It began as an ambitious plan launched during one of the worst economic recessions we have seen. The goal was to undertake $60 million in capital improvements program projects at an unheard of rate. Now, 20 months after the April 2009 launch of Sunnyvale Works!, a report card has been presented to City Council, and the program has achieved a solid A+ grade. Since its inception, Sunnyvale Works! surpassed all expectations, reaching more than $80 million in projects, accelerating the rate at which projects were designed, bid, awarded and put under construction, while creating new jobs in the hard-hit construction industry.

City Manager Gary Luebbers predicted changes, saying “Cities will have to change the way they do business. The old ways just won’t work any longer. We are going to move on this quickly, and we are going to get these projects going right now. Instead of waiting years for some of these jobs, we will see some of them starting within the next six weeks.” True to his word, Luebbers shifted staff, broke down departmental walls and created a unified approach to expediting the capital projects.

City departments got creative and looked for new approaches to accelerating traditional processes. The Finance Department undertook a massive pre-qualification effort to identify construction management, engineering and inspection companies that could be pre-approved, thus speeding up the awarding of project bids. More than 300 requests were received by the City, and nearly two thirds of those were approved for the Sunnyvale Works! program.

The program became so large, that of the more than 900 City employees, more than 20 percent were involved in various degrees to making the program successful. The Sunnyvale community has benefited in several ways. Major projects, that might have taken years to get underway let alone complete, were greatly accelerated by Sunnyvale Works!, in some cases by a matter of years. As new projects are completed, the City reduces the maintenance required for the older project, saving money while enjoying the functional benefits of completed capital projects.

The City has directly benefited from the recession, since construction companies, eager to keep their crews working, have made bid proposals 29 percent below the City’s expectations. Over the total of $60 million in projects, the low bids effectively lowered costs by $23 million. At the same time, the City aggressively pursued federal and state grant funding, bringing in an additional $30 million, $27 million from the federal government alone.

As the low bids and grants were tallied, Luebbers directed the funds be used to expand the scope of Sunnyvale Works!, increasing the

See Sunnyvale Works!, page 8

2011 Study Issues Key Dates

Sunnyvale’s study issues process provides both City Council and City staff with a valuable planning and management tool. Through this process, Council sets priorities to address the large number of policy issues that are raised each year, and gives staff the tools to balance the work required to thoroughly study an issue with the work required to deliver ongoing City services. For more information on study issues, visit StudyIssues.inSunnyvale.com.

Tentative key dates for the 2011 Study Issues Process include:

- January 4: Study Issues/Budget Issues Public Hearing, 7 p.m.
- January 28: Study Issues/Budget Issues Workshop, 9-50 a.m.
- March 1: Study/Budget Issues and Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar presentation

These are tentative dates and are therefore subject to change. Be sure to review the Tentative Council Meeting Agenda Calendar (TCMAC) for an up-to-date schedule of Council meetings. The TCMAC can be found at TCMAC.inSunnyvale.com.

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CITY OF SUNNYVALE
Winter 2011

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Christopher R. Moylan, Vice Mayor
Otto Lee
Ron Segoles
Anthony [Tony] Spitaleri
David Whittem
Jim Griffith

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THE BRIEFING –
NOTES FROM YOUR CITY MANAGER

It’s hard to believe I’ve been here for two years — it’s been an incredibly fast-paced, exciting, and, yes, challenging time. It has been particularly rewarding to become part of the Sunnyvale community, and I have learned something remarkable about our residents. You have a unique pride and spirit in our broadly diverse community. But as diverse as our backgrounds and cultures are, there is a true love of Sunnyvale that binds us together.

Without a doubt, it’s the people in Sunnyvale who make the difference.

From the day my wife and I moved to town, we’ve found Sunnyvale to be a wonderfully friendly community. We see this when working in our yard or taking a walk with our dogs, Prince and Scooter. Everyone greets us with a smile and a friendly “Hi!” We’ve fallen in love with this community and value being part of it. I am especially proud to be your City Manager.

As we all start new year, I would like to share some of the things that make me proud to be the City Manager — and more importantly, a resident of Sunnyvale.

Getting to Know Sunnyvale

When I started this job, one of my first tasks was to get to know everything I could about Sunnyvale — not just the brick-and-mortar Sunnyvale, but our residents and our businesses. Of course, as City Manager, that’s not a task that can just be done in a few days and then left for something else.

Getting to know our community is a day-in, day-out job for me, and

See BRIEFING, page 9

CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS BANNING PLASTIC BAGS

Each year, an estimated 19 billion single-use plastic carryout bags are given out in California, including 69 million in Sunnyvale alone. Unfortunately, fewer than 5 percent of these bags are recycled. Lightweight and easily blown into streets, storm drains and waterways, they cause litter, blight and flooding as well as problems with maintenance of material recovery equipment at the SMaRT Station.® The California Regional Water Quality Control Board has listed San Francisco Bay, as well as local creeks and streams, as “trash impaired.” The City’s storm water permit requires new litter control efforts.

On November 16, following a series of public meetings on the issue, Sunnyvale City Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance that bans single-use carryout bags at supermarkets and other food and beverage stores, and large retailers with more than 10,000 square feet of retail floor space. The ban would allow an exception so that retailers of retail floor space. The ban would allow an exception so that retailers participating in the Supplemental Food Program (food stamps) will be exempt from the charge. Council also approved $100,000, to be funded from wastewater and refuse collection rate revenues, to prepare the environmental impact analysis that must be completed and certified by Council prior to the adoption of the ordinance.

