

DECEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023

SCENE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO

**The Most Wonderful
Time of the Year**
Celebrate the End
of Year Holidays in
Cupertino

PLUS: LOOKING BACK AT THE **2022 CITY WORK PROGRAM** | **PROTECT YOUR PORCH FROM
PACKAGE THIEVES** | LEARN ABOUT **UTILITY AND TAX SAVINGS**

CITY OF



CUPERTINO



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The Winter 2023 Recreation Schedule is Here!

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Find an activity at
cupertino.org/recreation

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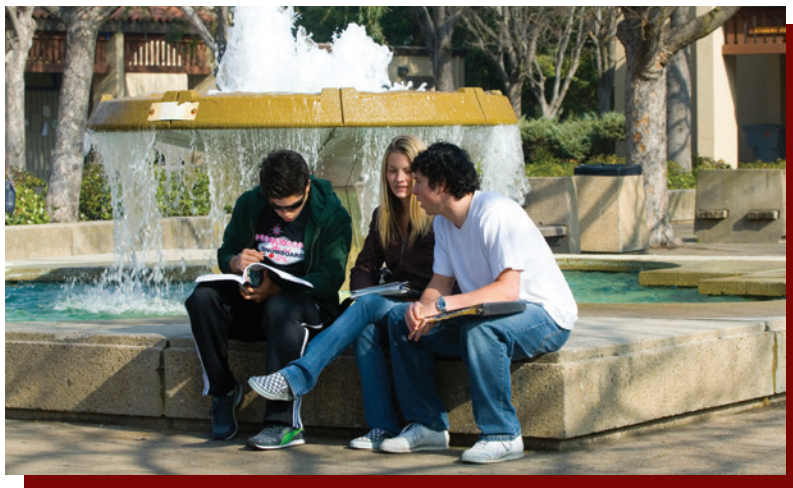
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Questions or comments about The Scene? Contact staff at scene@cupertino.org.

City of Cupertino and De Anza College Team Up to Offer Students Housing Aid



The City of Cupertino contributed \$50,000 in grant funds to help create the De Anza College Housing Assistance Grants Program to assist students who are struggling with the region's high cost of housing. With generous financial support from the City, De Anza is able to provide one-time emergency grants of up to \$2,000 for eligible students who may be facing eviction or need help with move-in costs.

To qualify, a student must be listed on the lease for a rental in Cupertino, must be taking at least six units at De Anza College and have already completed at least 12 units, and must show financial need by qualifying for

the California College Promise grant. Students are also required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and become a client of West Valley Community Services, which helps administer the housing program.

Interested students can learn more at the City's Housing website at cupertino.org/housing or through email to Erika Flores at floreserika@deanza.edu. Please visit the City's Housing Programs and Resources website for additional support at cupertino.org/housingprograms.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE ON A CITY COMMISSION?

Cupertino residents are encouraged to apply for positions on City commissions that will have vacancies in January of 2023. Commissions with vacancies include: Bicycle Pedestrian Commission, Arts and Culture Commission, Housing Commission, Library Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission and Technology Information and Communications Commission. The application deadline is 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2023.

Applications can be submitted via the Online Commission Application at cupertino.org/vacancies. For more details, please see the website or email the City Clerk's office at cityclerk@cupertino.org.

Looking Back at the City Work Program in 2022

The City of Cupertino's Work Program guides the major efforts of the City for the upcoming fiscal year. The City Work Program ensures that staff efforts are aligned with the goals set by the City Council and the community. This approach keeps the City transparent and holds us accountable to focusing resources on strategies that best serve our community's needs and aspirations. The City Council led the City in a wide variety of projects, focusing on different aspects to improve the quality of life for the Cupertino community. Take a look at some of the highlights from the past year:

Housing

The City collaborated with West Valley Community Services (WVCS) to create a pilot program to provide jobs to two unhoused Cupertino residents. The pilot launched in October 2020 and it provided

employment, housing support, training, case management, and clothing to two residents. WVCS also provides work clothing, motel payment and housing search support, training and job coaching, and case management. This pilot was extended for another year in order to provide more residents in need with the opportunity for employment.

While these are just a couple of the major projects that the City has accomplished, there are many more across a wide variety of areas. Under the guidance of City Council, this year also saw the Climate Action Plan, Personal Preparedness Campaign, and so much more.

To learn more about the projects from the City Work Program, visit cupertino.org/cityworkprogram.



