Fall 2012

Town Hall Meeting Scheduled

A Town Hall Meeting will be held on Monday, October 1, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the Front Row Theater in the Dougherty Station Community Center at 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road. Previous Town Hall Meetings were held on March 26 and May 31, 2012. Communication with residents is critical to the success of the City's ability to provide relevant information and services. Town Hall meetings give residents the opportunity to speak their mind. Please come and share your comments so that your input will be considered in the important decisions which shape San Ramon's future.

New Social Media Channels

The City of San Ramon is pleased to announce the official launch of three new social media channels to communicate with residents and businesses. The City Council reviewed several options and recommendations to increase access to instant and planned information and communications on projects, issues, and services that affect those who live and work in San Ramon.

The use of social media is a part of the City's ongoing commitment to enhance communications, participation, and citizen engagement. An interdepartmental Social Media Team will monitor the City's social media channels during regular business hours as outlined in the City of San Ramon Social Media Policy.

Here are some of the new ways you can engage with the City of San Ramon on social media:

Twitter

@CityofSanRamon captures the pulse of San Ramon with tweets about news and services that impact your lives. Click on the FOLLOW US ON TWITTER link on our home page at www.sanramon.ca.gov.

ShareThis

Customers can share relevant content from the City's website, with people you believe will also enjoy and benefit from the content. News and event items can be easily shared with friends and followers using their choice of Social Media.

Open San Ramon

Open San Ramon is an online communication platform that has the order and decorum of government meetings -- making them civil and legal, as well as insightful and easy to use. It is meant to augment and diversify feedback from our citizens and encourage people that might be unable to attend meetings to participate in our community. The City will post questions, ideas, and information about projects and ask for input, priorities, and concerns via this online tool. Check out the link on the City website to Open San Ramon and register now as a user to receive notifications when a new question or topic is posted.

We invite you to join us on our new social media channels and look forward to utilizing these additional tools to stay connected with our community.

San Ramon Arts Summit

Wednesday, October 17 at 7:00 pm
San Ramon Community Center
at Central Park, 12501 Alcosta Blvd.

Calling all visual artists, performers, literary artists, arts groups, arts educators, and arts related businesses… We need your help to update San Ramon's Cultural Plan. Join the San Ramon Arts Advisory Committee for a lively interactive discussion on the arts and how the City of San Ramon can best use its resources to continue to grow and nurture the arts in our City. In order to make the most of the summit, take a minute to fill out the pre summit survey located on the City Web Site www.sanramon.ca.gov. Information gathered from the survey will be used to plan the agenda for the evening, identify priorities for the Cultural Plan, and establish a stakeholders list. For more information or to have your name added to the list please call Kathi Heimann at (925) 973-2611 or e-mail kheimann@sanramon.ca.gov.

Scholarship Program

The Parks and Community Services Department offers a scholarship program for San Ramon residents in need of financial assistance to participate in recreation programs and classes. Residents who meet the qualifications and income requirements, as well as contribute a minimum of $15 towards each registration fee are eligible to apply. Information on the program is available on the City's website at www.sanramon.ca.gov/Parks/scholarship.htm.

NORTH CAMINO RAMON SPECIFIC PLAN

On July 24, 2012, after multiple public hearings before the Planning Commission and City Council, the City Council adopted the North Camino Ramon Specific Plan (NCRSP).

The NCRSP will guide future development of an area bounded generally by the City limits to the north, Executive Parkway to the south, Highway 680 on the west and Alcosta Boulevard on the east to create a plan that has potential for a variety of commercial uses and services that is transit-oriented and pedestrian/bicycle friendly.

Since late 2008, the Specific Plan has continued to evolve through property owner meetings, workshops, study sessions, committee meetings, as well as community service group and community presentations. The adopted Specific Plan includes up to 1,124 workforce residential units and additional commercial opportunities that will provide a stimulus for economic growth and address the unmet commercial, retail, and housing needs of San Ramon and comply with state mandates.

Mixed Use Pedestrian Oriented Districts

Any new construction within the Plan Area is subject to the Specific Plan development standards and policies that will guide future development to balance housing, traffic, and economic goals while at the same time reducing traffic and improving walkability and connectivity to existing and future public spaces. In addition to shaping future development, the Specific Plan includes certain policy thresholds that provide for monitoring of future development activities to ensure that they are fiscally balanced and consistent with the Plan vision and overall City goals.

