



# MILPITAS MATTERS

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2022

THE OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS



NATIONAL SUICIDE  
**PREVENTION**  
AWARENESS MONTH

## MESSAGE FROM CITY MANAGER STEVEN G. MCHARRIS

September is *National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 130 Americans die by suicide every day and that there is one death by suicide every 11 minutes. Suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background. Studies also show that suicide is often the result of an untreated mental health condition. *Everyone is affected by suicide, not just the victim*. The disease impacts family and friends long after the loss of a loved one.

In Milpitas, we value having a close knit community and continue our efforts in informing everyone about available support. Our goal is to raise awareness, spread hope, and increase access to resources that those who have contemplated or attempted suicide and those who have lost a loved one to suicide and suffered the shock.

In 2018, the City of Milpitas adopted its Suicide Prevention Policy and convened a community task force called Milpitas HOPE (Helping Others Process Emotions)

comprised of health care professionals educators, faith and community leaders, Milpitas Police Department, Milpitas Recreation and Community Services and residents. The City partners closely with Santa Clara County's Behavioral Health Services, which coordinates regional suicide prevention efforts. The City welcomes organizations, businesses and individuals to collaborate with us. For more information, please contact Program Coordinator Saul Gonzalez by calling (408) 586-3405 or e-mailing [sgonzalez@milpitas.gov](mailto:sgonzalez@milpitas.gov).

Your mental health or a loved one's can never be taken too lightly. It's important to recognize that despite our best efforts, some people still tragically choose suicide. Becoming aware of suicide prevention is important. Our friends, family members, and colleagues may need help. Let us continue to work hard to ensure that people we know have access to the resources they need to discuss suicide prevention and seek help. *Together, we can help save lives.*

# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## CITY OF MILPITAS WINS MULTIPLE 2022 AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The American Planning Association (APA), California Chapter, Northern Section held its annual awards gala in San Francisco on September 22, 2022. Members of the City Manager's Office and Planning Department accepted the awards on the City's behalf. The attendees included City Manager, Steve McHarris, Assistant City Manager, Ashwini Kantak, Planning Director, Ned Thomas, Senior Planner, Michael Fossati, Principal Planner, Jay Lee, Associate Planner, Avery Stark, Associate Planner, Kristina Phung and Planning Technician, Jessica Thiragirayuta. Every year, APA honors innovative plans, projects, and contributors in the field of urban planning in Northern California. This year, the City of Milpitas Planning Department received the Award of Excellence in Best Practices for the creation of Milpitas Planning Tools for Housing. The City of Milpitas also won an Award of Merit for their Milpitas 2040 General Plan.



## MILPITAS FIRE PROMOTIONAL CEREMONY

On Thursday, September 29, 2022 Milpitas Fire held a ceremony to recognize the promotions of Jason Schoonover, Fire Deputy Chief, Mario Acosta, Assistant Fire Marshall Jonathan Powers, Fire Battalion, Chief Christopher Baldwin, Fire Captain, Gabriel Borland, Fire Captain, Andrew Hunter, Fire Captain, Brandon Dougherty, Fire Engineer Paramedic, Nathaniel Wooten, Fire Engineer, Derek Chui, Fire Engineer Paramedic, William Nguyen, Firefighter Paramedic, Thomas Cooper, Firefighter Paramedic and Laurel Ballou, Firefighter Paramedic. Family and friends joined the City Council and Executive team in honoring the hard-working recipients. Congratulations and best wishes to the honorees!



## MILPITAS SMART LAUNCH

The City of Milpitas capped the launch of its On Demand, microtransit service Milpitas SMART (*Simple Mobile Access to Reliable Transit*) with a ribbon cutting ceremony held at City Hall today, September 15, 2022. The event was attended by members of the Milpitas City Council, VTA Board Chair and City of San Jose Vice Mayor, Chappie Jones, RideCo Regional Director of Sales, Dave Bach, delegates from Congressman Ro Khanna, Assemblymember Alex Lee, and Supervisor Otto Lee's offices, representatives of our Economic Development and Trade, Energy and Environmental Sustainability, Planning, and Science, Technology, and Innovation Commissions, Community and Education and Chamber of Commerce partners as well as media and City Staff.