Environmental

The Mayor's Cup Challenge, an event designed to challenge invited speakers and members of our community to discuss the environmental impact of single-use plastics, was held on May 14 at the newly expanded Cupertino Library. A full recording of the event can be found at cupertino.org/mayorscupchallenge.

Additionally, on September 6, the City Council adopted an ordinance to ban single-use plastic food ware and carryout bags. Phase one became effective on October 6, requiring that utensils, straws, and other accessories are only to be provided when asked for. Phase two will become effective on September 6, 2023 and will require the use of fiber-based food ware instead of plastic. This ordinance will help reduce the unnecessary use of single-use disposable plastic food service ware by restaurants and other food facilities. More information on the ordinance can be found at engagecupertino.org/single-use-plastics.



Stay Informed and Get Engaged With Housing in Cupertino

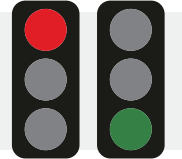
The City is continuing through the process of the 6th Cycle Housing Element Update, a pivotal opportunity to shape the future of Cupertino. The Housing Element is a comprehensive policy document that identifies where, how, and how much housing Cupertino must plan for in order to accommodate existing and future housing needs for people of all income groups. In accordance with State law, the City must update its Housing Element every eight years, and the 2023-2031 period is the sixth time the Housing Element is being updated. The City expects to accommodate new housing units through past Housing Element sites and new locations.

Public participation is a key component of the Housing Element Update. It allows community members the opportunity to present and discuss concerns and hopes for the future of Cupertino. You can get the latest updates, find out when to participate in upcoming meetings, and share your feedback through open surveys all on the EngageCupertino platform at engagecupertino.org/housingelement.



How to Use the Pedestrian Scramble

...at the intersection of Bubb Road and McClellan Road

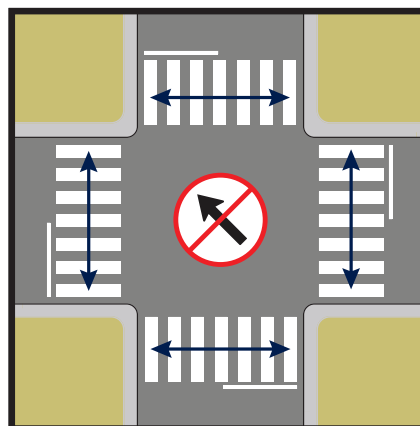


The City's first Pedestrian Scramble traffic signal phase is coming to the intersection of Bubb Road and McClellan Road! What is a Pedestrian Scramble? It's a phase at an intersection when all traffic signals turn red to allow pedestrians to cross any legs of the intersection. This will happen during school commute hours starting in mid-January.

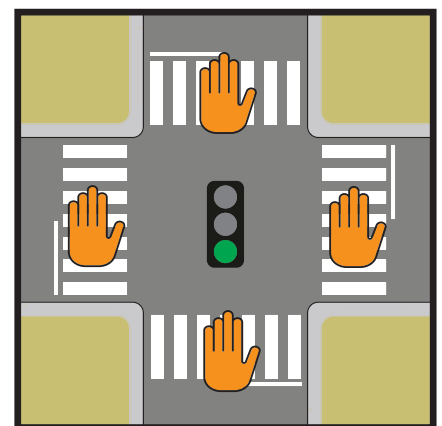
During the Pedestrian Scramble, all cars in all directions will have red lights at the same time, and cars will not be allowed to turn right on red. Pedestrians will have the walk signal during this time, allowing them to cross in all directions. Pedestrians should not cross diagonally—the all-walk phase will be long enough to cross two legs of the crosswalk in one light.

When cars have green lights, pedestrians will see the "Don't Walk" indication and they should wait on the sidewalk. Pedestrians, DO NOT CROSS when the traffic light is green, only when the walk signal is on. Separating vehicular and pedestrian traffic in this way will make the intersection safer.