Copies of the Specific Plan and related documents are available on the City's website at www.sanramon.ca.gov/plan. Contact Planning Services at 925-973-2560 if you have any questions about the Specific Plan.

Fourth of July Community Forum

In February 2012, the City Council requested that the Parks & Community Services Commission lead a committee made up of citizens and Commission members to plan a future Independence Day event for 2013 and beyond. In response, the Parks & Community Services Commission held a Community Forum at the San Ramon Community Center on July 14 and on September 13, at Dougherty Station Community Center. At the July 14 Forum, a Citizen Committee was formed which included three Commissioners and seven San Ramon citizens. The Citizen Committee began meeting on August 8 establishing goals for the Independence Day event to include:

1. Encourage citizen participation and allow neighbors to meet neighbors.
2. Expand special events, creative experiences, and funding through community partnerships with businesses, and local organizations
3. Provide an event that will honor the American spirit as well as recognize veterans and armed forces.
4. Create an event that recognizes fiscal constraints of the City.
5. Create an event that prioritizes public safety.
6. Increase volunteer support to offset staffing costs.

The Citizen Committee developed several event recommendations which will be available in October for public input. The Commission plans to make a recommendation to the City Council by December 2012. This will provide the time necessary for staff to prepare contracts and make preparations for the July 2013 event.

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 and 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 or to find out more information please visit FEMA's websites at www.fema.gov, msc.fema.gov, www.floodsmart.gov, or contact the City's Engineering Services Department at (925) 973-2670.

2012 Voter Registration

Election day is Tuesday, November 6, 2012. Are you registered to vote? If you have moved within the City of San Ramon or have not voted in the last eight years, you need to re-register in order to vote.

Applications are available at the library, San Ramon Community Centers, and City Hall or online at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/register-to-vote/. The last day to register to vote and receive a sample ballot is October 22, 2012. Applications for Vote By Mail ballots must be received by the Registrar of Voters in Martinez by October 30, 2012.

Please register and vote ! Remember--- Voting is your right and your responsibility.

City Streetlighting Upgrades

The City of San Ramon has contracted with Republic Intelligent Transportation Services, a Siemens Business, to perform Phase II of the light-emitting diode (LED) conversion project. The City of San Ramon owns and maintains approximately 3,700 streetlights. Over 600 streetlights were converted to LED in Phase I, which included sections of City thoroughfares, primarily on Bollinger Canyon Rd., Alcosta Blvd, and San Ran Ramon Valley Blvd. Phase II of this project includes the conversion of all the remaining City-owned high-pressure sodium streetlights to highly energy efficient LED fixtures, including residential decorative fixtures in the Dougherty Valley; as well as the City's illuminated street name signs, parking lot lighting, decorative lighting, and pedestrian crossing signs. When the project is complete the City will have lowered its energy usage by at least 50% and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. The new technology will deliver improved performance and quality of light, reduce maintenance and energy costs, and result in longer product life span.

Approximately 2,600 PG&E owned streetlights within the City limits will not be converted to LED. The City is working closely with PG&E to stay updated on any plans to convert streetlights, and have requested that the City be considered for priority installation.

The installation phase of the project will begin in September, 2012, and is estimated to be completed by end of December, 2012.

Please contact Jennifer Dye, Administrative Analyst for the City of San Ramon for any further information about this project at: jdye@sanramon.ca.gov or 925-973-2806

