



MAY 31, 2024

MILLBRAE NEWS

BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER, VOLUME 3, ISSUE 11

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Page 2: City News

Page 4: Update to the
Community

Page 6: 

Page 7: Millbrae Police
Bureau

Page 8: Millbrae Library

Page 9: Upcoming Events

EVENT SPOTLIGHT:

MILLBRAE JUNETEENTH
CELEBRATION
JUNE 15, 2024



PUBLIC PLAZA DESIGN APPROVED

City Council approved a final design for the construction and maintenance of a public plaza on Broadway at the old Office Depot development. The public plaza design will occupy the full 3,759 square feet area of the parcel. The public plaza features a trellis with a connected seat wall, multiple landscaped areas, two street trees and four additional trees within the plaza, decorative pavers, ample area for commercial tenants to provide outdoor furnishing, and in-ground lighting, as well as a bollard lighting to illuminate the pathways. The trellis columns will be painted “Pearly Swirly” white with a cast stone base to match the building façade. The landscaping of the plaza will include four areas with a combination of grass, succulent planting, and shrubs, and will include Sawleaf Zelvokas to continue the row of street trees on Broadway. The new public plaza will be a wonderful addition to our downtown area and is sure to bring people together.



Draught Tolerant Landscaping

The drought-tolerant landscaping project is in the final stages of installation and is estimated to be completed on June 3, 2024. Landscapers have finished planting and are now installing decomposed granite mulch and cobble bioswales and putting the finishing touches on the irrigation system.

We are proud to announce the inclusion of 40 different drought-tolerant plants throughout the landscaping. All these plants will help to attract and support pollinators such as hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, and moths. Pollinators are an essential part of our ecological survival function. They help flowering plants reproduce, which are essential for healthy ecosystems and the production of many foods, beverages, fibers, spices, and medicines.

The bioswale is a channel made to hold stormwater so it can sink into the ground rather than go down the storm drain. The bioswales in this project are made out of cobble mulch and will naturally filter the stormwater as it sinks into the ground.

In our completed drought-tolerant landscaping in front of City Hall, milkweed has begun to bloom, attracting monarch butterflies, which are incredibly dependent on milkweed. Milkweed is the only plant in which monarchs lay their eggs. Milkweed produces a chemical that makes monarchs toxic and bitter-tasting to predators, allowing them to survive and continue to be an eminent part of our ecosystem. We look forward to seeing the plants blooming in the new drought-tolerant landscaping as the ones in front of City Hall have.



Take the Online Community Questionnaire for the City of Millbrae Citywide Objective Residential Design Standards and Zoning Code Amendments.

The Citywide Objective Residential Design Standards and Zoning Code Amendments project is a two-year effort, begun in January 2024, to develop new design standards for residential development throughout the City. Once they are adopted by the City Council, these new illustrated standards will apply to all residential and residential mixed-use projects. The standards will ensure that future residential development is of high quality, fits in with the neighborhood, and reflects Millbrae's unique character.

Your responses are important to us. Community input is key to shaping the vision for the future of Millbrae's neighborhoods. The Online Community Questionnaire is the first of several opportunities for community members to provide input and guidance as these new standards are developed. The Questionnaire will take approximately 10

minutes to complete and can be accessed on your computer, iPad, or phone. All responses are confidential. Responses must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on July 12, 2024. [Take the questionnaire.](#)

Visit the [project website](#) to read more about the project, keep up-to-date on its progress, and learn about ways to be involved. Be sure to sign up for emails to hear about community events as they are scheduled.





Congratulations to both the Mills High School and Taylor Middle School Graduation classes. The City of Millbrae wishes you all great success in your future endeavors, and we are cheering you on as future leaders throughout our community.

We look forward to celebrating these momentous accomplishments with all of you at the Mills Graduating Class block party next Thursday, June 6, 2024 at Central Park!

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO
SCAVENGER
COMPANY, INC.

Trash Talk by South San Francisco Scavenger

With Father's Day, Graduation, and Independence Day all coming up, chances are you will soon be hosting or attending a celebration. Please plan to reduce the amount of waste created.

If you're responsible for food or beverages:

- Avoid providing more than necessary and have a plan for distributing leftovers. Consider asking guests to bring reusable containers to fill.
- Serve foods that don't require utensils and maybe not even a plate. Tacos, hot dogs, hamburgers, egg rolls, pizza, corn on the cob, watermelon, grapes, and cupcakes are great examples.
- Serve beverages and condiments from bulk containers.
- If plates, cups, and utensils are needed, plan to use reusables not disposables. Bring them from home, have guests bring their own, or rent them.

If you're decorating:

- Utilize tablecloths and napkins that are washable/reusable.
- Display centerpieces that guests will want to take home, can be reused, or are easily recycled or composted. Potted plants, flowers/greenery, and photos printed on recyclable paper are good ideas.
- Say no to balloons, confetti, glitter, or any plastic decorations.
- Provide well-labeled collection bins for recyclables, compostables, and garbage. Locate them side by side so one is as easy to find as another. Ask guests to please use them correctly. Make sure you set a good example by using them correctly yourself. If you need help determining what belongs in which bin, visit www.ssfsavenger.com/sort-smart and use the handy search tool!
- Provide a collection area for dirty reusable plates, cups, and utensils. Ideally, this should be near the collection bins mentioned above.

