



CITY OF SUNNYVALE

# QUARTERLY REPORT

Thoughts From Your City Manager

## Controlling Our Financial Destiny



Much has been written and debated about public pensions. As the politicking swirls, it can be difficult to discern what is real and what really matters – whether pensions have an impact on Sunnyvale’s financial well-being and ability to provide services. Let’s be honest – of course they do. Because we are a service-providing organization, our employee salaries and benefits are by nature a significant component of our budget. Thus, our ability to manage them is equally significant – it is our responsibility to have a balanced approach and ensure pension costs are not detrimental. As I write this, the City Council is preparing to vote on the Fiscal Year 2013/14 budget. This budget not only maintains the structural balance that came into place last year, but also moves us toward providing services at optimal levels and securing a more stable financial future. We have achieved this over the past five years by making difficult but necessary choices about our revenues and the expenses that must compete for them, such as ensuring that any salary proposals and hiring decisions are considered along with all other service needs, and not before.

My philosophy has always been to control my own destiny. Despite being faced with unprecedented economic challenges and uncertainty due to the global recession, I can confidently say we are controlling Sunnyvale’s financial destiny with this

year’s proposed budget and 20-year financial plan. We have a proactive and aggressive plan in place that – if we continue to follow its principles – reduces our salary and pension costs and pays for our pension liability over the long-term. We achieve this, in part, because

the recommended FY 2013/14 budget assumes that employees will contribute their full retirement costs, and we will only provide salary increases as funding allows. Though these terms still need to be negotiated with employee bargaining units, the long-term financial

model shows a modest savings to the net impact of the City’s retirement costs, which is a *significant* achievement.

I meet regularly with other city managers in the Bay Area and know of no other city as

*See City Manager, page 3*

### CalPERS Basics

## How the Retirement System Works

By City Charter, Sunnyvale is a member of the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS) – a state agency that manages retirement plans and health benefit programs for state employees, local agencies and schools. These retirement plans are governed by law, require legislation to change and are administered by a board of directors.

CalPERS offers “defined benefit plans” which guarantee employees benefits upon retirement based on a formula and years in service. Because the benefits are guaranteed, the risk is on the employer to ensure enough funds are available to pay retirees. This is in contrast to “defined contribution plans,” such as 401K plans, which establish how much an employer

will contribute toward the plan. As a result, the risk is on the employee because the amount available to them upon retirement is dependent upon the investment returns of their portfolio.

Even if we were to leave CalPERS, the City would have to provide its current employees with the same or better pension benefit because

court interpretation of contract law considers the benefit to be a vested right upon employment.

The City has two categories of employees within the CalPERS system – Miscellaneous (non-sworn) and Safety (sworn) employees – each with different negotiated pension benefits. CalPERS funds the pension benefit with employer and employee

contributions, and investment returns on the plan’s assets. The contribution percentage rates that CalPERS charges its member agencies are designed to pay for the pension benefit based on certain assumptions, including actuarial data and projected investment returns.

The employee rate is set

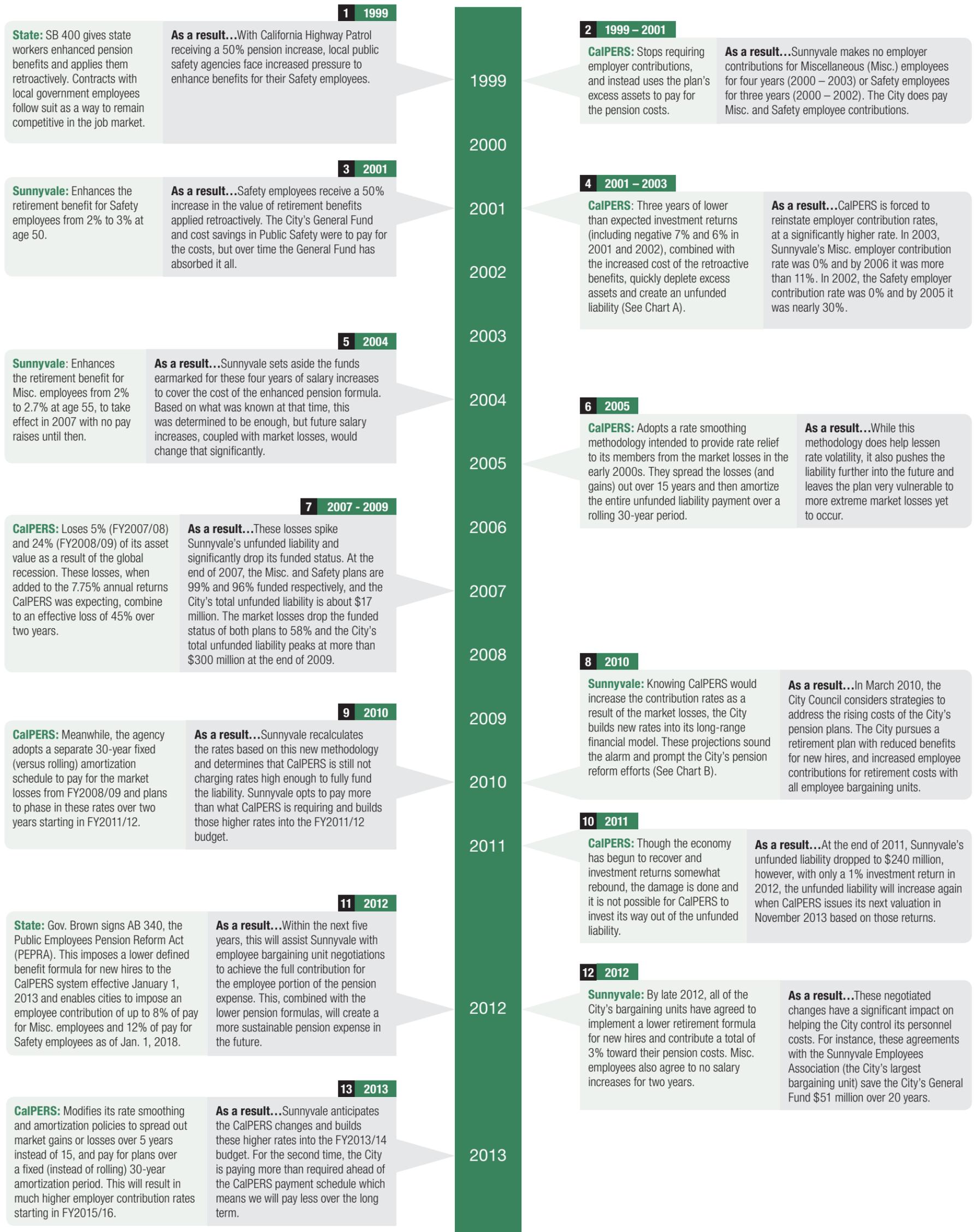
*See CalPERS Basics, page 3*



## What Happened

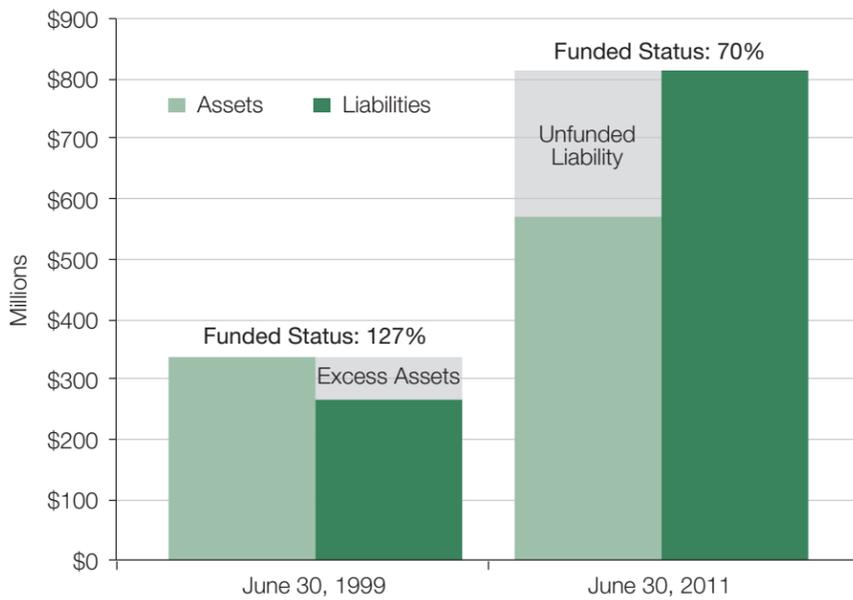
# Events and Decisions Shaping Pensions

The exceptional growth of the economy and stock market in the 1990s, spurred on by the dot-com boom, helped CalPERS achieve far better than expected market returns that resulted in excess assets. In this climate and under the belief that the costs could be paid for by market returns, the California State legislature passed CalPERS-sponsored SB 400. 🌱



