



# South San Francisco

WE PROUDLY REMAIN *THE INDUSTRIAL CITY*

## It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

*The holidays are quickly approaching and the City of South San Francisco is full of activities to get you in the holiday spirit. We've got you covered from Santa visiting City Hall, to outdoor music, magical performances and workshops that will get your creative juices flowing.*



2015 South San Francisco  
Nutcracker Performance

### Holiday Music Schedule

Sounds of holiday music will fill the Grand Avenue breezeway, 356 Grand, during December. Stop by during the lunch hour for a dose of holiday cheer!

- Thursday, December 1: Nathan Martinez (classical guitar), Noon to 1:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 2: El Camino High School, Noon to 1:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 3: The Merrie Olde Christmas Carolers, Noon to 3:00 p.m. at City Hall
- Thursday, December 8: Spice Islander Trio, Noon to 1:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 9: Kanikapila All Stars, Noon to 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 15: R2PD Trombone Quartet, Noon to 1:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 16: South San Francisco High School, Noon to 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 22: Charlie Gurke & Friends (sax quartet), Noon to 1:00 p.m.

For more information on these musical performances, please visit our website: [www.ssf.net](http://www.ssf.net).

### Santa Comes to Town

Rain or shine, Santa Claus is coming to South San Francisco City Hall on Saturday, December 3, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A tradition since 1981, children get to meet and chat with Santa and tell Santa whether they've been naughty or nice! This event is co-sponsored by the City of South San Francisco, the Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club.

### Wreath Workshop

Join the South San Francisco Improving Public Places Committee and the Parks and Recreation Department for two wreath-making workshops at the Fernekes Building on Sunday, December 4, at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Workshop leaders will help you create a gorgeous natural holiday wreath with fresh greens harvested from South San Francisco parks! Registration is \$25.00 per person, but spaces are limited so be sure to register early. Contact the Recreation office for more details (650) 829-3800.

## Upcoming Events

### NUTCRACKER BALLET PERFORMANCE

- Saturday, December 3, 7:00 p.m.
  - Sunday, December 4, 1:00 p.m.
- South San Francisco High School  
400 B Street, Auditorium

### CITY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION

Election of new Mayor

- Tuesday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.
- Municipal Services Building  
33 Arroyo Drive, Social Hall

### MAIN LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

Featuring the San Francisco Guzheng Music Society and a Community Cookie Exchange

- Saturday, December 17  
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 840 West Orange Avenue

### WINTER CAMP

Holiday fun for children K-12, during school winter break.

- December 27-29 & January 3-5  
Terrabay Gymnasium 1121 South San Francisco Drive. Advanced registration required. Call (650) 875-6900 for information.

### CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

- Friday, February 10, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
  - Saturday, February 11, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Municipal Services Building  
33 Arroyo Drive



## Celebrating Our City's History



### Spruce School Celebrates 100 Years

*What a difference a century makes! One hundred years ago, the City's first high school was established, which currently is the home of Spruce Avenue Elementary School.*



In 1916, The City of South San Francisco was only eight years old, but growing fast thanks to a booming steel industry. Because of this, officials decided a new high school was needed, which brought in 18 students. One year later, the newly formed high school, known as **South San Francisco Junior-Senior High**, had a graduating class of three.

South San Francisco Junior-Senior High School served as the local high school until 1953, at which time the high school moved and the Spruce Avenue location became an elementary school.

In addition to the 100th year of Spruce school, we are also celebrating the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the first school in South San Francisco back in 1866, which was located in the general vicinity of the 12 mile railroad stop, close to what is now the location of El Camino High School.

Banners commemorating these two significant events are displayed throughout South San Francisco. Additional ceremonies recognizing both anniversaries are continuing through the remainder of 2016 and into 2017. Congratulations to the School District on these two significant milestone events!

### It's hard to believe 100 years ago that:

- The average life expectancy in the United States was 47.
- Only eight percent of homes had a telephone.
- The speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- The average wage in the United States was 22 cents an hour; the average U.S. worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- Sugar cost four cents a pound, eggs were 14 cents a dozen, and coffee cost 15 cents a pound.

### *Another one for the centennial history books; Grand Avenue Library Turns 100 and Reopens.*

Closed for more than a year, the \$3.1 million renovation has created a community gem for both young and old. The "Carnegie" library was restored into a bright, airy, and welcoming space for reading, learning, and playing. Study spaces equipped with technology, such as the iPad bar, enhance the library as an after school destination. In addition, there is a new outdoor reading room that faces Grand Avenue where patrons can enjoy the sights and sounds of downtown South San Francisco.





