Media Contact:
Leslie Arroyo
Communications Director
(650) 829-6603
leslie.arroyo@ssf.net

FOLLOW US!

The City of South San Francisco

For Immediate Release

South San Francisco Named "Tree City USA" for the 30th Year in a Row

South San Francisco recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., April 18, 2017 - Parks & Recreation Director Sharon Ranals and Parks Manager Samantha Haimovitch presented a glass statue to Mayor Pradeep Gupta, and proudly displayed a banner that showcased South San Francisco as a "Tree City USA" for the 30th year in a row at last week's City Council meeting.

"This is an amazing accomplishment, as very few cities have received this designation 30 years in a row," said Mayor Pradeep Gupta. "I'm proud of our City staff for all the work they do in keeping our City beautiful."

The City of South San Francisco was named a 2017 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. South San Francisco is among the 3,400 communities that are currently a Tree City USA.

South San Francisco achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least $2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like South San Francisco make smart investments in urban forests," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social, and environmental benefits."

Trees are assets to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

During the grand re-opening of Brentwood Park, which was held on March 25th, Improving Public Places volunteers gathered to plant trees to enrich and beautify the existing natural surroundings. The day was especially significant because Mayor Pradeep Gupta presented a proclamation declaring it as "Arbor Day."

"Arbor Day in South San Francisco was a win-win all around," said Mayor Gupta. "Volunteers had fun meeting other volunteers and at the same time exercised and enjoyed the outdoors by planting trees. And, Brentwood Park benefited because it now has new trees, which are assets to a community because they help sustain a healthy ecosystem and make our community beautiful."

About South San Francisco

The City of South San Francisco proudly remains *The Industrial City*, a reflection of its steel mill and ship building past, redefined to reflect the innovative, entrepreneurial and industrious spirit which has made South San Francisco the Biotech Capital of the World, with 214 active biotech companies and growing. A vibrant community of 64,585 residents, South San Francisco enjoys a high quality of life with an extensive public parks system, active library and learning programming and a dynamic, engaged community making South San Francisco a great place to live, learn, work and play.