

SAN RAMON CITY REPORT



Fall 2017

San Ramon Government 101 is BACK!

The San Ramon City Clerk's Department will host the 10th session of San Ramon Government 101 in the spring of 2018. The class goal is to enhance understanding of local government and departmental functions and encourage participation in the City's various Committees and Commissions.

The popularity of the program and feedback from class members has changed the course length to 8 weeks in order to accommodate additional sessions. The extra two sessions will allow time for presentations by the San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District and to discuss economic development in the City. Other classes will include an overview of the Administrative Services, General Government, Parks, Planning, and Public Works departments.



Touring Forest Home Farms

The classes will be held on Mondays starting on February 26, 2018. Each class begins at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m.

One session will be a tour of the City and will be on a Saturday morning. Sessions will be held in various City facilities based on the presenting department. There will be a formal recognition of class participants at a City Council meeting.

The class is free but space is limited. Applications for the class are available at: www.sanramon.ca.gov/clerk/gov101.html. The final class schedule will be available in December. You will be notified of your acceptance to participate by early February. Contact the City Clerk's office at: (925) 973-2539 for additional information.

City of San Ramon Begins UAS Flights

In 2015, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 465 allowing the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), commonly referred to as drones, for Public Works activities in San Ramon. City staff has received the training and FAA Certification necessary to pilot the UAS for local government purposes. Activities normally performed by outside contractors can be accomplished by these flights saving thousands of dollars in consultant fees.



Flights conducted to date include the surveying of construction sites, 3D modeling of landslide locations, and aerial photography of City facilities. In addition to following all FAA regulations, the City's Ordinance prohibits the use of the UAS for code enforcement and/or Police surveillance on private property.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the Public Works - Engineering Services Division at: (925) 973-2670 or via email engineering@sanramon.ca.gov.

I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes Open Soon!

Have you been wondering when those “Under Construction” stickers will be taken off the I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes signs? The wait will soon be over, as the lanes are scheduled to open in late September or early October 2017.

The Express Lanes offer better carpool enforcement and provide solo drivers a new choice to pay a toll for a more reliable trip. Carpools, motorcycles, buses and eligible clean-air vehicles still travel toll-free in the lanes, but only with a FasTrak Flex® toll tag set to “2” or “3+” position. Solo drivers can choose to pay the toll using either a standard FasTrak toll tag or a FasTrak Flex toll tag set in the “1” position.

The southbound I-680 Contra Costa Express Lane will start at Rudgear Road in Walnut Creek and end at Alcosta Blvd in San Ramon. The northbound lane will start just before Alcosta Blvd. and extend 11 miles to Livorna Road in Alamo. The Express Lanes will open as “open access” lanes. This means cars can move into or out of the lanes anywhere, similar to how cars enter and exit the existing carpool lanes.

The Express Lanes will operate 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tolls change based on real-time traffic conditions. When traffic increases, tolls increase. When traffic decreases, tolls decrease. A driver is



guaranteed the price shown on the sign at the time he or she enters the Express Lane. If a driver exits the lane prior to the end of the zone, the driver is charged the full toll for that zone.

To find carpool partners, visit rideshare.511.org. Drivers can earn a few dollars for a trip they would be making anyway and riders can save the cost of driving. Rider and driver both save time by traveling in the Express Lane.

The I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes between Walnut Creek and San Ramon are the first of a series of projects planned for the I-680 Contra Costa corridor to deliver traffic congestion relief. As the first piece of this strategy, the Express Lanes are expected to improve traffic conditions in the shoulders of the peak commute hour, but likely will have only a

modest impact on congestion during the heaviest travel times.

I-680 Contra Costa Express Lanes are part of a growing Bay Area Express Lanes network that will total 550 lane miles by 2035. The network will fill gaps between existing carpool lanes, providing more advantages to buses, carpools and motorcycles, and offering solo drivers more options for a more reliable trip. Cars in the I-580 Express Lanes travel up to 23 miles per hour faster than those in the adjacent general purpose lanes during peak hours. In the I-680 Sunol Grade Express Lane, vehicles typically travel 9 mph to 14 mph faster than those in the other lanes during the peak period.

