



# South San Francisco

WE PROUDLY REMAIN *THE INDUSTRIAL CITY*

## May is National EMS Week

The medical response to the COVID-19 pandemic has many heroes, including the South San Francisco Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedic/Firefighters. Each year the vast majority of 911 calls to the South San Francisco Fire Department are calls for medical help – nearly 8,000 such calls last year alone. South San Francisco is the only city in San Mateo County to operate its own ambulance service, providing speedy and professional response to medical emergencies in our city. May 16-22 is National EMS week, a time to thank paramedics, EMTs and the entire EMS workforce for their service and sacrifices.



The 2021 EMS Week theme is “**This is EMS: Caring for Our Communities**,” a good reminder that our EMTs and paramedic/firefighters are there to respond, support, and care for the needs of our South San Francisco community. The COVID-19 pandemic pushed the EMS professionals to the front line of the fight. In addition to caring for the sickest COVID-19 patients, we’ve seen EMS adapt to overcrowded hospitals in some areas by implementing new treat-at-home protocols, staffing COVID-19 testing clinics, and administering vaccines to each other and the public. South San Francisco’s paramedic/firefighters are specially trained to administer the COVID-19 vaccine and are being used to administer vaccines at the San Mateo County Events Center, SFO Airport, and our own pop-up vaccine events in South San Francisco.

Thank you to our EMS personnel for caring for our community, not just during a pandemic, but every day of every year, responding whenever needed. Interested in learning more about becoming a paramedic/firefighter? Visit [www.ssf.net/BecomeAFirefighter](http://www.ssf.net/BecomeAFirefighter).

## Upcoming Events

### **OLDER AMERICANS MONTH - VIRTUAL CELEBRATIONS**

- May 6 - 27, 2021
- Join us as the Bay Area Older Adult Recreation Services (OARS) celebrates Older Americans Month with a variety of virtual workshops and classes.  
[www.ssf.net/seniors](http://www.ssf.net/seniors)

### **SUMMER LEARNING CHALLENGE 2021**

- Starts Monday, June 7th  
<https://www.ssf.net/departments/library/kids/summer-learning>
- The library’s Summer Learning Challenge returns with weekly projects and activities to keep you entertained all summer long.

### **ASIAN ART MUSEUM PRESENTATIONS VIA ZOOM**

- June 17, 2:00 p.m. - Breaking the Boundaries: Contemporary Asian Art
- July 15, 2:00 p.m. - Timeless Traditions: Expressions of the Divine in Indian Art
- August 19, 2:00 p.m. - When the Tiger Smoked the Pipe: The Art of Korea
- Register online:  
<https://www.ssf.net/library>

### **VIRTUAL GENERAL ART EXHIBIT**

- *Featuring 2D, 3D & Digital Art*  
*Opens mid-July 2021*  
[www.ssf.net/culturalarts](http://www.ssf.net/culturalarts)

### **JULY MOVIE NIGHT IN THE PARK**

- *Friday, July 16, 2021*  
*Movie begins at sundown*  
*Orange Memorial Park*  
[www.ssf.net/rec](http://www.ssf.net/rec)

### **AUGUST POP-UP MOVIE NIGHT**

- *Friday, August 20, 2021*  
*Movie begins at sundown*  
*Location TBD*  
[www.ssf.net/rec](http://www.ssf.net/rec)

