



South San Francisco

WE PROUDLY REMAIN *THE INDUSTRIAL CITY*

Santa is Back, and There's Much More in Store for You this Holiday Season!



2017 Santa Comes to Town

Santa Comes to Town is quickly approaching! Santa will make his annual visit on Saturday, December 1, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at City Hall, 400 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco.

Santa and Mrs. Claus plan to arrive in style down Grand Avenue via assistance from our own South San Francisco Fire Department at approximately 11:30 a.m., where he, Mrs. Claus, and his elves will greet South City children at City Hall.

Children and families will have the opportunity to take a photograph with Santa with his North Pole Crew and tell the Man in Red if they've been naughty or nice this year! Chances are, Santa won't have to check his list twice, as he knows that South San Francisco children have been very good this year. Special surprises await everyone who visits with Santa.

This fun-and-festive holiday tradition is co-hosted by the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and the City of South San Francisco. For more information, please contact CityInfo@ssf.net.

Letters to Santa is Back!

For a limited time, the "Letters to Santa" program is back at City Hall. You can find the postal box on the steps of City Hall and we encourage all children to write a letter to Santa this year! In order for Santa to have time to respond to letters from all the little boys and girls, please make sure to have your letter to Santa in the mailbox by **Monday, December 10th at 5:00 p.m.** Also, Santa requests that you provide your mailing address to ensure his letter gets to your child in time!

Upcoming Events

IMPROVING PUBLIC PLACES WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

- Sunday, December 2
Session 1 (Family-Friendly)
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Session 2 (Adults Only)
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Pre-registration Required,
Cost: \$30
Fernekes Building,
781 Tennis Drive

CITY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION CEREMONY

- Tuesday, December 11; 7:00 p.m.
Municipal Services Building,
Social Hall, 33 Arroyo Drive

GUEST LECTURE: *TITANIC* TODAY BY SHERYL RINKOL

- Saturday, January 5
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Main Library, 840 W. Orange Ave.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT & KARAOKE NIGHT

- Friday, January 25
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
(Karaoke Night starts at 6:30 p.m.)
Saturday, January 26
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Municipal Services Building,
33 Arroyo Drive

WRITER'S WORKSHOP WITH AUTHOR SEAN DAVIS

- Saturday, January 26
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Main Library, 840 W. Orange Ave.



Help Make our City's Annual Holiday Toy & Food Drive a Success!

The City of South San Francisco, South San Francisco Fire Department, South San Francisco Police Department, and the YMCA Community Resource Center are joining forces once again to host South San Francisco's Annual Holiday Toy & Food Drive, where healthy and fresh produce and toys are distributed to nearly 500 local families.

This program is only successful because of the support from our community! We need your help with:

- Non-perishable food items
- New, unwrapped toys
- Gift cards

Our greatest need is for age groups of 0-3 years and 12-17 years. **What to get a teenager?** You may consider gift cards for retail shops, music, movies, etc. Monetary donations

are also accepted via credit card (VISA or MASTERCARD) by calling the SSFFD, Fire Administration Office, at (650) 829-3950.

Non-perishable food items and new, unwrapped toys may be dropped off at the South San Francisco Fire Department, Fire Station No. 61, at 480 N. Canal St., and/or the South San Francisco Police Department at 33 Arroyo Drive.

Please note that the deadline to drop off donations of both non-perishable food items and new, unwrapped toys is Sunday, December 16, 2018. Questions? Email CityInfo@ssf.net.

Thank you for helping to make the holidays happier for our local families!



Join our Parks & Recreation Department's South San Francisco Civic Ballet for the Nutcracker!

Fifteen years ago, a group of South San Francisco Civic Ballet students approached artistic director, Maria Spremich, with a request to see the Nutcracker live. With the price of tickets costing well over \$100 for the large scale productions, Ms. Spremich decided to bring the Nutcracker to South San Francisco at an affordable price. The South San Francisco Civic Ballet's Nutcracker production has been entertaining the community ever since!

