



# City Hall News

From District 1 City Councilmember **Kathy Watanabe**

MAY 2022 E-NEWSLETTER

## Message from New City Manager Rajeev Batra



Dear Santa Clarans!

Greetings from Rajeev Batra. I started my new role as City Manager for Santa Clara on April 6. You may remember me as I previously served as City Manager from April 2016 through September 2017. While the City searches for a permanent City

Manager, I am sincerely honored and excited to accept this role and help lead Santa Clara through this transitional period with a talented team of City employees. I want to thank the Mayor and City Council for placing their trust in me.

In addition to serving as your City Manager previously, I also served as your City Engineer and Director of Public Works for almost 15 years. In my role as Director of Public Works, I had the honor of working alongside a superb team of Department Directors and City staff, overseeing vital City infrastructure improvements, shaping our environmental programs, and reviewing many of the development projects that make up our cityscape today. I was also part of the team that oversaw the construction of Levi's Stadium that put Santa Clara on the US map.

Now, as we confront the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is yet more work to do. It is a unique privilege to lead this organization not once but twice. As City Manager, I am focused on guiding the City of Santa Clara back to a better fiscal footing, maintaining our exceptional City services, maintaining and building critical infrastructure such as streets and parks, continuing our mission of sustainable development, and looking to a brighter, positive future in Santa Clara.

Santa Clara is an incredible community, and City staff take great pride in providing essential and exceptional service. The City of Santa Clara is truly the Center of What's Possible.

Rajeev Batra

## Santa Clara Watering Restricted to 2 Days Per Week

Due to the ongoing severe drought in Santa Clara County and most of California, City Council passed Resolution 22-9077 on April 19, 2022, restricting outdoor watering to 2 days per week.



- Odd numbered addresses and sites with no addresses may water Monday and Thursday.
- Even numbered addresses may water Tuesday and Friday.

Please report water waste via the MySantaClara mobile app or the City's website: [Report Water Waste Form](#). Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/SaveOurWater](#) for home and business water conservation strategies.

## What's Working Water-Wise

Share your water-saving success with us so that we can spread the word through our community, moving us together toward a drought resilient future. Whether small-scale or large, targeted for kids or just kids at heart: whatever your conservation method, please email your water saving story to [Water@SantaClaraCA.gov](mailto:Water@SantaClaraCA.gov), subject: "Water Savings." Please keep submissions to 200 words or fewer; photos welcome. Throughout the spring, we will publish select stories in our newsletters (with author permission) to unite our community in striving to save our water for a better tomorrow.



## Message from Kathy Watanabe

City Councilmember  
District 1

Hello District 1 Residents!

April showers bring May flowers - and allergies. I am glad the Bay Area received a few needed showers this past month. The City of Santa Clara reminds us of these water saving requirements:

- Restrict outdoor watering to a maximum of **two (2) days per week** for all customers
- Odd numbered addresses and sites with no addresses can water: **Monday and Thursday**
- Even numbered addresses can water: **Tuesday and Friday**
- Irrigation is not allowed between the hours of 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Watering lawns is not allowed during or within 48 hours after measurable precipitation.

Also, washing any vehicle using a hose without an operating automatic shut-off valve (a squeeze trigger is an example of an automatic shut-off valve). You can pick up a free garden hose nozzle from the City's Water and Sewer Department to save water. Car washes are another option as they use recycled water.

\* Story continued on page 2.

## City of Santa Clara receives Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City Recognition and Growth Award

For its commitment to managing, expanding, and preserving our urban forest, the City of Santa Clara has been designated by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community 35 times in a row! In addition, Santa Clara was one of 15 California cities recently recognized with the prestigious Growth Award. This marks the 22-time Santa Clara has received this distinguished award. The Growth Award recognizes major milestones and annual activities that build sustainable community forestry programs. Santa Clara recognizes that a thriving urban forest offers many advantages to the community and that the trees we plant now show our commitment to the environment and future generations.

## Pruneridge Avenue Complete Streets Plan

On **Thursday, May 12, 6 to 7:30 p.m.**, the City will host an additional virtual community meeting for the Pruneridge Avenue Complete Streets Plan (Plan) project. The goal of the Plan is to study and identify potential bicycle and pedestrian improvements on a 2.2-mile segment of Pruneridge Avenue from Pomeroy Avenue to Winchester Boulevard. The City will present an additional draft concept developed to minimize congestion impacts and improve walking and bicycling along the corridor. The Plan's four draft concepts include options for parking removal or lane reductions. For more information on the project and the upcoming community meeting, please visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/PruneridgeAvePlan](#) or contact Carol Shariat, Project Manager, at [PruneridgeAvePlan@AltaGO.com](mailto:PruneridgeAvePlan@AltaGO.com) or at 408-320-7060.