The environmental review process is anticipated to be completed — and the ordinance is expected to be considered by Council — in the second half of 2011. For more information and updates on the issue, visit Recycling.inSunnyvale.com.

Have a Question? Contact Us!

The City of Sunnyvale is committed to providing high-quality service, including a timely response to inquiries and requests from community members. The public has many options for contacting the City, depending on the nature of the inquiry and customer preference. During normal business hours, you may visit City offices in person, call the City’s main phone number at (408) 730-7500, TDD (408) 730-7501, or contact City departments directly. A printed list of City of Sunnyvale phone numbers is included in the summer edition of every Quarterly Report and available year-round at City Hall.

All of this information and more is also available on the city’s redesigned website, at sunnyvale.ca.gov. Every page on the site has a “Contact Us” button at the top right corner of the page. This tool automatically directs inquiries to the appropriate city staff member and even allows customers to track inquiry status, using the City’s Customer Relations Management (CRM) system.

Finally, for assistance resolving a problem within Sunnyvale or help determining where to direct an inquiry, you can contact the Sunnyvale Community Liaison at (408) 730-7599.

This combination of contact options ensures a high-level of service is maintained for all community members.

Boards and Commissions

The City of Sunnyvale is looking for volunteers to serve on Council-advisory boards and commissions. Board and commission members are appointed by City Council; special requirements, qualifications or professional experience may be required. Recruitment is ongoing for all boards and commissions, including openings on the Parks and Recreation Commission, which currently has one vacancy. For more information and to download an application, visit BoardsandCommissions.inSunnyvale.com. To request an application by mail or for more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (408) 730-7483, TDD (408) 730-7501, or via e-mail at cityclerk@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.
Sunnyvale Preparations for November Election

The next City Council election will be held this November for City Council seats 4, 5, and 7, for terms to commence January 2012. The seven members of Sunnyvale’s City Council are elected in odd-numbered years, and serve at large, representing the entire community, rather than a particular district. The City Council members are elected to four-year overlapping terms, and are limited by the City Charter to serving two consecutive terms. The Mayor is selected from among the ranks of Council and serves a two-year term. The Vice Mayor is also selected from and by Council, and serves a one-year term.

This year’s nomination period opens July 18 and closes August 12. To qualify for nomination as a candidate for City Council, a person must be 18 years of age, a Sunnyvale resident and must have been a registered voter in the City. Nomination papers for elective offices in Sunnyvale must be obtained from the City Clerk during the nomination period. Potential Council candidates are encouraged to schedule an orientation meeting with the City Clerk as early as possible during the nomination period. Nomination papers containing at least 20 valid signatures of registered Sunnyvale voters must be filed with the City Clerk prior to the close of the nomination period. Candidates who wish to have a statement of their qualifications published in the sample ballot which is mailed to all registered voters, must pay their pro-rated share of the translation, publishing and printing costs. For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at (408) 730-7459, TDD (408) 750-7501, or via e-mail at CityClerk.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

Potential candidates in an upcoming election may incur filing obligations prior to the nomination period if early campaign activities include fundraising or expenditure of campaign funds. For more information, contact the Fair Political Practices Commission at (866) 275-5772 or visit www.fppc.ca.gov.

Columbia Neighborhood Center Expansion

The Columbia Neighborhood Center (CNC) has moved to temporary quarters during construction of a much-needed expansion. CNC programs and staff, as well as the Mayview Community Health Center, are now housed in side-by-side portable buildings located towards the back of the CNC parking lot. This project has been in the works for several years and will increase the Center’s size by about 3,000 square feet. Offices will be added for counseling and other partners, a new large conference room will be available for classes and community groups, and a fitness room and much needed storage for CNC activities will be added. During construction, the gym that is shared by the City and Columbia Middle School will remain open, with entry at one of the side doors. CNC staff and their partners are committed to continuing current programs and services during the expansion. The project is expected to be completed in mid-2012.

CNC is located at 785 Morse Ave., next to Columbia Middle School. Visit CNC@sunnyvale.com to see details of the expansion and current CNC programs.

Housing Program Updates

Sunnyvale Winter Shelter Now Open

The Sunnyvale Armony, at 620 E. Maude Avenue has opened for service as a winter shelter. The shelter is operated by Emergency Housing Coalition (EHC), one of the homeless services providers supported by the City through its human services and Community Development Block Grants. For more information about the shelter or EHC’s other programs and how to help people who are homeless to secure housing and other needed services, visit www.ehcfharbourdgers.org.

Facade Improvement Program Launched

City staff held a workshop on Sunnyvale’s new facade program for business and property owners in Sunnyvale in October. The program is designed to help improve the facades of businesses located in the downtown redevelopement project area, as well as neighbor- hood-serving businesses such as corner markets, salons, restaurants, auto repair shops and others within CDBG-eligible service areas. A map of these neighborhoods is available online at CDGRMap.InSunnyvale.com.

City staff is available to meet with interested business owners and commercial property owners to explain the program. To request a meeting either at the business location or at City Hall, contact Rela- bilitation Specialist Rich Gutierrez, at (408) 750-7459. Applications will be reviewed by the Facade Review Committee in the order received. Funding is available this year to fund four or five facade improve- ment projects.

CDBG Microenterprise Assistance Workshop a Big Success

CNC Council Chambers was nearly full on October 28 for the first orientation workshop for ProMatch clients interested in applying for the new CDBG-funded Microenterprise Assistance Program, which provides grants of up to $10,000 for income-eligible residents starting or expanding a microenterprise. A microenterprise is defined in the CDBG regulations as those with no more than five employees, includ- ing the owner.

