



South San Francisco

WE PROUDLY REMAIN *THE INDUSTRIAL CITY*

It's the Summer of Paving! City Investing \$20 Million to Improve our Roadways

The South San Francisco Public Works Department operates and maintains over 295 lane miles of streets in South San Francisco, and it's time for a major street maintenance upgrade. Over the next 11 months the City will invest over \$20 million to improve our streets, including street repaving and restriping, improve ADA accessibility, and enhance street aesthetics. This is a larger than normal effort by our Public Works Department which will increase our street condition from an overall grade of "good" to an overall grade of "excellent."



"A focused effort to knock out street maintenance issues will bring immediate improvements to our neighborhoods and lower our long-term maintenance costs," said City Manager Mike Futrell. "We also hope it will lower the frustration expressed by drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians who currently endure potholes and uneven pavement." The City estimates reducing annual maintenance costs from \$4.5 million per year to \$2.0 million per year with this larger street rehabilitation program. Overall savings including upfront design, construction mobilization, and economy of scale savings will save our City approximately \$15.5 million over the next 15 years!

Your patience is appreciated! This major effort to improve our streets will likely be accompanied by short term major inconveniences as construction crews grind down existing streets, lay new asphalt, construct new curb ramps, and paint new crosswalks and traffic markers. The work will start in May and likely continue until December, with crews moving street to street completing the improvements. Work in 2022 will largely center on areas in South San Francisco west of 101, including neighborhoods such as Avalon Park, Buri Buri, Mayfair Village, Old Town, Parkway Terrace, Stonegate, West Winston Manor, and Westborough. In addition to the 2022 Paving Project, we will be coming back in the Spring of 2023 to slurry seal streets in Old Town and Central SSF to ensure previously completed pavement projects remain protected and in good condition.

Stay tuned for additional details as the surface seal project date approaches. Maps and real-time project information are online at www.ssf.net/StreetRehabilitation. Prior to any work starting on a street, residents will be notified of the start of construction through a separate neighborhood mailer specific to the paving project, as well as neighborhood-specific door hangers as work progresses throughout the summer.

Following this upgrade, South San Francisco will have one of the best street conditions of any city in San Mateo County, reinforcing our reputation as a great place to live and setting our city up for success in the future. Questions? Email web-pw@ssf.net.

Upcoming Events

AAPI CELEBRATION PICNIC

- Saturday, May 14
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
The Breezeway at 356 Grand Avenue
More info at www.ssf.net/CulturesUnited
Please RSVP at <https://bit.ly/SSFPicnic>

ASIAN ART MUSEUM PRESENTS: ART ACROSS ASIA: MASTERPIECES OF THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM

- Thursday, May 19
2:00 p.m.
Virtual via Zoom; register at
ssf.net/library

MEMORIAL DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

- Monday, May 30
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.*
Joseph Fernekes Recreation Building
781 Tennis Drive, South San Francisco
*Program to follow at 10:00 a.m. Veterans
Memorial site
(Orange Ave and Tennis Drive)
Questions? Email CityInfo@ssf.net

GUN BUY BACK EVENT

- Saturday, June 4
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
San Mateo Superior Court - Northern
1050 Mission Road, SSF
Get cash for your unused or unwanted
guns. Questions? Email CityInfo@ssf.net

MOVIE NIGHT IN THE PARK

- Friday, July 15
Show Time: Sundown
Orange Memorial Park: Soccer Field
www.ssf.net/rec

"HANDCRAFTED WITH LOVE" 2D ART & CRAFT SHOW

- Friday and Saturday - July 15 & 16
Location: Municipal Services Building
Information: www.ssf.net/culturalarts



Earth Day is Every Day!

What are You Doing with Your Food Waste? It Makes a Big Difference!

