

CITY OF SAN JOSE
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Useful City-Wide Numbers:

- Call Center 535-3500
- Non –Emergency 311
- Graffiti/Litter 277-2758
- Animal Care 578-7297
- Child Abuse Reporting 299-2071
- City Arborist 277-2762
- Code Enforcement 277-4528
- Crime Prevention 277-4133
- Crime Stoppers 947-7867
- Drug Hotline 971-3784
- Domestic Violence Ctr. 277-3700
- Department of Transportation 535-3850
- Office of Education 453-6500
- Gang Hotline 277-4264
- Garbage & Recycling 535-3515
- Hazardous Materials 535-7750
- Housing 975-4480
- Neighborhood Development 723-4114
- Parking Enforcement 534-2900
- Senior Programs 277-4561
- Sewer Problems 277-4373
- Sidewalks 277-3158
- Street Lights 277-5517
- Street Maintenance 277-4373
- Street Sweeping 535-3515
- Volunteer San Jose 535-3500



DISTRICT
MADISON NGUYEN
COUNCILMEMBER
CITY OF SAN JOSÉ

DECEMBER - JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Dear District 7 Residents,

Happy Holidays! I hope you are having a happy and healthy holiday season. Try to enjoy time with your family and relax as much as possible. I am sure we all deserve the time off! With the coming New Year, I am personally excited for several new projects that will continue to improve our district.

Our district should start a movement toward going green! There are several things we can do as a community to become a much more environmentally friendly neighborhood. A simple way to start the greening process is to recycle your cans, bottles, and newspapers. Recycling is very important for conserving our resources and making sure that future generations have enough resources to continue living well. The less garbage you throw away, the longer the landfills can last. Recycling can also prevent batteries and electronics that contain harmful chemicals from entering our food and water supply.

The important benefits of recycling go beyond clean air and water. For example, did you know that for every aluminum can that you recycle, you can run a TV for six hours on the electricity saved? If you recycle one glass bottle, you can save enough electricity to power a 100-watt light bulb for four hours. Recycling is immensely beneficial to the community and requires just a small amount of effort to make a big difference.

Aside from recycling, you can begin to make our district greener by doing a few simple things such as: setting your thermostat a few degrees lower in the winter and a few degrees higher in the summer, which can translate to substantial savings on your utility bills; filtering your tap water for drinking rather than using bottled water; borrowing from libraries, instead of buying personal books and movies, which saves money and printing resources; considering eating one meatless meal a week since industrial meat production requires huge energy inputs and creates noxious waste problems; installing low-flow showerheads and taking shorter showers to save water and the energy used to heat it; turning off lights and other devices when they're not needed to use less electricity.

With your support and effort, we can make District 7 one of the greenest areas in San Jose. Please join me as we make District 7 go green!

Sincerely

Madison



Office of Councilmember Madison Nguyen
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th floor San José, CA 95113
tel (408) 535-4907 • fax (408) 292-6468 • e-mail district7@sanjoseca.gov

District 7 Projects

Neighborhood Association Meetings

Dates and locations are subject to change. Contact associations to confirm meeting details.

Alma Neighborhood Association

(408) 297-9135
Alma Senior Center
3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm

Tully-Senter SNI NAC

Santee Community Action Center
(408) 277-2980
1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

Lanai Neighborhood Association

Resources For Families and Communities
(408) 277-2982
2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm

Washington Area Comm. Coalition SNI NAC

(408) 297-9135
Alma Senior Center
2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

KONA SNI NAC Meeting

(408) 277-2982
Boys & Girls Club
3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm

Lucretia Area Neighborhood Asso.

(408) 277-2980
Kennedy Elementary School
3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm

McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Association

(408) 365-1300
Tully Community Library
2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm

Senter-Creekside Neighborhood Asso.

St Maria Goretti Church
3rd Wednesday of the month 7:00 pm

Rocksprings Neighborhood Asso.

(408) 277-2980
Playground at Rocksprings and Needle Dr.
4th Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm

West Evergreen Neighborhood Action Comm.

(408) 224-0415 or (408) 277-2980
O.B. Whaley School
4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm

Capitol Expressway Burger King

There has been extra patrolling in the area, as well as an expedited permit process so that Burger King can start rebuilding. The San Jose Police Department also encourages neighbors who observe suspicious activities and/or kids hanging out in the area to call in. If it is an emergency, please call 911. If it is not, please call 311.

District 7 Town Hall Meeting

In early October 2007, District 7 held a Town Hall meeting focusing on parks and community centers. The meeting discussed the top five priorities of the next three years for the City of San Jose including maintenance, operation and development of city parks, community centers, pools and libraries. In addition, Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Services gave a report on projects for the next two years including five new parks in District 7 neighborhoods. Because of our commitment to improve District 7, one neighborhood at a time, our office is requesting the top three priorities from each neighborhood association so that we can try to allocate funds for projects in our district in next year's budget.

