



City Hall News

News from City Manager Deanna J. Santana

SantaClaraCA.gov

Sept. 21, 2020



Message from City Manager Deanna J. Santana

Santa Clara Fire and Santa Clara Police Departments Conduct 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

On Sept. 11, the Fire and Police Departments joined forces to host a joint 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at Police headquarters. Honor guards for both departments conducted a flag ceremony to lower the flags to half-staff. Santa Clara Communications provided radio traffic on department radio channels for all personnel to participate. All nine occupied fire stations also participated and lowered their flags to half-staff at the same time. Volunteer bagpiper, Paul Crozier, and two other pipers, played “Amazing Grace” at the conclusion of the flag ceremony. After the ceremony, the bagpipers traveled to the City’s fire stations to play for each of the crews on duty on 9/11.



Dear Santa Clarans, Fall is upon us. We’ve been through extremely challenging times these last six months, when the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department issued the initial Shelter-in-Place Order due to COVID-19. Residents and businesses continue to be impacted by the pandemic. The City of Santa Clara worked to provide resources to help our families and businesses. Our latest Santa Clara Responds [video](#) provides personal stories from businesses who received assistance from our Small Business Assistance Grant Program. Last week, residents were able to participate and enjoy [Fall Recreation classes](#) including outdoor Zumba in the Park and after school programs at the Youth Activity Center, with County Public Health protocols in place. Share with your neighbor about COVID-19 relief programs such as rental assistance, meal programs for seniors, utility bill assistance and more at SantaClaraCA.gov/SantaClaraResponds. Lastly, tune into the Santa Clara Parade of Champions [virtual parade](#) on Oct. 10, to see how the community has come together to honor Santa Clara’s frontline heroes.

COVID-19 UPDATES - Local developments & status updates for events, programs & City services, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CoronavirusUpdates

Santa Clara Fire Department Provides Mutual Aid to Help Fight Wildfires

Over the last month, the Fire Department has sent local engines and personnel to help fight several of the wildfires burning in Northern California as part of the state mutual aid system. In August, the department sent three engines and 13 personnel. One engine each was deployed to the LNU Lightning Complex Fire in Napa, Sonoma and Solano Counties, the SCU Lightning Complex Fire in Santa Clara, Alameda and Stanislaus Counties, and the CZU Lightning Complex Fire in Santa Cruz and San Mateo Counties. A radio specialist was also deployed as a solo resource. In September, the department sent three engines and 12 personnel to help fight the Creek Fire in Fresno and Madera Counties. Four additional personnel were also sent as solo resources to support the overhead organization of the firefighting efforts. This makes a total of 29 SCFD personnel that have been dispatched to try and contain these wildfires.



Measure E is on Your Local Ballot

As part of the City's fiscal planning the City Council placed Measure E on the November 2020 ballot. If enacted, Measure E would allow an increase in Santa Clara's hotel tax by up to 4% over time to support providing essential city services, paid only by guests staying in hotels. Measure E is not a tax on homeowners or property owners. Like cities around the state and country, Santa Clara is working to address the economic challenges of the coronavirus pandemic. Measure E was placed on the ballot and drafted to afford the City Council with flexibility to account for current economic challenges in the hospitality sector while also preserving the ability to benefit from potential increased revenue as the economy recovers. If enacted, Measure E would provide an additional source of locally controlled funding that is available to support general City services and may be used for emergency preparedness, street maintenance and pothole repair, local business and resident support through recovery, senior services, libraries, parks, and recreational programs. Measure E is on the November ballot. For more Measure E information, please visit SantaClaraCA.gov/MeasureE. For more election and voting information, please visit the County Registrar of Voters [webpage](#).

Apply for The Salary Setting Commission

The City encourages residents to apply to serve on the Salary Setting Commission which is charged with setting the compensation for the Mayor, Councilmembers, City Clerk and Police Chief. The Civil Service Commission appoints the Salary Setting Commission members who serve two-year terms. While serving on the commission, members cannot work for a candidate for City of Santa Clara elective office nor run for a City elective office. Applications and eligibility requirements are available [online](#) or in person at the City Clerk's Office, 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Interested applicants may apply by mail or in person to the City Clerk's Office. Applications are due to the City Clerk's Office by **5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020**.

