



Dear «Preferred\_Name»,

I want to share with you information about a proposed change to the posted speed limit on Almaden Expressway. While this roadway is a County facility, the County and the City work together as partners on issues that affect Almaden Expressway. As many of you know, the San Jose Police Department provides traffic enforcement services to the County as the expressway travels through the City boundaries.

State law requires local jurisdictions to use an Engineering & Traffic Survey to justify posted speed limits. The state uses a uniform vehicle code to ensure posted speed limits are determined by a fair, measurable standard based upon average vehicle speeds on a given roadway. This is done to prevent “speed traps” where speed limits are set arbitrarily, below safe driving speeds. When a posted speed limit is not supported by an Engineering & Traffic Survey, judges typically dismiss traffic citations and traffic enforcement efforts are not effective.

That is the situation we find ourselves in with Almaden Expressway. The results of the County’s most recent survey indicate that the posted speed limit should be set at 50 mph instead of the current posted speed limit of 45 mph. As such, motorists have successfully challenged speeding citations issued on Almaden Expressway. Both the County and City have concerns about the safety of a roadway where speeding tickets cannot be issued.

County staff intends to bring forward the proposed speed limit increase to the Board of Supervisors in April. Concurrent with the County’s actions, the City’s Department of Transportation will bring forward the modification to the expressway speed limits to the City Council for incorporation in the City’s Master Speed Limit resolution.

The increased speed limit will not apply to the entire expressway. The County and the City will be suggesting that the speed limit on Almaden Expressway from Coleman Avenue to Branham Lane stay at 45 mph. Given the amount of traffic and speed currently traveled on this segment, it does not meet the criteria for increasing the speed limit.

I expect that the issue of raising speed limits may create concerns about safety for pedestrians and motorists alike. However our Department of Transportation and Police Department both believe that the expressway speed limit adjustment to 50 mph will help to enhance safety. Under current conditions, the 45 mph is not enforceable and therefore without regular speed enforcement, speeds can become excessive and create adverse safety issues. With the speed limits at 50 mph, regular enforcement and police presence can be provided, thereby creating safer overall conditions. Regular speed enforcement that is supportable by the Courts is believed to be the best way to manage safety along the



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print version is  
[available here](#)

Contact Us

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expressways.

If you have any questions about the proposed speed limit increase, please contact Lauren at [lauren.profeit@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:lauren.profeit@sanjoseca.gov).

Nancy Pyle  
District 10 Councilmember

### Los Alamitos Trail Update

There are some exciting changes happening on City Trails! The Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services secured a State grant several years ago to develop a comprehensive signage and mileage marker system for use along trails. In collaboration with the Public Works Department and a consultant firm, the team developed three innovative tools to make trails more enjoyable and safer.

New signs with custom graphics will build better awareness of the City's 35 trail systems (many under development at this time) and convey information in a positive and memorable manner. For example, the signs will use distinctive graphics to reinforce safer usage of the trails and remind persons to stay to the right, slow for pedestrians and warn of curves and sharp turns.

Mileage markers will be the first of their kind to create specific "addresses" along trails. The markers will be installed at ¼ mile increments and convey the trail's name and distance data in a simple alpha-numeric code. The precise location of the markers will be known by 911 Center staff along with driving directions, pavement conditions and all other data to speed response times. Late last year, the American Trails Symposium awarded this project a State-of-the-Art Award.

Center line striping will be used that meets San Jose's newly developed specifications to provide maximum reflectance and have a very thin profile. Reflectance aids bicyclists traveling at dusk and permits Police to monitor the alignment from a distance.

Deployment of these tools has been occurring along the Los Alamitos and Calero Creek trails. Additional installations are occurring along the popular Los Gatos and Guadalupe River Trail systems. All new trails will include the new signage, striping and mileage markers.

The Parks Department is interested in your feedback about the improvements. Follow the "SURVEY" link from the Trail Program homepage at [www.sjparks.org/trails](http://www.sjparks.org/trails) to voice your opinion.

### Share your opinion by taking a survey for the Council Salary Setting Commission

The San Jose Council Salary Setting Commission wants to hear from you through the first-ever Mayor and City Council Compensation Survey. The Commission recently released the online survey to gather input from residents regarding the level of salaries and benefits that the Mayor and City Council receive. The public can take the survey online any time before midnight on Monday, April 18th, 2011. The online survey is available through the City Clerk's website at: [www.sanjoseca.gov/survey](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/survey).

The Commission is conducting this online survey as a way to increase public participation. The survey will only take about five minutes to complete. While the Commission acknowledges that this effort is not a scientific, statistically valid survey, it is intended as an easy way for San Jose residents to share their thoughts with the commission.

