



OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER JOHNNY KHAMIS
SAN JOSE, DISTRICT 10

District 10 March Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

With spring just around the corner, so begins budget season here at City Hall. [Mayor Chuck Reed recently released his March Budget Message for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year \(FY\)](#). After a public hearing at the March 11th Council Meeting and at the March 18th Council Meeting, the City Council adopted the Mayor's March Budget Message on a 10 – 1 vote with Councilmember Kalra opposed. [You can view the full discussion at the City's website.](#)

The Mayor's March Budget Message is the document that will guide the City Manager in assembling the proposed FY 2014-2015 Budget. Some of the highlights from the Mayor's March Budget Message are:

-Having the City Manager bring forward a four-year Police Staffing Restoration Strategy to rebuild the SJPD to 1,250 officers.

-Exploring funding for an additional seven Community Service Officers (CSOs), so that each police division would have seven CSOs on staff to serve the public.

-Prioritizing the reestablishment of a Burglary Unit within the police department, without reducing the number of police officers that are available for patrol.

-Creating certainty for City employees around disability employment and retirement to help, especially, with police officer retention.

-Dedicating significant one-time funds to perform much-needed maintenance on key priority and neighborhood streets, and to enhance safety.

-Providing one-time funding of \$3.5 million toward the City's strategy to address homelessness.

-Improving the transparency of City Council expenditures by phasing out the Council General Budget line item and distributing responsibility for the Council General costs to the Mayor's office and each individual Council office.

Thanks to the Fiscal Reforms that were adopted by the City Council and the Measure B reforms that voters approved before I took office, we are anticipating a very small forecasted deficit of \$1.5 million, despite retirement expenses that will increase from \$272 million this year to \$308 million in FY 2014-2015. Of this cost increase, the City's General Fund, which pays for police, fire, libraries, park maintenance, road repairs, and community centers, will need to absorb \$23.5 million in expenses. Because of the Measure B reforms that were upheld in court, we are saving \$20 million in costs that would otherwise have to come from the general fund, as well.

I was pleased to join almost all of my Council colleagues in support of the Mayor's March Budget Message because of his commitment to keep public safety our #1 priority, to continue to seek out ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of City departments, to attract new businesses and jobs to San Jose, and to dedicate one-time revenues to road maintenance and safety improvements.

LIBRARY PARCEL TAX

In a recent Council Meeting, my colleagues and I voted unanimously to place a measure on the June ballot for the renewal of the existing library parcel tax. In 2004, San Jose voters passed the Library Parcel Tax with a vote that exceeded the required 2/3rds for passage. The current \$29.84-per-household tax generates around \$8 million annually for our libraries which represents about 22% of the total library budget. While the renewal of the tax is not expected to improve the library's budget or increase hours of operation, it will keep libraries from closing their doors or reducing hours further. If the measure is approved by over 2/3rds of the voters in June, the parcel tax will be extended for 25 years. All other provisions, such as citizen oversight of expenditures, will remain in place. If you have any questions regarding the library parcel tax, please feel free to contact my office at district10@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910.

GREAT AMERICAN LITTER PICK UP

It's that time of year again! Time to put on your gloves and grab your pick up sticks, because the Great American Litter Pick Up is just around the corner! On Saturday, April 26th, from 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM, my office will be organizing litter pick up and beautification projects all around District 10! This is a wonderful opportunity to get out and help beautify your neighborhood while meeting your neighbors! This is also a great opportunity for students looking for community service hours!

Last year, we increased our volunteer numbers 10-fold from the previous year, and we are hoping for record-breaking numbers of volunteers on April 26th! With staging areas all around District 10, we have made it convenient for almost every neighborhood to find a spot to volunteer that is near their home and directly affects their community. Below you will find the 6 staging areas around the District, with the details of the sorts of projects we will be working on:

Staging Site Number 1: Almaden Community Center

-At the Almaden Community Center, volunteers will be pulling weeds, picking up trash and spreading wood chips around the center campus. With large flower beds and lots of shrubbery, we want to make sure Almaden Community Center remains a clean and welcoming place for everyone to enjoy. If you plan to volunteer at this location, please bring your own gardening gloves, shovels, and rakes.

