Financial Relief for Santa Clara Small Businesses and Nonprofits through City’s COVID-19 Grant Program

Local businesses and nonprofits in Santa Clara were hit hard during the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent shelter-in-place orders. To address the substantial economic blow to the Santa Clara business community, the City Council requested a program be developed to provide much-needed financial support to businesses and nonprofits impacted by COVID-19. The Council initially allocated $250,000 to fund the program and quickly increased the funding to $800,000 after witnessing the significant need.

In late May, the Council approved an additional $100,000 for total funding of $1.1 million for the grant program. On April 17, 2020, the City began accepting applications for its Small Business Assistance Grant Program. The Mayor announced the program with a short video released earlier that week.

The Small Business Assistance Grant Program offered grants of up to $5,000 or $10,000 for qualified small businesses and nonprofits located in Santa Clara. Grant amounts were based on whether the applicant had been deemed essential (eligible for $5,000) or non-essential (eligible for $10,000) under the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department order dated March 16, 2020.

To qualify, applicants must have met the following criteria:
1. Be a small business with at least one and no more than 25 full-time employees.
2. Have experienced a loss of income due to COVID-19.
3. Operate out of a physical commercial storefront within the city limits of Santa Clara.
4. Have an active City of Santa Clara Business License.
5. Be in good standing with the City, and
6. Have been in operation in the City of Santa Clara for at least one year as of March 1, 2020.

In support of the City Council’s direction to provide accessible support as quickly as possible, the City developed simple application materials in seven languages and released them two days before the program’s launch. An FAQ and easy-to-follow video tutorial were also posted online.

The City received over 200 submissions within the first 10 minutes of opening the program. The City was able to award the first round of grants within a week of the program’s launch and exhausted the funds allocated by City Council after three weeks. A total of $800,000 was awarded to more than 100 eligible small businesses and nonprofits in Santa Clara. Considerable coordination was required on behalf of City staff to move from program launch to grant award in such a short amount of time and under such unprecedented circumstances.

The Silicon Valley Central Chamber of Commerce is seeking supplemental funds for this grant program through a GoFundMe campaign with the hopes of providing more support to even more Santa Clara businesses and nonprofits. Find out more at SantaClaraCA.gov/SmallBusinessGrant.

To ensure our water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of specific contaminants in water provided by public water utility. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

"The City of Santa Clara is committed to providing our customers with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. Each year, we publish a water quality report called the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). It contains the latest water-quality monitoring results obtained through the end of 2019. The CCR answers some of the most common water-quality questions asked by our customers. To ensure our water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of specific contaminants in water provided by public water utility. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health."

To our knowledge, the City of Santa Clara provides our preschool business!

"We are humbled and very thankful for the grant the City of Santa Clara has provided our preschool business! In these uncertain times, the City’s tremendous gesture has allowed us the opportunity to keep our doors open and retain the ability to service all of our wonderful families and children! We are part of this community, and we will put through these tough times together and become stronger and even more close-knit on the other side. Again, to the City of Santa Clara, thank you for caring for small businesses like ours, and we will pay it forward and do the city proud!"

"SLUA is so grateful to the city for the Small Business Grant program. The grant gives us a chance to rebrand and implement our online classes. We have now enrolled more than 50 students to our program that meets from Monday to Saturday, serving a wide range of students, from those who live down the street from us to those who moved across the country!"

— Paul Chung, San Jose Art Academy

"I would like to thank the City of Santa Clara for the City’s Small Business Assistance Grant. Operating a business in the city with decent square footage is extremely expensive. As business expenses continue to increase while shut down, many small businesses face a real challenge to their survival. My facility may be closed almost 4 months because of COVID-19. This grant helped me pay almost 2 months of my lease. This is a huge help. Thank you again City of Santa Clara!"

