

# SAN RAMON CITY REPORT



Spring 2021

## San Ramon Citizen's Planning Academy Returns!!

The San Ramon Community Development Department anticipates hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> session of San Ramon Citizen's Planning Academy in the fall of 2021. The goal of the Academy is to educate and engage residents in the City's planning process. The Academy will provide an overview of why cities plan, how planning shapes our community, and the land use planning process. The course concludes with a Mock Planning Commission Meeting for a theoretical project, where the participants serve as the Planning Commission, developers, and residents.

The classes are anticipated to be held on five consecutive Mondays beginning September 13<sup>th</sup> and will be dependent on COVID-19 health order restrictions in



place at the time. Each class begins at 6:30 pm and ends at 9:00 pm, and will be held at City Hall. The program also includes a Saturday tour of the City with an overview of developments that help shape the City. Following completion of the course, there will be a formal recognition of class participants at a City Council meeting.

The class is free, but space is limited to 20 residents, over 18 years of age. Applications for the class will be available at [www.sanramon.ca.gov/planning\\_academy](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/planning_academy) along with the final class schedule in July 2021. You will be notified of your acceptance to participate by mid-August 2021.

Contact the Community Development Department at (925) 973-2560 for additional information.

## Central Park Baseball Field #4 Sod Replacement

Late last fall, Public Services staff removed the existing turf on Baseball Field 4 at Central Park. The turf had become worn in many areas, as well as overrun by broadleaf weeds, such as clover. Once the turf was removed and soil preparation completed, new Bermuda turf was installed. This new Bermuda turf is the same turf that is currently on Soccer Field 1 at Central Park and has been providing great results for the heavy usage that these fields receive and a much-improved playing surface. Staff will maintain



this baseball field with the same regimen as Soccer Field 1, mowing 2-3 times per week and keeping the turf around 1" in length. This protocol will provide great playing surfaces for those using the fields for many years to come.

# Maintaining the City of San Ramon Urban Forest

The City's primary tree contractor works year-round to maintain approximately 50,000 trees that make up the City's urban forest. Our extensive and diverse urban forest is managed through an online inventory database system (Arbor Access) that utilizes Global Positioning System (GPS) to assign each tree a site ID. The inventory program helps with maintaining and tracking work history records, scheduling future work, and assisting with budget development and management.



A grid pruning approach manages the large number of street trees, which entails inspecting and pruning each tree along a given street between sidewalk and curb, within medians, or along roadside. Grid pruning is performed on a five-year cycle for all street trees, with supplemental pruning as needed to meet sight

and clearance requirements for vehicle and pedestrian safety. Extensive scheduling and planning goes into ensuring the process is performed safely and efficiently.

The purpose for routine tree pruning is to maintain proper health, structure, safety, and aesthetics for each species. Trees growing in our urban forest require more care opposed to trees grown in a natural setting such as open spaces and trails.



Pruning trees when they are young is perhaps the most significant arboriculture practice in successful tree care. Early pruning, beginning around a year after planting, significantly reduces the long-term effort in promoting sound tree structure, integrity, and overall health. The City's tree vision and goal is to maintain a healthy, attractive, and safe urban forest that will last for generations.

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## Planning the City's Future – General Plan Comprehensive Update

The City's General Plan 2035 was adopted by the City Council in April 2015. State Law specifies that a city update the General Plan on a regular basis to reflect new State legislation, respond to changes in a city's vision, and to ensure the plan is current and internally consistent. The City has begun a comprehensive General Plan Update to amend the General Plan 2035, which will articulate the City's 20-year vision through 2040 and address State requirements to plan for local housing needs for the next 8-year housing cycle, add environmental justice provisions, and address other State mandates adopted since 2015.

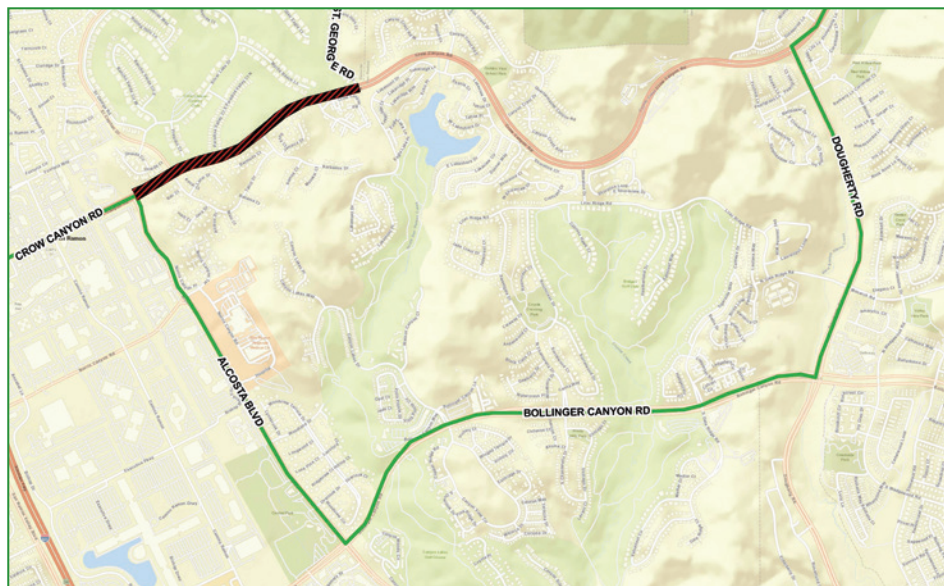
These General Plan revisions will necessitate updates to background information such as demographics, revisions to the Climate Action Plan, the review and update of existing policies, the development of new policies, and revision to overall City growth projections for the next 20 years.