Franklin School Lights

Two fully functioning flashing crosswalk beacons at Franklin School on Tully Road were activated recently. As a result, traffic seems to be slowing down in front of the school.

Traffic Signal Installation

The traffic signal at Seventh Street and Phelan Avenue was activated recently. This traffic signal installation will provide protected vehicular left-turn movements onto North and Southbound Seventh Street, and improve vehicular and pedestrian mobility through the intersection. For further information regarding the installation, please contact Paul Hsu/Public Works at (408) 535-8485.



Seven Trees Neighborhood Action Agenda

Approximately fifty members from the Seven Trees neighborhood came to the Council meeting on November 6th to show support for the Seven Trees Neighborhood Action Agenda. The City Council unanimously voted to approve the Action Agenda, which is the first step toward bringing resources to this community.

Senter Road Widening Project Phase II

The Senter Road Widening Project Phase II between Capitol Expressway and Tully Road has been completed and opened to pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The improvements include the installation of new pavement, curb, gutter, sidewalks, median islands, landscaping, streetlights and modifications of three traffic signals at Capitol Expressway, Southside Drive and Umbarger Road. For more information, please contact Henry Saiidnia/Public Works at 535-8485.

Events/Meetings

Lunar New Year 2008 Celebration

Coalition of Nationalist Vietnamese Organizations of Northern California and The Vietnamese Spring Festival and Parade would like to invite you to come and celebrate the Lunar New Year 2008. This colorful event will feature arts and crafts, live performances, martial art demonstrations, children's games and rides, a talent show, tournaments and contests, food booths showcasing authentic Vietnamese cuisine and other multi-cultural fare.

1. The 25th Annual Tet Festival at Santa Clara County Fairgrounds on February 9th & 10th, 2007. For more information, contact (408) 223-3298 or 223-3299 or visit www.hoitetfairgrounds.org.

2. The 11th Annual Vietnamese Spring Parade and Festival in Downtown San Jose on Sunday, February 10th, 2008. For more information, contact (408) 292-8283 or visit www.vfsanjose.com.

Legislative and City Update

Eco-Friendly Festival Trash

Environmentally friendly products could soon be found at San Jose's largest festivals. The city council voted on Tuesday, November 20th, on a two-year pilot program requiring the Tapestry Arts Festival, San Jose Jazz Festival, Cinco de Mayo, Fourth of July and Italian Family Days to provide compostable products. The city will pay for the eco-friendly products under the pilot program, which will reduce the amount of trash being dumped into the City's landfill.

City of San Jose extends Granny Unit program

Homeowners looking to build in-law or "granny" units in their back yards will have more opportunities to do so, as the city council has decided to extend a pilot program that allows secondary units to be built. The city will accept applications for backyard units until April 30th, or until 100 applications have been filed. About 73 units have been

Mayor's Green Vision

On October 30th, the San Jose City Council unanimously approved Mayor Chuck Reed's Green Vision for San Jose. The Green Vision aims to provide incentives and services to established clean tech companies, as well as start-ups, to "go green". The 10 goals include: reducing per-capita energy use by 50 percent; attracting 25,000 jobs in solar and other clean technologies; diverting all solid waste from landfills; recycling or reusing all wastewater; and having all public fleet vehicles run on alternative fuels. Following the approval of the Green Vision, the Council also unanimously approved to expand the city's Clean Air Vehicle Parking Program. The program, which began in 2001, allows free parking for zero-emission vehicles at downtown parking meters and in some city parking lots and garages.

Smoking Ban in San Jose Public Parks

The San Jose City Council voted in favor of expanding an ordinance which bans smoking in all 160 public parks within the city limits and some jogging and bicycle trails. Smokers will still be able to light up in public but not in public parks. The proposal was put forward because of the health risks associated with secondhand smoke. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, secondhand smoke kills 50,000 people a year in the United States. There is also concern that a smoker in a park could accidentally start a fire. The new law will go into effect toward the end of November.

Willow Glen Spur Trail

The plan to build a new three mile walking and biking trail on an abandoned railroad line in San Jose is moving forward. On November 6th, the City Council unanimously approved the beginning of negotiations with Union Pacific to buy the land. When the trail is finished, it will connect the Los Gatos Creek Trail to the Guadalupe River Trail and the Coyote Creek Trail. requested so far. For more information, contact John Davidson at (408) 535-7895 or visit www.sanjoseca.gov/planning.



Events/Meetings Cont.



