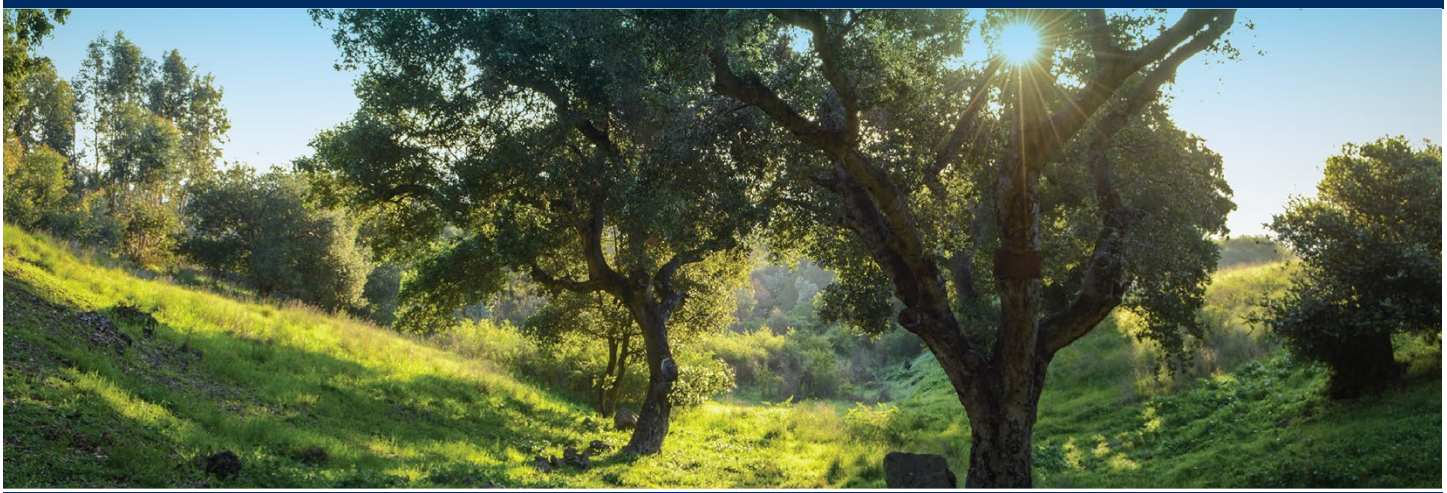
City Council Newsletter



Updates and information on programs and projects at the City of San Carlos.

June 13, 2025

From the Office of City Manager Jeff Maltbie, jmaltbie@cityofsancarlos.org

CITY MANAGER

Emergency Kit Giveaway



Emergencies can happen at any time, so it's important to be prepared and plan in advance. The City of San Carlos is launching an Emergency Kit Giveaway to help residents start building their home emergency kits and go-bags, an essential step in emergency preparedness.

To receive a free emergency kit (available while supplies last) and enter the giveaway:

1. Choose five items from the San Mateo County Emergency Management Preparedness Calendar to start building your emergency kit or go-bag.
2. Plan two potential evacuation routes you could use to exit your neighborhood during an emergency.
3. Email communications@cityofsancarlos.org with the following:
    a. A photo of your five items
    b. Your two evacuation plans

The emergency kit includes: a food bar; six water pouches; a thermal blanket; an AM/FM radio; a pump LED flashlight; a first aid kit; a dust mask; a safety whistle; and a tissue pack.

Learn more about this giveaway and find additional emergency preparedness information at cityofsancarlos.org/emergency.

Wildfire Preparedness Webinar

The City of San Carlos is hosting a Wildfire Preparedness Webinar on June 26 at 6:00 p.m. This virtual webinar will cover how the City and its partners are preparing for wildfires as well as how residents can prepare. There will also be a question-and-answer segment at the end, so please be prepared with questions! You may email your questions in advance to citymanager@cityofsancarlos.org.