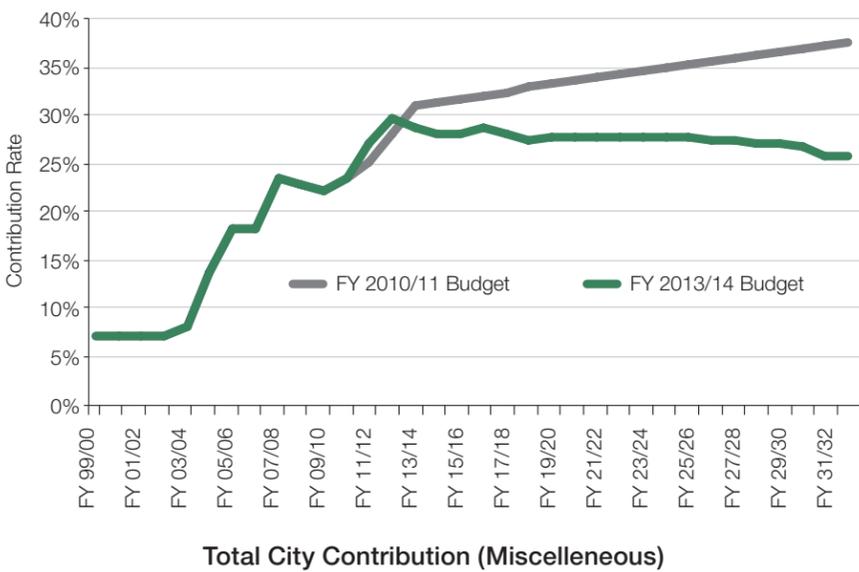


**Chart A. Funded Status Declines as Liability Grows Faster than Assets**

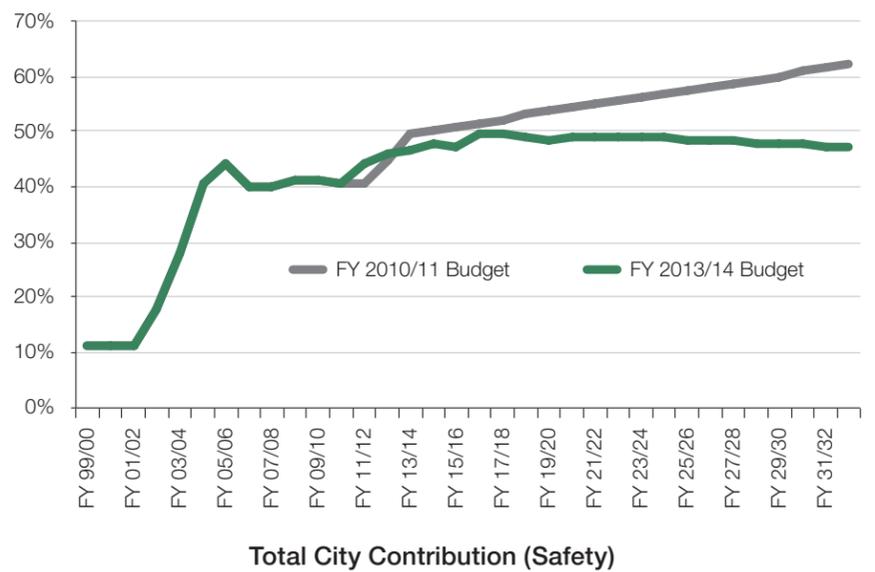


- The pension plan's assets include employer and employee contributions and investment returns. By 1999, investment returns had been so good that Sunnyvale's Misc. and Safety plans had a total of more than \$72 million in excess assets.
- The plan's liability is the estimated cost of the pension benefit the City has agreed to pay its employees upon their retirement. The liability increases over time and CalPERS periodically adjusts the cost based on updated actuarial information.
- Between 1999 and 2011, the liability increased more than normal due to enhanced benefits and changes to actuarial assumptions. Concurrently, severe market losses caused assets to significantly decrease and the CalPERS rate-setting methodology resulted in rates that were too low to make up for those losses.
- These factors caused the liability to exceed the plan's assets which created the unfunded liability. In 2011, Sunnyvale's plans had a combined unfunded liability of more than \$242 million.

**Chart B. Pension Reform Measures Lower Long-term Costs**



**Total City Contribution (Miscellaneous)**



**Total City Contribution (Safety)**

To pay for the unfunded liability after the market losses in the early 2000s, CalPERS sharply increases contribution rates. In FY2010/11, Sunnyvale projects that the rates will only continue to grow as shown by the gray line. As a result, the City begins taking pension reform measures that include a reduced benefit plan for new hires, increased employee contributions, two years of no salary increases for Miscellaneous employees and paying a higher contribution rate than required by CalPERS. The green line shows the impact of these changes as well as those imposed by AB340 (PEPRA). In addition, the green line reflects one of the most important changes currently assumed in the FY 2013/14 budget — that Miscellaneous and Safety employees will pay their entire employee contribution rates. These changes still need to be negotiated with each bargaining unit and are essential to achieving the savings shown above and ensuring the City's ability to fund the pension obligation. 🌱

## City Manager, continued from page 1

well-positioned financially as Sunnyvale. As testament, Moody's Investors Services confirmed their highest credit rating for Sunnyvale in January, which is an important independent measure of our financial standing. A key part of their triple-A rating was the City's approach to funding our pension liability, including contributing 19% more for our pension costs in 2012 than CalPERS required of us. The

Moody's report also specifically cited "the City's exceptionally strong budget management and financial profile." Indeed, it has been our long-range financial model that has given us a window into the future, the ability to weigh the impact of various decisions and the luxury of time to carry them out.

We all know that talk is cheap; a plan is only as good as those who oversee and adhere to it. We certainly have benefited from the

commitment of our City Council and employees to slowing the growth of personnel costs. Now we must remain committed to looking critically at past decisions, learning from them and being vigilant about not repeating choices that contributed to the pension challenges we are working to overcome. If it's too good to be true – such as zero percent contributions and relying on market gains to pay the way – it probably is. Sunnyvale has

taken a leadership role among local governments with policies to address a very complicated problem, such as paying our pension contribution ahead of schedule. I encourage you to read the pension information in this *Quarterly Report*; more important, I encourage you to monitor the City's budget process to ensure we remain true to the plan and committed to controlling our financial destiny. 🌱

## CalPERS Basics, continued from page 1

by law; Sunnyvale currently contributes the majority of that rate for its employees. Having employees pay their full employee contribution rate is one of the most significant

strategies the City is pursuing to reduce its pension costs. The employer rate is dictated by CalPERS and is specific to Sunnyvale's retirement formulas and demographics. The rate

fluctuates based on changes in actuarial assumptions and market returns.

Many public agencies, including Sunnyvale, do not pay into the Social Security system,

which also uses employer and employee contributions. In the private sector, employers and their employees contribute a combined 12.4% of pay into Social Security (6.2% each). 🌱



## Service Profile

# Congratulations, It's a Tree!

In Sunnyvale, we are pretty passionate about our trees because we know that trees give a lot back. That is why any Sunnyvale tree at least a foot in diameter is protected by the City. Unfortunately, some trees can create a safety hazard through growth, foliage drop or by weakening and dying. So when it becomes necessary to remove a public or private tree, a permit is needed. Here's what you need to know about adding, altering or removing trees in Sunnyvale.

### What is a City Tree?

City trees, or public trees owned and monitored by the City, are planted in public rights of way, which are roughly 11 feet from the curb on each side of every street. In areas with older sidewalks, the tree is in a patch of land between the curb and the sidewalk. In newer configurations, the curb, gutter and sidewalk are all one piece, so the tree will be after the sidewalk. Of course, City trees also include trees in any public green space, such as parks, median strips and City campuses.

### Becoming a New City Tree Parent.

The first step to getting a new City tree planted is to contact the Trees Division with your request. Staff will determine if there is an open spot for a tree adjacent to your property and let you know which trees the City Arborist has approved for planting on your street. New tree parents have to agree to watering the tree and contacting the City Arborist if there are

any problems for the first three years. The City takes care of trimming, pruning and training City trees. While you may have to wait for the tree due to staff availability, the tree will be a hardy, young tree so you can start to enjoy the benefits of your new family addition right away.

### Doing a Tree Makeover.

If you plan on having a private contractor prune a City tree because you cannot wait for the City pruning schedule, you will need to download a permit application from *Trees.inSunnyvale.com*. On the application, provide information about the contractor, including license number and proof of insurance, and attach a copy of your own homeowner's insurance. Afterward, the Planning Division will issue a permit at no cost. Not only does the permit help the City Arborist know that someone with the right skills is providing proper care for the tree, it also lets the City know that the homeowner is protected in case of an accident.

### Saying Goodbye to Your Leafy Friend.

There are many reasons that a tree might have to be removed, such as safety or a property expansion. To remove a private tree larger than a foot in diameter, you will need to complete a Planning Division permit application and include a one-time fee (\$259.50 as of June 2013) to have the City Arborist come to your home and assess the tree for removal. During the visit, the City Arborist will discuss his findings and the recommendation he will be giving to the Planning Division. If the recommendation is that you can remove the tree at your own cost, the City Planning Division will issue the work permit. The whole process currently takes up to 10 business days.

Because we want to continue to grow our urban forest, the tree removal permit will be accompanied by a letter stating that you will need to plant a new 15-gallon size (or larger) tree. The new tree does not have to be in the same place as the one

that was removed. Alternatively, there is an in-lieu fee of \$251 to help us plant another tree elsewhere.