Addressing the State housing crisis will be a critical and central component of the Update. Recent State housing laws mandate the City amend the Housing Element to comply with the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) currently estimated at 5,111 new housing units for the timeframe of 2023-2031.

The City is looking for public input to help inform and guide the General Plan Update process. Through the end of 2022, the City will be holding public workshops and public hearings on various topics related to the Update. The City's various Committees/Boards, Commissions, and City Council meetings will be the primary opportunities for public input. The City will continue to provide status updates and identify opportunities for participation in the General Plan Update process through the City Webpage and social media. Stay informed on the General Plan Update by visiting the City's website, [www.sanramon.ca.gov](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov).

## Upcoming Improvements to Crow Canyon Road – Alternate Route During Construction

The Crow Canyon Road Widening Project, Capital Improvement Projects 905312 and 905328, will construct one additional driving lane in each direction of Crow Canyon Road between Alcosta Boulevard and St. George Road. In addition to the new lanes, the work includes improved facilities for pedestrians such as sections of new sidewalk, ADA upgrades, crosswalk consolidation, and a spacious walking path. Wide green bike lanes will be installed throughout the project to provide additional delineation between vehicles and cyclists. New vibrant drought-tolerant landscaping will be installed to enhance the roadway features. Updated traffic signals and streetlights, with the latest equipment and technology will replace the existing older traffic signals and lighting. The existing lanes will be repaved at the same time as the widening to provide a new smooth and durable roadway.



Utility relocation work is expected to continue through spring 2021 with road widening construction beginning in the late spring/summer of 2021. Project completion is anticipated by the end of 2022.

During construction, there will be major disruption to traffic.

Lane closures and delays during construction should be expected. A construction speed limit will be in effect and enforced. Residents, commuters, and businesses will be encouraged to use alternate routes such as Bollinger Canyon Road to avoid construction impacts and minimize delays.

## Bike to Wherever Day/Days During the Pandemic

Typically, the entire Bay Area participates in Bike to Work Day (BTWD). BTWD is a celebration of bicycles as a fun and healthy way to get to work, as well as an opportunity for those who do not usually bike commute to try something new. Due to the continued COVID-19 pandemic, this year the Bay Area will promote “biking to wherever” during the



month of May. As a result, Bike to Work Day is now called *Bike to Wherever Day*. Bay Area residents and commuters across the nine-county region will be encouraged

to pedal to run errands, visit friends from a safe distance, commute to work, ride recreationally, or ride anywhere you need to go, if possible! There will also be one day set aside for special festivities, May 21, 2021, which will be *Bike to Wherever Day 2021*.

For more information, please visit: <https://bayareabiketowork.com>.

# Alcosta Boulevard Upcoming Pavement Project

The Alcosta Boulevard Pavement Project, Capital Improvement Project 905602, will provide much needed improvements to the pavement along Alcosta Boulevard between Veracruz Drive and Olympia Fields Drive. The Project is expected to take place between July and October 2021.

The total Project cost is roughly \$5.0M. The City is to receive \$1,176,000 in Federal Funds through One Bay Area Grant 2 (OBAG2) to assist in completing the Project.

The Project includes three different pavement treatments: full depth reclamation (FDR), mill and fill (M&F), and localized base failure repairs and slurry sealing (BR). Each treatment will be applied at different street sections, as follows:

- 1) FDR - northbound between Veracruz Drive and Burning Tree Drive;
- 2) M&F - southbound between Veracruz Drive and Pine Valley Road;
- 3) BR - southbound between Pine Valley Road and Burning Tree Drive, and in both directions between Burning Tree Drive and Olympia Fields Drive.

The Project also includes ADA curb ramp upgrades between Veracruz Drive and Pine Valley Road and crack sealing where BR is applied.

Construction of this Project will result in major traffic disruption within the limits of the Project. In order to minimize the duration that residents are impacted, City staff and the City's pavement design consultant are working to finalize a detour plan that will allow the construction to take the minimum amount of time. Once



the detour plan is complete, by early spring 2021, staff will provide additional information via social media, public announcements, and mailings. Please visit: <https://www.sanramon.ca.gov/our-city/departments-and-divisions/public-works/streets/street-closures-and-maintenance> for more information.