California made reprocessing of food waste mandatory this year. Effective January 1, 2022, California requires every city and county to offer a way for residents and businesses to separate leftover food from the rest of the trash. ***Did you know that scraps and other organic material, like yard trimmings, make up about half of the garbage previously hauled to landfills, according to CalRecycle.*** The goal of the new state law is to reprocess 75% of all green waste by 2025. That means redirecting 17.7 million tons of organic material – equivalent to the weight of more than 9.5 million cars – away from disposal.

When organic waste, such as food waste and yard waste, are landfilled and decompose, they release harmful greenhouse gases such as methane. These super pollutants contribute to climate change, which California has been experiencing the effects of with excessive summer heat, prolonged droughts, and devastating fire seasons.

You Can Make a Difference

South San Francisco residents and businesses can help combat climate change by placing their organic waste into their green cart. Below are some frequently asked questions regarding organics recycling. If you don't yet have organics service (green cart), please contact South San Francisco Scavenger Company at (650) 589-4020. For questions regarding California recycling requirements, please contact South San Francisco Public Works at (650) 877-8549.

Q: Why must I use my green cart?

A: The yard trimmings, food scraps, and food-soiled paper collected from green carts is processed into renewable fuel and compost. If placed in your grey cart, these items are not transformed into anything useful. Instead, they take up valuable (and dwindling) landfill space and release methane into the environment. Methane is a super pollutant that contributes to global warming and can make the air we breathe unhealthy.

Q: What happens to the compost made from materials we place in our green carts?

A: It is commonly used in California's agricultural areas to grow new crops. It is also sold or otherwise provided for commercial and residential use in parks, yards, roadsides, roadway medians, and more.

Q: Why compost?

A: Composting closes the loop! Without a viable market for finished product, our composting efforts wouldn't be worthwhile. Plus, compost makes for healthy soil which sequesters carbon and retains moisture. This means crops and plants require less irrigation, which is always important in arid California, and doubly so under our current drought conditions. Compost application can also lead to less runoff and improve water quality.



Q: Can all products that are labeled “compostable” be placed in the green bin?

A: No. Your green bin is only for organic waste materials that can successfully be processed into fuel and compost. Those materials are yard trimmings, food scraps, food-soiled paper, and wax-coated paper (like parchment paper, wax paper, wax-coated produce boxes). The green bin is not for items that look like plastic—regardless of what their label may say. Please refer to South San Francisco Scavenger's “Sort Smart” page on its website to see which items go in which cart at - <https://ssfscavenger.com/sort-smart/>.

FREE KITCHEN COMPOST PAILS

If you already have organics service, you are eligible to receive a free kitchen compost pail. These pails are essential to help gather all daily food waste, which can then be dumped into your green cart.

To receive your free kitchen pail, please submit a request on the City's website at www.ssf.net/recycling, under **Resident Resources**, or contact Public Works by phone at (650) 877-8550 to confirm availability.



We're In This Together

Resource Hub for Residents and Businesses is Now Open in SSF!

The Economic Advancement Center (EAC) has officially opened! Located at 366 Grand Avenue, the EAC is a hub to support residents looking to improve workskills or find a job and to help small businesses succeed. The economic challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are still with us, and the goal of the EAC is to provide much needed economic recovery tools to our residents and small businesses. Support is offered in both English and Spanish.



To provide these services the City has partnered with non-profits **Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center** (Renaissance) and **JobTrain**. *Renaissance* provides business readiness, business fundamentals, business planning, women’s empowerment, financial management, technology, e-commerce, merchandising, sales, marketing and offers almost all workshops in English and Spanish. Since starting the partnership, *Renaissance* has served 139 clients, secured nearly \$400,000 in capital for 20 client businesses in Daly City, San Bruno, and South San Francisco, and offered 82 consulting classes and workshops in English and Spanish.

JobTrain provides career training, online classes, recruitment events, and serves as a career center connecting employers to potential candidates. Since the City’s partnership, *JobTrain* has served over 95 clients, had 34 job placements, and 15 clients pursuing training and education!

If you or anyone you know needs career training or placement, or small business assistance, please stop by the EAC. The EAC is open from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday. For more information, please call (650) 829-4652, or email EAC@ssf.net, or visit us online at www.ssf.net/EAC.



