Ground Breaking for Mathilda / 237 / 101 Project

Ground Breaking for Mathilda/Highway 237/On Friday, March 22, the City of Sunnyvale, along with the Valley Transportation Agency (VTA), Caltrans and California State Senator Jim Beall, officially broke ground on VTA’s $42 million dollar Mathilda/State Route 237/Highway 101 Rehabilitation Project. The project aims to relieve traffic congestion while enhancing multimodal safety throughout the Mathilda corridor near Highway 101 and State Route 237. Project construction has begun and is expected to be completed in late 2020. Visit the project webpage to learn more and sign-up to receive updates.

City Website Adds New Business Resources Section

If you are looking to start or expand a business in Sunnyvale, get off on the right foot with the new ‘Start and Grow Your Business’ page on the City’s website. The page offers quick access to a variety of local, state and federal resources to guide you through the various steps, from learning how to prepare a business plan, verifying your property zoning, or obtaining the correct permits. Visit the Start and Grow Your Business page or contact the Economic Development Office at 408-730-7607 for more information.
NOVA Workforce Review Released for March
On a monthly basis, NOVA produces a Workforce Review report that aggregates data from the recently released State jobs report for the NOVA eight-jurisdiction consortium. The March edition includes the article, “As H-1B Hiring Escalates, Firms Moving Jobs to Canada: Study” that highlights the results of a new study that shows companies plan to hire more H-1B candidates domestically, but are also shifting jobs to Canada. About 65 percent of respondents view Canadian policies more “favorable” than the constantly changing and confusing state of the H-1B and other work visa programs in this country.

Traffic Enforcement on Mathilda and California Avenues
The Sunnyvale Traffic Safety Unit recently conducted enforcement on Mathilda Ave. at California Ave. focusing on motorists clearly driving in the new buffered bicycle lane in violation of the law between Indio and California avenues. Most drivers who were cited (36 citations issued) crossed into the bicycle lane 250 feet or more from the intersection. The picture depicts vehicles traveling south on Mathilda to California, and shows the green marked bicycle lane. The Traffic Safety Unit remains committed to keeping all our roadways safe. For additional information contact Lieutenant Tracy Hern at thern@sunnyvale.ca.gov or 408-730-7109.

National Library Week April 7 – April 13
This year’s theme is “Libraries = Strong Communities”. Sunnyvale will celebrate Library week with events, such as: “behind-the-scenes” library tours, celebrity storytimes with Mayor Larry Klein and Department of Public Safety Chief Ngo as well as “Power to the People” book diorama contest, where patrons will have the opportunity to vote for their staff-produced favorite! On Tuesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, a special order of the day will be presented to the Friends of the Sunnyvale Public Library in honor of their outstanding support. For a complete schedule of events, visit our website or contact Chaunacey Dunklee at cdunklee@sunnyvale.ca.gov or 408-730-7381.

Library Receives $13,050 Early Literacy Grant
The Sunnyvale Public Library received a grant in the amount of $13,050 from the Pacific Library Partnership to implement an early literacy project for new parents entitled, “Mighty Beginnings: Early Literacy Resources for Every Parent and Child.” Created by librarians Wendy Silver and Raina Tuakoi, Mighty Beginnings will provide new parents with the tools needed to launch their little one’s life-long love of learning. There will be monthly meet-ups to engage in fun, interactive activities, share best practices, and presentations from early literacy experts on literacy and health topics. The Family Playdates will be offered April through December 2019, with the first one scheduled for Thursday, April 11 at 11 a.m. in the Sunnyvale Public Library Program Room, 665 W. Olive Ave. For more information, visit the Mighty Beginnings website or contact Wendy Silver at wsilver@sunnyvale.ca.gov or 408-730-7816.
Cesar Chavez Youth Action Day
In honor of Cesar Chavez, the Sunnyvale Teen Advisory Committee (TAC) sponsored its seventh annual Cesar Chavez Youth Action Day, partnering with Sunnyvale Community Services, a non-profit organization that works towards preventing hunger and homelessness in the community. A total of 32 teen volunteers participated in researching and discussing the legacy of Cesar Chavez, and prepped 3,600 paper bags filled with free groceries for community members in need. Teen volunteers commented feeling inspired by the contributions of Cesar Chavez and expressed their own commitment to making more positive changes in their community.