## Construction Connection

Our City is growing, bringing new job opportunities and good neighbors to our community. Some of the major projects currently in progress include:

### **Pinefino (100 Baden): Residential**

Construction continues at 100 Baden Avenue, which will have 69 residential units opening summer 2018. This is the former site of First National Bank. To facilitate timely completion of the project, the City is allowing the contractor to perform selective Saturday work from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., as needed. This work may include closure of the right turn lane from southbound Airport Boulevard to Baden Avenue. Right turns are still allowed onto Baden from the adjacent through lane.

### **Brittania Cove: Biotech**

The major Biotechnology campus, commonly referred to as “The Cove,” under construction at the corner of Oyster Point and Veterans Blvd., has opened its public amenity area. **Foundry & Lux** is a chic yet relaxed restaurant complex that includes a café for morning coffee and lighter fare, and a wide range of options in the main dining area for lunch. The space also offers free WiFi, two bowling lanes (including shoes!), a pool table, and outdoor bocce ball, ping pong, horseshoes, basketball and volleyball – all open to the public! “The Cove” will have seven biotech R&D buildings and an AC Marriott Hotel, which will have 185 rooms. The first phase of the project is complete. A nine-level parking garage is now under construction, which is anticipated to open in the second quarter of 2017.



Foundry & Lux in Brittania Cove

### **Genesis Towers: Biotech**

Genesis South Tower, formerly known as Centennial Tower, is the 12-story office building located off Highway 101 on Tower Place, just off of Airport Blvd. This tower is being retrofitted to accommodate biotech labs and offices on six of the twelve floors. Construction is expected to begin on a second tower – Genesis North Tower – within the next several months, located just north of the existing tower. Twenty-one stories high, the new tower will take several years to complete and add 400,000 square feet of new office and biotech space to South San Francisco.



### **Fairfield Inn**

Construction has begun on a new five-story, 128 room hotel located at 127 W. Harris in South San Francisco. Grading of the site was recently completed and prepped for foundation work. The project is scheduled for completion by mid 2018.

New residential and commercial developments are coming to South San Francisco. Have questions about ongoing or future construction? You have three ways to get your questions answered about construction in South San Francisco:

1. **Phone:** Contact our Construction Hotline (650) 829-4600
2. **Email:** Email us your question to [Construction@ssf.net](mailto:Construction@ssf.net)
3. **Website:** The City website is frequently updated with the latest construction information available, along with an interactive map identifying projects going on in the City. Check it out at [www.construction.ssf.net](http://www.construction.ssf.net)



# Helpful County Resources



## Know Someone Who's Down on Their Luck? We Can Help.

The City of South San Francisco and San Mateo County offers programs to help those who may need an extra helping hand. Grants available from the Federal government are administered by the City and help fund services, such as those listed below.

A full list of services is located on our website: <http://www.ssf.net/1924/CDBG-Programs-Projects>.

### HIP Housing's "Home Sharing Program"



HIP Housing helps to connect people in living arrangements whereby a home seeker pays rent or exchanges help with cooking, cleaning and other household duties for reduced rent. There is no fee to participate. Home Sharing benefits the community by reducing housing costs for all and providing an affordable housing arrangement in one of the most expensive areas of the Country.

Contact: [lfanucchi@hiphousing.org](mailto:lfanucchi@hiphousing.org)  
(650) 348-6660 x303

### Legal Aid's "HomeSavers"



Legal Aid's HomeSavers program provides free civil legal services to low-income individuals and families who are having problems with their landlords. They help preserve the number of affordable homes in San Mateo County through eviction defense, and by addressing disputes with landlords.

Contact: [www.legalaidsmc.org/homesavers-project.html](http://www.legalaidsmc.org/homesavers-project.html)  
(650) 558-0915

### Project Sentinel



Project Sentinel assists individuals with housing problems such as discrimination, mortgage foreclosure and delinquency, rental issues including repairs, deposits, privacy, dispute resolution, home buyer education, post purchase education and reverse mortgages.

Contact: [www.housing.org](http://www.housing.org)  
[info@housing.org](mailto:info@housing.org); (650) 321-6291

### Rebuilding Together Peninsula's "Safe at Home"



The Safe at Home program provides free home repair and modifications to low-income homeowners in San Mateo County and northern Santa Clara County. Skilled technicians focus on repairs that improve the safety and health of the residents and their homes.

Contact: [www.rebuildingtogetherpeninsula.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherpeninsula.org)  
[info@rtpeninsula.org](mailto:info@rtpeninsula.org); (650) 366-6597

### Samaritan House's "Safe Harbor Shelter"



Samaritan House's Safe Harbor Shelter offers emergency and short-term housing options in a 90-bed and 10-cot shelter: safety, warmth, sustenance and healthcare are the essentials they start with to help the homeless become self-sufficient. More than 400 homeless individuals are served at Safe Harbor each year.

