



MILPITAS MATTERS

FEBRUARY 3
2023

THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER STEVEN G. MCHARRIS

Black History Month, celebrated every February, is a federally recognized, national celebration that reminds all of us to contemplate the many roles that African Americans have played in shaping U.S. history. Black Americans have made countless contributions to society, from the arts and entertainment to politics and civil rights. They have shaped our country and our world, and it is important that we recognize and celebrate them. This year's theme for Black History Month is *Black Resistance*, as outlined by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). The theme underscores a call to study the history of Black Americans' response to establishing safe spaces, where Black life can be sustained, fortified, and respected. Black history is American history, and it should not be forgotten.

Despite their many contributions, the stories and experiences of Black Americans have often been left out of mainstream history. This is why it is especially important that we make an effort to learn more about Black history and the experiences of Black Americans, not just in February but throughout the year. There are many ways to get involved, such as visiting local museums, attending cultural events, and consuming media that highlight the experiences of Black Americans. As a city, we are committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, and we believe that learning about Black history is a crucial part of this effort. By understanding the stories of Black Americans, we can gain a deeper appreciation for the rich cultural heritage of our community and work towards creating a better future for all. *Please join me in celebrating Black History month.*

MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

CITY OF MILPITAS RECEIVES INNOVATION AWARD FROM CSMFO

The City of Milpitas received the prestigious Innovation Award for the application titled "Automating through KNIME" from the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO). KNIME is an open-source software that allows users to access, blend, analyze and visual data without any coding. The City's budget team automated manual budget development procedures using KNIME as an ETL tool -- "extract, transform and load". KNIME enables the City to extract data, transform it as needed and then load it. All of these procedures were previously manual, time-intensive and error prone. The automation success within the budget division was expanded to other divisions through cross-training and professional development of the KNIME and ETL tool, and advocacy for its implementation in other finance functions. The award was presented at the CSMFO annual conference in Sacramento. Congratulations to the Finance team!



DEPUTY CITY MANAGER BREAKFAST MEET AND GREET EVENT

On January 31, the City welcomed the newest member to the Milpitas family at a Breakfast Meet and Greet event. Deputy City Manager Matt Cano's 23 years of extensive public sector experience, having worked in various roles in the departments of Transportation, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works as well as in the City Manager's Office will be invaluable as he leads important City programs. Matt will be in charge of initiatives such as grants, legislative advocacy, and partnerships with external agencies, as well as overseeing the Community Services and Sustainable Infrastructure City Service Area which includes the departments of Engineering, Public Works, and Recreation and Community Services. Welcome aboard, Matt!



MILPITAS HOUSING ELEMENT ADOPTED

Milpitas' 6th Cycle Housing Element was unanimously approved by the City Council on January 24, 2023. The collective effort with the City Council, community, housing advocates, school district, and City departments will ensure implementation of development to address the housing needs of Milpitas across diverse groups, special needs populations, and all income levels. The Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) for Milpitas is 6,713 residential units, but the total capacity is 9,397, which represents a surplus of 2,684 residential units. Milpitas is one of the few Santa Clara County cities to have a Housing Element adopted before the California Housing and Community Development Department's deadline of January 31st.



NEW YEAR, NEW LOOK FOR CITY BUILDINGS

In the City of Milpitas, the new year brought much needed improvement to a few facilities. The large building that houses the Public Works, Information Technology and Police Departments recently received various facade updates. Located at 1265 and 1275 North Milpitas Boulevard, the exterior of the building underwent waterproofing and painting. A more noticeable change is the addition of new signage. The department names were added above the entrance of the building and on the side of the building facing the street. A key feature of this signage is that it illuminates at night, raising the visibility of City departments to those driving along North Milpitas Boulevard.



MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

FAIRLY PRICING CRITICAL DRINKING WATER, RECYCLED WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICE

Over 77,000 people rely on the City of Milpitas' water, recycled water and sewer systems daily, using them for everyday tasks like cooking, bathing, and keeping their families healthy. The City is dedicated to supplying our community with high-quality and reliable water and sewer service.