This assistance is being of- fered through NOVA’s ProMatch program, and is designed to assist residents who have been unemployed for six months or more by helping them to start their own business. NOVA organized the workshop and invited key staff from collaborating techni- cal assistance agencies to speak, including the Foothill College Entrepreneurship Center, the Bay Area Women’s Business Initiative, the Small Business Administration, SCORE, the Silicon Valley Small Business Development Center. For more information please contact Rhonda Pryor, NOVA business liaison, at (408) 750-7249, or visit www.NOVA@work.org.

Alert 1680 AM – Sunnyvale’s Emergency Radio Station

There is a new radio station on the AM dial here in Sunnyvale, but you won’t be able to hear your favorite song on this station. Instead, you will hear important safety information during local, regional or national emergencies. Alert 1680 is now in operation at 1680 AM on your radio. This radio station is the branchchild of the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety’s Office of Emergency Services and the Sunnyvale Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Funding for the system was made possible through a grant provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Alert 1680 will broadcast weather information provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 24-hours a day. If important information needs to be broadcast to the residents in the community, Public Safety staff can quickly access the radio system and either broadcast live or schedule pre-recorded information segments.

You will soon see signs around the community designed to heighten awareness to Alert 1680 AM. “We encourage everyone to tune to 1680 AM in emergencies, and set one of your car radio’s buttons to 1680 AM,” urges Public Safety Chief Don Johnson. “Alert 1680 is part of the City’s overall public notification system during emergencies, which includes Alert 1680, the news media, the City’s website, cable television and the county’s SCCAlert notification system. Johnson added that along with emergency supplies such as potable water and non- perishable food supplies, each home should have a battery powered AM radio ready for use during times of an emergency, such as on
Students Helping Students

Getting through school can be a tough educational experience for many, but with the help of a tutor, grades and learning can improve dramatically. If that tutor is a teenager, all of a sudden it’s far less intimidating to the student who needs the help.

Sunnyvale Public Library offers exactly this kind of help every Monday and Wednesday, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Teenaged tutors help younger students, in third through eighth grades, with homework assignments right in the Library.

On a recent afternoon, Carlos, a third grader, was practicing reading with Theresa, his ninth-grade tutor. Carlos says he is reading better with the after-school help, and Theresa says she enjoys helping Carlos and other students with reading and spelling. Alex, another high school tutor, said he ‘can see the improvement’ in Christian’s fourth-grade math skills, as they continue to work together on homework problems. Mark, a parent of third-grader Mekayah, stated ‘The homework center is doing a great job for my child.’

What the students say about the extra help: ‘It helps for real! Awesome!’ and ‘Homework center has very friendly people and nice kids.’ Another student said ‘It helps me very much,’ and yet one more was grateful for the service’s help, saying ‘Homework Help is a good thing to do when you are having trouble with your grades.’

For more information on the homework center, call (408) 730-7292, TDD (408) 730-7501 or visit www.sunnyvalelibrary.org.

Photographic Visions of the Universe

Beautiful, large photographs of the planets, moon, sun, supernovae, the universe and other celestial bodies are on display at Sunnyvale Public Library until March, as part of the Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery exhibit. The photographic panels are on a nationwide traveling exhibit for libraries, celebrating the International Year of Astronomy and Beyond. This exhibit is the result of a collaboration of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge Mass., and the American Library Association in Chicago.

As part of Sunnyvale Public Library’s celebration of astronomy, popular astronomer, author, and Foothill College professor Andrew Fraknoi will be presenting “Planets Everywhere: How Astronomers Have Found 500 Planets around Other Stars and What It Means for the Search for ET,” on Monday evening, January 31.

Check the Library’s website for details for that program and other Visions of the Universe events at www.sunnyvalelibrary.org.

Increased Wi-Fi Capacity at the Library

More than 250 people a day take advantage of the Sunnyvale Public Library’s free Wi-Fi service in the comfort of the Library. Sign-in is easy and does not require any passwords. The Library’s philosophy is simple, just as it is for the collections on the shelves: we want to share knowledge, entertainment and understanding. The Internet is simply an extension of tools libraries have always offered.

As the demand for Internet use continues to grow, the Library will continue to improve the system’s capacity to serve patrons. The Library has recently doubled its bandwidth from five to 10 megabytes for Wi-Fi use. More access points have also been added so Library patrons are able to confidently use Wi-Fi anywhere in the Library. The increased Wi-Fi capability is a boon to the more than 260 people who regularly use their laptop computers and free Wi-Fi at the Library each day.

For more information on the Library’s Wi-Fi service, visit www.sunnyvalelibrary.org or call (408) 730-7300, TDD (408) 730-7501.


Check the Library’s website for details for that program and other Visions of the Universe events at www.sunnyvalelibrary.org.
Library Delivers Books (and Smiles) to City’s Homebound Population

The Sunnyvale Public Library has a fantastic collection of materials available to the public. But not everyone has the ability to come into the Library and check out books and movies. This is especially true of some of Sunnyvale’s older, homebound residents. Enter Sunnyvale Outreach Services (SOS). This Library program is dedicated to delivering library materials to homebound residents in Sunnyvale. Many SOS residents are in their 90s, and a few — like centenarian Aurora Miguel — have passed the century mark. Miguel, who turned 100 years old in 2010, has been receiving materials through the SOS program since November 2004. Miguel recently called Library staff to express her gratitude for the “wonderful selection of books” and how happy she is to be able to read books on the subjects she enjoys. The Library’s SOS staff and volunteers are pleased to be providing not just books to our homebound residents, but smiles too.

