



# CITY OF SUNNYVALE QUARTERLY REPORT

## Thoughts from your City Manager

Longtime residents of Silicon Valley know very well its economic highs and lows. As the region experiences another economic high, the signs of recovery are all around us confirming that Sunnyvale remains an extremely attractive location. The City is having another year of record development revenues which provides the necessary funds to help us invest in projects such as affordable housing, park improvements and infrastructure upgrades. Of course, the recovery also draws people to the Valley for its diverse job opportunities which means additional pressure on our roadways, housing and City services.

The City has weathered the Valley's ups and downs in large part due to its commitment to long-range fiscal and urban planning. Another, equally essential component is community involvement. The extent to which the community is engaged in shaping the future of the City is crucial to Sunnyvale continuing to remain a desirable community while accommodating the inevitable growth predicted for cities in the region.

During my first nine months as City Manager, I have been impressed with the quality of community engagement on a range of important issues being considered by the City Council — discussing temporary cold weather shelter options with the County, banning polystyrene food containers, setting new minimum wage standards, weighing in on VTA's Bus Rapid Transit proposal for El Camino Real, and reviewing a range of residential and commercial development proposals, to name just a few.

As we look ahead in 2015, I strongly encourage you to stay informed and get involved where and when you can. Your voice matters and is a key ingredient to ensure we advance initiatives responsive to residents' needs. There are many opportunities, a few of which I highlight here. Community engagement is something I strongly value as part of our service delivery model. We are focused on strengthening our tools to provide information and seek input on City initiatives.

**Open City Hall** – I am very pleased to announce our partnership



City Manager Deanna J. Santana

with Peak Democracy, creators of the online community forum tool called Open City Hall. This tool is designed specifically to enable community members to weigh in at their convenience on topics posted by the City. Our first topic asks how you would improve Sunnyvale Library facilities and is available now at [OpenCityHall.inSunnyvale.com](http://OpenCityHall.inSunnyvale.com). Learn more about this topic and how you can participate in the process to modernize the Civic Center on page 2.

**Website Redesign** – The project to completely revamp our City website is underway as staff review and score proposals from vendors in preparation for meeting with finalists in May. Concurrently, we are reviewing and analyzing the site's existing content and architecture to determine what should remain or be revised. Visit [WebsiteRedesign.inSunnyvale.com](http://WebsiteRedesign.inSunnyvale.com) for the latest project updates and opportunities to give your opinion.

**Resident Survey** – This month, we will mail out the 2015 Resident Survey which we conduct every other year using a national survey questionnaire. This allows us to gauge resident satisfaction with our services and benchmark against other cities across the

country on a variety of topics. If you are one of the 1,400 randomly selected residents who receive the survey, please take the time to complete and return it by mail or, new this year, complete it online. You can view past survey results at [Survey.inSunnyvale.com](http://Survey.inSunnyvale.com); this year's results will be posted by early July.

**Specific Plans** – In addition to the long-range planning efforts you'll read about on pages 6 and 7, the City will be forming a Community Advisory Committee to help update and replace the 2007 El Camino Precise Plan; the new plan will guide future development along this vibrant corridor and it is essential that the community provide input from the beginning. Those interested in applying should contact Principal Planner Andy Miner at [aminera@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:aminera@sunnyvale.ca.gov) to be added to the notification list.

*Community engagement is something I strongly value as part of our service delivery model. We are focused on strengthening our tools to provide information and seek input on City initiatives.*

**Crime Prevention** – In February, Public Safety Chief Grgurina discussed the year-end crime statistics for 2014 in his monthly Beyond the Badge eNewsletter. To keep our community as safe as it is, we must all stay informed about crime activity and report anything suspicious immediately. If you haven't already, consider

subscribing to the newsletter as well as to Nixle, the free community messaging system that alerts you to important public safety updates. Both can be accessed from the City's Public Safety Web page.

In addition, we will host a Crime Prevention Workshop at Public Safety Headquarters on April 22 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Join us to learn about crime stats and trends, crime prevention strategies, creating and maintaining neighborhood watch programs, networking within your neighborhood, and more.

**Study Issues** – On February 19, the City Council held its annual workshop to prioritize all of the policy issues that have come forth during the year. The issues are wide-ranging, from determining the potential for a Utility Users Tax increase that would help stabilize the City's revenues to exploring quality of life issues such as smoking prohibitions and regulations for residential rental units like Airbnb. Visit [StudyIssues.inSunnyvale.com](http://StudyIssues.inSunnyvale.com) to learn more about the study issues and [TCMAC.inSunnyvale.com](http://TCMAC.inSunnyvale.com) to see when these and other public hearing items will come before the City Council.

**Budget Workshop** – Finally, we are approaching the end of the fiscal year and the City Council will be holding its annual Budget Workshop on May 21. This comprehensive review of the City's 2015-16 budget is another important way to see how the City is prioritizing and allocating funding for its services and programs. The all-day workshop will be web streamed ([Meetings.inSunnyvale.com](http://Meetings.inSunnyvale.com)) and televised live on cable channel KSUN 26. ☺



## Civic Center Modernization

# Community Engagement Plan Approved

Sunnyvale has started an exciting process to re-imagine the Civic Center located at the corner of El Camino Real and Mathilda. The existing Civic Center includes Sunnyvale’s Library, City Hall, and Public Safety Department Headquarters. On February 24, the City Council approved the Community Engagement Plan for the Civic Center Modernization Project. The plan includes a variety of ways to gather community input as alternatives are developed and evaluated. Three community workshops are planned and a new online engagement tool, called Open City Hall, has been launched to make it easy for you to share ideas and see the input of other community members. The process is just beginning and we’re open to your ideas on how to reshape the Civic Center. More information about community workshops is provided below. Please get involved! The best way to stay informed is to join our e-mail list. You’ll receive periodic project updates and notices about workshops and online engagement opportunities. Simply send an e-mail to [MyCivicCenter@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:MyCivicCenter@sunnyvale.ca.gov). ☼

### OUTREACH TIMELINE



### SHARE YOUR IDEAS ONLINE

Sunnyvale has launched Open City Hall, a new online tool to make it easy to share your opinion with the City. This online forum allows you to take surveys, post comments, and make suggestions on a variety of topics, including the Civic Center. Access to Open City Hall is available now from the City’s website at [OpenCityHall.inSunnyvale.com](http://OpenCityHall.inSunnyvale.com). The first topic is about Library facilities. Please take a moment to log in and answer these questions:

- 1) What do you enjoy most about the existing Sunnyvale Library?
- 2) Are there amenities or programs that you wish the Sunnyvale Library had or provided?
- 3) If the Sunnyvale Library was expanded, what would be your top priorities for improving library facilities?



