

Civic Center Modernization: Background & Timeline

In 1958, the City of Sunnyvale built a new City Hall to meet the needs of a community of 30,000 people. Since then, the City added an annex in 1970, offices in the Sunnyvale Office Center in 2000, and modular buildings in 2001.

Now with almost 160,000 residents in the heart of Silicon Valley, the City's needs have grown and changed.

To better meet those needs, the City Council decided to modernize the entire 26-acre Civic Center campus. Their goals were to improve access to services by consolidating departments into one building. They also wanted facilities to be sustainable and resilient in emergencies.

The City engaged consultants and the community in the planning process for the area which helped shape the [Civic Center Modernization Master Plan](#).

The much-needed modernization is being conducted in phases. Completion of the new City Hall is part of Phase 1. This phase also included an addition to the Public Safety Headquarters for a permanent Emergency Operations Center. The addition was completed in fall 2022.

Despite the pandemic and supply chain issues facing construction projects across the country, we were able to complete a modern, all-electric City Hall that is a model of sustainability. It was designed and built to be Net Zero Energy **and** LEED Platinum. This will be the first city hall in the nation to achieve both exceptional standards.

Below are the major milestones along the path to the new City Hall.

- September 2018: City Council approves the Civic Center Modernization Master Plan
- December 2018: City awards Civic Center Phase I Design contract to SmithGroup
- August 2019: City Council approves initial design work
- February 2020: City awards construction management services contract to Jacobs Project Management Co.
- October 2020: City awards construction contract to Hensel Phelps Construction Co.
- December 2020: Construction begins
- Fall 2021: Exterior work on the Public Safety addition and interior framing for City Hall begins
- July 2021: Topping Out Ceremony for City Hall (placement of last interior beam)
- Early 2022: Exterior work on City Hall begins
- September 2022: Public Safety addition and Emergency Operations Center opens
- **March 20, 2023: City Hall opens**
- April 3, 2023: Ribbon cutting ceremony for new City Hall
- Spring/Summer 2023: Remaining demolition (old City Hall buildings) and landscaping for Phase 1
- September 23, 2023: Grand Opening Celebration for the public