For more information on the SOS service, call (408) 730-7500, TDD (408) 730-7501 or visit www.sunnyvalelibrary.org.

Tree-Cycling — Recycle Your Christmas Tree into Usable Mulch for Your Backyard

Single family residents may dispose of their Christmas trees as part of their yard trimming curbside collection service. Naturally, flocked or painted trees will be collected at the curb provided they are properly prepared for pick up. To prepare a tree for pick up, remove all decorations, lights and stands, and cut your tree in lengths to four feet or shorter. Place inside a yard trimmings cart if you can close the lid, or next to the cart if you can’t. Once collected, the trees will be ground into chips for use as mulch. Residents of Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Palo Alto and Los Altos may pick up the mulch at the Smart Station® at no charge, but must provide their own shovel and container.

Residents in multi-family complexes, town homes or apartments larger than three units have several disposal options. Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling, the City’s service provider, will collect trees between December 27 and January 14. To prepare trees for pick up, remove decorations, lights and stands, cut to four foot lengths or shorter, and stack near on-site dumpsters. Stack trees at least 20 feet from structures where possible to reduce fire risks. Some complexes will offer separate bins for tree collections. Check with your property owner or manager for details.

For more information, contact the Recycling Program at (408) 730-7262, TDD (408) 730-7501, or visit Recycling.inSunnyvale.com.

Looking for Scholarships? Head to the Library’s Home Page

The largest scholarship database in the world, with more than $41 billion in scholarship awards is now available through the Library’s home page at www.sunnyvalelibrary.org. Tuition Funding Sources is a private website made available to all libraries across the nation at a very low cost by PepsiCo. The site helps students find scholarships and other sources of financial aid as well as offering a career personality test and detailed college and career information.
Sewer Backed Up? Who Ya Gonna Call?

The City of Sunnyvale should be your first call if you have a sewer back-up. Our Field Services staff will evaluate your situation and, in some cases, fix it for you on the spot. Don't wait for a toilet or tub to overflow. If you notice that more than one plumbing fixture — shower, sink, clothes washer or dish washer — is draining slowly, call for assistance. In certain situations, the City may be able to correct the problem at no cost to you.

The Field Services technician will first check to see if there is a blockage in the main line in the street. If there is, the technician will clear, which may solve the issue. If there is no blockage in the main, then the private lateral, which connects the residence to the main, is investigated.

If the sewer lateral is old and failing, it is the home owner's responsibility to replace the lateral. Some homes were built when there was a shortage of good pipe material, and sewer laterals were made of tar paper rolled into a tube and compressed. This material, known as Orangeburg pipe, is no longer acceptable, and these sewer laterals must be replaced. Field Services will not clear a private lateral made of Orangeburg pipe.

If there is a City street tree with roots contributing to the sewer problem, contact Field Services at (408) 750-7501 for assistance. A Field Services technician will respond and attempt to fix the problem, if you have Orangeburg pipe, however you are responsible for replacing the lateral, even if street tree roots are involved.

If checking a clean-out identifies the problem in the lower lateral — between the property line and the main line in the street — then the technician will attempt to correct the problem. If the back-up is in the private lateral, and there is no street tree contributing to the problem, then the matter is for the property owner to resolve.

If there is no clean-out to access, then the property owner is responsible, and will need to call a plumber. If you have a history of sewer back-ups, and do not have a clean-out, you can request the City to install a clean-out, usually at no cost. However, if your lateral is made of Orangeburg pipe, you must replace the lateral and have a clean-out installed at that time. The City will not install the clean-out.

Sunnyvale Public Works Field Services serves residents and business owners of the City of Sunnyvale with a 24-hour, 7-day a week on-call response service, at (408)750-7510.

For non-emergency questions, call the same number between 7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, to speak to the Field Services Answer Point.

By calling the City first, you preserve your chance to have the City correct the problem at no cost to you. If you call a plumber first, all plumbing costs will be at your expense.

Sandy Station Shredding Events Prove Popular and Successful

In 2010, Sunnyvale funded several shredding events at the SMaRT® Station to help residents conveniently dispose of personal documents and minimize their exposure to identity theft. More than 1,300 residents from Sunnyvale, Mountain View and Palo Alto participated in the first three events. John Sasser, service manager for Cintas Document Management, reported nearly 40 tons of paper were collected. He also remarked how smoothly the events were run and that he had never seen the sides of (his) trucks bulging like this with paper.

Thanks to a group of dedicated City volunteers who provided assistance in unloading boxes and bags of documents, most residents enjoyed short wait times. Several residents stated they felt good knowing their paper would be recycled into useful paper products instead of burned in the landfill.

Take advantage of our next shredding event on April 30 at the SMaRT® Station. Two other shredding events will be held on July 30 and December 3. Keep the 2011 Recycling Events calendar — inserted in this edition of Quarterly Report — as a reference to all of Sunnyvale’s 2011 recycling events. For more information, call (408) 730-7262, TDD (408) 730-7501 or visit Recycling.inSunnyvale.com. We’re here to help you reduce waste, reuse and recycle year-round.

Sunnyvale Flood Zones

Approximately 1,800 acres of the City have been designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA). In Sunnyvale, SFHAs are generally located in the northeast portion of the City.

Flood insurance is generally caused by a creek topping its banks, clogged catch basins or storm drains. If you should observe flooding in any part of the City, call the Public Works Field Services Division at (408) 750-7501. Staff will visit a property to review its flood problem and explain ways to stop flooding or prevent flood damage.

