

FEBRUARY 2022

SCENE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO

**The Road
Ahead in 2022**
Shaping Cupertino's
Future Together

PLUS: MEET THE **NEW CITY MANAGER** | PARTICIPATE IN THE
HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE | HELP IMPROVE **LOCAL ROAD SAFETY**

CITY OF



CUPERTINO



Earth and Arbor Day Festival is Returning in April 2022!

We are looking for volunteers, businesses, nonprofit organizations, performers, and sponsors who want to participate in this year's Festival. Registration is now open. Learn more and apply today at cupertino.org/earthday.

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Questions or comments about The Scene? Contact staff at scene@cupertino.org.



Participate in the Housing Element Update

Cupertino's Sixth Cycle Housing Element Update (2023-2031) is continuing to make progress and needs your input! To learn more about the project and provide your feedback, visit the Housing Element webpage at engagecupertino.org/housingelement.

This page is the project hub of online activity, including important information, updates, engagement opportunities, and more. It will be updated regularly in multiple languages throughout the Housing Element Update process. You can subscribe for updates and visit the webpage frequently to engage in the process, provide feedback, find key documents, see upcoming meeting dates and times, and learn other information.

The City held a Housing Element Update Community Workshop on December 9, 2021. The workshop was a great success and had over 40 participants learn about the City's Housing Element Update and the Cupertino Housing Simulator (aka the Balancing Act). You can view the video under "Past Meetings & Details" on the project webpage.

The Cupertino Housing Simulator is available now for the public to provide input on where to focus future housing opportunities in Cupertino at city-of-cupertino.abalancingact.com/housingsimulator.

Lastly, Cupertino property owners who may be interested in future housing development should complete the Property Owners Form. For those that complete the form, the City may reach out for further information, if necessary. Find the form at bit.ly/31lauhl.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Cupertino community and creating a successful Sixth Cycle Housing Element Update with an approach that aligns with our community's goals, values, vision, and priorities.

City Council Approves and Welcomes Jim Throop as New City Manager



On Tuesday, November 16 the Cupertino City Council unanimously appointed Jim Throop as the new Cupertino City Manager.

Throop is a seasoned local government manager with more than 23 years of experience, most recently as Lompoc City Manager, as well as 11 years in the private sector as a Senior Financial Analyst for large corporations. He previously served as Oxnard Chief Financial Officer, Paso Robles Director of Administrative Services, and Pinal County, Arizona Director of Budget and Research.

Throop was born in Orange County and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Southern California and a Master's in Business Administration from Chapman University. He is married with four grown children and enjoys bicycling, motorcycling, cooking, and wine tasting.

"I want to thank the Cupertino City Council for this honor," said Throop. "I look to this new adventure as the pinnacle of my career, and I look forward to working with the Council, staff, and the community."



Westport Cupertino: Project Changes and Updates

On Tuesday, December 21, following rigorous public process, the Cupertino City Council approved modified applicant-requested revisions to the prior entitlements of the Westport Cupertino project.

While the originally proposed revisions reduced a level of underground parking, increased the size of some senior market rate units, and reduced the square footage of retail, following Council's feedback at its December 7th meeting, the applicant returned with proposed changes that restored the approximate original amount of retail, restored approximately half of the proposed parking reduction, and also included design changes to the project to improve its connectivity with the surrounding community. The changes and Council's unanimous approval allow the project to move forward immediately toward construction.

The decision follows the City's issuance of demolition permits in October and November of this year—with below-market-rate building permits ready to be issued

this month—for a project that promises to be the largest residential development breaking ground in Cupertino in more than five years.

The project site, located at the former Oaks Shopping Center on Stevens Creek Boulevard across from De Anza College, has been revised to now include a total of 259 housing units, including:

- 48 senior below-market-rate units
- 123 senior assisted living units
- 70 townhome condominiums
- 18 rowhouse condominiums
- 35 memory care rooms

On August 18, 2020 the City Council approved permits to allow construction of a mixed-use development on the 8.1 gross-acre site formerly occupied by the Oaks Shopping Center.

For more information, visit cupertino.org/westport.

2022

CREST AWARDS



Take the City Work Program Survey

Do you know someone who should be recognized for their efforts in volunteering, sustainability, or public safety?

For more than 30 years, the City of Cupertino has recognized its outstanding community members with an awards program. Hundreds of residents and community organizations have been honored with the award, now known as the CREST (Cupertino Recognizes Extra Steps Taken) Awards.