This year, under the direction of Maria Spremich and Kristen Quok, 200 of the Parks and Recreation Department's students will dance to the music of Tchaikovsky as the enchanting fairy tale of the Nutcracker comes to life on the South San Francisco High School stage. Through their commitment, passion, and talent, Maria and Kristen have created a culture of kindness and dedication within the South San Francisco Civic Ballet,

resulting in a true collaboration with the families of the students. In fact, parents will assist in many of the behind the scenes elements including sewing of costumes, building of props, photography and videography, and even ushering guests for the annual production.

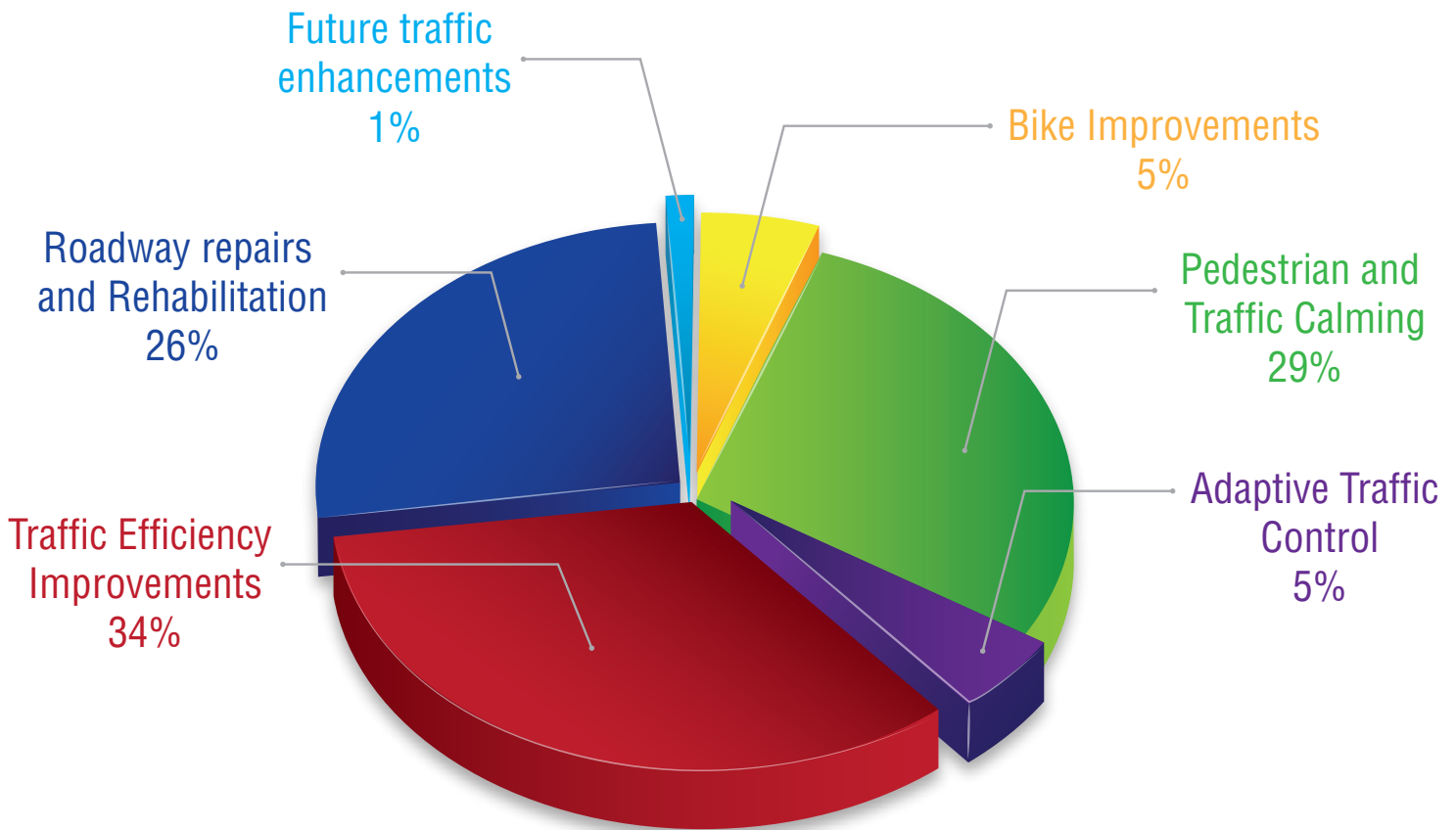
We hope you can join us for the 2018 South San Francisco Civic Ballet production of the Nutcracker!