To request removal of a City tree, download a permit application from *Trees.inSunnyvale.com* and provide additional information if a private contractor will be doing the work. 🌳

### How to Contact the Trees Division and Get a Permit Application.

Permit applications can be downloaded from the City's website at *Trees.inSunnyvale.com*. If you need more information on tree permits, fees and processes, call the Tree Division hotline at (408) 730-7506.

### How to Contact the Planning Division for Private Tree Removal.

Visit *Planning.inSunnyvale.com* or call (408) 730-7444.

## Q&A

# Under the Bark: Sunnyvale's Arborists

With an estimated 100,000 City and private trees, City Arborist Joe Gonsalves and Urban Landscape Manager Leonard Dunn certainly have their work cut out for them. So, we shadowed them to find out what it is like to be the City's tree experts.

### QR: What is a City Arborist?

**Dunn:** While we're both arborists certified through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), Joe is the field guy and official City Arborist. I'm the Urban Landscape Manager, so I plan, research, propose policies, manage the budget and oversee everything to do with City trees.

**Gonsalves:** I'm in charge of the health of the nearly 37,000 City trees in Sunnyvale as well as supervising the maintenance of some parks. When it comes to

a City Tree, we're the ultimate authority. We oversee both West Coast Arborists (WCA), who are the City's tree pruning service contractor, and our City's tree crew. We're also the ones who make recommendations to the Planning Division regarding tree removal permits for private trees.

### QR: So what is a typical day for the City Arborist?

**Gonsalves:** We get 60 to 80 calls a week to look at trees and we respond to every one by assessing the tree's health

within 10 business days. Most calls are from residents wanting City Trees pruned, removed or sprayed. About four requests a week are for private tree removals. I spend most of my day in the field responding to these requests, checking on my street tree crews and supervising my parks – the biggest being Baylands.

### QR: How do you manage all of the tree work?

**Gonsalves:** All tree maintenance work, including

pruning by WCA or by City staff, is managed by the City's street trees program. We decide which blocks of trees or individual trees get pruned and how much to reduce them. By the first of March, June, September and December, City staff posts a list of streets scheduled for pruning by WCA to *Trees.inSunnyvale.com*.

**Dunn:** Individual requests for City tree pruning are handled case-by-case. Once we assess the situation, we

See *Under the Bark*, page 5



## Under the Bark, continued from page 4



City of Sunnyvale's Gabe Gaeta climbs a ginkgo to start pruning.

determine if the tree can wait for the next block pruning cycle by WCA or if we need a City crew to prune sooner because of hazardous conditions. In general, WCA provides block pruning and City staff prune individual trees; however, the City crew may do some block pruning if resources allow.

### QR: Can a home owner prune a City Tree themselves?

**Dunn:** In general, no, although they may choose to apply for a permit to have the tree pruned at their own expense by a licensed arborist if the tree doesn't meet criteria to be pruned by the City. The only exception is if the homeowner is a certified arborist with the proper licenses and insurance. City trees can be 50 feet tall. If you don't know what you are doing...

**Gonsalves:** It's going to hurt when you fall. Our crews get extensive safety training. We don't want people climbing on ladders or anything where they can get hurt. But we have let people do a little pruning of branches that are less than an inch in diameter if they stay on the ground and only use hand tools. Just remember, any work

on a City tree requires that you notify us before you do it.

### QR: Do you take calls about private trees?

**Gonsalves:** We don't do private consulting. We're the arborists for the City. We just check out private trees if there's a request for removal and make our recommendation to the City's Planning Division. But just because someone thinks a tree drops a lot of leaves doesn't mean that it gets to be removed.

### QR: Where can residents find certified private arborists?

**Dunn:** We refer people to the ISA website at [ISA-arbor.com](http://ISA-arbor.com) or the American Society of Consulting Arborists at [ASCA-consultants.org](http://ASCA-consultants.org). You can search for locally certified arborists by your zip code. And for tips on how to care for private trees, [TreesAreGood.org](http://TreesAreGood.org) is a great resource.

### QR: Can a resident go out and pick any tree to replace a removed City Tree?

**Dunn:** The City designates the street tree species on each street to have uniform aesthetics and consistent pruning cycles. There is some



West Coast Arborists prepare for block pruning on Haverhill Drive.

variation depending on site conditions, such as soil dryness, utility poles or signage, but the species is set for each block. Residents can't just plant any species in the right of way. And any tree planted in the right of way requires a permit. Good news is the permit is free and the new tree will be inspected by the City arborist prior to planting to make sure it is in good health.

### QR: Let's talk Liquidambar. There's a rumor they were brought here because people from the east coast wanted to see fall leaf changes.

**Gonsalves:** They were brought out here because they made Sunnyvale look pretty. Back in the day, when the developers put up new buildings, they knew people wanted to see nice, tree-lined streets. That's why Mary Avenue has all of those Southern Magnolias. The Liquidambar were put all over the place because they are fast growers. They get big and green and have nice colors... nobody told them about the fruit balls or the massive roots. So once a Liquidambar is removed, we replace it with a tree that has less of these problems.

### QR: So do you guys ever hug trees?

**Gonsalves:** I'm really passionate about trees. When we plant a tree, it's our youngster. It stands on its own, and we protect it. So if we catch someone vandalizing or hurting them, it's a big, serious problem. That's why we make sure that private arborists know what they are doing and have proper certifications before we recommend that Planning issue a permit.

**Dunn:** I tell people to go stand next to a telephone pole and see how much emotional attachment you have to it. It used to be a tree, but now it just feels like a pole. Now, go stand next to a living tree. You will have a personal connection to it. Research has shown that trees have a positive impact on our health, property values, temperature control and even traffic calming. Trees are no longer considered just ornamental. Today we know that they do so much more for us – socially and environmentally. 🌱



West Coast Arborists use a long, manual pruner to get the smaller limbs and guide branches down as they are being cut.

### Tree Planting Volunteers Needed

Sunnyvale has more than 4,500 spots where City trees could be planted – and a severe shortage of people to do the work. If you or your organization would like to become an Urban Forestry Advocate, you can visit [Volunteer.inSunnyvale.com](http://Volunteer.inSunnyvale.com) and fill out the online application or call (408) 730-7533 to talk to someone in the Volunteer Resources Program.



West Coast Arborists carefully choose where to cut for the health and training of the tree.



## Public Safety

# Armed with Crime Prevention Knowledge

On March 26, a resident on Sunset Avenue noticed a suspicious vehicle parked in front of his neighbor's house. As he dialed 9-1-1, he saw three people wearing rubber gloves leave the house through the side yard. He was able to describe the subjects, their vehicle, read off a partial license plate and indicate which direction their vehicle went. At the same time, another resident on nearby Sara Avenue called to report a suspicious male entering the backyard of her neighbor's house. As a result of these active citizens watching out for their neighbors, all four suspects were arrested. These are just a couple of examples of Sunnyvale residents being alert to unusual circumstances and working in partnership with Public Safety to keep our City safe.

Knowing your neighbors, removing clues that you are not home, being an inconvenience to burglars and being alert to suspicious activities are just some of the crime prevention methods that Public Safety Officers have shared with us below.



### Know Your Neighbors

Getting to know the people who live near you is more than a way to share tools and borrow a cup of sugar. Being a good neighbor also happens to be one of the most effective crime deterrents because you can look out for each other's property.

#### A Safety Checklist You Can Borrow

- ✓ Get to know all of your adjacent neighbors
  - ✓ Know who belongs in the neighborhood
  - ✓ Know when something is out of place
- ✓ Make the neighborhood look cared for and connected
  - ✓ Invite neighbors to a social event to establish trust
  - ✓ Agree to watch out for each other's property during vacations
  - ✓ Walk around your neighbor's property to check for changes and show that someone is watching the house
  - ✓ Occasionally park a car in vacant driveways
  - ✓ Pick up mail, fliers and newspapers for each other
  - ✓ Put out and remove garbage carts on collection days even if the carts are empty
  - ✓ Water neighbors' plants or do light yard work to show someone is paying attention
- ✓ Create or join a Neighborhood Watch or Sunnyvale Neighborhood Association
  - ✓ *Neighbors.inSunnyvale.com* gives a contact list of existing Neighborhood Associations in Sunnyvale
  - ✓ *USAOnWatch.org* explains how to form a Neighborhood Watch
  - ✓ Sign up for neighborhood communications

### Know Your Wheels

In 2012, there were 504 thefts from vehicles and 234 stolen autos reported in Sunnyvale. Use these simple prevention tips to protect your vehicle and your family.

#### Don't advertise that you have stuff to steal

- ✓ Keep valuables out of sight. Take them with you or lock them in the trunk
- ✓ Add layers of protection, including common sense tactics, warning and immobilizing devices, and tracking mechanisms.
  - ✓ Close and lock the trunk, doors, sunroof, and all windows, and take the keys – even for quick errands and even in your own garage
  - ✓ Consider an audible car alarm to draw attention to the car if theft is attempted
  - ✓ Make theft-deterrence highly visible, such as using steering wheel locks, decals and window etchings with identification markers
  - ✓ Use immobilizing devices to prevent hot-wiring, such as smart keys, kill switches and fuel disablers
  - ✓ Consider a tracking device to help locate and recover if stolen
  - ✓ Park in highly-visible, well-lit areas because thieves avoid areas where they may be seen
- ✓ Don't lead them home
  - ✓ Keep a COPY of your vehicle registration in the car, but black out your address
  - ✓ Don't keep personal information on keys or key chains because thieves can then get into your home or office if the car or just the keys are stolen
  - ✓ Don't keep mail in the car with a visible home address for thieves to follow
  - ✓ Avoid leaving your garage door opener in the car, giving access to your home if the car is stolen or burgled





### Know Your Stuff

Let's face it: we arrange our homes for convenience. The things we need and use every day are easy to see and find. But that laptop left to charge while at work or a favorite necklace gingerly placed in the open to keep it from getting tangled, is also an easy target for a burglar to grab just as quickly. Practice being an inconvenience to a burglar with a few extra steps.

