



THE

VIEW

Spring/Summer 2022



What Happens When a City Prioritizes Inclusion

The City of Mountain View recognizes that the beautiful, complex and interwoven tapestry of our community is made up of many cultures using many languages to connect and communicate with one another every day. In fact, nearly 41% of Mountain View’s residents are foreign-born (per the 2019 American Community Survey).



Community for All

Support Mountain View’s socioeconomic and cultural diversity. Engage and protect vulnerable populations through policies that promote access to housing, transportation and other programs and services.

In line with a City strategic priority to promote a Community for All, City staff members are encouraged to look at programs, projects and communications from culturally diverse perspectives and with an emphasis on inclusion. When something works, staff doesn’t stop there. They work to make it even better.

Some programs, such as the Multicultural Engagement Program (MEP), directly foster this goal. What began as a program to provide translations for printed materials blossomed into a living and growing program to celebrate cultural inclusion. Now, there are more spoken services and real-time translations in Spanish, Chinese and Russian. City events have expanded to include a biannual Multicultural Festival, a Día de Los Muertos area at the annual Halloween Monster Bash, the Mountain View International Film Festival, Library areas and programs dedicated to cultural exploration, and more Citywide programs presented in different languages.

To take inclusion even further, the Spanish Language Civic Leadership Academy was designed to teach more Spanish-speaking Mountain View residents about City programs and services, increase participation in the community, and encourage volunteerism. Recognizing the impact the Spanish Academy has made for Hispanic/Latino residents, the City is now launching its first Chinese Language Civic Leadership Academy this spring (see more about the Chinese Academy on page 5).

Inclusion goes beyond language access. It’s also about making people feel welcome and heard. When the City wanted to engage the community in dialogue about

local policing, the Human Relations Commission planned a series of listening forums in multiple languages to help understand what concerns members of our community had, including those who may struggle to express themselves in English.

City actions to engage the community also include the formation of a Public Safety Advisory Board; creating and updating a Race, Equity and Inclusion Plan; adding an equity measure to all new budget proposals; the Below Market Rate housing program; and the MVRPDx program that brings residents and police officers together for discussion and learning. Other City programs making a difference for Mountain View’s diverse residents include adding and expanding autism/sensory friendly performances to the stage at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts and the creation of the Human Services Division, which will provide services and security for some of our most vulnerable community members (most on these programs on page 4.)

The City welcomes your feedback and ideas about diversity and inclusion programs and services, which you can submit by using AskMV at: MountainView.gov/AskMV.



Message from City Manager

KIMBRA MCCARTHY

After two full years of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are finally seeing relief in sight. Our community has gone through so much and our City employees have been there right with you as they provided essential services throughout the public health emergency.

Like you, I had hoped this day would have come much sooner. Now, we can see each other's smiling faces with the universal masking orders lifted.

With spring upon us, we are holding the City's first Chinese Language Civic Leadership Academy in April. We are also moving forward on a guaranteed basic income pilot program called Elevate MV that will assist local families most in need. These are all part of Mountain View's efforts to be a "Community for All," which you can read more about on the cover page.

I am also excited for you to explore our redesigned City newsletter. The View has a new look and layout that enhances readability and incorporates the City's refreshed visual identity. We recently modernized the City's logo, colors, fonts and other identity elements to better reflect the City we are today and enhance consistency in our communications.

I look forward to seeing all of you out and about in Mountain View now that in-person events are back on the calendar.

Santa Clara County Mental Health Services Call Center
1-800-704-0900 for individuals seeking behavioral health services (24-hours, 7 days a week)

New Collaborative Approaches for Mental Health Crisis Response

While always important for community well-being, access to mental health resources is even more essential now to manage the stress of the pandemic and other world events. While cities don't typically operate health services, there are many ways a city can be part of the solution – collaborating with partners, advocating for state and federal funding, and providing information to raise awareness and help connect people with the support they need.

The City of Mountain View joined the City of Palo Alto in advocating for federal funding for a mental health alternative response pilot program. With the support of Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, an appropriation of \$2 million has been awarded.