Friday, December 21 @ 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 22 @ 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
South San Francisco High School Theater
Tickets: \$6.00(Youth)/\$8.00(Adults)
For more information contact the Parks and Recreation office at (650) 829-3800 or www.ssf.net/rec



Transportation

The City of South San Francisco is investing more than \$125 million to improve vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian traffic and safety. Projects as large as our new \$60 million Caltrain Station to as small as painting new pedestrian crosswalks are in the works, all designed to improve quality of life by making mobility easier and safer. The below pie chart provides you with a glance on how the \$125 million dollars in transportation enhancements is distributed.



New Mobility Plans Underway – Fail to plan and you can plan to fail. We will not fail! The City is developing a new Traffic Master Plan, and a new Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, holistically reviewing the City’s current and future mobility needs and setting forth specific projects to meet those needs. These efforts coordinate well with development of the City’s new General Plan, which will set out a 20-year vision for South San Francisco. Many public meetings will occur in 2019 to get your input and your voice is needed to make sure our vision for the future is clear.

Got a traffic idea? We want to hear from you! The City has a Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) which meets every month to review ideas submitted on how to improve vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian mobility, and safety. Submit your ideas, observations and comments to the TAC at engineering@ssf.net.



Transportation

Below are some of the major initiatives that make up the nearly \$125 million being invested in transportation and mobility in South San Francisco.

1. Adaptive and New Traffic Signals – Adaptive Traffic Control (ATC) is a network-wide program that utilizes a centralized computer system to monitor the entire City and its more than 75 signalized intersections, ensuring maximum traffic flow. From a central location, ATC continuously analyzes and adjusts the City’s signal system based on real-time traffic so that the City can move traffic as efficiently as possible. Installation will begin in December, 2018, with more coming in 2019 until the entire grid has been upgraded.

The City is also laying the engineering groundwork to install new signalized controls at the following intersections to improve transit times:

- a. Hillside Boulevard and Lincoln Street (replacing the current stop sign)
- b. Spruce Avenue and Commercial Avenue (replacing the current stop sign)



2. Road Repairs and Rehabilitation – The City is responsible for maintaining 127 miles of surface streets in South San Francisco, and has a multi-year plan to methodically resurface portions of the street grid every year. In 2018-2019, more than ten miles of streets will be repaired and/or resurfaced. The City also ensures inspection, maintenance and repair of the 17 bridges in South San Francisco, and has a program to repair, replace, or install ADA ramps, pedestrian walkways, median landscaping and road markings to improve safety, mobility and appearance.



3. Traffic Calming Initiatives – Speeding and cut-through commuter traffic is a problem. To combat this bad driver behavior, the City is using various tools to improve safety for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. Examples include speed humps, traffic circles, and narrowing travel lanes to reduce speed, commonly referred to as “road diets.” Recently 20 speed humps were installed in the Avalon-Brentwood neighborhoods, and the City Council has endorsed

a new Neighborhood Traffic Calming plan addressing the traffic issue citywide.



4. Bike Lane Expansion – The City currently has six miles of bike lanes, and is nearly doubling our bicycle lane network by adding five miles of new bike lanes. The City is also updating and improving the existing bike lanes, such as restriping for better visibility.



5. Pedestrian Safety Improvements – Pedestrian safety improvements include installation of enhanced pedestrian crossings, new signage, expanded bus stop/waiting areas, and corner curb extensions which slow down traffic and provide a safer crossing distance. Projects include improvements around Sunshine Garden Elementary School, around Spruce Elementary School, El Camino Real from Hickey Boulevard to Chestnut Avenue, and Grand Avenue improvements, which include wider sidewalk



Transportation

paving, corner widenings, crosswalk treatments, new street furnishings, and landscaping.



