

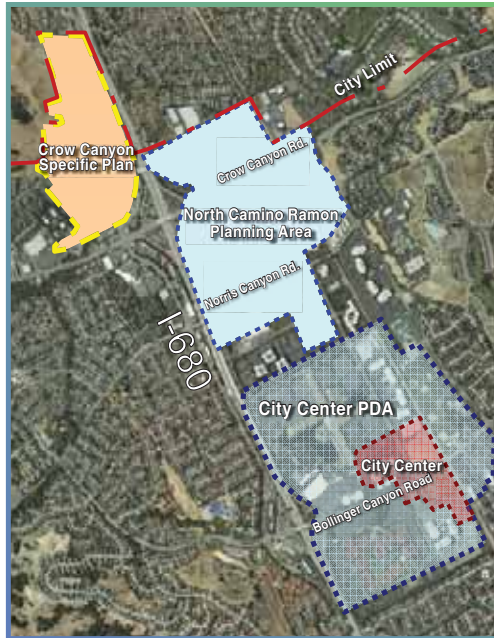


Spring 2009 ♦ Volume Six ♦ Edition One

## North Camino Ramon planning begins

The planning process has begun for the development of the City's newest specific plan. The North Camino Ramon Specific Plan (NCRSP) will be a focused land use plan that will stimulate development and redevelopment within the plan area to create new retail and housing opportunities, provide jobs and enhanced sales and property tax revenues for the City.

The Specific Plan will focus on land uses and development concepts that will provide incentives for property owners to redevelop and maximize land use potential, while supporting smart growth principles such as mixed-use development that is close



to transit facilities and will allow people to live close to where they work and shop.

The NCRSP project area is broadly defined as the geographical area bounded by the City limits to the north, Executive Parkway to the south, Interstate 680 on the west and Alcosta Boulevard to the east. The area is accessed primarily by Crow Canyon Road from I-680. In addition to the many economic benefits to the City and property owners, the successful implementation of this Specific Plan will provide a significant connection between the City Center and Crow Canyon Specific Plan areas.

## New Service Center opening in June

In June the San Ramon Public Services Department will open a second Service Center for maintenance and operations activities in the City.

The Dougherty Valley Service Center, 2011 Park Loop Road off of Dougherty Road, is 3.4 acres and includes office and warehouse space, equipment storage areas, and outdoor areas for storing plants, mulch, fertilizers, tractors and other landscaping equipment. It will also hold supplies and equipment that the City will use in a disaster or emergency.

The Public Services Department maintains city streets, parks, buildings, traffic signals, streetlights, creeks, catch basins and landscaped areas. The new \$4 million Service Center was built by Shapell Homes as part of the Dougherty Valley conditions for approval.



## Bus program to lessen traffic

**W**ith the start of the new school year, there will be less traffic around three schools in San Ramon as a traffic congestion program begins bussing students to and from school.

At least 1,400 students are expected to participate in the voluntary TRAFFIX program. The cost is \$200 for the inaugural period, which ends on June 15, 2009, and \$250 the following year, for each student bussed to school. San Ramon schools participating in the program are Walt Disney Elementary, Country Club Elementary and Pine Valley Middle School.

Approximately \$40 million in funding for the San Ramon Valley Congestion Relief Program comes from Measure J, a county-wide ½-cent sales tax measure for traffic congestion relief that voters approved in November 2004.

Traffic on many streets around the schools in the program is so

congested that several intersections leading to the schools are getting an “F,” or failing grade in traffic studies. The bus service will improve service during school hours to an acceptable level because fewer parents will drive children to school.

In addition to the three San Ramon schools listed above, other schools in heavily congested corridors that will be served by the busing program are Green Valley Elementary and Los Cerros Middle schools in Danville.

*For questions about the program contact Aram Boyd, TRAFFIX Contract Program Manager, at 925-866-TRFX or e-mail [aram@ridetraffic.com](mailto:aram@ridetraffic.com) or reach Lisa Bobadilla, Transportation Division Manager for San Ramon, at 925-973-2651 or e-mail [LBobadilla@sanramon.ca.gov](mailto:LBobadilla@sanramon.ca.gov).*

## City radio system returns at 1610 AM

**A**fter nine years without a radio system to broadcast local traffic information during emergencies, construction projects or major events, the City of San Ramon returns to the radio. On March 24th the City Council approved purchase of updated equipment. Once installed, residents and businesses will be kept up to date on events such as the Art & Wind Festival and the Fourth of July Spectacular and for emergency information. The radio station will be at 1610 AM. The City and Sunset Development collaboratively operated a radio system since 1990 but operations ceased in 2000.