The City follows best practices and hires independent financial consultants to evaluate the infrastructure, operations and maintenance needs for drinking water, recycled water and sewer systems. This includes ensuring adequate reserve funds for the service provided by other regional utility agencies and accounting for the impacts of inflation and how it impacts City budgets. In 2022, the City retained Raftelis to evaluate these factors and recommend rate adjustments for five years that are fair to customers while ensuring the utilities remain financially healthy. The Raftelis studies demonstrated that rate adjustments are necessary to fund more than \$91 million in critical capital, operational, and maintenance costs to keep the City's utility infrastructure functioning well and in compliance with ever-stricter water quality, discharge and environmental regulations. Raftelis ensures adequate reserve funds and the impacts of inflation are included in their analysis.

The proposed rates are adjusted to be fair and equitable and reflect the characteristics of each customer class. Together, the proposed rates are structured to proportionally recover the cost of providing drinking water, recycled water or sewer service among our various customer classifications. *For the average single-family residential customer account, sewer rates are proposed to increase 4 percent and drinking water rates 6.4 percent each year from July 1, 2023 through and including 2027.*

Official notices have been mailed to every property owner who receives service from the City of Milpitas.

2023 Community Workshops

Please join us at one of our two community workshops to discuss the proposed rate adjustments.

Thursday, February 9, 6-8 p.m.

Thursday, February 16, 6-8 p.m.

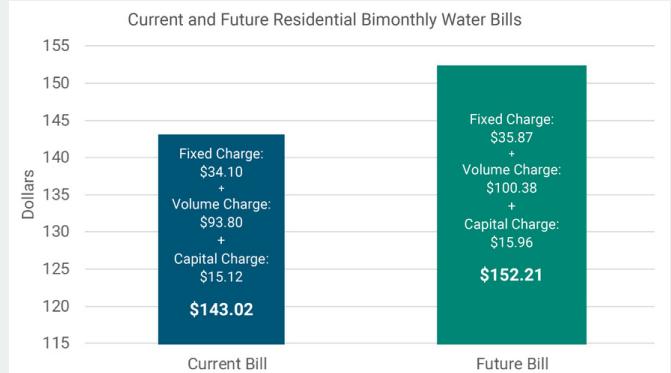
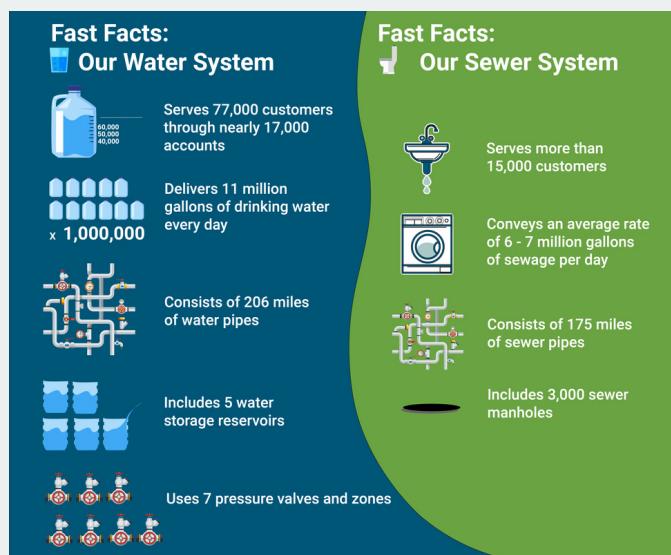
Location: Milpitas Community Center Auditorium, 457 East Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035

The same presentation will be delivered at each workshop, so there is no need to participate in both.