6. New Caltrain Station – Moving the South San Francisco Caltrain station from its current location underneath Highway 101 to the intersection of Grand Avenue and Airport Boulevard has been a high City priority for many years. Now under construction, this \$60 million project will realign the station with Grand Avenue to allow easier train access and improve station safety. An underpass and plaza will be constructed to allow pedestrian access from downtown to the newly renovated station and to the east side of US 101. The new Caltrain station will open in 2020. City officials are also working with Caltrain to increase the frequency and number of Caltrain stops in South San Francisco.



7. New Utah Avenue/Highway 101 Interchange – This project will build a new interchange on US 101, connecting Utah Avenue and Produce Avenue, providing an additional east-west connection across US 101. This will improve traffic on US 101,

as well as move local cars/bikes/pedestrians more effectively and safely. This project is on the State and County priority list and public meetings are being held to review design before moving into the environmental review stage.

8. South Linden Avenue Railroad Grade Separation – Many times each day traffic is stopped on South Linden Avenue to allow trains to pass. With the coming of high speed rail and increased Caltrain commuter traffic, closing the street for train passage will become a real problem. This project will build a vehicle/pedestrian underpass, eliminating the need to close the street for train traffic. Public meetings are underway to review design before moving into the environmental review stage. This is a joint project with the City of San Bruno.

9. Oak Avenue Extension – The City’s master plan, adopted in 1999, envisions extending Oak Avenue from Mission Road to El Camino Real, thereby providing local traffic better access. Design work has begun on this long awaited improvement and public meetings will be held in 2019 to review plans. Construction should start in 2020.

10. US 380 / Littlefield Avenue Connector – Highway 380 currently dead-ends at the airport. But what if it did not? This project will provide a connector between the end of Highway 380, near the airport, to Littlefield Avenue located in the industrial/biotech area East

of Highway 101. By using this connector, vehicles can get in and out of our industrial/biotech area without using US 101, thereby reducing stress on US 101. Feasibility planning has begun on this improvement, which promises to markedly improve traffic flow.

11. New Downtown Parking Garage – Our downtown is successful, with vibrant shopping, dining and employment opportunities. With this success comes the need for more parking. The City Council has directed City staff to develop a plan for a new parking garage in the downtown area, ideally built and opened by 2023 to meet projected growth and demand. Location studies are underway and look for public meetings in 2019 to review possible locations and design.

12. Free South San Francisco Shuttle – The City successfully gained a grant to fund TWO free shuttles, providing free service around South San Francisco, with trips to local stores, senior center, libraries, city hall, and parks, as well as connections with SamTrans and BART. Operating Monday through Friday, this free shuttle is open to the general public. Leave the car at home – take the free shuttle! Call (650) 877-8550 or visit www.ssf.net for more information.





City News You Can Use

Streaming Films Now Available Through the South San Francisco Public Library

The holidays are just around the corner and that may mean some of you may take time off to spend with your family, eat leftovers and relax in front of the TV watching movies! Did you know the South San Francisco Public Library now offers a FREE on-demand film streaming service known as *Kanopy*.

Library card holders can access *Kanopy* and sign up to start streaming films instantly by visiting <http://ssf.kanopy.com>.

Offering what *The New York Times* calls “a garden of cinematic delights,” *Kanopy* showcases more than 30,000 of the world’s best films, including

award-winning documentaries, rare and hard-to-find titles, film festival favorites, indie and classic films, and world cinema collections.

New to the service is enriching kids content via *Kanopy Kids*, which includes PBS Kids favorites - Between the Lions, Nature Cat and Dinosaur Train; Beloved characters - Babar, Franklin, Little Bear, Curious George and Caillou; Oscar® nominated family films; and diverse videos from around the globe. Please call or visit the library for assistance.



Become a Tax Preparer Volunteer at the SSF Main Library

Project Read, a program of the South San Francisco Library, is recruiting tax volunteers for the upcoming tax season. For over seven years, Project Read has helped hundreds of low-income families, seniors and individuals file tax returns at no charge. No experience is necessary and we will provide free training on how to prepare basic tax returns for the tax year 2018.

The tax preparation schedule is Wednesday afternoons from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. or Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Main Library. The season is January 30th through April 13th. Please call Project Read at (650) 829-3871 to sign-up.



