

The VIEW

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Message from City Manager Kimbra McCarthy



We begin 2021 with new hope for some return to normalcy. COVID-19 vaccinations are underway, and we have recently returned to the Red Tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, where more activities are opening up as COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations decrease.

The City stepped up to partner with the County of Santa Clara in providing an appointment-only mass vaccination site at the Mountain View Community Center. Our amazing City staff were ready and willing to convert our facility into a safe, convenient location for the public to get their free COVID-19 vaccine. The site is efficiently run and provides thousands of vaccines a week to individuals who are eligible to receive it. I would like to thank our City employees, County staff and volunteers who are working tirelessly at this much-needed vaccination resource in Mountain View.

The City is also embarking on a citywide strategic plan to align major projects with the City Council's priorities. This roadmap will help guide our priorities based on what is important to residents, businesses and other stakeholders, and give us steps in achieving this vision. You will learn more about how you can stay involved in this multi-month effort in this edition of *The View*.

Finally, I recently passed my one-year anniversary as your City Manager. I continue to appreciate the kindness, resolve and resiliency of our community. The COVID-19 pandemic remains a challenging force, still affecting our daily lives as well as the City's current fiscal situation. We will persevere because Mountain View is a compassionate community that comes together when times are good and when times are tough. I am thankful for the #TogetherMV spirit that our community has demonstrated, and I look forward to the time we can connect in person.

Kimbra McCarthy, City Manager



Mountain View Hosts Appointment-Only COVID-19 Vaccination Site

As of Jan. 22, the Mountain View Community Center began providing a new public service as a mass COVID-19 vaccination site. In less than a week's time, our City of Mountain View team worked collaboratively with the County of Santa Clara to convert the community center into a facility that can safely provide up to 5,000 vaccines weekly.

This is an appointment-only site, located at 201 S. Rengstorff Ave., that is operated by the County Health System. The public can make appointments and find out who is eligible for a vaccine by visiting sccfreevax.org. The State of California determines vaccine eligibility through its prioritization plan.

Residents without internet access or who need more help can make appointments for County Health System vaccine sites, like the Mountain View location, by calling the Valley Connection Call Center at 408-970-2000. The Call Center is open 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Assistance is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and other languages.

County of Santa Clara officials point out they are implementing various strategies to address disparities in vaccine access for underserved and vulnerable communities. One such strategy is the use of fixed sites with accessible locations, which the County says will help reach communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

IN THIS ISSUE

- City Budget
- COVID-19 Response and Recovery Efforts
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● CITY BUDGET

Prioritizing Equity in Where City Dollars Go

New to this year's budget process, the City will use an "equity lens" to identify whether any potential budget adjustments might benefit or impact communities of color and/or low income residents.

The Council approved this added element to the budget process in December 2020 as part of the City's Race, Equity and Inclusion Action Plan.



Fire Department Assisting at County Vaccination Sites



Firefighter Tim Houweling administers a COVID-19 vaccine injection

Next City Budget Update in April

City Manager Kimbra McCarthy presented the Midyear Budget Status Update to the City Council in February. The midyear report showed how public health restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic are affecting local business operations for much longer than anticipated. This, in turn, has reduced City revenues such as sales tax, recreation fees and Transient Occupancy Tax (hotel tax) to name a few.

The decrease in revenues means less money coming into the City's General Operating Fund, which funds many City services such as recreation, fire, library, police, park and street maintenance, and transportation and land use planning. In February, the preliminary budget deficit was projected to be \$1.5 million based on a number of uncertainties and assumptions that will likely continue to evolve over the next few months and affect the final results.

On March 11, the President signed into law the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan. The federal relief package will provide funding in several areas such as state and local government, schools, emergency rental assistance, direct stimulus payments, additional unemployment assistance, small business assistance, vaccine response efforts, and transportation.

City staff will present a budget status update to the Council on April 27, including details about the American Rescue Plan and how it impacts Mountain View.

Fiscal Year 2021-22 City Budget Season Underway

The City's fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. The City's process for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget started in December with staff reviewing needs and identifying possible budget adjustments. Staff will present an update on the process to the City Council on April 27. The recommended budget will come to the Council for review on June 8 and for adoption on June 22. The public is invited to these meetings to learn more and provide feedback about the City budget.