## 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.

From April 3-7, 2022, I attended the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) Federal Policy Conference in Washington, DC along with staff from Silicon Valley Power and representatives that are also part of NCPA. We attended meetings with Reps. Ro



Khanna and Anna Eshoo and Senators Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla, Senate and Federal Agencies like the Department of Energy to talk about issues like electric vehicles, green hydrogen, removal of sediment buildup in rivers that are impacting dams and their future hydropower use and forest management. It was a great



opportunity to represent the City of Santa Clara, Silicon Valley Power and NCPA in asking for important funding to benefit our communities and State and with a goal of working together in making energy cleaner, cheaper and more available.

As the local government continues to monitor COVID-19 and its variants, it is good to see more and more in-person meetings. The City of Santa Clara City Council had its first in-person council meeting in over two years on Tuesday, April 19. Members of the public were also in attendance.

It was wonderful to be part of Mission College Athletics Inaugural Hall of Fame event on Friday, April 22. Congratulations to inductees: Felicia Anderson (Basketball), John McLarnan (Baseball), Sam Pisaro (Coach/Baseball), Stephanie Silva (Softball) and Lu Tang (Tennis).



On Saturday, April 23, I had the pleasure of attending the Muslim Community Association's Annual Ramadan Open House and Dinner to honor Ramadan, visit the mosque, meet the Muslim community and share in a light meal following breaking of the fast at sundown and learn about the Muslim faith and practices. Thank you again, Dr. Nadeem for the invitation.

The City has held three community meetings to get input regarding potential changes to the Annual Clean-up Campaign to make it better and more accessible for residents as not every community participates due to streets being too narrow or not having access to frontage streets for pick-up. The City's Public Works Department is considering options working with Mission Trail Waste Systems in creating a better program and



plans to bringing potential changes/plans to the City Council later this year. If you would like to share your thoughts, comments or concerns, you can submit them to [environment@santaclaraca.gov](mailto:environment@santaclaraca.gov) until Friday, May 6, 2022. We need to find better ways to keep our streets clean and keep illegal dumping like what I saw this morning from happening.

It looks like the coyotes are back in Ulistac after being gone for a few months. From talking to volunteers at Ulistac, the usual two coyotes may have been off mating and now returned.

I recently literally ran into the two coyotes early in the morning while walking my dog in Ulistac and again while walking along the San Jose side of the Guadalupe River - again



early in the morning. The coyotes are usually seen at dawn and dusk and occasionally during the day. Signs have been placed in Ulistac to alert residents and how to react if you see a coyote. The coyotes will not bother you if you don't bother them. This is a natural habitat for them. However, I will add to please not feed them. If you live near Ulistac or the Guadalupe River, please do not leave food outside that might attract the coyotes to the residential neighborhoods.



Remember to mark your calendars for Monday, May 30, as our country honors the brave U.S. military personnel who have died while serve in the United

States armed forces. This federal holiday has been formerly observed since May 30, 1868. The City of Santa Clara honors its own at the Central Park Veterans Memorial. Stay tuned for more information from the City for a Memorial Day event.

Stay safe,

Kathy Watanabe  
Councilmember, District 1

# Around the Town

## News, events, and happenings in Santa Clara.

### 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. Upcoming testing dates include: **May 11 and May 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Typically, 3-7 days before the testing date, [schedule an appointment](#) online. Visit [SCCFreeTest.org](#) for countywide testing locations.

