

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## City Manager Message



Dear Chula Vista Community,

As we count down to the holidays, I want to send my warmest wishes to all our residents. Our City continues to grow and thrive, and it is a joy to walk along Third Avenue and see families, friends, and neighbors supporting our local businesses. The season truly comes to life here in Chula Vista as we welcome the holidays with our [Starlight Parade and Festival](#) this Saturday, December 6, with festivities beginning at 3 p.m.

This month, the City started enforcing our new [Electric Micromobility Vehicle Ordinance](#). The ordinance sets minimum ages for riders, defines where different e-bike classes can be used, and requires helmets for youth riders and anyone riding a Class 3 e-bike. Enforcement began on December 3 and includes education, fines for repeated violations, and, if needed, impounding the device. Riders can get fines waived by completing an online [safety course](#). Our goal is to keep riders, pedestrians, and drivers safe through education and responsible enforcement.

We are also moving forward with efforts to expand access to higher education in our region. Assembly Bill 662, introduced by Assemblymember David Alvarez, establishes the South County Higher Education Task Force. The task force will bring together state and local partners to evaluate what it would take to establish a four-year public university in South San Diego County. The City is currently accepting applications for public members interested in serving on the [Task Force through January 3, 2026](#).

I am proud to share that the City Council has approved the community-selected name *Palomar Point* for our [permanent supportive housing project](#). Thank you to all the residents who participated in the naming process and helped us reach this important milestone.

We also encourage you to share your input in our current community surveys:

- [Public Tobacco Use and Accessibility](#)
- [Help Set HUD Funding Priorities 2026-2027](#)

Your feedback helps guide programs and policies that directly impact our neighborhoods.

As we close out the year, I want to wish you and your loved ones a joyful and restful holiday season. Thank you for being an essential part of our community.

Warm regards,  
Tiffany Allen, City Manager



# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Enforcement on Electric Micromobility Vehicle Ordinance Begins

As of December 3, Chula Vista's new [Electric Micromobility Vehicle Ordinance](#) is officially in effect. This ordinance was adopted by City Council to improve safety, clarify where electric bikes and scooters can be used, and ensure everyone sharing the road understands the rules. Electric micromobility vehicles include e-bikes, electric scooters, and similar devices that are increasingly common throughout the city.

The goal of this ordinance is simple: keep riders, drivers, and pedestrians safe while supporting sustainable transportation options. As more people choose micromobility for commuting and recreation, clear guidelines help prevent injuries and reduce conflicts on streets, sidewalks and bike paths.



Here are some key rules residents should know:

- **Age Requirements:** Children under 12 years old may not operate or ride an e-bike or motorized scooter. Riders must be at least 16 years old to operate a Class 3 e-bike or a motorized scooter. E-bikes and scooters are not allowed on sidewalks in business districts.
- **Where E-Scooters Can Operate:** E-scooters may operate on roads without bike lanes or protected bikeways when the posted speed limit is 35 mph or less. On higher-speed roads, e-scooters may only operate within a designated bike lane or protected bikeway, and their maximum speed must remain 15 mph while in those lanes.
- **Understanding E-Bike Classes:** Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes have a top assisted speed of 20 mph, while Class 3 e-bikes can reach 28 mph and require a helmet.

Although enforcement has begun, the City remains focused on education and awareness. Residents can access safety tips, e-bike resources, and class information online, and the City will continue outreach through schools, community partners, and public events.

Enforcement includes warnings and education, fines for repeated violations, and the possibility of impoundment. Fees may be waived by completion of a [safety course](#).

By learning the rules and riding responsibly, everyone can help keep Chula Vista safe, accessible and moving forward together.

For more information, visit [City's Website](#).

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Join the Higher Education Task Force



For more than 30 years, the City of Chula Vista has been dreaming big when it comes to expanding higher education in South County and that long-standing vision is gaining exciting new momentum.

The journey began in 1993 with the adoption of the Otay Ranch General Development Plan, which set aside space in eastern Chula Vista for a future university. Over the next two decades, the City strategically acquired 383 acres through land agreements and exchanges, all dedicated to what is now known as the University-Innovation District. In 2018, that vision moved closer to reality when the City certified the Final Environmental Impact Report and approved the University-Innovation District Sectional Planning Area Plan, officially entitling the site.