Peck’s Lot and Paradise Valley Neighborhood Tree Planting Event

Do you live in the Peck’s Lot or Paradise Valley neighborhoods and want a free street tree? The Parks and Recreation Department is participating in a grant program, led by West Coast Arborists and California Urban Forest Council, to conduct a tree planting initiative in this area. On Arbor Day, April 20, 2019, the Parks and Recreation Department plans to plant 200 street trees!

To receive a free tree, residents must agree to help regularly water the trees for the first three years. A limited number of trees are available. We are also looking for volunteers to help with this planting initiative. If you’re interested in this great program, please visit our website www.ssf.net/trees, email Circle3.0@ssf.net, or call Parks & Recreation at (650) 829-3837.

This grant-funded program is focused on significantly increasing the tree canopy coverage in a targeted area that lacks tree canopy. If this pilot program is successful, The City can apply again for a different neighborhood in the future.



Downtown Connection

New Restaurants are Popping up Left and Right!



Built in 1918, the historic Bank of South San Francisco building is about to be put back into good use! It is slated to be a mixed-use building with an elegant Italian restaurant and bar. The new restaurant - **Andiamo In Banca** - is backed by noted Peninsula restaurateur John Akkaya, who also owns Don Giovanni in Mountain View.



The owners of the highly successful **Café 382**, 382 Grand Avenue, are opening a new establishment in the storefront next door to their restaurant. The **382 Taproom**, which will offer craft beers and wines, is set to open in December. If you haven't had a chance to visit **Café 382**, what are you waiting for? **Café 382** is a family-friendly, fast-casual restaurant serving locally sourced American comfort food. All dressings are made in-house using fresh ingredients!



In May 2018, **Dead Eye Coffee Bar** opened at 415 Grand Ave. They pride themselves on their quality of coffee, a friendly and relaxing ambience, and their connection to the community. They proudly serve Devout Coffee, pastries from Neighbor Bakehouse, Track Tea, TCHO Chocolate, and other socially responsible brands.



Congratulations to Kenny & Reina, the owners of **Nick's Kitchen** - which opened October 2018 at 223 Grand Avenue. Nick's is the only Vegan Filipino restaurant in the Bay Area and specializes in vegan versions of traditional, homestyle Filipino dishes. The menu includes vegan Fried Chicken, Sisig, Pancit bihon, and Ginaataang sitaw. You can see several videos of their business at <http://bit.ly/NicksKitchen>.



The **Sweet Canopy** is the newest business to open in Downtown South San Francisco. Located at 600 Linden, The Sweet Canopy is a family owned business that offers Boba drinks, free WiFi, board games available to play for free, and other treats. They are committed to staying open late, to add friendly night life to South City.

City Manager's Office
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South San Francisco, CA
94080

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Don't have a smartphone? Go to www.seeclickfix.com and report your issues online.

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Battery Recycling

Household batteries can start fires and leach toxins into the environment. To handle them safely, we need your help!

Residents of single-family homes in South San Francisco can safely recycle household batteries through South San Francisco Scavenger Company's curbside collection program. Please follow these instructions:

- Place tape over both ends of each used lithium and 9 volt battery; any type of tape will work.
- Wrap old cell phones in paper.
- Put used batteries and cell phones inside a clear zip-top bag and seal.
- On your regular collection day, place full bag on top of the lid of your gray **Garbage** cart.

What's Accepted:

- **AA, AAA, C, D, 9-volt and button batteries** are all accepted through this program.
- Lead acid and automotive batteries are not allowed. To find out where to recycle these types of batteries free of charge, call (650) 363-4718 or visit www.smchealth.org/hhw.

Residents of multi-family complexes can safely recycle household batteries too. Tape and bag them as described above and deliver to a drop-off event

or facility. Find one by using the search engine at www.recyclestuff.org or make an appointment for the next San Mateo County Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off—call (650) 363-4718 (select option 3) or visit www.smchealth.org/hhw.

For more information about the safe use and disposal of household batteries, please visit www.smchealth.org/batteries and www.avoidthespark.com.