For the past four years, the City has presented awards in six categories to better reflect the Cupertino community. The categories are:

- Lifetime Achievement Award (Volunteer) – Recognizes a member of the community who has volunteered in the City of Cupertino for 10+ years.
- Volunteer of the Year – Recognizes individuals who have made a difference to the Cupertino community through volunteer service.
- Organization of the Year – Recognizes organizations that have made a difference to the Cupertino community through volunteer service.
- Rising Star Award (Volunteer) – Recognizes an individual who has volunteered in Cupertino for three or less years but shows a continued commitment to the future of the Cupertino community.
- Public Safety Champion of the Year – Recognizes an individual or group that has made an out-standing contribution to the safety of Cupertino.
- Sustainability Champion of the Year – Recognizes a person or group committed to maintaining a sustainable and healthy place to live, work, and play in Cupertino.

Award criteria and nomination requirements are on the application form, which can be found at the link at the bottom of the page. The nomination form is now 100% online to make it easier and more convenient for the public to nominate their candidate. Please be as detailed as possible. **Nominations are due by Friday, March 11 at 5 p.m.**

cupertino.org/crest

The City of Cupertino's annual Work Program guides some of the major efforts of the City for the upcoming fiscal year. The City Work Program ensures that staff efforts are aligned with the goals set by the Mayor and City Council, and thus, the community. This approach keeps the City transparent and holds us accountable to focusing resources on strategies that best serve our community's needs and aspirations.

Past goals have included: public engagement and transparency, sustainability, housing, transportation, and quality of life. The City is reaching out to ask our community members what they feel should be the goals for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 City Work Program.

Please submit your suggestions by Sunday, February 13, 2022. Suggestions and feedback will be presented to the City Council for consideration.

If you need assistance with the survey, please call (408) 777-3314 or email astridr@cupertino.org.

To take the two-question survey, visit cupertino.org/cityworkprogram.

Provide Input for the Local Road Safety Plan

The City of Cupertino is developing a comprehensive Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP). The LRSP will enable the City to enhance traffic safety for all modes of transportation and for all ages and abilities. The LRSP will provide a framework for identifying, analyzing, and prioritizing roadway safety improvements on local roads.

The LRSP will be achieved through a decision-making process that relies on the evaluation of a comprehensive collision database, partnership with stakeholders, and public outreach using the four "E's of traffic safety: Engineering, Enforcement, Education, and Emergency Medical Services, with proven countermeasures and phasing. It also consists of a monitoring mechanism, as well as policy guidelines for City staff and the members of the community to evaluate effectiveness of the plan and which will serve as a living document that can be updated to reflect changing needs and priorities in the City.

Participate in the City's Local Road Safety Plan by visiting engagecupertino.org/lrsp to provide your feedback and to report your area of concern.

New Protected Bike Lanes on Mary Avenue

The Mary Avenue Protected Bikeway Project has been completed on the new roadway layout. It is located on Mary Avenue between Steven's Creek Boulevard and the Don Burnett Bicycle Footbridge.

After being freshly resurfaced, the new configuration along Mary Avenue switches the position of parking lanes and bike lanes, with bike lanes now adjacent to the curb to provide greater protection for cyclists.

Additionally, there is now space separating the parking lanes and bike lanes to reduce the chances of vehicle doors from intruding into the bike lanes.

Finally, the project narrows travel lanes in both directions to discourage drivers from speeding. These improvements are intended to eliminate conflicts between moving vehicles and cyclists.

Help keep our roads and bicyclists safe by not parking in the bike lane, and spreading the word about the new protected bikeway.



Via-Cupertino: Making Up for Lost Miles

The relaunch of the Via-Cupertino community shuttle program has been a success over the past three months. After a year-long pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Via-Cupertino was relaunched in October and ridership has grown steadily since then, despite the Omicron variant.

Via-Cupertino relaunched with new hours of operation, new vans, and new fares. Service resumed on October 19, 2021 with a fleet of nine new vans Chrysler Pacifica's and Dodge Caravans. The vans now feature bicycle racks (except for the two wheelchair accessible vans). For greatest protection during the COVID-19



pandemic, riders are required to wear face coverings and plexiglass dividers have been installed between the driver and passengers.

Noteworthy Statistics:

- The busiest days of the week are Tuesdays and Wednesdays, with up to 45 trips per day.
- The busiest time of day is 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- The most popular pickup spots are Cupertino High School, Monta Vista High School, and Kennedy Middle School.

Aside from the heavy student use, the next most popular drop-off and pick-up stop is the Sunnyvale Caltrain Station.

By mid-January, Via-Cupertino vans have completed 16,274 trips with 1,313 of those being completed since service resumed this October.

For fares, hours of operation, service maps, and more information, visit cupertino.org/shuttle.

