

# City Manager's Blog

## Deanna J. Santana

### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Swim Club Embezzlement Case:** On Sept. 29, the Santa Clara Police Department (SCPD) was made aware of a possible embezzlement that occurred at the Santa Clara Swim Club, a nonprofit organization. The Club's Board of Directors alleges that John Bitter, who was the Chief Executive Officer at the time, misappropriated at least \$600,000 in funds. SCPD investigators are actively looking into the allegation and interviewing the involved parties. If you have any information about this crime, contact the SCPD at 408-615-4828.

**Annual Walk to a Park Day is Oct. 10:** In partnership with more than 200 mayors around the country as well as The Trust for Public Land, the National Recreation and Park Association, and the Urban Land Institute, the City of Santa Clara and Mayor Lisa Gillmor launched the "10-Minute Walk Campaign" in October 2017. It's an historic effort to ensure there's a great park within a 10-minute walk of every person, in every neighborhood, in every city. This Wednesday, Oct. 10, we're proud to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the campaign by looking back at the progress we've made and invite you to celebrate parks by walking to a park near you. On this day, people around the country will walk to their nearest park to highlight the value of close-to-home green spaces and to enjoy the public amenities such as playgrounds, meadows, pools, ballfields, ponds and other great facilities.

Residents are encouraged to walk to a park near them and encourage their friends and neighbors to join them. Some of the new parks and rehabilitated playgrounds to enjoy in Santa Clara include San Tomas & Monroe Neighborhood Park and Community Garden, Central Park Annex (between Kiely and Miles Drive), Steve Carli Park Playground, and Bracher Park. The public can also check out the progress on the Reed & Grant Street Sports Park construction. The City will rehabilitate playgrounds at Bowers, Machado, Homeridge and Montague parks in the near future. In addition, new housing developments are providing additional parks, recreation and open spaces for everyone to enjoy as well. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 408-615-2260.

**Serve on the Salary Setting Commission:** Santa Clara residents are encouraged to apply to serve on the Salary Setting Commission. This commission will set the compensation for the Mayor and City Council. The elected City Clerk was recently added to the purview of the Salary Setting Commission by the adoption of Ordinance No. 1983. The City Council is also considering an ordinance to add the elected Police Chief's compensation to this commission's duties. The Civil Service Commission will appoint five members to the Salary Setting Commission for a term beginning Jan. 1, 2019. It's a four-year term. However, for the first

Page 1



**City of  
Santa Clara**  
The Center of What's Possible

commission, two members will be appointed for two-year terms and three members will be appointed for four-year terms. Commissioners must be Santa Clara residents.

Applications are due to the City Clerk's Office by Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018 at 5 p.m. Interviews will be conducted at the 6 p.m. Civil Service Commission meeting on Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018 in the Council Chambers, 1500 Warburton Ave. Santa Clara. Applications and eligibility requirements are available on the [City website](#) or in person at the City Clerk's office, 1500 Warburton Ave. Santa Clara, Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For questions about the application process, email the City Clerk's Office at [clerk@santaclaraca.gov](mailto:clerk@santaclaraca.gov) or call 408-615-2220.

**Volunteer as a Reserve Firefighter:** Being a reserve firefighter is an opportunity to participate in our community. Reserve firefighters learn about the various areas of the City. The Santa Clara Fire Department Reserves provides training and on-the-job experience. If you are interested in firefighting, sign up today. Learn about the requirements and [application/selection process](#).

**Community Grant Program:** The City of Santa Clara launched the Community Grant Program on Oct. 1. Under the City Community Grant Policy, this program supports youth and community-related events and activities. The City's existing Championship Team Fund Program has been incorporated into the new Community Grant Program. For more information, visit [santaclaraca.gov/communitygrant](http://santaclaraca.gov/communitygrant).

**Silicon Valley Power Scholarships:** Santa Clara students interested in a career in energy are eligible to apply for Silicon Valley Power's annual \$5,000 scholarship and \$2,000 technical grant. The application period opened Oct. 1 and the deadline to apply is Dec. 17, 2018. Additional information can be found at [www.siliconvalleypower.com/scholarship](http://www.siliconvalleypower.com/scholarship). For questions, please contact Voula Brown at 408-615-6604.

