

# SAN RAMON CITY REPORT



◆ Fall 2011 ◆

## ***San Ramon Police Department and Permit Center Grand Opening October 9, 2011***

On Sunday, October 9, 2011, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm, the City of San Ramon will host a Grand Opening of the new Police Department and Permit Center facility. The dedication ceremony will take place at 2:00pm. Following the dedication ceremony, the public can tour the facility. The City welcomes and encourages all of our citizens to join us at the dedication and see the new facility.

### **2401 Crow Canyon Road**

In 1984, the City's Police Department was located in City Hall at 2222 Camino Ramon. With the establishment of the City's own Police Department in 2007, San Ramon's Police Department continued to operate primarily in the same space at City Hall and utilized additional leased offices. Today, the Police Department is comprised of 58 sworn officers and a total of 78 employees.

In 2010, the City investigated the vacant building at 2401 Crow Canyon Road as a possible acquisition for the City's Police Department and additional City offices. After considering the building's configuration and cost and the cost for tenant improvements, the City acquired the building for \$7.14 Million for 60,000



square feet of office space on seven acres with 400 parking spaces. Including tenant improvements, the total cost was approximately \$10 million or \$167 per square foot. Comparable new public facilities often cost from \$400 to \$800 per square foot to construct. The building is located within the City's redevelopment area and was paid for with redevelopment funding. This building asset eliminated the annual costs for leased space. After further evaluation of how best to use the building, the City allocated 36,000 square feet for the new Police Station and 24,000 square feet for the City's new Permit Center. This decision was largely due to the building's configuration of two separate wings connected by an entrance lobby.

The Permit Center includes the City's Planning, Building, Engineering, Transportation, and Economic Development departments.



## San Ramon Residents – Break the Driving Habit!

**Ridesharing is a great way to help reduce traffic congestion and air pollution.**

The City of San Ramon, in concert with 511 Contra Costa, encourages the use of commute alternatives. We are committed to providing residents with cost-effective, convenient and viable alternatives to driving alone. Here are a few of the commuter incentives available to San Ramon residents:



1. **Contra Costa Commute Programs**—Take the 511 Contra Costa pledge. Pledge to reduce your emissions traveling to work and you're on your way to \$50. Visit [www.511contracosta.org](http://www.511contracosta.org) for current promotions and to receive complimentary transportation services and commuter benefits.
2. **Vanpool Passenger Incentive Program**—As a “new” vanpool passenger you are eligible for half your expenses the first three months.
3. **Vanpool Driver Bonus Program**—Start a new vanpool and keep it on the road for a full year you could be eligible for a \$1,000 bonus.
4. **Guaranteed Ride Home Program**—If you work within Contra Costa County this program offers a guaranteed ride home for unexpected emergency, such as illness, family crisis or unscheduled overtime. Commuters are offered a taxi or rental car voucher to get them home.
5. **Park & Ride Lots**—These lots are available for residents to meet carpools, vanpools and buses. Parking spaces are on a first-come, first serve basis

and are free of charge.

- a. **San Ramon Transit Center**—Located along the Iron Horse Trail at the corner of Executive Parkway and Camino Ramon provides 54 parking spaces.  
Bike racks and lockers are also available at the Transit Center. Bike lockers are covered, secured, and can be rented monthly, quarterly or yearly.
- b. **Bark & Ride Lot**—Located along Bollinger Canyon Road at Stoneleaf Road, the lot provides 50 parking spaces for commuters to meet for carpooling or vanpooling or public transit. Bike lockers are also available and are covered and secured. Bicyclists do need to provide their own locks for use of these units.
- c. **Bollinger Canyon Road at San Ramon Valley Boulevard lot**—provides 100 parking spaces.

Whether you work in San Ramon or any other city in the Bay Area, you can find a commute alternative that's best for you! If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Amaral, Transportation Analyst, (925) 973-2655, [damaral@sanramon.ca.gov](mailto:damaral@sanramon.ca.gov).

*\*Funding for these programs is provided by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (BAAQMD) Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) in cooperation with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and the City of San Ramon.*

## San Ramon's Climate Action Plan

In August 2011, the City adopted the Climate Action Plan (CAP) to address “Climate Change” locally and comply with the greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets associated with Assembly Bill 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

“Climate Change” refers to the broad set of changes that go along with global warming, including changes to weather patterns. Many believe this is the result of man-made greenhouse gases in the atmosphere from everyday fossil fuel burning activities like driving cars, heating buildings, and making electricity.

