



City Manager Message



Greetings,

We continue working hard on projects that will positively shape our community. With a busy September ahead of us, I am happy to share many updates.

With steady progress, the Gaylord Pacific Resort & Convention Center project on our Chula Vista Bayfront is on track for its grand opening in May 2025. Don't miss the latest [drone footage](#) that showcases the incredible progress being made.

Just a year ago, we were breaking ground on Millenia, and now the shell of the building is done with the first and second floors getting windows installed. You can view the [live progress](#). It's an exciting time for this development.

We also continue to make progress on the University Now Initiative in partnership with Southwestern College. Having completed the workforce and academic needs assessment, as well as research on various university and governance models, we are now focused on finalizing a white paper for our state legislators. The white paper will outline funding and policy recommendations to support the development of a four-year, accredited university that will expand access to higher education for Chula Vista and the entire region.

I want to take a moment to recognize our Conservation team for their hard work on improving energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gases, and seeking grant funding for these efforts. Last week, Chula Vista was awarded a \$10 million energy grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, making us the only local government in Southern California to receive this honor. With this funding, we can help owners of large buildings improve energy efficiency. Be sure to read more about this exciting grant award.

This month, we're inviting the community to participate in Clear the Shelters! On Saturday, September 7, Chula Vista Animal Services will waive all adoption fees as part of NBCUniversal Local's nationwide campaign. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit the Chula Vista Animal Care Facility, where you can meet and adopt one of the 200 animals available. Each adoptable pet has received over \$1,000 in medical care, including vaccines, microchipping, and spaying or neutering. Check out the adoptable pets [here](#).

September 15 marks the start of National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the achievements, diverse cultures, and contributions of the Hispanic community. Chula Vista's vibrancy and uniqueness are deeply rooted in diversity, and this year, the biggest "El Grito" celebration in honor of Mexican Independence Day will be celebrated at Memorial Park on Sunday, September 15 at 4 pm.

In this edition, we are also launching a new feature called, Paths to Self-Sufficiency, in which we highlight advances the City is making when it comes to homelessness. For example, a recent City-led effort found significant progress made in the number of people who have moved from our streets into transitional shelters. Thank you to our Housing and Homeless Services Department and Homeless Outreach Team!

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

~Maria V. Kachadoorian, City Manager