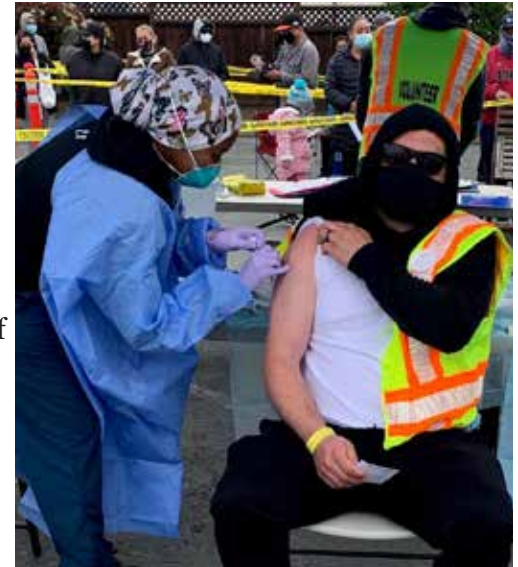


## Covid-19 Updates

### Let's End This Pandemic! Vaccination Eligibility has Expanded to Ages 16+

Vaccination is the most important tool to end the COVID-19 pandemic. While COVID-19 vaccine supply remains limited, you are encouraged to check [myturn.ca.gov](https://myturn.ca.gov) or call (833) 422-4255 to get a COVID-19 vaccine appointment. If appointments are not available, you can sign up to be notified when they are. Vaccination of people younger than 16 will start as soon as the COVID-19 vaccines are approved for them. Learn more about COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Guidelines from the California Department of Public Health by visiting <https://bit.ly/CDPHvaccine>.

As vaccination eligibility has expanded in California to 16+, County Health continues to focus on small, targeted clinics in communities in need, as vaccine supply remains limited. Regularly updated data on COVID-19 is available at <https://www.smchealth.org/data-dashboards>, including COVID-19 cases and vaccinations by race/ethnicity and geography.



### Testing Remains Critical to Keep Our Community Safe!

Testing remains as important as vaccinations. Did you know there is a COVID-19 testing site in South San Francisco that you can walk-up or drive-up to? It is held Friday through Tuesday; 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the South San Francisco Unified School District (SSFUSD) Offices Entrance at 634 El Camino Real. The testing entrance is off El Camino Real at the Ponderosa stop light towards the High School (east side). You can register for an SSF test here: <http://bit.ly/3biX7pK>. Visit <https://www.smcgov.org/testing> for additional San Mateo County COVID testing sites.

### Moratorium on Evictions Extended until June 30, 2021

Under California Senate Bill 91, those experiencing trouble paying rent due to the coronavirus pandemic, now have relief through June 30, 2021, preventing property owners from evicting tenants who can't pay rent that came due between March 2, 2020 and June 30, 2021 because of decreased income or increased cost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If you declare your COVID-19 related financial distress to your property owner (as further described below) and then pay at least 25 percent of the total rent that you owe from September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, your property owner cannot evict you for failure to make rental payments. You can pay in monthly chunks or a lump sum on or before June 30, 2021. Your property owner cannot charge you late fees on that missed rent, take your security deposit to pay down the debt, or increase fees charged or charge fees for services previously provided without charge.



In order to qualify for COVID-19 rental relief, you must provide a declaration of hardship under penalty of perjury within fifteen (15) days of receiving notice to pay rent. The property owner is required to provide notice to tenants who have not paid one or more rental payments that came due between March 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021. The property owner is prohibited from demanding payment of rent until the landlord has provided this notice.

If you can't pay the minimum 25 percent of rent due by June 30, 2021, apply for emergency rental assistance. Without the minimum payment, your property owner could file to evict you starting in July. The law also does not block evictions for other reasons, such as breaking the terms of your lease.

Please note that you are still responsible for paying unpaid rent to the property owner, but unpaid rent is converted to civil debt and can be collected by the property owner in small claims court beginning August 1, 2021.



## Covid-19 Updates

### Relief is Here Through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program

As our community continues to recover, it is important for all of us to keep our families housed. **California COVID-19 Rent Relief** will help income-eligible households pay rent and utilities, both for past due and future payments. Landlords and tenants can apply jointly to get paid up to 80 percent of back rent during COVID-19, alleviating the great rent debt burden impacting renters and landlords alike. Tenants who cannot apply with their landlords can apply independently and get up to 25 percent back rent. The program is called the **Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)**. To check eligibility and to apply, visit <https://housing.ca.gov/eligibilityquiz.html>. For additional information, visit [www.HousingisKey.com](http://www.HousingisKey.com) or call (833) 430-2122. Check out our City's resource page, [www.ssf.net/RenterHelp](http://www.ssf.net/RenterHelp) to watch videos and see the various opportunities available to you.