Sunnyvale’s library was built in 1959 with two additions since that time in 1969 and 1983. Since the last library expansion project more than 30 years ago, Sunnyvale’s population has increased by approximately 34%.



Library programs are more popular than ever with more than 46,000 people attending a library program in fiscal year 2013/14.



## Traffic & Transportation

# New Manager, Specialized Experience

In February, the City hired new Traffic and Transportation Manager, Shahid Abbas. Abbas steps into one of the City's more pivotal roles as someone who is not only responsible for day-to-day traffic operations, but also evaluates impacts from development projects and keeps the City on course with local and regional transportation planning and improvements. The challenge doesn't seem to deter Abbas; he's studied and worked in this highly specialized field for almost two decades. We sat down with him to learn a bit more about his work, background and initial plans for Sunnyvale.

### What attracted you to Sunnyvale?

I have three grown children who all live in the Los Angeles area now, so my wife and I were looking for an opportunity to move from Virginia to be closer to them. We've never lived in California before and are looking forward to getting to know the Bay Area, and, of course, are enjoying the beautiful weather we have here.

### What are your main responsibilities?

As a division of Public Works, we manage and support all transportation-related work in Sunnyvale:

- Guide the City's transportation vision and goals;
- Design and implement innovative bicycle and pedestrian projects to develop a multimodal transportation system;
- Maintain traffic signals and manage traffic signal timing to facilitate efficient transportation;
- Manage all parking programs, including residential permit parking;
- Develop and implement safety programs, such as Safe Routes to School;
- Coordinate with regional agencies on freeway, transit and rail projects within Sunnyvale; and
- Pursue transportation grant funding to improve the transportation network.



Traffic and Transportation Manager, Shahid Abbas

### How has your experience prepared you for Sunnyvale?

I hold a Master's degree in Intelligent Transportation Systems and Traffic Engineering and another in Management and Planning. For the past 12 years, I led the Department of Transportation and Traffic for the City of Kalamazoo, MI and Arlington County, VA. I successfully improved existing operations and roadway safety for both motorized and non-motorized traffic, to include updating traffic signal systems to provide better signal timing and decrease everyday travel time. I also led the conversion of streetlights to LED lighting, which provides better quality light, uses less energy, and produces significant cost savings. I also collaborated with residents, civic associations and commissions to establish goals and objectives that reflected community values and selected multimodal projects that reflected the community vision.

### What about traffic impacts from new development?

As part of all major private development projects that occur in Sunnyvale, the City completes a Traffic Impact Analysis. This helps us predict the transportation conditions should the development get constructed and determine if there are any traffic and transportation concerns. We then identify any improvements that the project should construct to help facilitate safe transportation and access for all. For example, the City Council's approval of Landbank's Central & Wolfe Campus includes constructing an additional merge lane on Central Expressway and making improvements to traffic signals, bike lanes and sidewalks.

From a broader perspective, we also review all future expected growth within Sunnyvale and adjacent cities and determine what transportation infrastructure should be constructed.

Development projects in Sunnyvale pay a Traffic Impact Fee that we use to build out the City's transportation plan which can range from reconstructing a freeway interchange to installing bike lanes.

### What's next for Sunnyvale?

In my short time here, I can appreciate a lot of things the City does well, but also see ways to use cutting-edge technologies to improve the intelligence and integration of our transportation systems, such as allowing our signals to "talk" to one another and connecting them so they function together and reduce travel time. We can also enhance other travel modes including transit, biking and walking with transit priority systems, high visibility crosswalks, wider sidewalks and buffered or colored bike lanes. I look forward to getting to know Sunnyvale and making our travel safer and more convenient. ☺

## REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Transportation projects and issues are often regional in nature, requiring partnership with other agencies such as the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA).

- **Mathilda/237/101 Interchange (VTA)** – Jointly funded by Sunnyvale and VTA at a cost of \$4 million, the planning, environmental studies and design work to reduce congestion at this intersection is underway. Environmental studies are scheduled for completion in 2016 with final design completed in 2017. Construction will start once funding is identified.
- **High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes (VTA)** – This project on 101, 237, and 85 will increase the efficiency of the freeways.
- **North-South bus transit (VTA)** – Improvements along this corridor will provide better connections between the jobs in the north and housing in the south.
- **Peninsula Corridor Electrification (Caltrain)** – Converting trains from diesel to electric to provide more frequent, faster train service.
- **Lawrence Expressway Grade Separations (Santa Clara County)** – Conducting studies on lowering the Expressway below grade at key intersections to alleviate vehicular congestion.
- **East-West Channel (Santa Clara Valley Water District)** – Construction of trails to provide walking and bicycle commute options and recreational opportunities.
- **El Camino Real Bus Rapid Transit (VTA)** – Exploring options to implement bus rapid transit improvements along El Camino from Palo Alto to San Jose. On February 24, the Sunnyvale City Council recommended that VTA move forward with a "mixed flow" versus a "dedicated lane" alternative. The VTA Board will be determining which option it will select within the next six months.