Lawrence-Mitty Park and Trail Master Plan

For many years, the City of Cupertino has worked toward the acquisition of the 7.83-acre site located west of the Lawrence Expressway and to the east of Saratoga Creek, known as Lawrence-Mitty. The property was historically used for agriculture and beginning in the 1970's, the property was used for construction stockpile storage and staging by the Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department. The City has recently acquired the Lawrence-Mitty site and is in the process of annexing this property from San Jose into Cupertino's jurisdiction. This annexation is anticipated to be complete by March 2022.

The City intends to develop this site as a park facility, which will include the extension of the San Tomas Aquino-Saratoga Creek Trail. The City is excited about this opportunity to plan for and develop a park and trail facility on the Lawrence-Mitty site. The first steps to developing this park will be to develop a Master Plan that will reflect community needs and strive toward the goals laid out in the 2020 Parks System Master Plan adopted by the City Council. This site will offer residents, especially those living in the eastern portion of the City, the opportunity to experience a sizable, green space for leisure and play.

For more information and to stay up to date with the project, visit engagecupertino.org/lawrencemitty.

Organic Waste Reduction in Cupertino

What is SB 1383?

SB 1383 is set of regulations designed to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants by reducing the amount of organic waste sent to the landfill.

Why is this law important?

The State of California is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving public health, and creating a more resilient economy. We all need to do our part to keep food scraps, yard trimmings, paper, and cardboard out of the landfill.

What is the City of Cupertino doing?

There are six main elements of SB 1383 that apply to the City of Cupertino.

- 1. Organics and Recycling Collection:** One of the main requirements is ensuring that everyone has access to recycling and organics collection, which Cupertino already has available to all customers. Carts and bins are also required to be certain colors: trash must be gray or black, organics must be green, and recycling must be blue. All containers should have a clear label showing what does and does not go into them. Recology recently finished swapping out tan organics carts for green, but if you still have a tan cart, please email environmental@cupertino.org.
- 2. Contamination Monitoring:** The regulations require waste audits to be conducted on each trash, recycling, and organics route regularly to check that materials are being sorted correctly. Recology and City staff will work together to complete the required auditing, so you may see staff "flipping lids" on carts or looking in commercial dumpsters.
- 3. Education and Outreach:** The City is required to conduct outreach to residents, schools, businesses, and edible food generators annually. While the City currently provides an annual sorting education, we will be expanding our efforts and ensure material is translated into other languages.
- 4. Capacity Planning:** Because these new regulations should dramatically increase the amount of organic materials collected and edible food recovered, the City is collaborating with other jurisdictions in Santa Clara County to make sure our processing system can manage all the material.

The 6 Main Elements of SB 1383



- 5. Procurement Requirements:** All jurisdictions in the state, including Cupertino, must procure a certain quantity of products (such as compost, mulch, and renewable energy) made from the collected organics. The compost provided to residents at the Compost Site helps us with this goal, but we will need to do much more. We will also be working on updating the City's Environment Purchasing Policy to ensure that we purchase recycled-content paper.
- 6. Edible Food Recovery:** Businesses that generate edible food are required to connect with food recovery organizations to recover as much food as possible. Jurisdictions in Santa Clara County have organized a system to connect businesses and recovery organizations and collect data as required by the regulations.

Cupertino's City Council adopted an ordinance in October 2021 which sets the City on a path to compliance.

To learn more about food waste and how the new state law will impact you, visit our website at cupertino.org/sb1383. To see the full regulation please visit calrecycle.org.



Expand the Possibilities: Cupertino Library Expansion Opening Soon

The Cupertino Library Expansion project is nearing completion! The new multi-purpose meeting rooms are opening to the public soon, and the courtyard is expected to open to the public in March.

Though there have been some impacts to progress due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the construction team continues to make good progress despite it. During January, finishes were being installed both inside and out, the final touches to make the job site look complete. As the contractor's teams finish up, the library's Facilities and Innovation & Technology teams will be bringing in furniture, wi-fi, and more. In the courtyard, there will be two new art installations: one on the courtyard façade on the new expansion wing, and on the donor wall near the entrance to the courtyard. The installation of these art pieces is expected later in February.

The dedication of the community that uses the Cupertino Library for reading, research, creating, and studying, inspired this expansion. More than 904,000 patrons visited the Cupertino Library between July 2018 and June 2019, and that number is expected to increase to nearly a million visitors in the coming years. The much needed new space will allow the library to fulfill its mission of encouraging life-long learning and self-improvement. Library goers will be able to use this new space for meetings, presentations, classes, and more, adding more life and functionality to a well-loved institution.

