



MILPITAS MATTERS

FEBRUARY 24
2023

THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS



MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER STEVEN G. MCHARRIS

This holiday, observed on the third Monday of February, provided an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the rich history of our country and the role that Presidents have played in shaping our future. From George Washington to Joe Biden, Presidents have defined our nation and guided it through some of the most challenging times. They are leaders, innovators, and visionaries, and their contributions have left an enduring impression on our country. When we remember the sacrifices and accomplishments of all Presidents, regardless of their political beliefs or affiliations, we acknowledge their leadership impact and show gratitude. Each President has left a legacy in our nation, and it is our duty to not only understand and appreciate their contributions but also accept and learn from their failures.

In Milpitas, we are proud to be part of a community that values how the City Council-City Manager form of

governance operates with accountability. The latest [Citywide Survey](#) results reveal significant % increases in areas such as the community's level of trust in government operations (*openness and accountability to the public*), planning for the future, and properly managing tax dollars. As your City Manager, I strive to keep your confidence through our high-quality delivery of city services and transparency. I hope that President's Day gave everyone in Milpitas a reason to pause and remember the significant responsibility that leaders and residents alike play in influencing and developing our local community. In our shared desire to continuously improve the quality of life in Milpitas, we need to remain unselfish, passionate, hardworking, and committed to making a difference. *Not everyone is born a leader, but anyone can become one.*

MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS PLAN OUTLINING VISION FOR MILPITAS METRO SPECIFIC PLAN

On February 7, 2023, the City Council unanimously adopted the Milpitas Metro Specific Plan that will provide a vision and strategy to continue the ongoing transformation of the area surrounding the Milpitas Transit Center into an active, complete, and connected neighborhood. The fully developed neighborhood will include a variety of retail, office, and research and development uses, with a balance of jobs and housing near transit, affordable and market rate housing, safe and attractive multimodal connections, a variety of shared public spaces, and a strong sense of place with distinctive architecture and landmarks. The development of the Milpitas Metro Specific Plan has been guided by robust community engagement with regional public stakeholders, private developers, residents in the Plan Area and City as a whole, as well as the Milpitas City Council and Planning Commission. Stakeholders have been engaged throughout the process through a series of online workshop and forums, community surveys, and public hearings to ensure that the Plan's development reflects the community's priorities.

PROMOTION OF BATTALION CHIEF

On behalf of the Milpitas Fire Department, the City is proud to announce the Promotion of Johnathan Bankston to the position of Battalion Chief. He will be temporarily assigned to A-shift beginning February 5, 2023. His service career started in April of 2008 as a Firefighter Paramedic, three years later he was promoted to Fire Engineer Paramedic. Afterwards, he set his sights on becoming a Company Officer, which came to fruition in June 2015. BC Bankston has shown strong leadership skills and will continue to bring his work ethic and attention to detail to his new role as a Chief Officer. *Welcome aboard BC Bankston!*

NEW POLICE OFFICERS

On February 21, the City's newest Police Officers, Officer Max Fontes and Officer Anthony Lum, graduated from the basic Police Academy, Class 175 hosted by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. Max and Anthony will begin their in-house training, which marks the start of an intense 18-week Field Training Program. Officer Anthony Lum has been issued badge number 357. He was raised in San Jose, California and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Pennsylvania State University. Officer Max Fontes has been issued badge number 358. He was raised in Fremont, California and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the California State University East Bay. *Congratulations!*

MILPITAS CLEAN ENERGY IMPACT

We are pleased to share the impact our community made in 2022 by using clean electricity. Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE) is the community choice energy provider for Milpitas, supplying power exclusively from renewable and carbon-free sources at competitive rates since 2017. Learn more about financial and emissions savings, available offers and services, and information on where your power comes from. With clean energy from SVCE, anyone has the power to make choices that eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, save money, and build a cleaner, greener Silicon Valley. SVCE has designed various programs, including financial incentives and online tools, to help residents, businesses, and cities reduce their dependence on fossil fuels and transition to a clean, all-electric future.

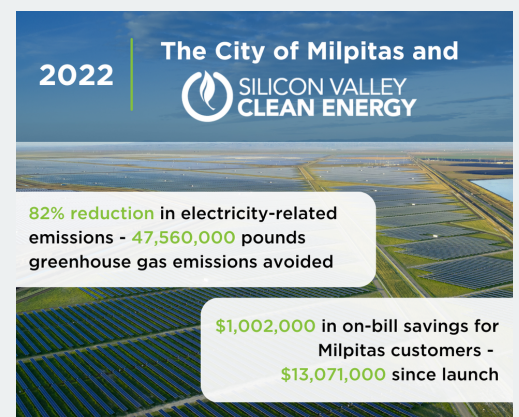
Visit <https://svcleanenergy.org/community-impact/> to learn more.



