

CONNECTED

Milpitas Community Newsletter

November 2018- January 2019
Volume VII



Holidays & City Events

NOVEMBER

- 6th Election Day
- 11th Veterans Day Ceremony
9:00 AM
Veterans Plaza
- 12th Veterans Day Observed
City Holiday: Closed
- 17th Veterans Day Appreciation Luncheon
12:00 PM
Denny Weisgerber Community Room
Barbara Lee Senior Center
- 22nd Thanksgiving Holiday
City Holiday: Closed
- 23rd Thanksgiving Holiday
City Holiday: Closed

DECEMBER

- 1st Charlie Brown Tree Lighting Ceremony
6:30 PM
Milpitas Civic Center Plaza
- 8th Milk & Cookies with Santa
10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 2:00 PM
Milpitas Community Center
- 24th Christmas Eve
City Holiday: Closed
- 25th Christmas Day
City Holiday: Closed

JANUARY

- 1st New Year's Day
City Holiday: Closed
- 7th Black History Month
Art Contest Begins
- 19th Lunar New Year
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Milpitas Community Center
- 21th Martin Luther King Jr. Day
City Holiday: Closed

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT ORDINANCE UPDATE

The availability and affordability of housing is of great concern to communities throughout the State of California. To address the lack of housing supply in the state, the legislature made several changes to State law in 2016 to encourage the production of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), also commonly known as granny flats, in-law units, and second units. Those changes were intended not only to increase the number of ADUs but also to streamline the approval process, reduce costs associated with the creation of ADUs, and modify the ability of cities and counties to regulate ADUs. The changes to State law became effective on January 1, 2017.

ADUs offer several benefits. For starters, they are a more affordable type of housing unit because they are smaller than the main unit and do not require the purchasing of additional land or new infrastructure. They can provide an alternative to apartments for those who wish to live in areas close to jobs, amenities, and schools, as well as additional housing options to families, individuals, seniors, and students within existing neighborhoods. Finally, ADUs can provide a source of rental income for the owner, while serving as an independent living space for the occupant.



The new law requires cities and counties to amend certain ADU regulations to comply with State requirements. The amendment process also gives cities and counties the opportunity to re-evaluate the regulations not impacted by State law and introduce changes to those regulations as well.

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ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT ORDINANCE UPDATE

The Milpitas Planning Department is preparing changes to local ADU regulations in response to the new State legislation and will be hosting a series of public outreach meetings in October and November to gather feedback from the community. These meetings will be followed by an update to the City Council on November 20, 2018. Once the public meetings and Council discussion are completed, the Planning Department will present a draft ordinance to the Planning Commission for its recommendation to City Council in early January 2019. It is anticipated that the ordinance will be introduced to the City Council by early February 2019, with a second reading later that month. If adopted, the ordinance will become effective March 2019. Please check the Planning Department website at <http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/welcome-to-the-planning-division/> for updates and contact information if you have any questions.

MILPITAS ALL-INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND



The City of Milpitas, in coordination with the Milpitas Unified School District, was recently awarded a matching grant from the County of Santa Clara in the amount of \$779,820 that will be used to build a state-of-the-art all-inclusive playground at McCandless Park and Mattos Elementary School. The design will include two “nature-themed” playgrounds connected by an adjoining path. The McCandless Park and Mattos School all-inclusive Playground Project is currently in the design phase, and once completed, will serve as a leading all-inclusive playground destination that embraces community members of all abilities and all ages.

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH FUN

The Milpitas Recreation and Community Services Department has great holiday fun planned for the community over the next three months. A Veterans Day Ceremony will be held on November 11, 2018, to recognize and show appreciation to the men and women who have served our great country. A Milpitas family favorite, the Tree Lighting Ceremony, will be celebrating 31 years with “A Charlie Brown Tree Lighting” on December 1, 2018. The holidays would not be complete without a visit from our favorite guy from the North Pole, so do not miss your chance to share Milk & Cookies with Santa on December 8, 2018. This is a very popular event, so please purchase your tickets in advance by visiting the Milpitas Community Center. We are very excited to announce that this year’s Milk & Cookies with Santa will include an additional session open only for families with adaptive needs. The fun continues in the new year as we kick off the Lunar New Year Celebrations on January 19, 2019.