Staging Site Number 2: Almaden Road Sound wall – between Bose Ln and Kelez

-Unfortunately, the Almaden Road sound wall has been plagued by tagging of all sorts. Luckily, we have a diligent volunteer who has been painting over the graffiti when it happens, but now the wall is left with splotches of different shades of paint. We need A LOT of volunteers to help us restore this wall! We want to make sure the wall is one, uniform color and that all signs of tagging are removed. If you plan on volunteering here, please wear clothes you wouldn't mind getting paint on.

Staging Site Number 3: Pioneer High School – Hoffman-Via Monte

-The Hoffman Via Monte neighborhood has been a hot spot for graffiti and litter. Last year, we collected more bags of trash from this neighborhood than all of the other sites combine. We want to make sure we keep this neighborhood clean, and a priority for litter pick up. We will also be working on graffiti removal from public areas. We will be meeting in the Pioneer High School back parking lot and walking over to the neighboring Hoffman-Via Monte community.

Staging Site Number 4: Playa Del Rey Park

-This is a new site this year, and we are looking forward to working in this community. Volunteers will be doing general litter pick up, graffiti removal, and cleaning of park amenities, as well as a possible tree planting. We hope to see a lot of the Playa Del Rey neighbors help in the clean up effort!

Staging Site Number 5: Del Roble Elementary School

-This is also a new site this year! District 10 staff members have been coordinating with the principal of Del Roble to make sure this event is a success. Similar to Playa Del Rey, volunteers will be doing general litter pick up. We are hoping to get families from the school involved, and teach kids the importance of volunteerism and community involvement!

Staging Site Number 6: Ohlone/Chynoweth VTA Station

-Since a great team of volunteers will be sprucing up Vista Park this coming weekend (see details below), we will be focusing our efforts in a different section of the VEP neighborhood this year. Volunteers can choose from several different projects here; general litter pick up, graffiti removal, and tree and shrub trimming and removal along nearby trails. This is also a great opportunity for students from Gunderson High School to earn community service hours while beautifying the area around their school.

In order to make this event a success, we need your help! This entire event depends on volunteers from our community! Breakfast snacks, coffee, and lunch will be provided for all who come out, and volunteer service hours will be given to high school students who need them. If you have any questions, or you would like to join the team, please contact Rayshelle with the staging site at which you're interested in volunteering. Rayshelle can be reached at rayshelle.brant@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910. I hope to see you on April 26th!

FLAG RAISINGS AND CEREMONIALS

One of the greatest things about San Jose is the immense diversity of cultures that have found a home in our city. I love living in a city that celebrates the history, accomplishments, and contributions of other countries and cultures. One way that the City of San Jose officially highlights these things is by hosting flag raising ceremonies.

On Friday, March 21st, between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM, the District 10 Council Office will be sponsoring the Assyrian Flag Raising and Cultural Festival in coordination with the Assyrian Church of the East. The Flag Raising portion will begin at 11:30 AM. San Jose's Assyrian community welcomes everyone to come and enjoy the ceremony at City Hall Plaza and to check out the exhibits in the City Hall Rotunda that showcase Assyrian history, food, and art.

On Tuesday, April 8th, at 11:30 AM, the Offices of Councilmember Johnny Khamis and Supervisor Dave Cortese, along with the South Bay Scottish Society will present the annual Tartan Day Scottish Flag Raising celebration. All are welcome to come hear the pipes and drums, see some traditional Scottish dancing, and join in recognizing the contributions of Scottish-Americans toward the success of our City, State, and Nation.

SPRING EGG HUNTS

This year, I am pleased to have two Spring Egg Hunts for children and families in District 10 to choose from. The first will be held at Almaden Lake Park on Saturday, April 12th, from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM, and is sponsored by the City of San Jose Parks and Recreation Department. This event costs \$6.00 and you can pre-register at www.sanjoseca.gov/prns or at any local community center.