#### Be an Inconvenience

- ✓ **Keep valuables out of sight of windows and doors**
  - ✓ Close blinds when not at home
  - ✓ Take a walk around the property to see what others can see when they look in from a window or door and move any valuables out of sight
- ✓ **Use indoor, secondary blocking devices on all windows and sliding doors, such as a wooden rod**
- ✓ **Close and lock garage doors and doors leading into the garage from your home even if the garage door is locked**
- ✓ **Photograph and record serial numbers of important documents and valuables**
- ✓ **Store records of valuables off site in a safety deposit box or with a relative**
- ✓ **Download and activate tracking applications for electronic devices**
- ✓ **Consider security camera systems – even do-it-yourself ones**
  - ✓ If only one or two cameras are in the kit, make sure the view captures the front entrance and into the street to record license plates of passing cars



### Know Your Home

Most burglars look for quick, easy targets in low traffic areas. Any tactic that delays a burglar's entry is effective because the longer it takes to break into a home, the more likely someone will notice and call 9-1-1. So make it look like someone is home and make it harder to get inside to not only keep burglars out, but catch them if they try to get in.

#### Keep Them Guessing

- ✓ **Lock all gates leading to rear and side entrances because once out of sight, a burglar has all the time in the world to break in without being noticed**
- ✓ **All doorways and paths to doors should have lighting**
  - ✓ Use exterior lighting that gives at least 100 feet of visibility and is on timers or motion sensors to establish occupancy
- ✓ **Consider using outlet timers for radios, televisions and lights; this adds noise and light to make it seem like someone is home**
- ✓ **Deter burglars by installing and displaying signs for an alarm system**
- ✓ **Remove anything that obstructs the view to windows or doors and would allow someone to hide, like bushes and trees**
- ✓ **Keep tools (even gardening) locked up and inside to prevent them from being used to break a window or pry a door**
- ✓ **Don't leave shoes on the front porch as a clue of when you are home or not**

### Dealing with solicitors

- ✓ If someone knocks on the door, acknowledge them – even if you don't want to talk to them – through a locked door to let them know that someone is there
- ✓ Report any suspicious people immediately to the police
- ✓ Solicitors in Sunnyvale are required to get a permit, so if you do answer, ask to see their permit and identification
- ✓ If they can't produce a permit or identifications, or flash them quickly and take them away, ask them to leave and call 9-1-1 to report suspicious activity

### Know What to Do

"Something just didn't seem right" are the most common words residents say when they report a suspicious activity that turns out to be a crime. The quicker an alert citizen reports suspicious activity, the more likely criminals will be caught in the act.

**What is Suspicious Activity?** Seeing strangers go to the side or rear of a neighbor's house, suspects climbing in a window or testing all of the doorknobs and gates are more obvious suspicious activities. Other less obvious activities may occur when thieves are deciding which homes to hit. A car may drive by multiple times and slow down in front of unoccupied homes; a person sitting in a car for a while may be a lookout for a partner already inside of a home; and a stranger knocking and then walking around the house when no one responds are also suspicious activities.

**Call Us Right Away.** Call 9-1-1 immediately when you see suspicious activity. Help from active and alert citizens in our community increases the chances that officers will catch burglars in the act. So be the eyes and ears on the street and report suspicious activity right away. Don't wait.

#### What to Report When You Call 9-1-1

- ✓ Describe the suspicious activity
- ✓ Provide as much detail about the location as possible
- ✓ Provide the phone number you're calling from in case the call is dropped (especially when using a cell phone)
- ✓ Describe as much about the suspect(s) that you can remember, including: sex, race, height, weight, body-type, hair color and length, and eye color; any scars, marks, tattoos or distinguishing features; and everything you can remember about their clothing
- ✓ Describe the vehicle, including: license plate, color, make, model, style, old or new, number of doors, number of occupants, direction of travel and any distinguishing marks or features
- ✓ If weapons were involved, describe the type, number and which suspect(s) was armed

Officers will respond by first making sure that no life is in danger and then checking the property for evidence of criminal activity. You may see them arrive and walk around to check the area. Let the officers make sure everything is safe. They will approach you afterward to get any additional information. 🌐

### Contact Information

## For More Tips...

on how to prevent crimes, what to expect when reporting a crime and neighborhood watch programs, visit

*CrimePrevention.inSunnyvale.com* and remember to call 9-1-1 to report suspicious activity immediately. 🌐



## Planning & Permitting

# Mix of Development Activity Puts City on Pace for Another Banner Year

Throughout the City, a variety of projects are underway reflecting strong, diverse development activity from new housing, commercial and retail space to additions and improvements to existing buildings. The City is on-pace for another record permitting year as new businesses arrive and existing businesses grow in Sunnyvale, bringing jobs and boosting our local economy. The City's Planning Division has received a higher rate of planning applications this fiscal year compared to last. The majority of these applications are reinvestments in existing property – single-family residential remodels and additions, new tenants making improvements to existing buildings and new landscaping plans – versus new development. Although there are several pending applications for new developments, including requests requiring Environmental Impact Reports, the number of these projects is actually lower than in the previous fiscal year.

1

### Chick-fil-A

**Location:** 550 W. El Camino Real

**Project:** The owners of Beacon Lighting have retired after 35 years and are leasing their land to Chick-fil-A. The site of the former lighting store is currently under construction and Chick-fil-A expects to be open this fall.



2

### Downtown Sunnyvale

Downtown Sunnyvale continues to be an attractive destination for retail and restaurants.

**Businesses opening in downtown Sunnyvale include:**



**2A** Roberto's Cantina, 168 S. Murphy Ave. – just opened



**2B** Bambu Desserts & Drinks, 190 S. Frances St. – will open this summer



**2C** Rokko Japanese Restaurant, 188 S. Frances St. – just opened

**2D** IC Lounge, 193 S. Murphy Ave. – will open this summer

3

### Downtown Apartments by Prometheus

**Location:** 388-394 E. Evelyn Ave.

**Project:** A 67-unit apartment building at South Bayview and East Evelyn Avenues was approved by the City Council in March 2013 and will replace the Ryan hotel. The City anticipates building permit applications this summer. The same developer is working on a nearby project on the north side of Evelyn Avenue for a 117-unit apartment building at 457-475 E. Evelyn Ave. The City's Planning Commission approved this application in June 2013 but the City Council will now review it on appeal. The future residents of these developments will have easy access to the train station, historic Murphy Avenue and other Downtown Sunnyvale businesses and events.



