

NOVEMBER 2022

SCENE

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF CUPERTINO



There's No Business Like Small Business
Shop Local to Support Cupertino Businesses

PLUS: PROTECT YOURSELF DURING **FLU SEASON** | **VIA-CUPERTINO SHUTTLE EXPANSION** COMING SOON | SHOP CITY ITEMS AT THE **CUPERTINO ONLINE STORE**

CITY OF



CUPERTINO

Ready, Set, Vote!

2022 General Election

Tuesday, November 8 is the 2022 General Election!

You can conveniently vote by mail from home, drop off your ballot in a Ballot Drop-off Box 24 hours a day, or visit a Vote Center on the dates listed below from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Vote Centers in Cupertino	Ballot Drop-off Boxes in Cupertino
Lawson Middle School 10401 Vista Drive. Open today through Election Day.	Cupertino City Hall (Outside) 10300 Torre Avenue
Hyde Middle School 19325 Bollinger Road Open Monday, November 7 and Election Day.	Quinlan Community Center (Outside) 10185 North Stelling Road
Rancho Rinconada Recreation Building 18000 Chelmsford Drive Open Monday, November 7 and Election Day.	De Anza College (Parking Lot A1) 21250 Stevens Creek Boulevard

For more information, visit sccvote.org.

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Stay Healthy During Flu Season

Influenza, also called flu, is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It is not the same as the common cold or COVID-19, which are caused by different viruses. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are warning of an early and severe start to the flu season. Vaccinating yourself early provides heightened protection ahead of the holiday season.

Flu can cause severe illness in some cases. Anyone can get the flu, even healthy people, and serious problems from the flu can happen at any age. Flu symptoms can be similar to those of the common cold, but are usually more severe. Common symptoms include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headache, muscle or body aches, or fatigue. Some people are more likely to get very sick from the flu, including people over the age of 65, young children, pregnant people, people often in crowded or poorly ventilated environments, or people who have health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease.

Take the following steps to protect yourself and your loved ones from flu:

- Get a free flu vaccine (more information below)
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your elbow when you cough or sneeze
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Avoid close contact with sick people
- If you are sick, stay home from work or school
- If you are sick, monitor your symptoms and contact your medical provider if symptoms get worse
- If you are seriously ill and at risk for complications from the flu, contact your medical provider as you may need additional treatment or hospital care

The flu shot is a safe, effective way to reduce your chance of ending up in the hospital with severe flu. Each winter, people sick with flu crowd hospitals and urgent care clinics. You need a flu shot every year. The flu vaccine offers many months of protection, but it does not last forever. Also, the strains of influenza in the community change over time.

You can even get your free flu vaccine and COVID-19 booster on the same day to double-down on your protection against viruses. Find a location near you at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

New Leaf Blower Regulations Go into Effect



To help decrease noise pollution and improve quality of life by limiting noise disturbances, the Cupertino City Council passed an ordinance regulating noise emitted by leaf blowers. These new regulations for leaf blowers will go into effect on November 6.

New Regulations

- Leaf blowers within City limits must be certified by the manufacturer to produce no more than 65 decibels at a distance of 50 feet.
- Certified leaf blowers are often labeled with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) B175.2 sticker, and this manufacturer's label and/or product information will be used to verify compliance.
- Property owners are responsible for ensuring compliance on their property regardless of who is using the leaf blower.

How do I report a violation?

Report possible violations for verification by the City to Cupertino311 at [cupertino.org/311](https://www.cupertino.org/311). Property owners are responsible for ensuring compliance on their property regardless of who is using the leaf blower. Property owners found to be in violation may receive administrative citations.



For more information on these new regulations, please visit [cupertino.org/leafblowers](https://www.cupertino.org/leafblowers) or contact the Planning Division at planning@cupertino.org or (408) 777-3308.

Creating Cupertino Together: Get Engaged with City Projects

One of the highest priorities for the City of Cupertino is proactively reaching out to the community, creating an open dialogue and listening to feedback, and taking the public's needs and desires into account when moving forward with projects that help shape the future of Cupertino. No matter what you're passionate about—whether it's housing, local businesses, parks, or the environment—you can share your input on what you think will improve the quality of life in Cupertino.

Here are a few of the current engagement opportunities for ongoing projects that the City is gathering public input on:



Lawrence-Mitty Park and Trail: The City of Cupertino is completing the design phase of this project, and will present an overview of the project, a report outlining the survey feedback received, and discuss the plans for the Lawrence-Mitty Park and Trail at an upcoming Bicycle Pedestrian Commission Meeting on Wednesday, November 16, and Parks and Recreation Commission meeting (DATE TBD). Learn more and stay up to date at engagecupertino.org/lawrencemitty.

