



City Manager Message



Greetings,

As we enter the fall season, we find ourselves just three months from the end of 2024. This year has been filled with major milestones and exciting progress for our City.

In the past few months, we've celebrated significant achievements, including the topping off of the Gaylord Pacific Resort & Convention Center and the Millenia Library. Both projects mark important steps forward for Chula Vista. Additionally, we're thrilled to be getting closer to finishing Casa Casillas, which will become the City's first dedicated cultural art space, fostering creativity and community engagement. On top of that, we're preparing to begin the [Heritage Road Bridge Replacement Project](#), another critical infrastructure development for our growing city. Each of these projects will help meet the needs of our expanding community, ensuring Chula Vista continues to thrive.

I want to take a moment to thank our Chula Vista Fire Department for their incredible dedication. Our personnel have been assisting with multiple wildfire responses across California and have also been deployed to help with Hurricane Helene relief efforts in the Southeast. Fire Chief Harry Muns is currently serving in a critical leadership role as part of a FEMA team deployed to North Carolina. There, he is overseeing incident operations for the western half of the state, in some of the areas hit hardest by the storm. Chief Muns is managing state and federal urban search and rescue teams made up of first responders from across the country. The teams are continuing to identify areas that have been devastated, and they are searching for survivors and victims.

Their bravery and hard work make us proud. Don't miss the opportunity to thank them in person at the [Annual Fire Department Open House](#) on Saturday, October 12. This free event offers station tours, interactive demonstrations, and fun for all ages.

A critical player in the Fire Department's recent deployments is also our Public Works Fleet Management Division, which ensures that all City vehicles operate safely when our personnel return from emergency incidents. Their behind-the-scenes work keeps our operations running smoothly. Check out this month's employee spotlight on the Fleet Management Division to learn more about their invaluable contributions.

Fall is a time for coming together, and we have some fantastic community events lined up:

Join your neighbors in a city-wide clean-up effort at the 21st Annual Beautify Chula Vista on Saturday, October 19. This is a great opportunity to give back and make a positive impact on our environment. To participate, register [here](#).

Celebrate 101 years of Chula Vista Animal Services on Saturday, October 26 with an Open House and Adoption Paw-ty! All adoption fees will be waived, making it the perfect day to bring home a new furry family member, more information [here](#).

As we prepare to open Harborside Park, we're inviting the community to join us for a meeting on Tuesday, October 29. We'll be discussing the latest updates to the park's amenities, safety measures, and recreational programs, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to City staff. For more information on park updates visit the [website](#).

Lastly, we're excited to announce the date for this year's Starlight Parade and Festival—a beloved Chula Vista tradition. Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 14, and get ready for an exciting evening of holiday fun! Registration for event vendors and parade participants is now open. To sign up, visit our [website](#).

Enjoy this month's edition. Please [contact me](#) if you have any questions or comments.

~Maria V. Kachadoorian, City Manager