



City Manager Message

Greetings,



As we shift into the month of February, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our City staff, particularly our Emergency Operations and Public Works crews, for their dedication during the recent heavy rain and flash flooding that affected our community and the broader County of San Diego.

Our Fire Department worked tirelessly on Monday, January 22, receiving 107 calls for service, including 40 mutual aid requests from other jurisdictions significantly impacted by the storm. I commend our first responders for their rapid action in conducting 10 swift water rescues, a water evacuation and more. Ambulance crews were also busy during this time, with 47 total transports in the 12-hour window. Meanwhile, our Public Works crews responded to flooded areas in the City, including Rohr Park, and evaluated other City parks and fields. I would also like to thank our Communications team, for their proactive efforts to keep the public up-to-date on the storm and its effects on City facilities.

While Chula Vista experienced some flooding, our community was not severely damaged. This is due in part to the City's proactive efforts to rehabilitate and maintain storm drainpipes in recent years. Thanks to Measure P, a temporary half-cent sales tax dedicated to addressing high-priority infrastructure needs, the City has replaced 249 miles of corrugated metal storm drainpipes with reinforced concrete or pipe lining.

Thanks to preventative measures, the City was in a much stronger position to provide for the safety of our community.

If you have experienced any storm-related damages, please fill out a voluntary survey as the County of San Diego collects information for state and federal financial assistance. [Please visit the link to complete the survey.](#) [For more information on disaster preparedness, visit the San Diego County website.](#)

As rainy weather persists, we encourage residents to prevent damage by utilizing sandbags, available at the City's Public Works facility at 1800 Maxwell Road. For updates on sandbag availability, please check our social media platforms.

As we get ready to observe Black History Month in February, let us acknowledge the significant contributions of African Americans in our community, spanning economic development, business, public service, education, and much more. It is important that we celebrate the beauty of our diverse community.

We are dedicated to making our City an even better place to live, work, and thrive. Thank you for being a part of our vibrant community

Enjoy this month's edition. Please [contact me](#) if you have any questions or comments. Wishing you all a prosperous and joyful new year!

~Maria V. Kachadoorian, City Manager



New Year, New Training for CVFD

Members of the Chula Vista Fire Department (CVFD) are constantly training and advancing their life saving skills to be prepared to serve the residents and businesses of Chula Vista. Recently, the Department provided staff training in two new areas: Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) and Spanish Medical language.

With the purchase of a grant funded UTV, CVFD firefighters are now able to access remote areas to quickly locate and render aid to victims. All fire personnel obtained specialized training on the UTV to ensure our fire crews operate safely and effectively. CVFD partnered with Sunbelt Rentals and Côtà Vera at Otay Ranch for the training. [Learn more in the video.](#)



Another great service is being provided by CVFD Paramedic and EMS educator Paul Maxwell, who is training Chula Vista Emergency Medical Services and Fire personnel in Medical Spanish. The training offers a way to better communicate with patients in our Spanish speaking community. Staff is learning basic Spanish and medical terms so they can communicate with patients and/or family members. Maxwell says, "we don't want to be in a situation where no Spanish speaker is available. Many patients are more comfortable speaking Spanish."

