish Upon STVR*

City of San Diego: *What Big Bills I Have!*

### **Regional Golden Fleece Award**

Hepatitis A Prevention & Response

San Ysidro School District: *King Midas Superintendent Payments*

San Diego Regional Association of Governments: *My Kingdom for a Bike Lane!*

### **Media Watchdog Award**

Lisa Halverstadt, Voice of San Diego: *Coverage of Hepatitis A*

NBC 7 Responds Team: *Coverage of San Diego Water Bill Spikes*

Mario Koran and Ashly McGlone, Voice of San Diego: *Coverage of Sexual Misconduct Cases in San Diego School Districts*

Morgan Cook, San Diego Union Tribune: *Coverage of Duncan Hunter*

### **Event Details**

Date: May 17

Time: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location: Hilton San Diego Bayfront

Event is **SOLD OUT**

Hashtag: #Goldens

### **About**

*The San Diego County Taxpayers Association (@sdcta) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, dedicated to promoting accountable, cost-effective and efficient government and opposing unnecessary new taxes and fees. For the last 70 years, the SDCTA has been providing information to help educate the public and save the region's taxpayers millions. Public opinion polls consistently rate the SDCTA as the most "influential" and "trusted" public policy institution in San Diego.*

**Contact:** Cameron Gyorffy

619.234.6423 | cgyorffy@sdcta.org