

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No.:

Adopt a resolution recognizing the **Construction and Sustainable Design Academy of Rancho Cielo** for its distinction as Overall Competition Champion at the Orange County Sustainability Decathlon in October 2023.

WHEREAS, Rancho Cielo has offered opportunities to Monterey County youth facing challenges in comprehensive high school settings to earn a high school diploma along with rigorous vocational education, counseling, and life skills development in a safe and affirming environment since 2004; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the **Construction and Sustainable Design Academy**, Rancho Cielo offers vocational programs including Ag Technology & Mechatronics, Auto & Diesel Repair, Welding & Fabrication, the Drummond Culinary Academy, the Silver Star Youth Program, and Youth Corps; and

WHEREAS, The **Construction and Sustainable Design Academy** offers stackable certificates in construction via a nationally recognized curriculum while building small, healthy homes, emphasizing sustainable construction practices; and

WHEREAS, For over a year, 38 students in the **Construction and Sustainable Design Academy** worked to design and construct a home that would embody the Orange County Sustainability Decathlon's (OCSA) mission "To motivate a new generation of leaders to design, develop, demonstrate and deploy housing solutions that will accelerate California's continuing progress in sustainability, as well as a commitment to promoting a culture of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) that values and celebrates the contributions of every student, employee and stakeholder involved in the initiative"; and

WHEREAS, The project was fueled by community support and a grant from the City of Salinas through the Salinas City Safety Division and the California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program - Cal VIP; and

WHEREAS, The massive design and construction undertaking was led by Bill Hayward and Pete Scudder, with consistent support of Rancho Cielo's Founder, Judge John Phillips, Architect Thomas Rettenwender, Project Manager Laura Cowan Higuchi, and other industry leaders, including Don Chapin, Mark Laliberte, Larry Weingarten, along with Rancho Cielo staff including CEO Chris Devers, Ed Bennett, and Joe DeRuosi; and

WHEREAS, The 847 square-foot next-generation healthy modular home prototype, named Nexus 01, is the epitome of healthy living, with every feature meticulously crafted, to create a harmonious living experience that blends comfort, high-end style, and environmental responsibility; and

WHEREAS, The **Construction and Sustainable Design Academy of Rancho Cielo** was the only high school and occupational school among the group of 15 top university architecture and engineering schools competing in the Orange County Sustainable Decathlon; and

WHEREAS, Nexus 01 took three second-place and five first-place awards across 10 categories in the Orange County Sustainable Decathlon, leading to the distinction of overall champion.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, hereby recognize the students of the **Construction and Sustainable Design Academy of Rancho Cielo** and their mentors and supporters for their success at the Orange County Sustainable Decathlon and their contributions to sustainable housing in the County of Monterey, and hereby congratulates them for their ground-breaking innovation in the design and construction of Nexus 01.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2023, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book _____ for the meeting on _____, 2023.

Dated:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California.

By _____
Deputy