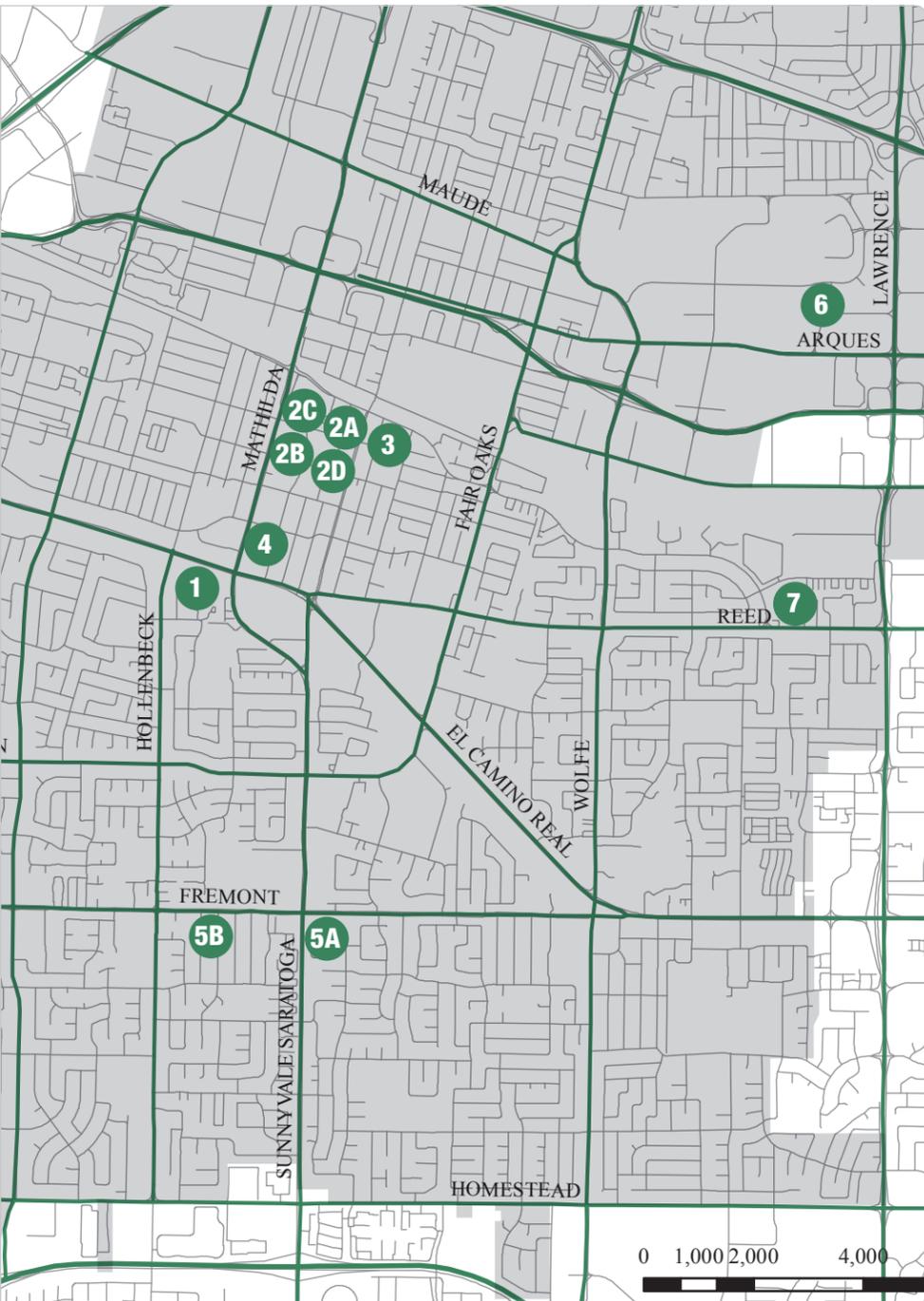


### Mixed-Use Office-Residential by SiliconSage Builders

Location: 538 S. Mathilda Ave.

Project: A three-story mixed-use development with a 5,500 square foot office building and 15 residential condominiums with below-ground parking. This project is the first major redevelopment in “Block 20” of the Downtown Specific Plan. It was approved by the Planning Commission in May 2013 and building permits are expected later this year.

4



5

### Single Family Homes by Classic Communities

Location: 1330 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Road (5A) and 636 W. Fremont Ave. (5B)

Project: Classic Communities is currently constructing 14 single-family homes at the Sunnyvale-Saratoga location. This project is replacing a single-family home and is scheduled to be complete this year. The project on Fremont Avenue was a former church and will be redeveloped into 18 single-family homes. The City is currently reviewing the building plans for this project.



6

### Class A Office Building by Santa Trinita Office, LLC

Location: 384 Santa Trinita Ave.

Project: This new, four-story, approximately 99,000 square foot Class A Office building was approved by the Planning Commission in 2008 and is now nearing completion. The site will include electric vehicle charging stations and required artwork.

### Lawrence Station Area Plan

- 629-acre area adjacent to Caltrain’s Lawrence Station and defined by a half-mile radius circle encompassing portions of Sunnyvale and Santa Clara.
- A Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) for the project has been meeting since last year to discuss the plan expectations, such as the density of and uses for future development.
- The City is now developing the Station Area Plan, which will apply only to Sunnyvale property and be available for review in January 2014.
- The City is also preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to review any impacts the Plan may have on the area such as traffic, air quality, greenhouse gas, infrastructure, noise and public facilities (e.g., parks, schools, sewer, water).
- Project information is available at [LawrenceStation.inSunnyvale.com](http://LawrenceStation.inSunnyvale.com)

7





Explore Sunnyvale

# Public Artwork Walking Tours

Sunnyvale has 76 publicly accessible, outdoor art structures in the City limits, 63 of which are in private development around commercial property. To explore the public art and history near you, visit [CityWalk.inSunnyvale.com](http://CityWalk.inSunnyvale.com) for a map of all of the outdoor art, heritage trees and some of Sunnyvale's historical landmarks. Or, try out one of these guided walks with friends and family.

## Downtown-Heritage District Walk: 3.5 miles (5.6 km)

There are a lot of hidden treasures near downtown that we walk by every day and may not even realize they are there. This walk starts in the fruit-themed parking garages across from Target and Macy's on the newly extended Taaffe Street (near what used to be Towncenter Drive). Stay on the left sidewalk and head toward Washington Avenue where you make a left. Because the sidewalk is incomplete, safely cross at the corner of Mathilda and walk back to Aries Way. Embedded into the left sidewalk in front of the buildings, you will find greenish-blue, fiber-optic and glass inlays by Nancy Mooslin titled "**Streams of Time**" **1** installed in 2003. Continue to the end of the street to see the stunning bronze and stainless steel fountain (2002) by Archie Held titled "**Community**" **2** outside of Mathilda Place. Follow the sidewalk along Altair to "**Ball Tower**" **3** by Michael Brown, which is a functional, steel clock tower that moves colored balls through a Rube Goldberg machine on the hour.

As Altair turns into Taaffe, you will find yourself at the grassy top of the Plaza de Sol parking structure, which has four painted aluminum sculptures by Gerald Heffernon (2004) called "**Fruit Gigantica**" **4**. Make sure you find the cherries, apple, pear and apricot before you head to Frances Street and use the crosswalks to get to the **Sunnyvale CalTrain Station clock tower** **5**. Walk toward

the tracks and use the pedestrian crossing to follow the sidewalk through the gate and onto the other side of Frances. Carefully cross to the sidewalk along Hendy Avenue and continue until you make a left at Sunnyvale Avenue across from the former **Hendy Iron Works** **6** which is now Northrop Grumman Marine Systems [OPTIONAL: Continue along Hendy past the main entrance to Northrop Grumman to find a **American Chestnut** **7** heritage tree in the 500 block

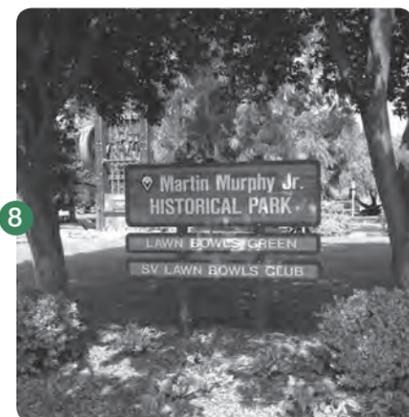
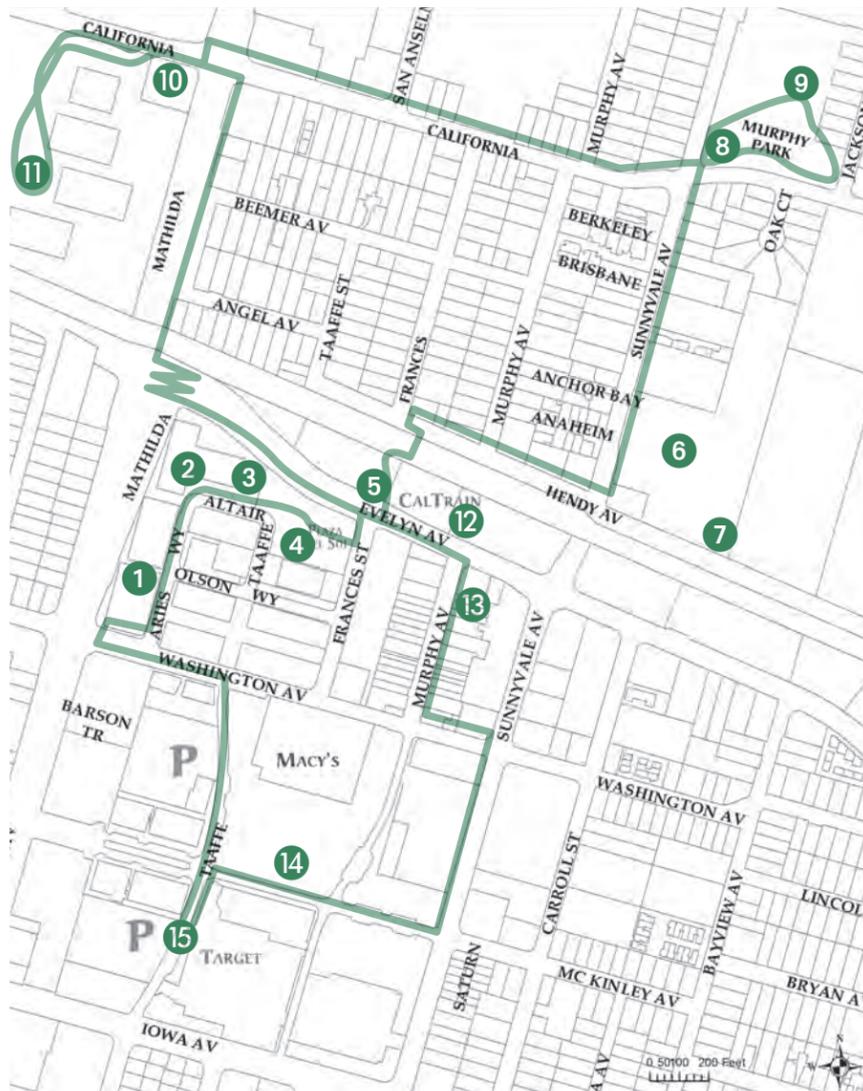
of Hendy, marking the former entrance to the Joshua Hendy Iron Works Site].