### Design Help for Lucky Landscape Rebate Participants

Santa Clara Water & Sewer Utility has an Earth Day Contest to help *Invest in Our Planet!* If you're a Santa Clara resident considering Valley Water's Landscape Conversion Rebate, enter to win professional design assistance with your project! Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/SaveOurWater](#) for eligibility and enter to win by the end of the day, **Friday, May 6, 2022.**

### SB 9: California HOME Act

Senate Bill 9 (SB 9) was signed into law by Governor Newsom on September 16, 2021 and became effective on January 1, 2022. For projects that meet specific eligibility criteria, SB 9 requires ministerial review and approval of a housing development with no more than two primary dwelling units on a single-family (R1) zoned property, the subdivision of an R1 zoned parcel, or both. Ministerial review of an SB 9 application means a process without discretionary review or hearing, where City staff is limited to ensuring that the proposed development meets all eligibility criteria and applicable objective zoning, subdivision, and design review standards. The Planning Commission and City Council will be considering an amendment to Title 18 of the Santa Clara City Code (Zoning) to add a new chapter implementing the provisions of SB 9 with additional objective zoning and design standards to address parking, urban lot split standards, privacy, and neighborhood compatibility. For additional background on where SB 9 applies, what SB 9 allows, and the ways in which jurisdictions may and may not regulate SB 9 proposals, and for updates on the City's SB 9 implementing ordinance, please visit the [Planning Division's SB 9 page](#).

### City of Santa Clara Zoning Code Update

The City's existing code was developed in March 1969 and does not reflect the recently adopted Santa Clara 2010-2035 General Plan. This update will make the code consistent with state and federal law and the direction provided in the 2010-2035 General Plan. A public review [draft of the Zoning Code](#) is available now through June 6, 2022. Study sessions will be held with the City Council in late Spring 2022 and adoption hearings will be held in late Summer 2022.

### Lafayette Bike Lane Project and Pedestrian Enhancement Community Meeting

The City is working on two projects on Lafayette Street. The first project is grant funded and is looking at options to install new protected bicycle lanes on Lafayette Street between Laurelwood Road and Reed Street. As part of this project, the City is considering the removal of parking on Lafayette Street between Memorex Drive and Parker Court. There will be a community meeting on **Wednesday, May 4, 6 to 7:30 p.m.** to present the project scope, discuss possible parking removals on Lafayette Street, and gather community input. The second project is related to potential pedestrian improvements at the existing crosswalk on Lafayette Street at Parker Court. The City will also present information about potential improvements at this crosswalk. The public is invited to attend this online community meeting and provide feedback. To participate in the meeting, and for more information, visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/LafayetteProtectedBikeway](#). Questions? Contact Carol Shariat at [CShariat@SantaClaraCA.gov](#) or at 408-615-3024.

### PG&E Gas Construction on Lafayette Street and Montague Expressway

Beginning **April 25, 2022 through June 2022**, PG&E will begin work to replace infrastructure and equipment associated with their natural gas line facilities on Lafayette Street and Montague Expressway 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 safe and controlled manner. To facilitate this project, temporary lane closures will occur nightly on southbound Lafayette Street during the coming weeks and into June. During these closure periods, residents may encounter detours along Lafayette Street and will be directed to alternate routes. Hours of work will be Sunday-Friday, 8 p.m. - 6 a.m. For more

## Welcome to the Silicon Valley Power Marketplace

SHOP NOW



Shop Lighting



Shop Smart Thermostats



Shop Water Products

### SPECIAL OFFERS

#### Shop Smart Thermostats



SHOP NOW

#### Shop Lawn and Garden



SHOP NOW

#### Shop Air Purifiers



SHOP NOW

## Community Garden Programs Thrive!

Silicon Valley Power has launched a new online [Marketplace](#) where residential customers can shop for a variety of energy-saving devices. Here you can find smart thermostats, lighting, electric vehicle chargers, connected home devices and more! We are excited to announce that we have launched new electric yard care equipment rebates through the Marketplace where you can receive an instant rebate up to 25% off the purchase price. Incentives for income-qualified customers are even higher and are automatically applied in your shopping cart. Prices in the Marketplace are comparable to other retail outlets, and special promotions and rebates are available periodically throughout the year. Shipping is free for orders of \$50 or more and just \$5 for all other orders. Visit [poweredbyefi.org/svp/](#) to sign up for an account using your Silicon Valley Power utility account number to take advantage of the instant rebates and special promotions.

information, contact Jake Day, PG&E Customer Outreach Specialist at 408-725-3366 or via email at [gasprojectinfo@pge.com](#). For any other concerns, please call PG&E's general number at 1-800-743-5000.

## Drop-In Programs-Stay Active this Spring

May is the perfect month to try a new drop-in activity. Purchase your Activity Pass now for access to three different drop-in programs: Group Exercise at the Community Center, Lap Swim at the International Swim Center and Drop-in Play at the Reed & Grant Sports Park. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/ActivityPass](#) for more information.