The South San Francisco Promotores Program is Here and Ready to Help!



Promotores are individuals who are members of the community who function as natural helpers to address some of the communities’ unmet health and human service needs, providing more easy and open communication channels between residents in need and city government. COVID-19 has been hard on all of us, but none more so than our underserved populations. The City Council recently approved the formation of a *Promotores* program in South San Francisco to remove barriers and provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services to build community capacity by empowering residents and families. As trusted members of our community, our *Promotores* are here to advocate, educate, mentor, translate, and more! The City has hired three *Promotores* to expand linkage and navigation support for our residents. You may have already seen them in your neighborhood going door-to-door and providing resources to our community! They have helped our community fill out applications and make appointments for free food, rental assistance, career advancement, and more.

To learn more about our program, get assistance, or volunteer, please email CityInfo@ssf.net or visit www.ssf.net/Promotores.



Construction Updates

Construction Connection

Our City is expanding – bringing new jobs, housing, and economic growth to our community. To see a list of projects in the City, please visit our interactive map at [construction.ssf.net](https://www.southsanfrancisco.gov/construction.ssf.net). Some of the major projects currently in progress include:

150 Airport Blvd.

Fairfield Residential is in the final stages of completing construction of “Altitude” – a 157-unit market-rate housing project at 150 Airport Blvd., just one block from the new Caltrain Station Plaza. In addition to the 157 apartment units, Altitude will feature a two-level parking garage, a community clubhouse, gym, and other amenities. The project has been issued a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy, and has started leasing units.



889 McLellan

Construction on this mixed-use building restarted in late 2021 after a long pause. The project consists of 20 residential units and approximately 3,500 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor, with parking below-grade. Completion is expected Spring 2023.



988 El Camino Real (Nine88)

SummerHill Apartment Communities is in the final stages of completing construction of “Nine88,” a 172-unit market-rate mixed-use project at 988 El Camino Real, at the intersection of Chestnut Avenue. In addition to residential units, Nine88 includes ground-floor retail spaces, residential amenities such as a dog park and a gym, a public fitness park and open space amenities with connections to Centennial Way Trail. Completion is expected within the next few months.



Safeway (El Camino/Spruce)

In December 2021, the City approved a new 63,000 square foot grocery store on a three-acre site near the intersection of El Camino and South Spruce Ave. The grocery store will be located on a second story podium above covered parking, fronted by approximately 7,900 square feet of smaller commercial shops along the El Camino Real frontage, serving to create a more human-scaled environment at the street edge and screen the view of the parking podium. Demolition of the former commercial building on the site was completed in March 2022, and site preparation has begun. Building construction is expected to start in mid-2022, with completion anticipated mid-2023.



South San Francisco Caltrain Station is OPEN!

City, regional, state officials, and local residents gathered in April to celebrate the official opening of the newly renovated SSF Caltrain station. Located directly south of its previous location, it is now accessible from downtown and Poletti Way. The station features a 700-foot center-boarding platform and pedestrian underpass, which serves as a gateway into our downtown corridor. This remodeled station allows for easier pedestrian access to our downtown businesses, and it has significantly improved safety and disabled access.





Public Safety

The South San Francisco Police Department Has a New Home!

The South San Francisco Police Department, located at 1 Chestnut Avenue, opened its doors to the public on February 28, 2022. This new 43,000 square foot Police Operations & 911 Dispatch Center will help reduce police emergency response times, and enhance public safety by providing a state-of-the-art Emergency Response Center. It was designed as an “essential services building,” and is built to earthquake resistant standards that are 1.5 times more stringent than normal construction, providing critical protection so our first responders are able to assist the community regardless of the emergency. Public tours of the new facility are available, plus the facility includes a new training/community room which can seat up to 40 people, available for use by community groups needing meeting space. To inquire about a tour or use of the community room, contact CityInfo@ssf.net.