The CAP strategy is based on the land use, transportation, and energy conservation policies that are part of the General Plan 2030 and looks at potential reductions for the City as a whole. On an individual level, people

interested in reducing their own GHG emissions can contribute by the choices they make in their daily lives such as car pooling, water use reduction, use of solar power, home energy upgrades, and recycling, among others. These individual actions can collectively go a long way in addressing local GHG reduction targets improving the environment and maintaining San Ramon's quality of life.

If you are interested in tracking your own GHG reductions, a Household Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculator, as well as the CAP policies, are available on the City's website at [www.sanramon.ca.gov](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov). If you have questions regarding the CAP, please contact the Planning Services Division at (925) 973-2560.

## LED Streetlight Upgrade: PROJECT COMPLETE!

The City of San Ramon completed the first phase of streetlight upgrades from high pressure sodium (HPS) fixtures to light emitting diode (LED) technology in August. This technology will lower the City's energy use and energy rates. Funding was provided by the City of San Ramon Streetlight Fund, federal energy grant funding, and PG&E rebates.



Fixtures were installed at the following locations:

- Bollinger Canyon Rd. (between Canyon Lakes Dr. and Dougherty Rd.)
- Alcosta Blvd. (between Vera Cruz Dr. and Davona Dr.)
- San Ramon Valley Blvd. (between Morgan Dr. and Alcosta Blvd.)
- Deerwood Drive (between Deerhill Dr. and Bollinger Canyon Rd.)
- Deerwood Road (at Omega Rd.)
- Old Ranch Road (between Vista Monte Dr. and Dougherty Rd.)
- Village Pkwy. (between Alcosta Blvd. and Kimball Ave.)

## \$10,000 in Energy Upgrade Incentives Available to San Ramon Homeowners FREE WORKSHOP

Join us for a free workshop to learn how to receive up to \$10,000 in rebates to improve the comfort of your home, lower utility bills, and protect the environment by saving energy.

Homeowners in San Ramon are eligible for multiple Energy Upgrade California, PG&E, and California Home Fund incentives. Depending on your ability to meet the eligibility requirements, you can combine all three programs, accessing potentially more than \$10,000 in rebates and grants plus 3% financing over 15 years.

There is limited funding so don't miss this window of opportunity!

When: Thursday, November 3, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Where: San Ramon Community Center—Terrace Room, 12501 Alcosta Boulevard, San Ramon

Registration: [euc-sanramon-rss-rss.eventbrite.com](http://euc-sanramon-rss-rss.eventbrite.com)

Cost: Free—For more information call Joe Tanner at (925) 973-2572.

[EnergyUpgradeCA.org](http://EnergyUpgradeCA.org)

[EnergyUpgradeCC.org](http://EnergyUpgradeCC.org)

[CHFLoan.org](http://CHFLoan.org)



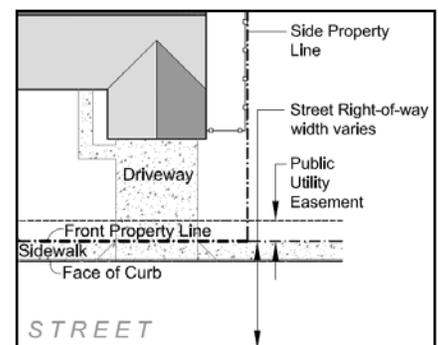
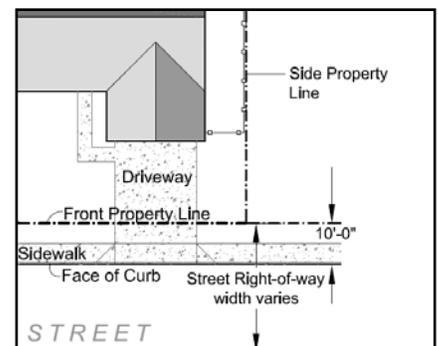
## Where is my front yard property line?

If you are thinking about new construction or landscaping your residence, it is important to know where your property lines are. Most side and rear yard property lines are in close proximity to fences, establishing easily identifiable boundaries. Locating the front yard property line is more difficult due to variables such as topography, street width and the age of the development. This has resulted in a variety of front property line configurations throughout the City.

In many San Ramon neighborhoods, the front yard property line is located 10 feet back from the face of curb. Typically between the street and property line is the sidewalk and an area to allow utilities to be installed and maintained within the public-right-of-way. In portions of Dougherty Valley, a City-owned turf strip and sidewalk are located within this 10-foot area.

There are also areas within the City that utilize Public Utility Easements (PUE) on private property where the property line is typically the back of sidewalk. Where PUE are present, there may be additional restriction on construction within the PUE to protect and ensure access to utility lines.

The exact location of a property line can be determined by a licensed surveyor. However, the City can provide general information from subdivision, final, or parcel maps that will help in determining the approximate location of the front property line. If you would like street-specific information related to front property lines you can visit the Permit Center at 2401 Crow Canyon Road or call (925) 973-2574.