Use the sidewalk along Sunnyvale Avenue to continue to the corner of California Avenue and cross to the Martin Murphy Historical Park. At the corner, you will find a historic **Stamp Mill** **8**. Continue into the park to find a plaque for the **Martin Murphy, Jr. Home Site** **9** next to the lawn bowling green. Loop back toward the stamp mill, follow

the sidewalk along California Avenue and cross Mathilda. If you stayed on the right side, you may need to cross California to have the **Sunnyvale Fire Station 1** **10** on your left before you continue to where Sobrante Way is across from a parking lot entrance on your left. Keep to the public areas and follow the sidewalk to the center of the buildings where you will see the **Libby's Water Tower** **11** in front of Raytheon. Return to Fire Station 1 and cross Mathilda where you will turn right, but stay on the brickwork pathway to the left of the bridge to get to the pedestrian walkway. Climb the zigzagging ramp up the walkway and down the other side onto Evelyn.

Cross over Evelyn in front of Mathilda Place and turn left to walk along Evelyn or stay on the same side and walk to **Murphy Square** **12**, the former Murphy Station railroad stop, before crossing the street to historic Murphy Avenue. On the left will be the **Del Monte Building** **13** built in 1904.

Enjoy your stroll along Murphy Avenue, then make a left on Washington and cross to make a right and walk south on Sunnyvale Avenue around the Macy's parking lot. Take a right onto McKinley and head back to Taaffe. On your right, there will be a small grove of **heritage trees** **14** on what used to be Town Center Mall. Turn left at Taaffe to see the tall, painted steel sculptures of "**Meadow Flowers**" **15** by Troy Corliss installed in 2009. 🌻





### Civic Center-Washington Park Walk: 2.5 miles, 4 km

A popular lunchtime walk for City staff, this short route circles the City of Sunnyvale’s offices, highlights some historical homes and winds around the City’s oldest park.

Start at the **Sunnyvale Public Library 1** located at 665 W. Olive Ave. Outside of the library is the bronze statue titled **“Out to Lunch” 2** by artist J. Steward Johnson (1985).

Follow the sidewalk to the corner of S. Pastoria Avenue and W. Olive Avenue. Cross at the intersection heading toward El Camino Real and continue to follow the sidewalk around the south side of the Civic Center until you reach a sidewalk just after the bus stop near the corner of S. Mathilda Avenue and El Camino Real [OPTIONAL Cross El Camino at Mathilda to see the concrete and bronze wall relief **“The Way it Was” 3** by Scott Donahue (2006) next to Fidelity Investments].

In the grassy area on the corner of El Camino and Mathilda is **“El Paso de los Suenos” 4** by Gene Flores (1985). Follow the curving sidewalk and cross over All America Way. Turn left to keep **Sunnyvale City Hall 5** on your right. Take the first lined crosswalk that you see to the left to the **Department of Public Safety 6** with a unique, red painted steel sculpture of a multi-seated bicycle called **“Mass Transit” 7** by Earlyn Tomasini (1996), which is next to the fallen officer memorial.

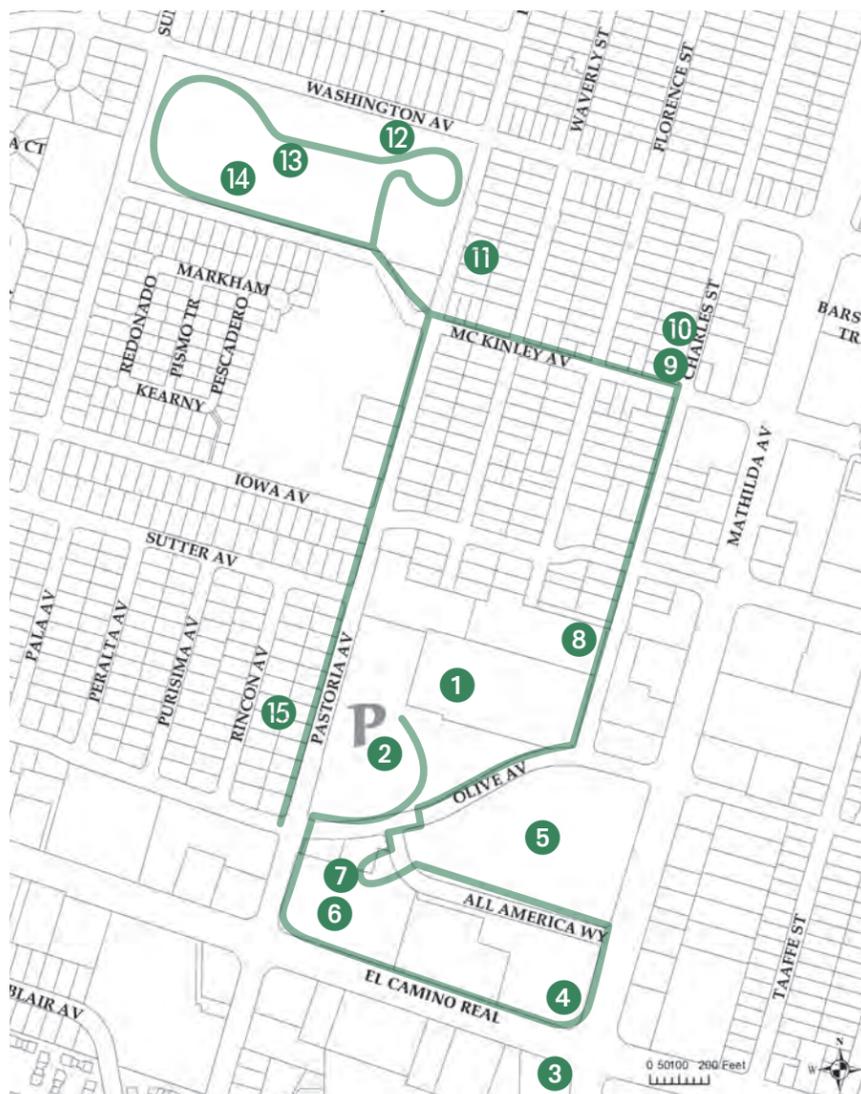
Use the crosswalks and head back toward the library, but turn right along the sidewalk after you cross Olive. Continue along Olive and make a left on Charles Street. At the end of the first block, you will see the **Charles Street Teaching and Demonstration Garden 8** on your left. Continue on Charles until you reach McKinley, where you should cross the street. On the corner, you will find the **Dalton House 9** dating back to 1905 and the **Welford**

**Cochrane House 10** on its right, dating back to 1906. Turn left on McKinley and continue toward Washington Park at the corner of Pastoria. Across from the park, you will find another **historical home 11** (c. 1925) with unique eyebrow-looking windows in the roof slope.

Use the crosswalk to reach the corner of Pastoria and McKinley at the Washington Park sign and follow the sidewalk along McKinley until it turns into the park. Continue

to follow the sidewalk to the right to make the loop outside of the pool house and behind the community building, which has the **Canon Memorial 12** on display near the flagpoles. Staying on the main park sidewalk, the children’s play area will be on your left and basketball courts on your right. Around the children’s play area, you will find brass inlays by artist Dan Snyder called **“(Island Fantasy) Untitled” 13** installed in 1998. Follow the sidewalk to the right to take a nice stroll around the fields and come back to the public restroom building where you’ll see **“Untitled” 14** by Danny Sheu and Jeff Bordana in ceramic tiles (1998).

As you leave the park, stay to the right and follow the sidewalk up Pastoria to cross at the intersection at Olive. Across from the Library parking lot, you’ll see a tall crop of **Heritage Coastal Redwoods 15** to send you on your way. 🌲



Visit [Arts.inSunnyvale.com](http://Arts.inSunnyvale.com) to learn more about Sunnyvale’s public art, art in private development and permanent collection or contact our Visual Arts Coordinator Kristin Dance at (408) 730-7758.



# sunnyvale reNews

Summer 2013



sunnyvale's recycling news resource



## New Zero Waste Goals Set for Sunnyvale

### upcoming events

July 13, August 10, September 14  
Compost Workshops — New Location

July 20, August 17, September 21  
Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off

August 24  
Paper Shredding Event

### citywide garage sale day

September 21

Online Registration Begins July 29 – August 2

### stay connected



on the Web  
[Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com)



on Twitter  
[@SunnyvaleRecycl](https://twitter.com/SunnyvaleRecycl)



Like us  
on Facebook

You may have seen the term “Zero Waste” in past ReNews articles in reference to reducing Sunnyvale’s waste stream. On April 23, the City Council approved Sunnyvale’s Zero Waste Plan that sets future goals for handling garbage and recyclables. The City’s current waste stream diversion rate of 66 percent is achieved by recycling and composting materials processed at the SMaRT Station®. The new plan calls for a 70 percent diversion by 2015, 75 percent by 2020 and 90 percent by 2030.

Why only 90 percent diversion? “We use the term ‘zero waste’ as the desired goal, but it is almost impossible to recycle or compost 100 percent of the material we generate,” explains Karen Gissibl, Recycling Manager for the City. “There will always be stuff that can’t be recycled due to its toxicity or lack of recycling markets. Part of the new plan is to continue pushing producers of products—pharmaceuticals, needles, batteries, mattresses, carpet and plastic packaging— to take some end of life responsibility for products they make, including their reusability and recyclability. Simply stated, we want products and packages to be designed better so cities don’t have to bear the responsibility of dealing with products that can’t be recycled,” says Gissibl.