Contact: [www.samaritanhousesanmateo.org](http://www.samaritanhousesanmateo.org)  
(650) 873-4921

### Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA)



CORA is San Mateo County's only provider of comprehensive domestic violence prevention services. CORA provides services to more than 12,000 individuals every year in the following areas: domestic violence awareness, crisis intervention, family support services, legal services and community outreach.

Contact: [www.corasupport.org](http://www.corasupport.org)  
[info@corasupport.org](mailto:info@corasupport.org); 24 Hour hotline 1-800-300-1080



## Housing Update



### Growth is Here.... For Now... Along with a Housing Crunch

South San Francisco, like other communities, suffered through the “great recession” of 2008-2013, the worst since the Great Depression, with jobs lost, businesses closed and homes repossessed. Our City has bounced back stronger than ever in the past two years, taking advantage of the strong economy to grow, prosper and build defenses against any future recession. The people of South San Francisco are resilient, resourceful and resolved to maintaining our quality of life through smart growth during these good times.

With these good times and job growth has come the need for more housing, and specifically more affordable housing. While many have benefited from higher home values, some fear higher rents, and aspiring homeowners struggle to make the down payment necessary to buy that first home. Help is available for those who are affected by higher home prices, such as HIP Housing, which is showcased on page four of this newsletter, and other programs.

*Over the last two decades, the City has created nearly 1,000 affordable units. In the next 36 months, more than 1,000 units will come to market in South San Francisco to provide more housing opportunities for households of a range of incomes, primarily located Downtown near the Caltrain station.*

### Housing is on the way:

- The old Ford property at Miller Avenue and Airport Blvd will have 272 units of housing, ready to begin construction this year.
- The old First National Bank at 100 Baden will have 69 new apartments, under construction.
- At 150 Airport Boulevard a developer is proposing to build 107 new apartments, under review.
- The Rotary will begin construction of 80 senior apartments at 300 Miller Avenue early next year.
- A development located at 201 Grand and 418 Linden is approved for 84 new units, 17 of which will be affordable.
- Also at Grand and Linden, a developer is proposing to build 87 new condominiums; 20 percent of those units to be available for low and moderate income buyers.
- Centennial Village, at the corner of El Camino Real and Spruce, is approved for 284 units.

In San Mateo County, voters recently approved Measure K, which extends a half-cent sales tax through 2043 allowing the County to provide \$10 million to help fund affordable housing for families, seniors, veterans and people with disabilities.

For more information about housing resources available to you, please visit our website, [www.ssf/net/315/Affordable-Housing](http://www.ssf/net/315/Affordable-Housing).



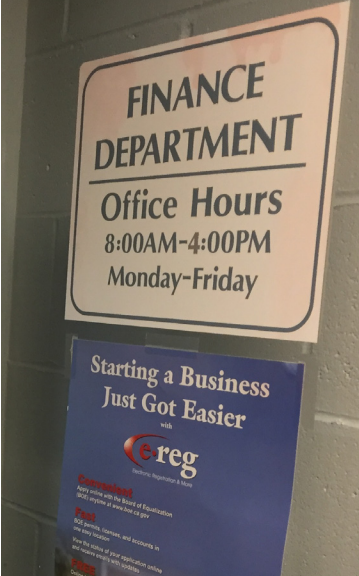
# City News



## Businesses: Save Time, Renew Your Business License Online!



Finance Department



*Businesses can pay their business license taxes online beginning this tax year with a Visa, MasterCard or Discover card, as well as access the status of their business license at any time by creating an account online at <https://permits.ssf.net>.*

The new process has taken the guesswork out of the calculation of your business license tax bill. The business license system will automatically generate business license taxes and fees based on the previous year's operating information.

Businesses will only need to contact the Finance Department to update changes to their current business license, including changes in location, ownership and the number of employees. Otherwise, log on, pay all fees online and have them applied to your 2017 business licenses that day. Please contact the finance department with any questions via email at [bus.lic@ssf.net](mailto:bus.lic@ssf.net) or call (650) 877-8505.

Participate in your local government! City Council meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Services Building, Council Chambers, 33 Arroyo Drive.



## Become a Tax Volunteer at the Library

*It's not too early to start preparing for tax season!*

Project Read, a program of the South San Francisco Public Library, is recruiting volunteers for the 2017 tax season. Volunteers will join a program that's helped hundreds of low-income families, seniors and other individuals file tax returns at no charge for more than five years. No experience is needed and we will provide you with free training on how to prepare basic tax returns. You will also learn about tax deductions and credits that benefit eligible taxpayers. The hours are flexible; volunteers generally serve an average of three to five hours per week from February through the tax filing deadline in April. Call Project Read to sign up (650) 829-3871.

