



# MILPITAS MATTERS

MARCH 25  
2022

THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS



(Artwork courtesy of Cesar Chavez Foundation)

## MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER STEVEN G. MCHARRIS

Cesar Chavez was a first-generation American who witnessed a prejudiced system that farm laborers faced within the mid-twentieth century. He joined the US Navy before returning to his roots where he employed non-violent means to highlight the difficulties of farm workers. He led marches, called for boycotts, and went on several hunger strikes. He was a tireless activist who dedicated his life to improving the working conditions of agricultural workers. His devotion to the plight of farm workers inspired the movement to fight for worker's rights today. More importantly, he brought national awareness of the risks of pesticides to workers' health. Having worked on farm worker's rights throughout the state, and at one time even lived nearby in San Jose, it is no surprise that in the Milpitas community, his influence and contributions are obvious and strongly felt because of the City's past agricultural history.

The month of March is celebrated to pay tribute to the life and enduring legacy of the American labor

rights hero. Cesar Chavez has been honored around the country with streets, buildings and parks named after him. In Milpitas, the outdoor plaza east of the Barbara Lee Senior Center at 40 N. Milpitas Blvd. is dedicated as the Cesar Chavez Plaza. The plaza space is where the City and residents recognize certain holidays, hosts small ceremonies, and honors other civil rights leaders through ceremonies, plaques and small events. On March 31, Cesar Chavez Day (his birthday), the City will be raising the United Farm Workers Flag over the plaza that bears his name.

Chavez once said, *"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community."* Let us take a moment to honor Cesar Chavez. The values he lived by continue to guide us today. I encourage everyone to continue to participate in service projects that will ensure better lives for our community today and future generations.

# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## CITY OF MILPITAS WINS TWO DISTINGUISHED BUDGET AWARDS

The City of Milpitas was recently awarded the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO) Award for Operating Budget Excellence for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. This award highlights government entities that publish a budget document that meets the meritorious and excellence criteria established by CSMFO. The City of Milpitas was also awarded the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. This award recognizes state and local governments that prepared budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and local budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting.

## ICSC P3 CONFERENCE PANEL DISCUSSION

City staff attended the ICSC (*Innovating Commerce Serving Communities*) P3 Conference. In attendance were City Manager Steven G. McHarris, Planning Director Ned Thomas and Economic Development Director Alex Andrade. Steve and Ned served as Panelists for the discussion on ***"A Model for Flexible Zoning to Boost the Economy & Why It Matters."*** The Panel focused on how zoning flexibility is essential during a time when retail has been evolving for many years and the pandemic of the past two years has exacerbated the need to improve our local economies. The public and private sector panel talked about how being agile and adaptable to changing conditions will be the key for the future of zoning flexibility on ground floor retail resulting in boosting the economy through tenant mix, sales and employment opportunities. Other speakers included Moderator Carol Therien (President/Broker of Retail Pacific) and Panelist Thomas Rubio (Development Retail Manager of Lyon Living).

## CITY OF MILPITAS AWARDED \$25,000 GRANT BY THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS (CCSWG)

The California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (CCSWG) announced the recipients of a \$5 million grant program that will fund organizations serving women and girls who have been disproportionately affected economically by COVID-19. CCSWG received over 6,000 grant applications for its first-of-its-kind grant opportunity and evaluated more than 630 proposals to support women and girls across various funding categories, totaling over \$62 million in requests. The City of Milpitas was chosen to receive \$25,000 to help in the establishment of a community Task Force that will help implement the principles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The period of performance will be 12 months, with an anticipated start date of March, 2022.

On May 19, 2020, the City of Milpitas passed Resolution No. 8973 in support of CEDAW. On August 24, 2020, the Milpitas City Council adopted CEDAW principles through Ordinance 306. In implementing CEDAW, the City recognizes the connection between racial discrimination, as articulated in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and discrimination against women. As part of the adoption of Ordinance 306, the Milpitas City Council directed the establishment of a community Task Force to implement the principles of CEDAW in the Milpitas community at large.