(Photo left to right: Interim Fire Chief Brian Stelling and Battalion Chief Johnathan Bankston).



(Photo left to right: Captain Matt Miller, Chief Jared Hernandez, Officer Max Fontes, Officer Anthony Lum, Assistant Chief John Torrez, Captain Frank Morales)



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MILPITAS TRAFFIC SAFETY STUDY PUBLIC MEETING

Do you live, work, study or shop in the City of Milpitas? A citywide traffic safety study is underway to identify areas of improvement. We need your input about the challenges you have experienced driving, biking, walking, or using other transportation modes within the City.

Join the virtual public meeting and learn about the safety data collected to date, ask questions and share your experience!

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

[ZOOM link](#)

We look forward to hearing your valuable feedback into this important safety study!

LAYOFF ASSISTANCE WEBINARS

NOVAworks and the Employment Development Department are hosting upcoming layoff assistance webinars. People facing recent or future layoffs can learn about resources to assist with career transition during free, one-hour webinars, including:

- Filing for Unemployment Insurance
- Certify weekly Unemployment Insurance benefits
- Register for Covered California healthcare
- Support, coaching and training resources

Upcoming Webinars:

- [March 7](#)
- [March 21](#)

GET \$500 IN GREEN BUSINESS INCENTIVES FOR YOUR BUSINESS

The [California Green Business Network](#) is hosting its Sustainable Business Challenge across California. All businesses in Santa Clara County are now eligible for \$500 in incentives to help reduce their operational costs and become a certified Green Business by Earth Day 2023 (April 22). In addition to the \$500, newly certified Green Businesses will receive free paid ads, a directory listing, a certificate, and a marketing toolkit upon completion.

Meet with a Green Business coordinator to learn how to qualify for the \$500 rebate and other benefits. [Schedule a call today.](#)

ELECTRIC SHOWCASE AWARDS

Have you started using your clean electricity to power large appliances in your home? Customers that have replaced old appliances with new, electric technologies can apply to be featured in the Electric Showcase Awards and win up to \$10,000.

Eligible appliances include heat pump water heaters, induction cooktops, HVAC systems, home battery storage & more. For more info, and to apply, visit www.svcleanenergy.org/electric-showcase-award-applications-23. Applications close March 20, 2023.



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RECESS WITH A COP

Officers from the Police Community Relations Unit and Field Services Division - Patrol Services brought the Recess with a Cop program to Milpitas Unified School District Spangler School. The officers spent time with the kids, played basketball, learned some new yo-yo tricks, and crafting. It was definitely a fun time at Spangler.

The goals with the City's Recess with a Cop program are:

- Interact with the children of the Milpitas community
- Build relationships
- Have fun

We'd like to thank the Spangler School staff and students for their participation in Recess with a Cop.

RESTRICTIONS ON SINGLE USE PLASTICS

On January 1, 2022, Assembly Bill (AB) 1276 went into effect. This law puts restrictions on how food facilities, such as restaurants, provide customers with single-use accessories like plastic utensils and condiments. The reason that this law was created was to reduce the number of single-use items that end up as litter. If a customer would like any utensils (including chopsticks), condiment packets, straws, napkins, or anything else, then they need to make a request because these items will no longer be given automatically.

MILPITAS YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The City of Milpitas is happy to announce a new Youth Scholarship. Scholarships of up to \$500 each with a limit of \$1,000 per youth/per year are now available for several funding areas. All scholarship program details, directions, and application forms are available online here: <https://milpitas.info/3Keo3Jw>