In addition, on April 6, the City will host a virtual educational workshop called Budget 101. In this workshop, staff will provide information about the City's budget process, where the City gets its money, and how it is spent. The workshop will include small group discussions about budget tradeoffs and other interactive opportunities. For updates, visit [MountainView.gov](https://www.mountainview.gov) or follow us on Twitter, @MtnViewCityHall.

How does the City develop its budget?
Where does the revenue come from?
Where does the money go?

BUDGET 101 WORKSHOP

Tuesday, April 6
6 p.m.

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

● BUSINESS

More COVID-19 Relief Efforts for Small Businesses

The City is once again providing COVID-19 support to the local business community. The latest relief effort – a Small Business Grant Program - received 133 applications during the two-week-long application period in February.

The program was created with \$250,000 in funding. The City awarded \$5,000 grants to 50 small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant program was designed to focus on small restaurants and personal services.

Small businesses that meet the eligibility requirements for the program were entered into a lottery to select the grant recipients. The City has already notified the 50 businesses of the grant award. Updates on additional funding opportunities will be provided through the Mountain View Biz Newsletter. To sign up for the biweekly newsletter, email: SmallBiz@mountainview.gov.

The City of Mountain View Small Business Grant Program is part of the implementation of the City of Mountain View Small Business Action Plan, adopted by City Council in September 2020. The action plan includes a variety of measures to help address the impact of COVID-19 on the small business community.

For more information, visit the Small Business Action Plan webpage at MountainView.gov/SmallBusinessActionPlan.



● CITY ANNUAL UPDATE



2021 City Annual Update: Hope in View

With the theme of "Hope in View," this year's virtual City Annual Update takes place on Thursday, April 1 at 8:30 a.m. Hosted by the City of Mountain View and the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor and City Manager will lead this lively and informative event to discuss the state of business in our community. The 2021 event is free and open to everyone. Register online at www.chambermv.org/city-annual-update.



Supporting the MV Business Community

Mountain View businesses are continuing to operate outdoors with guidance from the Castro StrEATS Pilot Program and Outdoor Mountain View.

Castro Street will continue to be closed to vehicular traffic from the 100 to 400 blocks to allow outdoor dining. The closure will continue until 14 days after the State of Emergency ends.

Meanwhile, Outdoor Mountain View allows businesses to temporarily operate outside on private property or authorized public property. The program sets requirements for businesses allowed to operate outdoors with minimal city permitting, licensing or approval, while still protecting public health and safety.

You are invited to come on out and support our Mountain View businesses safely.



A Safe Place to Park

Over the last three years, Mountain View has become the largest safe parking provider in Santa Clara County for unstably housed residents. The City now provides up to five safe parking lots that serve up to 101 participants.

The City has partnered with the County of Santa Clara for operations around the clock. The Safe Parking 24/7 pilot program has been a great success with the lots operating at or near capacity since last year.

All lots are operated by nonprofit provider Move Mountain View, which coordinates access to vital supportive services, on-site hygiene and medical services, and case management to help residents get back on the path to permanent housing.

For more information, visit MountainView.gov/SafeParking.

● HOUSING

Preparations Underway for Project Homekey, Mountain View's Interim Housing Community



The City of Mountain View continues to address a wide range of housing needs for our community.

These efforts range from affordable housing to temporary sheltering and safe parking.

Soon, Project Homekey will provide interim housing and help homeless seniors, families and individuals return to stable housing.

It is all possible, thanks to a pioneering public-private partnership among the City, State of California, County of Santa Clara, LifeMoves (a nonprofit organization), philanthropies, and the private sector.

Located at 2566 Leghorn St., Project Homekey is an innovative modular housing community.

With 100 units, the site offers a welcoming, dignified and safe environment. Households will also receive intensive case management services to help them overcome homelessness and return to stability.

The site provides ample space for case management meetings, dining, recreation, laundry, and even dog kennels. Project Homekey is unlike traditional congregate shelters. Here, every individual or family gets the privacy and dignity of their own private room that includes a door that locks.