For More Information

View the City Manager Biweekly Report for more details at SantaClaraCA.gov/CMReport

City Librarian Hilary Keith Retires & Acting City Librarian Named

After six years with the City of Santa Clara, City Librarian Hilary Keith retired on Sept. 18. We thank Hilary for her years of service to the Santa Clara City Library, providing a wide array of events that highlight the diversity and innovative spirit of Santa Clara. Hilary worked to sustain and strengthen library collections, develop innovative programming that engages and enriches, support early and life-long literacy, and ensure the library is a welcoming place that serves everyone in community. Shortly after joining Santa Clara, she was tasked with opening the Northside Branch Library and embarking on a renovation of the Mission Branch Library. The City of Santa Clara wishes Hilary a wonderful retirement! During the transition, Assistant City Manager Cynthia Bojorquez has been appointed as Acting City Librarian. Cynthia is well qualified to support this transition, having served as City Librarian for the cities of Salinas and Sunnyvale. An executive recruitment process will begin to appoint a new City Librarian.



3rd Annual Halloween Home Decorating Contest

The Cultural Commission is excited to announce the return of this annual event. Santa Clara residents are encouraged to participate in the contest by decorating their front yards, or exterior of apartment, condominium, house and townhouse for Halloween. Entries will be accepted online between Oct. 1 – 28, 2020. This year, one home from each Council District will be selected as a winner. For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/contest or call 408-615-3140 or email PRCustomerServe@SantaClaraCA.gov.

Fall Recreation Underway

As of Sept. 14, a wide variety of online and in-person recreation classes including dance, fitness, music, theatre and more are now available. New classes will start in mid-October. To view upcoming classes and to register, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/RecClasses or call 408-615-3140.

PG&E Gas Construction on Lafayette Street and Hogan Drive

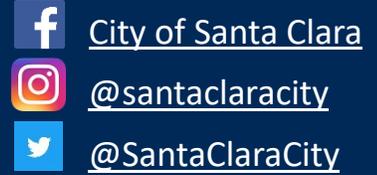
Beginning Sept. 14, 2020 through January 2021, PG&E began upgrading pressure-regulating equipment associated with their natural gas line facilities on Lafayette Street and Hogan Drive in Santa Clara. PG&E has indicated that this work should not interrupt gas service. However, residents may occasionally hear some noise and smell natural gas as PG&E empties pipelines in a controlled and safe manner. To facilitate this project, temporary lane closures will be implemented throughout the day during the coming weeks and months. Residents may encounter delays along Lafayette Street and are encouraged to use alternate routes if possible.

Hours of work are Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, contact Crystal Jewell with PG&E via email at CLHP@pge.com or by phone at 408-725-2240. For any other concerns, please call PG&E's general number at 1-800-743-5000.



City of Santa Clara
The Center of What's Possible

Follow Us on Social Media



REPORT CONCERNS VIA MOBILE APP

Did you know you can report littering and park concerns with MySantaClara app from your mobile? If you notice areas that need service, snap a photo and send it to us! Download the app or submit a request online at SantaClaraCA.gov/mysantaclara



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Visit the [Tentative Meeting Agenda Calendar](#) for dates of upcoming City Council meetings, Study Sessions, Joint Council/Stadium Authority, Commission meetings.



New Minimum Wage Effective Jan. 1, 2021

Starting Jan. 1, 2021, the city of Santa Clara's minimum wage will increase to \$15.65 per hour. Employers who are subject to the Santa Clara business license tax or who maintain a facility in Santa Clara, will be required to pay each employee who performs at least two hours of work a week in Santa Clara at least \$15.65 an hour. The 2021 minimum wage posters for the workplace will be posted on the City's website by Dec. 7. The City's minimum wage is adjusted annually based on the regional consumer price index. For more information regarding the ordinance, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/minimumwage or email minimumwage@santaclaraca.gov.



Free COVID-19 Testing in Santa Clara

In partnership with the County of Santa Clara Department of Public Health, the City of Santa Clara will host additional appointment-only COVID-19 testing at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Road, on Sept. 23 and Sept. 30. The testing site is for people without COVID-19 symptoms. View the [video message](#) from Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor and Councilmember Teresa O'Neill. Make an appointment online at scl.fulgentgenetics.com/appointment/. For more details, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CoronavirusUpdates.

Get tested for COVID-19!