Fast forward to today, and Assembly Bill 662, also known as the Chula Vista University Act, is turning that long-term vision into a statewide conversation. Authored by Assemblymember David Alvarez, AB 662 establishes the South County Higher Education Task Force, bringing together partners from the University of California, California State University, California Community Colleges, UC San Diego, San Diego State University, Southwestern College, Sweetwater Union High School District, the City of Chula Vista, and more.

The Task Force will explore what it takes to create a four-year public university in South San Diego County, examining governance models, potential sites, infrastructure needs, funding strategies, and any legislative changes required to make a university a reality. The first Task Force meeting is set to convene by July 1, 2026, with a final report to the California Legislature due by July 1, 2027.

Even more exciting, community members now have a chance to be part of this historic effort. The City is currently accepting applications for public members to serve on the Task Force, with representatives sought from business and innovation sectors, higher education, and students. [Applications are open through January 3, 2026](#) and selections are taking place later that month.



# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Recognizing City Employees: Real Property Manager



The City of Chula Vista’s Real Property Manager plays a critical role in how public land and properties are acquired, managed, and used to serve the community. This position oversees the City’s extensive real property portfolio, including City-owned buildings, land, public rights-of-way, easements, leases, and licenses. Every park site, City facility, and future community space begins with the work this role provides.

The Real Property Manager supports all City departments by managing property acquisitions and dispositions, negotiating complex lease and purchase agreements, coordinating appraisals and valuations, and preparing the legal documentation that ensures every transaction follows state and local law. The Real Property Manager also oversees consultant contracts related to real estate and maintains the City’s official inventory of real property assets.

This work directly supports projects residents care about most, including parks, public services, and housing-related efforts.

“On the public side, you’re focused on making sure City-owned assets are used in the best possible way to serve residents,” Scott Dickson, Chula Vista’s newly hired Real Property Manager.

Through this work, the City ensures that public land is carefully managed, legally protected, and positioned to support Chula Vista’s growth, quality of life, and future community endeavors.



# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Business Spotlight: Galū Café and Delicatessen

Galū Café and Delicatessen, located in the heart of Third Avenue, is more than just a place to grab a coffee, breakfast, or lunch. The café and eatery has become a beloved community space known for its unique food, friendly smiles, and meaningful connections.

Galū Café prides itself on offering a diverse menu that caters to every taste. They are known for their fresh, made-to-order toasts and sandwiches, ranging from savory avocado toast to sweet banana almond butter toasts for those with a sweet tooth. A community favorite is the famous Green Goddess Tuna Sandwich, featuring a house-made mayo lemon yogurt dressing.

The Marquez family is also proud of their signature Banana Latte, topped with banana foam and caramelized banana, now available in a matcha version as well. They offer a wide selection of house-made syrups, so don't hesitate to ask what's new.

Owners and spouses Paulina and Alesio Marquez opened Galū Café and Delicatessen in May 2024, naming it after a combination of their children's names. The Marquez family warmly invites guests to enjoy their cozy atmosphere, enjoy a cup of coffee, and savor a handcrafted dish that reflects their passion for quality, community and family.

The Marquez family's connection to the community goes far beyond their business. They are also Chula Vista locals. Hilltop High and Castle Park are proudly their alma maters and being part of this city is deeply meaningful to them. "We love collaborating with other small businesses because we believe it's how we all grow together. Every couple of months, we host special events like late night hours or live music to bring people together," says owner Paulina Marquez.

They invite you to stop by and experience the warmth of Galū Cafe for yourself. Whether you're grabbing a coffee on the go or settling in for a meal with friends, they can't wait to welcome you into the Galū Café and Delicatessen family.

Visit Galū Café and Delicatessen at 462 Third Avenue. They are open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., as well as Saturday and Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Stay connected for updates, events, specials, and behind-the-scenes moments via their Instagram @Galucafe, TikTok @Galucafe, or Facebook at Galu Cafe & Delicatessen.

If you would like your small business featured in a future newsletter, please complete this [submission form](#).

