



City Manager Message



Greetings,

August is here and what an exciting summer it has been. If you're like me and you've been keeping up with the Olympics, you may have seen the USA Rugby Women's Sevens team win their first-ever Olympic medal in rugby sevens and take home the bronze! This win is especially important because the team trained at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center, and our very own Chula Vista EMT Nicole Heavirland represented the United States as a member of the team. We are immensely proud of our Olympians!

As the warm weather continues, it is important to stay alert and aware of wildfire risk. California is facing its earliest and most intense wildfire season in recent years. The Chula Vista Fire Department wants to reassure our residents that we've been taking proactive steps to ensure the safety of our community, click [here](#) for more information. Additionally, our fire crews are already fighting fires across the state this year. Currently, crews are working four different fire incidents from Central to Northern California, including the massive Park Fire, which has already grown into the fifth largest wildfire in California history. We thank them for their service, and hope they stay safe!

As a reminder, the City continues to offer residents resources to help stay cool. Visit one of the following cool zones during regular business hours: Civic Center Library, South Chula Vista Library, Otay Ranch Library, Norman Park Senior Center, and Loma Verde Community Center. A fun way to cool down is to visit one of our splash pads at the following locations: Stylus Park, Mountain Hawk Park, and Otay Ranch Town Center. The County of San Diego, in partnership with SDG&E, also provides free electric fans to those who are 60 years of age or older, or disabled, and living on limited income. For more information on cool zones and other programs, visit www.coolzones.org or call 2-1-1.

Community input is a very important part of the work that we do at the City. City staff is currently working on the Climate Action Plan update and is seeking community feedback. This is a great opportunity to learn and engage in updating our roadmap to help our community reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect our environment. Learn more about the Chula Vista 2024 Climate Action Plan update at www.chulavistaca.gov/cap or click [here](#) to participate in the survey!

Lastly, we have some very fun events coming up! On Tuesday, August 6, from 4 – 8 p.m., join us at the Chula Vista Police Department (CVPD) for National Night Out! Join CVPD for an evening of interactive booths, tours of the Department, and free tacos (while supplies last), learn more about this event in this edition's Community News. Chula Vista ArtFest is also returning on Saturday, August 10, from 12 to 6 p.m. at Chula Vista City Hall. This event is family- and dog-friendly and free to attend. There will be live music and painters, an art showcase featuring dozens of local artists, arts and craft vendors, and much more! Read more about Chula Vista ArtFest in this month's edition or visit www.cvartfest.com.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and this month's edition, please [contact me](#) if you have any questions or comments and stay safe!

~Maria V. Kachadoorian, City Manager



CV ArtFest Returns Saturday, Aug. 10

[CV ArtFest](#) will return to the City of Chula Vista August 10, offering local art, live music, and food. The popular event will take place at the Chula Vista City Hall Complex, located at 276 4th Ave, Chula Vista, from 12 to 6 p.m. Public parking is available through the facility's entrance on F street and at the Civic Center Library across the street.



+ FREE FOR ALL AGES

CV ART FEST

SAVE THE DATE
10 SATURDAY
AUGUST
NOON TILL 6PM

FEATURING LIVE PERFORMANCES BY
SHWAYZE
BRUNO & HOOLIGANS
PERLA NEGRA • DJ A-ONE

CHULA VISTA CITY HALL
276 Fourth Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 91910

CVartfest.com

ART EXHIBITS

LIVE PAINTING

ART VENDORS

FOOD TRUCKS & MORE

2024

SOUND SKILZ

SEVEN MILE CASINO

CV ArtFest is a family- and dog-friendly event that will offer live music, interactive areas where you can create your own art, and a variety of delicious food trucks to satisfy your taste buds. Attendees can discover and purchase one-of-a-kind creations at the arts and crafts market, which will include more than 60 vendor booths.

The event's highlight will be an art showcase featuring dozens of local painters, sketch artists, cartoonists, photographers, ceramicists, muralists, and other 2D and 3D artists. Experience the work of local artists such as Signe Ditona, Mr. B Baby, Kyle Garrity, Iz Inocencio, Leslye Villaseñor, Shirish Villaseñor, Iris Wise, Lee Kohse, Mark

Delgadillo, Karen Alleluia, Toshwerks, Tan Rose, Steve Wood, Danny Zavala, and more.