## Celebrating Creativity

# Hands on the Arts Turns 30

We've lost count of how many people have participated in Hands on the Arts in the past 30 years, but we know, for many of them, the event holds a special place in their hearts. Each year, we meet more teenagers who came to the festival as children now returning to volunteer; past participants returning as parents to introduce their own children to the arts; and even emerging artists who were first inspired here. From its beginning, *Hands on the Arts* was conceived as a festival where children would have an opportunity to not just *see* art, but *do* it — to learn about and try art forms from around the world and to put their hands on art materials and tools they might not otherwise try. *Hands on the Arts* has become Sunnyvale's signature special event and is recognized throughout the country as a model children's art festival. We are proud to be a leader in arts education and hope to see you at this year's 30th anniversary event. ☀

### HANDS ON THE ARTS CHILDREN'S ART FESTIVAL

**MAY 16, 2015**

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunnyvale Community Center  
550 E. Remington Drive

Wristbands are \$10 for each participating child. Admission to the festival grounds is free for adults and non-participating children.

#### PURCHASE WRISTBANDS:

**In advance –**

Online at [HandsontheArts.inSunnyvale.com](http://HandsontheArts.inSunnyvale.com);  
collect bands at the Theatre Will Call window

**At the event –**

Festival information booth near the fountain

## Circus Artist Draws a Crowd

In the sea of children at *Hands on the Arts*, stilt walker Rock Lerum is a towering celebrity as a 9.5' tall pied piper leading his audience to the main stage. Lerum, a Santa Cruz-based performer who has been in the circus arts business for 35 years, has walked the *Hands on the Arts* festival grounds on 38" stilts and performed his juggling show each year since 1998.

"It's been a great run," Lerum says. "I'm always excited when Sunnyvale calls me back for another year. I love walking on the stilts and connecting with people. Parents are amazed that I can

bend down and shake hands with the kids." Another popular trick is standing with his legs open so a child can run underneath him.

Lerum has a keen sense of the crowd and ground below. While he's nonplussed by people close by, he admits, "You have to watch out for curbs and tree roots and gopher holes. You continually make balance adjustments. It's always step-step-step." For his juggling show, Lerum prefers to be on the same level as viewers so he can easily pluck a child from the audience to be part of the act. ☀



Popular stilt-walker and juggler, Rock Lerum, is already working on some special new tricks for the festival's 30th anniversary.

## Parks Handiwork Makes Festival Shine

*Hands on the Arts* is Sunnyvale's own version of Brigadoon, a sparkling, magical place that seems to rise out of nowhere, and then vanish without a trace, thanks to the partnership between the City's Community Services and Parks divisions. In the days leading up to the festival, Parks division workers prepare the Community Center to be the canvas for this masterpiece of a festival. Parks worker Bill Collins and others give the shrubs a fresh trim and clean sidewalks, so the facility looks its best.

"We always go the extra mile to prepare parks facilities for big events, like Little League Opening Day, but we're never really involved in the activity itself," says Parks Superintendent Scott Morton. Now, he and other longtime Parks staff volunteer at the festival, too. "We don't always get to see people enjoying the

fruits of our labor, but *Hands on the Arts* gives us that chance."

This year, the team will help staff one of the festival's signature activities, String Thing, where children add string, Mylar and dangling decorations to an ever-growing temporary public art piece. Parks employee and veteran String Thing artist, Ingrid Christiansen, leads the charge. Christiansen first signed up as a *Hands on the Arts* volunteer seven years ago and was randomly assigned to help at String Thing. When she learned the artist would not be able to continue the following year, she offered to take on the project. "It's just a really cool booth. I didn't want it to go away," Christiansen said. "For some children, it's their favorite thing to do. One girl, who was just little when I started, came by last year, and she's taller than I am now!" ☀



Parks volunteer Ingrid Christiansen, who has helped with String Thing for seven years, says, "I have lots of regular visitors. Some children spend hours working on it. At times we have up to 20 of them inside the fort!"



Volunteers from the City's Parks division have introduced children to the art of horticulture by planting flowers and making "grass hair people" out of dirt- and seed-filled pantyhose nestled in yogurt cups.



## Green Is Our Favorite Color

To keep festival supply costs down and eco-consciousness up, creative reuse is the name of the game for *Hands on the Arts*. Starting with artist selection, we favor projects that use repurposed household items and industrial discards in surprising new ways. A classic example is the “Silly Snake” made from an old necktie — the wider and uglier the better. The Silly Snake project returns this year, along with balloon drums crafted from old mailing tubes, paintings done with melted broken crayons, and others that use recycled paper grocery bags as their canvas.

To prepare for 500 children per project, the supply team routinely collects standard craft supplies such as yarn, ribbon, buttons and yogurt

containers. But over the years, they’ve collected some pretty odd stuff as well — acorn tops, adding machine tape, egg cartons, plastic milk lids, socks and strawberry baskets, to name a few. We also often visit RAFT, the nonprofit Resource Area for Teachers, to pick up supplies like Mylar scraps or a motley collection of office staplers in styles that span decades.

The supply team also goes green by neatly packing, labeling and storing supplies after the festival ends. Simply knowing how many gallons of green paint we have leftover from last year, or which box contains the seashells we haven’t used in three years, helps us order only what’s needed for a given year. ☺



Although the supply of wide 1970s ties for the Silly Snake project is increasingly scarce, we still manage to collect enough via a donation barrel at the Senior Center.



The East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse in Oakland brings a vanload of recycled materials, such as printer’s foil and paper automobile maps, for children to turn into fabulous fairy wings, wands, swords and shields.

## Get Involved!

Many hands are needed to make *Hands on the Arts* happen – it’s a great way to connect with the community as a volunteer or sponsor.

**VOLUNTEER** – More than 200 community volunteers are needed to help on event day. Lunch is provided for all-day volunteers and community service credits are available for students. Volunteers are also needed to help prepare art supplies in the weeks leading up to the event and set up tables and chairs the day prior. Volunteers must be age 14 or older; those 18 and older must pass a DOJ background check. To volunteer for any position, complete the volunteer application available at [HandsontheArts.inSunnyvale.com](http://HandsontheArts.inSunnyvale.com) by April 24.