Milpitas SMART will be providing 12 hours of service per day, five days per week, through minivans with ADA access with maximum wait times between 10 and 15 minutes. The regular adult fare will be \$2.50 per ride but the City will offer a reduced fare of \$1.00 per ride for youth, disabled, and low-income populations. Everyone's first Milpitas SMART ride will be FREE (until October 11). So, spread the good news and download the app today! Visit <https://lnkd.in/g7JzivGQ> for more info.



## MCCANDLESS PARK TOUR

On September 27, 2022, members of the City of Milpitas' Executive Leadership Team (ELT) enjoyed a tour of McCandless Park. The new 4-acre park in the Milpitas Metro Specific Plan area was constructed on City and portion of Milpitas Unified School District (MUSD) Parcels.

The project includes the construction of a community garden, butterfly garden, picnic and barbeque areas, two dog play areas, play barn area, sports field, two playground areas, and structures including gazebos, restroom, utility and landscape sheds. McCandless Park is tentatively expected to open in Spring 2023.





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## CITY OF MILPITAS STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

The Storefront Improvement Grant Program is part of the Main Street Revitalization effort. Its purpose is to improve the appearance of commercial storefronts to encourage economic vitality, enhance business marketability, increase property values, and attract residents, visitors, and new businesses to the enhanced business district. The program is designed to benefit businesses located on Main Street and be a catalyst for future investment in the downtown and Main Street Revitalization. Milpitas City Council allocated \$300,000 of ARPA funds for a Storefront Improvement Grant Program, which provides property and business owners with grants to beautify their storefronts. Eligible recipients will receive Level 1 grants up to \$15,000 or Level 2 grants up to \$25,000. Improvements include, but are not limited to paint, lighting, signage, awnings, windows, outdoor seating/dining, landscaping, benches, and historic architectural features. Additional information regarding the program will be provided this Fall.

## CATALYTIC CONVERTER PROGRAM

The City of Milpitas is launching a new program to deter automobile catalytic converter theft crimes. The business enrollment phase is currently underway. The program is funded by a \$200,000 allocation of Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars and will be available for 3 months or until the funding is expended, whichever is sooner. In partnership with the City, local automotive business will provide metal rebar or protective plating services to add an additional layer of protection to deter catalytic converter theft for Milpitas residents. Milpitas residency will be determined by the Milpitas Police Department through an online system. As part of this program, the City will reimburse automotive businesses in the amount of \$400/vehicle, up to a maximum of \$10,000 per business. If the cost of metal rebar or protective plating exceeds \$400/vehicle, the Milpitas resident will be responsible for the remainder of the cost. Etching is not eligible for reimbursement through this program. The City encourages Milpitas residents to register and avail of the \$400/vehicle discount when the program launches in the Fall.

## NEW MONTAGUE EXPRESSWAY PEDESTRIAN OVERCROSSING MURAL

Drivers along Montague Expressway and pedestrians headed to and from the Milpitas BART station were treated to a live painting show in August as Artist Ryan Petersen spent two weeks in Milpitas painting a new public art mural on the Montague Pedestrian Overcrossing. The bright, mostly abstract design was chosen after extensive public outreach in 2020 and funded through the City's Public Art Fund. Titled *"Together We are More,"* the artwork draws its inspiration from the movement of people through Milpitas. Bright colors are drawn from the surroundings, including the rainbow-colored fins across the roadway, and are woven together to represent the diversity of people who cross paths here and symbols of the City's history. The new mural, located in front of The Edge apartments, will officially be unveiled at a ceremony on Saturday, October 15 at 10 a.m. after the finishing touch of an interpretive sign has been added. All are welcome to meet the artist and enjoy a cold drink as they explore the hidden images in the mural.



Before



\*Photos are not from Milpitas and are provided to show examples of potential Storefront Improvements

After



# MILPITAS MATTERS • GENERAL INFORMATION

## JOIN THE SENIOR ADVISORY COMMISSION!

Two (2) short-term Commission seats expiring December 2023. The Senior Advisory Commission serves as an advisory body to the City Council on matters pertaining to recreation, leisure, and nutrition services for the senior citizens of Milpitas. The Commission consists of seven members and two alternates, all of whom are appointed to three-year terms. All members and alternates shall be Milpitas residents. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October, and December at 1:30 p.m. in the Committee Conference Room in City Hall, or a designated location. The Commission Application may be submitted electronically below: <https://forms.milpitas.gov/forms/view.php?id=75812>. You may also choose to print out the form on paper, complete it and then mail or deliver it to the City Clerk. The form can be found below: <https://www.milpitas.gov/our-government/commission/>



The application period will close at 5:00 p.m., on Monday, October 31, 2022. For further information, please contact the City Clerk's office by calling (408) 586-3003.

