



Mayor's Update

Hey SSF,

Happy Friday!

2023 has come and gone and here we are with 2024 right around the corner! To close the year, I'd like to highlight some of the great work and accomplishments our city has achieved in 2023. Our victories and successes could not have been possible without the dedication of our city staff and our incredible South City community (that's you)! So, here's our "South City Wrapped" - 23 accomplishments in 2023:

1. Grand Opening of our Library | Parks and Recreation Center

This fall, the South San Francisco Library and Parks & Recreation Departments relocated operations to the new, state-of-the-art Library | Parks and Recreation Center at 901 Civic Campus Way. The 85,000 square-foot community center strategically co-locates the two departments to enhance public services, life-long learning, fitness, youth services, senior activities, community events, public meetings, and other programs that improve the quality of life for all residents. Construction of this wonderful new facility, and other community investments, was made possible by South San Francisco voters who approved Measure W in 2015.





2. Grand Opening of New Orange Memorial Park Sports Field

The new multi-sport fields at Orange Memorial Park opened this past fall and offer extended play opportunities for baseball, softball, and soccer. New field amenities include a concession building, electronic scoreboards, soccer goals, sports field lighting, spectator areas, dugouts, bullpens, and batting cages. We hope this field will serve our athletes for years to come!



3. Grand Opening of Oyster Point Marina Park/50th Annual Thanksgiving Fun Run

The 50th Annual Thanksgiving 5K Fun Run was held on Saturday, November 18, also celebrating the grand opening of Oyster Point Marina Park. Runners, walkers, and strollers enjoyed a beautiful 3.1-mile course along the newly renovated Oyster Point Marina Park and traversing along the scenic San Francisco Bay Trail. A record setting 1,000+ attendees participated!



4. Reopening of Farmers' Market

The long-awaited reopening of the South San Francisco Farmers' Market took place this past Spring as vendors geared up to bring their fruits, vegetables, hummus, fresh baked goods, honey, and a host of other foods to choose from. The year-round market continues to operate every Saturday at Orange Memorial Park from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

5. Repair and Reopening of the Roberta Cerri Teglia Senior Center

As a result of the flooding incident caused by a broken water valve, the senior center was temporarily closed for repairs. Parks and Recreation Department staff pivoted to relocate most programs impacted by the closure, maintaining these essential community and recreational senior services. The Facility Maintenance Division team quickly responded to mitigate further flooding and completed repairs to the center. A fully refreshed Roberta Cerri Teglia Senior Center reopened in the summer, marked with a community open house.

6. Earning the AARP's Age-Friendly City Designation

Early in the year, the Parks and Recreation Department along with the Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council, the San Mateo County Center for Age Friendly Excellence, and a community-based volunteer task force launched an effort to earn the AARP's Age-Friendly Community designation. Earning this designation demonstrates the City's commitment to creating a more accessible and livable city for our aging population.



7. Launch of New Senior Nutrition Program

We launched a new free meal program for our seniors! It's held every Tuesday and Thursday at the Roberta Cerri Teglia Senior Center with delicious meals catered by local restaurants for seniors ages 60 years and older. Over 200 meals are served weekly, providing food security and socialization opportunities for our older adults.

8. Expansion of Free Child Care Program

The Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with the South San Francisco Unified School District, received funding from the California Department of Education's Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) to expand after-school programs for transitional kindergarten through 6th grade. Up to 120 eligible children may be served in the Department's ELOP program at no cost – a major lift for underserved families in South San Francisco.

9. Every Kid Deserves a Bike

Nearly 300 children in the South San Francisco School District received a free bicycle to call their own. This program expanded this year to five schools and since 2022, nearly 500 bikes have been given to local South San Francisco children. Many children who have received these bikes have been identified as living in low-income households.



10. Funding for Literacy and Education

Library staff at the Gene Mullin Community Learning Center secured two important grants from the California State Library totaling nearly \$200,000 for English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and to expand afterschool homework programming, provide social emotional learning for elementary age youth, and offer work experience internships for 50 high school teens.

11. Funding Secured for Affordable Homes

Our Economic and Community Development Department secured \$9.5 million from the county's Measure K, \$28.8 million in financing from the State Infrastructure Infill Grant Program (IIG), and a \$2 million loan from the city. 158 affordable homes will be constructed with these highly competitive grants!

12. Our Designation as a Pro-Housing City by the State of California

South San Francisco became one of only two cities in the County and one of the few in the entire state to earn a "pro-housing" designation from the State. This designation gives the city an advantage for receiving funding for affordable homes and infrastructure improvements. This comes as a reward for our work to passing policies that further fair housing practices, reduce barriers to building more affordable housing, and make sure that everyone has access to a safe and stable home.

13. Expansion of the Free South City Shuttle

Our city was awarded \$1,661,876 from the San Mateo County (SMC) Transportation Authority to expand operations of Free South City Shuttle program. In addition to continuing our two prior shuttle routes, we debuted a new Orange Line, serving the additional neighborhoods of Winston Manor, Serra Highlands, Buri Buri, Avalon, and Westborough.