— Joe Grasso, Joe Grasso Elite Training

"Before national or state level guidelines were available, county of Santa Clara stepped up and assisted in quarantine this pandemic in our neighborhood. Before the national aid like PPP or EIDL, even before the Stimulus Check, City of Santa Clara has stepped forward through its City’s Small Business Assistance Grant. Although, the loan amount cannot negate the damage this pandemic has caused to all the community including Santa Clara, it was instrumental in bringing light, giving us hope for the future. We were able to keep our operation up during these hard times to serve our community and our employees, and the Grant was an extra boost enabling us to retain all our pre-disaster employees."

— John Lee, Chimer

Local Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report 2020

The City of Santa Clara is committed to providing our customers with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water.

Each year, we publish a water quality report called the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). It contains the latest water-quality monitoring results obtained through the end of 2019. The CCR answers some of the most common water-quality questions asked by our customers.

In this report, we are required to report the results of the Safe Drinking Water Act and State regulations. Although the water you receive is tested for more than 100 potential contaminants and 48 other parameters, the majority of the potential contaminants are never detected. To simplify the CCR, only the contaminants that were detected at least one water source appear in the water quality table. We are also required by the State Water Board to provide additional information about certain contaminants that appear on the water quality table, even through our water meets all applicable drinking water standards.

The table allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium, and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Drinking Water Must Meet Standards

There are two types of drinking water standards: PRIMARY STANDARDS are designed to protect public health by specifying the limits, called “Maximum Contaminant Levels” (MCLs) for substances in water that may be harmful to humans or affect their health if consumed in large quantities. SECONDARY STANDARDS are based on aesthetic qualities of water such as color, taste and odor. These standards specify limits for substances that may affect consumer acceptance of the water. Both Primary and Secondary Standards are listed in this CCR.

It is important to the City of Santa Clara that our water customers have current and factual information about your water supply. The goal of the CCR is to strengthen consumer confidence in the quality and integrity of the water supplied by the City of Santa Clara. We take pride in delivering safe, and high-quality water.

Please share this information with all the people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Information and Guidance for People with Compromised Immune Systems:

The Federal Government carefully regulates the quality of drinking water. In 1974, Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act, requiring the USEPA to establish uniform standards for drinking water. The Safe Drinking Water Act was further amended in 1986 and 1996, adding even more stringent standards. In California, these standards are enforced by State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.
Source Water Information

**Where does our water come from?**
- The City of Santa Clara has three main sources of drinking water:
  - City's groundwater sources
  - Surface water, imported from the Sierra Nevada Mountains.
  - Recycled water from non-renewable sources.

**Hetch Hetchy SYSTEM**
- The City purchases water from the Hetch Hetchy System. The San Francisco Regional Water System (SFRWS) conducts watershed surveys for the Hetch Hetchy system annually for all local water sources and monitoring Non-Hetch Hetchy Sources (UNION) every five years.
- The latest local watershed survey was completed in 2018 for the period of 2011-2015. The latest watershed survey for UNIONS was conducted in 2015 as part of SFRWS's drought response plan. All these surveys, together with the stringent wastewater and protection management activities, were completed with SFRWS's support from partner agencies, including National Park Service and US Forest Service.

**City Wells**
- More than half of water consumed in the City of Santa Clara is pumped from the City's system of deep wells.
- Water is uplifted from groundwater (water that is present below the land's surface) under the pressure of soil and rock layers above it.

**Surface Water**
- Valley Water's sources are vulnerable to potential contamination from a variety of land-use practices, such as agricultural and urban runoff, recreational activities, livestock grazing, and residential and industrial development.
- Valley Water has been testing for drugs and other chemicals associated with waste in the surface waters of the watershed.

**Water Quality Monitoring**

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAM**
- The City completed a Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWAP) Program for the groundwater sources. The DWAP was completed in August 2002 and submitted to the State Water Board in December 2002.
- A copy of the DWAP is available at the City’s Water Utility Office at 1500 Waverley Street, Suite 200, at www.sfwaters.org.
- For DWAP program information, contact the Water Utility at 408-615-2000 or by email at sanitarywater@santaclaraca.gov.

