



# Office of Councilmember Madison Nguyen

## District 7 Neighborhood News



April / May / June 2010

Dear Residents,

It's been a cold and rainy winter, but spring is finally here! This is one of my favorite times of the year, because I love the sunshine and the occasional barbeque that comes with great weather.

The past few months have been very busy for our district. We re-opened a park, distributed prom dresses, and cleaned up our neighborhoods. I am happy to share with you that Operation Prom Dress 2010 was a great success! We collected over 800 dresses for high school girls throughout San Jose. This project started two years ago for girls whose families were having a hard time with finances due to the bad economy. We partnered up with local libraries, community centers, colleges, boutiques, and bridal stores, to collect the prom dresses. Every girl in attendance went home with a beautiful prom dress. We hope to continue this event in the coming years to make more prom dreams come true for girls in San Jose.

Every year, the City of San Jose hosts the Great American Litter Pick Up in each Council district. District 7 had over 180 volunteers for the Great American Litter Pick Up held at O.B. Whaley Elementary School. Thank you to all the volunteers for picking up litter in our district, you have helped to keep the district cleaner and more vibrant with your efforts.

We also opened a brand new stretch of sidewalk in the Seven Trees neighborhood. Through the unwavering advocacy efforts of the Seven Trees Neighborhood Coalition, funds were designated to construct a new sidewalk on Seven Trees Boulevard for everyone to use and enjoy. This project includes ADA ramps, a pedestrian crosswalk and over 60 newly planted trees.

As you may have heard, the City of San Jose is facing an unprecedented \$116 million budget deficit for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. Therefore, many programs and projects may be reduced or eliminated due to funding. I would like to hear your comments and suggestions on solutions to close the budget gap. Your comments are important in the decision process, and I look forward to working with you to finding solutions. Please continue to be involved in the budget process by contacting my office at (408) 535-4907.

Thank you for your support through these tough economic times. Together, we can make a difference in our community.

Sincerely,

Madison Nguyen



### COUNCIL DISTRICT 7

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#### Useful City-wide Numbers

Call Center: 535-3500

Non-Emergency: 311

Graffiti: 277-2758

Child Abuse Reporting: 299-2071

Code Enforcement: 277-4528

Crime Prevention: 277-4133

Crime Stoppers: 947-7867

Domestic Violence Ctr.: 277-3700

Dept. of Transportation: 535-3850

Gang Hotline: 277-4264

Garbage & Recycling: 535-3515

Neighborhood Develop: 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

Housing: 975-4480

### **Happy Hollow Park And Zoo Grand Re-Opening**

Welcome back Happy Hollow! Over 9,000 people welcomed Danny the Dragon and many new and exciting attractions on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. In 2000, the Park closed its gates after 46 years for a \$72 million renovation. Some new attractions include the renovation of existing attractions and the addition of new animal exhibits, veterinary and commissary buildings, an education center, guest services, a gift shop, public art, an updated puppet theater, a sit-down restaurant and new rides, including a children's roller coaster and a carousel. The re-opened park and zoo has successfully meshed the old with the new while still maintaining its retro charm. I am so glad to welcome back this family fun place for the City of San Jose, and I hope everyone will enjoy the new lasting memories this park will provide.



### **Great American Litter Pick-Up**

Over 180 volunteers came out for the Great American Litter Pick Up held at O.B. Whaley Elementary School on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Over 100 bags of litter were collected from different locations throughout the district. It was amazing to see so many people of all ages out to pick up litter. We would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time for this event. Your dedication keeps our neighborhoods clean and safe. A special thanks to Jessie Encinas and Terry Reilly for their help and support in this event. We hope to see all of you again next year!



### **Operation Prom Dress 2010**

We collected over 800 dresses for Operation Prom Dress and gave away over 400 to high school girls in San Jose on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Mayfair Community Center. Hundreds of girls had the opportunity to choose a dress to wear to their prom and take their dress to a participating dry cleaner free of charge.

We want to thank all of our volunteers, participating dry cleaners, local stores and bridal boutiques, Umbrella Salon, and Beauty 360 for helping to make Operation Prom Dress 2010 a success! Thank you to everyone who donated dresses. You have made a lot of girls' dreams come true.

We look forward to partnering with you again for Operation Prom Dress 2011!