Residents of the facility will be enrolled by referral only through the County Coordinated Assessment System. Each household will likely stay between 90-180 days while working diligently to return to stable housing.

Get ready for Project Homekey's opening soon. For updates, visit MountainView.gov/Homekey.

Exploring Local Hotel Concept to Provide Housing Opportunities



At the Jan. 26 meeting, the City Council unanimously directed City staff to work with the County of Santa Clara on the potential purchase and rehabilitation of Crestview Hotel (located at 901 East El Camino Real) in order to address various housing needs, such as low-income or unstably housed individuals and families. Right now, the City is seeking the County's partnership for the purchase of the hotel.

Several steps are necessary for the concept to move forward and become a project. They include:

- County acquiring the Crestview Hotel.
- County and City jointly selecting a housing developer and operator.
- Rehabilitation and renovation of the Crestview Hotel.
- Community outreach.

There have been many community questions concerning the future of the Crestview Hotel. These questions will be addressed through outreach as the initial concept moves ahead and more details are determined.

A community outreach meeting has been scheduled for March 30 from 6-8 p.m. To stay informed about project updates and register for the March 30 virtual meeting, visit MountainView.gov/Crestview.

● HOUSING

COVID-19 Tenant Relief for Residents in Need

This year, the State of California extended the statewide eviction moratorium. The COVID-19 Tenant Relief Act (Senate Bill 91) provides eviction protections for residential tenants experiencing COVID-19 financial hardship.

As a result, residential tenants are protected from eviction, due to nonpayment of rent, between March 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. All residential properties in Mountain View are covered. The State law replaces a prior City ordinance.

Tenants are protected by, and tenants and landlords must follow, the State's eviction moratorium requirements. Tenants and landlords should be aware that the State law has different noticing and past-due rent repayment requirements than the City's previous law.

There is also help available through the City's COVID-19 Rent Relief Program. The relief program is for qualifying residential tenants in Mountain View who are financially impacted by COVID-19. To apply, contact renthelp@csacares.org via email.

SB 91 also provides financial assistance to qualifying residential tenants and small property owners impacted by COVID-19. It includes \$2.6 billion in rent relief for eligible tenants and landlords. Tenants will be able to apply for assistance through the County of Santa Clara and landlords will be able to apply through the State. City staff will share information on how to apply for the programs as the information becomes available.

Visit MountainView.gov/EvictionRelief for more information.

Plan Update Underway for City's Housing Needs

The City of Mountain View is starting its Housing Element Update for 2023-2031. The Housing Element is part of the City's General Plan and guides future housing development by ensuring land use and zoning regulations accommodate housing needs, prioritizing

policies to improve availability of housing for various incomes and populations, and addressing social inequities. Under state law, cities must produce an updated Housing Element every eight years.

The Housing Element Update process combines community input on housing goals with technical reporting requirements, mandated by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), over an 18-month period. HCD assesses statewide housing needs based on population, employment and household growth projections to determine the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) for each region in the state, including the Bay Area. RHNA allocations set a minimum number of housing units that each city must be able to accommodate as identified in their Housing Elements.

For more information, including instructions for receiving email notifications for community input opportunities, visit MVHousingElement.org.



Example of "No Parking" Sign; Actual Narrow Streets Signage Not Available Yet



Update on Narrow Streets Ordinance

In the November 2020 election, Mountain View voters approved the Measure C ballot measure. The city ordinance restricts the parking of oversized vehicles, including boats, large trucks and recreational vehicles (RVs), on narrow streets to address traffic safety concerns.

The City Council approved the list of narrow streets in December 2020 as the first step in implementing the Narrow Streets Ordinance. However, the enforcement of oversized vehicles on narrow streets has not yet begun. That is because the City needs to install the "No Parking" signage first as part of the requirement for providing adequate notification about parking restrictions.

May will be the earliest that sign installation will begin. The City plans to install signs on the 444 streets, or 1,035 blocks, which qualify as narrow by being 40 feet wide or less. The sign installation will start in the Monta Loma/Farley/Rock neighborhood area and move clockwise, ending with the San Antonio/Rengstorff/Del Medio neighborhood area. The installation's estimated completion date is December 2021.