This is an important opportunity to hear from the following agencies:

- San Carlos and Redwood City Fire Department
- San Carlos Police Bureau of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
- County of San Mateo Emergency Management
- California Water Service (Cal Water)

Registration is required. Register for the webinar. Learn more about wildfire preparedness at cityofsancarlos.org/wildfire.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Human Resources Division

Open Recruitment

Part-time Positions

- Program Coordinator – 30 hours/week (Parks & Recreation - ACC) – Recruitment closes June 20

Recruitments in Progress

Full-time Positions

- Associate Engineer (Public Works) – Second interviews were held June 12

Part-time Position

- Recreation Leader II – Athletics (Parks & Recreation) – Background check in progress

Administrative Services Division

Risk Management Update

The Cities Group is a six-member agency workers' compensation Joint Powers Authority (JPA). By the end of 2024, five (San Carlos, Atherton, Dublin, Half Moon Bay, and Hillsborough) of the six member agencies submitted formal notices of intent to withdraw from the JPA, and at their June 10 board meeting, voted unanimously to adopt a resolution expressing their intent to dissolve the JPA and to terminate claims handling effective December 31, 2025. Separately, the City of Foster City will withdraw its membership effective July 1, 2025.

Following the June 10 action, the Cities Group Board will review a proposed dissolution agreement among the member agencies. Each of the five agencies will then present the agreement to their respective city councils with a recommendation to approve dissolution. Unanimous approval by all five councils is required for the dissolution to proceed. Staff will present the dissolution agreement to the City Council for consideration within the next few months. Concurrently, staff will continue the search for a new provider, a process initiated in April. Once a potential provider has been identified, staff will bring an item to the Council with a recommendation.

Budget Adopted

The City Council adopted the City of San Carlos Fiscal Years 2025-2027 Budget on June 9, 2025. A copy of the budget is posted on the City's website.

CITY CLERK

New Commissioner Appointments

At its June 10 special meeting, the City Council interviewed residents interested in serving on the City's commissions and board. After conducting interviews and deliberating, the Council appointed Jorge Tapias and Frank Kenniasty to the Planning and Transportation Commission, and Alexis McFarlane as an alternate member to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.

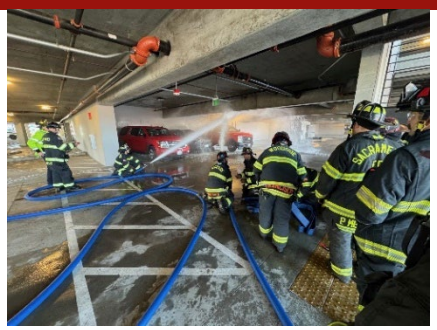
Congratulations to our newly appointed commissioners and thank you to all who applied and participated in the process!

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

City Council Adopts 2045 General Plan Reset Project

At its May 27 regular meeting, the City Council adopted the 2045 General Plan Reset project that updates the 2030 General Plan to accommodate continued development interest for new offices, restaurants, services, retail, industrial, and housing in the City to the year 2045. This update also accounts for other long range planning initiatives, specifically the Downtown and Northeast Area Specific Plans. As per the requirement of the California Environmental Quality Act, an Environmental Impact Report was prepared for the project and certified by the City Council prior to adopting the General Plan amendments. For more information on the project, please visit www.cityofsancarlos.org/2045GeneralPlanReset

FIRE



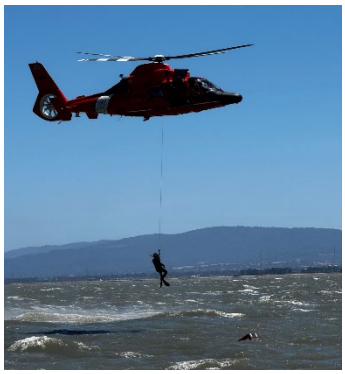
Three Countries – One Mission

The fire department recently hosted instructors from Canada and command staff from Guatemala for two weeks of hands-on training focused on two of today's most complex challenges: fires involving electric vehicles/lithium batteries, and firefighting in standpipe-equipped high-rise buildings. These scenarios demand focused training and global collaboration. This effort also strengthened cultural exchange and deepened international relationships which contribute to better preparation and safer outcomes for our community.

San Mateo County Truck Academy



Several fire department members participated as students and instructors in the San Mateo County Truck Academy, an intensive training event focused on laddering, vertical ventilation, forcible entry, and roof operations. These critical skills are essential to keeping firefighters and the public safe during structure fires. Members took full advantage of the opportunity to teach the position above them and learn from those below them, continuing the proud tradition of developing talent and sharpening skills across all ranks.



Training Update

Partnering with the City of Redwood City for fire services allows San Carlos to draw from a much larger pool of resources. One example is the department's fireboat which recently performed helo hoisting operations training in conjunction with a United States Coast Guard (USCG) rescue helicopter. During the maneuver, Fireboat 9 was in communication with USCG personnel on board the helicopter, coordinating speed and heading. A rescue diver was lowered to the aft deck of Fireboat 9 and then hoisted back to the helicopter. The maneuver was practiced multiple times. Following completion of the operation, Fireboat 9 remained in the vicinity on standby to assist if needed, as the rescue divers were lowered into the bay numerous times, each time securing and hoisting a rescue dummy from the water.