FREE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUPS

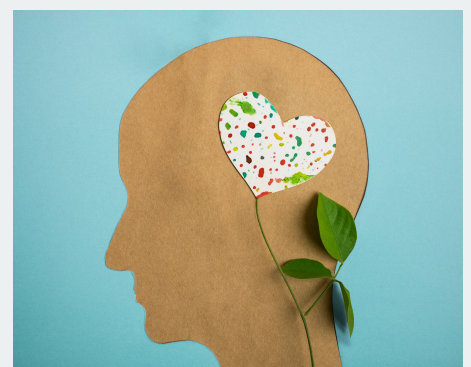
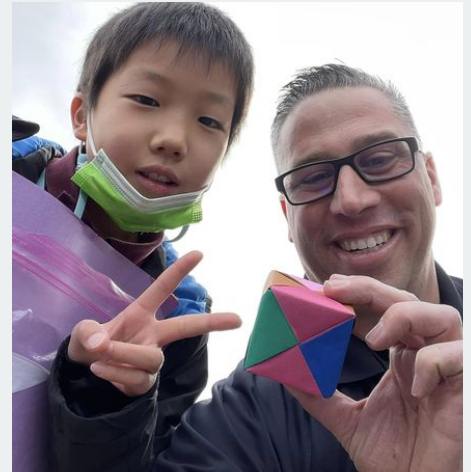
The City of Milpitas has partnered with *Leaders of Tomorrow* to provide free Mental Wellness Support Groups for Milpitas residents. Leaders of Tomorrow partners with community-based organizations and provides companies with training and curriculum development on mental health awareness, crisis assessment, and crisis management to help reduce the negative stigma associated with mental health challenges. Their health and wellness services include a Mental Health Townhall series, a Wellness Cohorts program, and Advocacy Coaching (for individuals, organizations, and families).

Sign up here: [Social Services – City of Milpitas](#)

FREE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELING SERVICES

The City of Milpitas has partnered with *Maitri* to fund domestic violence counseling services for residents. Maitri fills a critical gap in the domestic violence services available in Milpitas by being sensitive to the culture of the South Asian community and by speaking the languages that survivors speak. Besides helping the survivors directly, the organization brings awareness to their domestic violence programs and service offerings. They also do extensive prevention work through community education and collaborative activities that include engaging men and boys, youth and elders, and faith-based communities.

Sign up here: [Social Services – City of Milpitas](#)



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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.

Scaffolding has been removed at building one. Exterior Work on the bridge and on the second building is in progress with MEP in both the buildings. See the below pictures.



Corsair, located at 115 N McCarthy Blvd.

Phase 1 of a 17,000 square foot tenant improvement for a new high-performance technology company is nearing completion and will soon be ready for a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy. See the below pictures.



KLA Plus, 620 N. McCarthy Blvd.

To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit was issued for customer to stage and train for the new tenant improvement scope in the 2-story office building.

Apple, SWE, located at 1021 Yosemite Dr.

To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit was issued to allow use and operation of the tools in large chambers 3, 4 & 5 to perform testing.

BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

Building permits were issued to the following:

BD Life Sciences, a biotechnology company, for site improvement & tenant improvement at their new facility located at 155 N McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$2.6M.

Gold's Gym, for tenant improvement of a new fitness center located at 301 Jacklin Rd. at an estimated construction cost of \$800,000.

Mini CL Business Center, for installation of photovoltaic system on 5 new carports located at 1313 N Milpitas Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$428,000.

555 Apartments, for converting (2) storage space into (2) new ADU's at their existing apartment complex located at 555 S Park Victoria Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$300,000.

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BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

Verizon, for cell-tower modification located at 15 Wilson Wy at an estimated construction cost of \$250,000.

Coldstone, for tenant improvement at the new store located at 102 Dixon Rd at an estimated construction cost of \$200,000.

Building permit applications were submitted by the following:

Lumen Townhomes, for construction of 2 buildings consists of 16-plex unit's per building, a total 32 unit's townhome-style condominiums residential development by KB Homes located at 2001 Tarob Ct. at an estimated construction cost of \$10.9M.

KLA Plus, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing facility located at 7 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$1.3M.

KLA Plus, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing facility located at 7 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$252,893.

The following businesses have received final inspection and are now open for operation:

Cube Smart Self Storage, an outdoor container storage facility business located at 420 Railroad Ct.

Star Academics, an education/tutoring business located at 1757 Landess Ave.

S & L GEM CO., a new jewelry store in the Great Mall.

Mindray, a medical device company located at 690 N McCarthy Blvd.

Diva Bloom, a new female clothing retail store located at Great Mall.

Paanini Inc. Db a Jiffy.AI, a software company relocated from Fremont to 860 N McCarthy Blvd.

Zoom In, a new gift store at Great Mall.

Bennett Engineering Services Inc., a professional transportation, traffic & civil engineering services located at 1619 S main St.

Zero & Hanabi, a drink shop at Great Mall

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WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



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