To find out whether your property is in a flood hazard area, or for flood protection assistance questions, visit the City’s flood zone website at www.sunnyvale.ca.gov/Departments/PublicWorks/FloodZones.aspx or call the City Public Works Administrative Division at 408-750-7415. Flood maps and flood protection reference materials are also available at the Sunnyvale Public Library.

Flood Insurance

Your homeowner's insurance does not cover losses from flooding. Federal law requires flood insurance if you have a federally-regulated mortgage and your building is in an area shown on maps prepared by FEMA as subject to flooding during a 100-year event. A “100-year flood” refers to a flood level with a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) makes flood insurance available to everyone in the City. Renters can also purchase flood insurance to cover their possessions. For information about flood insurance, call your insurance agent, the NFIP customer service line at 800-468-6620, or visit their website at www.floodsmart.gov.

The NFIP created the Community Rating System to promote flood awareness and reduce flood losses in communities throughout the United States. The City of Sunnyvale has been an active participant in this program since 1998. As a result, residents and businesses in the City who purchase flood insurance receive a 15 percent reduction on their flood insurance premiums.
New California Green Building Code

Last January, California adopted new state building codes. All local jurisdictions are required to adopt these codes with appropriate amendments by January 1, 2011. Included in the regulations are two new codes; the 2010 California Residential Code and the 2010 California Green Building Standards. The new residential code addresses building requirements for one and two family dwellings; which includes single-family homes, duplexes and townhouses. California also adopted the nation’s first mandatory green building standards, which sets the minimum sustainability standards for new residential and non-residential construction. The City of Sunnyvale has already adopted a Green Building Ordinance, which contains requirements that go above and beyond CALGreen. However, starting January 1, the mandatory items of CALGreen will also need to be complied with.

For more information about Sunnyvale’s Green Building Ordinance or to view our sustainability efforts, visit Green.inSunnyvale.com.

Connect! Job Seeker Center Provides Resources

The CONNECT! Center was established in 2002 as a one-stop resource for individuals looking for a job, with the intent to improve job seekers’ skills and increase their employability. Job seekers interested in using the center’s resources will complete a registration process to become a CONNECT! member and enjoy immediate access to services. Membership is free, but members will be asked to verify their right to work in the United States. Services at the center include career advisor appointments; a full array of job-search workshops; resume assistance; use of computers, printers, photocopiers and fax machines for the job search; recruitment presentations by local employers; ProMatch, an interactive networking program for professionals; a career resource library and labor market information; Microsoft computer application classes; and many other services. Services to businesses are provided through NOVA and a variety of local organizations. Services include pre-layoff and outplacement assistance, employee training and retention, diversity employment, and staffing and recruitment. Most services to individuals and businesses are available at no cost. For more information about NOVA and the CONNECT! Job Seeker Center, visit novaworks.org or drop by the center at 420 S. Pastoria Ave. Normal business hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Connect! Job Seeker Center

The CONNECT! Center, located just a block from Sunnyvale City Hall, is available at no cost to residents and businesses. CONNECT! is a collaborative of more than 30 organizations dedicated to serving the region’s workforce, operated by NOVA (a department of the City of Sunnyvale) in partnership with the California Employment Development Department (EDD).

Need Help Connecting with Employers?

Like their neighbors throughout the Bay Area, Sunnyvale residents and businesses have been hit hard by the downturn in the economy. But a helpful resource is available in the heart of Sunnyvale to assist with employment and training needs for both employer and job seeker.

The CONNECT! Job Seeker Center, located just a block from Sunnyvale City Hall, is available at no cost to residents and businesses. CONNECT! is a collaborative of more than 30 organizations dedicated to serving the region’s workforce, operated by NOVA (a department of the City of Sunnyvale) in partnership with the California Employment Development Department (EDD).

Horizon 2035 Advisory Committee

Sunnyvale’s Horizon 2035 Advisory Committee is guiding two important City projects that will contribute to smart growth and a healthy community. One is an update of the Land Use and Transportation Element of the General Plan and the other is the City’s first Climate Action Plan. The 15-member advisory committee has been meeting regularly since June 2010 to assist City staff in developing draft goals and policies that will be considered by City Council in fall 2011. Community members are encouraged to get involved and join in discussions and provide feedback on draft goals and policies. Horizon 2035 committee members assist with conducting community outreach and education on climate change, land use and transportation issues. For more information on the Horizon 2035 Advisory Committee and upcoming community outreach and education meetings, visit Horizon2035.inSunnyvale.com.

Horizon 2035 Advisory Committee

Join the Discussion in 2011 and Help Shape Sunnyvale’s Future

Winter – 2011
Volunteers Needed for Hands on the Arts

The City of Sunnyvale’s long-running and acclaimed Hands on the Arts Festival is looking for volunteers to assist artists at this year’s event.

The 36th annual Hands on the Arts Festival, scheduled for Saturday, May 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., features artist workshops for children ages 3 – 12, storytelling, live performances and a variety of food. With more than 2,000 participants expected to attend this year’s event, the City relies on the assistance of more than 200 volunteers to assist artists in conducting workshops and prepping supplies before the event. No artistic ability required, and all volunteers will receive a commemorative T-shirt. First time volunteers must be fingerprinted prior to the event. For more information, call (408) 730-7501, TDD (408) 730-7501, or visit HandsOnArts.inSunnyvale.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering With the City of Sunnyvale

What’s Available? How do I get started?

Students looking to gain work experience and community service credit, residents wanting to meet new people and be active, and businesses and nonprofits wanting to give back to the community will all find volunteer opportunities with the City of Sunnyvale designed to suit their needs.