**New Traffic Signal at Stevens Creek Blvd. and Henry Ave.:** Segments of Stevens Creek Blvd. are jointly owned and operated by the cities of Santa Clara and San José. On Sept. 19, Santa Clara and San José jointly activated a new traffic signal at the intersection of Stevens Creek Blvd. and Henry Ave. The traffic signal was installed by the City of San José and funded by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission One Bay Area Grant (OBAG). San José conducted outreach with stakeholders from both cities, designed improvements with feedback from the City of Santa Clara and constructed this project at no cost to the City of Santa Clara. Through a joint maintenance agreement, the City of San José will operate and maintain this new traffic signal.

Due to the unique configuration of the intersection:

- North and South Henry avenues are offset with only left- and right-hand turns permitted.
- A new Flashing Yellow Arrow signal is being used to draw attention to pedestrians and conflicting vehicles.
- Motorists approaching Stevens Creek Boulevard from Henry Avenue will see a flashing yellow arrow indication instead of a typical green arrow when making a turn.
- A flashing yellow arrow indicates that motorists are required to yield to pedestrians crossing the street and to oncoming vehicular traffic.

To learn more about how motorists should treat the new flashing yellow signal, view the [informational flyer](#). For more information, please contact Public Works at 408-615-3000.

**Residential Recycling Issues:** The City of Santa Clara has received a substantial increase in complaints about missed residential recycling service over the last three months. Staff is working with the residential curbside recycling program contractor, Recology, to resolve service issues. Your feedback is important to us. To report any service issues, call Public Works at 408-615-3080, submit an issue [online](#) or download the [MySantaClara](#) app.

**Rain Barrel Rebates Now Available:** Rain Barrel Rebates are now available to City of Santa Clara residents. Eligible rain barrels must be purchased on or after March 20, 2018 and have a minimum of 50 gallon storage capacity. Rebates will be available for up to \$100 per residential utility account. Applications will require an original receipt with date of purchase as well as photos of installed barrel(s). Visit the [City website](#) for detailed rain barrel rebate information. To receive rain barrel rebate guides and applications via email, email [waterrebates@santaclaraca.gov](mailto:waterrebates@santaclaraca.gov). For more information, call Water & Sewer at 408-615-2000.

**Straw Ban:** On Sept. 20, 2018, Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 1884 into law, which prohibits full-service restaurants from providing single-use plastic straws unless customers explicitly request them. The new law does not apply to fast food restaurants or paper straws. The new law is a step towards reducing the amount of plastic litter that impairs waterways and negatively affects wildlife. The new law goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2019. Restaurants will receive a notice of violation for the first and second violations. Any subsequent violation for automatically providing plastic straws would result in a fine of \$25 for each day the full-service restaurant is in violation, but not to exceed an annual total of \$300. City staff has begun extensive outreach to the Santa Clara business community about compliance. For more information, contact Public Works at 408-615-3080.



**San Tomas and Monroe Community Garden Tours:**

Starting on Sept. 17, members began moving into assigned garden beds at the San Tomas and Monroe Community Garden. The City of Santa Clara is working on a variety of programs and classes to offer at the garden in the near future. If you are interested in open garden times and tours, please contact Garden Coordinator Derek Bryant at 408-615-3740.

**George F. Haines International Swim Center (ISC)**

**Maintenance:** During the scheduled maintenance closure on Oct. 1-3, additional pedestal showers were installed at ISC. Two boilers received preventive maintenance service and anti-slip treatments were applied to areas on the pool deck. As previously reported, the City has evaluated areas affected by pipe leaks and water damage, and is in the process of determining the



method and timeline of repair. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 408-615-2260.

**Central Park Library Video Live Stream Upgrades:** This week, the Central Park Library completed upgrades in the Margie Edinger and Redwood Community Rooms. The upgrades include new cameras which will allow live stream capabilities for City-sponsored meetings held at Central Park Library. The live stream broadcasts will enhance the engagement process with the public on the City's cable channel, and Facebook and YouTube channels. For more information, contact Central Park Library at 408-615-2900.

**Career Online High School:** Santa Clara City Library will award six scholarships through the Career Online High School program, which allows adults the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and a career certificate through a self-paced accredited online education program. The program is available 24/7, offering the flexibility that adults with busy schedules need. The program has to be completed in 18 months, but can be finished in as little as 5 months with high school coursework credit. Applicants need to be 19 years or older, live/work in Santa Clara and commit to 10 hours/week to online learning. The program is made possible by grants from the California State Library and the Santa Clara City Library Foundation and Friends. For more information and to apply, contact Read Santa Clara at 408-615-2956 or visit [www.santaclaraca.gov/cohs](http://www.santaclaraca.gov/cohs).