CV ArtFest is presented by the [City of Chula Vista](#) in partnership with [Soundskilz](#) to encourage, engage, support, and celebrate diverse artists and cultural arts in a culmination of local heritage, artistic talent, and creative activity. The event is sponsored by [Seven Mile Casino](#) and Steins Hollow Art Gallery. The City uplifts the arts and artists by presenting opportunities to develop and enrich positive

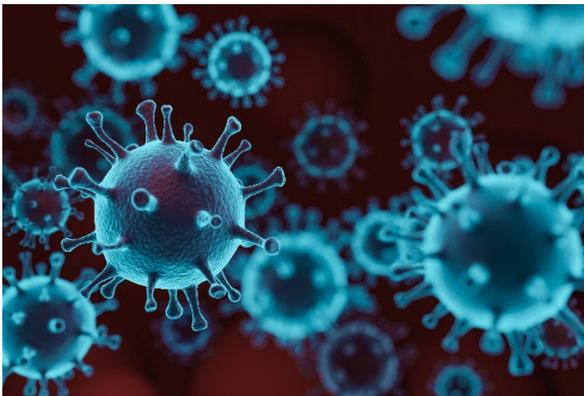
environments and social cohesion, recognizing that innovation, exploration, and expression are integral to building a vibrant community.

“We are thrilled to once again bring our local artists together at CV ArtFest, and for the public to connect with them,” says Erwin Magbanua, the City’s Cultural Arts Manager. “It is such a pleasure to host this gathering of incredible creative talent. Art is such a critical part of our lives and when we celebrate and convene around the arts, we strengthen our communities.”

CV ArtFest is still accepting registration applications for artists and vendors [here](#). Please contact Erwin Magbanua at emagbanua@chulavistaca.gov or (619) 691-5138 for more information.



Protecting Yourself and Others from COVID-19



COVID-19 cases have been on the rise again in San Diego County. Helping to stop the spread is important. If you feel ill, the County's Public Health Services encourages testing for COVID-19 and staying up-to-date on vaccinations and boosters. Vaccine appointments can be scheduled by visiting: [My Turn - California Vaccine Scheduling & Notifications](#).

Other general precautions include:

- Staying home if you are sick
- Seeking treatment from your doctor if you develop severe symptoms
- Considering wearing a mask in public places, especially in crowded or poorly ventilated spaces
- Washing your hands and practicing good hygiene
- Covering your coughs and sneezes

Free COVID-19 testing is available at the following Public Health Centers in San Diego County. It is strongly recommended to call the location prior to your visit.

Central Region Public Health Center: 5105 Market St., San Diego

(619) 932-8398

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays by appointment only

9 a.m. – 12 p.m., 12:30 – 2 p.m.

South Region Public Health Center: 690 Oxford St., Chula Vista

(619) 904-0839

Monday through Friday by appointment only

9 a.m. – 12 p.m., 12:30 – 2 p.m.

East Public Health Center: 376 N. Magnolia Ave., El Cajon

(619) 932-8398 by appointment only

Tuesdays and Thursdays

9 a.m. – 12 p.m., 12:30 – 2 p.m.

For more information on COVID-19 and other public health resources in San Diego County, visit the [County's COVID-19 webpage](#).



Recognizing City Employees: Public Works' Building Management Division

The Building Projects Management Division in the City's Public Works Department is a behind-the-scenes job for some of the City's highest profile projects. The work keeps the division's four employees quite busy. Led by Chula Vista Building Services Manager David White, the team assesses facilities projects, develops scopes of work, and puts related capital improvement projects out to bid. Once contracted, the division manages each project.

The division may only be two years old, but it consists of highly seasoned planning and engineering professionals. In addition to White, there are Building Project Managers Luis Echevarria and Gilbert Sanchez and Management Analyst Henry Argetsinger. The division began when the City added staffing to make progress on Measure P projects assigned to Public Works.



(Left to right: David White, Gilbert Sanchez, Henry Argetsinger, Luis Echevarria.)