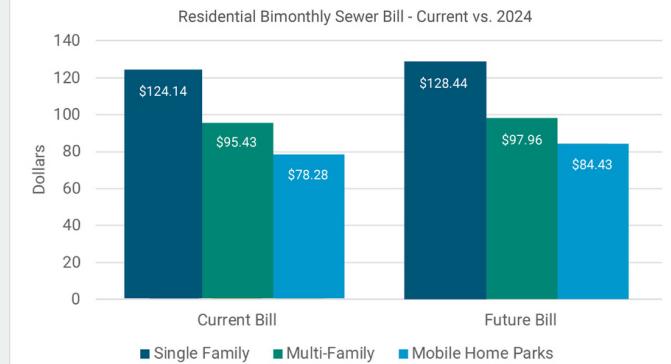
Water, Recycled Water and Sewer Rate Adjustment Public Hearing

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Location: City of Milpitas City Hall, 455 East Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035



*Graphic assumes customer uses a 5/8" meter and 14 hundred cubic feet of water.



MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

STRATFORD SCHOOL OPENS NEW CAMPUS

Stratford School opened its new campus on January 19. Stratford School executives, administrators, teachers, students and parents marked the occasion with a ribbon cutting ceremony and site tour at its new Beresford Square site at 125 N. Milpitas Boulevard. Representatives from the City's Economic Development and Trade Commission, as well as the Economic Development, Engineering, Planning and Fire Departments attended the event.



The 46,400 square foot facility opened November 28 following final city permit approvals and currently serves pre-school and pre-kindergarten students. Targeted enrollment capacity is 480 students and will expand to kindergarten, first and second grade classes in summer 2023. The facility includes 20 classrooms, a multi-purpose room, library and outdoor play areas. Stratford currently employs 21 teachers and administrators at this site but will expand to 60 employees when the school reaches full capacity. The site previously operated as an Orchard Supply Hardware store.

BECOME A STUDENT CITY COMMISSIONER!

The City of Milpitas is seeking Student Non-voting members for the following commissions:

- Community Advisory Commission
- Library and Education Advisory Commission
- Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Commission
- Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Commission
- Senior Advisory Commission
- Veterans Commission



To apply to be considered for an appointment as a City of Milpitas Student Non-Voting Commissioner, please visit ow.ly/MPa950MCxjk.

FUTUREFIT HOMES REBATES AVAILABLE NOW

Get up to \$8,000 in rebates for upgrading to new electric home appliances. Plus, additional rebates of \$5,000 for income-qualified CARE and FERA customers. Switching to electric appliances helps you use energy more efficiently, reduces pollution, and creates a safer and more comfortable home environment. Learn more about our FutureFit Homes rebates to help you upgrade your appliances today! Visit svcleanenergy.org/home-rebates.



MILPITAS GATEWAY-MAIN STREET SPECIFIC PLAN COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

What kind of place should the Milpitas Gateway-Main Street area become? Join us for a virtual community workshop where City representatives and consultants will give a short presentation, followed by a small group discussion to provide feedback on the presented draft concepts and how they reflect the community's vision from Workshop #1. You are encouraged to engage in a lively discussion, and we hope you will consider turning on your camera and microphone!



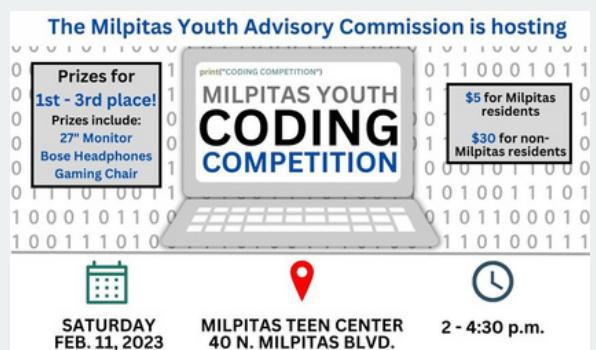
RSVP at: bit.ly/milpitas workshop2 register

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MILPITAS YOUTH CODING COMPETITION

Calling all youth coders! The Milpitas Youth Advisory Commission is holding a coding competition on Saturday, February 11 at the Milpitas Teen Center. The top three finishers in each division will receive one of three prizes: a 27-inch monitor, Bose headphones, or a gaming chair!