Learn more at expresslanes.511.org

twitter.com/511SFBay

facebook.com/511SFBay

Student Transit Ticket Program

The San Ramon Student Transit Ticket Program is back! **FREE** public transit tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis. The transit tickets provide an alternative to

driving your student(s) to school. Students in Grades 1st – 12th are eligible to receive two (2) 12-ride County Connection transit tickets. This offer is available

with a maximum of 3 students per household, while supplies last. Apply for the Program by visiting the City of San Ramon website: www.sanramon.ca.gov.

Iron Horse Trail Overcrossing at Bollinger Canyon Road



With the implementation of the Bollinger Canyon Road widening project, the City of San Ramon received approval of a \$12.3 million grant for the Iron Horse Trail Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing at Bollinger Canyon Road. On June 21, 2017, the Contra Costa Transportation Authority approved the City's grant applications for \$12.3 million, both federal and local grants, to implement the final design and construction phase of the Project. The City Council acknowledges and thanks the cities of Lafayette and Orinda and the Towns of Danville and Moraga as well as Contra Costa County for their support of the City's grant applications. The City, Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Contra Costa County, and LSA Consultants are finalizing the Draft Environmental Analysis document. The public review and comment period on the document will be completed by the end of the year. Please visit: www.sanramon.ca.gov for additional information or contact the Public Works Transportation Services Division at: (925) 973-2650.

The San Ramon Library Five Months Later – A Successful Investment Return!

After 25 years of use, the San Ramon library was due for a major renovation. Instead of building a new facility, the City chose to invest \$6 million into the existing library to renovate and expand the facility. In April of 2017 the library re-opened to record crowds. And almost six months later, the library continues to return dividends to the community. Since the grand opening the Library has drawn more than 46,000 visitors and issued over 1,200 new library cards. In fact, it has the single largest library use by circulation in the entire Contra Costa Library System.

However, the library is no longer just about books, it is “a community gathering place” according to San Ramon Library Manager Nancy Kreiser. The ability to create a gathering place was in fact one of the major reasons the

library needed a complete overhaul. So how did this happen:

- Useable square footage in the existing building expanded by almost 20%. Major technology integration with charging ports in every seating area, laptop check-out stations, and improved WIFI service.
- A dedicated teen section actively used by our community youth
- A revamped Jazz listening area with listening rooms that features San Ramon's world class Jazz collection
- A hands on kids area with leading edge literacy elements
- A large community meeting room with state of the art technology
- The Library Foundation has a space for used book sales used to sponsor the majority of the library programs for youth and adults.
- Automated return stations were installed for patrons to easily check-out and return materials.

In the words of library user Daryl B. “I think the improvements to the library exceed my expectations. There are so many places that are comfortable to sit and read now compared to the limited, uncomfortable seating from before. The library is quieter now too, thanks to giving young adults and children their own sections.”

Good Driving Habits In and Around Schools

It's a new school year and we want to ensure the greatest level of safety for everyone. Drivers should always:

- Adhere to the 25 mph zone, slow down, and obey all traffic laws and speed limits;
- Comply with local school drop-off and pick-up procedures;
- Refrain from unloading children at locations across the street from the school;
- Cross the street in the crosswalks only;
- Avoid stopping or double parking on crosswalks to let children out of the car;
- Prepare to stop for a school bus when overhead yellow lights are flashing;

- Watch for children walking or biking to school when backing out of a driveway and in areas near a school; and

- Forego the use of cell phones!

Street Smarts Upcoming Events:

- **Annual “Be Reel!” Video Contest** - Nov. 15 through Dec. 19, 2017. Check with your school or library for Video Contest guidelines, theme, and entry form. Awards Night will be held at The Danville Village Theatre on Wednesday, March 13, 2018 at 5 p.m.
- **CHP “Start Smart” Teen Driver Safety Classes** coming soon to your local high school!

Visit www.street-smarts.com or a calendar of Street Smart events and programs.

