# City of Santa Clarita Community Profile

Located in a picturesque valley just north of Los Angeles, Santa Clarita is bold and confident in its role as a premier community for raising families and building businesses. The balance of quality living and quality growth is carefully maintained through long-term planning, fiscal responsibility, community involvement, respect for environment and strong support for business development. Santa Clarita's successes are evident in residential neighborhoods. recreational attractions, businesses, cultural activities, and commercial, educational and health care centers.

#### **Statistics**

Population <sup>1</sup>	175,314
Size	52.03 sq. miles
Housing Units	57,711
Unemployment Rate <sup>2</sup>	2.7%
Median Household Income <sup>3</sup>	\$91,400

## Climate

At 1,200 to 1,400 feet above sea level, Santa Clarita enjoys a mild Southern California Mediterranean climate, making it ideal for business, residential, and recreational opportunities.

- Summers are dry and warm in the 70° to 100° range.
- Winters are temperate and semi-moist in the 40° to 60° range.
- Precipitation is measured at 15-18 inches between November and March.

#### **Safety**

Based on FBI statistics, the City of Santa Clarita is the fourth safest city of its size (population over 150,000) in the nation. Santa Clarita continually ranks as one of California's top-five safest cities.

## **Transportation**

The Santa Clarita Valley is part of a comprehensive transportation network includes local, commuter, and dial-a-ride bus service which links to every market in the world including LAX and Burbank Airports. The City is accessible via Highway 126, and the Golden State and Antelope Valley Freeways. Southern Pacific Railroad has daily freight runs; and Amtrak, with stations in the adjacent San Fernando Valley, provides regular passenger service to key cities. The ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are 50 and 60 miles south of the valley respectively. Ventura and its nearby ports are 40 freeway miles northwest of the valley. The City of Santa Clarita is also proud of its three Metrolink stations, which carry over 2,000 passengers a day to and from the San Fernando Valley and Downtown Los Angeles. Santa Clarita is the only city besides the City of Los Angeles with three stations. The award winning Santa Clarita Transit provides express bus services to local residential and commercial centers, as well as to the Metrolink stations and Downtown Los Angeles. Other alternative transportation options are available through the City's 22 miles of bike and pedestrian trails.

# **Employment**

The City of Santa Clarita's strong and diverse economy continues to expand, making Santa Clarita the ideal destination for Southern California businesses. Maintenance of a highly supportive environment for business development is achieved through the cooperation of the local Chamber of Commerce and the City government. In addition, companies benefit greatly from the area's land and leasing opportunities, as well as from the highly-skilled labor pool, variety of transportation choices, housing, quality of life, climate, and scenery. Since 2000, local jobs in Santa Clarita have grown by 5.6% annually and Santa Clarita continues to have the lowest unemployment rate in Los Angeles County. Santa Clarita's top employers include Six Flags California, Princess Cruises, HR Textron, and the local school districts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provided by the City of Santa Clarita

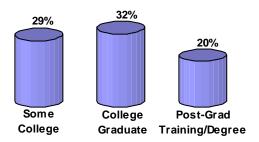
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Provided by the Employment Development Department (March 2006)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Provided by Alfred Gobar Associates (Santa Clarita Valley- Jan. 2006)

#### Workforce

The Santa Clarita Valley hosts a highly qualified and motivated workforce. The 132,000 (91,300 reside within city-limits) adult residents in the labor force reflect a high level of participation. Santa Clarita's vibrant workforce has experience in a variety of industries, especially in services and manufacturing. The following chart outlines Santa Clarita workers' exceptional level of educational attainment, which is high in comparison to other cities.

#### Workforce Education



#### **Education**

Santa Clarita is home to four local public school districts which rank among the top 10% in California based on the California Assessment Program. The school districts are: Newhall School District; Saugus Union School District; Sulphur Springs School District, and; William S. Hart Union High School District.

Santa Clarita's adult population over the age of 25 is highly educated. Approximately 40% of the overall adult population, including retirees and others who are not part of the workforce, has attained a degree beyond the high school diploma. Residents of the City of Santa Clarita and the entire Santa Clarita Valley enjoy the opportunity of attending any of the three colleges located in the Santa Clarita Valley and nearby California State University, Northridge. California Institute of the Arts, The Master's College, and College of the Canyons are located in Santa Clarita and are an educational resource to residents of Santa Clarita and nearby communities. Collectively, their student population is approximately 19,600 students.