(left to right: Cpl. Anthony Pappas/Ofc. John Paulo)



Meet South San Francisco’s Mental Health Clinician

The City of South San Francisco has added a certified, full-time mental health clinician to assist the Police Department with mental health-related calls by providing appropriate, compassionate care for emergency calls involving a behavioral health crisis. Our new clinician is Mika Celli, a South San Francisco native, who graduated from South San Francisco High School. She received her undergraduate degree in social work from Concordia University in Portland, Oregon, and her Masters’ Degree in social work with an emphasis on mental health from the University of Southern California. She has experience in all levels of outpatient treatment (general outpatient, intensive outpatient and partial hospitalization programs), as well as the residential level, and most recently served as the Primary Therapist for Discovery Behavioral Health in Menlo Park. “A mental health professional on staff allows us to help our residents who may suffer a mental health crisis and work with individuals to prevent mental health issues where possible,” said Mike Futrell, South San Francisco City Manager. “Ms. Celli’s experience in biopsychosocial assessments, suicide intervention, and mental health case management make her the right person to establish this new program – plus she grew up in South San Francisco and is already a part of our community!”



Mika serves on the Community Wellness and Crisis Response Team, a new program that is co-sponsored by San Mateo County, which is also piloting in Daly City, San Mateo, and Redwood City. Since January, Mika has responded to 52 incidents where an individual’s behavioral health was the primary component. In more than half of those situations, Mika provided alternative solutions like referrals, safety plans, or general advice. Mika also followed up with most of these individuals to continue to support them after their immediate crisis.



Orange Memorial Park

New Orange Memorial Park Aquatic Center We Want Your Input!

It's time for a new pool! The current indoor swimming pool at Orange Memorial Park has served our city well for over 50 years but has reached its end of life, opening an opportunity to build a new, state-of-the-art, multigenerational, Earth-friendly aquatic center to serve our community for the next 50+ years. The City of South San Francisco has selected ELS Architecture and Urban Design as the architect for the New Orange Memorial Park Aquatic Center. The City and ELS are holding community workshops for the new pool project and your input is needed! These workshops will advance the community's vision through the conceptual design process. By the final workshop, we will have gathered the consensus needed for a preferred concept. The workshops are in person at the Joseph A. Fernekas Recreation Building located within Orange Memorial Park. The first two occurred on April 9 and April 30, but there is one more to participate in!



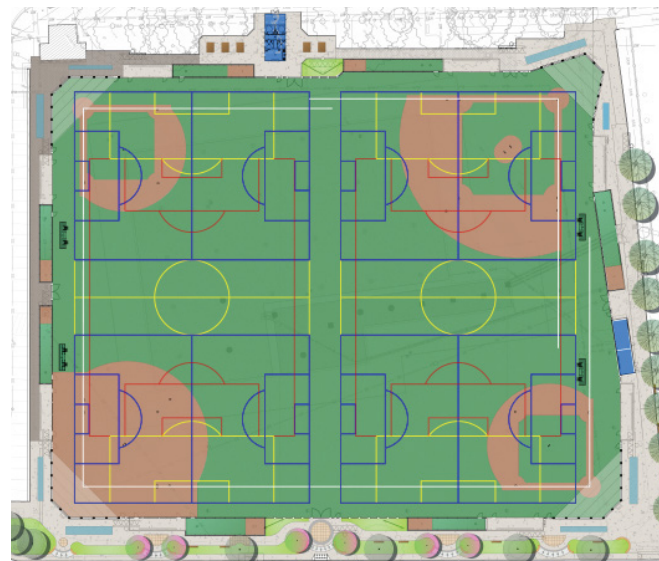
Community Workshop #3 Saturday, June 11, 2022

Presentation of Preferred Concept and Charrette
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

RSVP to all sessions at www.ssf.net/newpool. For additional questions or information please email PoolProject@ssf.net. We look forward to participation from all age groups. Now let's go build a pool!

Orange Memorial Park Sports Fields Construction Starting in May!