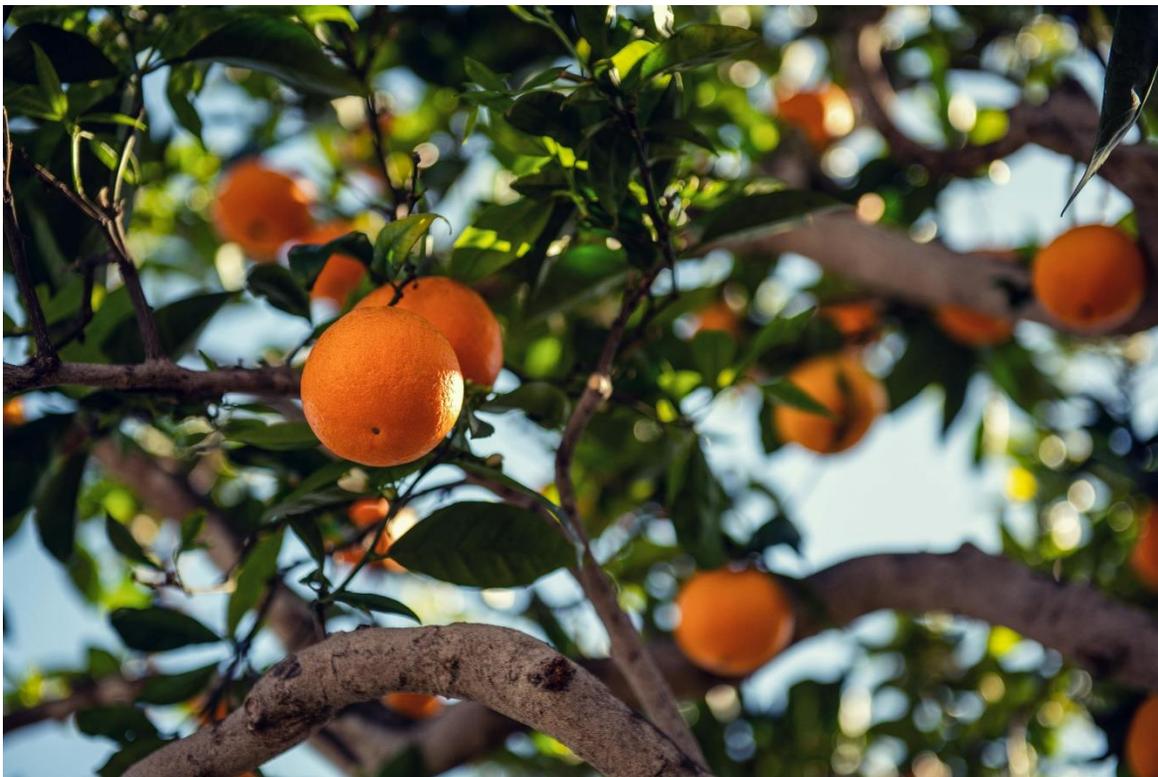
Thank you, CVFD, for being so proactive in your service to Chula Vista!



ProduceGood

Do you have backyard fruit trees that yield so much that the fruit often goes to waste? Have you wondered what to do with the excess fruit? Now, Chula Vista residents have an option to donate that unused fruit to those in need.

Partnering with ProduceGood, City residents can sign up with the nonprofit food recovery program to save unused fruit or vegetables. Volunteers will pick and clean the fruit and then deliver the produce to local food rescue organizations in the City. It's a win-win for everyone! If you are interested in learning more about the food recovery program, [please visit the website](#) or call (760) 492-3467.





Employee Spotlight: Officer Donald Truong

Police officers put their own lives at risk every single day to save people they don't even know. A great example of this is the recently released body cam video showing an intense rescue from a burning car on the I-5 freeway in Chula Vista last fall. The first responding officer in that incident was Chula Vista Police Officer Donald Truong.

Officer Truong has been with the Chula Vista Police Department (CVPD) for six years as a patrol officer and currently is assigned as a Gang Suppression Officer in the Street Team and Gang



Suppression Unit. He has wanted to be an officer since he was a young boy and is so happy to be working in Chula Vista. "I want to be an inspiration to those who had the same upbringing as I did," said Officer Truong. "I grew up in a low-income household within a high crime area and decided that I wanted to be a positive member of society." He says becoming a police officer gave him the opportunity to establish a career that he absolutely loves.

A favorite part of being an officer for Officer Truong is having the ability to truly make a positive change in the community through proactive policing.

In the fall of 2023, that proactive policing helped save a life. [You can watch the amazing efforts by Officer Truong and his CVPD partners at the vehicle fire incident on video.](#)

For his efforts, Officer Truong was selected as a candidate for the prestigious Axon 2024 Rise Award. Thank you, Officer Truong, and your partners, for your dedication to CVPD and our City. We appreciate you!

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

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



City Sales Tax Revenue

Sales tax revenue generated from retail sales of taxable, tangible items and services within the City represents the second largest revenue source for the City's General Fund in fiscal year 2024. The fiscal year 2024 Adopted Budget projects \$47.1 million to be collected as Local Jurisdiction sales tax revenue. Sales tax revenue is highly sensitive to economic conditions, including levels of unemployment, recessions, increased or reduced household income, and business investments.

Retailers must register with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) and pay the state's sales tax. Sales taxes are collected at the point of sale and remitted to the CDTFA. Sales tax provides revenue for the State, County, and City. Sales tax is collected at a total rate of 8.75% for the City of Chula Vista.