**SPONSOR** – Businesses and organizations are invited to partner with the City as event sponsors through monetary or in-kind donations. For details on sponsorship levels and benefits, and to discuss specific opportunities for your business to reach the families attending this event, contact Community Services Manager Tegan McLane, [tmclane@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:tmclane@sunnyvale.ca.gov) or (408) 730-7725. ☺

## Origami is a Family Tradition

Origami master Yoshiaki Hirabayashi’s booth has been a mainstay at *Hands on the Arts* for many years, and although Hirabayashi passed away in 2007, his family still carries on the tradition every year in his honor.

Today Hirabayashi’s granddaughter-in-law, Sunnyvale resident Christine Endo Hirabayashi, coordinates the booth. She and her husband, Hideki, often helped Hideki’s grandfather as teen volunteers at *Hands on the Arts* and other local community events. The couple, along with Hideki’s

sister and her husband and family friends, return every year to teach the art of Japanese paper folding and bring their young children to experience the festival.

Christine says, “It’s the time of year we all get together to remember and honor Grandpa Hirabayashi.” Hirabayashi was not given to chit chat, “but he loved his origami, and that was how he communicated with people. He was always folding and giving away dollar bills. It was his non-verbal way of showing kindness to people, especially children.” ☺



Yoshiaki Hirabayashi (pictured), who taught judo classes for many years for the City and worked for the Sunnyvale School District, started folding origami in his retirement.



Hirabayashi’s family carries on the origami booth in his honor; his granddaughter-in-law Christine Endo Hirabayashi (pictured) enjoys sharing the family tradition.

## Your Host For 25 Years

Longtime Sunnyvale resident and actor Bob Greene has been the emcee of *Hands on the Arts* since 1990, welcoming guests, introducing performers and telling ad lib jokes during the onstage dance party that has become a festival favorite.

Greene accepted the local gig not long after moving here to perform with California Theatre Center. Although he went on to work with a number of Bay Area Theatre companies and appear in commercials, television series, and movies, *Hands on the Arts* remains near and dear. In 25 years, he’s only missed the festival once. “If I’m in rehearsal for something, I always ask for the day off.”

His impromptu *Hands on the Arts* dance party began as a karaoke act. The kids in the audience and Greene himself had so much fun dancing in the aisles to their favorite pop songs that Greene invited children to come up and dance on the stage. It turned out to be the perfect filler between performing acts. “The kids have such a great time. It’s an astonishing thing, but it makes them so happy to be up there dancing like crazy in front of everyone.” ☺



Dozens of children take a turn on stage for the dance party, with some sticking around all afternoon. Emcee Bob Greene always plans his playlist with an ear toward current hits. Katy Perry’s “Firework” was popular last year, “but I always bring some disco, too,” Greene says, laughing.



## Planning & Development

# Planning Areas Set Stage for Future

The City is underway with several specific plan initiatives throughout Sunnyvale to help guide future development in designated areas, particularly near transit and in commercial areas. Other existing specific plan areas are realizing their visions, such as Moffett Park, which has become one of the region's most desirable job centers. Specific plans take into account the City's General Plan goals as well as each area's unique characteristics such as location, transportation, land use and ownership patterns, and infrastructure requirements. The plans are important tools to help ensure the City effectively balances growth, the demand for housing and jobs, and the need for community services. Get involved by attending community workshops and public hearings to weigh in on your vision for Sunnyvale's future.

### PEERY PARK DISTRICT

- 407-acre office park built in the 1970s and bound by Central Expressway, Mathilda Avenue and Highways 101 and 237.
- Considered an ideal business location consisting of mainly office, research & development and industrial uses; continues to attract new companies.
- Apple, who already has a significant presence, will also occupy the new buildings at 505 and 555 N. Mathilda Ave.

#### Peery Park Specific Plan

The City is drafting the Peery Park Specific Plan (*PeeryPark.inSunnyvale.com*) to guide future development in the area. The vision for the specific plan is to transform the office park into a cutting edge workplace district to align with 21st century workplace trends and the innovation economy. Workshops with the community have gathered feedback on topics such as traffic, streetscape and compatibility with adjacent neighborhoods. As part of preparing the plan, the Planning Commission and City Council will hold public hearings on the conceptual framework and draft project description on April 13 and 28, respectively. The drafts of the specific plan and environmental impact report are anticipated for public review by summer 2015.



### DOWNTOWN

- Bound by the Caltrain track north of Evelyn Avenue, Carroll Street, Iowa Avenue and Charles Street, the Sunnyvale downtown is a growing hub for employers, retail and restaurants, housing and entertainment.
- Prime location for tenants such as Apple, Broadcom and Nokia and numerous shops and restaurants along historic Murphy Avenue.

#### Aloft Sunnyvale

Part of the Starwood hotel chain, the modern Aloft Sunnyvale Hotel (pictured) is now open at 170 South Sunnyvale Avenue. Aloft Sunnyvale has 85 rooms and a lounge for guests.

#### Loft House (Carmel Partners)

This mixed-use project at 315 Olson Way has 133 apartments and 8,000 square feet of retail space facing Plaza del Sol. Philz Coffee and The Sandwich Spot are now open at this prime downtown location.



#### Solstice (Essex Company)

This mixed-use project at 311 Olson Way has 280 apartments and 25,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space on the ground floor. Kabul Afghan Cuisine, serving Sunnyvale for over a quarter of a century, opened here in February after moving from its El Camino Real location. Flywheel Sports, a cycling studio, opened its first Silicon Valley location in early 2015. Other tenants – Prolific Oven Bakery and Café, Nom Burger, and City Place Wine Bar – are working on interior improvements and may open by summer 2015. Orangetheory Fitness, a fitness studio, recently submitted an application to work on interior improvements and may be open for business by early fall.