In addition to all of these events, there will be exciting live performances by Center Stage Performing Arts and the Milpitas Community Concert Band (MCCB). MCCB will have a concert on November 16, 2018 at the Milpitas Community Center. Center Stage Performing Arts has been busy rehearsing for three exciting shows, which include “It’s A Hit” on November 2 and 3; “Pocahontas” on November 9 and 10; and “A Charlie Brown Christmas” on December 14, 15, 21, and 22.

Tickets can be purchased at the Center Stage box office or at www.centerstagepa.org. Please visit www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/recreation for more information and a calendar of events.



2018 MUNICIPAL ELECTION: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE TOT BALLOT MEASURE AND CITY COUNCIL & MAYORAL ELECTIONS

In addition to several regional and statewide initiatives and races, Milpitas residents will have the opportunity to elect a Mayor and two City Councilmembers and vote on Measure R during the November 6, 2018 election. Passage of Measure R would allow an increase in the Milpitas Hotel Tax, formally known as the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), from the current rate of 10% up to 14%. Measure R was placed on the November 6, 2018 ballot by the City Council to address the City's objective of maintaining its finances and setting aside reasonable budget reserves to address unexpected financial obligations and economic downturns. Doing so helps maintain public safety and other City services in our Milpitas community in which we live and work.

If enacted by voters, Measure R will generate as much as \$5.2 million annually in locally-controlled funding, which could be used for community priorities identified by Milpitas residents, including:

- Supporting efforts to reduce traffic regionally and locally
- Sustaining fire protection services
- Attracting and retaining local businesses
- Maintaining police protection and 911 emergency services
- Continuing senior services



Measure R is written to maintain the local infrastructure that tourists and business travelers use during their stay, including streets and roads, park and recreation facilities, and parking and sidewalks. This type of tax is only charged to hotel guests. Residents who are not lodging users are not charged this tax. All funds generated by Measure R are subject to annual independent audits.

Information in this article is provided as a public service. The City of Milpitas does not advocate a yes or no vote on Measure R.

To obtain more information about Measure R including the full ballot text and other materials including frequently asked questions, voting information, and how to register to vote, visit www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/MeasureR or call the City Manager's office at 408-586-3051. For a complete list of City Council and Mayoral candidates on the November 6, 2018 ballot, visit http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/_pdfs/candidates2018.pdf.

MILPITAS FIRE DEPT. WINS FIRST PLACE IN FEDERAL TRAINING & COMPETITION

The Milpitas Fire Department is pleased to announce that the Milpitas Fire Department Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team took first place in the Urban Shield training and competition in Mare Island, Vallejo on September 8, 2018. The team was comprised of two USAR Medical Specialists, a Safety Officer, a Rescue Team Manager, and three Rescue Specialists. It consisted of four technical rescue scenarios lasting three hours each. The scenarios included high angle rope rescue, confined space rescue, collapsed structure rescue, and vehicle extrication/heavy lift rescue. The Milpitas team was paired with the Alameda County Fire Department USAR team, with a total of nine members, bringing the two squad total to 16 USAR specialists. Both teams performed to the highest standards of medical patient care, technical search, breaking and breaching, and highly technical rope rescue – and achieved near perfect scores.



Urban Shield is a federal grant-funded training and competition with nearly 9,000 participants from all over the world. It is also one of the largest public safety training events in the world, and this year, participants came from as far away as Singapore and the Netherlands. There were a total of 16 USAR teams in this year's competition including teams from Sacramento, San Jose, Santa Clara County, Oakland, Napa, and more. Urban Shield provided tactical scenarios where participants could train, utilize, and assess their ability to act appropriately in dire circumstances. The participation of the Milpitas USAR team in Urban Shield has strengthened the Fire Department's ability to respond to daily emergency incidents and disaster scenarios in Milpitas.

MILPITAS WINS STATEWIDE & INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

In recognition of its innovative and effective Workforce Development Initiative, the City of Milpitas was awarded the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence during the 2018 League of California Cities Annual Conference in September, and a Bronze Excellence in Economic Development Award from the International Economic Development Council in October.



The Milpitas Workforce Development Initiative connects non-profits, schools, and manufacturing companies with the goal of strengthening the city's workforce. The program started in 2016 in partnership with the Milpitas Unified School District; Evergreen Valley College; Flex Ltd, local manufacturing company; and NextFlex, an electronics-related institute. It expanded in 2017 with the participation from KLA-Tencor Corporation and Cordis, two other local manufacturers. Throughout the program, teams of students are matched with local mentors who help them achieve project milestones, develop product ideas and business models, and promote active engagement with the professional workforce. The student teams make a five-minute "Shark Tank-style" pitch where they present their ideas to a panel of business representatives. Students also receive tours of manufacturing facilities, information about opportunities such as paid summer internships, and financial counseling, and they earn three college credits from Evergreen when they complete the program.

