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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (June 29, 2016)

Delmar Loop Designated as Green Dining District ***Second Business District in the Country to Receive Designation***

University City, Missouri, June 29, 2016 – The Delmar Loop will be recognized for its achievement of becoming the second business district in the nation to be certified as a **Green Dining District**.

Twelve Delmar Loop restaurants have undergone **Green Dining Alliance** certification and have made the commitment to recycle, reduce energy consumption, phase in energy efficient lighting and equipment, conserve water through smart strategies, purchase local goods when possible, and eliminate the use of Styrofoam To-Go containers.

University City Mayor Shelley Welsch will be presenting awards for GDA certification to the following Delmar Loop businesses: Salt + Smoke, Blueberry Hill, Fitz's, Three Kings Public House, Mission Taco Joint, The Melting Pot, Peacock Loop Diner, Eclipse Restaurant, Meshuggah Cafe, Pin-Up Bowl, Snarf's and Piccione Pastry.

The Loop has worked hard to achieve this goal with its other sustainable achievements. Come celebrate with St. Louis Earth Day and the Green Dining Alliance with a short ceremony on July 1st at 11:30 am and ending promptly at noon at the Peacock Loop Diner (6261 Delmar). RSVP to Jenn DeRose at jenn.derose@greendiningalliance.org or call 314-780-6082.

The Delmar Loop is also instituting a new program in partnership with University City to provide cigarette butt recycling containers Loop businesses. Loop Special Business District volunteers and staff will empty the containers on a weekly basis and the cigarette butts will be recycled into concrete.

University City has proactively supported The Loop's commitment to sustainability by distributing 45 new recycling containers along Delmar Blvd for customer recycling, installing LED lights to increase efficiency, and using pervious pavement in parking lots to reduce energy consumption and stormwater runoff.

Another green initiative by the Delmar Loop include a Recycling Task Force - a collaboration between St. Louis Earth Day, the City of University City, and the Loop Special Business District. The group meets regularly to brainstorm new ways to promote sustainability.

The City of University City has also provided free recycling to businesses that switch to the city's solid waste service in an effort to reduce landfill use.

To learn more about the Delmar Loop's commitment to sustainability, visit www.visittheloop.com.

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