**City of Santa Clara, California**

**Water Quality Monitoring**

**City of Santa Clara Water District**
- The City is divided into 12 Water Districts, each with a Water District Board of Directors that sets policies and oversees the day-to-day operations of the District.
- Water District ratepayers pay for water, sewer, and garbage services.

**Some Santa Clara Water is Fluoridated**
- Fluoridation is the practice of adding fluoride to drinking water to reduce the risk of tooth decay.
- The City’s fluoridation program is designed to ensure that everyone in the City has access to water with a safe and effective level of fluoride.

**For Additional Information On Water Quality**

**City of Santa Clara**
- 1500 Waverley Street, 4th Floor, Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95126
- Phone: 408-650-2000
- Fax: 408-650-2261
- water@santaclaraca.gov

**Water Utility**
- 1500 Waverley Avenue, Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95126
- Phone: 408-615-0000
- Fax: 408-615-0001
- ValleyWater@SantaClaraCA.gov

**Water Quality Report Questions**
- Diane Arrascia
- 408-615-2000
- DAraascia@SantaClaraCA.gov

**Water Emergencies**
- Valley Water
- Valley Watercall Center: 408-615-0000
- Valley Water Call Center, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday
- 408-630-2000 or 408-630-2213 for other days and times

**Water Conservation**
- See SFwater.org
- 408-630-2554 - Water Conservation Hotline
- For a free Water Wise Home Fix sign up at FixMyWater.SFwater.org

**Water Billing Questions**
- 408-615-2370
- ValleyWater@SantaClaraCA.gov

**Water Resources**
- If you would like to learn more about drinking water quality and treatment regulations, contact these organizations:
  - American Water Works Association
  - Water Education Foundation
  - Water Quality Information Center

**Source Water Information**

**LEAD**
- There have been no exceedances of the ACTION LEVEL for lead in the City of Santa Clara for the years 2019-2020.
- Lead can come from soldered or brazed plumbing fixtures, lead or galvanized plumbing pipe, and lead service lines, and can enter drinking water. If lead is a problem in your home, you should have your water tested for lead.

**SCHOOL LEAD TESTING**
- As of January 2018, Santa Clara County law requires water suppliers to sample on all schools on public land by mid-2019. As of April 2019, City staff has completed all required sampling and provided results to the school districts following the testing.

**NITRATES**
- Nitrates in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants less than six months old. Nitrates can cause the following symptoms: shortness of breath and blueness of the skin.

**Cryptosporidium and Giardia in water resources**
- Cryptosporidium is a parasite that infects the intestines, causing diarrhea, cramps, and nausea.
- Giardia is a parasite that infects the small intestine, causing diarrhea and fatigue.

**Giardia**
- Another parasitic organism causing similar symptoms, is monitored with the same frequency and very low levels are detected in the same source waters.

**Public Health**
- The general public is at very low risk and there have been no reported cases of Cryptosporidiosis and Giardiasis attributed to the City's public water supply.
- This advisory applies to water received from the Hetch Hetchy system in the southern part of the City.

**Contaminants that occur in drinking water obtained from surface sources and underground sources**
- Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, reservoirs, and wells.
- Water travels over land or through the ground. It dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency:</th>
<th>Division of Drinking Water:</th>
<th>Web Resources:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board)</td>
<td>(1-800-426-4791) or at sfwater.org/lead</td>
<td><a href="https://www.sfwater.org">Water Safety Information Center</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Valley Water, and the San Jose Water Authority</td>
<td><a href="https://sfwater.org">Water Quality Report</a></td>
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- The general public is at very low risk and there have been no reported cases of Cryptosporidiosis and Giardiasis attributed to the City's public water supply.
- This advisory applies to water received from the Hetch Hetchy system in the southern part of the City. The City issues guidance for people with such conditions consult with their doctor or primary health care provider about preventing Cryptosporidium and Giardia infection from all potential sources.