### MOFFETT PARK

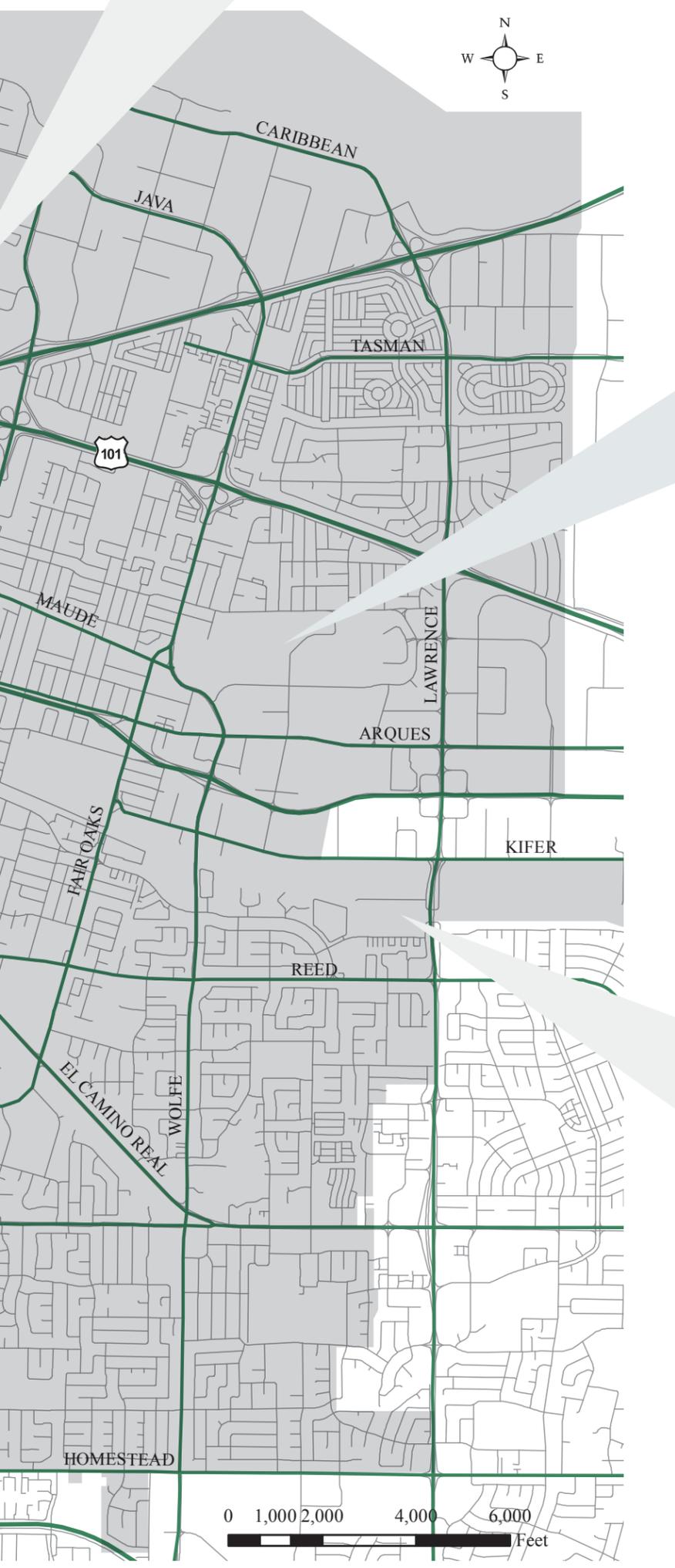
- 1,200-acre industrial park north of Highway 237 originally built for the aerospace industry.
- Transitioning from light industrial buildings to high-end multi-story corporate office space for companies such as Yahoo!, NetApp, Microsoft, Apple and Amazon.
- Google has moved into nearly one million square feet of office space at Technology Corners and has signed a lease for the 1.7 million square-foot Moffett Place project (shown), currently under construction by Jay Paul Company.

### Lockheed Martin Property (Jay Paul Company)

Jay Paul Company recently initiated a request with the City for a Specific Plan Amendment to redevelop and enable higher density development on an existing Lockheed Martin property adjacent to Moffett Towers which would result in approximately 1.7 million square feet of Class A office space. Next steps are to prepare an Environmental Impact Report and staff analysis of the proposed project. Community outreach followed by public hearings with the Planning Commission and City Council are anticipated in early 2016.



Jay Paul Company/DES Architects + Engineers



### EAST SUNNYVALE

- 130-acre area bound by N. Fair Oaks Avenue to the west, De Guigne Drive to the south, Lawrence Expressway to the east, and E. Duane Avenue to the north.
- Currently developed with a variety of uses, landscaping and surface parking lots, the area is transitioning from more industrial to residential.
- A Sense of Place plan is being developed for the area to ensure future improvements enhance circulation, streetscape and neighborhood character.

### 915 De Guigne (Watt Investments)

In spring 2014, Watt Investments purchased the 24.4-acre property at 915 De Guigne Drive (occupied by Spansion Inc.) and proposed redeveloping the site with 450 three-story townhouses. The City Council approved a study to assess the fiscal and environmental impacts of changing the zoning from industrial to residential, as well as required the applicant to sponsor a Sense of Place plan for the larger East Sunnyvale area. The draft Sense of Place plan is now available for public review ([EastSunnyvale.inSunnyvale.com](http://EastSunnyvale.inSunnyvale.com)); the final plan, along with the General Plan amendment, rezoning request and Environmental Impact Report, is scheduled for Planning Commission and City Council review in early fall 2015. The Council's review of the proposed housing project will follow in late fall.