California State University, Northridge is located nearby in the northern part of the San Fernando Valley, south of Santa Clarita, and serves as an additional resource for higher-level education that is more "close to home."

## **Community Housing**

Santa Clarita's real pride and joy is its residential communities. The Santa Clarita Valley has seven distinct communities. Included are family oriented neighborhoods. executive estates. apartments, condominiums, seniors' complexes, and a wide array of new and resale homes. Each community makes a special contribution to the valley's vitality and unique rural-urban flavor. As a result of more businesses and industries moving into the area, residents can live, be entertained, and shop close to where they work, rather than commuting long distances. Living in Santa Clarita can be as down-home and casual as a sprawling Sand Canyon ranch or as uptown and stylish as a new home in master-planned Valencia.

# **Recreational Opportunities**

There are a number of recreational and historical facilities located in the Santa Clarita Valley. Among them are Six Flags Magic Mountain amusement park and Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio. For water enthusiasts there are Castaic Lake, Lake Hughes, Lake Elizabeth, Lake Piru and Lake Pyramid. Also, popular beaches such as Ventura, Malibu, and Santa Monica are within a 40-60 minute drive from Santa Clarita. The Angeles National Forest, Placerita Canyon Nature Center, Saugus Train Station, Vasquez Rocks County Park, and the City's 17 community parks are also available for sports, hiking, and picnicking. William S. Hart Park features a magnificent Spanish Colonial mansion museum. Frazier Park (40 min.) and Mountain High (75 min.) are a short drive away for ski enthusiasts.

Also located in the Santa Clarita Valley are the COC Performing Arts Center, Canyon Theatre Guild, Disney Studios, and the Santa Clarita Repertory Theater. Santa Clarita is one of the world's premier centers for study in the visual and

performing arts with more than 500 public performances each year. Golf enthusiasts enjoy the Friendly Valley, Valencia Country Club, Robinson's Ranch, Tournament Players Club and Vista Valencia golf courses. In addition, the Valencia Country Club hosts the PGA's AT&T Classic (formerly the SBC Classic).

## **Quality of Life**

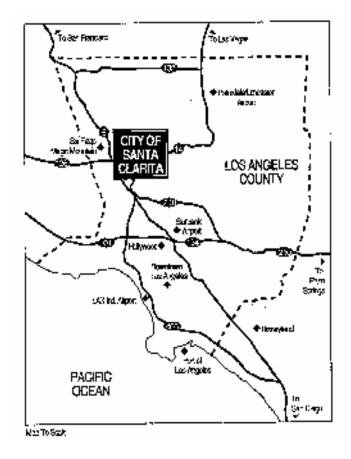
Santa Clarita residents enjoy a distinctive way of life. Residents value the City's landscaped trail system, well-maintained roads, high-quality schools, and innovative recycling programs. In addition, the City's ideal location makes possible regional recreation and economic opportunities. The community not only enjoys numerous parks and recreation services and facilities, but also outstanding Los Angeles County Sheriff and fire services, three County libraries, highly responsive paramedic and ambulance services, and high levels of local government services.