WELCOME NEW RESTAURANTS:

The Bento Box
Taiwanese & Chinese Cuisine
228 Barber Court
(408)255-1388

MandRo Teahouse
Bubble Tea & Shaved Ice
200 Serra Way Suite 12
(408)708-5240



MILPITAS FIRE DEPT. RECEIVES FEMA GRANT



The Milpitas Fire Department received notification from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on August 24, 2018, of a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant in the amount of \$1,520,523. Funds from this grant will allow for the hiring of four additional firefighters.

The addition of the four firefighters will increase the ability of the Fire Department to respond to emergency incidents in the community. Specifically, the firefighters will be used to increase daily staffing to better serve the community. The grant will pay for 75% of the salary and benefits of the four new firefighters during the first two years, and 35% of the salary and benefits of the new firefighters during the third year. The grant was accepted by the City Council on September 18, 2018. It is anticipated that the new firefighters will start in the fire academy in January 2019 and complete the academy in May 2019, at which time they will be placed on shift in the Fire Department. Additionally, the Fire Department expects to place a transport capable light-rescue/ambulance and new ladder truck in service in 2019. The ambulance will enhance the level of medical services available to the residents and provide emergency transportation to the nearest appropriate medical facility in events of critical medical emergencies. The new aerial ladder will improve maneuverability for rapid fire suppression and responding to rescue emergencies.

MILPITAS' NEW SKATE PARK

The City of Milpitas will soon boast about a new skate park to be located at the Milpitas Sports Center. The 20,000 sq. ft. skate park will be an all-wheel park that includes hardscape skate structures including a beginners bowl, backyard bowl, halfpipe, waterfall, and more. The park also includes picnic tables and benches to host parties and an area where skating classes may be held. Construction of the project is estimated to begin in the spring of 2019 with completion in early 2020. A ground breaking ceremony is on October 12, 2018, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Milpitas Sports Center. After the ceremony there is a pop-up skate park with rails, ramps, and a grind box. Four lucky skaters will win a custom Milpitas Skate Park skateboard.



MEET YOUR NEW PLANNING DIRECTOR



Mr. Ned Thomas has joined the City of Milpitas as Director of Planning and will oversee the city's functions of land use planning, zoning, environmental review, and urban design. Mr. Thomas comes to Milpitas from the City of San José where he served as acting planning official, planning division manager, and supervising planner. In these

roles, he conducted weekly administrative hearings, supervised the permit center, oversaw environmental and development review teams, and provided policy guidance to implement the General Plan. He was heavily involved in the development of several major residential and office towers in downtown San José.

Prior to his work at the City of San José, Mr. Thomas served as Community Development Director for the Town of Windsor, California. He initiated the Windsor 2040 General Plan Update, oversaw a resurgence in economic development activities, and managed development review for several major residential and mixed-use projects. Mr. Thomas previously served in various professional planning roles in southern Nevada for nine years. As planner and urban designer for the City of North Las Vegas, he helped develop plans for dozens of residential subdivisions and master-planned communities, managed an award-winning transit plan, and wrote the City's first mixed-use design guidelines. He later served as an appointed member of the North Las Vegas Planning Commission. As Principal Planner for the City of Henderson, Mr. Thomas established an award-winning sustainability program and collaborated with colleagues from other jurisdictions to establish several statewide programs to promote energy and water conservation, renewable energy, recycling, urban forestry, pollution prevention, and public transit. Mr. Thomas has been a featured speaker and panelist at various local, state, and national conferences on topics related to urban planning and design and sustainability.

Mr. Thomas holds a master's degree in urban planning from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University and has been a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners since 2005. He studied urban and regional planning in Japan as a Fulbright Scholar at Kyushu University and speaks fluent Japanese. He and his wife, Cheryl Lynn, are the parents of four children. Mr. Thomas can be reached at nthomas@ci.milpitas.ca.gov.

MEET YOUR NEW BUILDING & HOUSING DIRECTOR



Ms. Sharon Goei has been named Director of Building and Housing for the City of Milpitas by City Manager Julie Edmonds-Mares. Ms. Goei will lead a newly consolidated Department that includes building and safety, neighborhood services, and affordable housing administration.

