JUNE 2025

CITY OF CHULA VISTA

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City Manager Message



Greetings,

As we welcome the summer season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the City's continued progress and share what's ahead!

Last month was an exciting time as we celebrated a historic moment for our community- the opening of the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center! So many dreamed of this day, some thought it would never happen, but on May 15 the Resort opened its doors to the public. And this is just the beginning for redevelopment on the Chula Vista Bayfront!

Also last month, the City's Fiscal Year 2025–26 Budget was approved by City Council. This balanced budget of $617.2 million includes a General Fund operating budget of $305.6 million and $29.6 million allocated to the Capital Improvement Program. The budget also includes $33.7 million in Measure A and $17.0 million in Measure P sales tax fund expenditures. Learn more in this month's edition.

As temperatures rise, our City is geared up for many fun activities like Music in the Park on June 7, the Juneteenth Flag Raising on June 17, and Chula Vista 4th Fest, our free Independence Day celebration and fireworks show at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center. Be sure to check the City's calendar and social media for more event information.

Speaking of outdoor fun, we are launching the Rohr Park Master Plan Visioning effort and asking residents to help shape the future of this cherished community space. Over the next decade, we will be working to implement a vision that reflects the evolving needs of our growing city. Share your ideas by participating in the Rohr Park Master Plan Visioning Survey, more details are in this month's edition.

Lastly, after much reflection and with a deep sense of gratitude, I will be retiring as City Manager this October. It has been an incredible opportunity to witness the results of our collective efforts. I am proud of our City team and confident in their continued leadership. I thank the Mayor and City Council for their trust and support throughout the years. Together, we have navigated major challenges from the Great Recession in 2008 to the COVID-19 pandemic and we have also achieved many milestones. These include the expansion of essential services and key infrastructure investments through Measure P. I'm excited for the work still ahead, including our first cultural arts center, the Millenia Library, San Diego State University's expansion to Chula Vista, and new film studios that continue to take shape. I look forward to seeing Chula Vista continue to thrive.

Enjoy this month's edition. As always, please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

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City Welcomes Gaylord Pacific to Bayfront



After decades of planning and anticipation, the City was excited to attend the grand opening of the long-awaited Gaylord Pacific Resort & Convention Center on Thursday, May 15, 2025. With a ceremonial ribbon cutting the resort welcomed residents, visitors, and regional partners to the newest jewel of the Chula Vista Bayfront.

Located right on the water's edge, the $1.35 billion resort features 1,600 guest rooms, a water park, multiple pools and waterslides, a lazy river, 12 unique restaurants, and a luxury spa, all designed to create a destination unlike any other in the region. Public amenities include pedestrian promenades, bike-friendly paths, outdoor gathering spaces, and a playground.

The convention center is a major asset for business and tourism, offering three levels of meeting space, four ballrooms, two expansive event lawns, and seamless indoor-outdoor connectivity.

This transformative project was delivered through a public-private partnership between the City of Chula Vista, the Port of San Diego, and RIDA Chula Vista, LLC, in collaboration with Marriott International and Gaylord Hotels. Chula Vista's Bayfront will be a regional economic engine creating $475 million of economic impact annually and thousands of new jobs.

As part of the first phase of the Chula Vista Bayfront redevelopment, the opening of the Gaylord Pacific will bring exciting progress for the waterfront. Nearby developments include the newly completed 39-acre Sweetwater Park, the expansion of Harbor Park (formerly known as Bayside Park) from approximately 12 to 25 acres, and the addition of the Sun Outdoors RV Resort. Future development will bring even more public parks, restaurants, retail, hotels, and recreational amenities to the bayfront.

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Dreaming Up the Next Chapter of Rohr Park

Rohr Park is more than just a park. It's a place where horses gallop along the equestrian trail, trains chug along miniature tracks, and wide-open spaces stretch into endless possibilities. And now, the City of Chula Vista invites residents of all ages to help shape the future of this beloved community gem.

As part of the Rohr Park Master Plan, the City is developing a comprehensive vision to guide renovations and investments over the next decade. The City aims to preserve the park's natural charm while meeting the evolving needs of its growing community.

