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Steve Wozniak, Co-Founder of Apple Computer, Inc., Announced as WRCOG's 31st Annual General Assembly Speaker *Regional leadership committed to continue bringing innovation Inland*

Riverside, CA - March 10 - In early 2022, Western Riverside Council of Government's (WRCOG) regional leadership representatives came together to develop a Strategic Plan for the Agency, intended to drive the Agency's mission and vision for moving the region forward. This strategic vision is further propelled by the Agency's core values, one of which serves as this year's 31st Annual General Assembly theme, Innovation.

"Western Riverside County, located in southern California, is a prime example of the bold innovation that is taking place Inland. It's also with great enthusiasm that I announce that, in line with the innovation and transformation taking place, none other than Steve Wozniak, Co-Founder of Apple Computer, Inc., will be headlining WRCOG's 31st Annual General Assembly on June 23, 2022, at Pechanga Resort Casino," shares WRCOG Chair and Riverside County 2nd District Supervisor, Karen Spiegel.

"Mr. Wozniak's passion for pushing the boundaries and innovative approach to thinking differently is similar to how we'd like to think of our region's efforts in positioning for the opportunities ahead of us," explains WRCOG's Vice-Chair and Mayor for the City of San Jacinto, Crystal Ruiz. Riverside County was recently ranked as the number one fastest-growing County in California, outpacing Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego Counties, with a population slated to grow faster than the State average. Recent data from the U.S. Census Bureau also indicates Riverside County has the fourth largest population of all California counties, which makes it larger than 15 states. Strong business growth continues to be a major driver for Riverside County all-together, recently tying for third fastest-growing County in business growth in California, with business establishments growing by a healthy 17%. "Much of the Agency's efforts, along with local and regional stakeholders, are geared towards continuing to prepare for the tremendous growth ahead. In addition, the Agency's new Strategic Plan will continue to serve as our North Star for our activities as we continue to push forward," states WRCOG Executive Director, Dr. Kurt Wilson.

"As we think of innovation, Inland southern California is really the next frontier, and Western Riverside County is well positioned for the growth and immense opportunities ahead," states WRCOG 2nd Vice-Chair and Mayor for the City of Jurupa Valley, Chris Barajas.

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About WRCOG

WRCOG is a joint powers authority, consisting of the County of Riverside, 18 cities, two regional water districts and the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools. Its actions and activities are guided by its members. Recognizing that issues related to growth are not constrained by city or county boundaries, WRCOG focuses on a number of regional matters important to the future of Western Riverside County. By working together through its committee structure and utilizing existing resources, WRCOG is cost-effective by reducing duplication of effort and sharing information, enabling strong advocacy, and strengthening Western Riverside County's standing in southern California and the state. WRCOG's program areas are varied and range from transportation to air quality, solid waste, environment, energy, resiliency, sustainability, and growth. For more information about WRCOG please visit <http://www.wrcog.us/>.