Watt Investments/Dahlin Group

### LAWRENCE STATION AREA PLAN

- 629-acre area defined by a half-mile radius from Caltrain's Lawrence Station, encompassing portions of Sunnyvale and Santa Clara.
- Currently includes many one- and two-story industrial buildings and is home to Costco, Intuitive Surgical and Calstone/Peninsula Building Materials.
- The City is developing the Lawrence Station Area Plan ([LawrenceStationinSunnyvale.org](http://LawrenceStationinSunnyvale.org)) with the goal of allowing the area in Sunnyvale to transition to a mix of uses, including commercial areas near the train station, offices and high density housing.
- A key component of the Plan is to take advantage of the area's proximity to the Caltrain station and improve driving, walking and bicycling access to it.
- New projects approved in the station area will be required to reduce the number of automobile trips through the use of other transportation options, such as Caltrain, buses, biking and walking.
- The Plan is currently available for review by the public; it is scheduled, along with the accompanying Environmental Impact Report, to go to the Planning Commission and City Council in summer 2015.



BMS/Page



# sunnyvale reNews

Spring 2015 

sunnyvale's environmental news source



## Reduce, Reuse...Refuel Your Fun!

### upcoming events

April 11, May 9, June 13  
Compost Workshops

April 18, May 16, June 20  
Hazardous Waste Drop-offs

May 30  
Document Shredding

May 2-3, 9-10  
Extra Dumping Weekends

### stay connected

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



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



[Green.inSunnyvale.com](http://Green.inSunnyvale.com)



on Facebook  
City of Sunnyvale  
Environmental Services  
Department



As spring breezes and warmer temperatures bring the promise of summer activities, many start planning for family camping trips, landscaping projects and planting gardens. Tools used for those activities — camp stoves, barbecues and some lawn equipment — often require an energy source, and many choose the portable one-pound propane canister. Californians toss millions of single-use propane canisters in the garbage every year because there are no options to refill them, and few to properly dispose of them. These gas cylinders pose significant health risks to waste handlers and the environment. The good news is, there is finally another option — refillable propane canisters!

At least two manufacturers are now making the refillable gas cylinders — Flame King and Manchester Tank. Approved by the Department of Transportation, the refillable cylinders can last up to 12 years. Locally, Kamps Propane is selling the Little Kamper and, later this spring, establishing an exchange program through

Pick-Up Propane™. Currently, George's Fuel and Auto Repair at 996 East Evelyn Ave. will refill the reusable canisters. For a complete list of retailers selling, exchanging or refilling the one-pound propane canisters, visit [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com) or [RefuelYourFun.org](http://RefuelYourFun.org).

The next time you purchase gas cylinders for your outdoor activities, look for the environmentally friendly alternative and choose the refillable canister. If the store doesn't sell them, ask the store manager to consider stocking them. For proper disposal, take empty single-use propane canisters to a household hazardous waste drop-off event.

### Change to Household Hazardous Waste Events Coming in July!

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events will continue on the third Saturdays of April, May and June at 164 Carl Road in Sunnyvale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Beginning July, Sunnyvale HHW drop-off events will (1) move to a new location, (2) be held on a quarterly basis, and (3) require appointments for residents.

The County HHW Program hosts drop-off events every Friday (8 a.m. – noon) and Saturday (8 a.m. – 1 p.m.) except on holidays. Appointments are required.

**Make An Appointment**

Visit [HHW.org](http://HHW.org), or call (408) 299-7300 for appointments and event locations.



Camper Michael Simpson proudly shows his refillable propane cylinder.



# Smart Sorting Begins at Home

It's no surprise many aren't always sure which materials are recyclable. Given the vast differences in packaging materials and plastics used to contain the products we buy, sorting them for proper disposal can be confusing. At one time or another, most of us have tossed things in the recycling cart without double-checking their recyclability, or tossed recyclables in the garbage because it's just easier, or more convenient at the moment.

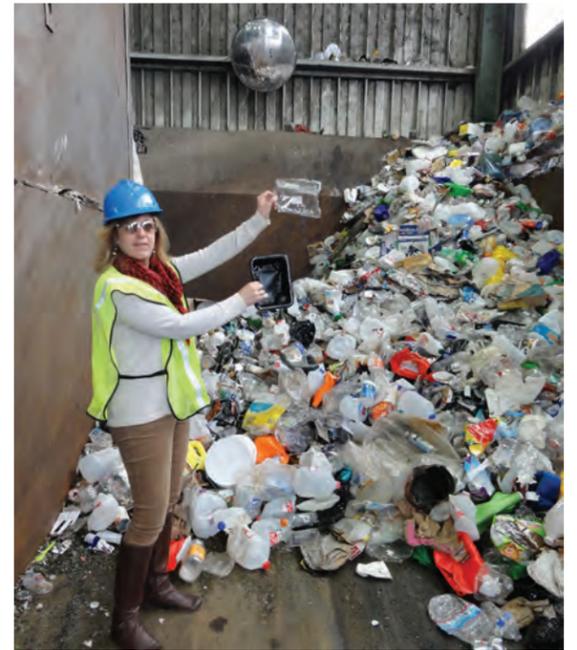
So, why is it important to be a smart sorter? Doing a better job of sorting recyclables at home ensures cleaner recyclables that will fetch higher market values. Recycling revenues are fed back into the recycling program to help offset service costs.

Here are a few tips to keep things sorted properly.

- **Foam food containers, all black plastics and "clam shells"** (hinged containers) — NOT recyclable, throw them in the garbage.
- **Frozen food boxes and drink cartons** — place in the garbage — the plastic layer that keeps them from falling apart when wet makes them non-recyclable.

- **Paper egg cartons** — these go in the garbage too. While theoretically recyclable, our overseas markets don't want them.
- **Pizza boxes** — often contaminated with food and oily residue — can only be recycled if they are clean.
- **Glass containers** — ALWAYS RECYCLE GLASS bottles and jars and their metal lids.
- **Plastic bags** — take clean, dry plastic produce, bread and dry cleaner bags, newspaper sleeves and bubble wrap to local grocery stores. Deposit them in outside collection boxes marked, "Recycle Your Plastic Bags." Visit [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com), A-Z, *How do I recycle ...* for a list of locations.