The second egg hunt will be held at Playa Del Rey Park on Saturday, April 12th, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and is sponsored by the Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Association. For more information, contact Bob Vonderwerth at vonderwerth@att.net.

Both events will have designated hunts for each age group and will also have arts and crafts activities open to all ages. I look forward to seeing you there!

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT – AMATO PIZZARIA

I am so proud to have a thriving small business community in District 10. Not only do our small businesses provide essential services to our residents, provide jobs to youths and adults, but many of them go the extra mile to serve the community in other ways. One of those businesses is Amato Pizzeria (<http://www.amatopizzeria.com/>), located on the corner of Meridian and Redmond, in Almaden. This family-owned-and-operated restaurant has been an integral part of District 10, by providing a meeting space for community functions, sponsoring special events for our residents, or donating food for different community activities. They are to be commended for their contributions to District 10 and I thank them for their commitment to our City. If you are in the area, or are looking for some great food to pick up for the family on the way home from work, please be sure to stop in and make a purchase to show your support!

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Are you looking for other ways to serve your community? Please consider applying to be a member of the Human Services Commission for the City of San Jose. The Human Services Commission was established to implement the San José Human Rights Policy and to develop programs promoting the fulfillment of human rights in the City. The commission studies, reviews, evaluates and makes recommendations to the City Council relative to all matters affecting human rights including discrimination and equal employment opportunity policies and practices. The Commission also recommends courses of action to the City Council regarding the City's equal opportunity and equal access efforts and its programs related to City employment. [Please click here for more information and for an application.](#)

Continue reading below for more updates and opportunities to get involved in our community. If you have any questions regarding what you've read in this newsletter, feel free to contact my office at district10@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910. Also, for updates between newsletters, add me as a friend on [Facebook](#) or follow me on [Twitter](#)!

Sincerely,

Johnny

Southern Division ID Symposium

Southern Division ID Symposium at Branham High School from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM on Saturday, April 12th. Learn how to protect your personal information and how to protect yourself and your loved ones from identity theft. Sponsored by the SJPD, Councilmembers Khamis, Kalra, and Rocha, and the Offices of the Santa Clara County District Attorney and Santa Clara County Sheriff, the symposium will include expert speakers from multiple agencies, including the U.S. Postal Inspector, the U.S. Secret Service, and many more.

Community Service Opportunity at Vista Park

On Saturday, March 22nd, your help is needed at Vista Park to move 150 yards of wood chips (Fibar) from the parking lot and distribute them around the play lots. Students from Gunderson High School will be there to help, but we'll also need a handful of adult "supervisors".

The city will provide the wood chips (Fibar), wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes, and brooms. All volunteers will be asked to sign the usual waiver forms giving us workers' comp coverage. Volunteers under 18 years of age will need their parent's signature on the waiver form. This work qualifies for high school community service graduation credit.

Registration will begin at 8:45 AM. Bring your signed waiver forms. Be sure to wear sturdy work clothes and shoes, a hat, and gloves. Work will start at 9:00 AM sharp. We expect to have the job done by noon. Even if you can only attend for an hour or two, we would still appreciate your help – plus, it's great exercise! If you have any questions, contact Dave Fadness for more information at drfadness@sbcglobal.net. We hope to see you there!

Tennis Play Day

Come out and join Almaden Community Center for a Tennis Play Day event on Sunday, April 6th from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM! The event will be held at Castillero Middle School

and the cost is \$5 per player. Bring your family and friends and enjoy great tennis! There will be music, prizes, and loaner equipment available. This is great for all ages and skill levels. For more information visit us online at www.sanjoseca.gov/prns or stop by the Almaden Community Center.

Technology Class for Seniors at Almaden Library

Every Friday at 3:30 PM, a teen technology expert will spend an hour with you to help you with whatever technology issue you may have. This tutoring is limited to senior citizens. Note: Pre-Registration is required for this program, so sign up at the Almaden Library's Information Desk or call 408-808-3040 during regular library hours.

Lions Send Kids To Diabetes Camp Fundraiser

Featuring Comedian Will Durst.

Sunday, March 23 1:00 AM to 2:30 PM at the San Jose Elks Club. Tickets are \$50.