14. Launched New Automated License Plate Reader Camera Program to Reduce Crime

The Police Department partnered with Flock Safety to use automated license plate readers that assist with crime prevention, evidence collection, and the identification of crime patterns within our community. The new technology has already been successful, allowing our officers to conduct retroactive searches of the data when solving crimes like stolen vehicles, catalytic converter thefts, and burglaries, while also apprehending wanted criminals.

15. Implementing a “Cutting Edge” Gun Violence Prevention Program

The Police Department committed a full-time investigator to San Mateo County’s new Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, which focuses on preventing violence and improving public safety by removing guns from individuals who, by law, are prohibited from possessing firearms. The two-year program is led by the District Attorney’s Office and consists of investigators from the South San Francisco and San Mateo Police Departments.

16. Completion of Orange Memorial Park Stormwater Capture Project

This project is designed to reduce discharges of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and mercury to San Francisco Bay and is the first regional stormwater project of its kind in all of Northern California. The project provides 1.8 million gallons in water storage that is fully activated during a flood event and helps protect surrounding neighborhoods, portions of which are in the FEMA 100-year floodplain.

17. Completion of Water Quality Control Plant’s Wet Weather Digesters Improvements Project

Our award-winning Water Quality Control Plant completed a new digester to enhance and improve its conservation, recovery, and energy infrastructure as well as increased capacity and facilities to meet NPDES permit regulations.

18. Skyrocketing Adopt-a-Storm Drain Program

Since the start of 2023, city’s Adopt-a-Storm Drain program participation has increased by over 30% to a total of 160 volunteers and 273 adopted

drains. This program's efforts are in line with the sustainability objectives of the City's Climate Action Plan by helping clear litter from our waterways leading to the San Francisco Bay, while also helping beautify our South San Francisco neighborhoods.

19. Marching in the SMC Pride Parade and SF's Pistahan Parades

The City of South San Francisco led two contingents in two parades this year: 1st Annual San Mateo County LGBTQIA+ Pride Parade and the 30th Annual Pistahan Parade in San Francisco. South San Francisco represented the largest contingent in the Pride Parade and over 100 SSF residents participated in the Pistahan Parade.



20. Women's Leadership Conference

In August, the City hosted the Women's Leadership Conference which

featured guest speakers, Former U.S. Representative for California's 14th congressional district, Jackie Speier and San Mateo County, Sheriff Christina Corpus. The event brought hundreds of leaders to our local SSF conference center and was a day of women empowerment, education, conversation, elevation, and solidarity!



21. Recovery from Severe Winter Storms

The City's Emergency Operations Center was activated during the winter storms in early 2023. First responders included Police, Fire, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation in addition to our local CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). Actions included providing care and shelter for displaced residents and responded to flooding, downed trees, slides, and damaged facilities. In one storm alone, the team responded to more than 60 incidents.

22. Achieving Financial Excellence

The City has received the "Certificate of Excellence in Financial

Reporting” as well as the “Distinguished Budget Award for FY 2023-24” both from Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The former award signifies the City’s finance reports’ attainment of easily readable and efficiently organized content and satisfaction of generally accepted accounting principles and legal requirements. This award has been received by the City of SSF’s Finance Department for more than 20 years! The latter award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the City and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

23. The Finance Department Also Continues to Maintain “AAA” Credit Rating

One of our highest priorities is fiscal responsibility. South San Francisco’s AAA rating is the highest rating that an agency can receive. The AAA rating is a good indicator of the City’s strong financial position, solid executive management, fiscally sound policies and practices, and responsible budgetary performance.

With a successful and eventful year behind us, I’m looking forward to a productive 2024!

I’m wishing you and your families great love, success, and warmth in the new year!

SOUTH CITY EVENTS AND UPDATES

Library Holiday Closure Schedule

Both the Main Library and Grand Library will be open on Friday, December 29 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Libraries will be closed from Saturday, December 30 through Monday, January 1, 2024, and then they will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, at 10:00 a.m.

Tech Tuesday | Main Library, Digital Media Lab, 2nd Floor | Tuesday, January 2, 12:00 p.m.

Happy New Year! Learn how to use Google Drive to keep all of your files together in one spot. We will go over the basics including creating, editing and sharing documents, uploading files and organizing folders for easy access. Please come prepared with your Gmail account information so you can follow along.

English Conversation Club | Grand Ave Library (306 Walnut Ave) | Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Are you an English Learner? Drop into the Grand Avenue Library on Tuesday Mornings to practice your English conversational skills. All levels are welcome. No registration is necessary!

¿Eres un estudiante de inglés? Ven a practicar tus habilidades de conversación en inglés con nosotros. Todos los niveles son bienvenidos.

¡No es necesario registrarse!

**Pajama Storytime | Grand Ave Library (306 Walnut Ave) |
Wednesday, January 3, 6:00 p.m.**
Celebrate the new year with stories, songs, and a simple craft!

Yours in service,

James Coleman
Mayor of South San Francisco



City of South San Francisco | 400 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco, CA 94080

[Unsubscribe marie.patea@ssf.net](mailto:marie.patea@ssf.net)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data
Notice](#)

Sent by devin.stenhouse@ssf.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!