## Do You Live In A Flood Zone?

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has generated Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) which delineate flood zone areas. Areas designated as A or AE have an estimated risk of 1% or more of being flooded per year. Property owners in or near a flood zone are encouraged to obtain flood insurance. Mortgage lenders may require flood insurance regardless of your proximity to a flood zone. The City participates in the Community Rating System, giving San Ramon property owners a 20% discount on flood insurance premiums.

To determine if your property is in a flood zone visit FEMA's website at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov), [msc.fema.gov](http://msc.fema.gov), [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) or contact the City's Engineering Services Department at (925) 973-2670.

## Help Protect Your Local Watershed

As stormwater flows over land and across the watershed into the creek, it carries polluted urban runoff such as used motor oil and grease, pesticides, trash and other harmful debris. The more we can prevent pollution of the watershed, the healthier our waterways and habitats they support will be. Help reduce pollution by:

- **Not allowing yard waste such as grass clippings and leaves to get into storm drains.** The breakdown process of leaves and organic waste robs valuable oxygen from the water. Composting your grass clippings, yard waste and other biodegradable materials (e.g., banana peels and eggshells), returns valuable nutrients and moisture to the soil.
- **Properly cleaning and disposing of painting equipment.** All paint equipment should be cleaned in a sink that is plumbed to a sanitary sewer. Water-based paints can be dried out and put in the garbage. Oil-based paints should be disposed of at a household hazardous waste site or curb pick-up.
- **Washing cars at a local car wash.** Washing cars puts pollutants such as grease, dirt, oil, metals and soap to our local creeks. It is best to take your car to a car wash where the water is discharged to the sanitary sewer system.

For more information, please contact Steven Spedowski, City of San Ramon Senior Analyst at 973-2653 or visit the Contra Costa Clean Water Program website at [www.cccleanwater.org](http://www.cccleanwater.org).

## Thank You San Ramon!

The City of San Ramon invites its residents to attend a new series of free events in 2011-2012 to say "Thank You!" to each of you for making San Ramon a wonderful place to live, work, and play. These Thank You San Ramon! events provide residents with a great opportunity to become familiar with City amenities, programs, and staff. Check the San Ramon Recreation Guide or online at [www.SanRamon.ca.gov](http://www.SanRamon.ca.gov) for information. All events are free and open to all residents.

### Customer Appreciation Day at Forest Home Farms Historic Park

October 8, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Forest Home Farms Historic Park  
19953 San Ramon Valley Blvd.

Enjoy free tours of the Farm, the Glass House Museum and Tractor Rides.

### Public Service Center Tour

November 7, 4:00pm – 5:00pm

San Ramon Service Center, 5000 Crow Canyon Rd.

Enjoy a tour of the City's Service Center and see the equipment that the City uses to keep San Ramon safe and beautiful. The Public Services Department is responsible for maintenance of roads, City buildings, parks, landscaping, street lights, traffic signals, fountains, the City's two Aquatic Centers and creeks. For more information call 973-2800.

### Red Panda Acrobats

Saturday, January 7, 2012, 2:00pm

Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center, 10550 Albion Rd.

The Red Panda Acrobats, Wayne Hui and his partner, will delight you with exceptional acrobatic skills. Enjoy traditional Chinese music, colorful costumes and a fast-paced 45-minute show.



Kids crafts and refreshments to follow the show. Visit [www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com](http://www.SanRamonPerformingArts.com) or call (925) 973-3343 to reserve your tickets for this event.

Arigato Tak Kiitos Dekuji Danke Terima kasih  
Merci Dziekuje Dhanryavaad Do Jeh  
Takk Efharristo Obrigato Ta Pilamaya  
**THANK YOU**  
Spasibo Tack Hvala Asante Grazie  
Shoukran Gracías Tesekkur ederim 谢谢你 Mahalo



## *New Retail and Restaurant Businesses Choose San Ramon*



New businesses have opened their doors and others expanded in San Ramon since the beginning of this year. When you are deciding where to go when dining out or where

to purchase supplies or services, think about supporting the businesses in the city where you live by shopping in San Ramon. Keep local jobs in place, business doors open, and recognize that the sales tax revenues help pay for your valued City services such as police, street and park maintenance, and recreational programs for all ages.

### **Here is a sampling of what's new in our City:**

#### **Restaurants**

Bourbon Street Deli Café (San Ramon Square); Fresh Millions (2550 San Ramon Valley Blvd.); Loard's Ice Cream (Crow Canyon Commons); Panera Bread (Crow Canyon Commons); and Senro Sushi (Diablo Plaza).