Rohr Park, nestled along the floodplain of the Sweetwater River, was generously gifted to the City by Mr. Fred H. Rohr. The park includes the Chula Vista Golf Course, the Rohr Manor Building, picnic areas, gazebos, creative playgrounds, a dog park, and more. With over 300,000 annual visitors, Rohr Park remains one of Chula Vista's more popular parks.



Recent enhancements, like the fitness court and playgrounds, have renewed the park's magic. Now, through the Master Plan, the City is looking ahead to more improvements and wants to hear from you.

The City encourages community members to participate in community workshops to envision their "Dream Park." Young participants can share "Dream Park" drawings full of creative ideas, from tree forts to splash pads. These dreams will inspire the City's planning process.

Additional community workshops are scheduled for August and November, providing residents with more opportunities to share their feedback. Community members may also share ideas online at [Rohr Park Master Plan Visioning - PublicInput]

It’s important to note that planning will take into account certain restrictions, Rohr Park’s location on a floodplain means any updates must align with environmental regulations. Still, the possibilities remain wide open.

Whether you’re a frequent jogger, a softball player using the ballfields, or a parent watching your child wave to the train, your input matters. The City of Chula Vista is dedicated to fostering a safe, inclusive, and vibrant community that embodies our shared values and supports future generations.

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Celebrating Municipal Clerks Week

The City of Chula Vista proudly observed the 56th Annual Municipal Clerks Week from May 4–10, 2025. This annual recognition, established to honor the essential contributions of municipal clerks in local governments across the United States, Canada, and 15 other countries, highlights the vital role these professionals play in maintaining effective, transparent, and accessible government services.



In Chula Vista, the City Clerk's Office is responsible for a wide range of important duties, including administering municipal elections, maintaining official public records, supporting the City Council, and providing administrative services to the City's boards and commissions. The office ensures that residents have access to accurate information and that operations of local government remain open and transparent to the community.

As part of the week's observance, the City Clerk's Office welcomed City employees to an open house, offering a chance to learn more about the office's daily responsibilities and connect with the dedicated team behind this important work.

The City of Chula Vista extends its appreciation to the City Clerk's Office for their ongoing commitment to excellence, professionalism, and service to the community.

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City Recognized by U.S. Department of Energy in Better Climate Challenge

The U.S. spends more than $800 billion each year to power buildings, industrial plants and homes and on average, 20-30% of that energy is wasted. By reducing this waste, building owners can save money and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In 2022 the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) created the Better Climate Challenge to accelerate investment in energy efficiency and emission reduction approaches throughout the commercial, public, industrial and residential sectors.



In 2022, the City joined the DOE's Better Climate Challenge and made a voluntary goal of reducing GHG emissions in municipal operations by 50% by 2032. Remarkably, by the end of 2022, the City surpassed this goal and reduced GHG emissions by 64% from the 2018 baseline year!

How did we do it? In support of the City Council adopted Climate Action Plan goal of procuring 100% renewable electricity by 2035, the City joined other local agencies to create San Diego Community Power (SDCP), a community choice energy program which provides electricity for its customers and allows more options in the amount of renewable energy that can be delivered.

The City enrolled all municipal electricity accounts in the Power100 renewable electricity product from SDCP and the first full year of procuring this electricity was 2022. The City also saw a large reduction in fleet GHG emissions due to the switch from 20% biodiesel

to 100% renewable diesel and the increase in electric fleet vehicles. The City also has solar installations at over 20 municipal locations.

The City was recently recognized by the U.S. Department of Energy as a goal achiever in the Better Climate Challenge and received an award as the first public sector agency in the nationwide program to achieve this goal. Environmental Sustainably Manager, Coleen Wisniewski, accepted the award on behalf of the City. To learn more about the Better Climate Challenge or see other goal achievers, check out the Better Climate Challenge website.

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Highlighting Small Businesses: Dapper Boi



This June, we come together to celebrate Pride month—a time when we honor and commemorate the diversity that brings community together. As part of this celebration, we are proud to spotlight a local Chula Vista business with a focus on mission driven fashion: Dapper Boi.