Opportunities within the City vary by department, event and season. At Sunnyvale Public Library, volunteers tutor students after school, read to children, and put together potent databases. In the Department of Community Services, Parks Division, groups have helped with park maintenance, performing tasks such as litter pick up, sanding and painting, planting trees and shrubs, and spreading mulch. Volunteers assist the Department of Public Safety by providing services that improve the quality of life in residential and commercial neighborhoods, such as educating the public to increase safety and resolve issues in neighborhoods. Senior Center volunteers assist seniors in the Computer Lab, providing clerical support in the office and assisting with special events, such as holiday luncheons and breakfast with Santa. Volunteers help out with City recreation programs by assisting in classrooms and with special projects and events.

Applications for the Summer Teen Program, which includes activities such as summer camps, aquatics and theater programs, will be accepted starting in February, and because those slots fill up fast, interested teens are encouraged to apply early. Information on teen volunteering can be found at TeenVolunteering.inSunnyvale.com.

For some volunteer opportunities, including those that involve City property, handling money or working with children, the elderly or the disabled, volunteers must be fingerprinted prior to beginning their volunteer work. Because the fingerprint process can take a few weeks, please apply early to be assured of a timely assignment.

For additional information about available volunteer opportunities with the City, visit Volunteering.inSunnyvale.com and click on the Volunteer Opportunities link for a current list of openings. Complete an online application indicating the opportunities you are interested in. If you are unable to use the online application, call the Volunteer Resources Program at (408) 730-7553, TDD (408) 730-7501, to request a printed application.

Submit Comments to Council Early

Have feedback for Councilmembers regarding an item on an upcoming Council agenda? The sooner you submit your e-mail or letter, the more time Council will have to review your input. Submitting your information on the day of a Council meeting — or minutes prior to a meeting — will not increase the visibility of your message to Council. In fact, it may actually make it more difficult for Council to view and consider your input in time for the meeting.

Remember that submissions to Council, Mayor, or City Clerk sent after 5 p.m. will not be received or forwarded until the following business day.

The mailing address for City Council is: Sunnyvale City Council — P.O. Box 3707, Sunnyvale, CA 94088
E-mail: council秘书@inSunnyvale.ca.us • Fax: (408) 730-7699

The City of Sunnyvale City Council — P.O. Box 3707, Sunnyvale, CA 94088
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Sunnyvale Works!, continued from page 1

The project total to more than $80 million without involving any additional City funding.

“From the very start, we knew there would be a limited window of opportunity to reap these benefits,” explained Mayor Melinda Hamilton. “City staff has worked tirelessly to maximize the benefit to the community. And one of the greatest benefits of all has been the creation of new and retained jobs at a time when the construction industry has suffered greatly.”

By the Numbers

- 36 capital construction projects awarded
- 17 civil engineering contracts for project design, feasibility, inspection and testing services
- 26 capital projects completed to date
- $60 million in original projects targeted
- $82 million in expanded projects
- 29 percent ($23 million) in savings from lower bids
- $27.2 million in federal grants
- $2.8 million in state and local grants
- Examples of project acceleration
- 400 percent increase in concrete, sidewalk, curb, gutter and driveway repairs
- 100 percent increase in asphaltic pavement rehabilitation
- 1,200 percent increase in construction of accessible pedestrian ramps (ADA curb cuts) — more than 650 ramps, equivalent to 20 years worth of work.

Training Courses for Child Care Providers

The City of Sunnyvale, in partnership with the UC Davis Center for Excellence in Child Development, has announced two new upcoming fall workshops for child care providers.

“Partnering with Parents” is a two-part workshop that will be held Saturday, January 22 and 29, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Working effectively with parents is at the heart of quality child care. Yet there are many challenges in developing this relationship. A variety of issues, ranging from money to values about child rearing, to what makes a good snack, have the potential for conflict. This workshop is an opportunity to learn skills that maximize a child care provider’s ability to establish healthy communication and trust with parents. Participants must attend both sessions.

“Loss, Trauma and Young Children” will be held Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. This course addresses the emotional impact of loss and trauma on young children. In addition to concrete information for increasing the physical safety of children in family child care, the course explores the provider’s role in helping children cope with stressful events, such as divorce, separation and changing caregivers.

Workshops are held at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, 550 E. Remington Drive. Participants can receive CEU Credits (continuing education units) upon completion of each class. Registration is required for both workshops and specific registration dates apply. To register for a class or for more information, contact Youth, Family and Child Care Resources at (408) 523-8150, TDD (408) 730-7501, or e-mail ChildCareResources@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us or visit ChildCare.inSunnyvale.com.

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The seats that would sit 550 ramps, equivalent to 20 years worth of work.
one I am focused on every day. And every day I'm reminded of the spirit of community that I see in Sunnyvale. When Dr. Oz proclaimed Sunnyvale the “Happiest place in America,” he wasn’t telling our residents anything they did not already know. Just look at our parks. Not only do they draw hundreds of people on the weekends, but they’re heavily used during the week as well. I frequently travel past Las Palmas Park as I walk or bike to work at City Hall. City Hall, and almost every day I see people taking their children for a walk, exercising dogs, playing tennis, soccer and volleyball. It’s exhilarating to see people out and about in the park. As diverse as Sunnyvale is, these are the threads that bind us together, and I see them every day. However, just as we can observe how diverse our community is, we also have to recognize that the needs and desires of each member of Sunnyvale are both unique and important.