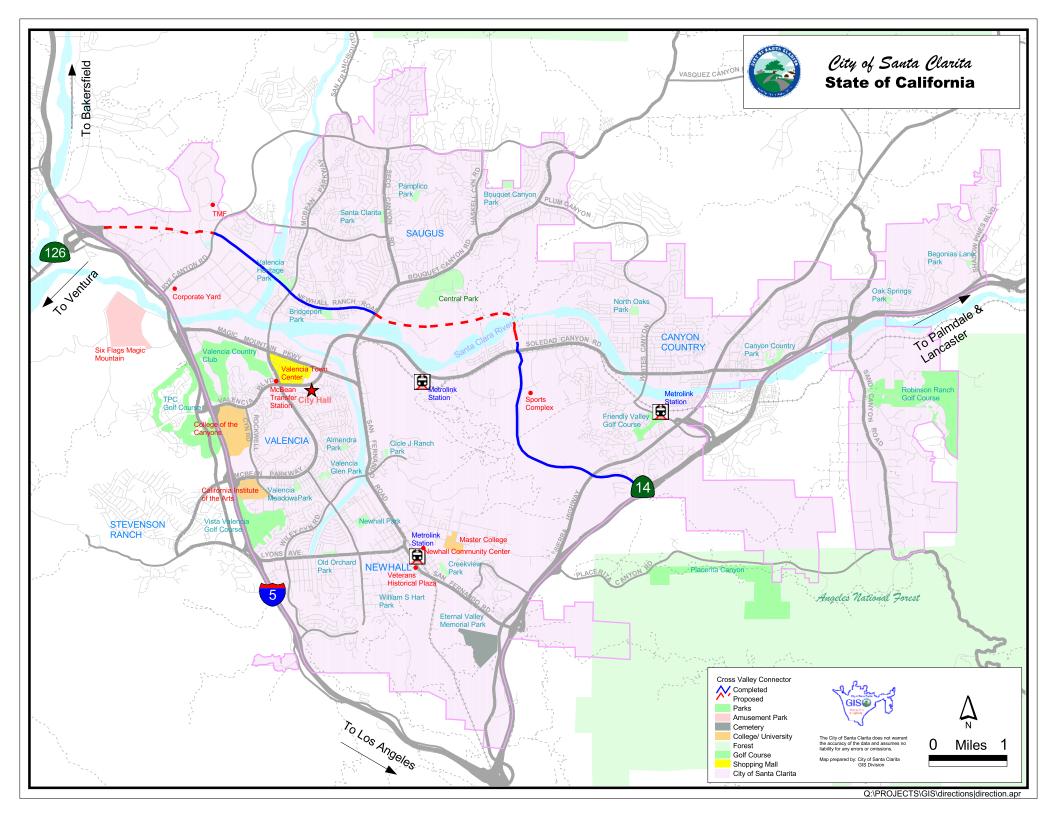
#### Location

Located 35 miles northwest of Los Angeles and 40 miles east of the Pacific Ocean, Santa Clarita forms an inverted triangle with the San Gabriel and Santa Susanna mountain ranges. These mountain ranges separate Santa Clarita from the San Fernando Valley and the Los Angeles Basin to the south and from the San Joaquin Valley, Mojave Desert and Angeles National Forest to the north.

### Mileage to Key Centers

Burbank Airport	25 miles S
Disneyland	58 miles S
Downtown Los Angeles	35 miles S
Los Angeles (LAX)	40 miles S
Las Vegas	267 miles NE
Palmdale/Lancaster	35 miles NE
Port of Los Angeles	60 miles S
Port Hueneme	30 miles W
San Diego	152 miles S
San Francisco	351 miles N





# Santa Clarita's History

Many generations have passed through this valley, each leaving its own trace of history. The valley has been home to Native Americans, explorers, soldiers, pioneers, farmers, ranchers, and shopkeepers.

The first recorded discovery of gold in California occurred in Santa Clarita six years prior to its discovery at Sutter's Mill in Sacramento. As the story goes, in 1842 Juan Francisco de Gracia Lopez was napping under a massive oak tree in Placerita Canyon, and he dreamt that he was surrounded by gold and became very rich. Upon awakening, he picked a bunch of wild onions growing nearby, and attached to the onion roots were several small pieces of gold. This discovery greatly impacted further development, namely the Newhall pass, which was constructed for the transportation of mining supplies.

Henry Mayo Newhall established what is now the town of Newhall, and, in 1878, planted corn, flax, and alfalfa. This was the beginning of the Newhall Land and Farming Company. The 1870's also brought about the Southern Pacific Railroad. The Ironhorse, or so it was named, laid its tracks across the valley bringing with it new towns and increased population. Saugus was named after a small town in Massachusetts, where Henry Mayo Newhall was born.



Black Gold, a substance which oozed from the ground, rarely served a purpose for the Indians. However, in 1875 the rivers of oil were diverted into the first commercially producing oil well in Pico Canyon. CSO 4, as it was called, was operated by the forerunners of the Standard Oil

Company, and had the distinction of being the oldest operating oil well in the world until capped in 1990.

The 1900's brought new prosperity and businesses to the valley, some of which remain today. For example, Sterling Borax began production, and the Saugus Station Eatery was renamed the Saugus Cafe. Many businesses opened shop during this era, including general stores, post offices, and churches.



This growing community with its rich surroundings of mountains, trees, and deserts attracted Gene Autry and his western style By the early 1900's, television show. Hollywood studios were using the area's rugged canyons as locations for westerns. The new home for Melody Ranch was "Western" town, renamed and used as the set for Gene Autry's television show. A prominent Hollywood film star of the 1920's, William S. Hart, left his mark on the community by building his home here and, upon his death, leaving it to the County. Currently, Hart Mansion provides tourists and residents a chance to recapture the feelings of the old west and the beginnings of the western film business. Today, the movie business has become one of the leading industries in the area and an important reason for its economic growth.