Chula Vista voters approved the Measure P Sales Tax in November 2016. Measure P is a temporary, 10-year, one-half cent sales tax (0.50%) dedicated to funding high priority infrastructure needs. The fiscal year 2024 Adopted Budget projects \$27.8 million in Measure P sales tax revenues. [Projects completed and ongoing thanks to Measure P Sales Tax dollars can be found on the City website.](#)

Chula Vista voters approved the Measure A Sales Tax in June 2018. Measure A is a one-half cent sales tax (0.50%) dedicated to addressing identified critical needs and enhancing public safety staffing. The fiscal year 2024 Adopted Budget projects \$27.8 million in Measure A sales tax revenues.

With the approval of Measure P and Measure A, the City receives a total of 2.0% of sales tax revenue applied to all taxable retail sales occurring within the City limits (1.00% local jurisdiction share) and any sales where the use of the item is within the City (Measure P and Measure A at 0.50% each). These measures are projected to generate approximately \$55.6 million in revenue in fiscal year 2024. When combined with the local jurisdiction sales tax revenue, total City sales tax revenue is projected to generate approximately \$102.7 million in fiscal year 2024. [Additional information on the City Budget can be found on the website.](#)



Community Partner Spotlight: Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center

Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center (SCVMC) is the largest provider of health care in the South Bay, providing advanced technologies, state-of-the-art facilities and compassionate care to families. The hospital and medical campus, located at 751 Medical Center Drive, opened in Chula Vista in 1975. However, its origins go back to the 1940s when it was known as Chula Vista Hospital and located on F Street. During American Heart Month, Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center is a perfect City partner to spotlight!

SCVMC's mission is to improve the health of everyone served in Chula Vista and across the South Bay. Sharp is not-for-profit, but for people, which means resources are dedicated to delivering the highest quality patient-centered care, the latest medical technology and superior service.

The experienced team of specialists provide a full spectrum of heart and vascular treatments. Sharp offers the [Find a Doctor tool](#) that allows patients to choose the right heart and vascular specialist. SCVMC treats a wide variety of cardiac conditions, including:

- Atrial fibrillation
- Congestive heart failure
- Coronary artery disease
- Heart valve disease
- Peripheral artery disease

SCVMC recognizes the importance of not only treating, but preventing heart disease, and offers free screenings and education to the community every year. February is American Heart Month, a time to raise awareness of strategies for heart-healthy living. Below are a few upcoming free events offered by Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center:

Love Your Heart Event, Wednesday, Feb. 14, time and location to be announced. Blood pressure screenings; [visit the website for more information](#).

Advanced Treatments for Heart Valve Disease Webinar, Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Join a free webinar offered by Dr. Seemal Mumtaz, cardiothoracic surgeon, and Mary Ann David, director of cardiovascular services, Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center, to learn about heart valve disease symptoms, diagnosis and advanced treatment options, including minimally invasive valve repair and replacement procedures. [Visit the webpage](#) or call 1-800-82-SHARP to register.

Advanced Treatments for AFib Webinar, Monday, March 18, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Join a free webinar to learn more about atrial fibrillation (AFib) from Dr. Farah Dawood, cardiac electrophysiologist, and Mary Ann David, director of cardiovascular services, Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center. They will discuss AFib symptoms, diagnosis and advanced treatment options, including minimally invasive procedures designed to reduce the high risk of stroke associated with the condition. [Visit the webpage](#) or call 1-800-82-SHARP to register.

Thank you, SCVMC, for your many years of dedication to Chula Vista.





Community News

Good to Know

The **Otay Ranch Branch Library will be moving to a new suite** at the Otay Ranch Town Center. Located in Suite 1103 near Macy's and next to The Barking Spot, the library will have approximately 4,000 square feet of space for books, passport services, programs and more. The Hub area near the Food Pavilion will remain available to reserve for community room space. Follow social media (@ThinkChulaVista) for the new location opening date. [Check the webpage for all library hours and locations.](#)