## Passport requirements change June 1

If you plan to travel outside of the country after June 1 be aware passport requirements change on that date. The final phase of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) becomes effective on June 1, and requires that all U.S. citizens entering the United States by land, sea or air must provide a passport or passport card.

Routine passport processing is approximately six weeks. Expedited services are available for an additional fee. Go to [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for more information. Passport applications are accepted by appointment only at the City Clerk's office by calling 925-973-2539.



## GENERAL PLAN 2030 UPDATE IS UNDERWAY

*Plans for how San Ramon will look and grow through the year 2030 will be the focus of three workshops tentatively scheduled to be held by Planning Commission.*

The General Plan 2030 update will focus on updating background information, reviewing existing policies and developing new ones, where necessary. The review is an update of the City's General Plan 2020, which was approved by voters in March 2002. State law requires cities to update their general plans on a regular basis to reflect new legislation and respond to any changes to the City's vision or attitudes, and to ensure the plan is current and internally consistent. The last comprehensive update of the San Ramon General Plan was completed seven years ago.

The City's Planning Commission will hold workshops on the General Plan 2030. Public input is invited. The tentative dates for these workshops are May 19, June 2 and June 16. All meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, 2222 Camino Ramon. Check the City's Web page at [www.sanramon.ca.gov](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov) for more information about the plan update and changes in location, dates and times of the workshops.

## 'Slice of Life San Ramon' on Thursday nights

For a chance to see what San Ramon has to offer and to learn more about the City, "Slice of Life San Ramon" is a half-hour program you won't want to miss on Tri-Valley Community Television.

San Ramon's scenic beauty, good climate, suburban charm and proximity to the Bay Area's major employment centers make it one of the most desirable places to live in the Bay Area. There is a wealth of history, current events and unique opportunities also available here.

This bi-monthly 30-minute program highlights some of the unique places, people and events in San Ramon. Episodes have introduced viewers to the new Diablo Valley College campus, researched San

Ramon's colorful history and what San Ramon might have been named, sat down with Mayor Wilson to learn a little more about what "makes him tick," and visited some of the libraries, parks and cultural centers to see what they have to offer in 2009. You'll be surprised!

No matter how you slice it, San Ramon is a great place to live, work and play.

Catch an episode of "Slice of Life San Ramon" Thursdays at 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Tri-Valley Community TV 30.

*For more information visit [tri-valleytv.org](http://tri-valleytv.org).*

## City Council Election – November 3, 2009

The City of San Ramon will hold its Municipal Election on Nov. 3. Are you registered to vote? Every new resident, as well as residents who will be 18 before the election, are encouraged to register. You need to re-register to vote when you move, change your name, or change your political party affiliation. Voter registration forms are available at the City Clerk's office and public libraries. The Contra Costa County Elections Department Web site, [www.cocovote.us](http://www.cocovote.us), has complete information on voter registration, absentee ballots, poll locations, and election results.

The November 2009 Municipal Election will be for three seats on the City Council: Mayor and two City Council members. The candidate's nomination period opens on July 13, and closes on Aug. 7 at 5 p.m. If one of the incumbents does not file by Aug. 7, the nomination period will be extended for five days to Aug. 12. Candidate filing information will be available in June. Please contact the City Clerk's office at 973-2539 for additional information.

## San Ramon Web site goes live May 4

**SanRamonExpress.com**, an interactive Web site for San Ramon, will go online on **May 4**. It will be continually updated with news and information important to San Ramon residents. (The site is not affiliated with the City). Visitors will have an opportunity to submit event information to residents, too, through the community calendar. Have an opinion on an issue, a news tip or scores for local a sporting event? The Town Square community forum will allow site visitors to post that information.

For a preview of what the site will be like, visit one of SanRamonExpress.com's sister sites: [DanvilleWeekly.com](http://DanvilleWeekly.com), [PleasantonWeekly.com](http://PleasantonWeekly.com) or [TriValleyViews.com](http://TriValleyViews.com).