San Ramon Bicycle Master Plan

The City of San Ramon embarked on the development of a Citywide Bicycle Master Plan (BMP). The BMP will emphasize and reinforce the direction established in the City's General Plan to provide a safe and desirable environment for bicycle travel, promote bicycle use as a sustainable and healthy mode of transportation, and provide facilities that encourage and support bicycle use for recreation, travel, and a viable commute alternative in San Ramon. The Bicycle Master Plan will focus on:

- Supporting the City's ongoing efforts to create a sustainable environment that encourages all alternative modes of transportation, consistent with the goals, strategies, and policies outlined in the General Plan;
- Reinforce San Ramon's importance as a regional destination by providing a bicycle network consistent with local and regional plans;
- Identify and prioritize the needs of cyclists;
- Promote bicycling as a viable and sustainable transportation option;
- Establish short- and long-range goals and policies intended to guide development of new facilities as well as the maintenance of existing facilities;
- Provide for the continuation of bicycle safety programs; and
- Provide a mechanism to forward annual recommendation(s) to City Council to install and/or enhance bicycle infrastructure.

If you would like more information on the development of the City's Bicycle Master Plan, please contact the Public Works - Transportation Division at: transportation@sanramon.ca.gov or (925) 973-2650.

What is my Flood Risk?

Residents should be aware of their flood risk...the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) publishes Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) that delineate flood zones in the City. Areas designated as zone "A" or "AE" are estimated to have a 1% chance or greater of being flooded every year. This includes areas of South San Ramon Creek, where some properties suffered flood damage in the Sunny Glen area (south San Ramon) during the winter of 2002. Your mortgage lender may require you to purchase flood insurance if your property is located in one of these zones. Regardless of your property's proximity to the flood zone, it is encouraged that you obtain flood insurance. If you have flood zone insurance, check to ensure you have contents coverage as well.

Protect yourself and your property

- Protect yourself from flood hazards by staying away. Do not walk or drive through flood waters.
- Protect your property from flood damage by ensuring adequate drainage paths around your home; elevating electrical panels, furnaces, water heaters and appliances; and moving essential items and valuables to upper floors.
- Build responsibly. Check with the City Building Division before you build, alter, or grade your property. You may need a permit to ensure the project is compliant with all regulations.
- Do your part to keep our creeks and drainage system functioning by keeping leaves, trash and debris away from storm drain inlets. If you see an area that is at risk from flooding from a clogged storm drain inlet, down tree, or flooded roadway, contact our Public Services Division at: (925) 973-2800 or Police dispatch at: (925) 973-2779 after hours.

What is the City doing to reduce my flood risk?

The City's on-going participation in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) program helps San Ramon property owners reduce their risk from flooding and provides them a discount on their flood insurance premiums. Under this Program, the City performs activities such as:

- Maintenance of drainage infrastructure (storm drain inlets, pipes, and creeks)
- Enforcement of the City's floodplain management ordinance
- Outreach to residents, lenders, and insurance agents
- Assistance in determining flood zones and reading FIRMs

By performing these annual activities, FEMA has awarded the City a CRS Class rating of 6, which provides residents up to a 20% discount in their flood insurance premiums, which should be incorporated into your insurance quote.

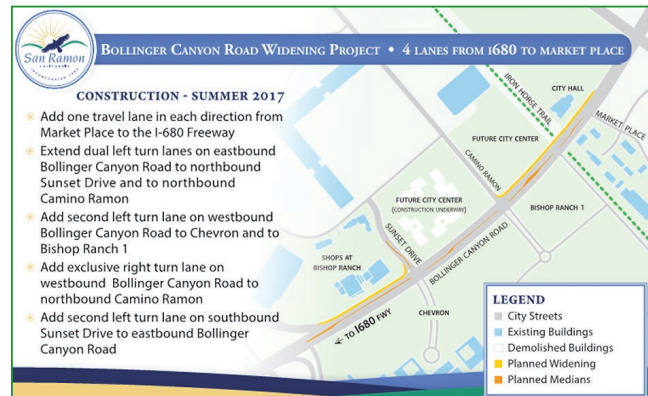
If you would like more information about the CRS program, flood risk, flood insurance, or flood zone determination, visit FEMA's websites at: www.floodsmart.gov, www.fema.gov, www.msc.fema.gov, or contact City staff at: (925) 973-2670.

