



Office of Councilmember Nora Campos District Five- East San Jose



MARCH 2009 NEWSLETTER

Message from the Councilmember

On January 20, 2009, over 500 students, families and friends gathered at the Mexican Heritage Plaza to watch history as President Barack Obama took the oath of office and was sworn in as the 44th President of the United States. I co-hosted the event and had the opportunity to share a few remarks about the impact of President Obama's presidency and how we, residents in the City of San Jose, must unite, despite our differences, in order to serve the common good. I look forward to improving the quality of life for all District Five residents and working to ensure that our children have the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

This year, I am the chair of the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee. I will be working with my colleagues, educators, parents and students over the next year to introduce bold initiatives to help ensure student success. I am working with the City Manager's Office to develop and implement the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee's workplan this year. I look forward to tackling important issues like expanding the use of our homework centers and improving city services that will enhance the quality of life for all residents.

On February 25, 2009, I visited the California State Capitol to meet with several members of the Assembly to discuss California Penal Code 647(f), the public intoxication law, which has raised much concern. Assemblymember Joe Coto (D-San Jose) has placed a "spot bill" in the Assembly to potentially amend Penal Code 647(f) to include more objective criteria. It is important that we have objective criteria to ensure that innocent people are not falsely or pre-emptively arrested, and to protect cities, police departments and police officers from potential litigation. I had very positive conversations with the assembly members I met with, and they look forward to learning more about San Jose's efforts to address this issue, especially the recommendations from the Public Intoxication Task Force.

In January, I was appointed by Mayor Reed to serve on the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Policy Team. On Friday, February 27, 2009, I attended the first task force meeting of the year. I look forward to working with stakeholders to reduce the gang violence that has spiraled out of control and plagued our streets for the past two years. It is important that our youth have the opportunity to succeed in a safe environment. Many community based organizations are working together to provide prevention, intervention and after-care services to some of our at-risk and gang involved youth. I will continue to work with my colleagues on the City Council and the Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force Policy Team to address gang issues affecting our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Great American Litter Pick Up

If you are tired of seeing litter and graffiti in your neighborhood, around your school or at your park, and aren't sure how to help, bring your neighbors, friends and family to the Great American Litter Pick Up on **Saturday, April 25, 2009 at the Mayfair Community Center**. The Silicon Valley Anti-Litter Campaign is hosting this free public event in cities throughout Santa Clara County. I invite you to come spend the morning beautifying your neighborhood and getting to know your community over a free volunteer lunch. This is a great opportunity to receive community service hours and affect change in your neighborhood. And remember, each year there is a volunteer competition between all 10 City Council Districts, so recruit other District 5 residents to join you! For more information, please contact my office at (408) 535-4949.



Mayfair Community Center Grand Opening



On Saturday, January 31, 2009, over 700 community members attended the Mayfair Community Center and Pool Grand Opening. The celebration began with Mariachi Aztlan, followed by Mictlan de Danza y Cultura Azteca. It was amazing to see so many families waiting anxiously to enter the building to get a glimpse at their new center and to see which programs and services are offered to the community.

This project is an example of what can happen when city government works with a community to turn its dream into a reality. I would like to thank the community for their support and vision with this project. The City of San Jose and the Redevelopment Agency partnered with the Mayfair Neighborhood Action Coalition (NAC) on this project, which was the top improvement priority in the Mayfair Neighborhood Improvement Plan.

The new community center is 22,000 square feet and has classrooms, a computer lab, a teen recreation center, an early education room, a dance room, a banquet room, a fitness room, and a large enclosed outdoor patio. The center also features a swimming pool, skate park, water spray park, playground, and a newly renovated public park. For more information about the programs and services offered, please contact the Mayfair Community Center at (408) 794-1060.



San Jose Parks & Recreation's Registration System Goes Online!

Online 
Registration
City Activity Guide
Now Available!

