

PLEASANTON

PROGRESS

WINTER
2024

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

Compelling and informative gatherings that provide an opportunity for the entire community to appreciate the richness of cultural diversity within our city.

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THE CITY OF



NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA



Letter from the City Manager **GERRY BEAUDIN**

What a year 2023 was. We rang in the new year with winter storms that spanned several months and required emergency responses from nearly every City department. The City launched a new website and agenda management system to provide easier access to public meeting information and completed a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan. We addressed challenges within our water supply and distribution system and worked to optimize the efficiency of the City by restructuring our Engineering and Operations Services Departments into a new Public Works Department. Additionally, the City constructed and opened its first-ever dedicated downhill mountain bike trail and pickleball courts.

The City Council adopted the City's first 5-year strategic plan – ONE Pleasanton. This will serve as a roadmap, setting a progressive path for Pleasanton from 2023 through 2028, and will be integrated with the City's annual budget development, capital project planning process, and plans and programs to align strategies with resources to deliver successful outcomes that maintain our community's high quality of life.

With it came a refreshed vision, mission, and values to guide the City's work and five overarching goals for the upcoming years. The City is now developing an implementation action plan and digital dashboard to add transparency to our work and progress toward achieving these goals. An overview of the strategic plan is included as an insert in this newsletter – take a look to see what the City will be prioritizing in the upcoming years.

Pleasanton's Strategic Plan – ONE Pleasanton will serve as a roadmap for the City, setting a progressive path for Pleasanton from 2023 through 2028.



TOP 10 CITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

- Launched a new City website
- Approved a 5-year strategic plan – ONE Pleasanton
- Launched an agenda management system
- Integrated new Public Works Department
- Approved the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan
- Approved a two-year budget informed by community engagement
- Conducted emergency response to winter storms
- Finalized Police and Fire employment contracts
- Launched the Alternate Response Unit
- Received certification for 6th Cycle Housing Element

Pleasanton Residents: **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

The City is committed to providing public services and facilities that help maintain your high quality of life. Every day, City employees work hard to support safe neighborhoods, quality streets and roads, attractive parks, recreation venues and programs, vibrant arts and cultural opportunities, and more.

However, our City is facing tough choices on the horizon. We want to hear from you before important decisions are made.

Here's the problem: Pleasanton's financial future, which depends on the strength of the City's General Fund **is at risk**. Without adequate increases in revenue over many years, City infrastructure, programs, and services are today suffering from **a severe and increasing structural deficit**.

City leaders are exploring options to address these challenges responsibly and with community support. One option being discussed is to ask voters to consider authorizing a modest increase to the local sales tax to help close the budget gap. Passing such a measure won't solve all our problems, **but it will help**.

No decisions have been made yet, and none are expected until this summer.

Since incorporating 130 years ago, the City has never asked the Pleasanton community to support a local revenue measure. Surrounding cities have pursued and passed measures, and those cities are more financially secure today because they took decisive steps.

Join this conversation. Visit the City's Revenue Measure Feasibility webpage to learn more and take the survey to share your priorities and make your voice heard.



1 MILLION SQ FT
New Asphalt

920,000 FT
Slurry Seal

3,200 SQ FT
Concrete Sidewalks

490 LINEAR FT
Concrete Curb & Gutters

49 NEW
Accessible Pedestrian
Ramps

38 MODIFIED / REPAIRED
Accessible Ramps

PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM UPDATES

The City maintains over 501 miles of local roadway. Gas taxes, Measure B and BB (transportation-specific sales taxes), funding through Senate Bill 1, and a portion of vehicle registration fees (VRF) through Measure F are the main contributors to the successful maintenance of our roadway system. The City implements three major projects annually to maintain and improve the local roadway infrastructure.

Projects this fiscal year will focus on concrete repairs, including repairs to sidewalks, curbs, and gutters, new and repaired accessible pedestrian ramps, the resurfacing of 1 million square feet of roadway with a new layer of asphalt concrete pavement, and a slurry seal project aimed at extending the service life of pavement.

The Alameda County Transportation Commission recently awarded Pleasanton an \$8 million grant from Measure BB funding for the West Las Positas Boulevard Multi-Modal Project.

These funding sources also help fund Pleasanton Rides, offering door-to-door, shared-ride transportation services for Pleasanton seniors who are 70 years of age and older.



PLEASANTON CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

This past Fall, the City kicked off a brand-new series of Cultural Celebrations. These engaging and educational events have served as an opportunity for the entire community to come together and embrace the beauty of our city's cultural diversity.

In collaboration with local cultural groups, the Library and Recreation Department hosted a Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration in October, celebrations for Día de Los Muertos, Diwali, and Native American Heritage Month in November, as well as a Lunar New Year Celebration in February 2024. Each of these events included a combination of music and dance performances, art demonstrations, and story times to provide attendees with a glimpse into the significance of each observance.

Community participation in events like these lead to tighter social bonds, deeper empathy, and a greater sense of belonging and unity for all in our community. After all, diversity is the cornerstone of any vibrant community!

More exciting celebrations are on the horizon in 2024, including events honoring Black History Month, Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and Juneteenth. Individuals and families of all ages and backgrounds can participate and experience different cultures through music, art, storytelling, and education. Each observance will feature family-friendly activities and performances that honor the history and traditions of these cultures. A full schedule of celebrations is available at firehousearts.org/celebrations.