Our businesses are vital to the health of our city. I meet frequently with business leaders to understand their needs and what it takes for them to remain successful. Sunnyvale has a long history of being very business-friendly, but we have to earn that reputation every day. You may not know it, but the One-Stop Center concept — which I led in my previous role as director of Public Works — has spread to hundreds of cities throughout the nation. It’s a model that many cities now employ to help planners, builders and home owners get information about their property, zoning and permitting for new or remodeling construction — was born in Sunnyvale.

Many of our residents know that they can make a big impact on the quality of their lives by becoming active members in the community. More than two dozen neighborhood associations have been formed, and while visiting the associations, I have found the meetings to be great opportunities to meet members and to have a dialogue with them. I’ll continue to visit association meetings this year and continue to learn what’s on our residents’ minds.

**Sunnyvale Town Center**

The former mall began its demise almost a decade ago, resulting in bankruptcy and closure. But the City has persevered through it all from developer issues right up to the Great Recession. But now, more than ever, there is reason for excitement. Target has been open in their new store for a year. McKinley is more vibrant than ever, there is reason for excitement. The former mall began its demise almost a decade ago, resulting in bankruptcy and closure. But the City has persevered through it all from developer issues right up to the Great Recession. But now, more than ever, there is reason for excitement. Target has been open in their new store for a year. McKinley is more vibrant than ever, there is reason for excitement.

One of our shining accomplishments is our own Sunnyvale Works! program, which has succeeded beyond our wildest expectations, launching 36 projects, 26 of which have already been completed. Aggressive searching for federal, state and local grants brought in $30 million dollars to help fund the work. Coupled with City spending, more than $82 million has been spent upgrading Sunnyvale’s infrastructure. The program has been nationally acclaimed and was selected by Public CEO as the Public Works Project of the Year.

When I said we would accelerate our capital improvement projects as much as we could, I was amazed at how much we really could get done. Here’s just one example: in a typical year, we normally are able to install a few dozen accessible pedestrian ramps each year. These are known as “curb cuts,” and they’re the small ramps that make it easier for pedestrians to get from the sidewalk to the crosswalk. Under Sunnyvale Works! we have completed more than 650 of the ramps. That’s about 20 years’ worth of work on that project alone.

**Improving Neighborhoods**

Shortly after Sunnyvale Works! got underway, we launched NEAT, the Neighborhood Enhancement Action Team. NEAT, which uses an inter-departmental City team to improve conditions in our neighborhoods, is now on our third neighborhood. NEAT works with residents, businesses and others to address appearance, crime and quality of life issues. The concept of using City staff and neighborhood residents working together to identify and resolve issues has proven to be a winner, allowing us to better see issues as the residents do, and then bring resources to bear on creating solutions.

**Our Finances**

We have been, and will continue to be, financially challenged. The recession hit us hard, and although we planned judiciously, the impact of the downturn had a dramatic impact on the City’s financial condition. During the past three years, we have seen annual reductions of $5.4 million in projected sales tax revenue; $1 million in transient occupancy tax revenue; and we anticipate the loss of $1.1 million, just in commercial property tax appeals. Because property tax revenues lag behind the economy by several years, we don’t yet know the full impact. We do know it will take several years before we grow our revenue to former levels.

We reacted more quickly than most cities, which has precluded, so far, taking some of the drastic actions other cities have been forced into. But there has been a toll. Forty-one City positions have been eliminated or left unfilled in the last two fiscal years. Services in most areas have been reduced to varying degrees. We’ve done our best at minimizing the impact to our citizens, but our work in this area is not nearly complete.

Keeping costs down is at the forefront of our current and long-range financial planning. Of course, sacrifice and compromise by all is crucial as we move forward, and our City employees are committed to seamless – however difficult – reductions of service. We’re not out of the woods yet, but there are some positive signs.

Sunnyvale has been able to ride the ups and downs of the economy ever since we became a city nearly 100 years ago. While the depth and breadth of this recession have been severe, I want to assure you sunnyvale will remain fiscally strong as we manage this current challenge and as we move forward. Difficult decisions have been, and will continue to be, made. As your City Manager, I take the responsibility to manage our money in a conservative and prudent manner very seriously.

As we step forward into 2011, I plan to keep you apprised on how our City is doing. I wish you all a happy New Year.

Next time in the Quarterly Report spring edition. An in-depth look at our City’s finances.
In cooperation with the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), the City of Sunnyvale is hosting a spring series of free landscape education courses designed to help residents and businesses conserve water, create sustainable landscaping and save money. The courses will provide the opportunity to learn about beautiful California native plants, incorporating edibles into your landscape, techniques for reducing your landscaping water usage, replacing lawns while controlling pests and using greywater for irrigation. With this understanding, you will be able to design and improve a landscape that saves water and conveys a sense of place with natural beauty, as well as saving money on your water bill.

The landscape series begins in March and continues through May. Classes will be held in Sunnyvale on March 19, April 2, 16, 30, May 7 and 21.

Don’t worry if you miss a class; classes are designed to be complementary and missing a class will not preclude you from future offerings or create an information gap. Classes are free, but registration is required. A similar series of classes offered last year was extremely popular, so register early. To register for classes or for additional details regarding the courses, contact BAWSCA at (650) 349-3000 or visit www.bawsca.org. Information and course announcements can also be found at Green.inSunnyvale.com.

Green@Home Volunteer Training, Informational Workshops and Free Home Energy Audits

Through grant funding from the City of Sunnyvale, Acterra’s Green@Home Program continues to offer volunteer training and home energy audits to Sunnyvale residents. Acterra will offer Green@Home volunteer training in Sunnyvale on March 17 and March 24.