# San Ramon Valley Street Smarts 16th Annual Be Reel! Video Contest for Middle and High School Students!

**D**o you know a middle or high school student who is interested in filmmaking? If so, the San Ramon Valley Street Smarts Annual Street Smarts “Be Reel!” Video Contest is for them! Students create 60-second public service announcement videos on a traffic safety theme.

This year’s theme is “Biking with Family”! Entries will be judged by grade levels, 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>. Finalist videos will be shown at a special awards ceremony held virtually in May 2021.



The top video entries in each grade level will be honored and awarded prizes in the following categories:

1. *Best Use of Special Effects/Animation*
2. *Best Plot/Storyline*
3. *Best Editing*

For the winning entry in each category, each member of the production team will receive a \$25

gift card. All remaining finalists will receive a gift card consolation prize.

In addition, all finalist videos are shown on Contra Costa Television and utilized for online elementary and middle school Traffic Safety Education Programs.

Entries are due April 22, 2021. Complete rules, required forms, and more information can be found at: <http://street-smarts.com/be-reel-video-contest-for-middle-and-high-school-students/>.

## Trail Network Maintenance

**S**pring is upon us, and with the warmer weather brings the opportunity to enjoy the City of San Ramon Trails and Open Space network. The Trail network consists of approximately 45 trails; that’s over 50 miles of rolling hills, vistas, and beautiful scenic views to enjoy. Trails are either fully landscaped with shrubs, trees, and ground cover, or partially landscaped with shrubs and trees that blend into the natural surroundings. The Public Services Division is responsible for maintaining most of the trails and open space throughout the City, with safety for all users being the main focus and guiding principle. Trail maintenance is scheduled annually for most trails and consists of vegetation management, weed abatement,



*Looking up towards the Dougherty Valley Ridge Trail Access Point from Dougherty Road*

and surface maintenance. Our newest trail, Quail Run Trail, is approximately 1.1 miles long and can be accessed either from the Old Dougherty Road Trail, Rancho San Ramon Park, or the Dougherty Valley Ridge Trail. For additional information on our trails and open space, visit [www.sanramon.ca.gov/parks](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/parks).



*Old Dougherty Road Access Point*



*Rancho San Ramon Park Access Point*



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## Spring & Summer Camp Information Now Available!

The Spring & Summer Recreation Guide is now available and hopefully you received it in the mail. Inside you will find spring and summer programs that will engage your mind and body. There are online and in-person classes available for preschoolers, youth, and adults. We also have updates on our events and other happenings throughout the city.

The highlight of the Spring & Summer Recreation Guide is our Summer Camp and Aquatics sections. Like last summer, all camp programs will follow the current County Health Guidelines to ensure the safety of campers. With over 275 summer camp offerings, we welcome the return of some of our most popular camps including Bay Area Children's Theatre, Star Guards, tennis, and more. Camp information is available online at [www.sanramon.ca.gov/camps](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/camps). Register at [www.sanramonrecguide.com](http://www.sanramonrecguide.com).



Photo taken before COVID 19 pandemic

### New for this summer:

- Camps will be offered at more locations throughout the City including Pine Valley Gym and Fields and Amador Rancho Community Center in addition to the San Ramon Community Center, Dougherty Station Community Center, and Central Park
- 35 new camps that haven't been offered before!
- Virtual camps as an additional option

The Spring & Summer Recreation Guide and program information is available online at [www.sanramon.ca.gov/parks](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/parks).  
Registration begins March 15 for Residents and March 29 for Non-Residents.

### Contact Information

#### City Council

- David E. Hudson, *Mayor*  
Scott Perkins, *Vice Mayor*  
Mark Armstrong, *Councilmember*  
Sridhar Verose, *Councilmember*  
Sabina Zafar, *Councilmember*  
City Council ..... 973-2530  
City Manager ..... 973-2530

#### Department Services

- Building ..... 973-2580  
Business License ..... 973-2510  
City Clerk ..... 973-2539  
Economic Development ..... 973-2554  
Human Resources ..... 973-2523  
Engineering ..... 973-2670  
Passport Services ..... 973-2539  
Parks & Community Services ..... 973-3200  
Planning ..... 973-2560  
Police ..... 973-2700  
Public Services ..... 973-2800  
Transportation ..... 973-2650

#### Facilities

- Alcosta Senior & Community Center ..... 973-3250  
Dougherty Station Community Center .... 973-3200  
Dougherty Station Library ..... 973-3380  
Dougherty Valley Aquatic Center ..... 973-3335  
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center.. 973-3343  
Permit Center ..... 973-2574  
San Ramon Community Ctr & Central Park .. 973-3200  
San Ramon Library ..... 973-2850  
San Ramon Olympic Pool ..... 973-3240

[www.sanramon.ca.gov](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov)