The place to
A letter to our community

Successful cities require careful planning, sound financial management, a robust economy, and a steady vision for the future. 2016 was a successful year for Pleasanton because we had all of the above. As importantly, we need to have the flexibility to meet the changing needs of the community. As the City of Planned Progress, we are proud to consistently honor our core principles of preserving our character and creating a sustainable community as we continue to evolve as a city.

2016 was proof positive that Pleasanton was and continues to be the Place to Be! Not only was our city recognized as one of the best places to raise a family, it was ranked as having some of the best public schools in the Bay Area. Additionally, Pleasanton’s residential and business real estate market remains strong, and our economy is thriving.

This kind of success year over year does not happen by accident, nor does it happen in isolation. Over the years, we have enjoyed many wonderful partnerships with members of our community, and 2016 was no exception. As a result of these partnerships, 2016 was a year that gave us an expanded Bernal Community Park, the crown jewel of our parks system, the Veterans Memorial, and a brand new off-leash dog park.

We also celebrated the completion of more than 10 miles of purple pipes that deliver over 450 million gallons of recycled water for landscaping and save us an overall 10 percent of our potable water. We broke ground on a new senior housing development and we concluded a task force that made important recommendations on the future of our library and civic center.

As we take a moment to reflect on our 2016 accomplishments and look to what the future holds, we are pleased to share these with you and look forward to shaping our future together.

Sincerely,

Mayor and City Council
City Manager
City Staff

A true spirit of community.
The place to WORK

Pleasanton is a great place for businesses and retail activity because of our location within the Bay Area. Our business community boasts over 56,000 employees at more than 4,000 companies, both large and small. One example is Workday, a Fortune 500 company recognized as one of the best places to work, which began construction on its new transit oriented development across from Stoneridge Shopping Center. Workday will also be creating a new public plaza that will connect to a pedestrian and bicycle promenade near BART and will fund a new BART/Pleasanton Police service center.

The place to LIVE

Housing and owning a home is a bedrock principle of the American Dream. Particularly in California, creating affordable housing opportunities is a challenge many cities face. We continued to make progress on developing multi-family housing to satisfy a legal challenge to the city’s housing cap, but more planning will be required going forward to ensure a balanced approach. We celebrated the groundbreaking at Kottinger Gardens, our new affordable housing for seniors. When finished, Kottinger Gardens will provide 185 new units designed specifically for seniors living in Pleasanton.

The place to PLAY

We celebrated the grand opening of the crown jewel in Pleasanton’s park system with Phase II of the Bernal Community Park, which provides more places to play and preserves more than 300 acres of open space; this includes 16 acres of community park, 40 acres of Oak woodland, with over 1,100 Oak trees, which will create a shaded canopy in an urban forest. The park boasts three state-of-the-art, synthetic sports fields, an expansive playground, public plaza and more, all made possible with our community partners and local sports groups.

The place to CREATE

A Community of Character—A dedication ceremony was held for our new Veterans Memorial, located at the Pleasanton Pioneer Cemetery. The Memorial is the first of its kind for Pleasanton and serves as a place for reflection and to honor the fallen, as well as those who serve throughout all the branches of our military. Also in 2016, the City launched Feed Tri-Valley, partnering with local agencies dedicated to ending hunger and soliciting donations of food to feed people in our community.

A Community of Public Art and Beauty—2016 also saw some new additions to our public arts program with Project Paintbox and Self Portrait, a tile mosaic by internationally recognized muralist Guillermo Wagner Granizo, on display in downtown’s Civic Park.

A Sustainable Community—We celebrated the grand opening of Pleasanton’s purple pipes project in 2016 as well, which netted us an overall savings of 10 percent of this city’s potable water. Approximately 450 million gallons a year of recycled water will be delivered to the Hacienda business park, the Ken Mercer Sports Park, and the Tennis and Community Park. The City also began upgrading and installing new automated metering infrastructure to increase accuracy and give Pleasanton’s water users greater control over the water they consume. Also in 2016, the Callippe Preserve Golf Course was re-certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary for its commitment to environmental excellence.

A Solid Financial Foundation—The City ended Fiscal Year 2016 (FY 2016) with a balanced budget and total fund balances (excluding long-term liabilities) of $180.6 million including: General Fund of $20.6 million; Enterprise funds of $16.4 million; Internal Services Funds of $45.7 million; Special Revenue funds of $18.8 million; other funds of $0.3 million and Capital Improvement funds of $78.8 million.

We also celebrated the grand opening of a new off-leash dog park to give this city’s 26,000 pooches a place to play. Known as Cubby’s Dog Park at Bernal, in honor of our city’s first K9 officer, the dog park sets aside 1.5 acres for dogs to run and play unattached. Complete with agility structures, shade, drinking fountains and a highly-specialized bark that doesn’t cause splinters, Cubby’s is already a favorite among our four-legged friends.
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET

City operating expenditures for FY 2016 totaled $177.8 million and covered five different fund types: General, Enterprise, Internal Service, Special Revenue and Other funds.

The General Fund is the primary operating fund for the City, which includes: public safety, operations services, parks, community services, library, community development, and general government.

Special Revenue funds are restricted use revenues, such as gas taxes, grants and contributions. Internal Service funds are for goods or services from one department to another on a cost-reimbursement basis. Enterprise funds, similar to private business enterprise, provide goods and services, recovered through other charges, to the general public on an ongoing basis. Other funds account for trust, agency, and debt service funds.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

In addition to the Operating Budget, the city of Pleasanton also adopts a four-year financial plan for capital improvement projects. The Capital Improvement Program identifies the requisite capital needs for maintaining and expanding public facilities and infrastructure, such as streets, parks, bridges, and water and sewer systems. This chart reflects the expenditures for FY 2016.

GENERAL FUND

In FY 2016, the General Fund activity included total revenues of $111.7 million, net transfers of $11.9 million and expenditures of $99.8 million. Property taxes are the single largest revenue source for the General Fund totaling $57.3 million in FY 2016. Sales tax revenue is the second largest revenue source totaling $23.5 million in FY 2016. Fire and Police services (Public Safety) are the largest expenditure by category totaling $44.3 million in FY 2016.

For the 15th year, the City received the Excellence in Budgeting award from the California Society of Municipal Finance Officers for the Operating Budget, and for the 19th consecutive year, the City received the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate in Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.