New sports fields are coming to Orange Memorial Park! For the past 18 months Orange Memorial Park has been under construction with the City building the Storm Water Capture project to recycle water from Colma Creek, work which is almost done. Once the water project is complete, the City will construct a new multi-use sports fields complex on top of the now-underground water project. The sports fields complex can accommodate three baseball diamonds, a softball diamond, two full adult soccer fields, two junior soccer fields, or four youth soccer fields, all with new synthetic turf, fences, lighting, bleachers, a concession building, and more. The new sports fields are anticipated to reopen to the public in Spring 2023. Stay abreast of construction updates and announcement of Opening Day at the new Sports Field at www.ssf.net/OMPIImprovements.





CULTURES UNITED!

South San Francisco Launches Cultures United

In January, the City of South San Francisco launched **Cultures United**, a focused effort to celebrate the many cultures which make up the rich fabric of South San Francisco. Celebrating our differences, as well as our common interests, helps unite and educate us. It also helps us to understand others' perspectives, to broaden our own, and to fully experience and educate ourselves.

Throughout the year, we will focus on different cultures with events ranging from supporting cultural celebrations, highlighting the history of each culture, introducing you to residents in our community from different cultures, and creating a South San Francisco Cultures United cookbook! **Interested in a Cultures United yard sign?** Contact us! CityInfo@ssf.net.

This newsletter edition highlights **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**, which is celebrated annually in May.

Meet Maria Spremich. As a Filipino-American, Maria shared that when she thinks of celebrating her culture, particularly in the context of AAPI Month, she calls us to look beyond big events. "Celebrating for me, is knowing that I can go shopping at places like Pacific Super, knowing that if I want pancit or lumpia I don't have to go all the way to Stockton." She continues, "we have the ability to make these choices now, and there's a power in choice." Now with the first Filipino Mayor and Vice Mayor in the community, Maria has stated that "the AAPI community in South San Francisco has more than arrived."

Maria is a teacher with the South San Francisco Parks & Recreation Department, and while she had initially intended to stay with the South San Francisco Civic Ballet for six months, those six months eventually turned into

37 years! As a "Steward of the Arts," Maria ensures that each class, no matter how old or young, remains "fresh and new" to instill a lifelong sense of curiosity and want-of-learning both within and outside of ballet. To Maria, the Arts shouldn't be reserved to just a select few and so another constant of hers is her admiration for the South City Community. "I'm thankful to share the Arts in this diverse city," she states, "the diversity is the strength of the program."



Be a Part of our Cultures United Cookbook!

Our ongoing **Cultures United** campaign aims to pay tribute to and celebrate the cultures of the residents that make up South San Francisco. A huge part of culture is the food that we eat! Residents in South San Francisco are encouraged to submit a recipe to share in a city-wide cookbook. Please feel free to share a family favorite or a cultural tradition! You can submit your recipes online at www.ssf.net/CulturesUnited, or submit a paper application at City Hall (City Manager's Office), the Main Library, and the Grand Avenue Library. Send over any questions and also photos of your dish to maryjo.nunez@ssf.net.

Save the Date!

The City of South San Francisco is hosting an **AAPI Celebration Picnic** on Saturday, May 14, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the breezeway located at 356 Grand Avenue. Please RSVP at <https://bit.ly/SSFPicnic>.

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South San Francisco, CA
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National Public Works Week May 15-21, 2022

Every May, we celebrate **National Public Works Week**, and this year we celebrate the vital role Public Works plays in connecting us all together. Public Works provides, maintains, and improves the structures and services that assure a higher quality of life for our City. It's streets, roads, bridges, and public transportation that keep us linked together, and it's clean water and sanitation services that keep us healthy and allow our community to grow and prosper.

This year's theme, "**Ready & Resilient**," highlights the ability of our Public Works professionals to perform regular public works duties and stand ready at a moment's notice to react as first responders during national disasters and to respond to problems seen in the field. Our 97-member Public Works team is always prepared to serve our community. Take the time to thank a Public Works worker you may see in our community who work tirelessly throughout the year to keep us all safe and connected!

