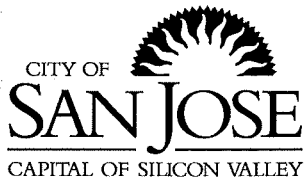


Distributed on:

FEB 27 2009

by City Manager's Office



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Debra Figone

SUBJECT: City Manager's Weekly Report

DATE: February 27, 2009

INFORMATION

Following are the key activities to be highlighted this week:

Water Supply Update —On February 10, the Water District Board discussed drought contingency actions in case local precipitation and imported water allocations do not meet demand. On March 24, the Board will decide whether to declare a drought and call for mandatory water use reductions. In the event of mandatory reductions, Environmental Services (ESD) staff will prepare recommendations for the Council to consider in support of the District's call to action, including but not limited to possibly declaring a water shortage and implementing water allocations within the Municipal Water System's service area. Staff has already been coordinating with other water retailers and cities to ensure that a consistent message goes out to the public. The District Board has acknowledged and commended water retailers for their water conservation efforts. San José Municipal Water users collectively, for example, used 9% less water in 2008 as compared to 2004. For more information, contact Mansour Nasser at 277-4218.

SNI Job Connection Works for 360 Residents —Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) staff in Southeast San José successfully connected 360 residents in the Santee, King/Ocala and West Evergreen areas with assembly line jobs at Quanta Computer USA in Fremont. Quanta, a subcontractor to Apple, conducted interviews on February 13 at the Santee Action Center. All 360 residents interviewed were hired on the spot and reported to work last week. For more information, contact Cindy Ho at 795-1855.

Airport To Conduct Full-Scale Emergency Response Exercise —On March 4, the Airport will hold a full-scale disaster exercise, required every three years by the Federal Aviation Association (FAA). The exercise will be held on the airside of the North Concourse, and the scenario is based on a charter plane losing control on take-off and veering across the runway up to a new building. In cooperation with the Volunteer Center, there will be approximately 80 volunteers acting as victims. Alaska Airlines will simulate the scenario's airline, and San José Police and Fire Departments, medical, and mutual aid units will also participate. Observers and evaluators, including Airport airline station managers, will be inside the North Concourse, observing the exercise. The exercise will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will take about two hours, followed by debriefing and evaluation. For more information, contact John Aitken at 277-5377.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: City Manager's Weekly Report

Date: February 27, 2009

Page 2 of 4

Prescription Discount Card Program —The Housing Department has partnered with the National League of Cities (NLC), and CVS Caremark to offer a new prescription discount program to help uninsured residents cope with the high cost of prescriptions. The Prescription Discount Card Program will offer savings on prescription drugs to residents who are without health insurance, a traditional benefits plan, or have prescriptions that are not covered by their insurance. The discount card is free, and users will save an average of 20 percent off the regular retail price at most major participating pharmacies. The program is tentatively set to begin in May 2009. Discount cards will be available through community centers, libraries, San José City Hall, local nonprofit service providers, and other appropriate distributors. For more information, contact Leslye Krutko at 535-3851.

Urban Forestry Management Team —In Fiscal Year 2008-2009, a temporary Urban Forestry Manager position was created to implement several strategies designed to enhance the health and sustainability of the City's urban forest. Unfortunately, due to temporary nature of the position and the uncertainty of ongoing funding for it, the position was not filled. In response, an inter-departmental team was formed for the duration of this fiscal year to perform some of the key tasks that align with the goal of ensuring a healthy and sustainable urban forest. Priority tasks for this team include:

- Developing opportunities to streamline public access for tree-related services,
- Establishing a sustainable methodology for tracking the planting of trees throughout the City, in support of the Green Vision goal to plant 100,000 trees,
- Overseeing initial implementation of two CalFire grants to develop a street tree inventory system,
- Establishment of a citywide Best Management Practices for the care of the urban forest, and
- Creating the framework for an Urban Forest Master Plan.

City Arborist, Ralph Mize, is serving as the Acting Urban Forestry Manager and leading this team of employees from various departments, including Transportation; Planning, Building and Code Enforcement; ESD; and PRNS. During Mr. Mize's temporary assignment, DOT's Assistant Arborist, Russell Hansen, is serving as the City Arborist, overseeing all tree related services provided by DOT, such as issuing street tree planting, removal, and pruning permits, providing tree care advice to residents, and managing tree complaints and corrective maintenance needs. For any street tree related questions or service requests, contact Russell Hansen at 277-2756. For questions related to the work of the inter-departmental team, contact Ralph Mize at 277-5514.