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## REPRESENTATIVE KHANNA DELIVERS \$3 MILLION TO FUND BRIDGE EXTENSION OVER PENITENCIA CREEK IN MILPITAS

President Joe Biden signed into law a fiscal year (FY) 2022 spending bill on March 11 with increased funding for affordable housing and community development programs. House and Senate leaders released the final bill text on March 9 for an FY22 spending bill that would provide roughly \$1.5 trillion in federal spending for the new fiscal year. Members of the City Council and City staff met with Representative Ro Khanna who advocated to fund \$11,905,000 in Community Project Funding that he previously secured for California's 17th Congressional District (CA-17). The FY22 spending bill includes \$3 million in federal funding that will extend the bridge over Penitencia Creek and provide transit area development residents direct pedestrian and bicycle access to the Milpitas Transit Center. The new bridge is an integral part of planned infrastructure improvements envisioned in the City's Transit Area Specific Plan adopted in 2008 and will serve approximately 1,500 households in the emerging neighborhood south of the creek. The bridge will also serve as a key connector between several acres of existing and planned parks and trails on both sides of the creek and will provide critical access for emergency vehicles.

## STRATFORD SCHOOL GRAND OPENING

The opening ceremony for the second Stratford School in Milpitas was held on March 23, 2022. The event was attended by Councilmembers, City Staff, and members of the Stratford School. Stratford's second location is conveniently located at 25 Corning Avenue, just a mile and a half from the Milpitas Great Mall Parkway campus. The new location offers Kindergarten through 5th grade.

## MILPITAS CENSUS DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Have you seen the latest Census demographic profile of our City? The Census fact sheet contains information about total population, median household income, bachelor's degree or higher percentage, employment rate, average family size, median age and much more! Access the fact sheet [here](#) and see how Milpitas has changed!

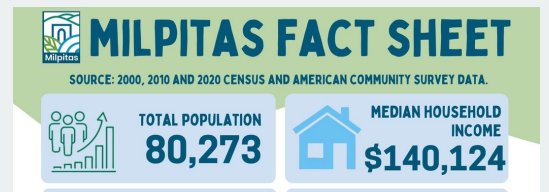
## MILPITAS BUDGET CHALLENGE SURVEY

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. We want to hear from you.

Take the Milpitas Budget Challenge Survey! Allocate imaginary money to show what services are most important to you. Click [here](#) to take the survey. Survey closes on April 30, 2022.

## HOUSING NEEDS, ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES SURVEY

The City of Milpitas has kicked off the process to update its Housing Element, a part of the City's General Plan that sets the vision and implementation plan for housing for the next eight years. This survey is an opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas about housing with the City, and ensure that this plan is a reflection of community voices and concerns. The survey should take just a few minutes to complete, thank you in advance for your time. Access the survey [here](#).



# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## CALHFA ADU GRANT PROGRAM

The California Housing Finance Agency is announcing their Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Grant Program. Eligible homeowners could receive up to \$40,000 of grant to fund ADU pre-development and closing costs associated with the construction of the ADU. In Santa Clara County, households earning less than \$248,000 a year are eligible to apply. See full program details [here](#).

## COMMUNITY TOWNHALL BUDGET MEETING

The City scheduled two community townhall meetings to help provide greater transparency and education about the budget as well as receive ideas and recommendations from the community for consideration in the budget process. The first Community Townhall took place on Thursday March 10 at 6PM. The video of the meeting can be found [here](#). The second meeting will take place on April 7, 2022 at 6PM. To attend the second townhall budget meeting, please join via Zoom. Register by following the link [here](#).

## \$20,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUTH FILM COMPETITION: EMPOWER SILICON VALLEY

Do you know a high school student interested in what a clean energy future would look like? SVCE is providing \$20,000 in scholarships for students as part of the second Empower Silicon Valley Youth Short-Film Competition!

Through a short film, local youth are invited to explore what a climate-friendly, clean energy world would look like and how we can get there. No film experience or prior climate change knowledge is necessary. Learn more about the competition and sign up for updates at [SVCleanEnergy.org/Empower-SV](https://SVCleanEnergy.org/Empower-SV).

## SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE FOR FINAL MILPITAS MYPLAN CAREER ACCELERATOR COHORT

Attention: Milpitas residents! There are still 6 spots open for our second and final cohort for the Milpitas MyPlan Career Accelerator Program. The purpose of the Milpitas MyPlan Career Accelerator Program is to provide residents and vulnerable population with customized access to job search tools and information. This free program offers residents ages 18 years and older the opportunity to participate in workshops, assessments, career navigation and career counseling provided by NOVAworks. Apply now by following [here](#).