"Success in building project management can only be accomplished by a team of construction professionals that have exceptional attention to detail and dedication to their craft, and I'm fortunate to realize this in all my team members," White said.

The commitment of team members is inspiring, White said, adding that he is grateful for their exceptional work. Recently completed projects include the renovation of the Third Avenue sign and upgrading and renovating the Memorial Park light poles. The projects have helped modernize the area.

The details needed to create a comprehensive scope of work help keep projects within budget and timelines. For the Third Avenue sign, for example, the scope included stripping all the old paint from the sign, prepping, and repainting it, converting the light bulbs from neon to LED and procuring new vinyl lettering. Parts of the project were done by the City's Public Works employees and other parts by contractors.

Other projects include working with Parks to upgrade roof systems, rehabilitate parking lots, install new playground equipment, and resurface tennis and basketball courts. The division has also been working to procure an office trailer and resurface the basketball courts at Harborside Park.

At the Living Coast Discovery Center, the department is working on a \$2 million project that will span over two phases. The first, which will cost some \$500,000, replaces the chillers for all the systems that support the fish tanks. The second phase will complete an upgrade to these systems.

One of the larger City investments is completely remodeling a building at Eucalyptus Park. To be named Casa Casillas, the building will become an artist space that will be managed by the library. The project calls for saving the building, stripping it down to its framing and reconstructing it. The \$3.5 million building renovation is part of an overall Eucalyptus Park upgrade, bringing together a variety of funding sources.

"I would like to thank the Senior Management Team within the Public Works Operations Department for their support and entrusting this team with the responsibility of project development, procurement and management." White said. "I would also like to thank all of those who took part in the decision to recognize the Building Projects Management team in the City newsletter, the recognition is greatly appreciated."



Highlighting Small Businesses: Treetop Tutoring Center

As Chula Vista closes out a sun-soaked summer, students are starting to head back to area classrooms. The beginning of the school year is the best time to ensure students and children have access to the tools they need to succeed year-round. This month, we are highlighting Treetop Tutoring Center in Eastlake for its dedication to helping young minds excel academically.



Treetop Tutoring Center is a women-owned business started four years ago by a former fourth grade teacher. Today, the center is staffed by more than 25 professional teachers and tutors supporting hundreds of students from the kindergarten through college level. The goal at Treetop Tutoring Center is to provide a friendly, teacher-supported environment for children to learn and grow academically. Treetop Tutoring Center offers creative, personalized tutoring support programs to meet children's needs with school and classwork while also building confidence.

Throughout the year when schools close for breaks, Treetop Tutoring Center also opens its doors for students to continue learning through Seasonal Enrichment Camps. Treetop Tutoring Center provides services in areas including reading readiness, writing skills, dual immersion Spanish, math and language arts. Teachers and tutors are available to create tutoring support programs to suit any child's needs.

Services at Treetop Tutoring Center are customizable and include:

- Hour-long one-on-one tutoring sessions throughout the week
- Sibling sessions in which a tutor supports two students working on the same or different subjects and grade levels
- Virtual tutoring support sessions
- Four to five day programs focused on communication and support between families and teachers, that also track weekly classwork and homework assignments

Treetop Tutoring Center also offers practice high school placement tests at private high schools, summer math bridging support and English as a Second Language (ESL) assistance for adults. The center is located in Eastlake at 891 Kuhn Drive, Suite 211, and is open six days a week from Monday through Saturday. For more information, visit the [Treetop Tutoring Center's website](#).

If you would like to be considered for a small business feature in a future City newsletter, please complete the [submission form](#).

For business assistance, please refer to our website at chulavistaca.gov/businesses and be sure to refer to the [award-winning Business Resource Guide](#) for additional information on available resources to assist your business.



Spotlighting Community Partners: Port of San Diego



On a mission to enrich the relationship people and businesses have with the dynamic waterfront of San Diego Bay, the [Port of San Diego](#) has fostered prosperity and a more remarkable way of life since 1962. On the Chula Vista Bayfront, the Port of San Diego and the City of Chula Vista are working hand-in-hand to transform and redevelop 535 acres of vacant and underutilized industrial land into a thriving recreational, residential and resort destination. Residents and visitors today enjoy newer amenities delivered by this partnership

like the Sun Outdoors San Diego Bay RV Park and the Sweetwater Bicycle and Pedestrian Path. Soon, the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center and the new Sweetwater Park will also be open for all to experience.