If you're giving a gift:

- Make cards from old magazines or paper packaging you already have.
- Wrap gifts in newspaper, fabric scraps, or other reusable material.
- Avoid greeting cards and wraps that can't be reused or recycled. Cards and wraps with foil, glitter, and similar adornments cannot be recycled.
- Give the gift of an experience instead of something that will eventually need to be disposed of. Tickets to sporting or concert events, memberships, and gift cards to favorite stores are good examples.





Update to the Millbrae Community
San Mateo County Supervisors Proposed Purchase of the
La Quinta Hotel
for Homeless Housing

The County intends to purchase the La Quinta Hotel in Millbrae and turn the existing 100 hotel rooms into interim apartments for unhoused individuals.

The facts surrounding the County Board of Supervisors' proposal to purchase the La Quinta Hotel for interim housing for the homeless are being misrepresented by the project's proponents.

The City of Millbrae filed a lawsuit protecting the people's right to vote on this project. Article 34 of the State Constitution requires a vote of the citizenry for any development of low-income, affordable housing projects funded with State or local public financing or assistance. A two-thirds majority of the voters of the jurisdiction is required for approval.

The City's lawsuit simply asks the Court to rule on the validity (applicability) of compliance with the Article 34 requirement for a public vote to be held. The lawsuit is not an action to stop the proposed project but rather gives voice to residents.

The City of Millbrae supports affordable housing, people's right to vote, and fiscal protection against the County and the State of California, whose actions could harm the City financially.

This project has not been finalized and has not received the Homekey Funds that it would rely upon for the purchase after three State Homekey funding cycles. State funds remain in the program and have not been awarded, so the purchase of La Quinta Hotel is not finalized or guaranteed.

San Mateo County intends to use public funds from taxpayers to purchase La Quinta Hotel and is offering \$33 million to the La Quinta owners—a 10% increase over the appraised value, which is incentivizing the sale.

San Mateo County's proposal to convert the hotel into homeless housing will cost the City of Millbrae approximately \$1 million a year in revenue, which is generated from the nightly room tax (Transient Occupancy Tax or TOT), property tax, sales tax, and other fees. This is estimated to cost the City a total of almost \$30 million over the next 20 years. The one-time cost of litigation is minor in comparison to the million dollars of tax revenue at risk due to the County's proposal.

The La Quinta Hotel is a viable, functional hotel. Based on the annual amount of TOT collected, the hotel's occupancy rate averages between 80% and 83%, depending on the month and room rate. This hotel is highly operational, is utilized regularly by City visitors, and receives good to excellent ratings from online hotel websites.



**Update to the Millbrae Community
San Mateo County Supervisors Proposed Purchase of the
La Quinta Hotel
for Homeless Housing continued**

The County will not pay the City of Millbrae for the lost revenue or the additional cost of services, as the proposed project will require more police, medical, and fire services. Additionally, this will result in a lessening or a dilution of current services to Millbrae residents.

Similar projects the County has supported and developed have experienced significant increases in crime and safety service calls. Sources from San Mateo County Fire Departments and other San Mateo County Police Agencies report calls for service have risen 400% to 1,200%, resulting in additional burdens to taxpayers.

If purchased and converted to affordable housing, the County of San Mateo (as a governmental agency) will not pay property tax, sales tax, transit occupancy tax, development fees, or any other fees or taxes for their share of the impact that their proposed project will cause to the City of Millbrae.

The City of Millbrae supports the production of housing for the unhoused and has invested millions in affordable housing. The County's plan will severely damage Millbrae's fiscal health and result in layoffs of local hotel and restaurant workers—in addition to the loss of City TOT revenues.

The City of Millbrae has met its State-mandated housing goals, which is reflected in the recent certification of our Housing Element from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).



What's New in Millbrae Recreation!
Check our website for more information about
classes, events, and registration for activities at:
bit.ly/milrec

REGISTER BEFORE JULY 1 FOR EARLY BIRD PRICING!