Dapper Boi is an all-gender, size inclusive apparel line started by co-founders and wives Charisse and Vicky Pasche. This innovative brand offers stylish direct-to-consumer clothing from tees, jeans, chinos, jackets and more. The idea for Dapper Boi began when Charisse and Vicky were on their honeymoon inspired by their shared vision for a more inclusive shopping experience. As they put it, "We are all unique individuals, and we believe the shopping experience should be on style preference and body type, not gender."

This month, Dapper Boi is celebrating ten years of redefining fashion. To mark the occasion, the brand is hosting something it's never done before—a full Dapper Boi fashion show. This will be the first runway event exclusively featuring ten years of Dapper Boi style modeled by incredible members of the community who have been part of the brand's journey. It's a celebration of identity, style and the people who have helped shape Dapper Boi into what it is today.

Dapper Boi designs are made to fit all of us—inside and out. The brand has gained national recognition, with features on Shark Tank and CBS Mornings. Dapper Boi was also honored by Inc. Magazine on the *2025 Female Founders 500!* list. Charisse and Vicky are recognized for championing LGBTQ+ inclusive, all-gender fashion by expanding their reach and impact into the e-commerce retail space. Dapper Boi is also certified as an LGBT Business Enterprise by the San Diego LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

DapperBoi's apparel can be found online at DapperBoi.com and Nordstrom.com. Be sure to follow Dapper Boi on Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok.

If you would like your small business featured in a future newsletter, please complete this submission form.

For business assistance, please check out chulavistaca.gov/businesses and be sure to refer to the Business Resource Guide for additional information on available resources to assist your business.

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Spotlighting Community Partners: Our Safe Place



Our Safe Place, is a countywide program that provides safe, affirming spaces, and critical services for LGBTQ+ youth and their families. The South Bay drop-in center, located at 746 Ada Street in Chula Vista, offers a vital community resource to local LGBTQ+ youth under the age of 20.

Our Safe Place is open during after-school hours and weekends, providing youth with a welcoming environment where they can connect with peers, access mental health and services, and build life skills. The South Bay location also offers resources such as a food pantry and community closet. In a climate in which LGBTQ+ youth often face rejection and isolation, the center offers a safe "third place"—a space beyond home and school where young people are free to be themselves.

At the City's recent Pride Flag Raising Ceremony, Casey Taitano, Youth Support Partner at SBCS' Our Safe Place South, shared the importance of programs like this.

"Our purpose is to provide LGBTQ+ youth with somewhere safe to identify as themselves openly in a world that too often rejects them for embracing who they are," Taitano said. "We provide many youth with what is known as a 'third place', somewhere besides home and school or work to connect with and feel comfortable in."

LGBTQ+ youth remain one of the most vulnerable populations in the region, often experiencing higher rates of mental health challenges, substance use, and family conflict. By offering a certified outpatient mental health clinic and drop-in support, Our Safe Place addresses these challenges head-on. Services include individual and family therapy, psychiatric care, and support for issues such as coming out, transitioning, safe dating, and a variety of mental health conditions.

Our Safe Place is a collaborative program with San Diego Youth Services, SBCS (formerly South Bay Community Services), and the YMCA of San Diego County. Each partner provides a drop-in center, and San Diego Youth Services also provides a mental health clinic. The program is funded by the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency.

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City Budget: City Council Approves Budget



On May 20th, the Chula Vista City Council approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 $617.2 million budget, including a balanced General Fund operating budget of $305.6 million and a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget of $29.6 million. The operating budget includes $33.7 million in Measure A Sales Tax Fund expenditures and $17.0 million in Measure P Sales Tax Fund expenditures. The Measure A and Measure P Citizens' Oversight Committees affirmed that the adopted budgets for these funds are in compliance with the adopted respective expenditure plans.

To allow public participation in the budget process, staff conducted three community budget presentations and provided opportunities for submission of public comments. After accepting the City Manager's proposed operating and CIP budgets at their May 6th meeting, City Council held a public hearing on May 20th to hear public testimony and adopt the budget. The City's Fiscal Year 2025-26 budget is available on the website.

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Community News

Community News



Special Election for County Board of Supervisors District 1

A Special General Election for the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors District 1 seat is happening soon, and your participation is vital! District 1 includes areas such as Chula Vista, Bonita, and other neighborhoods in the South Bay region.

