



STATE

· FALL/WINTER 2016 ·

OF THE CITY

SANTA-CLARITA.COM



*Mayor Bob Kellar, Mayor Pro Tem Dante Acosta
Councilmembers Tim Ben Boydston, Marsha McLean and Laurene Weste*

MESSAGE

FROM CITY MANAGER
KEN STRIPLIN

We've been hearing from residents recently regarding an increase in traffic in the City and I wanted to share some information with you about this important issue. There are a number of factors that may account for the recent increases in traffic, specifically along Soledad Canyon Road, from Sand Canyon Road to Whites Canyon Road.

Since November of 2015, Vasquez Canyon Road has been closed due to a landslide that made the road unsafe for motorists. This road is located in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County and they are working diligently to get the road reopened. Unfortunately, while it is closed, motorists often use Whites Canyon Road, Soledad Canyon Road, and Sierra Highway as a detour. This diversion of traffic is temporarily creating increased congestion and delay along these roadways, particularly during peak commute times.

Another factor is the proximity of Soledad Canyon Road to the State Route 14 Freeway. As heavy traffic congests the freeway, motorists will again seek alternate routes and use our streets, adding to the existing traffic. This is occurring more often with the popularity of traffic apps like WAZE.

This does not mean that measures cannot be taken to mitigate traffic issues. Part of our efforts to improve traffic flow along our City's major roadways include an ongoing program that minimizes delay and reduces congestion through the re-timing and re-synchronizing of traffic signals.

One such improvement was recently implemented at the intersection of Soledad Canyon Road and Sierra Highway. The green signal phase during morning peak hours was increased for westbound traffic. The improvement will facilitate movement of traffic through the intersection and reduce traffic delay along Soledad Canyon Road.

The City is also planning on improving the intersection of Soledad Canyon Road and the State Route 14 southbound ramps by adding protected left-turn phasing for traffic entering the freeway from Soledad Canyon Road. We will also be extending the westbound left-turn lane by an additional 400 feet. These modifications should improve the flow at the intersection and further improve traffic conditions along Soledad Canyon Road.

I'd like to thank you for your patience as we work on these issues and assure you that the City makes it a high priority to improve the traffic on our streets.

Sincerely,

Ken Striplin
City Manager

kstriplin@santa-clarita.com



WHAT'S NEW



Santa Clarita 2020

Santa Clarita 2020 is the City's five-year strategic plan used to guide the City's major work efforts, prioritize resources, achieve milestones and maintain our unwavering commitment to providing the best services and facilities for Santa Clarita residents today and well into the future. The plan is made up of over 160 different projects and programs totaling tens of millions of dollars – all with the goal of improving Santa Clarita's quality of life. These projects and programs include new facilities, improvements to roads, parks and a new library center in Saugus.



Canyon Country Community Center

The new Canyon Country Community Center will be built on a 6.5 acre site located near the intersection of Soledad Canyon Road and Sierra Highway. Based on feedback from the community, the site master plan currently includes a gymnasium, computer technology, arts and crafts, community and fitness rooms, a multi-purpose playing field, flexible outdoor space for events, a community garden and a kitchen. The next steps for the project include completing an Environmental Review and drafting design plans. Our goal is to have the new center open by 2020.

Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station

The City of Santa Clarita, the County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department have taken the first steps toward building Santa Clarita Valley's first new sheriff's station since the 1970s. The new station will be located on City-owned property on Golden Valley Road between Centre Pointe Parkway and Robert C. Lee Parkway, where the temporary Los Angeles County Fire Station 104 is currently located. The new two-story, 44,339 square-foot Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station will include a 4,000 square-foot service garage and helipad.



To stay engaged in the Santa Clarita 2020 process and to find updates on projects, visit SantaClarita2020.com

Special Needs Registry

The Special Needs Registry is a free public safety tool that is maintained by the City of Santa Clarita and the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station. The secure database helps deputies recognize and respond to individuals with special needs (Alzheimer's, dementia, autism, etc.) who may require special assistance during an emergency or interaction with first responders. To register a loved one, please visit santa-clarita.com/SNR.

This year the Special Needs Registry received the prestigious League of California Cities Helen Putnam Award of Excellence.

Sand Fire Update

The City of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles County have been working together to evaluate what impact the Sand Fire may have had on affected areas. The Los Angeles County Public Works Department is preparing a comprehensive analysis to identify potentially affected areas and provide recommendations to the City. In addition, both City and County staff have conducted several field visits to the area and have provided post-fire debris flow advice to over 180 homeowners in the community. Upon completion, the results will be made available to affected communities. For more information, please call City of Santa Clarita Assistant Engineer, Jackie Lillio, at (661) 286-4131.