**Public Power Week:** Public Power Utilities celebrate Power Week nationwide Oct. 7-13. Silicon Valley Power (SVP) along with more than 2,000 public power systems are commemorating the role they play in shaping the nation's economy and social fabric. Public power is part of America's democratic tradition that values local decision-making about community public services. In 1896, our residents chose to have a public power system provide for their electricity needs on a not-for-profit basis, rather than allowing a private power company to make a profit on our electricity use. In celebration, SVP will be out at the Northside Library on Oct. 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and at the Santa Clara Central Park Library on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. to share information on electric safety and energy efficiency and answer any questions customer may have.

On Oct. 3, SVP staff participated in Santa Clara University's Electrical Engineering Industry and Career Event to introduce students to career possibilities working for an electric utility. A representative from the City's Human Resources Department joined SVP to provide information about the City's hiring process and benefits of working for local government. Information on SVP's scholarship program was also provided to interested students.

During the week of Sept. 29, the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at its annual conference. This is especially noteworthy for Silicon Valley Power and the City of Santa Clara, as former City Manager Donald Von Raesfeld was one of the main drivers in forming the agency and Silicon Valley Power was a founding member. NCPA's first office was located in Santa Clara before later relocating to Roseville.

**North County Gun Buyback Event:** The Santa Clara Police Department participated in the North County Gun Buyback event on Sept. 29 in Sunnyvale. The event was hosted by the



Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. The overall goal of the gun buyback event was to reduce the availability of unwanted, unsafe and illegal firearms in communities by providing a safe and anonymous opportunity to dispose of them. The event was a great success – 567 firearms in total were surrendered. The firearms will be destroyed, except for those that are lost or stolen, which will be returned to the owner. For more information, contact the Santa Clara Police Department at 408-615-4700.



**Santa Clara Senior Center:** With September designated as National Disaster Preparedness Month, the Senior Center held emergency preparedness educational programs during *Active Aging Week*. On Sept. 25, 105 participants learned the risks of disasters and what to do, and received items to build a take-home starter kit. Participants learned about disaster preparedness by playing a “14 Questions Wheel” quiz challenge. The Santa Clara Fire Department also donated Files of Life, an emergency medical information card. The session was facilitated in partnership with the Senior Center Health and Wellness Program, RN staff and University of San Francisco student nurse interns. This activity was funded by a generous donation from the Santa Clara Women’s League. For more information, contact the Senior Center at 408-615-3170.

**Steps for Success:** On Sept. 29, the Santa Clara Police personnel participated in “Steps for Success” at several Santa Clara schools. “Steps for Success” is a Santa Clara Rotary Club program that provides a new pair of shoes to school children in need. Over 500 pairs of new shoes were given out to kids. In addition, the Santa Clara Library Foundation provided each child with a new book and the Santa Clara Library bookmobile made a visit. For more information, contact the Police Department at 408-615-4700.

**Chief’s Advisory Committee (CAC):** The Santa Clara Police Department (SCPD) values its partnership with the community and recognizes public engagement contributes toward a successful law enforcement agency. The CAC will advise Police Chief Mike Sellers on issues, matters and public policies which influence or impact the ongoing relationship between SCPD and the community. Thirty-two members of the community applied to become members of the 15-person committee. The Chief’s Office conducted interviews this week and will appoint 15 members of the committee in anticipation of the first meeting on Oct. 15. For more information, contact the Police Department at 408-615-4700.

**Tasman East Specific Plan:** The Tasman East Specific Plan will be presented at the Planning Commission on Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 1500 Warbuton Ave. The Commission will make recommendations to the City Council on the draft Specific Plan, associated Environmental Impact Report, and proposed amendments to the General Plan and Zoning Code. As proposed, the Tasman East Specific Plan enables the redevelopment of a 45-acre industrial area bounded by Tasman Drive to the south, the Guadalupe River to the east, the Santa Clara Golf Course to the north, and Lafayette Street to the west. With its close proximity to Lick Mill Light Rail Station, the proposed Tasman East Specific Plan includes a land use framework to develop the area into a transit-oriented neighborhood with up to 4,500

residential units and 106,000 square feet of retail space. The draft Specific Plan also proposes a new publicly accessible community room and 10 acres of open space with connections to the Guadalupe River trail and other parks in the greater North Santa Clara area. For more information on the draft Tasman East Specific Plan, visit the [City website](#).