Last week, members of the San Carlos and Redwood City fire departments participated in joint wildland training drills alongside partner agencies. This annual exercise helps prepare the teams for the upcoming wildland season, both locally and during statewide strike team deployments such as last year's mutual aid response to the fires in Los Angeles. This year's training featured a demonstration of Cal Fire's new Blackhawk helicopter and a simulated wildland incident in the Portola Valley area.

In addition, fire department command staff took part in SMC Alert training with San Mateo County Emergency Management, learning how to deploy timely messages to the public for community information/warnings, evacuation, shelter-in-place, etc.

These efforts ensure readiness to protect the community and others during wildfire season and throughout the year.

San Carlos Municipal Code Section 15.04.110 – Fire Hazard Severity Zones Updated

On June 9, the City Council adopted Ordinance 1624 amending San Carlos Municipal Code Section 15.04.110 F(6)(a) to adopt updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) maps for Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs), as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in accordance with Government Code Section 51178.

The adopted maps classify portions of the city as moderate or high wildfire hazard zones based on terrain, fuel conditions, and localized fire weather modeling. No areas within San Carlos were designated as "very high" under the updated mapping.

This action reflects CAL FIRE's statewide effort to modernize FHSZ maps using advanced science and local data. The maps are used to guide long-term wildfire mitigation, land use decisions, and public awareness.

There are no new obligations for property owners at this time. However, beginning January 1, 2026, new construction in "high" zones will be subject to ignition-resistant building standards under Chapter 7A of the California Building Code, consistent with state law.

For more information or to view the updated maps, visit:
www.cityofsancarlos.org/wildfire_preparedness

PARKS & RECREATION

Office Move

The Parks and Recreation office has moved! The new location for Parks and Recreation Administration and the Special Events Division is on the second floor of the library at 610 Elm Street, occupying the space that was the former Rethink Waste office.

Please be sure to stop by and say hello!

POLICE

Safety Education Campaign

As the popularity of electric bicycles and scooters continues to rise—especially among youth—the San Carlos Bureau of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with the City of San Carlos, will launch a community-wide E-Bike and Micro-Mobility Safety Education Campaign this summer.

This initiative aims to promote safe, lawful, and respectful use of e-bikes, scooters, and similar mobility devices on streets, sidewalks, and trails. The program is a proactive response to growing concerns from residents, school staff, and law enforcement regarding unsafe riding behaviors and confusion about the rules of the road.

The campaign will include:

- Educational Video: A short, engaging video covering the basics of e-bike safety, the differences between bike classes, and rider responsibilities. This will be shared with local schools, families, and through City social media channels.
- Outreach: Deputies and City staff will work with local schools to provide education and distribute materials.
- Safety Guide Distribution: Residents can receive a printed E-Bike & Motorcycle Enforcement Guide, detailing relevant California Vehicle Code laws and enforcement practices. This guide will clarify helmet requirements, age restrictions, where e-bikes can and cannot be ridden, and other key safety expectations.

Key safety reminders:

- Helmets are required for all riders under 18 (CVC 21212(a))
- Sidewalk riding is restricted depending on location and signage
- All stop signs and traffic lights must be obeyed; bike riders must follow the same rules as drivers
- Ride with traffic, not against it, and yield to pedestrians

The goal is to prevent accidents, reduce injuries, and foster shared respect among motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians.

An enforcement guide is provided at the end of this newsletter for valuable reference.

We want our residents, especially our youth, to enjoy the benefits of e-bikes while understanding how to ride safely and responsibly!

PUBLIC WORKS



Street Repairs Completed on Chilton Avenue Using New Equipment

The City's operations and maintenance ("O&M") team recently completed a street repair at 57 Chilton Avenue in response to a large section of failing asphalt.

Using the newly acquired cold planer attachment for the skid steer, crews were able to efficiently grind down approximately 3 inches of damaged asphalt over an area measuring 21 feet by 7 feet. Once the area was prepped, new hot asphalt was applied to restore the surface.

This project demonstrates the value of recent equipment upgrades, which are enhancing the City's ability to respond quickly and effectively to pavement issues across San Carlos.