Learn details about the project and get updates at cupertino.org/libraryexpansion.

Create, Dream, Discover: Personalize Your Library Card!

The Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) is excited to announce the release of new library card designs with a unique feature. The three fun designs aim to inspire patrons to Create, Dream, and Discover unlimited possibilities, all of which can happen with a free SCCLD library card! These one-of-a-kind library card designs include a lightbulb, cloud, and magnifying glass on the front where you can draw or write to personalize your card. You can use your library card at all of the SCCLD locations, the Bookmobile, as well as the Online Library.

Everyone is invited to get a free library card. Current patrons are also welcome to replace their card with one of the new designs.

Learn more about what the library can offer you by [visiting scclcd.org](https://visiting.scclcd.org).



The Spring 2022 Recreation Schedule is back in print!

Virtual program offerings available



Register for an activity today

cupertino.org/recreation

Cupertino Sports Center

Get a jump start on your 2022 fitness goal by becoming a member of the Cupertino Sports Center, a 25,000+ square feet multipurpose facility. The Cupertino Sports Center features 17 tennis courts, a fitness center with strength training and cardio equipment, free weights, two racquetball courts, indoor and outdoor sports courts, and a complete locker room.

Additionally, the Sports Center offers free fitness classes with a membership, personal training, youth camps, and group and private tennis lessons.



Cupertino Sports Center

An inclusive facility featuring:

- Fitness Classes
- Racquetball
- Table Tennis
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Pickleball
- Tennis
- Gym

Become a member for as low as **\$33/mo.**



Annual memberships as low as \$33/mo

No enrollment or initiation fees.

Come in or call **(408) 777-3160** and become a member today!



Level Up Your Protection – Get Your Booster Shot!

The Santa Clara County Public Health Department recommends all eligible members of the public who live or work in Santa Clara County receive a COVID-19 booster shot. The booster is appropriate for everyone ages 12 and older, five months following the last Pfizer vaccination, six months following the last Moderna vaccination, or two months following the Johnson & Johnson vaccination.

County clinics are taking appointments and many locations readily accept drop-in patients for booster doses. Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines are all available within the County. Additionally, many doctor offices and pharmacies provide COVID-19 boosters.

Vaccinations through the County are free to the public, insurance is not required, and there are no immigration requirements.

For more information and to book an appointment, visit [sccfreevax.org](https://www.sccfreevax.org).



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City Directory

City of Cupertino

Department	Phone / Email
Building Department.....	(408) 777-3228 Building@Cupertino.org
Business License.....	(408) 777-3221 BL@Cupertino.org
City Clerk.....	(408) 777-3223 CityClerk@Cupertino.org
City Manager	(408) 777-3212 Manager@Cupertino.org
Code Enforcement.....	(408) 777-3182 Code@Cupertino.org
Planning Department	(408) 777-3308 Planning@Cupertino.org
Recreation	(408) 777-3120 Recreation@Cupertino.org
Senior Center.....	(408) 777-3150 SeniorCntr@Cupertino.org
Sports Center.....	(408) 777-3160 Recreation@Cupertino.org
Street Light Maint.	(408) 777-3342 StreetDivision@Cupertino.org
Street Sweeping	(408) 777-3269 Public_Works@Cupertino.org
Tree Maint.	(408) 777-3410 Public_Works@Cupertino.org

Other Agencies

Organization	Phone Number
Animal Control	(408) 794-7297
AT&T	(800) 331-0500
California Water Service.....	(650) 917-0152
Chamber of Commerce	(408) 252-7054
Comcast	(800) 945-2288
Cupertino Library.....	(408) 540-3947
Cupertino Sanitary District:	(408) 253-7071
Cupertino Union School District	(408) 252-3000
Fremont Union High School District	(408) 522-2200
Hazardous Waste Drop-off	(408) 299-7300
PG&E.....	(800) 743-5000
Project Sentinel (Landlord/Tenant Issues).....	(408) 720-9888
Recology (Garbage & Recycling)	(408) 725-4020
San Jose Water Company	(408) 279-7900
Santa Clara Registrar of Voters.....	(408) 299-6863
VTA (Transportation Authority)	(408) 321-2300
Vector Control, Santa Clara County	(408) 918-4770

First Responders

Emergency Calls.....	911 or (408) 299-3233 (Police, Fire, Medical)
Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office	(408) 299-2311 (Non-Emergency)
Santa Clara County Fire Department.....	(408) 378-4010 (Non-Emergency)

Need to report an issue or have a City-related question?
Visit: cupertino.org/cupertino311 or call (408) 777-3200.



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