Where and How to Vote

To ensure all voters have convenient access, the County has set up several vote centers and secure ballot drop boxes throughout the area. One central location is the Chula Vista City Hall at 276 Fourth Avenue, where you can either vote in person or drop off your completed ballot.

Select Vote Center Hours, including Chula Vista City Hall:

- June 21 – June 30: Open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Election Day – July 1: Open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

All Vote Centers:

- Election Day – July 1: Open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Ballot Drop Boxes: Open 24 hours and close on Election Day, July 1 at 8 p.m. For a full list of available vote center locations and ballot drop boxes, visit sdvote.com.

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Meet Mateo Chula Vista Animal Services longest resident — he's more than ready to find his forever home! This handsome husky mix is independent, loves to explore, and enjoys walks, backyard playtime, and showing off his tricks like *sit*, *stay,* and *roll over*.

He's gentle with smaller dogs, good on leash, and not possessive with toys or food. Mateo might start off a little cautious, but with a bit of patience, he quickly blossoms into a playful, affectionate, and loyal companion.

Looking for a one-of-a-kind companion who'll stick by your side? Learn more about him **on our website** or come in person to check him out!

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Kitten season has arrived, and Chula Vista Animal Services is experiencing an influx of orphaned kittens who need immediate care. Many of these young kittens are not yet old enough for adoption and simply need a quiet, nurturing home environment where they can grow, play and thrive until they're ready for their forever families.

That's where our community comes in.

Fostering is one of the most impactful ways you can support local animal welfare. It's a short-term commitment that yields lifelong results for the kittens in your care. Even if you've never fostered before, don't worry — we provide all necessary training, supplies, medical support, and guidance throughout the process. All you need is a little time, a safe space, and a caring heart.

Whether you're a student looking to earn community service hours, a family wanting to teach compassion, or simply an animal lover with room to spare, fostering is a meaningful way to give back.

Right now, our shelter is at capacity, and we urgently need fosters to help care for these kittens during this time. With just a few weeks of your support, a kitten can thrive — and be ready for a forever home.

If you're interested in making a difference, we encourage you to get involved.
To learn more or to sign up, visit our website at **www.cvacf.org.**

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The 2025 Teen Engagement Academy is back for its final session of the year. Over the course of seven exciting weeks, participants will dive into the world of law enforcement with behind-the-scenes access to elite units like SWAT, K-9, Forensics, and more. Enjoy weekly sessions filled with hands-on activities, new friendships, and plenty of refreshments.



- When: July 30 – September 10, 2025
    - Wednesdays, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Where: Chula Vista Police Department, 315 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA
- Requirements: Must be 13–18 years old, live in Chula Vista, and commit to all seven weeks
- Space is limited to 20 participants

Once completing the academy participants will attend a graduation at the City Council Chambers with the Police Chief and Mayor of Chula Vista.

The application deadline is July 24, 2025. Click here to apply: **https://bit.ly/3FuLZEI**

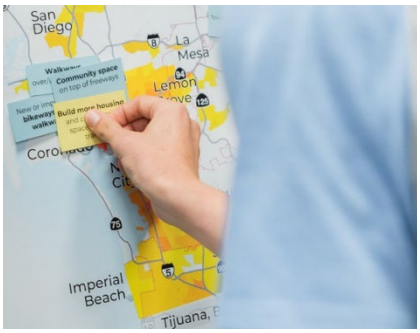
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OPERATION PRIDE continues monthly cleanups. Supervisor Anzar, Ranger Perez, and Park Ranger Program Manager Alzubaidi collected 16,269 pounds of trash and 67 shopping carts as part of May's OPERATION PRIDE.

McAlister (Work For Hope) finished painting Horizon Park and started at Greg Rogers also recoated the memorial bricks at Veterans.

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Share feedback on the draft 2025 Regional Plan for SANDAG. **The Draft 2025 Regional Plan** outlines the long-term vision to improve the San Diego region's transportation system.

Submit your comments online or in-person by Friday, July 18.

Attend a community learning session to explore what's proposed in your area:

- **South County**—Wednesday, June 25, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., at the National City Public Library: 1401 National City Blvd, National City, CA 91950

Things To Do:

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 7 and come enjoy **"Music in the Park!"** at Chula Vista Memorial Park, 373 Park Way, Chula Vista, CA. We're excited to invite you to celebrate National Parks and Rec Day with us. Starting at 4 p.m., we've got a whole lineup of games, activities, and entertainment for everyone to enjoy.