The Saugus Speedway, now used as a swap meet and arena for large public events, was once the Baker-Hoot Gibson Rodeo Arena, which held massive regional rodeos drawing people from all over southern California.

With the development of this growing community came a need for the distribution of

information, and thus the *Newhall Signal* newspaper was founded by Edward H. Brown. By the year 1940, Santa Clarita's population reached 4,000. Six years later, the first high school in the William S. Hart District was dedicated. With the development of schools came the construction of tract homes, the first being Rancho Santa Clarita.

In 1963, Canyon Country was founded and the first celebration of Frontier Days took place. In answering the demands of all the new developments and residents, the Santa Clarita National Bank opened its doors in 1965. The new additions of schools, stores, and churches brought more people and more communities. The community of Valencia was dedicated in 1967, and at that time houses were selling for a mere \$25,000.

Higher education opened its doors to the valley in the late sixties and early seventies. College of the Canyons and California Institute of the Arts, which was incorporated by Walt Disney, were established and serviced the needs of this growing community.

This picture shows the construction of Magic Mountain with the Santa Clarita Valley in the background. Magic Mountain opened in 1971, bringing thousands of tourists to the area, and giving the valley a significant landmark. Today, it remains one of the largest amusement parks in the country.



In 1975 Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital was founded, as well as the Santa Clarita Valley Historical Foundation, which maintains and protects the rich history of the valley.

In the 1980's "Santa Clarita" became a common term. The eighties also brought a staggering increase in population, bringing the total number of residents to 81,816. In 1985 the Chamber of Commerce instituted a study on the economic feasibility of becoming an incorporated city; two years later it was approved by the voters of what is now the City of Santa Clarita. In December 1987, the City of Santa Clarita was formed as the second largest and the sixth most populated city within Los Angeles County.

# Since Incorporation



The City of Santa Clarita was incorporated on December 15, 1987. By forming a City, the residents gained the ability to retain millions of local tax dollars. Since incorporation, much has been accomplished, a portion of which is listed below:

- Three Metrolink stations have been constructed, making Santa Clarita the only city besides the City of Los Angeles with three stations. Santa Clarita Transit's average weekday ridership has increased from 1,050 in 1990 to 10,064 today- a ten-fold increase.
- The City has instituted Youth Programs such as the Youth in Government program for local teens to experience, first hand, how local government operates and the "We Care for Youth" program to teach job skills to area teens. After-school programs have been implemented at local parks to provide opportunities for "latchkey" kids.
- ❖ The Community Center in Newhall was established to provide recreational and educational opportunities to the community. In 2006, a new state-of-the-art, 17,000 square foot Community Center, constructed at a cost of \$7 million, was opened. The Newhall Community Center offers residents an award-winning boxing program, Ballet Folklorico, homework help, a toy library, a Sheriff's sub-station, outdoor basketball, performance areas, and eight program rooms.
- ❖ With the recent addition of the 17.2 acre Valencia Heritage Park, the City now has 242.9 acres of developed parkland. The City is home to 17 parks, 10 having been constructed since 2000, and the 20 acre Santa Clarita Sports Complex.
- ❖ An extensive trail system has been planned, of which 22.9 miles have been built including the South Fork Trail, Commuter Rail Trail, Robinson Ranch Trail, Sand Canyon Trail and the Santa Clara River Trail. Currently, there is 12.2 undeveloped trail miles which will bring the City total to 34.6 trail miles.

- The Anti-Gang Task Force was created to proactively address gang issues faced by the community's youth.
- Camp Clarita is a camp experience that provides recreational and creative opportunities for the youth of Santa Clarita. Our camps are designed to include activities such as games, crafts, drama, swimming, field trips, and more.
- ❖ A 24-hour Graffiti Hotline and website were developed, allowing residents to report and receive graffiti clean-up free of charge by volunteer residents of the community.
- The City dramatically increased recycling programs to include yard trimmings and free curbside pickup of Christmas trees and hazardous waste.