Bay County Waste Services, the SMaRT Station operator, continues to improve the sorting facility to increase the types of material that can be recovered. In 2015, they plan to install an optical sorter to aid with sorting containers. Optical sorters use light and sensors to identify targeted materials and blow them out of the stream to be more easily recovered. While such a machine will help with sorting, the best recyclables sorting happens at home, so keep sorting smartly.



*Karen Gissibl, Environmental Programs Manager, shows black plastic and plastic clamshell containers often found in recycling loads.*

If you don't know whether or not to recycle an item, look at your recycling cart labels, visit [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com) or call (408) 730-7262.

# Residential Recycling Guide

The decision to recycle is made when we get rid of an item. Help keep recyclables contamination-free using this easy reference for recycling right — at home.

### Recycle Paper

PAPER

Small cardboard pieces OK

PAPER

*Reduce Plastic Bag Contamination — Do Not Place Bagged Recyclables Inside Recycling Carts*

### Residential Recycling Carts

#### Single-Family Split-Lid Recycling Cart

#### Multi-family Recycling Carts

### Recycle Metal, Glass, Plastic #1-#7

#### CONTAINERS

#### CONTAINERS

Visit [Vimeo.com/121302357](http://Vimeo.com/121302357) to learn more about sorting recyclables from curb to market.



## Severe Drought Continues

With minimal rainfall this winter, one of the worst droughts in memory continues to worsen. Residents and businesses have performed admirably, reducing their cumulative water use by more than 14%; the City also has reduced water use at its facilities, parks, and for irrigation by 34%. But more must be done. The State has now extended existing emergency water use restrictions, implemented new prohibitions and indicated that local water agencies can now fine property owners up to \$500 per day for failing to implement water conservation requirements. Together, we must commit to do everything we can to conserve water and meet these new requirements.

As a reminder, existing City water customers are prohibited from:

- Allowing leaking plumbing or irrigation systems to go unrepaired;
- Using potable water in any way that allows it to flow into gutters, streets or storm drains;
- Using potable water to wash driveways, parking lots, porches, patios, filling station aprons, or other hard surfaces;
- Using any watering hose without an automatic shutoff valve for washing vehicles;
- Using a decorative fountain unless it recirculates water;
- Serving water at a restaurant or other eating establishment except upon customer request;
- Installing any single pass cooling process in new construction;
- Outdoor watering between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.; and
- Irrigating outdoors for more than 15 minutes per station.

The City Council will be considering new prohibitions including restricting irrigation to no more than two days per week. To report water waste in Sunnyvale, call (408) 630-2000. For more information on rebate programs and water saving tips, visit:

- [WaterConservation.inSunnyvale.com](http://WaterConservation.inSunnyvale.com)
- [Save20Gallons.org](http://Save20Gallons.org)
- [bawsca.org](http://bawsca.org)

Or, call the Santa Clara Valley Water District's Water Conservation Hotline at (408) 630-2554.

### Fighting Pet Pollution

Given the number of dogs in our community, picking up after pets is essential in preventing contamination to our waterways. Dog waste carries bacteria and pathogens that can wash into storm drains, polluting our local waterways and the Bay, if left on the ground. Not only does pet waste threaten water quality, it can also impact recreational safety, aquatic life and animal and human health.

To prevent water pollution:

- Pick up after pets every time they void waste;
- Throw pet waste in the garbage rather than wash it into gutters or storm drains;
- Carry extra bags in the car to always be prepared when traveling with a pet; and
- Remind others to pick up after their own pets at the dog park.

To learn more about preventing water pollution, visit [WPCP.inSunnyvale.com](http://WPCP.inSunnyvale.com) and select *Pollution Prevention*, or call (408) 730-7717.



## Litter Events Collect 3+ Tons

In 2014, Sunnyvale staff hosted four successful community litter clean-up events. A huge thank you goes out to all our volunteers

and youth groups, who collected 6,465 pounds of litter preventing them from entering local waterways and the Bay.

| Date                                | Number of Volunteers | Event Location   | Approximate Distance Cleaned | Approximate Weight of Litter and Discarded Debris Collected |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Great American Litter Pickup</b> |                      |  |                              |   |
| April 19, 2014                      | 33                   | Columbia Neighborhood Center, Serra Park, John W. Christian Greenbelt, and area around San Miguel School | 4 square miles               | 1,655 lbs.  |
| <b>National River Clean-up Day</b>  |                      |  |                              |   |
| May 17, 2014                        | 26                   | Sunnyvale East Channel and Calabazas Creek, near Baylands Park   | 2.7 miles of banks           | 1,030 lbs.  |
| <b>Coastal Clean-up Day</b>         |                      |  |                              |   |
| September 14, 2014                  | 68                   | Sunnyvale West Channel and Guadalupe Slough  | 3 miles of banks             | 2,290 lbs.  |
| <b>Knock Out Litter</b>             |                      |  |                              |   |
| October 4, 2014                     | 27                   | Columbia and Gateway Neighborhood Centers and Bishop School  | 3 square miles               | 690 lbs.  |

Upcoming litter clean-up events are the Great American Litter Pick Up on April 18, 9 a.m. to noon, and National River Clean-up Day on May 16, 9 a.m. to noon. For more 2015 clean-up events, or to become a volunteer, visit [WPCPevents.inSunnyvale.com](http://WPCPevents.inSunnyvale.com), or call (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501.



*Coastal Clean-up Day volunteers celebrate their litter haul out of the Guadalupe Slough on September 14.*

Photo Courtesy Janay Harvey winner of event's sponsor Rubio's Coastal Clean-up Day #TrashSelfie Photo Contest

## Did You Know ...

Pet medications are just as hazardous as human medications when it's time to dispose of them? Proper hazardous waste disposal is the key to protecting our local waterways and the Bay. Never flush medications down toilets or drains, or throw them in garbage or recycling carts or bins. Residents may take medications to any Sunnyvale Fire Station or hazardous waste drop-off event.