Launching in conjunction with the Web site is Express, an electronic digest e-mailed weekly to subscribers. Express will launch **May 8** and will give links to the top headlines, Town Square posts and "Hot Picks," must-see events as selected by the staff.

To receive Express every Friday morning beginning May 8, or for more information, e-mail [publisher@sanramonexpress.com](mailto:publisher@sanramonexpress.com).

## Housing Rehabilitation Grants & Loan Programs

- **Rehabilitation Grant**  
Program provides a grant for up to \$5000
- **Rehabilitation Grant**  
Program provides a 3% deferred loan for up to \$35,000
- **Exterior Enhancement**  
Program provides a rebate of up to \$2000

\*Only San Ramon homeowners are eligible  
\*Income limits apply

For complete details call:

**(925) 973.2596**





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 San Ramon, CA 94583  
 (925) 973-2500

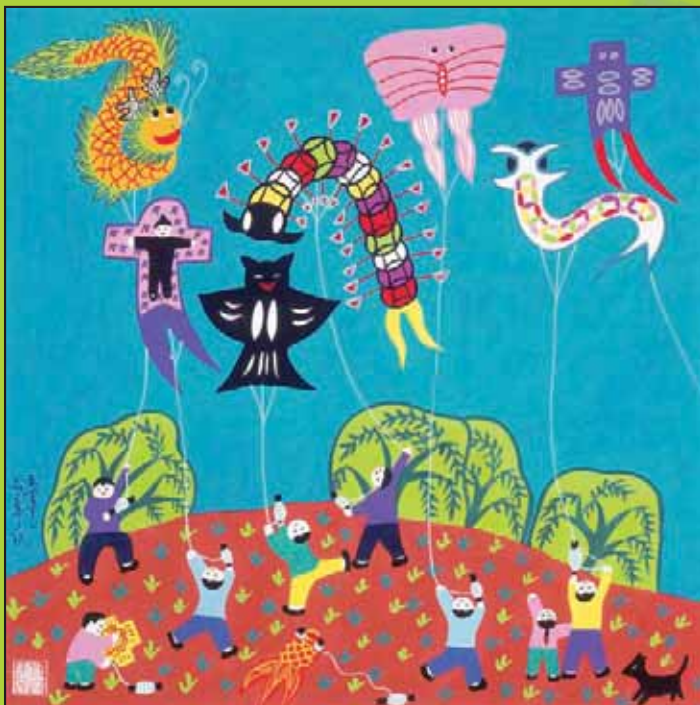
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**San Ramon, CA**  
**Permit # 50**

**Postal Customer**

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**SAN RAMON**

# ART & WIND FESTIVAL



Colorful Kites (1) © Yan Junjie and Jinshan Peasant Painting Academy www.folkartchina.com

**Sunday & Monday**  
**May 24 - 25 • 10AM - 5PM**  
**San Ramon Central Park**  
**12501 Alcosta Blvd**

presented by:  

Arts & Crafts Booths • Kite Flying Demos  
 Fabulous Food Court • Kid's Activity Area • Information Alley  
 Entertainment on 3 Stages • Free Kite Making Workshops

Hot Air Balloon Launch at 6am on Monday

**www.ArtandWind.com**

**952.973.3200**

*No Pets, Please!*



CONTRA COSTA TIMES  
 SAN RAMON VALLEY TIMES



## Contact Information

### City Council:

H. Abram Wilson, *Mayor*  
 Dave Hudson, *Vice Mayor*  
 Jim Livingstone, *Councilmember*  
 Scott Perkins, *Councilmember*  
 Carol J. Rowley, *Councilmember*

City Council ..... 973-2530  
 City Manager ..... 973-2530

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

### Department Services:

Building ..... 973-2580  
 Business License ..... 973-2510  
 City Clerk ..... 973-2539  
 Economic Development ..... 973-2554  
 Employee Services ..... 973-2503  
 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:

Dougherty Station  
 Community Center ..... 973-3350  
 Dougherty Station Library ..... 973-3380  
 Dougherty Valley  
 Aquatic Center ..... 973-3335  
 Dougherty Valley  
 Performing Arts Center ..... 973-ARTS  
 San Ramon Community Center  
 and Central Park ..... 973-3200  
 San Ramon Library ..... 973-2850  
 San Ramon Olympic Pool ..... 973-3240  
 San Ramon Senior Center ..... 973-3250