**Short term plans** include pilot programs for residential food scraps, and yard trimmings collections from multi-family communities and businesses; exploring methods to separate glass from organics in the mixed waste material that is mechanically and manually sorted at the SMaRT Station; and implementing a citywide multi-family recycling program focused on providing more

effective outreach to educate those communities on waste reduction strategies.

**Future plans** include looking at ways to deal with the “residuals,” material that is left over after it has been sorted at the SMaRT Station, before being sent to the landfill. “This material is our challenge, but we have to find a way to deal with it to reach the 90 percent goal,” says Gissibl. Leftover materials, such as contaminated paper, plastics and organics can be handled by conversion technologies (CT), which use waste to produce either compost or clean-burning fuel to generate electricity or renewable fuel. “These technologies are new and expensive, and few have been implemented in the United States. We will be staying tuned in as these technologies advance to find opportunities to coordinate efforts with other cities in the region,” states Gissibl.

Stay tuned as the Zero Waste Plan is unveiled and put into action! Visit [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com), and view the *Zero Waste Plan* under *Quick Links*.

### Citywide Garage Sale Day September 21

Registration to participate in the annual Garage Sale Day event begins July 29 through September 2. Registrants get free advertising online and in the Sunnyvale Sun. Residents will have the option of hosting a sale both September 21 and 22. Visit [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com) and click *Register Now!*



# Help Keep Recyclables Free of Contaminants!

Most paper collected for recycling in the U.S. is shipped to China to be made into new paper products. In a recent crack-down in what China is calling “Operation Green Fence,” customs officials are rejecting entire shipments of paper and plastics that contain levels of contamination beyond the allowed 1.5 percent. Contaminants include items such as plastic bags, glass, metal and plastic containers, packing materials, bags of garbage and even diapers. If these items are found in the materials that are baled and shipped to China, they are being returned to the U.S. at shipping fees of \$6,000 per container.

How can residents help keep paper clean? For starters, only recycle items that the Recycling Program accepts. “People are motivated to recycle and want to do the right thing, so they figure they can put almost anything in the cart and we will sort it out at the SMaRT Station,” said Debi Sargent, the City’s Contract Administrator who oversees SMaRT Station operations. “We do have the capability to sort materials both manually and mechanically to get recyclables cleaned up to be shipped to our markets, but it’s a lot less labor-intensive if we only have to do minimal sorting, and we can process much more paper if it is free of contaminants,” states Sargent. This, in turn, translates to higher revenues from the sale of paper, which helps cover the costs of the recycling program. Take a moment the next time



Photo courtesy: City staff

Contaminants culled from curbside paper recycling carts.

you place recyclables in your cart and make sure you are **keeping it clean!**

**Keep it clean** by keeping these items out of recycling carts:

- **Plastic bags and film**, bubble wrap, plastic bag covers for magazines and newspapers, plastic wrap from household goods like paper towels—recycle these at local grocery stores;
- **Milk and juice cartons, diapers and pet food bags**—dispose in garbage;
- **Paper egg cartons**—NEW! No longer accepted with paper—dispose in garbage; and
- **Plastic packaging attached to paper (Tyvec mailers)**—either tear the paper off to recycle and dispose of the plastic or dispose of both in the garbage.

## glad you asked ...



### Q. What should I do with the foam packaging that comes inside electronics or furniture packing boxes?

**A.** Although expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam packaging, often used to house electronics and breakable items or furniture, is stamped with a #6 recycling symbol, it is not accepted in Sunnyvale’s recycling program. Molded foam packaging must be disposed of in the garbage, but foam packing peanuts are generally accepted at private mail centers for reuse. Corrugated cardboard boxes must be flattened and bundled for residential curbside collection; multi-family residents must flatten cardboard, and may bundle, neatly stack inside enclosures or place in trash bins. Cardboard will be sorted for recycling at the SMaRT Station.

## hauler’s holler — news from the truck...



Photo courtesy of Specialty.

Julie Freitas, Specialty’s Office Manager, poses with new fleet vehicles.

### New CNG Collection Trucks for 2013

Sunnyvale’s franchised waste hauler, Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling, is launching new compressed natural gas (CNG) collection vehicles to maintain its status as a pioneer in reducing air emissions from collection trucks. Over ten years ago, the City and Specialty, using grant funds from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, worked together to start the company’s transition away from dirty diesel engines by investing in clean-burning CNG. Switching to CNG trucks minimizes the greenhouse gas impacts of collection, improves local air quality and provides quieter service for Sunnyvale customers. Haulers across the country are now following Specialty’s lead and converting their fleets to CNG.

Celebrate the Earth and help the environment!

# MERCURY FEVER THERMOMETER EXCHANGE

Wednesday, September 18 from 11a.m. – 1:30 p.m  
at the Sunnyvale Senior Center.\*\*

To avoid breakage, transport the thermometer in a closed container such as its original case, a toothbrush holder, or a plastic bottle with a screw-on cap. Additionally, place the closed container in a plastic zip-lock bag. For more information call Environmental Outreach at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501.

\*\* The first 100 residents will receive a non-mercury thermometer in exchange. Limited to one (1) new thermometer per household.




Old-fashioned, mercury fever thermometers and unused medications are hazardous materials and should never be thrown into the garbage or flushed down a drain as they may contaminate our environment.

Other mercury-containing and hazardous products — thermostats, fluorescent lamps or switches, sharps, needles or lancets — **will not**

be accepted at this event. Take these items to the SMaRT Station located at 301 Carl Road.

For more information on the Thermometer Exchange, call Environmental Outreach at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501. Information on additional events can be found at [WPCPevents.inSunnyvale.com](http://WPCPevents.inSunnyvale.com).



# sunnyvale reNews

## Popular Tours Help Residents and Businesses Understand the Ways of Their Water

What happens to water after it enters the drains in your home or business? If you're curious, why not take a tour? During a 90-minute, interactive tour of Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Plant, you'll learn about the stages of treating wastewater, how environmental issues affect water and how the Plant uses alternative fuel sources to produce electricity while conserving energy. In addition, you'll learn how Sunnyvale promotes water conservation

by producing and using recycled water for landscape irrigation at corporate business parks and City facilities.

Reserve your spot today in one of two tours, held July 13, 9—11 a.m. and August 3, 9—11 a.m. They fill up quickly! For details and reservations, call Environmental Outreach at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501, or email [wpcp@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:wpcp@sunnyvale.ca.gov). (Age restrictions apply.)

## Your Green Neighbors... Champions for a Greener Environment!

### As the Wood Turns

As members of Silicon Valley Woodturners, John Whittier, Jack Todd and Oscar Mittrrock share their love and enthusiasm for turning wood. Their collective motto, "If we hear it drop, we pick it up," summarizes their passion for collecting wood that may otherwise be cast away as waste. Each chunk of untreated, fresh cut wood gleaned from tree cutters', cabinet makers' or staircase builders' projects, homeowner tree removals or even fallen tree limbs are ripe candidates for turning. Whittier keeps a "bone yard" of wood chunks for himself and other members explaining that, "Each exposed surface is coated with wax to keep wood fresh, preserving its integrity until it can be turned."

Todd commented, "Every collected piece of wood has its own story, and nothing's wasted." Whittier recently made a trip back east to pick up logs from a root-damaged tree that had fallen on a house. A former neighbor kept the logs watered

each week to keep the wood fresh until he could make the trip.

When asked why they were attracted to woodturning, they all agreed with Whittier's claim that, "It's addictive because you get immediate gratification, it's easy to do, takes little time and each creation is unique. It's really the fastest growing hobby in the nation. We spend our retirement doing what we want—either drinking coffee at a local shop or turning wood. We're not that interested in making money, then it would be a job. Our focus is to promote woodturning." Whittier added, "Wood is a lot like people, the real beauty is found on the inside."

Visit [svwoodturners.org](http://svwoodturners.org) to view local woodturners' galleries featuring uniquely turned creations, or stop to chat with them at the Santa Clara Convention Center, September 13—15, or San Jose Fairgrounds, October 11—13. Want to know more? Call John Whittier at (408) 379-3722, or email [jwhit10506@aol.com](mailto:jwhit10506@aol.com).



Left to Right: Jack Todd, John Whittier and Oscar Wittrock proudly display samples of their woodturning projects.

### SMaRT Station Self-Haul Services

#### Trash Disposal

The Sunnyvale Materials Recovery and Transfer Station (SMaRT Station®) accepts trash, debris and construction material from Sunnyvale, Mountain View and Palo Alto residents. Disposal charges are based on type of material and volume (cubic yards). To keep costs low, separate recyclables from trash before dumping. Contact Bay Counties Waste Services at (408) 752-8530 for disposal rates and details. To minimize roadside littering, loads must be covered or pay a \$15 charge at the scale.