For business assistance, please check out [www.chulavistaca.gov/businesses](http://www.chulavistaca.gov/businesses) and be sure to refer to the [Business Resource Guide](#) for additional information on available resources to assist your business.





## Community Partners: South Bay Sustainable Communities Network



South Bay Sustainable Communities Network is a dedicated community partner helping residents across the South Bay adopt sustainable habits and create cleaner, healthier neighborhoods. In July 2020, founder Tina Matthias established the South Bay Sustainable Communities Network with the goal of educating the community and fostering sustainable change in the South Bay area.

The group works closely with the City to support outreach around recycling, composting, waste reduction, and urban greening efforts. Their team regularly participates in City events, providing demonstrations, resources, and guidance to help residents understand simple ways to reduce their environmental footprint. Whether they're hosting composting workshops, assisting with zero-waste initiatives, or supporting tree-planting activities, they bring community energy and practical knowledge to every partnership.

One of their most impactful efforts is their work with youth. South Bay Sustainable Communities Network offers both classroom presentations and a youth program, Youth 4 a Sustainable Future is designed to teach students about recycling, pollution prevention, composting, and sustainable living. These lessons are tailored to each age group, empowering young people with the tools to make environmentally responsible choices and preparing the next generation of sustainability leaders.

The organization also hosts family-friendly events focused on neighborhood composting, urban farming, and conservation, giving the community hands-on opportunities to practice new skills and connect with others who share a commitment to sustainability.

At its core, South Bay Sustainable Communities Network strives to inspire lasting behavioral change. The mission of South Bay Sustainable Communities Network is to build healthy and sustainable communities by encouraging people to create lasting change in their daily lives through education and community engagement in environmental conservation, neighborhood composting, and sustainable urban farming.

For more information or to learn how to volunteer visit the [South Bay Sustainable Communities Network Website](https://www.southbaysustainablecommunitiesnetwork.org).

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## City Budget: City Recognized for Annual Budget and Financial Report



The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has once again recognized the City for its annual budget and annual financial report. The City received the GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its Annual Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 2025. This award reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff towards meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

To earn the budget award, the City had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. This marks the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the City has received this prestigious award.

The City also received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. The report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high reporting standards of the program, which include demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate a financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read it.

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and the City's attainment of it represents a significant accomplishment by a government agency and management staff. This was the 25<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the City has received this prestigious award.

To learn more about the City's financial reports and budget, visit the [Finance Department webpage](#).



# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Community News

### Good to know:

#### Spread Holiday Cheer with CVPD!

This December, the Chula Vista Police Department, the Chula Vista Police Foundation, and a dedicated group of community partners are continuing their annual tradition of supporting South Bay families through the Holiday Meal & Toy Giveaway. The program provides holiday meals and toys for children of all ages, helping ensure local families feel the warmth of the season.

There's still time for you to get involved! Contributions of toys or monetary donations directly support families in need and help make the holidays brighter across Chula Vista.

#### How to Participate:

**Online Donations:** [chulavistapolicefoundation.org](http://chulavistapolicefoundation.org)

#### Mail-In Contributions:

Chula Vista Police Foundation

315 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910

(Please include "Holiday Meal/Toy Giveaway" in the memo line.)

#### Toy Drop-Off Locations (through December 11):

- Walmart (875 E H St, 1150 Broadway, 75 N Broadway, 1360 Eastlake Pkwy)
- Starbucks (2250 Otay Lakes Rd, 1610 Millenia Ave, 519 Telegraph Canyon Rd)
- Sun Outdoors (825 E St)
- Balboa Thrift and Loan (865 Amena Ct)
- Aqua Tots (2015 Birch Rd, Suite 1505)
- Dick's Sporting Goods (390 E H St)
- California Coast Credit Union (368 E H St)
- Light House Church (2428 Fenton St)
- City Hall (276 Fourth Ave, Building A)
- CVPD Front Lobby (315 Fourth Ave)

Every donation makes a meaningful difference! By coming together, residents and partners can help ensure Chula Vista families enjoy a joyful and memorable holiday season.

\*\*\*





# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



CHULA VISTA ANIMAL SERVICES  
**ANGEL TREE**  
Be an angel to a furry friend this holiday season!