Registration ends Wednesday, February 8 at 11:59 p.m. Register at <http://ow.ly/ZpIV50MGWbY> today!



BUY TICKETS TO SHREK JR. THE MUSICAL!

Milpitas Community Theatre presents "Shrek Jr. The Musical." Watch this fairy tale story of a green ogre, named Shrek as he maneuvers his way through unexpected twists and turns.

Performances

- March 9 - 7 p.m.
- March 10 - 7 p.m.
- March 11 - 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- March 12 - 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Don't miss this great show. Buy your tickets now!

<http://ow.ly/mcay50Mzwg4>



TAX SEASON TIPS

With tax season upon us, detectives in the City's Criminal Investigations Bureau would like to share some helpful tips to avoid falling victim to tax fraud activity, such as phone scams, identity theft, and fake verification requests:

- Protect your Social Security Number.
- Avoid carrying your social security card or documents containing your SSN with you.
- Be wary of providing personal information over the phone, or through the mail.
- Protect your computer.
- Use strong and unique passwords for your online banking and routinely change your passwords.
- Protect your computer against spam and viruses.
- Beware of phishing scams. The IRS will never request financial or personal information in email communications.
- Secure your mail.
- Pick up your mail immediately after it is delivered or ask a trusted neighbor to pick up your mail after delivery.
- Shred documents that contain your personal identifying information, and shred credit card solicitations.
- Report Fraud and Scams.
- Check your credit report often. If you are a victim of a fraud or a scam contact the **Milpitas Police Department** **immediately at 408-586-2400**.



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DEVELOPMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Sango Court Apartments, 355 Sango Ct., (2) 4-story residential buildings of wood modular construction above first floor concrete podiums with a steel bridge connecting the two buildings providing 102 affordable housing units by Resources for Community Development. During the week there was a break in the storm pattern, which allowed removal of the protective tarps on the roof so the remaining 5% of the roof covering could be installed. Project completion is projected to be around June 2023. See the below photo.



BD Life Sciences, 135 N McCarthy Blvd, tenant improvement for a biotechnology company for all three floors, construction valuation \$15M.

Below photo shows in-progress work for new interior offices including mechanical, electrical, plumbing systems.



KLA Plus., located at 1 Technology Dr.

To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit for the new chemistry lab was issued at the facility.

BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

Building permits were issued to the following:

Amazon-Milpitas Delivery Station, for installation of EV Charging stations (252 chargers) at their facility located at 807 N McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$2.52M.

The Crossing at Montague, (Phase 2), for grading & site improvement to restore the site back to recreation space after completion of VTA/Bart project located at 755 E Capitol Ave. at an estimated construction cost of \$475,000.

KB Homes, for grading & site improvement for new 32 units townhome-style condominiums development located at 2001 Tarob Ct at an estimated construction cost of \$328,310.

Vallani Jewelers, for tenant improvement at their existing retail store at Great Mall at an estimated construction cost of \$300,000.

Electrical Training Alliance of Silicon Valley, for tenant improvement at their existing facility located at 1873 Barber Ln at an estimated construction cost of \$250,000.

Umitea, for tenant improvement for a new tea shop located at Great Mall at an estimated construction cost of \$250,000.

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BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

Building permit applications were submitted by the following:

County of Santa Clara Office of Emergency Management, for tenant improvement at their new facility located at 901 Wrigley Wy. at an estimated construction cost of \$600,000.

KLA Plus, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing facility located at 1 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$576,061.

The following business has received final inspection and is now open for operation:

Nooie Inc, a general office for tech company relocated from San Francisco to 1603 S Main St.

Best Artist LLC, a new art studio located at 316 S Abel St.

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WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



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