Save the Date for Upcoming Cultural Celebrations

Black History Month Celebration – Saturday, February 24

Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration – Saturday, May 11

Juneteenth Celebration – Saturday, June 15

ARE YOU READY TO WEATHER A STORM?

January through March is typically the wettest time of year in the Bay Area. Severe weather can disrupt daily life, challenge infrastructure, and even pose risks to personal well-being. Being prepared for the stormy season is your ticket to facing these challenges with confidence and resilience.



Here are some ways to prepare for the winter season:

Before a Storm

- Inspect your roof for damage or leaks
- Inspect your property and clear drains, v-ditches, and rain gutters
- Remove tree limbs that look like they could create a safety hazard
- Cover toxic materials with tight-fitting lids and/or store them indoors
- If you have had previous experience with flooding at your home, prepare sandbags early – the City provides a free sandbag station at 3333 Busch Road

During a Storm

- Stay away from storm drain channels and areas subject to flooding
- Stay away from downed power lines
- Do not attempt to cross a flowing stream
- Do not drive through flooded streets

After the Storm

- Monitor the weather and only leave your home if it's safe to do so
- Report downed power lines to PG&E (1-800-743-5000)
- Inspect your property and take photos of any damage



Find more information about how to prepare for a storm on the Emergency Preparedness page of the City's website: cityofpleasantonca.gov/emergency-preparedness/

The City prepares for storms by:

- Inspecting and mitigating "hot spot" areas
- Inspecting and cleaning debris from storm drains
- Inspecting waterways and clearing obstructions 24-48 hours in advance of a possible storm.

The City provides free sandbags to residents and businesses in Pleasanton to help prepare for potential storm impacts. A self-service sandbag station can be found at 3333 Busch Road, in front of the City's Operations Services facility. Be sure to bring a shovel to fill sandbags.

Pleasanton Water: 2023 RECAP AND THE ROAD AHEAD

While the year began with enough rain to end a multi-year drought, that was just the beginning of the story of water in Pleasanton in 2023. Throughout the year, the City worked on a number of water-related projects including a study to find a long-term solution to address PFAS found in the City's wells, water rate restructuring, multiple near-term water distribution system projects, and the introduction of a Water System Management Plan, a comprehensive document that will bring together all aspects of Pleasanton's Water system and identify highest priority projects to address in the upcoming 10 years.



Check out the timeline of water projects throughout 2023 with a look at the projects planned for 2024



MAY
End of drought and drought rates

JULY

- Water line project to repair a pipe at Turnout #1
- Temporary booster pump installed at Turnout #4 completed (*these two projects help reduce Pleasanton's reliance on groundwater wells)

AUGUST

Contracts to design near-term water system improvements approved

In addition to the two projects that were completed in August 2023, the City Council approved several near-term projects to prepare Pleasanton's water system for the future including a permanent pumping station at Turnout #4, rehabilitation of Turnout #1 and the replacement of aging pipes with new, larger pipes to accommodate Pleasanton's increased water needs along Bernal Avenue, Sunol Boulevard, and Stoneridge Drive. These projects will be completed throughout 2024.

SUMMER

The community continued to do its part in conserving water

- Conservation during summer and the projects completed in August helped the City avoid using local groundwater wells throughout 2023

OCTOBER

Long term solution to address PFAS selected – City to construct two new water wells
Pleasanton's City Council approved a plan to construct two new groundwater wells that will meet the City's long-term water needs by replacing the loss of 3,500 acre-feet of water supply from existing groundwater wells and maintaining local control to ensure safe, reliable drinking water. The project is expected to cost a total of approximately \$25 million and take three to four years to complete. The City will continue to explore cost-sharing possibilities with Zone 7 for the construction of the two new wells, which could result in cost savings.

NOVEMBER

The City made significant investments in the financial health of Pleasanton's water system by resetting rates to cover the cost of operations

DECEMBER

Introduction of a comprehensive Water System Management Plan

COMING IN 2024

- Approval of Water System Management Plan
- Preliminary Water Enterprise Capital Improvement Program to prioritize and identify funding needs for long-term water system projects
- Completion of near-term water system improvement projects
- Early phases of design for the long-term PFAS

For additional information about water related projects in Pleasanton visit: [PleasantonWater.com](https://www.pleasantonwater.com)

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KNOW YOUR PLEASANTON PARKS:

Mission Hills Park

Have you ever wondered: “Where can I go in Pleasanton for the best slide ride?” If you have, then the answer undoubtedly is Mission Hills Park, known as “the slide park”, where you can race family members, friends, and foes alike to compete for the fastest slide ride and to figure out what goes down the slide fastest – cardboard, upside down carpet, spandex, or whatever you are wearing. The Mission Hills hillside slide, which is a stainless-steel double-wide slide, registers at about a 2:1 slope and is about a 20-ft drop over 50-ft with two rollers to add further excitement. The slide can be accessed from the via stairs or a rock handhold scramble up synthetic turf.

But Mission Hills Park isn’t just “the slide park”, it is a beautiful 7.5-acre neighborhood park nestled between the Mission Park, Pleasanton Hills, and Ventana Hills neighborhoods with direct access from all three neighborhoods. The 40+ year-old park boasts a seasonal creek and pond, two playgrounds including one that has been recently renovated with a mountain lion climbing structure, swings, a hillside slide, a half-court basketball court, a picnic area with a gazebo, a loop walking path, exercise equipment, and plenty of grass to enjoy, complete with large shade trees throughout the park. If you are looking for a park with something to do for the entire family, then Mission Hills is the place!