The City will notify the surrounding community and any oversized vehicles parked on the streets prior to the signs going up. With a primary focus on safety, the Mountain View Police Department will continue with its complaint-driven enforcement for parking-related concerns. Police will still operate with an emphasis on resolving the majority of complaints through education and compliance.

For more information including the listing of narrow streets, visit MountainView.gov/NarrowStreets.

● CITY SERVICES

Introducing the Multicultural Engagement Program Team

Our city has a long tradition of embracing and valuing diversity. The city's diversity is celebrated through our events, our restaurants and our leisure-time activities. In fact, 40% of Mountain View's residents are foreign-born. Since 1998, the Multilingual Community Outreach Program has been a part of the City of Mountain View. This program has also been recognized for being unique among cities of similar population.

This year, the program is getting a new name: the Multicultural Engagement Program, or MEP. MEP reflects the expansion of the program beyond translation services. The emphasis on multicultural gets to the core of the program, which is that how you talk with people is as important as what you say. The importance of two-way interaction and collaboration is reflected by the emphasis on engagement.

In support of the Council's "Community for All" priority, the MEP team reflects the City's commitment to diversity and inclusion efforts. Native Spanish, Chinese and Russian speakers make up the team. They provide information that is both culturally and linguistically appropriate. These native speakers also provide feedback to other City staff on the most effective ways to engage with our immigrant residents who can better understand and engage in City services when they receive and respond to information in their native language.

The MEP team provides a broad range of services to Mountain View's diverse community. They translate City outreach materials for our Spanish-, Chinese- and Russian-speaking residents. Spanish, Chinese and Russian are the most commonly spoken languages other than English in the city. The staff also supports real-time interpretations at various community and Council meetings. The MEP team collaborates with other City departments to provide translations for programs like the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training in Spanish and Chinese and updates for housing-related protections, rights and services. Post-COVID, you will see them out in the community at City events where they will answer questions, talk about the latest City events and services, and share children's activities with our neighbors.

The Spanish Language Leadership Academy will remain a core MEP program. Several academy graduates have gone on to volunteer as part of an Ambassador Program, in which they share details about City programs and services in their communities. Other graduates have served on City Council Advisory Boards and Commissions.

MEP recently joined the City's Communications Division in the City Manager's Office to better integrate multicultural competency as part of the City's communication and outreach efforts. For more information about the MEP program, visit MountainView.gov/MEP.

For information about City services in other languages, contact the MEP team by emailing nancy.ducos@mountainview.gov or call (650) 903-6145.

Para obtener información sobre servicios de la ciudad en otros idiomas, comuníquese con el Programa de Participación Multicultural enviando correo electrónico a nancy.ducos@mountainview.gov o llame al (650) 903-6145.

要获得其它语言的城市服务帮助, 请发送电子邮件或打电话与我们的多元文化参与项目团队联系, 电邮: nancy.ducos@mountainview.gov 电话: (650) 903-6145.

Для получения помощи на других языках обращайтесь в нашу Программу вовлечения населения в межкультурные связи по электронной почте nancy.ducos@mountainview.gov или (650) 903-6145.



Become a Cool Block

About one year ago, the Sustainability Division launched a program called Cool Block. It's designed to empower neighbors and bring the community together.

The roughly five-month-long program encourages participants to get to know their neighbors, become better prepared for disasters, and live more sustainably. Topics covered include energy resilient homes and a resourceful and community rich block. Once trained, block leaders know how to build a Cool Block team among their neighbors and can then facilitate block-wide meetings.

After the launch, staff trained 18 block leaders but, due to COVID-19 safety concerns, the City had to put the program on hold. Even so, two teams persevered.

They were able to transition their meetings online and overcome various challenges to become the first official Cool Block teams in Mountain View to complete the program. To acknowledge their achievement, the City presented members of the first team with certificates signed by the Mayor.

