



City Hall News

From District 1 City Councilmember **Kathy Watanabe**

FEBRUARY 2022 E-NEWSLETTER

City Council Priority Setting Session

The City Council Priority Setting Session will be held virtually on Zoom, **Feb. 8**, at 2:30 p.m. during the regular City Council meeting. Learn more about the Budget Update and 10-Year Financial Forecast, progress of ongoing Council priorities and City accomplishments, and the State of the Organization. The City Council will discuss critical priorities and how to balance future priorities against the City's current resources. For ways to watch, provide public comment, and to view the meeting materials, visit SantaClaraCa.gov/CouncilPriorities.



Free COVID-19 Testing & Get Vaccinated

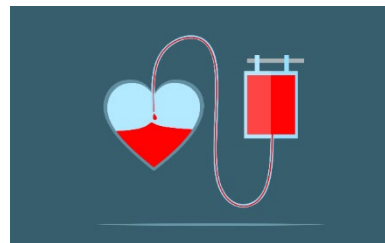
In partnership with the County of Santa Clara, the City hosts free COVID-19 testing at Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Ave. The next testing dates are Feb. 9 and 23, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Typically, 3-7 days before the testing date, [schedule an appointment](https://SCCFreeTest.org) online. Visit SCCFreeTest.org for countywide testing locations. Make an appointment for COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters at SCCFreeVax.org or MyTurnCA.gov for all those eligible.

The County of Santa Clara is Providing Free At-Home COVID-19 Antigen Tests

Those who live, work, or attend school in Santa Clara County can sign up online, then pick up tests from one of four distribution sites. Schedule to pick up your at-home COVID-19 antigen tests within Santa Clara County by visiting SCCFreeTest.org.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is facing a national blood crisis – its worst blood shortage in over a decade, posing a concerning risk to patient care. Donate blood today by visiting RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule your blood or platelet donation appointment.



Residential and Business Alarm Permits

The City transitioned to a third party for management of the Residential and Business Alarm Permit program in January 2021. As a result, you may receive a letter on City of Santa Clara letterhead referencing establishing an online account at <https://www.crywolfservices.com/santaclaraca/>. This is legit! If you have received a letter, set up an account on the portal or call customer service at 877-665-2983. A summary of the City of Santa Clara's transition to a third-party vendor for management of this program is [available online](#).

How and Where to Report Emergency and Non-Emergency Situations

While the Santa Clara Police Department are actively using Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor, Nixle, and Twitter, staff are NOT monitoring these sites for emergencies. Instead, Public Safety Dispatchers work 24/7, 365 and have the ability to deploy police, fire or medical resources as necessary. Dial 9-1-1 in an emergency or 408-615-5580 for non-emergency situations.

2022 Santa Clara County Homeless Point-in-Time Count

The 2022 Santa Clara Point-in-Time Count is a count of all populations of person's experiencing homelessness. The Count is a requirement for receiving federal homeless assistance funds and provides critical data used to understand homelessness locally. The count is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 23 and Thursday, Feb. 24, 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/SantaClaraPIT2022>.



Message from Kathy Watanabe
City Councilmember
District 1

Hello District 1 Residents!

I hope your New Year is off to a good start. It is good to have this opportunity to reach out to many of you who may not be on social media. I do a lot of communicating using Facebook and NextDoor. Please feel free to follow me on Facebook at Kathy Watanabe, Councilmember, District 1, City of Santa Clara or Kathy Carolan Watanabe. On NextDoor, you can find me as Kathy Watanabe in the Rivermark neighborhood.



Srivalli and Rama Chittory.

One thing I know about my constituents is that they are very caring and always looking for opportunities to support others. This was true this past Christmas when Rama Chittory and her daughter, Srivalli, asked how they could make someone's holidays bright. I suggested making holiday cards for our Santa Clara Fire Department (SCFD) as they have had a very busy year and so appreciate the community they serve.

* Story continued on page 2.

Accessing City Services

To stay informed about current City services and programs, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/AccessSantaClara.

Message from Kathy Watanabe, City Councilmember District 1



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

* Story continued from page 1.

They went above and beyond creating 130 handmade holiday cards to share with each member of our SCFD. Unfortunately, the Chittory family had a vacation planned just before Christmas so Mayor Lisa Gillmor and I delivered the cards to all 9 SCFD stations with cookies. There were smiles everywhere and many thanks to the Chittory family. If you have an idea to help others and need some guidance, I am always happy to help give assistance.



From January 18-21, 2022, I attended the Mayors Conference in Washington, DC with Mayor Gillmor. It was a last minute trip when another conference cancelled due to COVID. For the record, I paid for my attendance and it was money well spent. The conference was an opportunity to hear members of President Biden's cabinet talk about the recent approval of the America Rescue Plan and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act that will allocate much needed monies to cities across the country. There was much discussion about making infrastructure better and safer which was music to my ears. In my time on the City Council, I have heard many complaints about pedestrian and bike safety. Some areas have been addressed but there is much more. Knowing there will be important infrastructure dollars coming to our City to help advance some of the goals to make our streets and roads safer is encouraging.