## 40th Anniversary Art & Wine Festival Sept. 17-18 Call for Artists and Event Sponsors

Celebrate the City of Santa Clara Art & Wine Festival 40th Anniversary with us! This year's free festival will feature regional and local artists, live entertainment on two stages, Kids Kingdom, international food, beer, fine wine and more! Visit the [Art & Wine website](#) for details.

- **Call for Artists:** Are you an artist or craftsperson who sells original handmade arts or crafts? We are searching for vendors in a variety of mediums including ceramics, photography, clothing, jewelry, wood and more! Email [Festivals@SantaClaraCA.gov](#) for more information.
- **Sponsorship Opportunities:** Businesses and organizations can reach over 30,000 festival attendees over the weekend. A variety of sponsorship packages are available for purchase. Email [TFreitas@SantaClaraCA.gov](#) for more information.

## Make this Your Best Summer Ever in Santa Clara

We have all the exciting summer camps and classes you need to plan the perfect summer! Choose from specialty and hands on creative day camps to swim lessons, theater, gymnastics, art and more! The Parks & Recreation Department is offering a variety of options for any age, all summer long. The Summer 2022 Activity Guide is available online and registration is underway. The adventures begin the week of June 6. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/RecClasses](#) for more information.

## Cultural Commission Commemorative Months Coloring Book

Celebrate Santa Clara's diversity with the Cultural Commission's commemorative months coloring book. Enjoy monthly coloring pages and activities as we celebrate the diversity of our City. Print out the May coloring page and share your unique artwork on the Cultural Commission [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) for a chance to be featured on their page. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/CulturalCommission](#) to download the coloring book.

## Affordable Housing Units Available Now

The Benton and Prado are two new complexes in the City of Santa Clara that have low income and moderate income units available for lease. Santana Terrace also has moderate income units available. For additional information, visit the [Renters Resources webpage](#).



# EVENTS, MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

## Homelessness Taskforce Virtual Community Meetings

The City of Santa Clara, having endorsed the Santa Clara County Community Plan to End Homelessness, has convened a Homelessness Taskforce. The Taskforce includes stakeholders with a range of perspectives and experience who will help identify priorities and provide recommendations related to the development of a City Plan to End Homelessness. Attend a virtual meeting or contact Homebase, the City's facilitator for the Taskforce to submit comments, suggestions, or ideas at [cityofsantaclara@homebaseccc.org](mailto:cityofsantaclara@homebaseccc.org) or (415) 788-7961.

- Homelessness Taskforce Meeting #2: **Thursday, May 26, 2022, 6 to 8 p.m.** ([Register](#))
- Homelessness Taskforce Meeting #3: **Thursday, June 23, 2022, 6 to 8 p.m.** ([Register](#))