**Lawrence Station Area at 2904 Corvin Dr. Affordable Housing Project:** The Housing Trust Silicon Valley, a nonprofit based in San José, has utilized the Supportive Housing Fund, a joint fund with the County of Santa Clara, to provide a \$10 million acquisition loan for Abode Services to acquire 2904 Corvin Dr. in Santa Clara. The project is anticipated to create 144 affordable homes. The development fits in with the 2016 Santa Clara County Measure A objectives to provide affordable housing for veterans, seniors, low income individuals and other vulnerable populations. At least half of the homes will be set aside for residents with special needs and the balance will be for households earning at or below 60 percent of AMI. The property itself has transit-oriented development features as it close to a bus stop and about a 15-minute walk from Lawrence Station. The project is currently in the City's land use entitlement review process. For more information, contact Community Development at 408-615-2450.

**Coresite SV8 Data Center:** Coresite has submitted a building permit application for the SV8 Data Center at 3045 Stender Way. The project includes demolition of an existing one-story industrial building and construction of a new four-story data center with 175,670 square foot floor area. The construction cost for the project is valued at \$32,000,000. The project is under code compliance review by City departments. For more information, contact Community Development at 408-615-2450.

**Santa Clara Square:** The Irvine Company has filed building permit applications for two new six-story parking garages which are part of Santa Clara Square development. One garage will be 231,752 square feet at 3238 Scott Blvd. and the other one will be 182,237 square feet located at 3355 Octavius Dr. The total construction cost for the two garages are valued at \$45,000,000. City departments are conducting code compliance reviews. For more information, contact Community Development at 408-615-2450.

## **CURRENT JOB OPENINGS**

Join the Center of What's Possible! The City is currently hiring for the following positions; to view job descriptions and for information on how to apply, visit: [www.santaclaraca.gov/jobs](http://www.santaclaraca.gov/jobs).

- As-Needed Instructor/Lifeguard
- As-Needed Literacy Technology Assistant
- Associate Engineer (Civil)
- Electrician
- Energy Conservation Specialist
- Journey Lineworker
- Laborer
- Per Diem Police Officer Special Events
- Police Officer
- Principal Electric Utility Engineer
- Public Safety Dispatcher II
- Purchasing Clerk
- Recreation Instructor
- Recruit Police Officer
- Senior Civil Engineer
- Senior Electric Utility-Engineer-Generation

**RESPONSE TO COUNCIL INQUIRIES/FOLLOW-UP**

**Pavement Maintenance Work:** The City is currently performing pavement maintenance work on Pruneridge Avenue, between Winchester Boulevard and San Tomas Expressway. The maintenance work is a multi-phased process and the initial phases of the roadway treatment are being completed now. In coming weeks, work will include application of slurry seal. The final slurry seal is currently scheduled for the second week of October. Once the final slurry seal is complete, the roadway striping will be applied. The contractor has placed temporary tabs down to delineate the travel lanes in the interim and the City will monitor these to make sure they are adequate. Pruneridge Avenue was in critical need of maintenance and repair which will be completed this year to prevent the street from further falling into a state that would require extensive maintenance. Delaying the maintenance project would have led to significantly higher maintenance costs in the future.

There has been community discussion regarding potential lane reductions and bike lanes along Pruneridge Avenue. However, based on the current roadway conditions, maintenance work had to begin. In terms of the potential bike lanes on Pruneridge Avenue, as well as the concept of a lane reduction, the City recognizes residents may support the possible installation of bicycle facilities on Pruneridge Avenue from Pomeroy Avenue to Winchester Boulevard. The City has not made final decisions regarding reconfiguring Pruneridge Avenue from four lanes to three lanes to facilitate installation of a bicycle lane. This project is unfunded and staff is working to identify possible grant funds to study different options to complete this missing segment. Once funding is secured, the City will look at possible alternatives. The input received and feasible alternatives will be presented to the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for approval. The City Council will determine whether or not to move forward. The public will have several opportunities to provide their input and feedback during the study, approval process and, if it moves forward, during the design phase. At the Council meeting on Oct. 9, the item will be on the agenda to discuss the topic. For more information, contact Public Works at 408-615-3000.

**LEVI'S STADIUM RELATED UPDATES**

On Sept. 29, the Beyoncé and Jay-Z concert was held at Levi's Stadium. There were no significant police events at the concert.

**Upcoming Stadium Events**

October 13	San Jose State vs. Army West Point
October 21	NFL Game: 49ers (Los Angeles)
November 1	NFL Game: 49ers (Oakland)
November 12	NFL Game: 49ers (New York)
November 18	49ers Golden Heart Run

November 30 College Football: 2018 Pac-12 Championship

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

**Halloween Safety Fair:** The Santa Clara Police Department joins Senator Bob Wieckowski, Assemblymember Kansen Chu and Santa Clara County Supervisor Ken Yeager to co-host a Halloween Safety Resource Fair on Oct. 10 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., Redwood Room. Enjoy free treats and resources and learn how to have a safe Halloween. For more information, contact the Police Department at 408-615-4700.