Bollinger Canyon Road Widening Project – Construction

Construction of the Bollinger Canyon Road Widening Project will provide additional capacity improvements by adding additional travel lanes and adding/expanding turn lanes to accommodate new development and the General Plan buildout.

Bollinger Canyon Road will be open at all times. The majority of work will take place during daytime hours behind a concrete barrier. Any construction work requiring extensive traffic control/lane closures will occur at night. Construction is expected to be complete by fall 2018 in coordination and timing of the opening of the City Center Bishop Ranch Project.

Please visit the City's webpage to find more information on the Bollinger Canyon Road Widening Project at:



www.sanramon.ca.gov/bollinger/. Follow us on Twitter [@City of San Ramon](https://twitter.com/CityofSanRamon) for additional updates on this and other City projects and events.

Parking Can Be Puzzling

For many residents, Rancho San Ramon Park is an exciting place! It has great amenities that can be enjoyed by all of San Ramon's residents. While the City tries to ensure large sporting activities do not coincide with large rentals at the Community Center and picnic areas, it is not always the rented fields and facilities that are an issue. Finding parking can leave a driver puzzled.

The City understands that parking can be a challenge and safety is important to us. All of Rancho Park Loop is considered a parking lot, so please follow the posted 10 mph speed limit. There are children playing throughout the park, from the playground all the way around to the ball fields, and drivers should be cautious.

Whether you are parking to watch a sporting event or dropping off a child for practice; the round-a-bouts are traffic calming instruments and are not intended to be used as a parking spot or a drop off location. Stopping even momentarily in the round-a-bouts creates a traffic jam and an unsafe path of travel. To ensure that your child reaches their coach/event safely, please park your vehicle in a designated parking spot and walk, or watch, your child connect with their coach/event.



When parking is full, please feel free to park across the street at Bella Vista Elementary School and remember, there is no street parking on Dougherty Road. We appreciate your attention to this issue and for helping us keep park patrons safe.



City of San Ramon
7000 Bollinger Canyon Road
San Ramon, CA 94583
(925) 973-2500

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OCTOBER 2017 – NOVEMBER 2017 EVENTS

OCTOBER

October 4
San Ramon 150 Lecture Series: San Ramon Fire Department: From Garage to Incorporation
San Ramon Library

October 7
John Tesh*
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center



October 8
San Ramon Symphonic Band : Fall Concert - Song & Dance*
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

October 15
Culture in Community Celebration*
San Ramon Community Center at Central Park

October 20
Bedtime Theater: The Bubble Lady*
San Ramon Community Center at Central Park

NOVEMBER

November 1
San Ramon 150 Lecture Series: Bishop Ranch - A Ranch, A Business Park, A City Center!
San Ramon Library

November 4
San Ramon Senior Foundation Holiday Boutique
Alcosta Senior and Community Center

November 4
Night at the Improv: Suburban Stories*
Front Row Theater

November 18
Blood Sweat & Tears - 10th Anniversary of Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center*
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center



**These events require registration or ticket purchase.*

For more information, please visit www.SanRamon.ca.gov/parks or call (925) 973-3200.

Contact Information

City Council

- Bill Clarkson, *Mayor*
- David E. Hudson, *Vice Mayor*
- Philip G. O'Loane, *Councilmember*
- Scott Perkins, *Councilmember*
- Harry Sachs, *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

Culture in the Community Celebration

Come celebrate 150 years of San Ramon's rich cultures in our community. Please join us on Sunday, October 15th, from 12:00-5:00pm at the San Ramon Community Center for our Cultures in the Community Celebration! This exciting event will feature cultural booths, multicultural performances, music, art, activities, fashion, and food from around the world. Admission and parking are free. This event is in collaboration with the San Ramon 150.