



MILPITAS MATTERS

MARCH 21
2023

THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS



Women's History Month

MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER STEVEN G. MCHARRIS

This month, we celebrate the achievements and contributions of women throughout history and in our own community. *Women's History Month* is a time to reflect on the progress that has been made towards gender equality and recognize the important work that still needs to be done. It is also a time to honor the trailblazing women who have broken barriers and paved the way for future generations.

In many countries, women are not given the same educational and occupational opportunities as their male counterparts. They are denied a say in how they are governed, prohibited from fully participating in society and fear gender-based violence. In Milpitas, women account for 39 percent of the City's workforce. This is very much congruent with the World Bank's 2020 labor report indicating a 38.8% female global workforce representation. Our City has three women on the City Council, Mayor Carmen Montano, Vice Mayor Evelyn Chua, and Councilmember Hon Lien –

who are all at the forefront of shaping Milpitas' future. The City's Executive Leadership Team is comprised of several women leaders in charge of addressing current and future community needs. I am also happy to share that the \$25,000 California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (CCSWG) grant helped the City establish a community Task Force that implemented the principles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Task Force is committed to promoting equal access to and equity in health care, employment, economic development, and educational opportunities for women and girls.

I strongly encourage all of us to continue raising our voices to help spread awareness and look forward to a world in which all women and girls are allowed to reach their full potential.

MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

JASON SCHOONOVER APPOINTED AS NEW FIRE CHIEF

On March 9, City Manager Steven G. McHarris announced the appointment of Jason Schoonover as the new Fire Chief for the City of Milpitas. Chief Schoonover joined the Milpitas Fire Department in 2013 as a Fire Battalion Chief and was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in 2022. During his career with the Milpitas Fire Department, he managed the Training Division and Special Operations Divisions, and also served as the Fire Department's Dispatch/Communications Liaison. Chief Schoonover has been a member of the City's Emergency Operations Team working in the areas of emergency management, hazard mitigation planning, critical infrastructure identification and much more. Prior to joining Milpitas, he worked for 14 years with the Marysville Fire Authority in Washington State where he spent his final seven years as a Fire Captain. He assumes the position of Fire Chief on March 26.



CITY WELCOMES 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!*



CITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZES CEDAW TASK FORCE

The California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (CCSWG) \$25,000 grant helped the City establish a Task Force that implemented the principles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The Task Force is committed to promoting equal access and equity in health care, employment, economic development, and educational opportunities for women and girls and addressing the continuing critical problem of violence against women and girls. The Convention explicitly acknowledges that "extensive discrimination against women continues to exist" and emphasizes that such discrimination "violates the principles of equality of rights and respect for human dignity". CEDAW Task Force members and staff were recognized at the March 7 City Council meeting.

Assistant City Manager Ashwini Kantak, Recreation and Community Services Director Renee Lorentzen, Milpitas High School Girl UP Club President Vicky Ly, Dr. Swatisikta, Maitri Board Member Zakia Afrin, and MUSD Adult Education Principal Giuliana Brahim were recognized by the City Council. *Congratulations!*



SURVEY ON WOMEN'S STATUS IN MILPITAS

The City of Milpitas' new Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Violence Against Women (CEDAW) Task Force is seeking input from Milpitas residents who identify as women or girls to ensure gender equity. They seek to reduce economic and workplace discrimination, health care inequities, and violence against women and girls in Milpitas. Your feedback will help identify policies and services needed for the women and girls of Milpitas. *Survey closes on April 22, 2023.*

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MilpitasWomen>



MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

HOMEOWNERS ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE WITH MORTGAGE COSTS

The City of Milpitas launched the mortgage relief portion of its Rent and Mortgage Relief Program to help low- and moderate-income residents who need funding assistance to stay in their homes. The federal government has allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to the City of Milpitas for communities, organizations, and businesses that have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. To be eligible for the mortgage relief allotment, the following requirements must be met:

- Experienced an economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Hardship must have occurred after January 21, 2020.
- Currently own one residential property and it must be primary residence of homeowner(s).
- Has not received other forms of governmental or private assistance for the same period requested.
- At or below the 150% Area Median Income (AMI) limit for Santa Clara County.

If you have questions, please call the Housing Team at (408) 586-3222 or send an email to Housing@milpitas.gov.

To apply please visit: <https://forwardplatform.com/city-of-milpitas-rent-mortgage-relief-rograms/>

ROUND 2 OF THE CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM IS LIVE!

Milpitas residents can receive a \$400 voucher for welded metal rods or other protective hardware to help deter catalytic converter theft. The program's registration deadline is March 30, 2023. The last day to get vehicles serviced is April 30, 2023.

For additional details regarding the program, please visit [here](#).

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY BUDGET PROCESS AND PROVIDE YOUR INPUT!

The annual budget is the single most important policy action that the City Council takes, and it represents the City's priorities for the upcoming year and beyond. Please join us at a community meeting to learn more about the City's budget process.

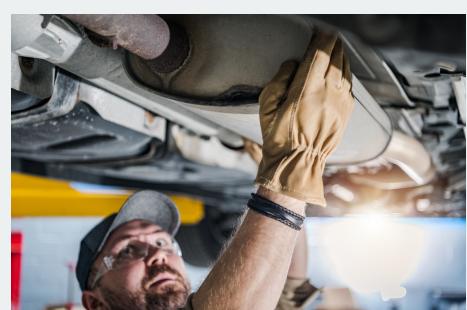
April 6, 2023, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Attend the in-person meeting (no registration needed).

