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## Architecture Firm Strikes Gold In Historic Placerville Building Sets New Standard In Sustainability

Contact Info: Thomas Dodson – Marketing Manager  
530.626.1810  
[tdodson@ANOVAarchitects.com](mailto:tdodson@ANOVAarchitects.com)

**PLACERVILLE, CA** – The much lauded Fausel Professional Building has achieved a new – and groundbreaking – milestone. The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) deemed the award-winning building **LEED® Gold**. That makes the Fausel Professional Building the first building on the western slope of El Dorado County to achieve such a high rating for sustainable design.

“This building continues to impress,” says Charlie Downs, AIA, President of ANOVA. “Along with the contextual design, sustainability was a top priority for our new office. We wanted to create a building that was energy efficient, used local and recycled materials, and provided a healthy environment for our employees. With the news we achieved a LEED Gold rating, we have clearly met and exceeded those goals.”

USGBC’s LEED certification system is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings, offering four possible ratings – Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. The LEED Gold rating represents an array of energy and environmental benefits for the project itself and the broader community.

These features include:

- Reduced transportation through adjacency to public transportation and downtown services, preferred parking for carpools, bicycles (with showers for staff) and low-emitting vehicles
- Light pollution reduction and protection of nocturnal habitats by the use of down-directed subdued site lighting
- About half of the water use of a conventional building, achieved by drip irrigation and native drought-tolerant landscaping, waterless urinals and low-flow faucets and other fixtures
- High-efficiency heating, cooling, hot water, elevator and lighting systems reduce energy costs by 46%
- Recycled and regional materials along with construction and occupant recycling programs reduce material use, landfill waste, and pollution
- A healthy environment for employees through the use of low and non-toxic building materials, operable windows, group and individual lighting and temperature controls, outside views, and daylighting, which allows most of the building lights to be turned off during the day
- Relocating historic Fausel House allowed for space on the site to build the award-winning infill project

Sustainability Coordinator Patty Karapinar oversaw the green designs and details of the project. She says the key was establishing those green goals early in the project and making sure they were in the front of mind as every decision was made. “This is something we try to tell our clients, establishing your sustainability goals from the very beginning is critical,” says Patty. “If you know your goals and what you are aiming for, it helps guide teams through the life of the project. It affects the position of the building, the systems and materials you use and dozens of other details.”

The Fausel Professional Building (see attached image) is an 18,000+ square foot building nestled into the west end of historic downtown Placerville. It sits on the site of the old Mountain Brewery, and is wrapped around Placerville's oldest residence, the Fausel House. It won AIA awards for design in both 2006 and 2008.

**A photo of the project is attached to this document. High-res images are available upon request.**

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**ANOVA** recently received the prestigious Intern Development Program (IDP) "Outstanding Firm Award," presented by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and the AIA. **ANOVA** is proud to be one of just five firms in the United States to win this award.

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