Scheduled to open in the summer of 2025, the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center is the centerpiece and catalyst project of the Chula Vista Bayfront. Gaylord Pacific will include up to 1,600 hotel rooms, a convention center with four ballrooms, three levels of meeting space, and two outdoor meeting and event lawns, as well as multiple restaurants, a sports bar, a resort-style pool, and an array of recreational facilities. Public amenities are also included, such as pedestrian promenades, bicycle access, a variety of food and beverage offerings, game activities, a nature playground, and more. Gaylord Hotels is the large convention hotel brand of Marriott International. When constructed, this will be Gaylord Hotels' first West Coast location. With its nationally recognized brand, the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center is expected to spur more development on the 535-acre Chula Vista Bayfront.

The \$15.5 million Sweetwater Park is anticipated to open in the fall. This brand-new public amenity is being built just north of Gaylord Pacific as a natural, habitat-oriented

recreational open space to showcase the unique natural wildlife assets of San Diego Bay, encouraging passive activities to complement the adjacent Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. The Port is also working to expand Bayside Park and add new public amenities. More on that to come. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, the Port is repaving the parking lots at and around Chula Vista Bayfront Park. This \$1.45 million project, part of the Port's yearly Major Maintenance Program, will be completed in four phases. Public access to the park, parking, and the boat launch ramp will be available throughout the project, which is expected to wrap up in October.

On August 24, 2024, the Port is again sponsoring the San Diego Working Waterfront's annual Operation Clean Sweep. Marina View Park is the gathering and starting point. Community members are invited to join in to help clean up the bayfront. For more information and to register as a volunteer, go to sdworkingwaterfront.com/EVENTS/OPERATION-CLEAN-SWEEP.

The Port is also a proud sponsor of Chula Vista's annual South Bay Earth Day, which is supported under the Port's Tidelands Activation Programs (TAP) and is one of the many diverse, community-based events the Port supports every year along the San Diego Bay waterfront. Another TAP-supported event in Chula Vista this year was part of the Port's "A Day at the Park" series. Held on June 29 at Bayfront Park, 1,300 attendees enjoyed free performances by local artists, local food vendors, a kid's zone with activities, and more.



As an innovative, global seaport courageously supporting commerce, community, and the environment, the Port of San Diego enjoys a collaborative partnership with the City of Chula Vista. Together, the Port and City are delivering on the community's vision of a Chula Vista Bayfront with new and expanded public parks, fun and exciting recreational adventures, an improved and enhanced natural habitat, more dining and shopping options, a world-class hotel and convention center, and more – all for residents and coastal visitors to enjoy. For more information and updates, go to portofsandiego.org/chulavistabayfront.



Increase in Chula Vista Sewer Bills Took Effect July 1

Chula Vista sewer customers will see a slight increase in their sewer bills effective July 1 due to previously adopted annual adjustments, approved by the Chula Vista City Council in April 2022. These increases include an additional cost to utilize San Diego's wastewater treatment facilities. An average residential customer with a current bill of \$48 will see a total adjustment to approximately \$53 per month. For more details on the sewer rate adjustment, visit the [City's Sewer Rate and Bills webpage](#).



The City of Chula Vista currently provides sewer services to about 50,000 residential and commercial customers. Sewer rate revenues fund the operation and maintenance of City-owned sewer collection and conveyance facilities, capital projects, debt service, and administration. The revenues also cover costs related to prudent long-term operation and financial management of the utility system, such as maintaining adequate reserves and planning for

contingencies. Sewer rate revenues are also used to pay for wastewater treatment provided by the City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Authority.

The sewer service charge was established by the City Council in 1962 to pay for the operation and maintenance of the sewer collection system and sewage treatment. Residences and businesses on parcels connected to the City's sewer system pay the service charge.

The City offers payment plans for customers in need. Applications must be completed and submitted to the City's Finance Department to be considered. Check the [City's Sewer webpage](#) for more information regarding sewer rates, the Reduced Sewer Rate Program and payment plans.