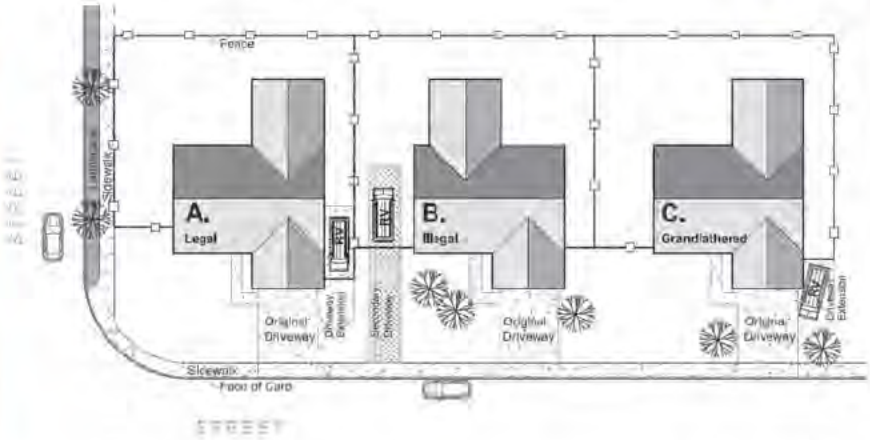
New Park Improvement Projects

Several new projects are underway in City parks to improve recreation experiences for everyone. Funding for these projects is through the City and voter-approved funds through the East Bay Regional Park District.

- Athan Downs – a new playground that is fully inclusive for persons of all abilities. Equipment that fosters play and creativity for those with physical and cognitive disabilities. Construction will begin in Fall 2012 and be completed in early 2013.
- Cricket Pitch – Windemere Ranch Middle School – the new cricket pitch was installed this summer and is the second pitch in San Ramon.

Where to Park a Recreational Vehicle on Private Property

Parking your Recreational Vehicle (RV) in your front yard is allowed for those who registered their RV's with the City between August 25, 2006 and February 28, 2007 and allowed by your Homeowner's Association. For those who are new to the City or have not registered their RV's, you may park your RV in your side yard where your side yard can be accessed from your existing driveway only. Property A in the diagram identifies where a RV may be parked legally. RV's may not be parked in the locations as shown on Properties B and C. If you need additional information please contact Planning Services at (925) 973-2560.



San Ramon Receives 2014-2022 Draft Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)

Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) is a state-mandated process for determining how many housing units, including affordable units, each community must plan to accommodate. There is no requirement to build but each city is required to allocate sites sufficient to fulfill their allocation.

The table below identifies the City's draft RHNA by affordability, which San Ramon must plan for during the time period of 2014-2022.

Draft RHNA Allocation (2014-2022)					
	Very Low Housing Units (0-50%)	Low Housing Units (51-80%)	Moderate Housing Units (81-120%)	Above Moderate Housing Unit (120% +)	Total Units
San Ramon	514	278	281	338	1,411

The City will continue to work with Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) on finalizing the draft RHNA and addressing the need to balance the housing demands of our City while maintaining its quality of life.

Once the final allocation is adopted by ABAG in April 2013, the City will prepare an update to our Housing Element to identify how we will meet the housing needs of all people within the community.

For additional information on RHNA and the Housing Element, please contact the Planning/Community Development Department at planning@sanramon.ca.gov or (925) 973-2560

If I were a Thief...

"If I were a Thief, You would be a Victim" is a crime prevention program implemented by the Police Department to remind citizens that we are not exempt from crime. The San Ramon Police Department would like to remind residents to take the following steps to prevent becoming a victim of auto burglary:

1. DO NOT leave anything in your vehicle in public view that appears to be of value. If it can be seen, it can be taken. A typical auto burglary only takes approximately 10 seconds. Less time if you leave your vehicle unlocked!!!
2. LOCK your vehicle EVERYTIME you exit it.
3. KEEP your windows closed at all times when away from your vehicle.
4. SET your alarm when you leave your vehicle.
5. DO NOT wait until you are at your destination to "HIDE" items in your trunk. Do this prior to your arrival. Crooks watching parking lots will see you do this. It will make you a target.
6. Park in well lighted areas with lots of visual surveillance.
7. TAKE your belongings with you when dropping off children at school, daycare, etc.
8. DO NOT leave your car running at the ATM, coffee shop, or cleaners.

Following these steps will "target harden" your property and save you tons of time from contacting insurance companies, getting vehicles repaired, making claims, repairing your credit, etc. START NOW to TARGET HARDEN and send those criminals elsewhere!

Keeping Our Streets Safe and Clean

Street sweeping is an integral part of keeping local water ways and the Bay clean and protects habitat by removing pollutants before they enter our creeks. The Public Services Department provides street sweeping throughout the city twice per month.

To view your street sweeping schedule, go to www.sanramon.ca.gov/publicsvc/street-a.asp.

What can you do to help?

Remove any vehicle or trailers parked on the street – When the street sweepers have to go around parked cars in residential areas, they miss vital portions of the gutter which can reduce the flow of water into the storm drain system.