### Supplemental Paid Sick Leave for COVID-related Issues

Caring for a family member who has to quarantine or isolate for COVID-19, or caring for your children whose school or place of care is closed due to COVID-19, is now covered under a new law that includes up to 80 hours of paid sick leave for COVID-19 related reasons. This year, the law covers all employers with more than 25 employees. Workers without documentation are covered by this law. The timeframe covered is January 1, 2021, through September 30, 2021, and can extend into October if the leave starts in September. Please call CLESPA at (650) 326-6440 with questions. Visit <https://bit.ly/3x6fvLz> for a list of frequently asked questions.

### Immigrants are Eligible for COVID-19 Related Benefits

Immigrants are eligible for COVID-19 benefits regardless of their immigration status. Many are facing challenges due to the pandemic and there are many resources to support them. Thanks to the partnership between Protecting Immigrant Families and Keep Your Benefits, there is a list of resources with a description of what's available, immigrant eligibility, and public implications available in English, Spanish, and Chinese at [www.ssf.net/covid19](http://www.ssf.net/covid19).

Would you like to be kept in the loop on COVID-19 updates/resources and City News? Please sign up for email alerts at [www.bit.ly/SSFNewsletter](http://www.bit.ly/SSFNewsletter).



## CITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

# Stormwater, the San Francisco Bay, and Our Future – What You Can Do Now

Underneath our streets of South San Francisco is a hidden maze of storm drains, which helps ensure our homes and businesses don't flood during heavy rains. This underground network, managed by our Public Works department, is fed by 2,629 storm drains located on every street and neighborhood in our City.

Have you stopped to think where all of the stormwater goes after it rains? Or what happens to the soap suds that run down the driveway when you wash your car? Stormwater pollution results from materials and chemicals washed into the storm drains from streets, gutters, neighborhoods, and parking lots, for example. Anything that we drop in the street or throw on the ground, such as food wrappers and cigarette butts, will find its way into the Bay. Just because it goes down the drain, doesn't mean the problem goes away. Storm drains carry pollutants directly into the San Francisco Bay without any treatment. Minimizing stormwater pollution is critical to the health of our community and our precious San Francisco Bay.

Because environmental safeguarding is vital to our quality of life, the City of South San Francisco aggressively implements pollution control measures to keep pollutants out of the San Francisco Bay, in line with stringent federal and state requirements. The City's Industrial Pretreatment Program conducts regular inspections of commercial facilities to ensure discharges to the City's sanitary sewer system comply with both federal and state regulations. These efforts ensure the lowest pollutant levels possible. When combined with the current technologies in use at the South San Francisco/San Bruno Water Quality Control Plant (WQCP) - which processes over 6.8 million gallons of wastewater and removes over 22,000 pounds of pollutants every day - the resulting clean water discharged to the Bay often exceeds stringent regulations.

Aggressive efforts are also undertaken daily to ensure stormwater entering the Bay is free of trash and other pollutants. These efforts include the installation and maintenance of more than 300 trash capture devices throughout the City, and regular creek and land cleanups. All of these efforts combined help ensure our City is doing its part to keep pollutants out of the Bay.

Adopt a Storm Drain and help keep your neighborhood drain clear of debris! Volunteer today by calling the South San Francisco Public Works Department at (650) 877-8550 or email [StormPrep@ssf.net](mailto:StormPrep@ssf.net)



### To prevent Stormwater Pollution:

- Don't dump waste into storm drains.
- Keep yard clippings out of the street.
- Dispose of household chemicals properly by following the directions on the package and utilizing the South San Francisco Scavengers recycling programs.
- Clean up oil spills and fix leaking automobiles.
- Use drip pans to catch engine oil and other pollutants while repairing cars.
- Recycle used motor oil at your local auto parts store.
- Sweep driveways clean instead of hosing them down.
- Water your lawn by hand or adjusted sprinklers to avoid over-watering. If any water flows off your yard, you're using too much water.
- Wash your car at a commercial car wash, or at least wash your vehicle on an unpaved surface so the ground can absorb the excess water.



## CITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

# What's Going on at Orange Memorial Park?

After years of planning and public outreach, the City broke ground on the Orange Memorial Park Renovations project in March 2021. **Phase One** is the Regional Stormwater Capture Project, a first-of-its-kind in Northern California, and is a \$15.5M collaboration between the City and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) which will provide the water quality improvements and help keep the San Francisco Bay healthy and clean. The project will divert water from Colma Creek, filter the water through an underground water filtration system to reduce discharges of PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyls), trash, sediment and other pollutants, which have been demonstrated to cause a variety of adverse health effects and mercury to the San Francisco Bay.



Pretreated water will then enter a pipe leading to an underground cistern located under the sports field for further treatment and disinfection so it can be used to meet irrigation and other non-potable demands, which includes irrigation to the park and along portions of Centennial Trail. When full, the cistern overflows into an infiltration gallery which will provide groundwater recharge benefits. Construction of the stormwater capture system will occur underneath a portion of the existing baseball and softball fields, and along the picnic area.

Revitalizing the sports fields is **Phase Two** of the Orange Memorial Improvement Project, which will also include pavement restoration and other associated surface improvements.

## How long will the park be closed?

Phase One requires the closure of the park, south of Colma Creek, including the ballfields and the picnic and playground immediately south of the creek through Spring 2022.

- The Eucalyptus Shelter and the picnic area near the shelter will remain open.
- Park areas north of the creek will not be directly impacted by the project, including the Fernekes Building, tennis courts, and basketball courts.

Phase Two construction will begin in Spring 2022 and the sports fields will reopen in Spring 2023. You can follow the progress of this project by visiting our dedicated webpage, as well as see conceptual designs of the sports field at [www.ssf.net/OMPIImprovements](http://www.ssf.net/OMPIImprovements). Questions? Email [CityInfo@ssf.net](mailto:CityInfo@ssf.net).



## CITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

### Interested in Building an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)?

Have you considered adding another unit to your home but the process seems overwhelming? New laws have made it easier to build an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU), also called an “in-law unit” or “backyard cottage.” A junior ADU can be created by converting existing living space within the primary home into a separate unit. Whether an ADU or junior ADU, an additional unit allows a property owner to provide an affordable home for friends, family members, local workers like teachers and healthcare providers, or other community members struggling to stay in the area. An ADU can also allow a homeowner to age in place, earn additional income, resist displacement pressures, and increase their property value. These flexible living spaces support community resilience by allowing families to bring multiple generations together on one property and adapt to changing circumstances.

The City of South San Francisco will launch a new program this summer providing free ADU feasibility and project management services from local nonprofit organization **Hello Housing**. If you are interested in adding an ADU to your property and receiving FREE professional help to do it, **please subscribe here: [www.hellobright.org/subscribe](http://www.hellobright.org/subscribe)**. You’ll be the first to know when the application period opens! Please spread the word to your neighbors and networks.

### Your FREE Transportation Choice – the South City Shuttle

Have you heard about the Free South City Shuttle? This shuttle service has been providing free and safe transportation to the South San Francisco community since 2014. Through its designated clockwise and counter clockwise routes, the shuttle visits various parts of South San Francisco including the downtown area, city libraries, senior centers, Kaiser Hospital, Municipal Services Building, schools, BART, and more! For more information on the Free South City Shuttle and its services, visit the City’s website at [www.ssf.net/shuttle](http://www.ssf.net/shuttle) or download the free South City Shuttle app on your smart device.





## CITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

### Did You Know about the Clipper START Pilot Program?

The Clipper START pilot program allows qualifying adults, lower-income SamTrans riders to receive a 50% fare discount off the adult single ride fare. **Clipper START participants will pay \$1 for a one-way ride and receive free transfers to other SamTrans routes within two hours.** Adults ages 19 to 64 who have a household income of up to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (approximately \$50,000 per year for a family of four) can qualify for the Clipper START discount. Applicants will need to provide proof of eligibility in the form of copies of EBT cards, Medi-Cal cards or tax returns. Participants must also live in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. Visit [www.clipperstartcard.com](http://www.clipperstartcard.com) for information on program eligibility and how to apply. Customers without computer access can call Clipper START Customer Service at 855-614-9149.



### Interested in Becoming Involved with the City’s Boards and Commissions?

The City has partnered with United Women’s Empowerment, or United WE, which is a national organization that aims to advance all women’s economic and civic leadership. United WE’s Appointments Project® serves as a talent bank, advisor, and advocates for women seeking opportunities to help lead their communities and works to attract diverse applicants for appointed positions on boards and commissions.

The Appointments Project® will host virtual civic engagement workshops as part of its initiative to empower more women to serve in public office and increase the gender diversity of civic boards and commissions. These free workshops will be conducted via webinar to allow South San Francisco women to learn about leadership opportunities and guide them through the process of applying for these important positions.

**The trainings are scheduled for:**

- Tuesday, May 18, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 3, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

To learn more about the Appointments Project®, as well as the webinar information, please visit [www.ssf.net/AppointmentsProject](http://www.ssf.net/AppointmentsProject).

### Want a “Behind the Scenes” Look into City Government? Get Involved with our Citizens’ Academy this Fall!

The South San Francisco Citizens’ Academy is coming back this fall! The SSF Citizens’ Academy is a free, eight-week program designed to help South San Francisco residents learn about their city government. As a participant, you will meet City Council members, department heads, and staff. You will learn how decisions are made, how funds are allocated, and how departments operate. You will also have a chance to visit and tour city facilities. This program is limited in the number of participants. It will be held in the evening, once a week, for eight weeks. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact [Leslie.Arroyo@ssf.net](mailto:Leslie.Arroyo@ssf.net).



City Manager's Office  
City Hall  
400 Grand Avenue  
South San Francisco, CA  
94080

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
San Bruno, CA  
Permit #138

ECRWSS

Residential Customer

## 2021 City Council

Mark Addiego, Mayor

Mark Nagales, Vice Mayor (Dist. 2)

James Coleman, Member (Dist. 4)

Eddie Flores, Member

Flor Nicolas, Member



Stay connected with the City!  
The FREE smartphone app,  
mySSF, gives you access at the  
touch of a fingertip! Available on  
Apple iOS and Google Android.

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

La Ciudad de South San Francisco ofrece boletines de noticias en español en nuestro sitio web. Puede encontrar una copia electrónica en [www.ssf.net/Newsletter](http://www.ssf.net/Newsletter)

南旧金山市在网站上提供中文版简讯。您可在[www.ssf.net/Newsletter](http://www.ssf.net/Newsletter)上查阅电子版。

Follow Us



## Safe Storage Ordinance

South San Francisco now requires **Safe Storage** of firearms in a residence. Except when a firearm is carried on the person, no person shall keep a firearm in any residence in South San Francisco unless the firearm is stored in a locked container or is disabled with a trigger lock.

Children are particularly at risk of injury and death from firearms when firearms are not safely secured in their own homes or in homes they visit. Children and young adults make up 38 percent of all firearm deaths and non-fatal injuries. More than 75 percent of guns used in suicide attempts and unintentional injuries of children and young adults were stored in the residence of the victim, a relative, or a friend. Eighty-nine percent of accidental shooting deaths among children occur in the home, and most of these deaths occur when children are playing with an unsecured loaded gun in their parent's absence.

Do the right thing – store your firearm in a locked container or disable the firearm with a trigger lock. Don't have a trigger lock? We will provide you a trigger lock **free of charge** by simply coming to the police department at 33 Arroyo Drive and requesting one.