**SFPUC Hetch Hetchy System**
- The Hetch Hetchy System imports water from the Sierra Nevada Mountains.
- The City of Santa Clara is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in pipeline materials. While Valley Water has been testing for several years, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds before using it. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may want to have your water tested. Information on how to make a request for lead testing and how to test for lead in your water can be found at the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. (1-800-426-4791) or at apa.gov/lead.

**School Lead Testing**
- As of January 2018, Santa Clara County law requires water suppliers to sample on all schools on public land by mid-2019. As of April 2019, City staff has completed all required sampling and provided results to the school districts following the testing. At least one minute as an extra precaution. The City’s FY22 lead testing report is available at www.sfwaters.org.

**Cryptosporidium and Giardia in water resources**
- Cryptosporidium is a parasite that infects the intestines, causing diarrhea, cramps, and nausea.
- Giardia is a parasite that infects the small intestine, causing diarrhea and fatigue.

**TREATMENT PROCEDURES**
- The City has processes in place to minimize exposure to contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Hotline and Rebate Information**
- 408-615-5640 other days and times
- Diane Asuncion
- Division of Drinking Water:
- City of Santa Clara, California
- 1500 Waverley Street, Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95126
- Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 408-630-2554 – Water Conservation
- 408-615-2000 – Public Relations and Media
- 408-615-2000 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Water Amenities Program: 1-800-426-4791 or at sfwater.org/lead
- [Water Safety Information Center](https://www.sfwater.org)

**Lead**
- There have been no exceedances of the ACTION LEVEL for lead in the City of Santa Clara for the years 2019-2020.
- Lead can come from soldered or brazed plumbing fixtures, lead or galvanized plumbing pipe, and lead service lines, and can enter drinking water. If lead is a problem in your home, you should have your water tested for lead.

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**Source Water Information**

Where does our water come from?

- The City of Santa Clara has three separate sources of drinking water:
  - The City of Santa Clara has three separate sources of drinking water. Often, these sources are used interchangeably or are blended. Altogether our water sources provide an average of 10 million gallons of water per day to the homes, businesses, institutions and businesses of Santa Clara. In 2021, about 45% of our water was treated surface water purchased from the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), imported from the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta, and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPPUC) Hetch-Hetchy System, imported from the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

- Water purchased from the Hetch Hetchy System serves the southernmost portion of the City and is treated before it is used. Water typically serves the area north of Highway 101. The City’s system of 21 active wells supplies the remaining 55% of Santa Clara. The map shows the areas served by these three water sources.

**City WELLS**

More than half of water consumed in the City of Santa Clara is pumped from the City’s system of deep wells. Water is pulled up from groundwater (water that is held underground) using pumps. The water in the ground may have come from many sources. It may include rainwater, water from rivers and streams, groundwater from aquifers, water that has seeped from the earth, or water that has been held underground for many years. The water is then treated to make it safe for drinking before it is delivered to your tap. It is possible to have lead levels in your home that is higher than other houses in the community because of plumbing materials used in the original construction of your home. We cannot tell if there are problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead can enter your drinking water from materials and/or connections associated with your service line and home plumbing. The City of Santa Clara is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing fixtures. While lead problems have not been identified since 2015, with the most recent survey in 2021, if you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on what minimum levels of lead and zinc you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at appa.gov/lead.

**Hetch Hetchy System**

The City purchases water from the Hetch Hetchy System. The San Francisco Regional Water System (SFPPWS) conducts watershed sanitary surveys in the Hetch Hetchy system to ensure that local land use and construction projects do not affect the water quality of the watersheds and to review the results of watershed sanitary surveys. The last sanitary survey for UNHHS was conducted in 2015 as part of the Hetch Hetchy system’s 2015 planning cycle. The latest local sanitary survey was completed in 2016 for the period of 2011-2015. The SFPPUC Hetch Hetchy System completed construction of a fluoridation facility in the East Bay. The water purchased by the City from the SFPPUC is fluoridated, while water from Valley Water is not. Fluoride is added to the water at the point of entry using a fluoridation treatment plant.