Milpitas City Hall, 1st Floor Committee Conference Room

455 E. Calaveras Blvd. Milpitas, CA 95035

The City Council wants to hear from you and make sure that the budget reflects the goals and priorities of the Milpitas community! We invite you to take a quick survey providing input on how the City should prioritize funding for services! Visit: <https://communityfeedback.opengov.com/12618>.



MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

SUNNYHILLS ALBERT AUGUSTINE JR. MEMORIAL PARK MAINTENANCE WORK BEGINS

With the break in the rain, the City's Public Works contractor has started work at Sunnyhills Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park's playgrounds. They will replace the sand with engineered wood fiber and install fresh rubber surfacing around the play equipment in the tot lot and older kids' play areas. In addition, the free-standing slide and chin-up bar in the older kids' play area will be replaced. This work is expected to take approximately 5-6 weeks to complete.



MILPITAS PARTNERS WITH ICSC AT THE 2023 MONTEREY CONFERENCE

The City's Planning and Economic Development teams participated at this year's International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Conference in Monterey February 28 and March 1. Acting Senior Planner Avery Stark served on a panel focused on improving permit processing times for retail projects. Economic Development Specialist Michael Thomas assisted with planning the panel discussion and logistics. This annual event features presentations, panel discussions and a trade show focused on the retail industry.



MILPITAS CELEBRATES FIRST-EVER HOLI FESTIVAL

On March 4, the Milpitas community celebrated the Holi Festival. It was a joyous festival of colors that celebrated the arrival of Spring with vibrant colors and delectable food at Cardoza Park. Entertainment was provided by a performance by the Tamas Band, music from DJ Shem and dance performances by Mona Khan Company, Jam2bFit and Nrityāmi Kathak Academy. Indian cuisine was also made available for purchase. Festival attendees enjoyed the full experience of being decorated with color. May the splash of colors bring joy to everyone. *Happy Holi!*

From Left to Right: Carol Therien (Retail Pacific, Inc.), Thomas Jajeh (Shapell Properties), Avery Stark (City of Milpitas), Hazel Wetherford (City of Dublin), Barry Edwards, (Greenberg, Glusker, Fields, Claman & Machtiner), Michael Thomas (City of Milpitas), Terrence Tallen (Tallen Capital Partners), Nadine Cunningham (ICSC), and Sonu Singh Chandi (Chandi Hospitality Group).



NOW HIRING SUMMER RECREATION STAFF

Milpitas' Recreation and Community Services Department hires approximately 40 new seasonal, part-time workers each spring to staff the City's pools and camps through the busy summer months. These are great "first jobs" for teens and college students. In addition to a fun work environment, these positions offer flexible hours, sick leave, retirement benefits and perks available to all City employees, like free membership at the Milpitas Sports Center. Summer jobs also commonly serve as a stepping-stone to long-term careers in the public sector, helping entry level workers make valuable networking connections. The City of Milpitas has a surprising number of full-time employees at all levels and in various departments who got their start as summer recreation staff!

Apply online: <https://www.milpitas.gov/milpitas/departments/about-human-resources-2/38914-2/>



MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

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.

MEP work is nearing completion on Levels 3, 4, & 5 at Building 2 while Building 1 drywall installation in corridors continues. Lower right photo shows large retaining wall ready for placement of concrete. Low voltage communications installation is progressing at both buildings. Storefront glass is being installed at Building 2. Building 1 storefronts completed and protected with plywood.



308 Sango Court Apartments, 308 Sango Ct., a 5-story over 1-level parking 85-unit affordable housing development by The Pacific Companies.

The installation of ram piles work is in progress at the above development. This process involves boring down 25 feet and place 24 inches of gravel for each lift. The development will have approximately 300 ram piles with targeting to achieve completing 30 per day. See the below picture showing the huge impressive drilling rigs at work.



Parkside at Tarob Ct (Phase III) Townhomes, 551 Lundy Pl., an 89-townhome residential development by Toll Brothers, Inc.

First 3-story building with 6 units was finalized and ready for new occupants to move in at the above development. See below photos.



MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

Building permits were issued to the following:

KLA Plus, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing facilities located at 1 & 5 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$4.9M.

Commonwealth Fusion Systems, a design, & fusion machines manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing facility located at 840 Tasman Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$250,000.

Building permit applications were submitted by the following:

HPE Labs, a high-performance computing business for tenant improvements at the existing facility located at 820 N. McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$700,000.

Bank of America, for tenant improvement at its existing facility located at 20 Ranch Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$570,000.

LeanTeq, a semiconductor manufacturing company, for installation of mechanical equipment's at its facility located at 1530 McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$235,000.

Headway Technologies, designer and manufacturer of recording heads for high performance hard disk drives, for installation of various equipment at its facility located at 497 S. Hillview Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$200,000.

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

Golden Hills Orthopedic & Sports Physical Therapy Inc., an orthopedic & sports physical therapy business located at 1436 California Cl.

Yifan Edu Academy, a tutoring center located at 1765 S Main St.

Tarana Wireless, Inc., a new research and development business located at 630 Alder Dr.

Cali Hardwoods & Supplies, an office space for hardwood lumber store located at 1760 Houret Ct.

OK Noodle, a noodle restaurant located at 190 Ranch Dr.

WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



www.milpitas.gov



[@MilpitasCityGov](https://twitter.com/MilpitasCityGov)



[@CityofMilpitas](https://www.facebook.com/CityofMilpitas)



www.nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ca/milpitas/city-of-milpitas/



www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-milpitas



<https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofMilpitas455/videos/>