PG&E Electrical System Upgrade for Cherry Street Commons

Work is underway at Cherry Street Commons, and as part of the improvements, PG&E will be moving their overhead power lines underground on Cherry Street. This upgrade will involve new electrical equipment, aiming to boost reliability, improve safety, and lower the chance of power outages. PG&E plans to do this work overnight, from 9:00 p.m. on Monday, June 23, to 6:00 a.m. Tuesday. Service interruptions are to be expected during this time. PG&E will send out notices informing the businesses and residences of the work and as a part of the City's commitment to keeping the community informed, the notice attached at the end of this newsletter will also be distributed.

Please note that the schedule and construction activities for projects listed below are subject to change.

San Carlos Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project – Phase III

Kerex Engineering, Inc. has completed the pavement resurfacing along the project limits and is currently installing new traffic striping, markings, and signage along the corridor. As work progresses, the contractor will continue with restoration and landscape improvements. After that, a final walkthrough and punch list will be scheduled to close out the project.

Construction takes place Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Please be mindful of any temporary traffic control. Traffic delays and detours may be expected during the hours of construction, but there will be no disruption to any services.

Staff will continue to provide updates on the City's website.

SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE E-BICYCLE/MOTORCYCLE ENFORCEMENT GUIDE



CVC 312.5(a)(1)/(2)

Equipped with an electric motor and pedal assisted (Class 1) and/or throttle assisted (Class 2), reaches the speed of **20 miles per hour.**

MOVING

CVC 21200.5	DUI Alcohol/Drugs on Bicycle (M)
CVC 21202(a)	Right half of Roadway
CVC 21203	Hitching rides on vehicles
CVC 21204(b)	Passenger must be seat on permanent seat/Passenger under 4 yrs/40 lbs must be seated away from moving parts
CVC 21205	Carrying articles, not holding handlebars
CVC 21211(b)	Impede/Block others on bicycle trail/path
CVC 21212(a)	Under 18 must wear helmet
CVC 21456.2(a)	Failure to obey traffic control signs
CVC 21650.1	Travel same direction of vehicles (on roadway)
CVC 22110(a)/(b)/(c)	Failure to use hand and arm signals

EQUIPMENT

CVC 21201(a)	Wheel brake required
CVC 21201(b)	Handlebar height not higher than shoulders
CVC 21201(c)	Operator able to reach ground
CVC 21201(d)(1-4)	Lights/reflectors during darkness
CVC 21204(a)	Must have permanent seat attached
CVC 24016(d)	Modify/Tamper to increase speed

***Property - CANNOT BE TOWED/IMPOUNDED**



CVC 312.5(a)(3)

Equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of **28 miles per hour** and equipped with a speedometer.

MOVING

CVC 21200.5	DUI Alcohol/Drugs on Bicycle (M)
CVC 21201(c)	Operator able to reach the ground
CVC 21202(a)	Right half of Roadway
CVC 21203	Hitching rides on vehicles
CVC 21204(b)	Passenger must be seat on permanent seat/Passenger under 4 yrs/40 lbs must be seated away from moving parts
CVC 21205	Carrying articles, not holding handlebars
CVC 21207.5	Riding on bicycle trail/path/lane, hiking/equestrian/recreation trail
CVC 21211(b)	Impede/Block others on bicycle trail/path
CVC 21213(a)	Under 16 year old operating
CVC 21213(b)	No helmet (Any Age)
CVC 21456.2(a)	Failure to obey traffic control signs
CVC 21650.1	Travel same direction of vehicles (on roadway)
CVC 22110(a)/(b)/(c)	Failure to use hand and arm signals

EQUIPMENT

CVC 21201(a)	Wheel brake required
CVC 21201(b)	Handlebar height not higher than shoulders
CVC 21201(d)(1-4)	Lights/reflectors during darkness
CVC 21204(a)	Must have permanent seat attached
CVC 24016(d)	Modify/Tamper to increase speed

***Property - CANNOT BE TOWED/IMPOUNDED**



CVC 406(a)

Two-wheeled or three-wheeled device having fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power or having no pedals if powered solely by electrical energy, and an automatic transmission and a motor that produces less than 4 gross brake horsepower and can propel the device at a **maximum speed of not more than 30 miles per hour.**

MOVING

CVC 21200.5	DUI Alcohol/Drugs on Bicycle (M)
CVC 14601.1(a)	Suspended Driver
CVC 12500(a)	Unlicensed Driver
CVC 12500(b)	M1 or M2 Endorsement Required (M)
CVC 23127	Unauthorized. Vehicle on trail/path (M)
CVC 27803(b)	Driver DOT Helmet Required
CVC 27803(c)	Passenger DOT Helmet Required