## TREE AND PLANT MAINTENANCE DURING THE DROUGHT WEBINAR

Learn how to keep your water-wise plants flourishing all year round! Join us on October 11 at 6PM to learn tips and tricks to keep your plants happy and healthy through proper care and maintenance. Register for the event at [https://bit.ly/Oct11BAWSCA!](https://bit.ly/Oct11BAWSCA)



## DRIP IRRIGATION BASICS WEBINAR

Save water this fall by switching to a drip irrigation system! Join us at our FREE webinar on October 13 at 5:30PM to learn more about the benefits of drip systems and how to install them. Register for the webinar at [dailyacts.org/upcoming-events/](https://dailyacts.org/upcoming-events/)



## MILPITAS COMPOST GIVEAWAY

Calling all Milpitas residents – come get your 4 FREE bags of compost on Saturday, October 22nd, just in time to supplement your soil for fall/winter planting. Full of nutrients, compost is great for your garden, plants, trees, and potted plants because it improves aeration, drainage, and water and nutrient-holding capacity. Instead of using fertilizer, using compost puts organic resources back into the soil. Come rain or shine! Bring a photo ID that shows your Milpitas address, along with a signed waiver. One coupon limit per household.



For a copy of the waiver, visit:  
<https://www.milpitassanitation.com/community/>

## GET A WATER-WISE LANDSCAPE REBATE

Be water smart with a water-wise landscape! Save water and money by converting your lawn to a drought tolerant garden featuring native plants that are vibrant all year round! Get up to \$5,000 back for performing a lawn conversion with the Landscape Rebate Program!

For more information, please visit [savewatermilpitas.org/rebates/](https://savewatermilpitas.org/rebates/).





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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.

The first module for building one has been delivered at the jobsite. A peek inside reveals the corridor which is already insulated with pink bat fiberglass wall insulation. The concrete podium for building one is also complete. See the below pictures.



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

See below pictures showing construction progress on nine and six-unit buildings. The nine-unit building's rough inspection was completed, and stucco work is in progress. The other building's framing is in progress.



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**Headway Technologies, located at 463 S Hillview Dr.** To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit for the installation of tools in the service chase #14 for Headway Technologies was issued.

**Tarob Court-2 Townhomes, 1992 Tarob Ct.,** a 53-townhome residential development by Toll Brothers, Inc. See the below picture of this development which is mostly complete.



**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.

To allow an earlier start of operation, a temporary occupancy permit for 44 units out of 213 residential units under phase 3 was issued. This was the last phase for the living units, making all of the units approved for occupancy. See the below picture of exterior touch up on painting taking place.



**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

See the below picture showing the Manitowoc MLC 300, a 300-ton rated crane that will be used to place the modular units which have already been delivered to the jobsite.



**Abercrombie & Fitch,** located at Great Mall. To allow an earlier start of construction, a temporary permit for the retail store at the Great mall was issued.



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## BUILDING PERMITS AND OCCUPANCY

*Building permits were issued to the following:*

**Tarob Court-2 Townhomes**, for the construction of the last 8-townhome building in the 53 townhomes residential development complex located at 1980 Tarob Ct., at an estimated construction cost of \$2.4M.

**KLA Plus**, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing facility located at 1 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$509,437.

*Building permit applications were submitted by the following:*

**KLA Plus**, semiconductor manufacturing company, for tenant improvements at their existing three facilities located at 1, 5 & 7 Technology Dr. at an estimated construction cost of \$1.7M.

**Pace**, for exterior repair work in 15 buildings in the complex located at 516 Odyssey Ln. at an estimated construction cost of \$787,259.

**Qbedding, Inc.**, for tenant improvement for retail store located at 232 Barber Ct. at an estimated construction cost of \$200,000.

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

**Nexgen Liquor Inc. DBA Lucky Liquor**, a retail store located at 63 S Abbott Ave.

**Zygotherapy, Inc.**, a therapy and pain management medical office located at 995 Montague Expy.

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## WAYS TO CONNECT WITH US



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



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