COMMUNITY CONNECTION
Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.
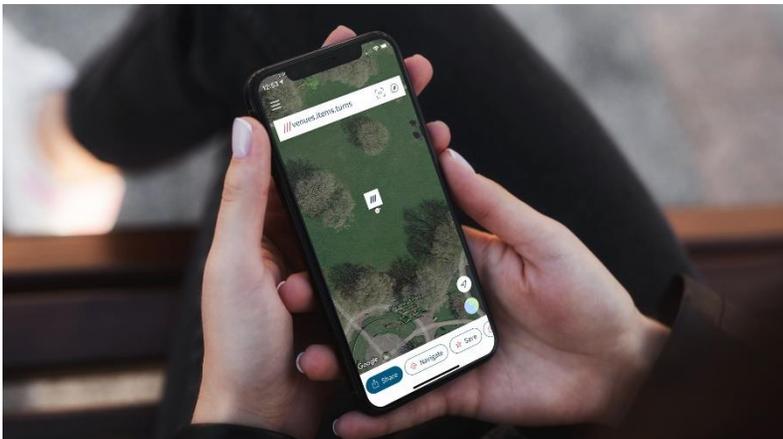
CITY OF CHULA VISTA

CVPD Incorporates what3words

The Chula Vista Police Department is excited to be using a new software program called what3words to more accurately identify the locations of emergencies for quicker responses. It's a simple way to describe exactly where help is needed using, as the name indicates, just three words.

Emergencies can happen anywhere, from a remote hiking location to the side of a highway. Being able to describe precisely *where* help is needed is critical and yet can be challenging in rural or less developed areas. Yet quickly pinpointing a location saves time and can save lives. When you share an incident's what3words address with emergency services, personnel can quickly find the *exact* location and send life-saving resources where they are needed.

How Does what3words Work?

Software application what3words divides the world into 3-meter squares, each with unique, three-word names called a what3words address. For example, ///kite.chats.dine, is a precise 3-meter square in a field next to the River Ouse in York, UK. It's free to use what3words as an app for iOS and Android, or online at *what3words.com*. The system also works without an Internet connection, making it ideal in areas with an unreliable data connection.

During an emergency, just follow these steps:

1. Open the what3words app and tap the "Locate Me" icon. The what3words address for your current location will be displayed at the top of the screen.
2. When you call 911, read out the three words to your emergency call taker. For example, if you're at ///index.home.raft simply say: 'My what3words address is index home raft'
3. The emergency service will use the what3words address to see exactly where you are and send help.

Always be prepared and download the free what3words app. Click here to learn more and download the app.