In addition, several public meetings are scheduled to gather additional input from the public as Commissioners develop their recommendation. The scheduled meetings are:

Lauren Profeit  
Council Assistant

Nitila Patel  
Council Assistant

Frank McLaughlin  
Community Safety Specialist

New signs going up  
throughout the City's Trail  
Network to increase safety



Councilmember Pyle and  
Layla Forooghi, the District  
10 Youth Commissioner, at  
the 4th Annual San Jose  
Youth Conference



San Jose Youth crowded into  
the Council Chambers at City  
Hall for the Annual Youth  
Conference

| Date              | Time   | Location                   |
|-------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Tuesday, April 5  | 6:00pm | City Hall Wing, Room W-242 |
| Tuesday, April 19 | 6:00pm | City Hall Wing, Room W-242 |
| Tuesday, April 26 | 6:00pm | City Hall Wing, Room W-242 |

### April 16th Book Sale at the Almaden Branch Library

The Friends of the Almaden Library will have over 50 tables filled with books and audio-visual items at their semi-annual sale on April 16th from 9 AM to 3 PM. If you are looking for books: fiction, non-fiction, children's, foreign language, etc. or CDs, DVDs, audio books, cassettes, and even records, the Community Room of the Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue, is the place to be. The price is right: 50 cents for paperbacks and \$1 for hardcover books, plus a small number of excellent "Specials" like coffee table books for just a few dollars more. Area residents bring in excellent donations every week which the Friends members sort and arrange for sale near the lobby at any time and at these large book sales twice a year, so get there early for the best selection. From 2 to 3 PM you can get a real deal: a "Bag of Books for \$5" - yes, just \$5 for as many books as you can get into a paper grocery bag during this final hour of the sale. Proceeds go to the Almaden Branch Library for additions to their collection, special programs, and other library needs.

### San José Children's Faire

The San José Children's Faire hosted by the San José Public Library will mark its 23rd consecutive celebration on Saturday, April 16, 2011, at Discovery Meadow Park (in front of the Children's Discovery Museum) with over 40 booths and special attractions. Booths are staffed by local non-profits, community organizations, local government services, and business which provide services for families with young children. Nearly 6,000 families attend this Faire. Children enjoy hands-on projects and games while their parents and caregivers receive information on programs and services. This year's theme is "Play Together, Learn Together: Growing with Giggles & Grins!" If you would like more information about the 2011 Children's Faire, please contact: Early Care and Education at (408) 808-2617.

### Spring in Guadalupe Gardens 5K Fun Run/Walk

On April 23 at 9:00am, the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy will hold a 5K Fun Run/Walk in the Guadalupe Gardens along the scenic Guadalupe River Trail in downtown San José. Registration includes a race T-shirt, if completed by April 9th. Registration is \$10 for children, \$25 for adults, \$40 for couples, and \$50 for a family of four. For more information, visit [www.grpg.org](http://www.grpg.org) or call (408) 298-7657.

### Happy Hollow Profiled in LA Times

On February 22, Happy Hollow Park & Zoo was featured in the Travel Section of the Los Angeles Times. The article focused on the greening of Happy Hollow as being the first Gold LEED certified zoo and amusement park in the nation. In addition, the article also provided Mineta San Jose International Airport flight information for visitors. The link to the story can be found at: [www.latimes.com/travel/la-tr-happy-hollow-20110220,0,4078066.story](http://www.latimes.com/travel/la-tr-happy-hollow-20110220,0,4078066.story).

### Adoptable Pets at San Jose's Animal Care Center!

The City of San Jose's Animal Care Center has many wonderful pets to adopt. All are in desperate need of a loving home. If you are thinking about adding a new pet to your family, please consider one of our animals. The Animal Care Center has friendly and knowledgeable staff who can help you choose a pet to best fit your needs and lifestyle. To see available pets, please visit: <http://sanjoseanimals.com/>.



San Jose Children's Faire



### Police Chief Presents to the Neighborhoods Commission

On March 9, Police Chief Christopher Moore attended the Neighborhood Commission to provide an overview on the department's services, personnel and community engagement strategy. Since his appointment in February, the Chief has designed a multi-part initiative engaging and collaborating with San Jose residents and groups to enhance police relations through creating a dialogue and partnerships. At the meeting, the Neighborhood Commissioners shared their perception of the Police Department and voiced their opinion of its programs and quality of service at the meeting. Additionally, the Chief requested support from the Commission to identify and enlist community partner's involvement to help break down barriers between local law enforcement and citizens. Chief Moore is developing a comprehensive community relations program which includes surveying the community and creating a new advisory committee.

