**Colleen Foster, MELP**

Environmental Officer

Water Utilities Department

City of Oceanside

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Colleen Foster’s established record of experience within the public and private sector for over the past 15 years, is highlighted by multiple achievements as it relates to zero waste, food recovery, stormwater/environmental compliance, climate action, program development, outreach, marketing, and legislative advocacy. Ms. Foster’s personal and professional endeavors feature her commitment for positive leadership and stakeholder engagement with an intense dedication to actively promoting sustainability, civic duty, and conservation within a diverse array of communities. This has led to her receiving invitations from both the National and International stage to present at dozens of conferences and seminars on Zero Waste, Clean Water, and Sustainability.

Ms. Foster is a 2017 awardee of the “Top 40 Under 40 Award” out of a pool of 90,000 professionals in the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry for Waste 360. Most recently, she finished serving her term as President of the California Resources and Recovery Association and has been appointed Vice President of the California Product Stewardship Council. Ms. Foster received her Master’s Degree from Vermont Law School in Environmental Law and Policy with a focus on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, and holds a Bachelor of Art’s Degree from University of California, Davis in International Relations with a focus on third-world development and agricultural sustainability in Latin America. Additionally, Ms. Foster holds professional certifications in Water Management and Leadership from Cal State San Marcos, and Recycling Manager, Zero Waste Principles & Practices, and Compost Systems Manager from the Solid Waste Association of North America.