The City of San José's Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services has launched a NEW online registration system for activities, classes and programs. You will be able to search and register online for activities for you and your whole family at any City of San Jose Parks and Recreation facility, from any computer. Registration for Spring Classes, Spring Sports Leagues and Spring Camps begins Saturday, March 7 at 10 a.m. and you can register on Saturday, March 14 at 10 a.m. for Summer Day Camps and Summer Aquatics Programs. For more information, please visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/register/>.

Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Pricing and Revenue

Last month, the City of San José Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) held community meetings to discuss the 5-year Pricing & Revenue Plan and review the costs and pricing methods for programs and services currently offered. The goals of the plan are to create a financially sustainable approach to providing parks and recreation services in San Jose, maximize the usage of programs and facilities, and ensure fair and affordable access to PRNS services by implementing a scholarship policy.

This Pricing & Revenue plan is particularly crucial as our city prepares for a difficult 2009-10 budget process. In order to continue providing services to our residents, we must develop strategies that are sustainable, fair and serve our residents' needs. I encourage those that wish to share their input, feedback and recommendations for this plan to email katie.crowder@sanjoseca.gov, or to attend the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee meeting on March 12, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. where PRNS will be presenting policy recommendations to the Committee. For more information, please visit <http://sanjoseca.gov/prns/pricing-revenue/>.



HeartSmart



On February 5, 2009, Councilmember Ash Kalra and I celebrated the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign, to increase awareness about heart disease and encourage women to take charge of their heart health. The event featured the red lighting of the Rotunda, heart disease survivors' stories, youth-produced "Go Red" public service announcements and a resource fair.

Cardiovascular diseases claim the lives of over 480,000 women each year, about one per minute. It is important that we continue to fight this disease by helping women turn simple choices into life-saving actions.

For more information, please visit www.GoRedForWomen.org.



San José Smoke-Free Parks Campaign

In October 2007, the San Jose City Council voted to ban smoking in all city parks. The ordinance bans smoking in any area owned, leased or occupied by the City including: sidewalks, trails and pathways in or around park facilities, park strips and other grounds of any park and within 25 feet of any entrance, exit, operable window, or intake opening of any golf course, community center or library.

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services has received funding for a two-year educational campaign about the smoking ban in San Jose parks. Signs have been installed in citing the smoking ban and an outreach program will educate the public through televised public service announcements, radio public service announcements and billboards. **Violators of the smoking ban may be subject to citation or fine.**



NO SMOKING
IT IS AGAINST THE
LAW TO SMOKE IN
THESE PREMISES

Welcome, students, to the City of San Jose!

The City of San Jose has learning opportunities for interested students from junior high school to graduate school. If you or someone you know is interested in an internship with the City of San Jose, please visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/students>.



Calendar of Events

Wednesday, March 11, 2009	Santa Clara County Federal Credit Union Opening East San Jose Branch	East San Jose Branch 255 N. White Road San Jose, CA	10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ribbon Cutting at 1 p.m.
Wednesday, March 18, 2009	MACSA Youth Center Improvements Celebration	MACSA Youth Center 660 Sinclair Drive San Jose, CA	11 a.m. to 12 p.m. More Info.: (408) 535-8549
Wednesday, March 25, 2009	City of San Jose Sign Code Update Community Input Meeting	Roosevelt Community Center 901 East Santa Clara Street San Jose, CA	7 p.m. More Info.: (408) 535-7837
Thursday, March 26, 2009	City of San Jose Public Intoxication Arrests Task Force	San Jose City Hall 200 East Santa Clara Street San Jose, CA	6 p.m. More Info.: (408) 535-8180
Saturday, March 28, 2009	Cesar Chavez Memorial Walk (Registration Fee Varies)	Mexican Heritage Plaza 1700 Alum Rock Avenue San Jose, CA	8:30 a.m. More Info.: (408) 453-1270
 Tuesday, March 31, 2009	Cesar Chavez Commemorative Breakfast * \$35 per ticket	Mayfair Community Center 2039 Kammerer Avenue San Jose, CA	8 a.m. More Info.: (408) 928-5576

Councilmember Nora Campos • City of San José

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