### Adopt-A-Street

It's time for your neighborhood to come clean! Adopt-A-Street is a program that provides businesses, organizations, neighborhood associations and individuals the opportunity to partner with the City to make the community better and more beautiful by selecting an area along a street right-of-way to beautify and maintain.

Anyone who has the enthusiasm and dedication to make our community a better place to live can adopt a street! We welcome neighborhood associations, community groups, schools, church groups, seniors, youth groups, and individuals to join our efforts to clean up San José. Adopt-A-Street will provide all the necessary supplies and tools appropriate for your scope of work. Orange reflective vests and traffic cones will also be provided as needed. Staff will also provide training and support for services such as delivery of materials and debris removal.

To adopt-a-street or landscape area on the public right-of-way, contact the City's Department of Transportation at (408) 975-7174.

### Report Broken Street Lights

Street light maintenance is important for ensuring adequate night time visibility at street intersections and along major streets. Department of Transportation crews replace burned out lights as they are reported. To report a burned out street light, the following information is necessary:

1. Street light pole number, located on streetlight pole at eye level facing the street (an alphabet letter is located in the middle of the number).
2. Street name and address where street light is located. Indicate if pole is in front of, across from, or in-between the address given.
3. Nearest cross street.
4. Your name, spelling (if calling) and day time phone number.

You can report this information by calling the 24-hour hotline at (408) 277-5517 or emailing [street.lights@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:street.lights@sanjoseca.gov).

### Restored Terminal C History Mural Reinstalled

A refurbished 20- by 30-foot mural depicting over a thousand years of Santa Clara Valley history was recently reinstalled near Gate 15 inside Terminal A at Mineta San Jose International Airport. This completed a challenging, and at times uncertain, transition of a popular painting that had hung in the main hall of Terminal C since 1977. The painting, by noted California muralist Millard Sheets, was a gift to the community in 1976 from the San Jose



San Jose Airport Mural

Great American Litter Pick Up 2011



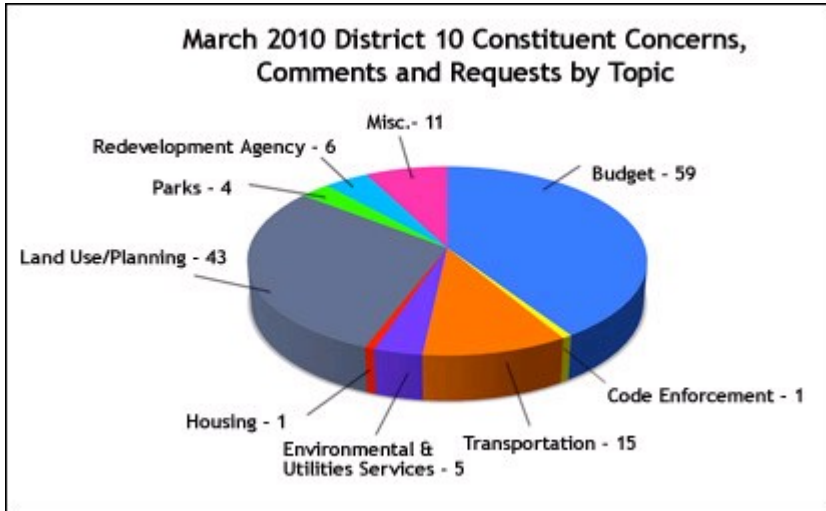
Over 70 people met at Pioneer High School to pick up litter in District 10

Mercury and San Jose News, predecessors of the Mercury News, in honor of the 200th anniversary of the founding of San Jose and the 125th anniversary of the establishment of the newspapers. The mural consists of a series of scenes that pay tribute to the area's heritage, beginning with native Californians, through Spanish explorers and Mexican rancheros, to the early days of the development of technology leading to Silicon Valley.



Girl Scout Troop #60093 was a great help with litter pickup

### Constituent Concerns:



### City Calendar:

#### City Council Meetings

Tuesday, April 5th; 1:30pm  
 Tuesday, April 12th; 1:30pm  
 Tuesday, April 19th; 1:30pm and 7:00pm  
 Tuesday, April 26th; 1:30pm  
 City Hall, 200 E Santa Clara Street, City Council Chambers  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/agenda.asp](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/agenda.asp)

### Community Calendar:

#### South First Friday

Friday, April 1st; 7:00pm  
 South First Street between San Carlos and E. Reed streets  
[www.southfirstfridays.com/](http://www.southfirstfridays.com/)

#### Spring Garden Market

Saturday, April 2nd; 9:00am  
 History San Jose, 1650 Senter Road  
<http://mastergardeners.org/sgm>  
 408-282-3105