- ❖ To enhance the beauty of the community, the City has set a goal of planting a minimum of 1,000 trees per year. The Urban Forestry Division is responsible for the maintenance of approximately 50,000 trees, reforestation, weed abatement, the Neighborhood Leaf Out Program, neighborhood plantings, and the Arbor Day celebration. Additionally, Santa Clarita received the designation "Tree City U.S.A." for the sixteenth straight year
- The Street Maintenance Program was created to regularly slurry and overlay all City streets, as well as to regularly repair area sidewalks to extend the life of City streets by five to ten years.
- Many local roadways have been extended and/or widened to increase traffic mobility throughout the valley.
- The City's Building & Safety Division has inspected over \$1.5 billion in new construction, resulting in approximately 100,000 permits being issued since incorporation.
- Santa Clarita has won more than 130 regional, national and international awards since incorporating, including awards for budgeting, financial management, strategic planning, innovation in management, citizen participation, emergency preparedness, recreation, and marketing.

- The City purchased three large buildings on 20 acres off Soledad Canyon Road to create the Santa Clarita Sports Complex. In December 1998, the first building, with two basketball courts and four racquetball courts, was opened to the public. The second building opened in 2002 and includes an Activities Center. In October 2003, the Aquatics Center, with an Olympic-sized swimming pool, dive pool and an activity pool with water play equipment and 168 foot water slide. The Sports Complex is also home to a skate park with a 75-foot snake run, a double bowl, a keyhole, a low rail and pyramid.
- Economic Development Administration grant funds were provided by the City to assist in the construction of a new Edwards Cinema and shopping complex in Canyon Country, which opened in 1998.
- ❖ A community oriented policing program called the Community Interaction Team (C.I.T.) brings policing to the Canyon Country and Newhall neighborhoods, allowing Sheriff's deputies to actively address area concerns.
- ❖ To preserve and promote the history of Santa Clarita's Western Heritage, the City established the annual Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival in 1994. This award-winning celebration, which is held at historic Melody Ranch Motion Picture Studio, features the best in poetry, music and fine western art. The event has since been renamed simply the Santa Clarita Cowboy Festival.
- ❖ The City adopted the CHARACTER COUNTS! program in 1996 to create a model for a community in which people act more ethically in their personal and professional lives, and individuals and institutions understand and follow.
- ❖ Together with the County of Los Angeles, the City launched a multi-year project entitled "One Valley One Vision" to develop a new valley-wide General Plan that will guide future planning and decision making for the entire Santa Clarita Valley over the next 20 years.
- Constructed the McBean Transfer Station located at Valencia Boulevard and McBean Parkway that provides comfort and convenience amenities to Transit passengers.

- ❖ The City has established two Sister City relationships, one with Sariaya, Philippines, and one with Tena, Ecuador. These relationships help the community by encouraging cultural understanding about others outside our community.
- The City's Cross Valley Connector (CVC) outreach effort began with a new website, updated CVC brochure, press promotion, and quarterly updates to stakeholders. The project has received funding from many stakeholders in the private and public sectors.
- Construction of the 8.5 mile, \$245 million Cross Valley Connector began in fall of 2004. This eight-lane roadway will ease traffic between the I-5 freeway and State Route 14. Part of the CVC, the Golden Valley Interchange/Bridge, was opened in 2005 to provide an unobstructed route over the Metrolink tracks and Soledad Canyon Road.
- The environmentally sensitive Transit Maintenance Facility was opened in 2006. This project houses the



- City's transit system and includes service bays, office space, an automated bus wash, and diesel and alternative fueling stations.
- ❖ In 2003, the City initiated the "Customer Service Excellence" training for all staff. The training focused on creating a positive environment, service skills, and evaluating service areas for process improvement.
- The City developed an on-line registration form for most of the City's Parks and Recreation classes and sports programs. On-line bus pass sales, parking citation payments and purchasing services was also implemented.
- ❖ In 2004, the City successfully acquired both the TMC mining site and the adjacent Wagener property in an effort to continue opposition of the Cemex mine. The City has continuously been at work to make this project less damaging.
- Completed the lighting of four additional multi-use fields at Central Park. Also, a disc golf course was constructed