- Schedule an appointment
- Avoid long wait times

Schedule your appointment today:

 **sccfreetest.org**

Appointments are available 3 days in advance.



Santa Clara County PUBLIC HEALTH

Santa Clara Stadium Authority Receives 49ers' Overdue Stadium Rent Payment

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, the Santa Clara Stadium Authority received a \$5,502,333 payment from the San Francisco 49ers for facility rent that was overdue for the month of September 2020, along with the rent that is due this month for October 2020. At closed session on Tuesday, Sept. 8, the Stadium Authority Board had voted unanimously to authorize a claim for arbitration against the San Francisco 49ers to collect unpaid facility rent.

This action came after 49ers Chief Financial Officer Scott Sabatino notified the Stadium Authority of his intent to reduce their rent payments by 20%. Only after receiving a Notice of Default and the Board's action did the 49ers pay their rent in full one week later. View the City's [news release](#) for more details.



Levi's Stadium Hosts First Fanless NFL Game

In accordance with State and County Public Health Order guidelines, the San Francisco 49ers hosted a fanless game on Sept. 13 due to continued concerns surrounding the coronavirus pandemic.

This globally televised event was the first for our Police Department to provide security for during a pandemic. The safety measures implemented, including limiting points of access, were carefully considered to balance the security of the facility with the impacts to our community, and will be re-evaluated following this experience. The team continues to work with State and County officials regarding the potential to welcome fans back to Levi's Stadium later this season. The following home games are scheduled through October:

Sunday, Oct. 4, 5:20 p.m., San Francisco 49ers vs. Philadelphia Eagles
 Sunday, Oct. 11, 1:05 p.m., San Francisco 49ers vs. Miami Dolphins
 Sunday, Oct. 18, 5:20 p.m., San Francisco 49ers vs. Los Angeles Rams

A traffic advisory will be distributed by the Police Department approximately 72-hours prior to each game.

COVID-19 RELIEF PROGRAMS - For assistance programs for residents and businesses, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/SantaClaraResponds for more details.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Downtown Precise Plan Community Task Force (DCTF) Meeting

The next DCTF meeting will be held via Zoom on **Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020 from 6 to 8 p.m.** At this meeting, the DCTF will review information on Financial Feasibility and Infrastructure and Public Realm Improvements. The DCTF meetings are open to the public and members of the community will have an opportunity to provide input at the meetings. Details for remote participation will be posted closer to the meeting date on the [website](#).

El Camino Real Specific Plan Open House

The City will host a virtual open house to present the draft El Camino Real Specific Plan to the community. The meeting will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm.** The El Camino Real is the City's most visible and identifiable commercial corridor. The corridor is envisioned in the City's General Plan to be redeveloped from low-intensity, automobile-oriented uses to a mix of medium and higher density residential and mixed-use development. The El Camino Real Specific Plan provides a vision and detailed guidance on preferred land uses, transportation improvements (including removing on-street parking to accommodate a protected bike lane), and design standards for the corridor over the next 20 to 30 years. To join the Zoom webinar, please [register in advance online](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information.

Bay Area Bike to Wherever Days 2020

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bay Area's Annual Bike to Work Day that is typically held in May has been re-imagined as "Bike to Wherever Days 2020" to promote and celebrate cycling throughout the month of September. There are opportunities to register and win prizes, obtain a free Bike to Wherever Days 2020 messenger bag, and much more. For more information, visit the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition's [website](#).



**2020 Santa Clara
Parade of Champions**

Virtual Parade Oct 10th

and City wide contest
Honoring America's Heroes

To participate go to
www.scparadeofchampions.org



November 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us as Mission City Community Fund holds its first online auction/fundraiser enabling us to serve the Silicon Valley. All donations/funds go directly to assisting those in need in our community.

www.missioncityfund.org



Public Safety Power Shutoff Information

While we're fortunate that the city of Santa Clara isn't designated as a high fire threat area because of our urban conditions, flat terrain and low fuel load, it is important to be aware of risks and to minimize them. While the risk of wildfires is low in Santa Clara, a Public Safety Power Shutoff power outage could impact customers who receive electric service from Silicon Valley Power due to the interconnected nature of the electric grid. For more information about PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff program and how to be prepared in the event, visit Silicon Valley Power's [website](#).