Housing Element: 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 our community. You can review public documents, see survey results, and see upcoming events and meetings at engagecupertino.org/housingelement.



Economic Development Survey: The City of Cupertino is researching current trends and issues about the local economy, and as part of this effort we are looking for input from local businesses and members of the community. Take a few minutes to answer the questions in a survey at engagecupertino.org/business-and-community-survey

You can provide your input on any of these projects or track future projects on EngageCupertino, the City's platform to gather community feedback, discuss topics, and stay informed. Register for an account with an email address, sign up for updates, and help shape the projects in your community.

Visit engagecupertino.org.

From Pilot Program to Regional Standout

For the last three years, Via-Cupertino on-demand shuffle has been connecting neighborhoods and businesses in the community. During the pilot, the City conducted several surveys to learn how people use Via, and how the program could continue to improve. The most common feedback we received were requests to add service to El Camino Hospital and Mountain View Caltrain, as well as make Via-Cupertino an Electric Vehicle (EV) program.

We heard your feedback and are excited to announce Via-Cupertino has been selected to receive \$8.5 million from the California State Transportation Authority (CalSTA) to expand and become an EV fleet! The funding will also allow Via-Cupertino to continue operating for five more years.

Beginning in April 2023, Via-Cupertino's service will be expanded into the City of Santa Clara and provide service to all of the areas shown on the map! The new area has a total of four Caltrain stations, now including the Mountain View Caltrain and the Santa Clara Caltrain, where riders can take VTA's route 60 into the airport. There are also many new locations of interest, including El Camino Hospital and a new zone within the City of Santa Clara. This means Via riders can travel

to any of the destinations shown on the map for the same flat fare.

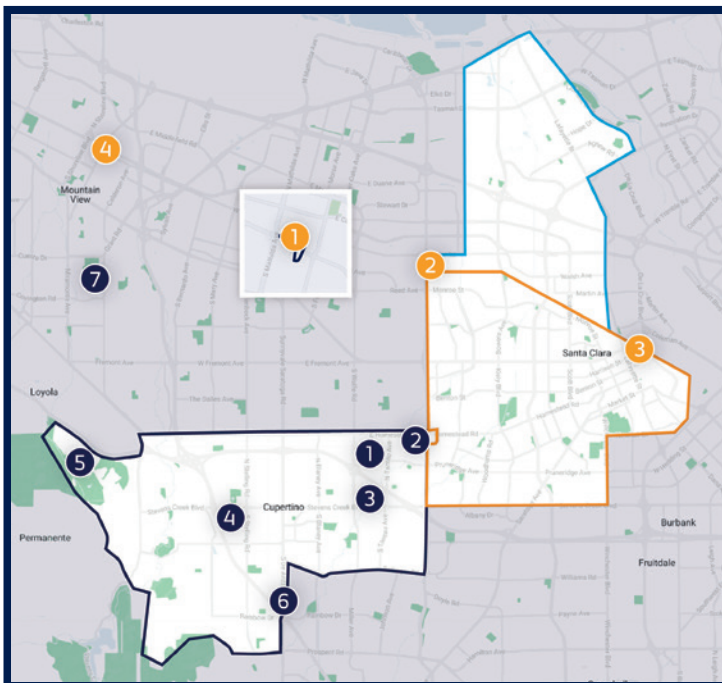
The \$8.5 million grant will also allow the fleet of vehicles to grow from nine to 16 vans over the course of the five-year grant. EV's will be phased in as soon as they are available.

Cupertino's Transportation Division has been in discussions with the City of Sunnyvale and City of San José, in hopes that the program can grow over time and serve portions of west San José and Sunnyvale.

The City is excited to continue this popular program and expand into new areas, serving more transit and reducing our community's carbon footprint. For more information, visit cupertino.org/shuttle.



VIA-CUPERTINO MAP



Popular destinations:

- 1 Apple Park
- 2 Kaiser Permanente Hospital
- 3 Main Street Cupertino
- 4 De Anza College
- 5 Rancho San Antonio
- 6 West Valley Medical
- 7 El Camino Health Mountain View Hospital

Transit hubs:

- 1 Sunnyvale Caltrain Station
- 2 Lawrence CalTrain Station
- 3 Santa Clara CalTrain Station
- 4 Mountain View CalTrain Station

Phases of zone expansion:

- Phase 1
- Phase 2

Shop City Merch on the Cupertino Online Store

Just in time for the holiday shopping season, the City of Cupertino is launching the first-ever Cupertino Online Store! This is your chance to flaunt Cupertino swag and show your City pride.