To learn more about proper disposal of medications, visit [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com), [Pharmaceuticals and Sharps, Baywise.org](http://Pharmaceuticals and Sharps, Baywise.org), or call (408) 730-7717.

## Get Your Free Estuary Magazine

The San Francisco Estuary Partnership offers a free subscription to its *ESTUARY News* magazine that reports on many San Francisco Bay and Delta planning, restoration, science, endangered species and watershed topics.

Sign up to receive the magazine at [SFEstuary.org](http://SFEstuary.org).



# New Restaurant Glass Recycling Program Aims to Keep Glass Out of the Garbage

The City of Sunnyvale Recycling Program has partnered with the San Jose Conservation Corps (SJCC) to begin a one-year pilot program in Sunnyvale for collecting restaurant glass separately. The intent of the program is to reduce contamination of recyclables at the SMaRT Station. "Many restaurants throw their glass in the garbage because they don't have space to store it, or time to recycle it," states Karen Gissibl, the City's Environmental Programs Manager. When glass is disposed of in the garbage, it breaks during the sorting process at the SMaRT Station and cannot be removed from organic materials destined for composting. We wanted to help simplify the process for restaurants, so SJCC is offering in-house collection containers and collection service, at no charge, creating a win-win solution for everyone."

Outreach efforts began mid-December when SJCC and Recycling Program staff visited restaurants to explain the new program and invite them to participate. Nine restaurants in the historic Murphy Avenue area signed up within the first few weeks. By January's end, 18 restaurants and bars began recycling their glass. Within a month, a total of 1.8 tons of glass was recycled and kept out of the trash, reducing contamination of other recyclables at the SMaRT Station.

Efforts continue to encourage restaurants to recycle their glass. Restaurants or bars interested in signing up should contact Alyssa Rice-Wilson at (408) 459-6484, or email her at [arice-wilson@sjcccharterschool.org](mailto:arice-wilson@sjcccharterschool.org) for details.



*Chef/Owner Ali Farrokhzad demonstrates the ease of recycling wine and beer bottles at the House of Kabobs.*



## upcoming events

The Environmental Services Department offers a variety of events for the community to attend. Request a *Recycling Events Calendar* — call (408) 730-7262, or visit [Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com).

### Document Shredding Events

**May 30, August 22, November 7  
8 a.m. to noon**

SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road

### Compost Workshops

**April 11, May 9, June 13  
10 a.m. to noon**

To register for a workshop, call (408) 918-4640, or register at [ReduceWaste.org/Classes](http://ReduceWaste.org/Classes). Registration required.

Las Palmas Park building  
850 Russet Drive, Sunnyvale

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

**April 18, May 16, June 20  
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

No-cost HHW disposal. 164 Carl Road through June. NEW! Beginning in July, events will be held at a new location and move to a quarterly schedule. Schedule an appointment — visit [HHW.org](http://HHW.org), or call (408) 299-7300 for details.

## contact us

### City Business Hours

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

### Utilities Customer Service

**(408) 730-7400**

[Utilities.inSunnyvale.com](http://Utilities.inSunnyvale.com)

- Start, stop or change garbage and water services
- Cart orders, repairs, replacements
- On-Call Collection appointments
- Debris box rentals

### Recycling Program

**(408) 730-7262**

[Recycling.inSunnyvale.com](http://Recycling.inSunnyvale.com)

[Recycling@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:Recycling@sunnyvale.ca.gov)

- Recycling answers and event details

### Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling

**(408) 565-9900, 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 and mulch availability

### Water Pollution Control Plant

**1444 Borregas Ave., (408) 730-7738**

[WPCP.inSunnyvale.com](http://WPCP.inSunnyvale.com)

- Plant Tours
- Environmental Outreach

## Special Community Events

### Fit & Fun Earth Day Fair

Don't miss the Fit & Fun Earth Day Fair celebration on April 25, at the Columbia Neighborhood Center, 785 Morse Ave., 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The Sunnyvale community is invited to attend the celebration of health and wellness with special entertainment, food, music and kids' crafts in honor of Earth Day 2015.

### Greenlight Film Festival

The Greenlight Film Festival 10-Year Anniversary Awards night will be April 23 at the Cubberley Theater in Palo Alto.

Young film producer finalists will share their video commentaries on how we impact the environment and their concerns about environmental issues. Grand prize winners will be announced.

Take the whole family to this free, live televised event. Visit [MidPenMedia.org/Greenlight](http://MidPenMedia.org/Greenlight) for details or call (650) 494-8686. Can't make it? View the recorded broadcast on channel 27 on Sundays.





CITY OF SUNNYVALE  
**QUARTERLY  
REPORT**

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APRIL 2015

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**FIT & FUN EARTH DAY FAIR**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015 • 10 A.M. – 3 P.M.**

Columbia Neighborhood Center, 785 Morse Avenue, Sunnyvale  
Admission is free. Accepting volunteer applications until April 13.

**HEALTHY EARTH, HEALTHY YOU, HEALTHY COMMUNITY**

**Celebrate wellness and green living with fun entertainment and activities for the whole family.**

Children's activities, including bike rodeo, obstacle course, rock wall, bounce house, fire truck tours, carnival games, prizes • Performances by Banana Slug String Band, BMX stunt bike riders, and Columbia Middle School band/choir • Eco-fashion show with Goodwill • Zero Waste Chef cooking demos • Greenlight environmental film contest winners • 65+ exhibitors showcasing health, environmental and family services • Health screenings for diabetes, vision, BMI, blood pressure, and oral health checks for kids • Car seat inspections • Book exchange with Reading Partners • Pharmaceuticals disposal • Junior Giants Baseball league registration • Healthy gourmet food trucks

**[FitandFunFair.inSunnyvale.com](http://FitandFunFair.inSunnyvale.com) (408) 730-7800**



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