MESSAGE

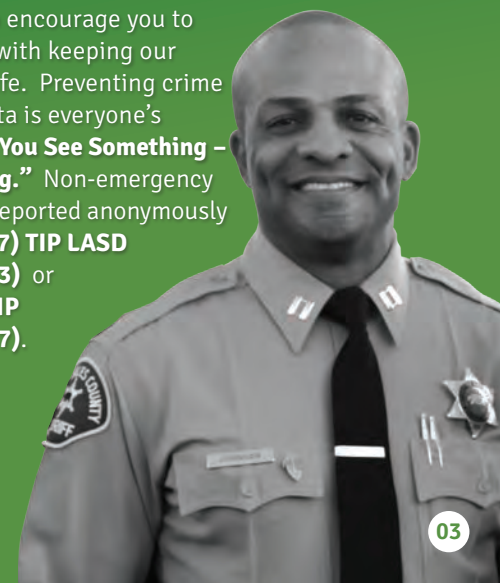
FROM CAPTAIN
ROOSEVELT JOHNSON

In an effort to reduce thefts in our retail establishments, the Sheriff's Department has been working closely with the Coalition of Loss Prevention Professionals. Enhanced communication between the Sheriff's Department and our local retail businesses has allowed the Sheriff's Department to more easily compare crime information, criminal descriptions, current trends and relevant policy, and has resulted in our reducing the ability of repeat offenders to target multiple stores.

By meeting regularly and sharing information, the Sheriff's Department and the Coalition of Loss Prevention Professionals have succeeded in reducing petty theft and larceny incidents this year. Anyone desiring more information can contact the Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Detective Bureau at (661) 799-5146.

I would also like to remind everyone about the need for safe driving around our schools. It is wise to take a little extra care and look out for children in school zones, near playgrounds and parks. Please remember to always stop at the crosswalk when children need to cross. Choose not to double park, especially when dropping off children. Put the cellphone away when driving so there is no temptation to check it when driving. If all of us take the time to pay attention when we are driving, we can help ensure the safety of our children. Of course, we all know not to text when driving.

I would like to encourage you to stay involved with keeping our community safe. Preventing crime in Santa Clarita is everyone's business - "If You See Something - Say Something." Non-emergency crime can be reported anonymously by calling (877) TIP LASD (877-847-5273) or (661) 284-2-TIP (661-284-2847).





CITY UPDATES

Connie Worden-Roberts Memorial Bridge



The City has completed widening the **Golden Valley Road Bridge** which has been renamed as the **Connie Worden-Roberts Memorial Bridge** in remembrance of a local advocate and Santa Clarita community leader. The multi-million dollar project improves traffic flow entering and exiting the 14 Freeway via Golden Valley Road. An additional two lanes of travel have been added, one in each direction, for a total of four through lanes. Additional improvements include a dedicated left turn lane for the southbound 14 Freeway, two left turn lanes for the northbound 14 Freeway and a protected path for pedestrians and cyclists on the south side of the bridge.



◀ Valencia Boulevard Median Refurbishment Project

Valencia Boulevard Medians

Now under way, the **Valencia Boulevard Median Refurbishment Project** will revamp a total of 12 medians on Valencia Boulevard between Tourney Road and Magic Mountain Parkway. The construction includes the replacement of the existing grass with low water use plants, and the installation of more efficient irrigation systems. The medians will use recycled water when it becomes available. The project also improves pedestrian safety and traffic patterns.

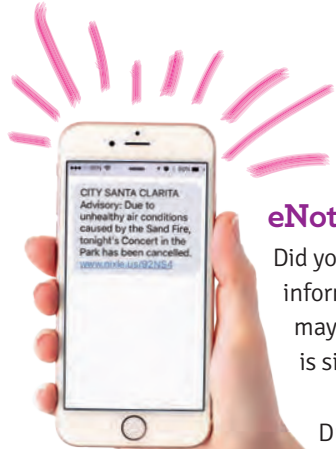
Open Space

To date, the City has acquired more than 8,500 acres of open space for residents to enjoy – with more to come. This year the City purchased more than 13 acres in the Soledad Canyon area adjacent to the City-owned Cemex property, preventing future mining in the area. The City also marked its first acquisition in the northwestern quadrant of the City's greenbelt with the purchase of more than 70 acres in Tapia Canyon. Nine acres have also been acquired through the Newhall Pass, creating an important connection between Wildwood Canyon Open Space and Gateway Ranch Open Space. The new Elder Loop and Taylor Trail at the Towsley Canyon were made easily accessible for hikers by the addition of 100 spaces in the parking area. To learn more about Santa Clarita's open spaces, visit HikeSantaClarita.com.



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eNotify and NIXLE

Did you know the City has over 40 different categories you can sign up for to receive up-to-date information that interests you? Want to know more about the arts and events in the City? Or maybe you'd like to receive updates from the Santa Clarita Film Office? Signing up for eNotify is simple, visit santa-clarita.com/eNotify and find the topics that matter most to you.

During a disaster or emergency, receiving information quickly is necessary and vital. The City's Nixle text alert system allows you to receive text message alerts with up-to-date relevant information. To sign up for Nixle alerts, visit santa-clarita.com/Nixle or text your zip code to **888777**.



Street Sweeping

During the fall and winter seasons, the City increases the frequency of street sweeping throughout all areas of the City. Street sweeping takes place every week following your trash pickup days, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Please move all vehicles from the street during these hours. The increased street sweeping schedule helps keep streets, and particularly gutters and storm drains, clean and free from falling leaves and debris in order to prevent flooding when it rains. For more information about the street sweeping schedule, visit santa-clarita.com and search Street Sweeping Map or call the City's Environmental Services Division at **(661) 286-4098**.