To help coordinate these efforts, the City has created a new Human Services Division in the City Manager's Office, with a manager position funded through savings from the elimination of a vacant Police Officer position. In addition, there are some new or expanded local programs, with a focus on innovative approaches for responding to mental health crisis situations:

MVPD BSU

In April 2021, the Mountain View Police Department launched the Behavioral Services Unit (BSU) pilot program to enhance response to calls involving mental health needs. The officers on the BSU team have received intensive additional training on crisis response. The team also includes a subject matter expert in counseling. Through this enterprising approach, BSU provides wrap-around assistance to connect people with mental health and other resources.

Santa Clara County Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT)

The County of Santa Clara currently provides telephone assessment and in-field response by behavioral health clinicians as crisis situations are occurring. This countywide program was started in 2018 as an alternative to police response and works in collaboration with law enforcement liaisons. In February, the County Board of Supervisors voted to expand MCRT to include a new team dedicated to serving North County/West Valley.

Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST)

Plans are underway for the County to launch a new pilot program called TRUST. The response team will be mobile and community-based and will include mental health workers, emergency medical services responders, and community residents (without the involvement of law enforcement). The pilot will operate in three geographic areas: San Jose, Gilroy and North County (focusing on Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Santa Clara). The City's Public Safety Advisory Board will help raise awareness about and provide input on the TRUST pilot.



Mountain View Fire Department delivering mobile COVID-19 vaccinations in the community.

City Budget Season

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has continued much longer than anticipated due to new variants surfacing, the economy continues to recover, as reported in the midyear Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget update to Council in February 2022.

The City attributes the economic improvements to most COVID-related restrictions having been lifted and more people receiving vaccinations and boosters combined with improved testing. As a result, certain revenue categories, such as sales tax, transient occupancy tax and utility uses tax, are experiencing greater increases than originally anticipated in the City's Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

While there is improvement in some City revenue sources, it remains a challenge to determine if economic conditions will change for the better or worse as the pandemic recovery continues to unfold. The preliminary forecast for Fiscal Year 2022-23 projects total General Operating Fund revenues of \$161.1 million, \$14.7 million (10.0%), and \$3.8 million (2.4%) higher than the current fiscal year Adopted Budget and Estimated, respectively.

Preliminary FY 2022-23 GOF Revenues



City staff is in the process of developing the Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23, which will include updated revenues, expenditures and budget proposals. The budget will be presented at the Tuesday, June 14 City Council meeting. For updates about the current City budget, visit: MountainView.gov/Budget.

#TogetherMV: Entering Third Year of Pandemic Response

Adaptable and resilient: these are two adjectives that describe City of Mountain View employees as they have worked to serve the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

In January, like all sectors, the City felt the impact of the highly transmissible Omicron variant. Even with high levels of vaccination within the City organization, more staff than ever before throughout the months of the pandemic were affected. Due to staffing impacts and the need to maximize public health protocols, some services had to adjust. By mid-February, services were returning to normal. The Mountain View Public Library was able to bring back more programs. Performances began returning to the Mountain View Center for the

Performing Arts (MVCPA). As of April, all City services are expected to be back to a "new normal," in line with current public health guidance.

In the coming weeks, the Mountain View Community Center and MVCPA will continue to serve as vaccination and testing sites respectively. The City continues to partner with the County of Santa Clara to provide these valuable COVID-19 resources nearby to the people who live and work in Mountain View.

Finally, the public health landscape is showing signs of improvement in the fight against the coronavirus. On March 2, the County Public Health Officer lifted the universal indoor masking requirement in the county. Plus, more in-person events and festivals are returning in 2022.

No matter what tomorrow brings, the City will keep a close watch on COVID-19 development and remain flexible in how public services are delivered to keep both the community and staff as safe as possible.

For the latest information, visit: MountainView.gov/COVID.

OVER
132,365 COVID-19
VACCINATIONS
given at Mountain View Community Center since Jan. 22, 2021



Free Testing Sites | sccFreeTest.org

Vaccine Information | sccFreeVax.org



Elevate MV: Mountain View's Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program

In May 2021, the City of Mountain View adopted a resolution to commit support for the principles of a basic income program and gave the go-ahead for the development of a basic income pilot. After much research and a study session in September 2021, the City Council approved the adoption of a guaranteed basic income pilot program called Elevate MV in February 2022.

The Elevate MV pilot program gives direct cash payments of \$500 per month for one year to 166 randomly selected eligible Mountain View residents that will elevate their basic income to provide more financial security. Program eligibility requirements include being a Mountain View resident with one or more children under the age 18 and earning at or below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI), which equates to an annual income of \$44,750 in 2021 for a family of three.