**Kids Rock Event:** The Kids Rock event will be held on Oct. 12 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. An event for grade school kids (K-5) includes bounce house fun, arts, crafts, games, food and tons of fun. It will be held at the Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center (YAC), 2450 Cabrillo Avenue. To register, please contact the YAC at 408-615-3760.

**Santa Clara City Library Comic Con:** Join the community on Oct. 13, for the 3rd annual Comic Con event at Central Park Library. Doors open at 10 a.m. and the fun will last until 4 p.m. The Library is bringing together Bay Area artists, comic book shops, cosplayers, makers, authors and more for a day of panels and workshops from special guests, activities like tabletop gaming, anime showings, and hands-on crafts for all ages. Come in costume! All ages are welcome. Get more information and free tickets [online](#).

**Santa Clara University Students Partner with the Santa Clara Senior Center:** Beginning Oct. 9 through Nov. 14, the Senior Center's Health and Wellness Program, in partnership with Santa Clara University (SCU) student volunteers, will spend time throughout the day at the Senior Center. As part of their "Psychology of Aging" class, students will seek to learn about older adults and their experiences through shared activities. Santa Clara residents can drop by the SCU Table at the Senior Center, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, located at 1303 Fremont St. For more information, contact the Senior Center at 408-615-3170.

**Tip-A-Cop for Special Olympics:** On Oct. 18, from 5 to 9 p.m., members of the Santa Clara Police Department will volunteer as celebrity wait staff in exchange for "tips" at the California Pizza Kitchen, 3535 Monroe St. Funds will be raised for Special Olympics Northern California. (Note: This event was previously scheduled for Sept. 28). For more information, contact the Police Department at 408-615-4700.

**Environmental Day:** On Oct. 20, residents can participate in Environmental Day at Recology South Bay offices located at 1675 Rogers Ave. in San Jose from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Residents must provide a current collection bill and personal identification to verify eligibility. No appointment is required. For questions and a list of approved items, contact Recology South Bay at 408-970-5100.

**Children's Halloween Party:** On Oct. 31 from 3 to 6 p.m., come celebrate the annual Children's Halloween Party at Walter E. Schmidt Youth Activity Center (YAC), 2450 Cabrillo Avenue. Join us for this free event that includes carnival games, bounce houses, arts and crafts,



entertainment, costume contest, and tons of treats! Refreshments will be sold by the Youth Commission. Pre-school age children through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to participate and everyone is encouraged to come in costume. Volunteer opportunities are available. For more information, call the YAC at 408-615-3760 or view the [Halloween Flyer Here](#).

**Parks and Recreation Programs and Classes:** Fall classes are underway and there is something for everyone from fitness to cooking, afterschool enrichments, dance and theater, aquatics, gymnastics, and more. To register for classes and programs, visit the Community Recreation Center, 969 Kiely Blvd. or call 408-615-3140. Registration is available online at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/santaclara/>. In continuing to address program needs of Santa Clara residents of all ages, the City of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation will open a Request for Proposal process in the future to encourage vendors who offer recreation, sports, enrichment programs, and camps. For inquiries, please call 408-615-3140.



**Roberta Jones Junior Theatre Begins 50<sup>th</sup> Season with *Pinocchio!*** Roberta Jones Junior Theatre debuts the first production of our 50<sup>th</sup> Season – *Pinocchio!* Performances will be held at the Mary Louise Mello Auditorium at the Community Recreation Center (CRC), 969 Kiely Blvd., on Oct. 26-28 and Nov. 2-4. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children (ages 3-18), and can be purchased online at [www.RJJT.org](http://www.RJJT.org), or in person at the CRC. For more information, please contact Kevin Cornelius, Recreation Supervisor, at 408-615-3161 or [kcornelius@santaclaraca.gov](mailto:kcornelius@santaclaraca.gov).

## UPCOMING COUNCIL CALENDAR/AGENDA ITEMS

Visit the Tentative Meeting Agenda Calendar for dates of upcoming Council Study Sessions, Joint Council/Commission meetings, as well as Council Public Hearing and General Business agenda items online at [Legislative Public Meetings](#) on the City's website. As you can see, while tentative and subject to change, it provides key policy items that the Council/Board will need to dedicate time to deliberate and that may take considerable time during the upcoming meetings.

Deanna J. Santana  
City Manager