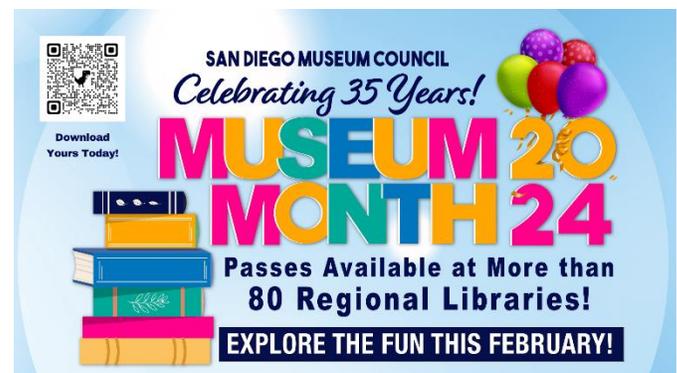
The Presidential Primary Election will be held in California on March 5, 2024. Registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail the week of February 4 and voting begins on Monday, February 5. Chula Vista voters will be choosing a City Attorney (special runoff), District 3 City Councilmember, and District 4 City Councilmember. [Learn more on the San Diego Registrar of Voters webpage.](#)

The annual Performing and Visual Arts Grant (PVAG) is back for 2024! Artists in dance, design, media, music, photography, theater, traditional/folk arts, visual arts, or interdisciplinary expressions involving more than one of the above fields are invited to apply! [The application deadline is February 11.](#)

Planning your spring break or summer vacation? **Now, all three Chula Vista libraries offer passport processing!** [Learn more on the webpage.](#)

Things to Do

San Diego Museum Month is back beginning Thursday, February 1. More than 60 museums throughout San Diego County are offering half-priced admission with the San Diego Museum Pass! Pick up your free pass at any Chula Vista Public Library in February or [download it directly](#) on your phone.



Mark your calendars for the **Friends of the Library Book Sale** on Friday, February 9, and Saturday, February 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The two-day sale will be held at the South Chula Vista Branch Library located at 389 Orange Avenue and will feature some great bargains! All proceeds support Friends' projects on behalf of the library.

Toucan Play, located at 1750 East Palomar, Suite 7, offers classes and events for little ones and parents. In February, classes scheduled are Two Can Play Game Night on Saturday, February 3; free Lunar New Year and Valentine's Craft on Saturday, February 10 and Sunday, February 11; and Toucan Paint and Sip on Saturday, February 24. [Visit the website for more details and to sign up!](#)

Parks and Recreation offers something for everyone! Classes and activities are available for seniors, teens, and tiny tots, including organized adult and youth sports, aquatics, therapeutics and day camps. [Check out the schedule and sign up for February fun today!](#)

Get Involved

Do you have a love of animals? **Our Chula Vista Animal Services is in urgent need of adopters and fosters.** Since New Year's Eve, the facility has been at capacity, especially with dogs. If you cannot adopt a dog at this time, perhaps you can foster a pet? Foster pet parents offer a temporary loving home to a pet until they can be adopted. All supplies are provided for pet fostering. [Learn more on the webpage.](#)



Or maybe you are ready to adopt a pet? Find your perfect Valentine with all adoption fees through the month of February for only \$14. Don't forget the long-term animals who are patiently waiting for a forever home! [Check out these cuties and schedule an interaction with your new best friend!](#)

Get involved in your community! Interested in volunteering for a City Board or Commission? There are several vacancies. [Learn more on the webpage.](#)

Neighborhood Beautification

OPERATION PRIDE continues monthly clean ups with assistance from Alpha Project and McAlister Institute (Work for Hope). In January, their work resulted in the collection of 55,340 pounds of trash and 73 shopping carts. Work for Hope continues to paint at Rohr Park, and Alpha Project: Take Back the Streets collected 12,540 pounds of trash in January. Thank you for your continued efforts.

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Meetings/Events

The City Council is scheduled to meet on **Tuesday, February 13, 20 and 27** at 5 p.m. Members of the public are invited to provide e-Comments on any agenda item. Check the website for details. www.chulavistaca.gov/councilmeetings. 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.

Visit the Civic Center Branch Library at 365 F Street on **Saturday, February 17** for a free La Rondalla de San Diego Valentine's Day Concert. Enjoy traditional Mexican and Latin American music from the band consisting of more than 60 people from all parts of San Diego County. The event begins at 1 p.m.



Join the Chula Vista Police Department for Coffee with a Cop on **Thursday, February 22**. The free event will be held at the IHOP restaurant located at 1206 Broadway from 9 to 10:30 a.m. There is no agenda, just a chance for you to ask questions, meet the officers and voice your concerns.

On **Tuesday, February 27** at 1 p.m., weather permitting, the City will unveil the new signage and naming of Kumeyaay Park, formerly known as Discovery Park. The park is located at 700 Buena Vista Way.