Initial findings from previous programs, such as Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED), have shown that providing basic income helped participants find better employment and improved their overall health by reducing stress, anxiety and depression.

The Elevate MV pilot program sets itself apart from other relief programs by providing unrestricted financial assistance to the most vulnerable in our community. This means that participants in the pilot are empowered to choose how the assistance best meets the basic needs of their family and is not tied to specific expense categories or conditions.

Elevate MV, operated through the Community Services Agency and supported by YMCA and Community Financial Resources, will be a part of a national study conducted by the University of Pennsylvania Center for Guaranteed Basic Income along with other cities and programs like Stockton's SEED. The pilot program will likely begin enrolling its first participants in summer 2022.

Read more about the pilot program at MountainView.gov/ElevateMV.

LifeMoves Mountain View Gets \$5M Upgrade



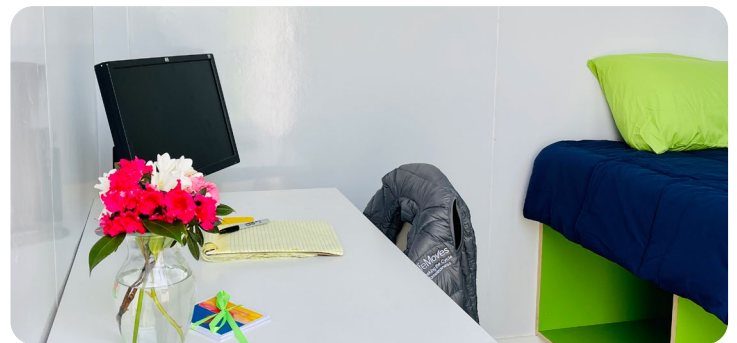
LifeMoves Mountain View is an interim housing community, providing living units and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness. The ultimate goal is for these individuals, couples and families to get on a path to finding their own permanent housing.

As part of the State of California's Project Homekey initiative, the site on Leghorn Street opened to its first clients in May 2021. The innovative program at LifeMoves Mountain View came about in less than six months from the start of construction, thanks to the City of Mountain View's public/private partnerships.

In coordination with nonprofit site operator, LifeMoves, the City applied for and received an additional \$5 million in State Homekey funds for the following improvements:

- Installation of a solar power system for both environmental sustainability and to lower operating costs.
- Acquisition of an adjacent site for additional nearby parking.

These improvements will strengthen the program and provide convenience for the 100 households who call LifeMoves Mountain View home at any given time.



Funded by City of Mountain View, State's Project Homekey, California Department of Housing and Community Development, County of Santa Clara, private philanthropies, and private sector donors including Google.org and LinkedIn. MountainView.gov/LifeMoves.

Chinese Leadership Academy Launches in April

After months of preparation, the City of Mountain View is launching its first City of Mountain View Chinese Language Civic Leadership Academy in April. The eight-week-long academy including the graduation is designed to improve participants' understanding of local government and City services in their native language.

Meeting each Thursday from April to June, this first year of the academy will have most sessions held in person and some held virtually, dependent on public health guidance.



Past session of the Spanish Language Civic Leadership Academy.

The Chinese Academy is modeled after the successful Spanish Language Civic Leadership Academy, which completed its fourth year of operation in fall 2021. Each session is led by staff from City departments and includes information on each department's services, major activities, programs and projects. Group discussions and activities to apply knowledge right away are part of what has made the Spanish version of the academy so popular.

Leadership academies can benefit not only the participants but the entire community too.

Graduates of the City's civic leadership academies are encouraged to increase their civic engagement, leadership and volunteerism. Many of the 110 Spanish academy graduates have gone on to serve on City advisory bodies, engage as community ambassadors, volunteer locally and even run for elected office.



“Participating in the Academy helped me to appreciate more the job our elected officials do, the impact their decisions have on our lives and how important it is to be involved, helping and interacting with members of the community.”

Marilú Cuesta Flores
2019 Spanish Language Civic Leadership Academy Graduate



Many of the 110 Spanish academy graduates have gone on to serve on City advisory bodies, engage as community ambassadors, volunteer locally and even run for elected office.