All of our furry friends featured on the tree are available for adoption at the Chula Vista Animal Care Facility!

**HOW IT WORKS**

- Choose an ornament with a furry friend (SOUTH BRANCH LOCATION)
- Purchase some or all of the items on their list
- Drop off donations to any Chula Vista Public Library throughout the month of December

## Chula Vista Animal Services Angel Tree Donations

As the holiday season approaches, we invite you to be a part of something truly special – the Chula Vista Animal Services (CVAS) Angel Tree. While many of us are preparing for the warmth and joy of the holidays with our families, let's not forget the furry friends who are patiently waiting for their forever homes at CVAS.

Beyond giving, one of the most meaningful ways to honor the season is by opening your heart and home to a pet in need. Adoption not only fulfills their wish for a forever family, but it also creates a lasting bond that makes the holidays and every day more special.

Our shelter animals are not asking for much, but they too have wishes. They long for comfort, joy, and a sense of belonging. Visit our CVAS animal tree at the South Branch Library (389 Orange Ave, Chula Vista, CA 91911) throughout the month of December and pick out an ornament tag with a wish list and bring the donation to any of our libraries.

\*\*\*

## Public Tobacco Use & Accessibility Survey

We're gathering community feedback to better understand tobacco use and access in our city. Your input will help guide future programs and policies that support responsible practices and promote community well-being.

We have two quick, anonymous surveys available:

- The [Community Survey](#) asks residents about tobacco use, accessibility, marketing near youth spaces, and concerns about tobacco-related health impacts.
- The [Retailer Survey](#) is focused on businesses that sell tobacco products and seeks input on tobacco sales, product sourcing, licensing awareness, underage purchase attempts, and the saturation of tobacco retailers in the area.

Take the survey(s) here: [www.cvcommunityvoices.com/tobaccosurvey](http://www.cvcommunityvoices.com/tobaccosurvey)

\*\*\*

CITY OF CHULA VISTA

**QUICK SURVEY**  
THIS SURVEY IS ANONYMOUS.

**Public Tobacco Use & Accessibility Survey**

The City of Chula Vista is gathering feedback to better understand tobacco use & access in our community. Your input will help guide future programs & policies that encourage responsible tobacco practices & promote community well-being.

We have two surveys available – one for all residents & one specifically for businesses that sell tobacco products.

TAKE OUR SURVEY!

Thank you for sharing your voice!  
[www.cvcommunityvoices.com/tobaccosurvey](http://www.cvcommunityvoices.com/tobaccosurvey)

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Help Set Federal Housing and Urban Development Funding Priorities 2026-2027 Survey



The City of Chula Vista is developing the 2026–2027 Annual Action Plan, which guides how federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant funds are invested to support low-income individuals, families, and neighborhoods. Your input will help shape which projects are prioritized and how funding is allocated to create a healthier, safer, and more thriving Chula Vista.

By taking this short survey, your input will guide our Federal HUD funding investments and help enhance a healthy, safe, and thriving community in Chula Vista!

Survey open through December 8, 2025.

Take the survey on the Community Voices website: [Help Set Funding Priorities 2026-2027 - PublicInput](https://www.chulavistaca.gov/CommunityVoices/HelpSetFundingPriorities2026-2027-PublicInput)

\*\*\*

## OPERATION PRIDE

Rangers enforce and maintain the parks, while making them clean and safe for the public.

### CITY OF CHULA VISTA RANGERS COLLECTED:



**10,720**

**LBS. OF TRASH**



**44**

**SHOPPING CARTS**



**WORK FOR  
HOPE PAINTED  
HERITAGE PARK**

\*\*\*



# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Human Relations Committee Awards



The Human Relations Commission (HRC) Awards Ceremony is the inaugural celebration of a new yearly tradition that brings together City leaders, Commissioners, community partners, award recipients, their families, and residents from across Chula Vista. This event recognizes individuals, organizations, and youth whose work helps build a more connected, inclusive, and welcoming community.

Our first group of honorees were selected through a community-driven nomination process and carefully reviewed by the HRC Awards Subcommittee and City staff representatives. The ceremony was created to highlight outstanding contributions that strengthen the fabric of our city and uplift the values of respect, understanding, and belonging.