## PG&E Gas Meter Inspections



You may have noticed PG&E crews around South San Francisco lately. That's because they are performing routine gas meter inspections throughout San Mateo County, which will go on through December. PG&E employees, and contractors with Underground Construction, are walking around neighborhoods with a mobile tablet to conduct these inspections. They are wearing hard hats, PG&E safety vests and carry photo identification, which they will present upon a customer's request. These inspections are occurring Monday through Friday, 6:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If a person claiming to be a PG&E employee or contractor shows you identification and you still feel uncomfortable, call PG&E's customer service line at 1-800-743-5000 to verify PG&E's presence in the community.



# Measure W Update

South San Francisco voters approved Measure W, a half-cent transaction and use tax in November 2015. As part of the Measure W implementation process, the City appointed a Measure W Citizens' Oversight Committee. The Oversight Committee will report regularly to the City Council and to you, our South San Francisco residents, to ensure Measure W funds are being spent in accordance with the ballot measure.

## Meet the Measure W Citizens' Oversight Committee:



**Herman Alcalde,**  
four-year term

**About Herman:**

Herman Alcalde has been a South San Francisco resident for 50 years. Herman is a retired Principal Engineer from the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF), where he served for 37 years. In addition to managing public works construction projects for

CCSF, he reviewed budgets and bond issues. He graduated from the College of San Mateo (AA in Engineering), the University of San Francisco (BA in Business Administration), and San Francisco State University (MBA in Finance) and is a Licensed Civil Engineer in California.



**Christine Wong,**  
four-year term

**About Christine:**

Christine Wong has been a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in California since 2002, and has 20 years of working experience in financial management and reporting, budgeting, treasury management, auditing and public meetings. She is currently the Chief

Financial Officer at the State Bar of California, a State agency that regulates the legal profession in California.



**Mike Brosnan,**  
three-year term, Interim Chair

**About Mike:**

Michael R. Brosnan has been a South San Francisco resident since 1967. Mike served the citizens of South City as a police officer for more than 28 years, rising to the rank of Deputy Chief. During the last eight years of his career, Mike participated in the City's

budget preparation process, as he was directly responsible for the police department's finances.



**Bill Zemke,**  
three-year term, Interim Vice Chair

**About Bill:**

Bill Zemke has lived in South San Francisco since 1976. During this time, Bill has served on the City's Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning Commission. Bill is a docent with the South San Francisco Historical Society and a volunteer with

the City's Improving Public Places Committee. Bill is also a licensed Civil Engineer, retired from PG&E with 38 years of experience in project management, administration and compliance.



**Alex Tzang,**  
four-year term

**About Alex:**

Alex Tzang has been a South San Francisco resident since 2011. He is a licensed architect and a construction program manager. He has managed multiple large-sized (\$200M+) bond construction programs. He is a proud graduate of the 2015 South San Francisco Citizens' Academy.

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

Future Town Hall meetings on Measure W will occur in 2017. You can also contact us via email at [MeasureW@ssf.net](mailto:MeasureW@ssf.net) or call (650) 829-6665.

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

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## 2016 City Council

Mayor Mark N. Addiego  
Vice Mayor Pradeep Gupta  
Councilmember Karyl Matsumoto  
Councilmember Richard Garbarino  
Councilmember Liza Normandy



Download **Engage SSF** on your smart phone for **FREE** and connect with the City on issues and suggestions you may have.

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

City Manager Mike Futrell



Follow Us



## Help the City Avoid Flooding: Adopt a Storm Drain



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 is fed by 2,629 storm drains located on every street and neighborhood in our

City. The effectiveness of this system is only as good as our ability to keep our streets clean and the storm drains open and flowing. The system doesn't work well when clogged with litter, leaves and other debris.

Now there is a way you can help! Volunteer to help keep our storm drains free from litter and debris by "adopting a storm drain" in our City. Simply picking up any litter or sweeping

debris away from the storm drain will go a long way towards ensuring the system is ready and working when we have heavy rains. Adopt a storm drain near where you live, or get your neighbors together and adopt your block or even adopt a block in the commercial area to help keep our City clean. Volunteers will receive a box of supplies and advice on how best to keep storm drains clear. Do your part to keep South San Francisco clean and our storm drain system flowing properly – volunteer today by calling the South San Francisco Public Works Department at (650) 877-8550 or email at [web-pw@ssf.net](mailto:web-pw@ssf.net).

*A clean storm drain prevents flooding, improves traffic flow and maintains pedestrian access, especially for children and the elderly. Join your neighbors in helping to protect the environment, manage stormwater and minimize flooding by adopting a storm drain today!*