Finally, the City Council will be have the [2022 Priority Setting Session](#) on Tuesday, February 8, via Zoom. There will be discussions on potential ballot measures for June and November, 2022, COVID impacts to the City, budget discussions and the 2022 Council Priorities Strategy. The public is welcome to attend as well and give input during the meeting. Please watch for additional information on the [City's Facebook page](#) and [NextDoor](#).

Stay safe and I hope to see you soon!

Kathy Watanabe

Around the Town

News, events, and happenings in Santa Clara.

City of Santa Clara Tasman Garage Closure

The City of Santa Clara Tasman garage, located at 2525 Tasman Dr., will be closed for routine maintenance Feb. 14 through Feb. 22. There will be no access to public EV charging stations at the Tasman garage Feb. 1 to Feb. 22. For a complete list of alternative EV charging stations in Santa Clara, visit SiliconValleyPower.com/EV.



Shared Mobility Update (Bicycle and Scooter Share)

On Dec. 7, 2021, the City Council adopted an ordinance and draft regulations for a new Shared Mobility Program which will allow up to 1,000 bicycles and 2,000 scooters to be rented and used within the City. The period for prospective operators to submit applications to the City is from Feb. 1 to March 31. If selected, operators will be issued a permit to deploy bicycles and scooters throughout the City starting in July 2022. For more information, visit: SantaClaraCA.gov/SharedMobilityProgram.

New Composting Law

Beginning in 2022, a new recycling requirement for all Californians took effect. This new “composting law” requires every jurisdiction to provide organic waste collection services for all residents to reduce the amount of organic waste sent to landfills. Organic waste includes food waste, vegetation, organic textiles, wood, and paper products. The decomposition of organic waste once it’s in the landfill is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions. The goal of this new regulation aims to reduce landfill methane emissions which will reduce the impacts of climate change. City of Santa Clara residents are already compliant with the law and no sorting or additional containers are required. For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanSC.



Extra Cardboard Curbside Collection Reminder

Cardboard should be broken down and folded before being placed inside the blue recycle cart with the lid closed. Extra cardboard that cannot fit inside the blue cart should be flattened & bundled with twine, string, or packaging tape into 4’ by 4’ sections. Place the bundled cardboard next to the recycling cart for collection on your service day. To learn more about materials accepted through weekly curbside recycling collection, check out the Recycling Guide at SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanSC.

Silicon Valley Power Sponsoring Induction Cooking Classes

Silicon Valley Power is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving the environment, and supporting energy efficient technologies. The utility recently upgraded Santa Clara Unified School District’s Adult Education cooking classroom with induction cooktops. Silicon Valley Power is also sponsoring cooking classes throughout the year, starting [Feb. 10, 2022](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/AdultEd), through Santa Clara Adult Education so that students can try out the induction technology while learning to



New Business Electrification Programs Now Available from Silicon Valley Power

Rebates of \$1,000 are now available to replace an electric water heater with a heat pump water heater, and when switching from a natural gas water heater, a bonus rebate of an additional \$1,000 is available. For more information, visit SiliconValleyPower.com/HPWH. Bonus rebates are also available for a variety of food service equipment, including electric combination ovens, steam cookers, convection ovens, fryers, and more. Visit SiliconValleyPower.com/FoodService for more information.

cook new recipes. Santa Clara residents can register using our discount code “Induction” to receive \$50 off the regular cost of the class. Registration limited to one class per resident through this 12-class series. For more information and to register, visit SantaClaraAdultEd.org/Class.

Youth Commission

The application for the Youth Commission’s upcoming 2022/23 term will be available on Monday, Feb. 14. Interested youth ages 12-19, who reside within the City of Santa Clara, are encouraged to apply. For more information and to download the application visit SantaClaraCA.gov/YouthCommission and click on the “Application and FAQs” link.

Adult Sports

The City of Santa Clara is excited to partner with ZOG Sports to offer Adult Soccer and Flag Football leagues. Whether you are an individual, or part of a team, you are welcome to join in on the fun. All games will take place at the Reed & Grant Sports Park, 750 Reed St. Visit zogsports.com/sj to register for the winter. Additional sports will be offered in summer! Contact Angelique Wilson at ANWilson@SantaClaraCA.gov if you have any questions.

Students of Service

Students of Service (S.O.S) is a high school volunteer program for students aged 14-18 years old who live in Santa Clara or attend a school within the Santa Clara Unified School District. Students will have the opportunity to earn community service hours to fulfill their graduation requirement and help beautify Santa Clara. The new session starts on Monday, Feb. 7, 2022! Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet to register.