## *Seven Trees Sidewalk Project Ribbon Cutting*

On Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, I along with Hans Larsen, Acting Director for the Department of Transportation, Katy Allen, Director of Public Works, and residents and members of the Seven Trees Neighborhood Coalition celebrated the opening of the newly constructed sidewalk on Seven Trees Boulevard.

The sidewalk, which spans from El Cajon Dr. to Senter Rd., is over a third of a mile long that includes ADA ramps, a pedestrian crosswalk at San Mateo Dr. with flashing beacons and over 65 trees planted in the wells along the site. This is only the beginning of a number of improvements to the Seven Trees area. In fact, the new Seven Trees Library and Community Center is also expected to open in Fall 2010.



## *Townhall Meeting*



The City of San Jose is forced with an unprecedented task of balancing a \$116 million budget deficit. This means that many programs and projects might be eliminated or reduced. In an effort to inform and solicit feedback from our residents, I together with Mayor Chuck Reed hosted a budget Townhall Meeting at the Tully Library on Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. The community room was filled with residents and city staff sharing ideas and concerns about the budget.

We would like to thank the members of our neighborhood associations and residents who participated in the meeting. Your comments and suggestions were noted and will be taken into

consideration during the budget decision making process. Please continue to be involved by contacting our office at (408) 535- 4907.

## *Upcoming Event: River Clean-Up Day*

Be Part of the Solution to Creek Pollution! Get outside! Get involved! Clean a Creek! Join us on **Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010** from **9:00 am to 12:00 noon** for the National River Clean-Up Day. There will be multiple sites in San Jose. Trash from our neighborhoods often gets into storm drains and creeks. They make their way out to the Bay and Ocean, which impacts water quality and harms our local wildlife. Take a stand, and clean it up. By volunteering for National River Clean-Up Day, you are personally responsible for keeping our creeks and Bay beautiful for everyone to enjoy. National River Clean-Up Day also gives you an opportunity to meet new people, enjoy the outdoors, to be a hands-on watershed steward, and to volunteer in a stress-relieving, natural way. We hope you will gather your friends and families to join us on this day to clean up our creeks.





## Neighborhood Stabilization Program

The City of San José has been awarded \$5.6 million dollars from a new federal program called the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP 1) whose goal is to help stabilize communities that have been heavily impacted by the foreclosure crisis. By purchasing and rehabilitating foreclosed homes, San José battles blight in these neighborhoods, working to restore home values and community pride. The City has contracted with Community Rehabilitation Partners (CRP), a women owned and operated business, to restore and resell foreclosed homes to income eligible families (up to \$105,000 for a family of four). Through this program, the City is providing a range of financial assistance to help families purchase these affordably priced homes. Eligible homebuyers may receive mortgage assistance of up to 20% of the purchase price of the home based on the buyer's income, which may include down payment assistance and closing costs.

CRP has many homes finished and will be finishing 11 homes total and will continue to acquire and rehabilitate homes, so that more homes will become available for purchase in the months to come. These affordably priced homes (\$397,000 for 908 Gerard Way) have updated kitchens with new cabinets, new flooring, low-voc paint, low-flow plumbing fixtures, and high-efficiency heating systems. "Build-it-Green" standards are being incorporated in all NSP homes, which will mean greater value for the buyer. For more information about these homes, call 408.235.1187 or visit [www.CommunityRehabPartners.com](http://www.CommunityRehabPartners.com)

## National Night Out 2010 Design a T-Shirt for District 7

In an effort to minimize the occurrence of gang violence, Councilmember Madison Nguyen wants to send an anti-gang message to the community at the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 3, 2010**. Please lend your support by submitting t-shirt designs for National Night Out 2010. The t-shirts have become a highlight at National Night Out events throughout District 7 and the city. For the past two years, volunteers, adults, and children have proudly worn their t-shirts to send a message that crime and gangs do not belong in their neighborhood. We want you to submit an amazing and original design. Make sure your design reflects an anti-gang message.

### National Night Out T-Shirt Design Requirements

1. The design must be exclusively your own work
2. The design must be an 8.5"x11 sheet of paper
3. Use Pencil, Marker, Crayons or Colored Pencils
4. Contestants should be between 10 and 18 years of age
5. The contest form must be attached to your design.

**Please visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district7/> to download contest forms.**



Send entry to:  
ATTN: Lan Thao Nguyen  
Office of Councilmember Madison P. Nguyen  
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

**All entries must be received by Thursday, July 1, 2010**