The application deadline for the final cohort is on April 1, 2022, at 12:00 PM. The City of Milpitas will screen and process applications before the deadline date and time, and will close the application deadline as soon as the 6 spots are filled or if the deadline date passes.

## LAWN CONVERSION PROGRAM

Our City Forest can convert your lawn into a beautiful drought tolerant garden. For a limited number of homes, this new program offered by the City and Valley Water will help you save water by replacing your lawn with climate friendly and native plants. Our City Forest will provide eligible homeowners consultation, design, and planting services at a minimal cost. Lawn Bust Milpitas is open to all Milpitas homeowners on a first-come, first-served basis with a limited number of spaces available. Learn more and apply [here](#).



California Housing Finance Agency

### COMMUNITY TOWNHALL: BUDGET MEETING

April 7, 2022 at 6PM

City staff will be hosting a Community Budget Meeting on April 7, 2022. The townhall will help provide greater transparency and education about the budget as well as receive ideas and recommendations from the community for consideration in the budget process.

Please join via Zoom. Register by following the link below:

<https://milpitas.info/0407CommBudgetMtg>

### EmPower Silicon Valley Youth Short-Film Competition



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## DEVELOPMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

**City of Milpitas Fire Station 2**, located at 1263 Yosemite Dr. See the below photo showing progress on the exterior finishes as well as site work. Interior work is progressing through the drywall stage and items above the T-bar ceiling.



**District Lot 4 (Gideon)**, 1400 McCandless Dr., an 8-story mixed-use project with commercial retail space and 213-unit apartment, wrapped around an 8-story parking garage by Lyon Communities. See the below photo showing a view of District Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4. Lots 1 and 2 across McCandless Dr. are complete and occupied. Lot 4 on the left is targeting for first temporary occupancy in May or June. Lot 3 in the front is currently parking and material storage and a hotel and apartment will be constructed at this location. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in April.



**McCandless Park**, 1650 McCandless Dr., a new 4-acre city park. These photos show construction in progress for the two gazebos in the park. The city park will include construction of a community garden, butterfly garden, picnic area, small dog play area, barn area, and two playground areas.



**Weee!**, located at 1029 Montague Expy. To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit was issued to Weee! for product delivery and shipping.

**Stratford School**, located at 125 N. Milpitas Blvd. To allow an earlier start of construction, a temporary permit was issued to the private school.

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## BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

*Building permits were issued to the following:*

**KLA Tencor**, a semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvement at its facility located at 5 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$6.3M.

**Corsair**, for tenant improvement for a new developer and manufacturing company of high-performance gear and technology located at 115 N. McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$787,000.

**McCandless Park**, phase 1 for construction of restroom and utility building in the new 4- acre city park located at 1650 McCandless Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$450,000.

**APPLE Inc.**, for interior non-structural demolition to make the space ready for tenant improvement at this new facility located at 260 S. Milpitas Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$400,000.

**Headway Technologies**, designer and manufacturer of recording heads for high performance hard disk drives, for tenant improvement including installation of various equipment at its facility located at 463 S. Milpitas Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$350,000.

**Lyon Communities**, for ground improvement to support construction of parking garage foundation for the future mixed-use development of The District Lot 3 "Elion" located at 1320 McCandless Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$350,000.

**McCarthy Center Holding LLC**, for tenant improvement for future tenant move-in at the existing facility located at 670 N. McCarthy Blvd. at an estimated construction cost of \$304,857.

*Building permit applications were submitted by the following:*

**Headway Technologies**, designer and manufacturer of recording heads for high performance hard disk drives, for tenant improvements at their two existing facilities located at 463 S. Milpitas Blvd. and 497 S. Hillview Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$2.1M.

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

**Action CPA Group Inc.**, a tax and bookkeeping firm located at 1761 Landess Ave.

**Keyes Law Group**, a law firm located at 500 E. Calaveras Blvd.

**Inclusive World**, a vocational skill training and office use for tutoring center located at 106 S. Park Victoria Dr.

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## WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



[www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov)



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