After completing a two-part training program, Green@Home volunteers work in teams to perform HouseCalls, where they carry out nine basic tasks such as installing compact fluorescent lights bulbs and adjusting water heater and refrigerator/freezer temperatures. HouseCalls take about two and a half hours, and are scheduled at times that are convenient for the volunteer.

In addition to the volunteer training, Acterra will conduct an informational do-it-yourself workshop in Sunnyvale. The workshop, offered February 8 at the Sunnyvale Community Center, will teach basic actions you can do easily at home to be more energy efficient.

Contact Acterra at (650) 962-9876 ext. 350 or visit greenathome@acterra.org for additional volunteer, workshop and free home energy audit details. Registration is required. Visit their website at www.acterra.org/greenathome for more information on the Green@Home Program. Green.inSunnyvale.com also has information and details on the upcoming workshops and volunteer training.

Disposing of Aerosol Cans Safely

They’re Convenient, But Can Be Hazardous to Dispose Of

Ever since they were invented during World War I, aerosol cans have been an easy, convenient way to dispense hairspray, automotive lubricants, deodorizers, paints, disinfectants, cleaners, cooking sprays and even cheese spreads. What’s inside the can, however, all pose the same hazard when the time comes to throw them away.

Cans that are not empty can increase garbage sorters’ risk of exposure to hazardous materials or serious injury as pressure from partially-filled cans may explode. Empty aerosol cans should be placed in your garbage cart, not in your recycling cart. Partially-full or unused aerosol cans need to be taken to a household hazardous waste event drop-off event.

To minimize risks, empty the aerosol can completely; the container is empty when the nozzle is depressed and neither contents nor air pressure escapes from the can. If the aerosol contains paint, spray it on a piece of cardboard to dry and then dispose of both in the garbage. If the contents are still usable, but you no longer need the product, give it to someone who may use it.

Household hazardous waste events are held on the third Saturday of each month, January through November, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Follow container directions for safe storage and handling and keep aerosols away from children and pets.

To avoid these disposal problems altogether, consider using a non-aerosol alternative. For more recycling and disposal information, visit Recycling.inSunnyvale.com, or call us at (408) 730-7262, TDD (408) 730-7501.
Recycle the following containers:

- Multi-Family (light blue cart) (blue side of split-cart)
- Single Family Split Container Recycling

Recycling products:

- Multi-family and single-family residents can recycle many items using the recycling carts provided by Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling. Use this guide to what can and cannot be recycled. Join your neighbors and help support Sunnyvale's successful recycling efforts.

**Paper Recycling**

- Single Family (green side of split-cart)
- Multi-Family (dark blue cart)

Recycle the following paper products:

- Cake / cereal / tissue boxes (remove plastic liners)
- Catalogs / magazines / paper shopping bags
- Copier paper / construction / colored paper (50 percent or less paint)
- Gift wrapping paper / greeting cards (no metallic content)
- Manila / colored file / hanging folders
- Newspaper / inserts / junk mail
- Paper egg cartons
- Phone books / paperback books (no hard covers)

**Container Recycling**

- Single Family Split (blue side of split-cart)
- Multi-Family (light blue cart)

Recycle the following containers:

- Food and beverage containers (metal, glass, plastics #1-7)
- Aluminum / tin / bi-metal / steel cans
- Canning / peanut butter / jam / soup / sauce jars
- Gallon milk jugs
- Margarine / yogurt / cottage cheese / baby wipes tubes
- Plastic detergent / juice bottles

The items listed below are NOT recyclable and must be disposed in garbage carts or bins:

- Aerosol cans: Please empty contents before placing in trash.
- Aseptic packaging (boxes containing liquids): soy milk / broth / juice
- Black plastic, or hard plastics of any kind
- Clamshells of any kind (foam or clear plastic)
- Expanded Polystyrene: foam egg cartons / cups / plates / frozen food trays
- Containers with high wax-content: ice cream / frozen food boxes / milk / juice cartons
- Paper with high metallic content: gift wrap / greeting cards / foil
- Paper contaminated with food / liquids: pizza boxes / tissues / napkins / plates / cups
- Plastic detergent / juice bottles
- Plastic shopping bags or plastic film / wrap
- Window / automotive glass / mirrors / ceramics / crystal / pyrex

**Do You Flush Green?**

Toilets and drains are not trash cans. Proper disposal of your waste will help protect public health and the environment. Rethink what you flush — only human waste and toilet paper belong in the toilet. To download a Flush Green brochure and learn which items do not belong in the toilet, visit WPSCP.inSunnyvale.com. For more information or to have the Flush Green brochure mailed to you, call the Environmental Outreach Division at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501, or send an e-mail to wpcp@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.

**Coastal Cleanup Day Wrap Up**

In September, two dozen Sunnyvale volunteers helped clean up the Bay, by participating in the 2010 Coastal Cleanup Day event held near the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant. Volunteers collected litter from more than a mile of shoreline along the Guadalupe Slough. Over the course of three hours, they collected approximately 320 pounds of trash and 90 pounds of recyclable cans and bottles. The most common items collected included shotgun shells, styrofoam pieces and plastic bottles. The 26 volunteers joined more than 1,200 countywide participating at more than 40 sites. All told, these volunteers picked up 26,749 pounds of trash and 4,702 pounds of recyclable materials along nearly 80 miles of creeks and local waterways, preventing this litter from entering San Francisco Bay.

For more information or to learn about future cleanup events being held in Sunnyvale, call the Environmental Outreach Division at (408) 730-7717, TDD (408) 730-7501 or e-mail wpcp@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.