Christmas in the Park

Each year, the City of San Jose transforms Plaza de Cesar Chavez into a holiday fantasy with musical and animated exhibits, glittering lights, a 60-foot City Community Giving Tree, and hundreds of smaller Christmas trees each decorated by local schools or community organizations. For more info, visit www.christmasinthepark.com. Come and enjoy the Christmas extravaganza!

November 23, 2007 – January 1, 2008, Plaza de Cesar Chavez

Downtown Ice

San Jose downtown invites you to take a spin and twirl around Downtown Ice this holiday season. Its one-of-a-kind circular rink in the Circle of Palms features lights twinkle off the 32 palms and stars shine from overhead. For more information, contact (408) 279-1775 or visit www.sjdowntown.com. Make memories skating and enjoy other numerous holiday stage productions!

Nov. 16 – Dec. 20 and Jan. 5 – 13, Circle of Palms

Announcements

Advisory Commission on Rents: Notice of Vacancy

The City of San Jose is currently accepting applications for three appointments to the Advisory Commission on Rents. The function of this seven member Commission is to make recommendations regarding rules, regulations, and amendments and/or changes which may be deemed necessary to ensure the successful operation, and administration of the Rental Dispute Mediation and Arbitration. To obtain an application, please visit www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/. For further information regarding the Board, please call staff members at (408) 535-8232.

Early Care and Education Committee: Notice of Vacancy

The City of San Jose is currently accepting applications for two appointments to the Early Care and Education Committee. The function of this thirteen member Commission is to study, evaluate, review and provide advice to the City Council, the City Manager and department heads designated by the City Manager on all matters and issues related to child care. To obtain an application, please visit www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/. For further information regarding the Board, please call staff members at (408) 535-2624.



Health Trust

Health Trust is an organization working to improve the health and wellness of the people of Silicon Valley with a bold objective: to transform Silicon Valley into the healthiest region in the country! Recently, Health Trust launched a free, community-based health risk assessment tool called HEALTHcheck, which emphasizes preventing illness and creating healthy and safe environments in which we can live, work, learn and play. This tool is available to the Silicon Valley community at-large. The service is free of charge and completely confidential. For more information about The Health Trust or the HEALTHcheck health risk assessment tool, please call (408) 559-9385 or visit www.healthtrust.org.

Housing and Community Development Advisory Commission: Notice of Vacancy

The City of San Jose is currently accepting applications for two appointments to the Housing and Community Development Advisory Commission. The function of this nine member Commission is to study, review, evaluate and make recommendations to the City Council and the Department of Housing regarding the City's existing housing programs and policies, and new programs and policies that would further the City's housing goals. To obtain an application, please visit www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/. For further information regarding the Board, please call staff members at (408) 535-4418.

Are you ready for an Earthquake?

A recent earthquake shook San Jose on the evening of Tuesday, October 30, 2007, measuring a 5.6 magnitude. Although the earthquake was felt over a wide area, there were no immediate reports of serious damage or injuries. As many of us experienced rattling homes and nerves, cell phone service became inundated and hampered our ability to communicate. The event on October 30th, was a reminder that earthquakes can strike suddenly, violently, and with little or no warning, during any season and at any time of the day. Earthquakes are inevitable, but the damage from earthquakes is not. Are *you* prepared for an Earthquake? Follow these seven steps to prepare your home, school, or workplace for future earthquakes.

_____ **Step 1: Identify potential hazards in your home and begin to fix them**, including: bolting bookcases, china cabinets, and other tall furniture to wall studs, installing strong latches on cupboards, strapping the water heater to wall studs.

_____ **Step 2: Create a disaster preparedness plan**: practice "drop, hold, and cover," identify safe spots and the needs of household members and neighbors with special requirements, keep copies of essentials documents, get training in emergency preparedness, and choose an out-of-town family contact.

_____ **Step 3: Prepare disaster supplies kits**, including: flashlights and a battery-operated radio with spare batteries, first aid kits and first aid knowledge, a fire extinguisher, a supply of canned foods or dehydrated foods, water, warm clothes and blankets, special items and tools.

_____ **Step 4: Identify your building's potential weaknesses and begin to fix them.**

_____ **Step 5: Protect yourself during an earthquake's shaking – DROP, COVER AND HOLD ON!**

_____ **Step 6: After an earthquake, check for injuries and damage.**

_____ **Step 7: When safe, continue to follow your disaster-preparedness plan.**



DID YOU KNOW

Many people think of California as "Earthquake Country," but the state with the most major earthquakes is Alaska! The granddaddy of earthquakes was in 1811-1812 along the New Madrid Fault in Missouri where a 3-month long series of quakes included three quakes that registered a magnitude greater than 8. These quakes were felt over a distance of 2 million square miles.