"All-Walk" Phase



"Don't-Walk" Phase





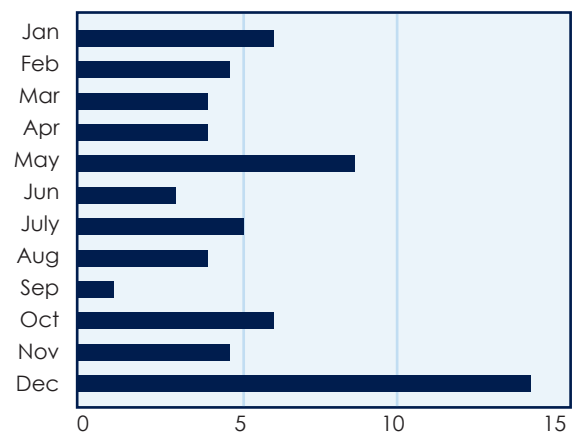
Protect Your Packages This Holiday Season

The holiday season is here! While the sense of normalcy returns after the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to do most of our shopping online. With that comes the risk of package thefts. The West Valley Patrol would like to remind residents that package thieves are out in full force during the holiday season. Between 2019 and 2021, the total approximate value of known stolen packages in the City of Cupertino was \$22,508. The gift-giving month of December sees the highest number of package thefts. Packages left on the doorstep or porch are susceptible to theft. Here are some other options to prevent package theft:

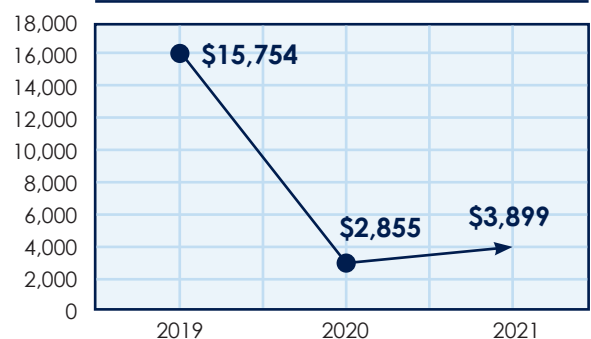
1. Have a neighbor or relative pick up the package or collect the package in your absence.
2. Schedule delivery to your place of work, if permitted.
3. Request the shipper hold the package for pick-up.
4. Utilize shipping lockers offered by some companies.
5. Track the package and collect it as soon as it's delivered.
6. Give delivery instructions to keep the package hidden or placed in a side yard, if possible.

The holiday season is always a busy time of year and can provide several distractions. The West Valley Patrol would like to remind everyone to report any suspicious activity by calling 9-1-1 or the Sheriff's non-emergency number at (408) 299-2311.

Total Package Thefts By Month 2019 - 2021



Total Value Loss



Save on Your Utility Bills and Tax Fees

Have you felt the spending pinch this holiday season? Saving on utility bills and property fees is a great way to help your wallet this season. See if you qualify for any of the cost savings opportunities listed below:

Energy Bill (PG&E):

PG&E offers two discounted programs:

1. California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program: A monthly discount of 20% or more on gas and electricity. Participants qualify through income guidelines or if enrolled in certain public assistance programs.
2. Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA): A monthly discount of 18% on electricity only. Must be a household with three or more people. Participants qualify through income guidelines.

Learn more and apply online at pge.com/carefera or call (866) 743-2273.

Garbage Bill (Recology):

Residents who are currently enrolled in the PG&E CARE program can get a reduced rate of up to 50% off their garbage bill. Providing proof of enrollment in PG&E's CARE program is required.

Contact Recology at (408) 725-4020 or recologysouthbay@recology.com for more information.

Water Bill:

Water discounts vary depending on your water service provider. We have two providers in Cupertino.

- San Jose Water customers can apply for the Customer Assistance Program (CAP), formerly known as Water Rate Assistance Program (WRAP), which provides a 15% discount on the total water bill for eligible low-income customers. Learn more about the eligibility requirements at sjwater.com/wrap.
- CalWater customers can apply for the Customer Assistance Program (CAP—formerly LIRA). Customers who meet the income guidelines will qualify to receive a fixed monthly discount equal to 50% of the 5/8 x 3/4-inch meter service charge. Learn more and apply online at calwater.com/cap.
- Valley Water also offers a discount to low-income seniors. For more information, email seniorexemption@valleywater.org or call (408) 630-2810.

Clean Water and Storm Protection Fee Cost-Savings Rebate:

Qualifying property owners can receive a 20% discount off the Clean Water and Storm Protection fee on future property tax bills. You can apply online at cupertino.org/watercostshare or call (408) 777-3236 for help.

Holiday Coat Collection Drive is Back



Give the Gift of Warmth this Holiday Season

The City of Cupertino, in partnership with Recology, is hosting its annual Coat Collection Drive. Community members can drop off new or gently used coats between now until Wednesday, December 21 in the Cupertino Library Lobby, 10800 Torre Avenue.