Activity Pass

Stay moving this winter with drop-in activities. Purchase your Activity Pass now for access to three amazing programs: Group Exercise at the Community Center, Lap Swim at the International Swim Center and Drop-in Play at the Reed & Grant Sports Park. Learn more at SantaClaraCA.gov/ActivityPass.

Holiday Lunch at the Senior Center

The Senior Center thanks the Santa Clara Women’s League for their gracious hosting of the annual December Senior Nutrition Holiday Meal at the Senior Center. 125 Senior Nutrition patrons received a hot turkey lunch with stuffing, mashed potatoes and pumpkin pie. Patrons enjoyed listening to live music provided by members from the Golden Tones.

EVENTS, MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

Neighborhood University Relations Committee

Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, 6:00 p.m. The Neighborhood-University Relations Committee (NURC) was established in 1990 and created a forum for on-going communication and problem solving among City officials, neighborhoods, property owners and Santa Clara University officials and students. NURC meetings are held three (3) times annually on Monday evenings. Meetings are open to the public. The upcoming agenda will be posted [online](#) three days prior to the meeting.

Pruneridge Avenue Complete Streets Plan

The City of Santa Clara will host the final round of community meetings for the Pruneridge Avenue Complete Streets Plan project in February. The goal of the Plan is to study and identify potential bicycle and pedestrian improvements on a 2.2-mile segment of Pruneridge Ave. from Pomeroy Ave. to Winchester Blvd. The City will present results of traffic and parking analyses for draft concepts developed to improve walking and bicycling along the corridor which include the potential for parking removal or lane reductions. The public is invited to attend the following upcoming online community meetings.

- Feb. 9, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. ([Register](#))
- Feb. 12, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. ([Register](#))

For more information, visit SantaClaraCA.gov/PruneridgeAvePlan or contact Carol Shariat, Project Manager, at PruneridgeAvePlan@AltaGO.com or at 408-320-7060.



Independent Redistricting Commission

Redistricting occurs every 10 years after each U.S. Census. Santa Clara is required to consider an update to the boundaries of its six districts based on the 2020 U.S. Census data. The City's Independent Redistricting Commission is responsible for conducting the redistricting process. The Commission will adopt a new City Council District map no later than April 17, 2022 based on Census 2020. Upcoming Commission meetings are scheduled for **Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, at 6 p.m.** and **Monday, Feb. 28, 2022, at 6 p.m.** At the meetings, the public may propose draft plans and provide input. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/Redistricting for details on how to participate in the meetings.



Virtual Community Meeting on Assembly Bill 481 Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition and Use

The Santa Clara Police Department will be facilitating a Virtual Community Meeting to discuss AB 481: Military Equipment Funding, Acquisition and Use on **Thursday, Feb. 10, 6:30 - 8 p.m.** The meeting topics will include:

- Purpose of the new legislation
- Definition of military equipment
- SCPD's military equipment inventory
- SCPD's proposed equipment funding, acquisition and use policy
- Pending annual report requirement
- Community engagement and public access to materials

The draft AB 481 policy, Santa Clara Police Department equipment inventory, concern and complaint process, virtual community meeting details, including Zoom log-in information, are available at <https://bit.ly/3JS5Bnj>.

Kids Rock

Join us for the next Kids Rock event on **Friday, Feb. 11!** K-5th grade kids get ready to hang out with your best buds with a special night of activities that include recreation games, arts and crafts, music, inflatable slide, and more! Kids Rock will be held at the Santa Clara Youth Activity Center, 2450 Cabrillo Ave. from 6-8:30 p.m. Visit SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet to register.



Downtown Community Task Force (DCTF) Meeting #26

The next DCTF meeting will be held via Zoom on [Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022, at 6 p.m.](#) DCTF is an advisory, non-voting appointed body that is meeting over the course of the Downtown Precise Plan planning process to provide input on the vision, land use, circulation, and urban design aspects of the Plan, as well as key policy issues. To view past DCTF meetings, including meeting materials and video recordings, please see the [DCTF webpage](#).

Seussical Tickets Available!

Roberta Jones Junior Theatre production of Seussical, a fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza, bringing all of our favorite Dr. Seuss characters to life. The colorful characters transport us from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus to the invisible world of the Whos. Seussical is fun for the whole family! Visit RJJT.org for performance dates and to purchase tickets.



February Recreation Classes

Looking to stay connected with others, be active or learn something new this winter? The Parks & Recreation Department has you covered with a variety of recreation classes and activities for all ages. Choose from art, dance, piano, soccer, theatre and more. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/RecClasses](https://www.santacruzca.gov/RecClasses) for the Winter 2022 Activity Guide.