#### **Retail Stores**

Antiques, Art & Gifts (San Ramon Square); Best Bead Shop (2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd.); BevMo (Diablo Plaza); The Cabinet Center at 2023 San Ramon Valley Blvd. near Hooper Drive; Honey Bee Boutique (2410 San Ramon Valley Blvd.); Sports Gallery Memorabilia (2580 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite B109); and West Coast Gold Buyers (Diablo Plaza).

#### **Business Expansions**

Diablo Motors has relocated from Fostoria Way, where it operated for 17 years, to its new location at 2067 San Ramon Valley Blvd. Wallbeds n' More moved from its location at 2580 San Ramon Valley Blvd. to a larger space at 2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite 111. Café Attila, owners of the former City D'Lights, not only relocated to

a larger space, they went from offering just desserts to a dine in café! They are located in the San Ramon Square shopping center on San Ramon Valley Boulevard.

#### **More Businesses on the Way!**

These businesses are in the final stages of preparation before opening: Sight & Sound Home Theater (Crow Canyon Commons); Spicy Palate (Magnolia Square); Buon Appetito (on Alcosta Blvd. near the Post Office); Vitality Bowls (Market Place); and Oh So Sweet Candy Shop (San Ramon Valley Blvd. across from Crow Canyon Cinemas).

#### **Major Employers Relocate Headquarters to San Ramon**

Bank of the West moved their headquarters to San Ramon with over 1,600 employees. Robert Half International, a major staffing company, also relocated their headquarters to San Ramon with approximately 1,000 employees. Toshiba Business Solutions moved their Northern California Division to San Ramon and employs 100 people. These businesses not only brought more jobs here, their employees support our economy by shopping in our stores and patronizing our restaurants!

#### **Why Shop in San Ramon?**

Did you know that the sales tax in San Ramon is only 8.25% compared to Dublin and Pleasanton at 8.75%? Shopping or dining in San Ramon supports local businesses and City services, and saves time, gas, and money.

For more information on shopping, dining and service options in San Ramon, visit [www.ShopSanRamonFirst.com](http://www.ShopSanRamonFirst.com).



## *Election Update*

The City of San Ramon will hold an election for Mayor and two Council seats on November 8, 2011.

The City Clerk's office encourages all new residents to register to vote. If you have moved within the City of San Ramon, you will need to re-register in order to vote. The last day to register to vote and receive a sample ballot is October 10, 2011. The last day to register to vote is October 24, 2011. Applications for Vote By Mail ballots must be received by the Registrar of Voters in Martinez by November 1, 2011.

Voter registration forms are available at most City facilities. Please register and vote! Remember—voting is your right and your responsibility!





City of San Ramon  
 2222 Camino Ramon  
 San Ramon, CA 94583  
 (925) 973-2500

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 Permit # 50  
 ECRWSS

Residential Customer

Contact Information

October 2011

**Resident Appreciation Day**

Saturday, October 8, 10:00am–2:00pm  
 Forest Home Farms Historic Park

**San Ramon Symphonic Band Concert**

Friday, October 21, 7:30pm  
 Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

**Forest Home Farms Historic Park Fall Clean-up Day**

Saturday, October 22, 9:00am–12:00pm  
 Forest Home Farms Historic Park

**Capitol Steps**

Saturday, October 22, 8:00pm  
 Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center



November 2011

**Second Saturday at Forest Home Farms: Grind and Hull**

Saturday, November 12, 10:00am–2:00pm  
 Forest Home Farms Historic Park

**Night at the Improv**

Saturday, October 22, 8:00pm  
 Front Row Theater (inside Dougherty Station Community Center)

**Community Family Thanksgiving**

November 24\*, 5:00–7:00pm \*Register by 11/18  
 Alcosta Senior & Community Center

December 2011

**Bah Humbug! 5K Run/Walk**

December 3, 9:00am  
 Bishop Ranch #2

**Home for the Holiday's – A Musical Review**

December 3–18  
 Front Row Theater (inside Dougherty Station Community Center)

City Council

- H. Abram Wilson, *Mayor*
- Scott Perkins, *Vice Mayor*
- Jim Livingstone, *Councilmember*
- Carol Rowley, *Councilmember*
- Dave Hudson, *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
- Employee Services ..... 973-2523
- Engineering ..... 973-2670
- Passport Services ..... 973-2533
- Planning ..... 973-2560
- Police ..... 973-2700
- Police Sub Station (Dougherty Station) ... 973-3300
- Public Services ..... 973-2800
- Transportation ..... 973-2650

Facilities

- Alcosta Senior & Community Center ..... 973-3250
- Dougherty Station Community Center ... 973-3350
- 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)