Draft Housing Element Available to Review Soon

The City of Mountain View is finalizing its Draft Housing Element, which is a housing plan 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 the Regional Housing Needs Allocation. The RHNA prioritizes policies to improve availability of housing for various incomes and populations, and addresses social inequities. The RHNA is the total number of housing units that each city and county must plan to accommodate within the eight-year Housing Element period, across all income levels, to address existing needs and projected growth.

Four Facts About SB 9

1. Senate Bill 9 is known as California's new split-lot law.
2. The state legislation took effect in January 2022.
3. SB 9 allows homeowners to split single-family lots and build up to four residential units.
4. As of March 25, the City has received two applications to build under SB 9.

Electrify Mountain View is Here

For both homeowners and renters, Electrify Mountain View is an online platform that offers personalized recommendations on how to electrify all aspects of your life, making it easier for you to save money and benefit the environment.

At no cost, you can learn about actions such as driving an electric vehicle or e-bike, increasing energy efficiency, using a full-size or portable induction cooktop, installing solar power or a heat pump water heater, and much more — all customized to your lifestyle. You can browse products, compare savings and get custom quotes.

More Mountain View residents than ever are starting to electrify. Making the switch to efficient electric transportation and appliances can help you lower your monthly costs, make your home safer and more comfortable all year long, decrease your transportation expenses and offer a better driving experience, and reduce your carbon emissions. Shifting away from fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy like wind or solar power can reduce your carbon footprint and reduce unhealthy by-products like air pollution.

All customized to your lifestyle!

The Draft Housing Element will be available for community-wide review and presented to the Environmental Planning Commission and City Council in May and June of 2022. The draft policy document will then be submitted soon after to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for review. Comments from HCD will need to be addressed and incorporated into the Final Housing Element document by fall 2022.

Under State of California law, cities must produce an updated Housing Element every eight years. For Bay Area cities, the 6th Cycle Housing Elements must be adopted by the end of 2022 and then submitted to the HCD for final review by January 2023.



For More Information, Project Updates, Email Notifications Signups and More [MVHousingElement.org](https://MountainView.org)

The platform does all the heavy lifting to find the best options for you and even highlights available rebates and incentives to reduce any costs.

To sign up and explore Electrify Mountain View, visit: MountainView.gov/ElectrifyMV.

Attention: 2022 Elections are Coming

The Statewide District Primary Election will be held on June 7. Every registered voter will receive a Vote by Mail ballot. In addition, several in-person voting locations are being established.

The nomination period for individuals interested in running for one of Mountain View's three City Council seats in the November 8 General Election will begin on July 18.

Not interested in running for elected office but want to get involved in public service? The City is continually seeking individuals who wish to serve on one of the boards, commissions or committees which serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council.

For more information, visit the City Clerk Office's webpage, MountainView.gov/CityClerk.

Enhancing Native Plant Habitats Through the Mayor's Monarch Pledge

For the second year in a row, the City of Mountain View has signed on to the Mayor's Monarch Pledge through the National Wildlife Federation.

As part of the pledge, the City is pursuing a multi-phase pollinator habitat enhancement project in Shoreline at Mountain View. The project is getting a financial boost through a recent \$30,000 grant from Google. The result: expanded monarch butterfly habitats with added pollinator plants to be planted in various areas of the park.

The City is also taking this opportunity to partner with local community groups to have volunteers help with pollinator habitats.

In addition to the habitat enhancements at Shoreline, the City has partnered with local community group GreenSpacesMV to create a pollinator habitat at Cuesta Park.

This project will help the City achieve its goals to increase biodiversity while also serving as a demonstration garden for visitors. The Cuesta Park habitat will raise awareness about the importance of pollinators and inform visitors of how to establish a similar habitat in their own yards.

The City is also encouraging community members to plant pollinators and biodiverse habitats at their homes. How? By providing free native seeds, including milkweed and other pollinator seeds, through the Mountain View Public Library's Seed Library Program during Library open hours.

To learn more about the City's commitment to native habitats and the monarch butterfly, visit:

MountainView.gov/MayorsMonarchPledge.

As part of Mountain View's pollinator habitat efforts, a local Girl Scout troop will build and install bee boxes.

Castro Street Happenings

The 100-300 blocks of Castro Street in downtown Mountain View will remain open to pedestrians and closed to vehicular traffic for the rest of the year.