EQUIPMENT

CVC 5030	Special License Plate Required
CVC 5037(a)	License Plate attached
CVC 5200(b)	Rear Plate required
CVC 24600(a)	Tail lamp required
CVC 24603(a)	Brake light required
CVC 24607(a)	Rear Red Reflector required
CVC 25650.5	Lighted Headlamp as engine runs
CVC 26311(a)	Brakes required both wheels
CVC 26709(a)	One Rearview Mirror required
CVC 27000(a)	Horn required
CVC 27465(b)(1)	Bald Tires
CVC 4000(a)	Registration required
CVC 16028(a)	Proof of Insurance

VEHICLE - May be TOWED OR IMPOUNDED



CVC 407.5(a)

Two-wheeled device that has handlebars, has either a floorboard that is designed to be stood upon when riding or a seat and footrests in place of the floor board, and is powered by an electric motor. This device may also be designed to be powered by human propulsion.

MOVING

CVC 212221.5	DUI Alcohol/Drugs (M)
CVC 21228	Must ride on right side of roadway
CVC 21229(a)	Must ride in bicycle lane
CVC 21229(b)	Unsafe movement out of bicycle lane
CVC 21235(b)	Shall NOT ride on HWY posted higher than 25 MPH unless in Bicycle Lane
CVC 21235(c)	Helmet required (Under 18)
CVC 21235(d)	Must have valid DL or Instruction Permit
CVC 21235(e)	No passengers
CVC 21235(f)	Carrying load preventing at least one hand on handlebar
CVC 21235(g)	Riding on sidewalk prohibited
CVC 21235(h)	Handlebars above shoulders on HWY
CVC 21235(i)	Leave o side blocking sidewalk/pathway
CVC 21235(j)	Ride while attached to a vehicle
CVC 22411	Shall NOT exceed 15 MPH (Max Speed)

EQUIPMENT

CVC 21235(a)	Must have a mechanical break
CVC 21223(a)(1)	Front light during darkness visible 300'
CVC 21223(a)(2)	Rear red reflector visible 500'
CVC 21223(a)(3)	Side reflector white or yellow visible 200'
CVC 21226(b)	Adequate muffler/Excessive noise
CVC 21226(d)	Modified exhaust system

***Property - CANNOT BE TOWED/IMPOUNDED**

All Misdemeanors (Including CVC 12500(a)/(b)) and CVC 21212(a) cites for juveniles shall be assigned to Juvenile Justice Center for Court

This is a guide only. Always refer to CVC, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Policy and Operations Manual

CITY OF SAN CARLOS
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

600 ELM STREET
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
(650) 802-4200
CITYOFSANCARLOS.ORG

To: City of San Carlos Resident or Business

RE: PG&E Electrical System Upgrades and Temporary Service Interruption (Cherry Street Area) on Monday, June 23, 2025

You are receiving this notification because your address will be impacted by upcoming work.

As part of our commitment to keeping the community informed, the City of San Carlos is sharing the following notice regarding upcoming work by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) in your neighborhood. PG&E will be upgrading electrical equipment in the Cherry Street area to enhance system safety, improve reliability, and reduce the risk of outages. A temporary power interruption is necessary for safety purposes. PG&E will provide a separate notice with additional details.

Work Location: Cherry Street (near Laurel Street and Walnut Street).

Night Work Schedule: Monday, June 23, at 9:00 p.m. through Tuesday, June 24, at 6:00 a.m.

What to Expect:

- Power service interruptions with advance notice from PG&E
- Presence of PG&E or contractor crews, vehicles, and equipment
- Minor construction noise and lighting during night work
- Temporary driveway access interruptions (crews will accommodate access when requested)
- All workers will carry valid photo ID and provide it upon request

Traffic Impacts:

- **Cherry Street (between Walnut Street and Laurel Street) will be closed to through traffic in both directions**
- “No Parking” signs will be posted at least 48 hours in advance
- Traffic routing and flagging crews will be on-site as needed

This work is being performed at night to minimize its impact on the community. We understand this may cause temporary inconvenience and appreciate your patience and cooperation as PG&E conducts this important safety upgrade.

Questions?

Please contact PG&E’s Job Owner, Daniel Dumdumaya, at (650) 339-0629 or email electricreliability@pge.com.

Thank you,
City of San Carlos