Neighborhood Cleanup Nets 38.7 Tons of Debris —An eight-day cleanup launched by Strong Neighborhood Initiative (SNI) staff in the Five Wounds/Brookwood Terrace SNI Area resulted in the collection of 38.7 tons of debris, with 96.7% of it recycled or used for composting. Between January 26-February 3, workers and volunteers worked along South 22nd Street, Coyote Creek, and Caltrans right-of-way between McLaughlin Avenue and Coyote Creek. Volunteers helped dismantle several gang hangouts that were of major concern to community members and increased sight lines along trails and areas where people were believed to be hiding behind shrubs and trees. Over 40 gallons of illegally dumped motor oil were disposed of properly, avoiding runoff into nearby Coyote Creek. Caltrans also repaired some broken fences that had allowed illegal access into the area frequently used by gang members. The project was paid for by the City, CalTrans, and San Jose Redevelopment Agency.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: City Manager's Weekly Report

Date: February 27, 2009

Page 3 of 4

5th Annual Smart Start/Best Practices Conference —On March 28, the Library's Early Care and Education Services unit, in collaboration with the Santa Clara County Office of Education, will hold the 5th *Annual Smart Start/Best Practices in Early Education Conference* at Evergreen Valley College. Each year, nearly 500 early educators, childcare providers, and parents attend workshops on how to prepare young children for lifelong academic and social success. Workshops are conducted by local experts in the fields of early education, health and nutrition, literacy, and special needs. The conference is free for staff and parents from the 53 Smart Start San José certified sites. For more information, call 808-2617.

San José Public Library Hosts 21st Annual San Jose Children's Faire — On Saturday, April 25, the Library's *Smart Start San Jose* program presents the 21st *Annual San Jose Children's Faire*, themed "Growing Up in San José: Bridging Our Past with Our Future." The event will feature family-oriented stage entertainment, special attractions, and hands-on activities for children, ages two to 12. Information regarding education, child care, health and safety resources, creative arts and recreational programs will also be available. An estimated 5,000 attend this well-established annual, free, one-day outdoor festival designed to link parents and caregivers of young children with community organizations that serve their needs. Booth applications are currently being accepted through April 4 from local non-profits, community organizations, local government agencies and businesses that provide programs and services for families with young children. Fees vary according to the type of booth. No sales, other than food and beverages at designated food booths, are permitted at the Faire. For more information and booth applications, visit www.sjlibrary.org/services/early_care/moyc/events.htm or call 808-2617.

Council Declares "The First Tee Week"—On February 24, Council declared a proclamation making the week of February 26 - March 1 "The First Tee Week" in the City of San José. The First Tee program, a cooperative between the City's Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) and San Jose Sports Authority, focuses on instilling character development and life-enhancing values on young people through the game of golf. In conjunction with *The First Tee Week*, the City will also host the national *Forces For Good* conference this weekend, featuring keynote speaker General Colin Powell. For more information, contact Cindy Rebhan at 277-5739.

Neighbors in the Chambers Sessions Off to a Successful Start—On February 21, the City launched a new training series aimed at helping San José residents become effective and informed community advocates. Over 50 residents attended the first session, "From Idea to Action," led by Dottie Barney of the City Clerk's Office and Lisa Herrick from the City Attorney's Office. During the 2-hour session, residents learned how an item arrives at City Council for action. The next Neighbors in the Chambers session, "City Council Meeting 101," is scheduled for March 21 and will walk participants through a City Council meeting. The final session on April 18, "The Effective Advocate," will be led by neighborhood leaders, with residents playing the roles of City staff, Council members and community activists. The series was created by the City Manager's Office, Neighborhood Development Center, Strong Neighborhoods Initiative and neighborhood volunteers. All sessions are 10 a.m. to noon in the Council Chambers at City Hall. For more information, contact Ernest Guzman at 723-4114.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: City Manager's Weekly Report

Date: February 27, 2009

Page 4 of 4

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Grand Opening of "Maui Wowi" Café at Berryessa Branch Library—Saturday, February 28, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Berryessa Branch Library, 3355 Noble Avenue. For information, call 808-3050.


Spring Classes, Spring Sports Leagues and Spring Camps Registration; Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. At any City of San Jose Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services Community Center or online at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/register>. For more information 793-5565 or SJregistration@sanjoseca.gov.

Teen Tech Week "Battle of the Bands – Live Concert"—Saturday, March 14, 2– 5 p.m. at Almaden Library and Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue. Event culminates with online competition sponsored by the Library's Young Adult Services. For information, call 808-3040.

Summer Daycamps and Summer Aquatics Programs Registration -Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m. At any City of San Jose Parks, Recreation & Neighborhood Services Community Center or online at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/register>. For more information, call 793-5565 or e-mail SJregistration@sanjoseca.gov.

Great American Litter Pickup –Saturday, April 25, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Servando Perez at 277-3208 or Servando.perez@sanjoseca.gov. Locations listed below.

- Starbird Youth Center, 1050 Boynton Avenue, San Jose, CA 95117
- Oak Grove High School, 285 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, CA 95123
- Roosevelt Community Center, 901 E. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95116
- Berryessa Community Center, 3050 Berryessa Road, San Jose, CA 95132
- Alviso Youth Center, 5040 N. First Street, San Jose, CA, 95134
- Mayfair Community Center, 2039 Kammerer, San Jose, CA 95116
- Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Avenue, San Jose, CA 95128
- Seven Trees Elementary School, 3975 Mira Loma, San Jose, CA 95111
- Dove Hill Elementary, 1460 Colt Way, San Jose, CA 95121
- Camden Community Center, 3369 Union Avenue, San Jose, CA 95124
- Pioneer High School, 1290 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, CA 95118


Debra Figone
City Manager