Donated items will be given to Sacred Heart Community Services, which will distribute them to those in need this holiday season. For questions, email recologysouthbay@recology.com





Unwrapping the Secrets of Waste Sorting



While opening presents is a fun and exciting experience, it can lead to the floor being scattered with packaging and wrappings. Help create a better environmental solution by sorting your gift debris with these guidelines.

Wrapping Paper: Mostly Recycle

Regular wrapping paper (including the glossy type) is often recyclable as long as it isn't metallic, glittery, or has anything else embedded in it that is not paper. Glittery, metallic paper should not be burned in a fireplace as burning these releases toxic metals into the air. Toss the fancy paper in the garbage and recycle the rest, and no need to peel off the tape before recycling.

Bows and Ribbon: Garbage

Unfortunately, most ribbons and bows are not recyclable and need to go in the garbage.

Cardboard Box: Recycle

Cardboard is one of the easiest materials to recycle. Make sure to break down the boxes. If you have too many boxes to fit in your recycle bin, bundle them neatly and set them on the side of your recycling cart.

Other Protective Packaging:

There are several different types of protective packaging. Here are a few of the most commonly seen.

- Plastic air pillows: Garbage
- Packing peanuts: Garbage
- Styrofoam™ blocks: Garbage
- Cardboard: Recycle
- Tissue paper: Recycle
- Mixed materials (two materials such as plastic and metal glued together): Garbage

Reusable wrapping is a great zero-waste alternative to paper. Consider swapping out that wrapping paper for gift bags or fabric.



City Hall Holiday Closures

Cupertino City Offices will be closed and nonoperational from Friday, December 23, 2022 through Monday, January 2, 2023 and will reopen Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Cupertino City Hall

Nonoperational from Friday, December 23, 2022 through Monday, January 2, 2023 and will provide services again Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Quinlan Community Center

Closed from Friday, December 23, 2022 to Monday, January 2, 2023 and will provide services again Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Senior Center

Closed from Friday, December 23, 2022 to Monday, January 2, 2023 and will provide services again Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

Blackberry Farm Golf Course

Closed on Sunday, December 25, 2022.

Sherriff's Office

Closed Sunday, December 25, 2022 and Sunday, January 1, 2023. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. For non-emergency officer assistance, call (408) 299-2311.

Parking regulations

Street sweeping will not be enforced Monday, December 19, 2022 through Sunday, January 1, 2023.

Cupertino Library

Will close early at 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 24, 2022 and Saturday, December 31, 2022. Closed on Sunday, December 25, 2022 and Sunday, January 1, 2023.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS



Tree Lighting

Friday, December 2

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Quinlan Community Center

Ring in the holiday season with the City of Cupertino as we light up the community tree! After the tree lighting, your family will be able to visit Santa, take festive photos, watch a classic holiday movie, and enjoy hot cocoa.

For more information, visit cupertino.org/treelighting.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 3

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Quinlan Community Center

Santa will be posing for pictures while the elves cook up delicious North Pole pancakes. After breakfast, join the elves in the workshop for holiday crafts and letter writing to Santa!

To register, visit cupertino.org/breakfastwithsanta.



Signing Santa

Saturday, December 10 • 2 to 4 p.m.

Quinlan Community Center

Deaf and hard-of-hearing children, along with their families, are invited to spend time and share their wish list with a Santa who's fluent in sign language.

To register, visit bit.ly/3REIErq.



Santa Visits

December 10, 11, 16, 17, and 18

Santa is taking a break from his holiday preparations and visiting the residents of Cupertino in his decked-out vehicle! Families can register for the Santa Visits program and have Santa, his elf, and the Santamobile make an outdoor appearance at their homes.

To register, visit cupertino.org/santavisits



Baer Blacksmith Shop Demonstration

December 31 • 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Baer Blacksmith Shop at McClellan Ranch Preserve

Learn about early Cupertino history and the craft of blacksmithing. The forge will be fired up and blacksmithing demonstrations are offered on these days.

January 28 • 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Baer Blacksmith Shop at McClellan Ranch Preserve

Learn about early Cupertino history and the craft of blacksmithing. The forge will be fired up and blacksmithing demonstrations are offered on these days.



Preschool Open House

January 17 • 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Quinlan Community Center
Preschool Room

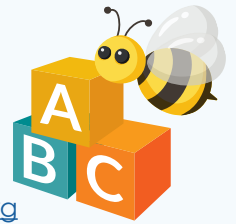
Learn about the City's preschool program, meet the teachers, and ask questions.