Community Meeting for 275 Saratoga Avenue Senior/Assisted Living/Memory Care Project

The applicant, Swenson Builders, will be hosting a virtual community meeting on **Wednesday, March 2, 6 p.m.** to share their proposed rezoning at 275 Saratoga Avenue to construct a 166,892 square foot 4-story senior assisted living / memory care facility over a sub-grade parking garage with 73 parking spaces and site improvements. The Project includes demolition of the existing 30,050 square foot 2-story office building. City Staff will be in attendance to receive feedback provided on the proposal. Visit the [project's webpage](#) closer to the community meeting for virtual participation information.

Recology South Bay Hosting an Environmental Day for Santa Clara Residents

Saturday, March 5 at 1675 Rogers Ave. in San Jose from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Environmental Day is designed to promote recycling, reuse, and diversion of usable materials from the landfill. Residents are invited to bring the following accepted materials:

- Documents for confidential shredding (two box limit)
- E-waste (computers, monitors, printers, etc.)
- Universal waste (batteries, cell phones, CFLs and fluorescent tubes)
- Clothing (in good condition for donation)



Residents must provide a current utility bill and personal identification to verify eligibility. No appointment is required. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed by staff, and all residents must wear a face covering when entering the property. To maintain physical distancing, residents will be required to remove materials from their vehicles. Environmental Day is subject to all California Department of Public Health and Santa Clara County Public Health orders and guidelines. Should such guidelines or orders change, the event shall be modified to remain in compliance. For questions, contact Recology South Bay at 408-970-5100.

Stevens Creek Boulevard and Winchester Boulevard Pavement Rehabilitation and Bike Lanes Project

The City of Santa Clara and the City of San Jose are working on a joint project to rehabilitate pavement on Stevens Creek Boulevard between Stern Avenue and Interstate 880 and Winchester Boulevard between Newhall Street and Stevens Creek Boulevard. It is anticipated that the project will take place during summer of 2022. In addition to pavement work, both cities are considering the installation of new bike lanes on Stevens Creek Boulevard and Winchester Boulevard. Adding bike lanes on Winchester Boulevard would require the removal of on-street parking. In March 2022, the City of Santa Clara and the City of San Jose will host two community meetings to present the options for bike lanes along Winchester Boulevard, discuss parking removal and gather community input. For meeting information, visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/WinchesterBikeLane](https://www.santacruzca.gov/WinchesterBikeLane) or contact Ralph Garcia, Senior Civil Engineer, at RGarcia1@santaclaraca.gov or at 408-615-3026.

Save the Date for National Night Out

August 2, 2022. Registration will open in May 2022. For details, log onto [SantaClaraCA.gov/NationalNightOut](https://www.santacruzca.gov/NationalNightOut).

Current Job Openings

Join the Center of What's Possible! View job opportunities and for information on how to apply, visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/jobs](https://www.santacruzca.gov/jobs).

Employment Services

NOVA Works job centers are open for in-person services. Visit the website at [NovaWorks.org](https://www.novaworks.org) for more information on free services available for job training and assistance Santa Clara residents and businesses.

Apply to Be a Crossing Guard

Crossing Guards play a vital role in community safety! Crossing Guards help children safely cross the street on their way to and from school. However, our well-trained colleagues are also present to:

- Discourage children from behaving in an unsafe manner near traffic, such as darting into the street without looking or crossing against a traffic signal;
- Encourage children to walk their bicycle or scooter in crosswalks;
- Use existing gaps in traffic to help students cross safely. When the natural traffic flow does not allow enough time for children to safely cross a street, a Crossing Guard may create gaps by stopping traffic temporarily;
- Alert motorists that pedestrians of unsafe traffic safety behaviors; and,
- Observe and report any incidents or conditions that present a potential safety hazard.

Crossing Guards generally work approximately 10-15 hours per week in an as-needed, non-benefitted capacity. Applicants must have a valid California driver's license and be at least 21 years of age. Hours and locations vary. The rate of pay is \$16.40 - \$17.21 per hour. An application is available at [www.SantaClaraCA.gov/HR](https://www.santacruzca.gov/HR). For more information, contact Community Service Officer Taylor Carpenter at (408) 615-4875 or tcarpenter@santaclaraca.gov.

Parks & Recreation Currently Hiring for Part-Time Positions

Do you like working within your community and making a difference? If yes, we have positions available for Lifeguards/Instructors, Recreation Instructors, Recreation Leaders, Recreation Office Assistants and Recreation Specialists. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/Jobs](https://www.santacruzca.gov/Jobs) to view job descriptions and learn how to apply.

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Report Concerns via Mobile App

Did you know you can report concerns with **MySantaClara** app? Download the app or submit request online at [SantaClaraCA.gov/mysantaclaraca](https://www.santacruzca.gov/mysantaclaraca).

For More Information

View past issues of City Hall News at [SantaClaraCA.gov/CityHallNews](https://www.santacruzca.gov/CityHallNews).