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2015 State of the City address celebrates Redding

Mayor Francie Sullivan delivered an upbeat speech that celebrated the City of Redding and its employees at the 28th Annual State of the City luncheon Tuesday, September 29th, at the Civic Auditorium.

Entitled “We Are Redding,” the speech recognized the many City employees who help “provide critical services that make our life better.” Although acknowledging “challenges,” she noted that the beauty and benefits of Redding are not to be forgotten and are being promoted through various means, including web sites and social media. Her remarks were captured in a short video highlighting Redding’s attributes, created by Bethel Media.

The Mayor’s speech did mention several key projects and accomplishments by the City in the past year, including construction of a new Police Facility, Redding Electric Utility headquarters, Municipal Airport terminal expansion and new bike lane/pedestrian projects. She also pointed to the re-emergence of the downtown area, the sale of the first lot at Stillwater Business Park and a sharp increase in construction within the City in 2015.

But the focus of her speech was the recognition of hard-working employees. Among the examples were Parks Lead Worker Mike Herzog, Working Supervisor in the Streets Division Jim Carter, and Community Work Program Officer Bob Brannon. Short videos about each were met with hearty applause by the audience of about 600 people.

Also part of the luncheon event was the presentation of the Mayors’ Philanthropic Achievement Award to Steve Woodrum for his contributions to numerous Redding-area causes. In accepting the award, Woodrum urged the audience to follow in giving to the community. A panel of former Redding mayors selects the winner each year.