Purchase Brunch tickets online: <http://LionsSendKidstoCamp.EventBrite.com>

For more information call Marlene Duffin, Almaden Super Lions 408-997-7528.

Parks and Recreation Summer Camp Registration

Registration for the city's Parks and Recreation Summer Camps began on February 22nd. If you register your child before March 21st, you will receive a 10% early bird discount. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services has hundreds of camps to choose from. [Follow this link and find the camp that is best for your child!](#)

UNSCC 2014 Spring Mixer

Saturday, March 29, 2014

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

CAMPBELL COMMUNITY CENTER

Orchard City Banquet Hall

1 W Campbell Ave, C31

Campbell, CA 95008

Come and enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast during this great opportunity to network with neighborhood leaders from all over Santa Clara County in a casual setting, with special guest speaker, James Reber from the Parks Foundation. There will be a variety of informational resource tables and you could be eligible for a drawing for several great prizes. For more information about the Spring Mixer, contact Grace Red at (408) 230-8725 or Email: gredfy11@gmail.com.

San Jose Family Camp at Yosemite: Online Reservations for 2014 Summer Season

Returning for another year of family memories, San Jose Family Camp at Yosemite is proud to announce a new online reservation system for the 2014 summer season that runs from June 13 through August 9, 2014. The system allows Campers to view photos of campsites, select their favorite spot from a map of available tents on their preferred dates, and make a partial or full payment by credit card.

Family Camp at Yosemite amenities include; all meals, a tent, cots, flush toilets and showers. Camp activities include fishing, swimming, rafting, hiking, gold panning, crafts, relaxing and organized events. Yosemite's West Entrance gate is 20 minutes away.

Reservations are being accepted now - simply visit www.FamilyCampReservations.com. Please call the Family Camp Office at (408) 794-6208 if you need any assistance, or wish to pay by cash or check.

Historic Landmarks Commission Vacancy

The Clerk's Office is recruiting for one position on the Historic Landmarks Commission to fill an unexpired four-year term ending June 30, 2015. Applicants must be registered voters in the City of San José and, if appointed, must remain so throughout the term of office. Members of the commission shall be persons having demonstrable interest and expertise in historic preservation, and professional expertise in any of the following disciplines is highly desirable: architecture, history, architectural history, planning, prehistoric and historic archaeology, folklore, cultural anthropology, curation, conservation, and landscape architecture or related disciplines, to the extent such professionals are available in the community. [To apply click here](#) or to request a paper application, please call the Office of the City Clerk at (408) 535-1260 or via e-mail at commissions@sanjoseca.gov.

Lawn Mower Exchange Program

Older gasoline lawn mowers can have a significant impact on air quality. To reduce air pollution, the Air District is providing a rebate towards the purchase of a new, cordless, zero-emission electric lawn mower after turning in your operable gasoline lawn mower for recycling. The Air District invites you to participate in the program and to share this information with other Bay Area residents that may be interested in participating in this program.

Three lawn mower exchange events will be held from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM on the following dates:

- March 22nd, in Novato, at the College of Marin, Indian Valley Campus
- April 5th, in Saratoga, at West Valley College
- April 26th, in Oakland, at the Oakland International Airport

The program will provide incentives for up to 2,400 lawn mower exchanges. Bay Area

residents will be able to trade-in their old gas mower and select from two Black & Decker cordless battery electric lawn mowers at a discounted price. Both electric lawn mowers have a 30-day manufacturer satisfaction guarantee and two-year warranties. The two lawn mowers that will be available for purchase at the discounted price are:

- Black & Decker (CM 1836) 18-Inch Cordless for \$110 (normally up to \$350)
- Black & Decker (CM 1936) 19-Inch Cordless for \$190 (normally up to \$400)

Advance registration is required and you must be a Bay Area resident in order to participate. Bay Area residents are advised to pre-register online at <http://www.blackanddecker.com/mowerevents> or by calling the Black & Decker hotline at (844) 262-3495, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 5:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Each participant can select an appointment time and mower model.

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