## Camp YAC

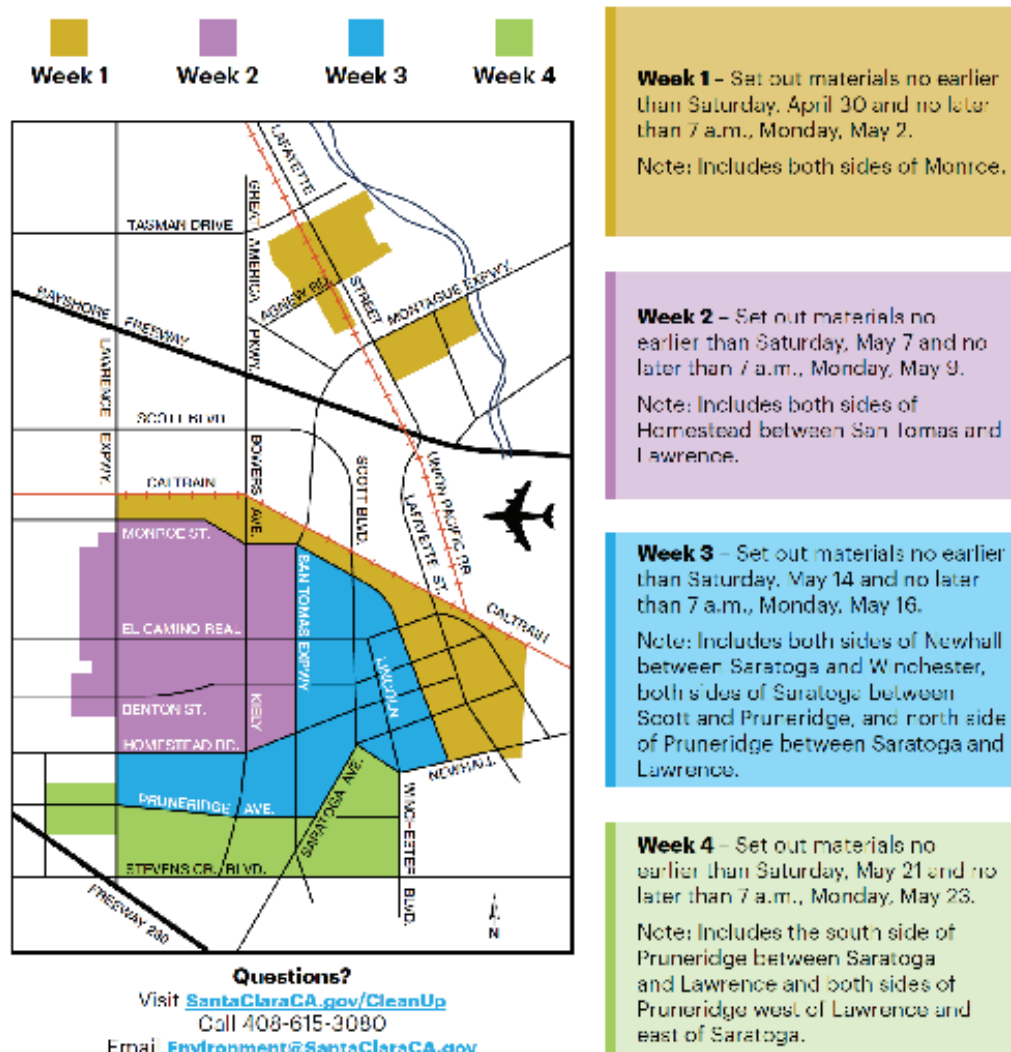
Summertime is almost here! Camp YAC is returning with another action-packed summer, filled with recreation games, outdoor activities, arts and crafts projects and more! The City's Park & Recreation Department will be hosting seven weeks of summer camp **Monday, June 13 - Friday, July 29** at the Teen Center and YAC facilities for participants ages 7-12. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet) to register.

## Machado Day Camp

Join us at Machado Park **Monday, June 13 - Friday, July 29** for a half-day camp based on outdoor play, hands-on learning and organized games. It is a great opportunity to introduce your child to the recreation camp experience. Each week is unique with different themes, songs, activities and play. Machado Day Camp is scheduled for June 13 through Friday, July 29 for ages 5 – 7 years old. Visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/ActiveNet) to register.

## Annual Cleanup Campaign

Santa Clara's Annual Cleanup Campaign will take place **May 2 to May 27**. On designated weekends, **eligible** residences may set out bulky items that are not routinely collected by weekly solid waste services. Collection crews will be picking up furniture, appliances, e-waste, tires, residential construction debris and yard waste. All concrete, asphalt, dirt, brick, rocks, drywall and/or sawdust **MUST** be set out in a construction debris bulk bag to prevent it from entering the storm drains. Acceptable bags are made of heavy-duty tarp or plastic material made specifically for construction debris and can be no larger than one cubic yard in size. Debris bulk bags can be purchased at a retailer of your choice or at the Municipal Utility Services counter located at 1500 Warburton Ave for \$22.26 each starting **Monday, April 4**. Due to modified hours of operation, visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/AccessSantaClara](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/AccessSantaClara) for the most up-to-date counter hours. Failure to use debris bags to contain residential construction/demolition debris is subject to a \$150 fine. A total of one cubic yard of bagged debris will be picked up at no charge. Any additional bagged material will be collected for a fee of \$25 per cubic yard. Household hazardous material is not accepted. To see if you are an eligible residence, set-out instructions and a list of accepted and prohibited materials, visit [SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanUp](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/CleanUp). Questions? Call 408-615-3080 or email [Environment@SantaClaraCA.gov](mailto:Environment@SantaClaraCA.gov).



## 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://SantaClaraCA.gov/Jobs).

## Employment Services

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

## Follow Us on Social Media

[City of Santa Clara](#)

[@SantaClaraCity](#)

[@SantaClaraCity](#)

[@CityofSantaClara](#)

## 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/mysantaclara](https://SantaClaraCA.gov/mysantaclara).

## For More Information

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