As the day winds down, don't miss our FREE Music in the Park event at 5 p.m. featuring the amazing THE PLATINUM VIBE BAND. Get ready to dance and sing along to some great tunes!



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The County of San Diego is hosting a series of **Community Climate Conversations** around the county, including one in the South Bay on June 12th from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., at the South Bay Community Farm in the Tijuana River Valley.

The Conversations are a place for all to learn, share and shape ideas and efforts to build resilient and safe communities. Join the event to learn about projects local organizations in your community are doing.

Food will be provided. Participants will have a chance to win prizes through an opportunity drawing. To learn more or register, please visit: [Community Climate Conversations | Engage San Diego County]

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Come out to Montevalle Park, 840 Duncan Ranch Road, Chula Vista, CA, on June 13th at 9 p.m., and spend some quality family time watching, Moana 2 (PG) under the stars. Don't forget chairs and a blanket and your movie snacks! This event is coordinated with the Snores N' S'mores Family Campout event. The later start time is due to the Campout event.

For more information on **Movies in the Moonlight** or Snores N' S'mores Campout event visit: [Calendar Meeting List | City of Chula Vista]

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The City of Chula Vista Sustainability team invites residents to join them for **"Let's Talk Trash!"**—a free, family-friendly event designed to promote sustainable living and waste reduction in the community.



Where: Heritage Park – 1381 East Palomar Street, Chula Vista, CA

When: Saturday, June 14 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

No RSVP needed—just drop by!

Whether you're just getting started or looking to up your eco-game, this event offers something for everyone. For more information, contact the Environmental Services team at 619-691-5122 or email environmentalservices@chulavistaca.gov.

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The Port of San Diego invites the community to attend **"A Day at the Park: A Port Experiences Series"** event at Chula Vista Bayfront Park. The free family-friendly event is scheduled for Saturday, June 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Chula Vista Bayfront Park, 980 Marina Way, Chula Vista, CA, 91910.



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Join us for a delightful mini **Textile Repair Clinic**, where you can bring your textile items that need a little love and mending. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn how to sew your very own towel bag using secondhand beach towels, perfect for summer vacation. Register here.



When: Saturday, June 28, 2025 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Loma Verde Community Center

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The annual **Chula Vista Firefighter's Foundation Pancake Breakfast** will take place on July 12th. The event will be held at Fire Station 5 at 341 Orange Ave, Chula Vista, CA, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. A recommended donation of $8 per plate gets you a pancake breakfast made by your Chula Vista Firefighters!



The Chula Vista Firefighters foundation is a nonprofit organization that provides Chula Vista and the surrounding areas with humanitarian aid, financial support, general assistance, education, community programs, and guidance in fire suppression careers. Your donation and participation at the event aids the foundation in providing the community with this support.

Come and enjoy breakfast, take a ride on the mini tiller, get exclusive CVFF apparel, and more activities for the family! Pre-registration guarantees your spot but walk ins are welcome the day of the event! **https://www.cvfirefighters.org/posts/pancake-breakfast/**

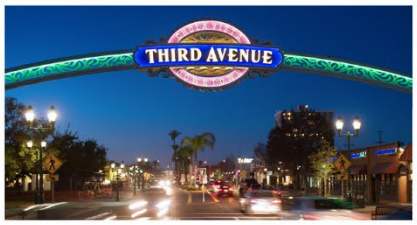
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Meetings/Events



The City of Chula Vista will hold a **Juneteenth Flag Raising** Ceremony on June 17th, 2025, at 4 p.m. The ceremony celebrates the day that marked the emancipation of all enslaved African Americans in the United States. The event includes speeches from community leaders, musical performances, and the raising of the Juneteenth flag.

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Join us for our annual **4th Fest** to celebrate Independence Day at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center! This event is free and family friendly with music, face painters, and a variety of food vendors for you to enjoy.

Gates will open at 7 p.m. with our firework show beginning at 9 p.m. We hope to see you there!

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The **Chula Vista City Council** is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, June 10, and Tuesday, June 17 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.