Customers May Be Eligible for Additional Wastewater Payment Forgiveness

As part of the State of California's efforts to assist with COVID-19 related financial hardships, the State Water Resources Control Board is helping forgive additional customer debt when it comes to wastewater service bills.

The state originally deployed the Extended Water and Wastewater Arrearage Program in 2021 to forgive outstanding payments owed by customers who could not pay their wastewater service bills between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021. Now, due to a state allocation of an additional \$600 million in federal funding, the customer relief period is being extended from June 15, 2021 through December 31, 2022. Funding is provided through the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

What this means for many City of Chula Vista sewer customers is additional relief in past due bills for sewer service charges and late fees. The City is sending direct notifications to customers who may be eligible take part in the program. For more information, visit the [Extended Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program](#) or contact the City sewer division at (619) 691-5117 or cvsewer@chulavistaca.gov.



Community News

Good to Know



National Night Out is scheduled to take place Tuesday, August 6 from 4 to 8 p.m.! Visit the Chula Vista Police Department, (CVPD) located at 315 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, for an evening of fun for the whole family! The event will feature games, interactive booths, safety demonstrations, tours of the police department, a Home Depot craft workshop for kids, and opportunities to get to know the officers that serve you at CVPD! Free tacos will be provided by Tacos El Gordo (while supplies last). Click [here](#) for more information.

If you are 50 years old or above, have a passion for serving your community, and want to give back in a unique and engaging way, the **Chula Vista Police Department's Senior Volunteer Patrol (SVP)** program needs YOU! SVP tasks involve crucial yet non-hazardous duties, allowing sworn officers to address other public safety demands. No prior law enforcement experience is required.

If you are interested in joining this amazing team of volunteers, sign up for the upcoming academy in



October 2024! Call (619) 476-2417 or email svpp@ChulaVistaPD.org to get started. (Please note that a ridealong must be completed, and a background investigation package must be submitted prior to participation in the academy... so don't delay!)

To learn more about the SVP program, visit: <http://www.chulavistaca.gov/svp>

Things to Do

Are you or is someone you know frustrated with technology? Join the San Diego Futures Foundation on August 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Chula Vista Civic Center Library, 365 F Street, for a **free digital skills class** to practice using helpful tools on your smartphone and keeping your personal information safe online. Please bring any other questions you have about your devices. All participants will be entered into a drawing to win a laptop. Call (619) 614-0388 or visit the front desk at the Chula Vista Civic Center library to sign up.

Do you get frustrated using technology?
Join us for a FREE digital skills class.

All participants are entered to win a free laptop!

WHEN:
Tuesday, August 13
5-7 p.m.

WHERE:
Chula Vista Public Library Civic Center Branch, Auditorium
365 F St, Chula Vista, CA 92010

HOW:
Call 619.614.0388 today to sign up!

SDF 211 SAN DIEGO COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO SAN DIEGO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS SANDAG



The Chula Vista Fire Department Heritage Foundation is proud to hold the inaugural **Chula Vista Firefighter's Pickleball Tournament** in downtown Chula Vista on August 24 from 12 to 5 p.m. The foundation's mission is to preserve the rich history of the City and the Fire Department, while celebrating their evolution. The event is a chance to play pickleball in the streets of downtown Chula Vista, surrounded by local businesses that have helped Chula Vista grow into what it is today. Got game? Bring it!

Early registration runs through August 9 at cost of \$100 per team, and late registration is through August 17 at a cost of \$120 per team. For more information, visit the [Pickleball Tournament webpage](#).

Neighborhood Beautification

OPERATION PRIDE continues monthly cleanups. In conjunction with Alpha Project, last month the team collected 15,760 pounds of trash and 40 shopping carts in Chula Vista. Alpha Project: Take Back the Streets collected 10,300 pounds of trash. McAlister (Work for Hope) has stopped painting Rohr Park and begun painting at Harborside Park. Chula Vista Rangers are continuing to enforce and keep parks clean and safe for the public. Thank you for your continued efforts.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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



Meetings/Events

The **Chula Vista City Council** is scheduled to meet on **Tuesday, August 6 and Tuesday, August 13, 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.