Ms. Goei comes to Milpitas from the City of Santa Clara where she served as the city's building official since 2015, during which time she also served as the acting director of the Community Development Department in 2016. Prior to that she was the chief building official for the City of Walnut Creek. She implemented a reorganization and realignment plan at each city and built a strong, cohesive team that continually improved service delivery and efficiency. Ms. Goei's public service also includes the City of Stockton and the City and County of San Francisco.

Over the past 20 years Ms. Goei has demonstrated a strong commitment to the successful development of healthy and safe communities. She brings excellent technical skills in the field of engineering and construction, and has been an effective leader to achieve practical solutions in collaboration with residents, businesses, and the development community.

Ms. Goei will lead a Department that includes the city's permit center, plan review, building inspection, neighborhood services, housing and community assistance programs, Community Development Block Grant administration, and Housing Authority administration. Her dedication to innovative service delivery, customer service, and collaborative teamwork are a welcomed addition to the City's development services.

Ms. Goei has a bachelor's and a master's degree in civil engineering from UCLA. She is a Registered Engineer in California, certified building official, and LEED Accredited Professional. Ms. Goei has years of active leadership in the building industry at the local, state, and national levels, chairing or participating on professional committees on legislation, code interpretation, and innovative materials and systems. She currently serves as the First Vice President for the California Building Officials organization as well as a board member for the International Code Council Evaluation Service. She also serves on Code Advisory Committees for the California Building Standards Commission. Ms. Goei can be reached at sgoei@ci.milpitas.ca.gov.



City of Milpitas

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(408) 586-3000
www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov

*****ECRWSSSEDDM****

Postal Customer

CONTACT INFORMATION

Visit the website for more information: www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov
All phone numbers listed below have a (408) area code

Building & Safety	586-3240	Recreation Services	586-3210	Utilities	586-2600
Building Inspection Requests	586-2797	& Community Center		Rates/Billing/Info	586-3100
Building Permits	586-3240	Barbara Lee Senior Center	586-3400	Emergency (after hours)	586-2400
City Attorney	586-3040	Sports Center	586-3225	Volunteer Services	586-3210
City Hall	586-3000	Planning & Neighborhood Services	586-3279	Water	
Mayor Rich Tran	586-3029	Abandoned Vehicles	586-2400	Billing Questions	586-3100
Vice Mayor Marsha Grilli	586-3031	Code Enforcement	586-3279	Water Conservation Hotline	586-2605
Councilmember Garry Barbadillo	586-3024	Graffiti Hotline	586-3079	Water Emergencies	586-2600
Councilmember Bob Nuñez	586-3023	Housing Rehab Loan Program	586-3286	8am-5pm Mon-Fri	
Councilmember Anthony Phan	586-3032	Junk Cars/Private Property	586-3078	Water Emergencies After Hours	586-2400
City Clerk	586-3001	Neighborhood Beautification	586-3074	Water Quality Questions	586-2600
Passport Hotline	586-3009	Planning & Zoning	586-3279	Water Waste/Drought	586-2666
City Manager	586-3051	Police	586-2400		
Emergencies -24/7	9-1-1	Business & Services	586-2400	Telecommunications for the Deaf (TDD)	
Engineering	586-3300	Crime Tip Line	586-2500	Emergency	9-1-1
Finance Department	586-3100	Emergencies - 24/7	9-1-1	Police Department	586-2484
Business License	586-3100	Government Access Cable		IMPORTANT ADDRESSES	
Fire	586-2800	TV-Channel 15	586-2730	City Hall	455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Office of Emergency Services	586-2801	Public Works	586-2600	Senior Center	40 N. Milpitas Blvd.
Disaster Preparedness	586-2801	Animal Services	794-7240	Community Center	457 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Earthquake Safety Information	586-2801	Maintenance Services	586-2600	Sports Center	1325 E. Calaveras Blvd.
Emergencies - 24/7	9-1-1	Tree Removal	586-2600	Library	160 N. Main St.
Fire Prevention	586-3365	Light Reporting	586-2600	Police Department	1275 N. Milpitas Blvd.
General Information	586-3000	Pot Holes	586-2600	Fire Department	777 S. Main St.
Human Resources	586-3090	Flooding	586-2600		
Library	262-1171	Recycling/Garbage			
Purchasing	586-3161	Milpitas Sanitation	988-4500		
Economic Development	586-3054	Reduce, Reuse Info	586-2680		



For Questions or Comments Regarding this Newsletter, Please Call (408) 586-3058.