Good Turnout at Sunnyvale’s Summer Job Fair
On March 28, the Summer Job Fair was held where approximately 75 to 80 young people attended with the goal of finding summer employment as camp counselors, program assistants, lifeguards and pool site managers. Each summer, the City hires between 80 to 100 seasonal staff to support the wide array of summer programs offered in the Camp Sunnyvale Splash guide. This year’s event featured a “one-stop” hiring center including access to laptops to complete the online registration process as well as onsite interviews for the applicants. Interested applicants can still apply by visiting our website.

City Partners with Sunnyvale Community Services to Host Bilingual Community Health Fair
On Sunday, March 31, the Library hosted a bilingual English/Mandarin Community Health Fair in collaboration with Sunnyvale Community Services Agency. In all, approximately 240 individuals attended with 43 of them receiving health screenings courtesy of the Lions Club. This event would not have been possible without the generous support of the following organizations: CareMore, Meals on Wheels, Project Sentinel, PARS Equality Center, CSA (Community Services Agency), Mountain View, New Hope Chinese Cancer Care Foundation, Sunnyvale Senior Center, HICAP (Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program), Heart of the Valley, Santa Clara Family Health Plan and the Lions Club.

April is Fair Housing Month
Fair Housing Month is celebrated nationally every April in recognition of the enactment of the federal Fair Housing Act of 1968. The goal of Fair Housing Month is to increase public awareness of the rights set forth in the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of housing due to race, color, national origin, religion, disability, children, or sexual orientation. Sunnyvale partners with local non-profit agencies to ensure community members have access to fair housing resources. It is important for community members to know that California’s Fair Employment and Housing Act also
prohibits discrimination and harassment regarding any housing services, such as sales, rentals, evictions, home financing, insurance, and zoning. It also requires housing providers to make reasonable accommodations for the disabled, as well as prohibiting retaliation against any person filing a complaint under this Act. For more information or questions about your rights, please contact Project Sentinel at info@housing.org or call 408-720-9888.

Results from City’s Single Audit
The City’s external auditor, Macias Gini & O’Connell, recently completed the annual Single Audit and issued an audit report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. The audit is a requirement set by the Single Audit Act of 1984 (amended in 1996) and Uniform Guidance, applicable to all non-federal agencies receiving federal awards $750,000 or more within in one fiscal year. For FY 2017/18, the City expenditures of federal awards were approximately $19 million. Per the auditor’s opinion, the City complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements to its federal programs and the City’s internal controls over compliance of federal programs are appropriate. The clean audit reflects the excellent work of all departments involved. The report is posted on the Sunnyvale Budget and Finance website.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Comment on the Draft Climate Action Playbook
On April 15, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., a Joint Study Session for Commissions will be held at Las Palmas Park Building, 850 Russet Dr., and is an opportunity for the public to provide comments on the Draft Climate Action Playbook. The Playbook contains winning strategies for reducing our community’s greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate change. Public feedback on the Draft Playbook can also be provided online through April 26, via Open City Hall. For questions email green@sunnyvale.ca.gov or call 408-730-7717.

Poetry Read Aloud
On Saturday, April 6, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Sunnyvale Public Library Program Room, 665 W. Olive Ave, join us in reading poetry out loud together! Language is music, and poetry can be fun, sad, meditative or silly. Library staff will provide poems, or bring a favorite (20-line maximum) and take turns reading a poem aloud to the group. The audience will not discuss, judge or comment on the poetry. Enjoy the sound of language in the company of your friends and neighbors. This is a drop-in event, no registration required. For additional information, contact the Library reference desk at 408-730-7300.