MILLBRAE ADVENTURE SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 10-AUGUST 2

Week 1 June 10-14: Island Luau
Week 2 June 17, 18, 20, & 21: Wild Wild West
Week 3 June 24-28: To Infinity & Beyond
Week 4 July 1-3: Patriotic Party
Week 5 July 8-12: Road Trippin'
Week 6 July 15-19: Under the Big Top
Week 7 July 22-26: Land Before Time
Week 8 July 29-August 2: Bummer...End of Summer

**LOCATION: TAYLOR MIDDLE SCHOOL
850 TAYLOR BLVD, MILLBRAE, CA**

Register today at: bit.ly/milrec

ARTISTS ON WHEELS SUMMER CAMP

FACE LITERATURE & FINE MOTOR CAMP
AGES: 3-6
DATES: 6/10-6/14
MONDAY-FRIDAY
TIME: 9:30AM-11:30AM
FEE: \$300R/\$320NR

MIXED MEDIA CAMP
AGES: 6-10
DATES: 6/3-6/7
MONDAY-FRIDAY
TIME: 9:30AM-12:00PM
FEE: \$400R/\$420NR

LOCATION: MILLBRAE RECREATION
477 LINCOLN CIRCLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER:
bit.ly/milrec

JUNE 20TH SENIOR WALKING

LET'S KICK OFF SUMMER WITH A WALK AROUND MILLBRAE CENTRAL PARK AFTER WE WILL HAVE REFRESHMENTS AND ICE CREAM!

WALKING BEGINS AT 11:00AM
TELL YOUR FRIENDS!!

MEET AT THE
MILLBRAE RECREATION CENTER LOBBY
477 LINCOLN CIRCLE

BAD DAD JOKES & COFFEE!

COME HANG OUT IN THE SENIOR LOUNGE TO CHAT, LAUGH, AND HAVE FREE COFFEE!

EVERY THURSDAY IN MAY AND JUNE FROM 10 AM-11:30 AM AT
MILLBRAE RECREATION CENTER



MILLBRAE POLICE BUREAU

Last week was National Public Works Week and the Millbrae Police Bureau hosted an appreciation lunch for Public Works celebrating their partnership and collaboration with the Sheriff's Office Year round.



SAN MATEO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



ANONYMOUS
FIREWORKS
BUYBACK



- JUNE 22, 2024 -
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

1050 MISSION RD., SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

DEPUTIES WILL BE ONSITE SHARING FIREWORKS SAFETY
INFORMATION AND ASSISTING WITH SAFE FIREWORKS DISPOSAL

ALL FIREWORKS ARE ILLEGAL IN UNINCORPORATED SAN MATEO COUNTY

TURN IN ILLEGAL FIREWORKS
AND RECEIVE UP TO \$200 CASH!
NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

PRESENTED BY:



Colma Police
Department
Chief John Munsey



South San Francisco Police
Department
Chief Scott Campbell



Daly City Police
Department
Chief Cameron Christensen



San Mateo County
Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Christine Corpus



Broadmoor Police
Department
Chief Michael Connolly



San Bruno Police
Department
Chief Ryan Johansen



Brisbane Police
Department
Chief Lisa Masias



South San Francisco
Fire
Chief Jess Magallanes

FUNDS ARE LIMITED & SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

During the month of June, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and partners will be hosting a series of anonymous fireworks buyback events across San Mateo County. The program aims to enhance community safety by encouraging residents to turn in fireworks, which are illegal in all of San Mateo County, with the exception of the cities of Pacifica and San Bruno.

Here are the dates for the three fireworks buyback events:

- Saturday, June 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Coastside Fire Protection District Headquarters located at 1191 Main St. in Half Moon Bay
- Saturday, June 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Northern Branch Courthouse located at 1050 Mission Rd. in South San Francisco
- Saturday, June 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the new Sheriff's Office Substation located at 690 Broadway St. in Redwood City

This is an excellent opportunity to safely remove and dispose of dangerous and/or illegal fireworks with no questions asked while making a little money in doing so.

As a reminder, all fireworks are illegal in the City of Millbrae and in all unincorporated areas of San Mateo County. Thank you and please spread the word!



Memory Lab

Scan the QR code to reserve up to 2 hours of time in our Memory Lab!

Our Memory Lab includes equipment to digitize the following media:

Photos, negatives, and photographic slides

VHS and VHS-C cassettes

Audio cassettes

8mm and Super-8 film (no audio)

3.5" floppy disks (DOS or Windows format only)

CD-R and DVD-R data discs

Physical objects (max. size 6.7" dia. x 6.7" ht.)



Connect

smcl.org



Upcoming Events



June 1
10:00 AM

**Community Informational Meeting
Fire Assessment
David J. Chetcuti Community Room
450 Poplar Avenue**



June 3
12:00 PM

**Millbrae Rotary Mayors Golf Tournament
Green Hills Country Club
500 Ludeman Ln**



June 6
5:00 PM

**Mills High School Block Party
at Millbrae Central Park
477 Lincoln Circle**



June 6
7:00 PM

**Parking Management Public Meeting
City Council Chambers
621 Magnolia Avenue**



Upcoming Events



June 7
12:30 PM

**Progress Pride Flag Raising Ceremony
at Civic Center Plaza
450 Poplar Avenue**



June 14
8:30 PM

**Millbrae Goes to the Movies -
Trolls Band Together
Millbrae Central Park
477 Lincoln Circle**



June 15
10:00 AM

**Juneteenth Celebration
Multiple locations and events please
visit: bit.ly/millbraejuneteenth for
more info.**



July 4
12:00 PM

**Beats, Brews, & Vines - Fourth of July
Millbrae Central Park
477 Lincoln Circle**