Join us on Tuesday, January 6 from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. at City Hall, 276 Fourth Ave, Chula Vista, for the reception and the formal presentation of the HRC Awards recipients during the City Council meeting.

## Things To Do:

### Starlight Parade and Festival

Celebrate the magic of the holidays in Chula Vista at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Starlight Parade and Festival! The City of Chula Vista invites you to this beloved South Bay tradition, which will light up Third Avenue with dazzling floats, joyful participants, and activities for all ages.

**Date:** Saturday, December 6 with festivities beginning at 3 p.m.

**Location:** Downtown Chula Vista, Third Ave.

**Learn More:** [Starlight Parade and Festival](#)



\*\*\*

### County of San Diego South County Climate Conversation



and an opportunity drawing.

This Community Climate Conversation will be focused on presenting information about regional efforts to address the risks of climate change and listening to community members concerns and feedback on climate related actions. There will also be free farm to table food

**Date:** Sunday, December 7 from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**Location:** South Bay Community Farm in Tijuana River Valley (GPS address 2550 Sunset Ave, San Diego, CA 92514. Follow the South Bay Sustainable Farm green yard signs the farm).

**Registration:** [Community Climate Conversations](#)

\*\*\*

# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.




**Snow Much Fun**  
Join us for Snow Much Fun! Kids ages 6-13 can enjoy festive crafts, play holiday-themed games, and relax with a cozy movie to end the day.  
**Date:** Friday, December 12 from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Salt Creek Community Center, 2710 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista  
Starting from \$10  
Register here: 

## Snow Much Fun

Kick off the holiday season with an afternoon full of winter magic! Kids will enjoy festive crafts, play holiday-themed games, and relax with a cozy movie to end the day. It is the perfect mix of creativity, laughter, and seasonal cheer.

**Date:** Friday, December 12 from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Salt Creek Community Center, 2710 Otay Lakes Rd, Chula Vista

**Registration:** [Snow Much Fun](#)

\*\*\*

## Parents Night Out at Heritage

Parents, reward yourselves with a night out! Leave your kids (ages 6-12) with Heritage Recreation staff for an evening of fun. Children will enjoy games, dinner, and activities while parents enjoy a few hours to themselves.

**Date:** Friday, December 12 from 6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

**Location:** Heritage Community Center, 1381 E Palomar St, Chula Vista

**Age Restriction:** 6-12 years old

**Price:** Starting at \$20

**Registration:** [Parents Night Out](#)




**LA RONDALLA DE SAN DIEGO**  
Saturday, December 13  
at 1:00 pm  
Chula Vista Public Library  
Civic Center Branch Auditorium

## La Rondalla de San Diego

Join us for special holiday music performance celebrating classical and traditional holiday tunes.

**Date:** Saturday, December 13 at 1 p.m.

**Location:** Civic Center Library, 365 F St, Chula Vista

\*\*\*

## Winter Craft Party

Join us for Monteville Community Center's annual Craft Party. We have a fun evening planned, including pizza, holiday themed crafts, activities, and more. Don't miss out on this festive night of food, crafts, and celebration!

**Date:** Friday, December 19 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**Location:** Monteville Community Center, 840 Duncan Ranch Rd, Chula Vista

**Price:** Starting at \$15

**Registration:** [Winter Craft Party](#)



**WINTER CRAFT PARTY**  
PIZZA | ACTIVITIES | CRAFTS  
DECEMBER 19 FROM 6 - 9 P.M.  
MONTEVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER  
840 DUNCAN RANCH RD, CHULA VISTA  
KIDIC - \$14.95 INC. AT \$15  
REGISTER HERE: 



# COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.



## Meetings and Events

The Chula Vista City Council is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, December 16 at 5 p.m. Members of the public are invited to provide e-comments on any agenda item. Please [click here](#) for more information on City Council meetings. [A Spanish-language video stream is available](#) and interpretation services for Spanish speakers are provided at each City Council meeting. Members of the public can watch the meeting via livestream. Chula Vista City Council meetings are [video recorded](#) and aired live on Cox Cable channel 24 (only in Chula Vista). Recorded meetings are also archived on the City's website.

\*\*\*