- The City opened the Veteran's Historical Plaza in 2005 as a dedication to the service and sacrifice of Veterans.
- The new Neighborhood Reinvestment Pilot Program got underway as a response to numerous community requests. The program will provide staff with a better and more effective tool to proactively resolve code enforcement issues.
- ❖ Together with the City's business owners, five new building facades and one parking lot screening were complete along San Fernando Road in downtown Newhall area.
- ❖ The City launched its first Farmers' Market, located in Downtown Newhall. The Market, held every Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.., provides residents the opportunity to purchase fresh fruits and flowers locally.
- ❖ In 2006, the City opened the Youth Grove at Central as a dedication to Santa Clarita youth who have died in traffic-related collisions. The Youth Grove will serve as a place of remembrance for community members and promote safe driving to prevent future accidents.
- The City launched the awardwinning Shop Santa Clarita campaign to promote shopping within City limits. Shopping local keeps sales tax revenues local and is an important funding source for



- transportation, parks, and other public projects.
- ❖ The City Council initiated the community-wide Healthy Santa Clarita program to promote the benefits of eating healthy and regularly exercising.
- The City launched a business attraction website in 2006 to market Santa Clarita's vacant and new development projects. Targeted industries include aerospace, biomedical, technology, film and television, and retail.
- ❖ A new Residential Trash Franchise Agreement with Blue Barrel/Waste Management commenced in 2006 to provide residents with rate reductions, unlimited free recycling, and free bulk item pickups.

- ❖ In 2006, the City held the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Santa Clarita Marathon, which includes a full marathon, a half marathon, and a Kid K run. The Santa Clarita Marathon serves as a qualifying race for the Boston Marathon.
- ❖ The City's Red Light Camera Enforcement program enjoyed a successful first year. Fewer red light citations and collisions were reported at the five red light camera monitored intersections. Just one red light running collision was reported in the first year of the program, as opposed to an average of nine per year at these intersections. Plans are being made to add cameras to additional intersections.
- On August 24, 2004, the City Council adopted The Big Picture Community Strategic Plan. The Plan was developed with an unprecedented level of community participation and included all of the City's key priorities. The first annual update of the Plan took place in 2005 with notable progress being made in nearly every area of the strategic plan, including traffic management, air quality management, youth activities, and economic development.
- ❖ The City Council adopted the "Downtown Newhall Specific Plan." The goal of the Plan is to revitalize Old Town Newhall incorporating feedback from residents, businesses, and community leaders.

# Form of Government

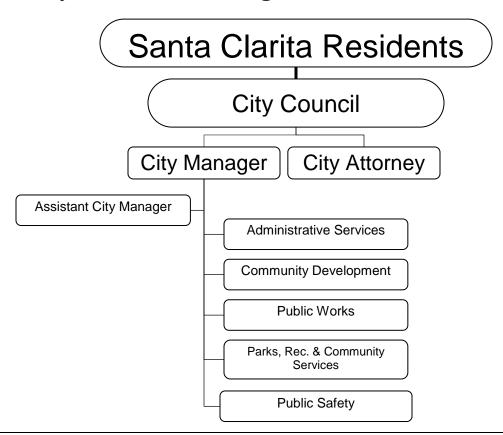
The City of Santa Clarita is a General-law City operating under a Council-Manager form of government, with the City Council acting as the part-time legislative body of the City. Five members are elected to the City Council at large on a nonpartisan basis, with members serving four-year terms. Elections are staggered every two years, with the Council appointed Mayor serving a one-year term and acting as presiding officer.

The City Council appoints a City Manager to be the Chief Administrative Officer responsible for the day-to-day operations of the City. The City Manager's duties include appointing Department Directors who are then responsible for the day-to-day operations of their own departments. Department Directors then have the task of selecting Division Managers and support staff members.

Also appointed by the City Council is the City Attorney, who is the legal advisor to the Council, Commissioners, and other City officials.

Assisting the City Council in serving the Santa Clarita communities are a variety of boards and commissions which address specific needs within their particular realm of responsibility. Each board and commission has the opportunity to get involved in a wide range of activities from reviewing City ordinances to recommending major revisions to City programs. Public meetings are held on a regular basis.

# City of Santa Clarita Organizational Structure



# **Commissions, Volunteer Boards and Committees**

#### **Commissions**

#### Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission

Edward Redd, Chairperson Laurie Ender, Vice Chairperson Laura Hauser, Commissioner Karen Nelson, Commissioner Ruthann Levison, Commissioner The Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission is a five-member commission appointed by the City Council to make recommendations to the Council on all matters pertaining to parks and public recreation.