#### SMaRT Station Recycling Center

Recycle paper, plastics #1 – #7, glass, scrap metal, cardboard, clothing and shoes, and these hazardous waste items only:

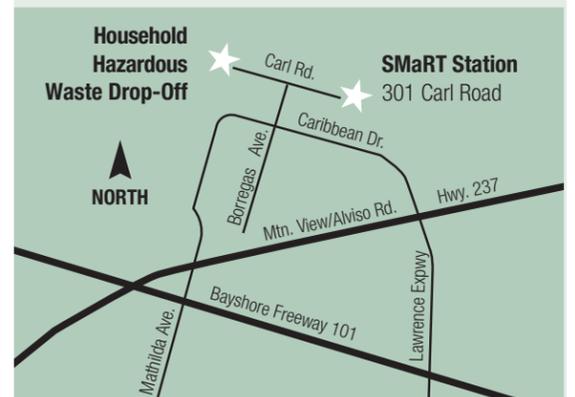
- Antifreeze\*
- Cooking oil\*
- Used motor oil\* and oil filters
- Batteries (any type, tape positive ends)
- Fluorescent bulbs and tubes
- Small electronics, monitors and televisions (limit 4)
- Sharps, needles, lancets (dispose in red bin)\*\*

\* Limit 10 gallons, in 5-gallon containers or smaller

\*\* Use a biohazard or heavy-duty, tightly-sealed plastic container

#### Hours of Operation

The SMaRT Station is open daily, except Thanksgiving Day, December 25 and January 1, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



### Recycling Leftover Paint Is Easier Than Ever!



Thanks to the new PaintCare Program, residents can easily recycle their leftover paint. To find a local paint take-back location near you, visit [paintcare.org](http://paintcare.org) for a current list of registered paint retailers in the PaintCare Program that operates paint stewardship programs on behalf of manufacturers in states with paint stewardship laws.

Products or company listings should not be construed as endorsements by the City of Sunnyvale.



## upcoming events

# Your Sunnyvale Certified Green Business

## Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce

260 S Sunnyvale Ave., Suite #4

### Don Eagleston Shares Green Philosophy

The nation's only president certified in environmental planning and ecotourism, Sunnyvale's Chamber President and CEO Don Eagleston shares his zero waste goals for the annual Art & Wine Festival, views on the foam food ware and green philosophy with ReNews.



Photo courtesy: City staff

Don Eagleston takes a break during Sunnyvale's 40<sup>th</sup> Art & Wine Festival.

**ReNews:** How did you get interested in environmental planning and ecotourism? It seems like an unusual interest for a Chamber of Commerce president.

**Don:** Well, at one point in my career, I operated the National Park Visitor Center as the Pacifica Chamber of Commerce CEO. We partnered with Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, California Coastal National Monument and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. My interest was in economic development and using ecotourism to stimulate tourism and business. Then I discovered that 95 percent of tours advertised as "ecotours" were merely outdoor tours, adventure tours or basic nature tours — but not really green. Green-washing, or marketing something as green when it isn't, is prevalent in the marketing world. If a tour is not truly an ecotour it can actually trample and

destroy the resources you are trying to promote and protect.

**ReNews:** The Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce is a certified Green Business. What motivated you to take the extra step?

**Don:** I was speaking at the Library about urban ecotourism and the Mountain View Chamber was there, too. They called me out! I hadn't heard of the Green Business Program, but they told me that I needed to get it. So, I did. Now our office is carbon neutral.

**ReNews:** You set zero waste goals for Sunnyvale's 39<sup>th</sup> Art & Wine Festival to minimize the volume of garbage that big events always generate. What is the biggest challenge?

**Don:** Illegal dumping is always a problem. One year, someone tossed office furniture in the dumpsters overnight. Making an event zero waste is not just a philosophy. We hired the Boy Scouts and a zero waste manager to make sure the compost and recycling stayed clean. In the end we saved over \$700 last year in reduced garbage costs.

Now that Murphy Avenue has reopened with new pavers, there is a big effort to keep it looking nice. To prevent storm drain pollution, I was required to take a course in how to clean outdoor surfaces correctly. I'm probably the only CEO certified by the *Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association* as a surface cleaner!

**ReNews:** Your office features a display of alternate food service ware that can be seen in the front window. Tell us why you support a ban on expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam foodware.\*

**Don:** The display is for the community, so the restaurants have plenty of time to transition to alternatives on their own. The styrene in the foam is toxic. And from my Pacifica experience involved with beach and stream litter, it can't be cleaned up and kills wildlife that ingests it. Alternatives to foam foodware are preferred and appreciated by restaurant customers.

\* An ordinance banning foam foodware will come before City Council in 2014.

For a complete list of all Sunnyvale Green Businesses, visit [greenbusinessca.org](http://greenbusinessca.org). If you are interested in becoming a green business, visit [ReduceWaste.org](http://ReduceWaste.org) or call (408) 282-3180 for more information.

## Recycling Events

Download and print a copy of the 2013 Recycling Events Calendar from [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com), or call (408) 730-7262 for a calendar by mail.

## Compost Workshops

**July 13 • August 10 • September 14**  
**10 a.m. to noon**

Learn to compost at monthly workshops every second Saturday from February through November. Registration required. Call (408) 918-4640, or register online at [ReduceWaste.org/Classes](http://ReduceWaste.org/Classes).

New Location  
*Las Palmas Park building*  
850 Russet Drive, Sunnyvale

## Extra Dumping Weekends

**October 5-6 and 12-13**  
**8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Dispose of extra trash at no cost on these special weekends only. One-ton truck limit, trailers 10-foot by 7-foot, or smaller. Loads must be covered or pay \$15 for issued tarp.

*SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road*

## Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Drop-Off Events

**July 20 • August 17 • September 21**  
**8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Dispose of HHW at no cost every third Saturday of the month except December. Limit 15 liquid gallons or 125 pounds per vehicle, per trip.

*164 Carl Road*

## Paper Shredding Events

**August 24 • November 2**  
**8 a.m. to noon**

Personal document shredding at no cost. Five bag or box limit. Proof of Palo Alto, Mountain View or Sunnyvale residency required. No businesses.

*SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road*

## contact us

City Business hours:  
Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
City TDD (408) 730-7501

## Recycling Program Customer Service

**(408) 730-7262**  
**[Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com)**  
**[Recycling@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:Recycling@sunnyvale.ca.gov)**

- Recycling answers and event details

## Utilities Customer Service

**(408) 730-7400**  
**[PayMyBill.inSunnyvale.com](http://PayMyBill.inSunnyvale.com)**

- Garbage service accounts
- Order recycling carts
- On-Call Collection appointments
- Cart repairs or replacements
- Debris box rentals

## Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling

**(408) 565-9900**  
**[sswr.com](http://sswr.com)**

- Missed pickups
- Collection service issues

## SMaRT Station

**301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale**  
**(408) 752-8530**

Open daily 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving Day, December 25, January 1

- Garbage disposal fees
- Compost availability

# “Choosing a Sustainable Future” Earth Day Poster Contest Winners

The Environmental Services Department hosted its annual Earth Day Poster Contest for kindergarten through eighth grade students. The theme, “Choosing a Sustainable Future,” inspired students to express their concerns about how their actions impact the environment. Winning artists were celebrated on April 23, during a

Special Order of the Day recognition ceremony by Mayor Anthony (Tony) Spitaleri. Winning posters are on display in the corridor at City Hall between the One-Stop Center and Council Chambers until September. Posters may also be viewed on the Public Library TV screen.



CITY OF SUNNYVALE  
**QUARTERLY  
REPORT**

## Think Like a Thief: Know What They Know

Sunnyvale neighborhoods are designed to be quiet and peaceful, but that can also make them ideal targets for burglars. Public Safety property crime investigators, Lt. Greg Giguere and Detective Jeromy Lima, shared what burglars look for – straight from the mouths of the ones who have been caught, which total 219 in just the past six months.

“Burglars work in teams and communicate,” said Giguere. “They do reconnaissance, have a lookout and keep each other informed on their phones.” According to Giguere, burglars exit the freeway and look for nice houses off of main streets with little foot or vehicle traffic. Once there, they’ll start looking for obvious clues that no one is home.

Lima explained that some burglars walk the neighborhoods, posing as solicitors to take more time to check who is home and look into doors and windows. They may even have something legitimate to sell if someone answers. “When people don’t close their blinds,” added Lima, “it’s

like window shopping for a burglar. If a guy sees what he wants, he’s going to find a way in.”

After establishing no one is home, burglars will go right to the side yard and look around the property for tools to pry open a door or window. One suspect recently used a garden rake that was left out. “It’s amazing how many people don’t lock their gates. Burglars walk right through and have all the time in the world – completely out of sight,” said Lima.

So what do they steal? Lima said burglars these days specialize and are looking for things they can quickly sell through established connections. “Anything that looks expensive and portable is going to be someone’s target,” added Giguere. “We had someone pick up and leave with an entire safe.”

Now that you know what burglars are looking for, find out how to prevent residential and vehicular burglaries in our *Armed with Crime Prevention Knowledge* series inside of this *Quarterly Report*. ♻️

### CITY OF SUNNYVALE QUARTERLY REPORT

July 2013

#### Sunnyvale City Council

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Christopher R. Moylan  
David Whittum  
Pat Meyering  
Tara Martin-Milius  
Jim Davis

#### City Manager

Gary Luebbers

#### Assistant City Manager

Robert Walker

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