



City of Santa Clara

The Center of What's Possible

COVID-19 Update (April 16, 2020, 5 p.m.)

Source:

City of Santa Clara Communications/Emergency Operations Center

Contacts:

Lenka Wright, Director of Communications, 408-615-5515 or lwright@santaclaraca.gov
City of Santa Clara Media Line: 408-615-2181 or communications@santaclaraca.gov

Resources:

Website: SantaClaraCA.gov/CoronavirusUpdates
Follow us on Twitter: [@SantaClaraCity](https://twitter.com/SantaClaraCity)

This is a summary of the City of Santa Clara's latest response efforts along with impacts to local events and City programs/services due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency.

Current Developments

- Today, Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor announced two programs that will help residents financially impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.
 - Silicon Valley Power will offer a 25% discount off the electric portion of the municipal utilities bill for qualified Santa Clara residents who are affected financially by this public health emergency. For more details and how to apply for the discount, visit SiliconValleyPower.com/COVID19ElectricRelief.
 - The public can also help their neighbors who are struggling to pay their utility bills through the Help Your Neighbor program, which allows someone to donate money that will help their neighbors pay their utility bills. For more information, including how to donate, visit the [Help Your Neighbor program webpage](#).
- Starting 10 a.m. tomorrow, April 17, the City will begin accepting completed applications via email from small businesses and nonprofits that are applying for a small business assistance grant.
 - To assist applicants with the application process, a [“How to Apply for Santa Clara’s Small Business Assistance Grant” video](#) is now available to watch online.



City of Santa Clara

The Center of What's Possible

- The grant program will offer grants of up to \$5,000 or \$10,000 for qualified small businesses and nonprofits in Santa Clara.
- For more information, visit the City website, www.SantaClaraCA.gov/smallbusinessgrant.
- The State of California Department of Motor Vehicles announced it is extending driver licenses expiring during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Licenses for drivers younger than 70 that expire between March and May 2020 are now valid through May 31, 2020.
 - Drivers 70 and older will automatically receive a temporary paper extension valid for 120 days.
 - All commercial driver's licenses, endorsements and certificates expiring between March and June 2020 are now valid through June 30, 2020.
 - For more information, view the [DMV news release](#) or visit dmv.ca.gov online.

City Programs and Services

Department of Public Works

- Due to the coronavirus pandemic and social distancing requirements, the Department of Public Works (DPW) took an innovative approach in holding a virtual bid opening for securing bids for the 2020 Annual Pavement Rehabilitation project.
- DPW staff used the bid notification service, BidSync, to inform potential vendors of the bid opening and receive the bids.
- On Wednesday, April 17, the video conferencing tool, Zoom, was used to facilitate the meeting with contractors to open their bid proposals. In total, five contractors participated online and the City plans to award the bid next month.

Subscribe to the [City News eNotification list](#) to receive the latest updates on this public health emergency.