Browse and purchase all things Cupertino that are officially branded and include items such as mugs, t-shirts, hoodies, hats, and more! Find the perfect gift for yourself or your loved one.

Through this effort, we hope to stitch our community closer by displaying our pride in our City and community. If you have friends and family visiting from out of town, grab them some memorabilia so they can always remember their time in Cupertino.

Get ready to rock a stunning shirt, show off a trendy hat, or quench your morning coffee thirst in style with a mug! Be sure to take a picture and share it on social media using hashtag #WeAreCupertino to enter into a drawing for fun prizes.

Visit cupertinostore.com.

APPLY TO SERVE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OR A CITY COMMISSION

Do you want to help enhance the business environment in Cupertino? Apply to join the Economic Development Committee by **4:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 10.**

The Committee works to market the City in a positive light to attract and retain businesses, foster public and private partnerships through new and existing business and community relationships, collaborate with local businesses to identify and eliminate any barriers to retention or growth, and advise City Council on economic development goals that maintain the quality of life in Cupertino.

Want to serve on another City Commission? Apply for positions on City commissions that will have vacancies in January of 2023, including: Bicycle Pedestrian 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.



**CUPERTINO
MINIMUM WAGE**
\$17.20
PER HOUR
 Effective
 January 1, 2023

New Minimum Wage in the New Year

Starting January 1, 2023, minimum wage in Cupertino will be increasing to \$17.20 per hour. This incremental increase ensures cost of living doesn't outpace the earning ability of individuals. This measure also combats the added inflationary cost currently burdening families.

The change will cover employees performing two or more hours of work per week in Cupertino.

Employees are entitled to these rights regardless of their immigration status. All employers located within Cupertino are mandated to post the official notice in the workplace informing employees of the rate and their rights. Businesses must also document all hours worked and keep records for four years. For more information, please visit cupertino.org/minimumwage.

SHOP LOCAL ★ **SHOP LOCAL** Small Business Saturday



November 26 is Small Business Saturday – a day that is celebrated across the U.S. recognizing small businesses and their impact on the local economy. Small Business Saturday serves as an excellent reminder for each one of us to support our local small businesses as we kick off the holiday shopping season.

To make it easier to do that, the City's Economic Development Division has created a new searchable map of businesses in Cupertino. Whether you are looking to pamper yourself or a loved one this year with a trip to the spa or an exotic meal, be sure to search for local businesses that offer these services. Thank you for supporting small! The searchable map of businesses in Cupertino can be found here: cupertino.org/businessmap.

Supporting Local Businesses through the Cupertino Business Outreach Program

Cupertino's strong business base is essential to the City's economic success. To further enhance the quality working relationship with companies that choose Cupertino as their location, the City's Economic Development Division recently introduced the Cupertino Business Outreach Program, or CBOP! The program is designed to facilitate a dialogue between the private and public sectors, which provides our team an opportunity to understand the unique needs of our local businesses and connect them with resources.

CBOP incorporates an in-person or virtual visit to companies located within Cupertino for a conversation with the leadership team and an optional tour of the operations. With insights gained during these visits, City of Cupertino hopes to double down on supporting programs that work or create new ones to fill gaps in addressing common business needs. Visit the CBOP page on Cupertino's website here: cupertino.org/cbop.

We look forward to connecting with our local companies and becoming their go-to resource for all things business! If you would like to schedule a CBOP visit with the Economic Development Team, please email us at econdev@cupertino.org.



Coming September 2023: New Single-Use Plastic Ordinance

On September 6, City Council adopted a new ordinance to reduce the use of single-use plastic foodware items. The new ordinance will restrict use of single-use plastic cups, containers, and utensils and instead require fiber-based items made from paper, paperboard, wood, bamboo, and bagasse. Fiber-based foodware can be put into green carts and bins in Cupertino to be processed into compost, right along with any food scraps or uneaten food – no scraping or rinsing needed. Because almost any single-use foodware still requires a lot of resources for just a few minutes of use, the ordinance will also require reusable foodware for dining in.

What about "compostable" plastic items? While compostable plastics may seem like a good idea, here in Cupertino and in much of California they are problematic because they take too long to break down. National standards for compostability specify 180 days, while California processors usually operate

on a 90-day cycle. Compostable plastics placed in green carts and bins in Cupertino will end up as contaminants that will have to get sorted out and sent to landfill. This can be especially frustrating as those items are often more expensive to purchase.