The City Council extended the temporary closure of the three blocks through Jan. 3, 2023. Concurrent with the closure, City staff are in the process of developing a plan for interim improvements to the street closure including accessibility and aesthetic improvements.

In addition, per Council direction, the City is initiating the Pedestrian Mall Law of 1960 to convert the 100, 200 and 300 blocks of Castro Street into a pedestrian mall. This effort is part of a longer term project for planned improvements at the Transit Center including a more walkable connection from downtown. The Transit Center is a major mobility hub for Mountain View.



Stay Up to Date

MountainView.gov/CastroStreetClosure

MountainView.gov/CastroPedestrianMall

Conserve Water with Us

On Nov. 9, 2021, the Mountain View City Council declared a Stage 1 water shortage emergency condition.

Although Mountain View ended the 2021 calendar year with record rainfall in December, our area still needs more rain to help us get out of the drought. Customers are encouraged to limit landscape water use. Do not allow water to run off into paved areas such as gutters, sidewalks and streets, and fix leaks within 10 days of noticing them.

View current drought news and water supply conditions at MountainView.gov/Drought.

- **Valley Water offers several landscape rebates for single-family, multi-family, and commercial sites in Mountain View.**
- **Landscape rebates are available for removing grass and installing low water-use plants, and upgrading to efficient irrigation equipment.**

Learn more and apply for a rebate at WaterSavings.org.

DID YOU KNOW...



A running toilet can waste an average of two gallons per minute, or nearly 3,000 gallons per day!

Leaky toilets can use a large volume of water and result in high water bills.

Learn how to check for water leaks with an online step-by-step leak check guide: MountainView.gov/LeakCheck.

The View
P.O. Box 395
Mountain View, CA 94042



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Permit No. 179

Why the New Look, Mountain View?

You may have noticed that the City of Mountain View is looking a little different these days.

An updated logo, new vibrant colors and other changes are rolling out in phases as part of the City's refreshed visual identity.

These updates build upon the City Council's adoption of the Strategic Roadmap. They reinforce the City's vision of "a welcoming, vibrant city that plans intentionally and leads regionally to create livable, sustainable neighborhoods, access to nature and open spaces, and a strong innovation-driven local economy."

The City's refreshed visual identity is based on input from the community, including residents, City employees and other stakeholders. The effort will help enhance community communications, improve consistency across the organization, and spotlight what makes the city special.



The new logo is reminiscent of the former one that was developed several decades ago and wasn't designed for digital applications. It features bright colors with familiar images of the Santa Cruz mountains, our 300+ days of sunshine, an oak tree and Mountain View's shoreline along the San Francisco Bay combined with an optimistic outlook.

The City will slowly invest in transitioning to the refreshed look and feel, including the development of a new website over the coming year.

UPCOMING SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS

- April 14** [4 – 6 p.m.] – Spring Park Pop-Up at Pioneer Park
- April 28** [4 – 6 p.m.] – Spring Park Pop-Up at Wyandotte Park
- May 12** [4 – 6 p.m.] – Spring Park Pop-Up at Klein Park
- May 26** [4 – 6 p.m.] – Spring Park Pop-Up at Bubb Park
- May 21** [10 a.m. – 12 p.m.] – KidStock
- June 18** [10 a.m. – 12 p.m.] – KidStock

July 16 [10 a.m. – 12 p.m.] – KidStock

Fridays, June through September [6 – 7:30 p.m.]

Concerts on the Plaza

Fridays, July 8 through August 12 [8:30 p.m.]

Summer Outdoor Movie Night Series

August 2 – National Night Out

More upcoming events: MountainView.gov/SpecialEvents

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.

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MountainView.gov/Social

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Vice Mayor Alison Hicks
Councilmembers:
Margaret Abe-Koga
Ellen Kamei
Sally J. Lieber
Lisa Matichak
Pat Showalter

City Council Appointees

Kimbra McCarthy, City Manager
Jennifer Logue, City Attorney
Heather Glaser, City Clerk

City Vision

A welcoming, vibrant city that plans intentionally and leads regionally to create livable, sustainable neighborhoods, access to nature and open spaces, and a strong innovation-driven local economy.

2021-2023 Strategic Priorities

- Community for All
- Intentional Development & Housing Options
- Mobility & Connectivity
- Sustainability & Climate Resiliency
- Livability & Quality of Life
- Economic Vitality
- Organization Strength & Good Governance



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