Neal Gorenflo was the first block leader to complete the curriculum. He said, in part, "The Cool Block dashboard shows that our group of nine households took a total of 159 actions reducing our carbon emissions by 44,148 pounds or an average of 18.3% per household. If this experience taught me anything, it's this — there's a huge untapped demand for communing."

If you're interested in participating in this engaging and interactive program, look out for notices about its relaunch. By this fall, Cool Block may be able to restart and neighbors can work towards a future that looks brighter for everyone together!



● CITY SERVICES

Police Department Transitions to Encrypted Radio Traffic in Compliance with State Rules

The Mountain View Police Department is authorized by the California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) to access CLETS, which stands for the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System. This is a computer network that provides law enforcement and criminal justice agencies with access to a variety of databases that contain data such as a person's criminal history, criminal record and driving record information. One way that officers access CLETS is using the police radio system called SVRIA (Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Authority). This is the shared digital radio system that every police and fire department uses in Santa Clara County.

An example of how the police department uses this system would be when an officer makes a traffic stop on a car for a moving violation and needs to verify that the driver has a valid license and is not wanted by authorities. In order to do so, the officer provides personally identifiable information, most often from a driver's license, over the radio to the emergency communication dispatchers so they can verify this information in the system (CLETS). Currently, anyone with a commercial scanner or a smartphone scanning app can listen and take down this information to use for their own purposes.

In the fall of 2020, the CA DOJ notified every police department in the state of a policy update that mandates the transmission of sensitive, personally identifiable information be encrypted. The purpose of the mandate is to protect the privacy and identity of any person whose information is broadcast over the air. This serves to not only prevent potential identity theft, but also to give privacy to people interacting with the police.

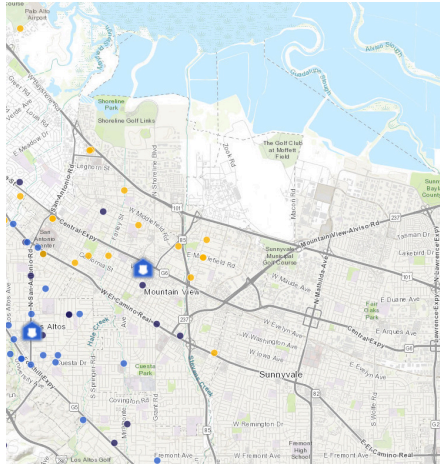
The Police Department evaluated several potential alternatives and ultimately decided to move forward with encrypting its radio channels to comply with the DOJ mandate. This action protects both the privacy of others as well as ensures the safety of officers and supervisors so that they have situational awareness of multiple incidents going on at any given time. Most agencies in the South Bay have already complied with the state mandate, including the cities of Campbell, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Gatos, Morgan Hill, Palo Alto, and San José police departments, Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety, and the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office.

The Mountain View Police Department made the transition in early March 2021. Every law enforcement agency within Santa Clara County will switch over to encrypted transmissions by the end of 2021.

To ensure residents stay updated on goings on in the community, the Police Department will continue to post police call logs, which are publicly accessible, on the MVPD.gov website. The department will also continue to post calls and cases of public interest on its social media channels, and the MVPD public information officer will continue to be timely and responsive to resident inquiries. The department will continue to have an interactive crime map, CityProtect.com, which allows for anyone who wants to view calls in Mountain View to have access to this information as well. In addition, the City and Police Department have partnered with a PhD Research Fellow, as part of a national research network, to develop scientific, evidence-based ways to better collect, analyze and present policing data for the Mountain View community. Mountain View is the only city in the region to bring on board this level of expertise and academic perspective.

Stay Informed

- MountainView.gov/COVID
- MountainView.gov/CityHallConnection
- MountainView.gov/Social



New Programs at the Library

The Mountain View Public Library welcomes spring with new virtual and to-go programs.

Outdoor Adventure

Starting in mid-March, the Library offers a Choose-Your-Own Outdoor Adventure for children. This "unplugged" program takes school-aged kids on a self-guided tour around downtown Mountain View to follow a story, search for clues and solve a mystery. You can pick up the materials for this event using the Library's Grab & Go service.