The ordinance will apply to cafés, restaurants, and other food and beverage providers. Understanding that some businesses may be unable to make the transition in one year or may have unique packaging requirements that cannot be met by non-plastic items, temporary waivers are available as an option. Additionally, City Council approved mini-grants to help smaller businesses make the needed changes. Outreach and education about the new ordinance will begin in the coming months.

The new ordinance will become enforceable on September 6, 2023. For more information, check out engagecupertino.org/single-use-plastics.





Helping the Earth, One Block at a Time



How can you help create a safer, greener Cupertino? Become a GreenBlocks Leader!

Climate change can be overwhelming to think about, but our actions can make an impact. By becoming a GreenBlocks Leader, you team up with other Cupertino residents for meetings covering sustainability and emergency preparedness topics such as Home Energy, Water Conservation, Building an Emergency Kit, and Community Resilience. No prior knowledge is required to join! Just attend a training session so that you are prepared to facilitate each meeting.

Why form a team? One neighbor might have had solar panels installed, or has been composting for years, or installed a drought-tolerant garden – everyone has valuable knowledge and experience that we all benefit from.

Each meeting will provide ideas for steps your household can take related to each topic—there are options for every kind of household! Try Quick Boost actions (Install a Smart Thermostat, Combine Car Trips), On a Budget actions (Take the Bus or Light Rail, Have a Say), Renter Friendly actions (Make a Meal Plan, Adopt a Storm Drain) or Family Friendly actions (Eat Lower Down the Carbon Chain, Reduce & Reuse).

For more information, contact Marta Drown at MartaD@cupertino.org or (408) 777-3408.



Sort Scraps Smarter: Compost Your Food Waste

The holidays are a great time to start separating your plate scrapings, peels, pizza crusts, and all other food scraps to get them into your organics cart. Between Thanksgiving and New Year's, Americans waste 25 percent more food than the rest of the year. Millions of pounds of uneaten turkey, gravy, beans, and potatoes end up in the landfill.

Since 2010, residents of Cupertino have been encouraged to add food waste and food soiled paper to their curbside organics cart to be turned into compost. If you haven't been doing that already, now is the perfect time to start! Putting food waste and food soiled paper in the green organics cart isn't just a good idea, it's the law! Senate Bill 1383, California's new Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy, was designed to reduce methane pollution from food waste and other organic materials ending up in the landfill.

Even better than composting uneaten food is reducing the food wasted. Smart meal planning and food storage are essential to food waste reduction. If you are having company over for the holidays, check out this Guestimator tool: a dinner party calculator that estimates how much food you need to keep guests full and happy at savethefood.com/guestimator.

Find more waste sorting and reduction tips at cupertino.org/compost.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

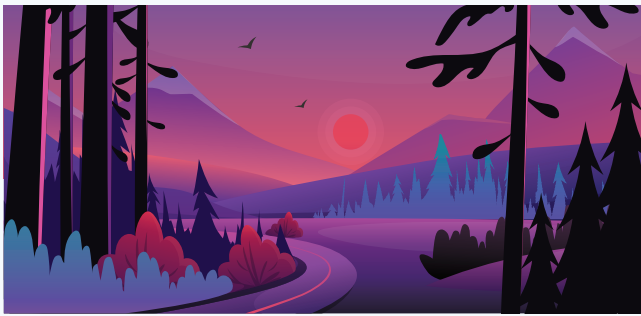
PARKS AND RECREATION EVENTS

Join-A-Ranger: Night Hike and Flashlight Tour

Saturday, November 12 • 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Environmental Education Center at
McClellan Ranch Preserve

Explore the woods and nature at night, learn about nocturnal animals' special adaptations, and test our heightened senses in the dark with games and activities.



Baer Blacksmith Shop Demonstration

November 26 • 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Baer Blacksmith Shop at McClellan Ranch Preserve

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



Senior Activities and Classes

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

HOLIDAY EVENTS

This holiday season, the City of Cupertino has many family-friendly holiday events planned – each event is full of fun activities, celebrations, and treats. These events are sure to get the entire family into the holiday spirit!



View all upcoming holiday events!



Tree Lighting

Friday, December 2 • 6 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 coco. For more information, visit cupertino.org/treelighting.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 3 • 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Quinlan Community Center

Join the City for a morning full of holiday cheer! 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! Register at cupertino.org/breakfastwithsanta.



Signing with 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. Register at 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. Visits for Cupertino residents only and are available in 15-minute increments.

To register in-person, stop by the Recreation Office at the Quinlan Community Center. For more information, call (408) 777-3120 or visit cupertino.org/santavisits.



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City Directory

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.



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