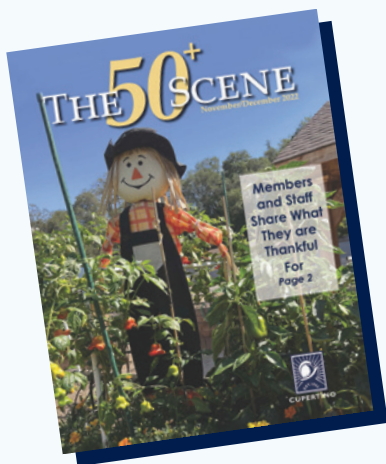
Cupertino Spelling Bee

January 21 • 1 to 5:30 p.m.

Do you have what it takes to become the Cupertino Spelling Bee champion? This event is for elementary and middle school students. To register, visit reg4rec.org



SENIOR EVENTS

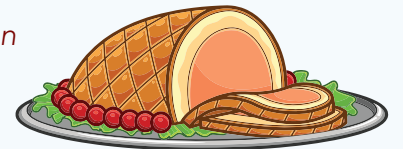


For adult 50+ activities and classes at the Cupertino Senior Center, see the latest edition of the 50+ Scene at bit.ly/50scene.

Holiday Ham Lunch

December 2 • Noon

Delight in a holiday lunch with all the familiar fixings and enjoy an afternoon of fun of Bingo, Ping Pong, Book Review, or Mah Jongg! Lunch includes honey baked ham, mashed potatoes, green bean, salad, a roll, and pecan pie. Vegetarian option available when registering. Pre-registration is required.



Great Valley Museum and Hilmar Cheese Company Trip

January 26 • 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Treat yourself to a couple of gems of California's Great Valley!



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City of Cupertino

| Department | Phone / Email |
|---------------------------|--|
| Building Department..... | (408) 777-3228 Building@Cupertino.org |
| Business License..... | (408) 777-3221 BL@Cupertino.org |
| City Clerk..... | (408) 777-3223 CityClerk@Cupertino.org |
| City Manager | (408) 777-3212 Manager@Cupertino.org |
| Code Enforcement..... | (408) 777-3182 Code@Cupertino.org |
| Planning Department | (408) 777-3308 Planning@Cupertino.org |
| Recreation | (408) 777-3120 Recreation@Cupertino.org |
| Senior Center..... | (408) 777-3150 SeniorCntr@Cupertino.org |
| Sports Center..... | (408) 777-3160 Recreation@Cupertino.org |
| Street Light Maint. | (408) 777-3342 StreetDivision@Cupertino.org |
| Street Sweeping | (408) 777-3269 Public_Works@Cupertino.org |
| Tree Maint. | (408) 777-3410 Public_Works@Cupertino.org |

Other Agencies

| Organization | Phone Number |
|--|----------------|
| Animal Control | (408) 794-7297 |
| AT&T | (800) 331-0500 |
| California Water Service..... | (650) 917-0152 |
| Chamber of Commerce | (408) 252-7054 |
| Comcast | (800) 945-2288 |
| Cupertino Library..... | (408) 540-3947 |
| Cupertino Sanitary District..... | (408) 253-7071 |
| Cupertino Union School District | (408) 252-3000 |
| Fremont Union High School District | (408) 522-2200 |
| Hazardous Waste Drop-off | (408) 299-7300 |
| PG&E..... | (800) 743-5000 |
| Project Sentinel (Landlord/Tenant Issues)..... | (408) 720-9888 |
| Recology (Garbage & Recycling) | (408) 725-4020 |
| San Jose Water Company | (408) 279-7900 |
| Santa Clara Registrar of Voters..... | (408) 299-6863 |
| VTA (Transportation Authority) | (408) 321-2300 |
| Vector Control, Santa Clara County | (408) 918-4770 |

First Responders

Emergency Calls.....911 or (408) 299-3233
(Police, Fire, Medical)

Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office

(408) 299-2311
(Non-Emergency)

Santa Clara County Fire Department.....

(408) 378-4010
(Non-Emergency)

Need to report an issue or have a City-related question?
Visit: cupertino.org/cupertino311 or call (408) 777-3200.



The Cupertino Scene is printed on post-consumer waste recycled paper with soy ink. The newsletter is produced by a certified Bay Area Green Business and is recyclable. For information on becoming a certified Green Business, visit cupertino.org/GreenBiz.