- Some Santa Clara Water is Fluoridated.

- Fluoride is added to water in the City of Santa Clara to help prevent tooth decay.

- In November of 2005, the SFPPUC Hetch Hetchy system completed construction of a fluoridation facility in the East Bay. The water purchased by the City from the SFPPUC is fluoridated, while water from Valley Water is not. Fluoride is added to the water at the point of entry using a fluoridation treatment plant. Water from the City's fluoridation system is distributed to all areas of the City.

- Water quality monitoring

**Water Quality Monitoring**

Information about the drinking water source assessment and protection program.

- The City of Santa Clara has a Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Program (DWSSAP) that evaluates the sources of water that are used to serve the City's customers. The DWSSAP was completed in August 2002 and submitted to the State Water Board in December 2002. A copy of the DWSSAP is available at the City's Water Utility office at 1500 Sanborn Avenue.

- The City's groundwaters are monitored for potentially harmful contaminants by testing under local tanks containing fuel or dry-cleaning chemicals; old, uncoordinated septic systems; storm drain dry wales located at various places around the City; surface runoff; and not currently destroyed, and possibly some contaminants from a small landfill dump left over from the early years of the 20th century.

**LEAD**

There have been no exceedances of the ACTION LEVEL for lead in the City of Santa Clara in 2021. This is likely because lead service lines have been replaced for these activities. It is possible for lead levels in your home to be higher than other houses in the community because of plumbing materials used in the original construction of your home. We cannot tell if there are problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead can enter your drinking water from materials and/or connections associated with your service line and home plumbing. The City of Santa Clara is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing fixtures. While lead problems have not been identified since 2015, with the most recent survey in 2021, if you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on what minimum levels of lead and zinc you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at appa.gov/lead.

**School Lead Testing**

As of January 2018, State law requires water suppliers to sample all schools on public land by mid-2019. As of April 2019, City staff has completed all required sampling and provided results to the school districts following the testing. All samples except for one taken at John Stutter Elementary School were well below the EPA action level for lead of 15 parts per billion (ppb). The future water supplier, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, is required to resample at the site regarded in a ND (non-detect) for lead. Please contact your school administrator for information about lead testing and results for your local school. For additional information visit: waterboards.ca.gov/dinking_water/certlic/dinkingwater/leadtestingmainschools.html

**Nitrate Information**

- Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants less than six months old. Most nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the normal production of oxygen in the blood of infants, resulting in blue baby syndrome. The symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen to individual organisms, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant or you are pregnant, you should consult your doctor for advice provided.

- Cryptosporidium and Giardia in water resources:

Cryptosporidium is a disease of the intestinal tract brought on by a parasitic microbe that affects people of all ages. Fluoridated drinking water benefits people of all ages by preventing tooth decay. If your zip code is 95054, you are in the area receiving fluoridated water.

- Fluoridated drinking water benefits people of all ages by preventing tooth decay. Fluoridation adjusts the naturally occurring fluoride in drinking water to the ideal level for protecting your teeth. Fluoridated drinking water benefits people of all ages by preventing tooth decay. If your zip code is 95054, you are in the area receiving fluoridated water.

- San Jose Fluoridation: 408-615-2700

- For additional information visit: waterboards.ca.gov/dinking_water/certlic/dinkingwater/flouridation.shtml

- For additional information visit: waterboards.ca.gov/dinking_water/certlic/dinkingwater/flouridation.shtml

- Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter. Fluoridation adjusts the naturally occurring fluoride in drinking water to the ideal level for protecting your teeth.