#### Almaden Senior Association Meeting

Wednesday, April 6th; 9:45am  
 Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue  
[www.almadenseniors.org/](http://www.almadenseniors.org/)

#### Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Wednesday, April 6th; 5:00pm  
 City Hall, 200 E Santa Clara Street, Wing 118-119  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/sjcommissions/parks/default.asp](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/sjcommissions/parks/default.asp)

#### FREE Electronic Waste Recycling

To benefit the Holy Spirit Parish Community  
 Saturday, April 9th; 9am to 3pm

#### FREE Electronic Waste Recycling

##### Benefits THE HOLY SPIRIT PARISH COMMUNITY



When: **SATURDAY  
APRIL 9, 2011  
9am to 3pm**  
 Where: **1200 REDMOND AVE.  
SAN JOSE, CA 95120  
Parking Lot**

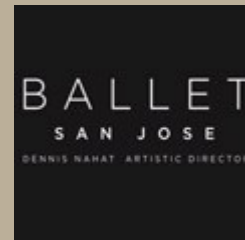


For more information contact Steve Ramona at  
**(408) 943-9943** or email  
[info@earthcarerecycling.com](mailto:info@earthcarerecycling.com)  
*See you there!*

The plan for Martial Cottle Park has been approved by both the County and the State. For more information on how the 287 acre property will be used [click here](#)

### Arts Calendar –

*fun things to do around town!*



Carmen Ballet San Jose  
 April 1 - 3  
 Center for the Performing Arts  
[Click here for details](#)

1200 Redmond Avenue, Parking Lot  
For more information contact Steve Ramona at 408-943-9943 or email  
[info@earthcarerecycling.com](mailto:info@earthcarerecycling.com)

### **Almaden Valley Community Association Meeting**

Tuesday, April 12th; 7:00pm  
Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue  
[www.avca-sj.org](http://www.avca-sj.org)

### **Neighborhood Services and Education Committee Meeting**

Thursday, April 14th; 1:30pm  
City Hall, Council Chambers  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/CommitteeAgenda/NSE/NSE.asp](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/CommitteeAgenda/NSE/NSE.asp)

### **Friends of the Almaden Library Book Sale**

Saturday, April 16th; 9am to 3pm  
Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue

### **San Jose Children's Faire: Play together, Learn Together: Growing with Giggles & Grins!**

Saturday, April 16th  
Discovery Meadow Park (in front of the Children's Discovery Museum)  
For more information call 408-808-2617

### **Hoffman Via Monte Meeting**

Wednesday, April 20th; 6:30pm  
Neighborhood Center, 1180 Blossom Hill Road

### **Playa Del Rey Meeting**

Wednesday, April 20th; 6:30pm  
Pearl Library, 4270 Pearl Avenue

### **Spring in Guadalupe Gardens 5K Fun Run/Walk**

Saturday, April 23rd; 9:00am  
Guadalupe Gardens along the scenic Guadalupe River Trail  
For more information, visit [www.grpg.org](http://www.grpg.org) or call 408-298-7657.

### **VEP Community Meeting**

Tuesday, April 26th; 7:30pm  
Vista Park Community Room; 475 Hyde Park Drive  
Presentation: San Jose's Envision 2040 Plan  
[www.vepca.net](http://www.vepca.net)

### **Safety Tip**

When going away on a trip, be sure to stop mail & newspaper delivery or have a neighbor collect them daily. Use timers so that lights, TV/radio go on and off to indicate someone is home. In short, make your house look "Lived In".

### **Did you know?**

As reported in the Wall Street Journal, San Jose is leading Bay Area growth and prosperity with robust job creation outpacing other cities in the region and the state overall. In 2011, nonfarm (urban) payroll employment is expected to grow 1.5% to 859,000 in San Jose, versus 0.5% to 921,300 in San Francisco and 1% to 14 million in California, according to the forecast.

### **Nancy in the News**

An op-ed that I wrote about the tremendous work our Redevelopment Agency and Strong Neighborhoods Initiative staff have done in the Hoffman/Via Monte neighborhood was recently featured in the Mercury News.

Read it here: [www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci\\_17693044](http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci_17693044)



### **Stomp**

Broadway San Jose  
April 12 – 17  
Center for the Performing Arts  
[Click here for details](#)



### **Chicago**

Children's Musical Theater  
San Jose  
April 15-23  
Montgomery Theater  
[Click here for details](#)



### **La Boheme**

Opera San Jose  
April 23 - May 8  
California Theatre  
[Click here for details](#)

**Quote**

“Happiness is not a goal: it is a by-product”

-Eleanor Roosevelt

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