Remove all obstructions such as garbage cans, yard waste, and basketball stands still in the street during sweep day – Do not place garbage and recycling cans in the street more than 24 hours before pick-up, and remember to retrieve cans as soon as possible after they are emptied.

Keep trees trimmed - Low hanging trees can damage the street sweepers and must be trimmed to accommodate a 14' 6" clearance. If the sweeper cannot safely drive under a tree, the driver will sweep around the curb.

Do not push yard or leaf debris into the street for the sweeper. Use your greenwaste recycling container for that.

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

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FALL COMMUNITY EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2012

City Art Galleries:
California West Painters – Paintings
September 1 – 29
Lindsay Dirkx Brown Art Gallery

City Art Galleries:
Erika Richert – Acrylic Paintings
September 1 - October 31
Dougherty Station Community Center Art Gallery

City Art Galleries:
Manisha Gupta – Paintings
September 1 – October 31
San Ramon Library Art Gallery

San Ramon Library "Voices in Jazz" Concert Series*
Ed Reed, Vocalist
Friday, September 28, 8:00pm
San Ramon Library

OCTOBER 2012

City Art Galleries:
Michael Yashar – Oil Paintings
October 1 – 31,
Reception: Saturday, October 6, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Lindsay Dirkx Brown Art Gallery

Home School Day*
Monday, October 1, 9:00am - 3:00pm
Forest Home Farms Historic Park

Scarecrow Contest*
October 1-5, 3:00 - 5:00pm
Forest Home Farms Historic Park

The Pumpkin Patch
October 5 – 31
Forest Home Farms Historic Park

Art in the Park
October 6 – 7, 2012, 10am - 5pm
San Ramon Central Park

San Ramon Library "Voices in Jazz" Concert Series*
Daria, Vocalist and Dave Rocha, Trumpet
Friday, October 12, 8:00pm
San Ramon Library

Thank You San Ramon!
Resident Appreciation Day at Forest Home Farms
Saturday, October 13, 10:00am - 2:00pm
Forest Home Farms Historic Park

San Ramon Arts Summit
Wednesday, October 17, 7:00pm
San Ramon Community Center at Central Park

Smokey Robinson*
Rescheduled to Saturday, May 11, 2013
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

Parks Make Life Better Clean-Up Days*
Saturday, October 20, 9:00am- 12:00pm
Forest Home Farms

San Ramon Symphonic Band Concerts*
Let's Dance
Friday, October 26, 7:30pm
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

Halloween Middle School Dance*
Friday, October 26, 6:30 - 9:00pm
San Ramon Community Center at Central Park

Storytime with the Farmer*
Monday, October 29, 10:00 - 11:00am
Forest Home Farms Historic Park

NOVEMBER 2012

City Art Galleries:
Mark Mertens – Pastel Paintings
November 1 – 30,
Reception: Saturday, November 3, 2:00 – 4:00pm
Lindsay Dirkx Brown Art Gallery

City Art Galleries:
Michelle Marta – Acrylic and Pastel Paintings
November 1 – December 21
Dougherty Station Community Center Art Gallery

City Art Galleries:
Indrajit Sen – Photography
November 1 – December 21
San Ramon Library Art Gallery

San Ramon Library "Voices in Jazz" Concert Series*
Jamie Davis, Vocalist
Friday, November 2, 8:00pm
San Ramon Library

Parks Make Life Better Clean-Up Days*
Saturday, November 3, 9:00am- 12:00pm
Athan Downs - Montevideo Drive and Davona Dr

Bay Area Children's Theatre:
Lyle, the Crocodile*
November 3, 4, 10,11
Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community Center

Second Saturday Tours:
Hammers, Horseshoes and Hulling
Saturday, November 10, 10:00am - 2:00pm
Forest Home Farms Historic Park

Night at the Improv*
Friday & Saturday, Nov 16 & 17, 8:00pm
Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community Center

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy*
Wild and Swingin' Holiday Party
Sunday,
November 25, 7:00pm
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

SRCT Presents:
Bah Hum Bug Scrooge's Christmas Carol*
November 30 - December 15
Front Row Theater, Dougherty Station Community 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*
Jim Livingstone, *Vice Mayor*
Dave Hudson, *Councilmember*
Phil O'Loane, *Councilmember*
Scott Perkins, *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