## **Planning Commission**

Dennis Ostrom, Chairperson Tim Burkhart, Vice Chairperson Michael Berger, Commissioner Diane Trautman, Commissioner Bill Kennedy, Commissioner The Planning Commission is a five-member commission appointed by the City Council to consider and decide upon various applications for land use and land development in the City, including the implementation of the General Plan; Zoning Ordinance and other land use regulations; and recommendations on development applications.

## **Volunteer Boards and Committees**

#### **Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)**

The AAC was established for the purpose of providing guidance on the quality of its programs and services for seniors and persons with disabilities to Santa Clarita Transit. The AAC's voting membership is comprised of 11 members.

#### **Anti-Gang Task Force**

This task force, founded through the Sheriff's Department in 1991, is comprised of community members, school personnel, law enforcement, and volunteers. Members work together to develop and refer youth to programs that help build self-esteem, give direction, develop skills, and let the youth know they are cared about.

#### **Arts Advisory Committee**

This 11-member committee is comprised of representatives from Parks, Recreation & Community Services Commission, the Planning commission, and the arts, business and school communities. It was formed to advise the City Council and staff on arts-related issues such as public art, arts education, facilities and other areas.

#### **Arts Alliance Committee**

The Arts Alliance is a forum composed of representative Santa Clarita arts and cultural leaders, working towards improving arts support and awareness in the community. Along with the Arts & Events Office, the Arts Alliance meets once a month. The meetings are an opportunity to bring up arts-related issues, network, and develop arts within the community.

#### **Blue Ribbon Task Force**

The Task Force is comprised of community and education leaders. The Task Force was formed in January 2001 and works to educate the community about teen substance use and provide meaningful resources and programs to those in need.

#### **Canyon Country Advisory Committee**

This Committee's role is to promote and support the Canyon Country area of the City. It is dedicated to preserving and maintaining the beauty of the area, encouraging and supporting quality planning and appropriate development, and creating an area that residents can take pride in. The Committee is comprised of Canyon Country residents.

#### **Character Counts! Coalition**

Character Counts is a nonpartisan, nonsectarian coalition of schools, communities and nonprofit organizations working to advance character education by teaching the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. Character Counts! Coalition meetings are held on the second Thursday, in February, May, September, and November.

#### **Community Services Grant Committee**

The committee's role is to review the many requests from community agencies for funding and make recommendations to City Council. The committee is comprised of two Councilmembers and City staff.

## **Commuter Transit Advisory Committee**

Formed by the Transit Staff, this committee provides public participation opportunities and feedback to staff on needs and program design.

#### Film Stakeholder's Group

The Film Stakeholder Group meets quarterly to discuss specific business needs and ways the City can help them be more successful, while also working together to attract film-related businesses and location filming to Santa Clarita.

#### **Human Relations Forum**

Supported by the City Manager and one staff member, the Forum works to promote full acceptance of all persons in all aspects of community life and building cultural understanding. Its goals are equity, peace, and inclusion of all, by all.

#### **Newhall Redevelopment Committee**

This 14-member committee, selected by the Newhall Redevelopment Agency, advises the Agency on matters related to the Downtown Newhall Revitalization effort.

#### **Pride Committee**

The Pride Committee is a group of volunteers who work hand-in-hand with City staff, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and the Santa Clarita Anti-Gang Task Force to coordinate a number of programs which benefit the community. These include the Pride Committee's Annual Pride Week/Community Clean-up Day and ongoing graffiti abatement efforts.

#### Santa Clarita Valley Committee on Aging

This Committee primarily serves the needs of senior citizens in the North Los Angeles County with a goal to enhance the independence, dignity, and quality of life of the elderly through community resource management and coordination, advocacy, and a full spectrum of direct quality services for senior citizens.

### **Saugus Action Committee**

The Committee is composed of Saugus residents with a mission to promote a safe, residential, family oriented community, where children can attend good, safe schools and where families can enjoy the richness of their unique community history.

## **Sports Advisory Committee**

This committee is comprised of staff and representatives from many youth sports organizations in the valley including AYSO, SCVAA, CCAA, United Soccer, and others. The committee is responsible for putting together the Field Allocation Policy and takes a look at other issues related to youth sports in the valley.

#### **Tourism Bureau**

The purpose of the committee is to market hospitality, attractions, and events in the Santa Clarita Valley.

#### **Visions in Progress (VIP)**

VIP is a youth advisory committee comprised of Santa Clarita Valley high school students who advise City Council, Commissioners, and staff on projects and plans. VIP recommends, plans, and hosts activities for the youth of the valley.