Women in Music

In celebration of Women's History Month, save the date for Women in Music on March 30. Learn about the impact of women on American music through this fun and informative live music program. Host Kirsten Thien will discuss the early innovators and pioneers, reflecting on their musical contributions to their struggle for equal pay and recognition. She will work up to contemporary stars of today while sharing some of her personal journey as a professional touring and recording musician.

Virtual Concert

Attend a virtual concert with Amethyst Trio on April 12. This talented collective plays everything from Beethoven to Coldplay and are known for their diverse repertoire and imaginative improvisations. The trio will perform light classical works, film music, as well as arrangements of contemporary popular selections.

Learn more about these and other events at MountainView.gov/LibraryCalendar.



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CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

The VIEW

● COMMUNITY IMPACT Weigh in on Mountain View's Future

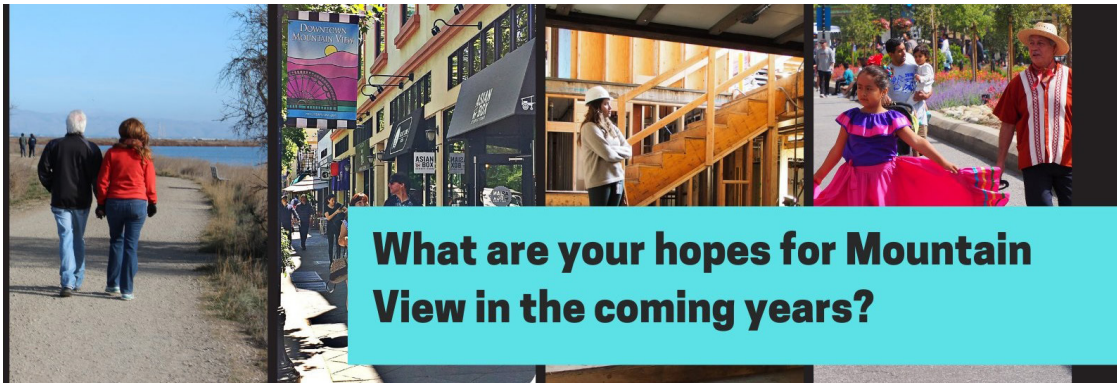
The City Council, community and City staff are part of a collaborative effort to develop the City of Mountain View's first-ever strategic plan. The planning process began in February and will continue over the next few months. In June, the City Council is scheduled to adopt a strategic roadmap that describes a vision of where the City strives to be, the top priorities over the next 3-to-5 years, and a work plan of key projects to achieve these priorities within the City's resource constraints.

Past and future public participation opportunities include:

- February-March 5: a series of focus groups and community meetings were held on the City's vision and strategic priorities or fill out a comment card on the City's website.
- March 16: a City Council workshop was conducted to review a draft of the City's vision and strategic priorities as well as discuss potential projects.
- April 27: a City Council meeting in which direction will be provided on a prioritized strategic project list.
- May: provide feedback through a community survey about the draft strategic plan.

Also, the City's website will get an update that aligns with the adopted strategic plan and vision. The current website's platform is nearing the end of its service life and must be replaced in 2022. The project goals for a redesigned MountainView.gov site include making the website more mobile friendly, easier for users to find the information they seek, and more intuitive for doing business with the City.

For more details, go online to MountainView.gov/StrategicRoadmap.



What are your hopes for Mountain View in the coming years?

The View

The newsletter is published two times a year by the City of Mountain View. *The View* is delivered by bulk mail to every residential address and business in Mountain View.

Mountain View City Council

Mayor: Ellen Kamei
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City Website

The View is available on the City's website, MountainView.gov.

City Hall Social Channels

Facebook.MountainView.gov
Instagram.com/MVCityHall
Twitter.MountainView.gov
MountainView.gov/YouTube

Extra Copies

A limited supply of extra copies are available at City Hall, 500 Castro St.; the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St.; and the Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave.

City Mission Statement

The City of Mountain View provides quality services and facilities that meet the needs of a caring and diverse community in a financially responsible manner.

Organizational Values

The City staff has established the following organizational values that guide their work for the community:

- Provide exceptional service
- Act with integrity
- Treat others with respect