City Sidewalks

The Annual Sidewalk and Concrete Rehabilitation Project repairs damaged sidewalks, curbs and gutters throughout the City that require attention due to issues like overgrown tree roots. This year, santa-clarita.com/Sidewalk was launched to provide residents with answers to frequently asked questions including how to request a repair and details on the construction process.



▲ Street Sweepers



▼ City Sidewalk Repairs

Over 33,545 square feet of sidewalks have been completed along with 57 access ramps!

MESSAGE

FROM THE ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF GREG HISEL

A Life Changing Career that Changes Lives...

Are you interested in becoming a firefighter, learning about fire behavior and battling wildland fires? Or how about medical training to become a firefighter paramedic flying with our Air Squad and saving lives? Would you like an exciting career using science skills to mitigate a hazardous materials emergency response? What about joining the elite team of Los Angeles County firefighters and paramedics who travel the world as part of an internationally certified crew performing search and rescue missions?

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is a premier fire organization offering exciting career opportunities for those who want to make a difference. Each and every day in the City of Santa Clarita and throughout the County, our firefighters and paramedics respond to life threatening emergencies, battle wildland fires, structure fires and more!

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is seeking both men and women who are at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or G.E.D., a California Class "C" driver's license and are in good physical condition. To find out more, please visit RecruitmentUnit@fire.lacounty.gov or call **(310) 419-2115**.



CITY EVENTS

Veterans Day

The Santa Clarita City Council will honor veterans and currently-serving military during the City's annual **Veterans Day** event on Friday, November 11, at 11:00 a.m. at the Veterans Historical Plaza in Old Town Newhall. The event will feature guest speakers, music and opportunities to thank those who bravely devoted themselves to protect our Country and our freedom. santa-clarita.com/Events

Santa Clarita Marathon

The **21st Annual Santa Clarita Marathon** will meet at the starting line on Sunday, November 6, with athletes from around the world taking on the 26.2 mile challenge through Santa Clarita. The race includes a Full Marathon, a Half Marathon, a 5k run, Mayor's Walk, Kid K Run and pre-race Health and Fitness Expo on Saturday, November 5. Volunteer opportunities are also available. SCMarathon.org



4,751 runners took part in the 2015 marathon!



Light Up Main Street

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks, dressed in holiday style, in the air, there's a feeling of **Light Up Main Street!** On Saturday, November 19, Old Town Newhall will be transformed into a winter wonderland. Kick off the holiday season with holiday shopping during the annual Sip N' Shop from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Then, get in the spirit with live entertainment beginning at 6:00 p.m., food trucks, a photo opportunity with Santa and Mrs. Claus and the lighting ceremony beginning at 7:00 p.m. OldTownNewhall.com



Winter Thursdays@Newhall

Local talent will thrive in Old Town Newhall this winter! The **Thursdays@Newhall** series will continue from November through February with the 10 by 10 variety night, Note by Note singer/songwriter night, the ARTree Speaker Series, and SCVTV presents The OutWest Concert Series. ThursdaysAtNewhall.com



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Hometown Heroes Military Banner Program

The City's Hometown Heroes Military Banner Program honors currently serving, active military personnel from the United States Armed Forces from the Santa Clarita Valley. Custom streetlight pole banners with pictures, names and titles of the honorees decorate City streets three times a year: Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Veterans Day. Residents or organizations interested in applying can do so at any time at santa-clarita.com/Heroes.

Vote Santa Clarita

Your vote matters! The City's General Municipal Election will be consolidated with the Los Angeles County General Election to be held on **Tuesday, November 8, 2016**. Registered voters will have the opportunity to elect two councilmembers for a term of four years each. You can find voter registration information and local polling place locations at VoteSantaClarita.com.

Resident Service Center

Our **Resident Service Center** makes it easy for you to submit a service request, report graffiti or potholes, or even ask questions about recycling, recreation and more. Last year, City staff responded to over 21,900 requests including those for removal of illegal signs, pruning of trees, and trail maintenance. Through Resident Service Center you can request for the Sheriff's Department to keep an eye on your home while on vacation or submit an event to the City's Community Calendar. You can access Resident Service Center by visiting santa-clarita.com/RSC or through the **Santa Clarita Mobile App** available in the App Store and Google Play.

Vote Santa Clarita November 8th!
Your vote matters!

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with the City of Santa Clarita
santa-clarita.com/Social



The State of the City Newsletter

is published by the City of Santa Clarita Communications Division

Editor In Chief: Gail Morgan, gmorgan@santa-clarita.com

Executive Editor: Kasey Norton, knorton@santa-clarita.com

Photography Editor: Nick Robles, nrobles@santa-clarita.com

Designer: Joe Redmond, jredmond@santa-clarita.com

Photography: Tom Cruze, Aldo Canepa, Dave Mills and Ryan Babroff

Cover Photos: Gina Stewart, Vlad Penchuk, Angela Myers