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Common Sources of:

- **UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS** reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **PHG** is the concentration of a water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. **MRDLG** is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Turbidity** is measured every four hours. These are monthly average turbidity values.
- **MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL (MRDL)** is the concentration of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
- **MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG)** is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
- **MAXIMUM PRIMARY STANDARD as Measured in City of Santa Clara Distribution System:** As of 2018, the City of Santa Clara has reported the following levels of various contaminants in their water system.

### Definitions and Notes

- **ppb** = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- **pCi/L** = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- **P** = Present
- **A** = Absent
- **NS** = Not Specified
- **ND** = Not Detectable
- **NA** = Not Available
- **N** = No
- **Y** = Yes
- **eC** = Electronic Count

### COVID-19 Business Resources

As the COVID-19 pandemic continued to escalate, the City took quick action to help local businesses and workers. The City developed a business resources website that has information from local, state, federal and private sources to assist Santa Clara's business community. As an example, the COVID-19 Business Resources website includes information on:

- **Santa Clara County’s Eviction Moratorium**, which protects small businesses in Santa Clara that have suffered loss of income due to COVID-19 from eviction.
- **The State of California one-stop shop website**, which provides information on all COVID-19 related statewide services.
- **California Disaster Relief Loan Guaranty Program**, which provides loan guarantees and direct loans for small businesses that experience a loss of income.
- **The U.S. Small Business Administration resources**, which provides COVID-19 related guidance and loan resources for small businesses.

### COVID-19 Impacts Community Events

Due to the County of Santa Clara order that bars all public gatherings and calls for sheltering in place, the 2020 Silicon Valley 186 Memorial Day, and the 40th of July All-City Picnic & Fireworks. Community Events, as well as the 40th of July All-City Picnic & Fireworks, which usually held on the first Tuesday in August, has been tentatively rescheduled to Tuesday, Oct. 6.

The City’s annual Cleanup Campaign, initially planned for April, was called off due to the public health order and safety concerns for our residents, employees and contractors. The City is evaluating whether the 2020 Cleanup Campaign can be rescheduled for later this summer or fall, including looking at other alternatives. For the latest updates visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanUp.

### SVACA’s Animal Care Center

Hunkers Down During Pandemic

COVID-19 had an immediate and profound effect on Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority’s operations. It forced SVACA to shut down all services considered non-essential, and volunteers closed safely at home. All animals were adopted or moved into long-term foster care, and team members practiced social distancing by restructuring work schedules to keep the public safe.

Officer Gonzalez received two little opus scars after the mother suffered an injury. Kittens started to trickle in, and our foster care program quickly kicked into gear. All this while staying safe and following the new guidelines.

To learn how you can adopt a companion animal go to svaca.com/adoptions. SVACA has not been able to continue their usual programs without the assistance of so very many wonderful clients and our many generous contributors. Learn more about how you can make a difference for animals by visiting svaca.com/donate.

### Wipes Clog Pipes

While the public is encouraged to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations to clean surfaces with disinfecting wipes to reduce the spread of COVID-19, it remains crucial to discard those items in the trash, not the toilet. Flushing wipes (even if labeled “flushable”) as well as paper towels and other similar items, can clog sewers and potentially cause backups and overflows at wastewater facilities and your home, creating more public health risks during the coronavirus pandemic.

Be sure to throw your wipes and paper towels in the trash, not the toilet. Let’s do our part by flushing only toilet paper and remember that Wipes Clog Pipes. For more details, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/WipesClogPipes.

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### Wipes Clog Pipes

While the public is encouraged to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations to clean surfaces with disinfecting wipes to reduce the spread of COVID-19, it remains crucial to discard those items in the trash, not the toilet. Flushing wipes (even if labeled “flushable”) as well as paper towels and other similar items, can clog sewers and potentially cause backups and overflows at wastewater facilities and your home, creating more public health risks during the coronavirus pandemic.

Be sure to throw your wipes and paper towels in the trash, not the toilet. Let’s do our part by flushing only toilet paper and remember that Wipes Clog Pipes. For more details, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/WipesClogPipes.