



**UNION
CITY**



CITY NEWSLETTER FALL/WINTER 2023 EDITION

TWO-YEAR BUDGET ADOPTION

The City Council adopted the City's Biennial Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023–2024 and 2024–2025 and the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan on June 20, 2023.

With a current healthy General Fund reserve, the Biennial Budget will continue to restore services and staffing to pre-pandemic levels that are necessary to reinvest in the City's infrastructure and operations and prepare the City for significant growth that is on the horizon. The adopted budget prioritizes public safety and the hiring of police officers, and social services to address homelessness and to support seniors, youth, and family programming. Capital improvement projects that support economic development and improve the City's parks, roads, bikeways, facilities, and transit systems are also included in the adopted Capital Improvement Plan budget and several projects are expected to be implemented during the next two years.

Despite a stable outlook for the current budget, the City is facing a structural budget deficit brought on by inflation and the rising cost of supplies and services that exceed projected revenues. In the adopted Biennial Budget, the City has sufficient reserves to cover the General Fund's shortfall in the near-term. However, if the deficit is not addressed, the long-term financial forecast shows the City falling below the minimum reserve requirement in 2028 and exhausting its reserves by 2034. The City is working to identify new, ongoing, and stable revenue sources to secure long-term stability and avoid a "fiscal cliff" that would require deep cuts to vital services and programs in Union City. For additional information about the City's budget and financial reports, visit the City's website at www.unioncity.org/financereports.



STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES UPDATE

The Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2019–2020 through Fiscal Year 2024–2025 was adopted by the City Council in 2019 to establish priorities, goals, and strategies for the future of the City. The Strategic Plan has multi-year goals, and each goal has a set of priorities for implementation. As a result of the July 28, 2023 Strategic Plan workshop, the City Council identified its top priorities for Fiscal Year 2023–2024 and Fiscal Year 2024–2025, which are listed below:

1. **GOAL A, Strategy 1** - Develop a comprehensive fiscal sustainability model to address the General Fund's long-term structural deficit.
2. **GOAL A, Strategy 8** - Determine the feasibility of a revenue ballot measure for November 2024 and/or November 2026 to address critical facilities and infrastructure needs.
3. **GOAL C, Strategy 5** - Promote housing development for all income levels in the community by implementing the Housing Element, updating the zoning ordinance to include objective standards for new multi-family residential development to streamline the review of applications for housing developments, and other measures.
4. **GOAL C, Strategy 6** - Update the Economic Development Strategic Plan to meet the City's financial goals and build regional partnerships.
5. **GOAL D, Strategy 8** - Update the Climate Action Plan and also include regional goals in the plan.
6. **GOAL D, Strategy 10** - Create and implement a plan to maintain and upgrade the City's buildings.
7. **GOAL D, Strategy 16** - Create an outline of, and schedule for, creating a comprehensive Facilities Needs Assessment, and prioritize a space needs assessment for police as one of the first to be studied.
8. **GOAL E, Strategy 5** - Build a customer relations plan for public works and code enforcement.

While no new goals or strategies were created, the workshop served as an opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of this ambitious Plan. To learn more about the City Council Strategic Plan priorities, visit the City's webpage at www.unioncity.org/strategicplan.

BEST HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS DECORATING CONTEST



Do you love to decorate the outside of your home for the winter holidays? Join the fun and friendly competition between your fellow Union City residents and show who has the most holiday spirit with the biggest, brightest, or most unique exterior home decorations! This contest is open to individual homes, a cluster, or a whole street, and is FREE to enter. Let your holiday spirit come alive this December and show your neighbors who has the best home for the holidays!

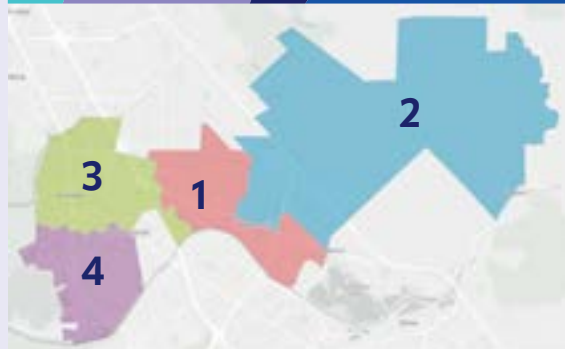
Contact erine@unioncity.org for more information or go to www.unioncity.org/reg to sign up.

SUMMER SANDLOT

This past summer, the Union City Police Department (UCPD) partnered with the Community and Recreation Services (CRS) Department to host UCPD's inaugural Summer Sandlot Baseball Program. Over 100 kids between the ages of 5-12 participated in the program. The Summer Sandlot Program is an opportunity for young community members, their families, and UCPD staff to meet and interact in a non-traditional manner. There were six total sessions, and the players were coached by UCPD staff and community members who graciously volunteered their time. The program was a huge success and UCPD is looking forward to next summer!



NEW DISTRICT POLICING MODEL



The Union City Police Department (UCPD) is excited to introduce its new district policing model. The district policing model is a policing management system that will organize the City into smaller areas referred to as districts. The districts will improve UCPD's ability to interact and understand the needs of the community. This plan will increase patrol accountability and beat knowledge, improve early identification of emerging criminal and community problems, and foster increased communication and information sharing with those that UCPD serves. For additional information, visit www.unioncity.org/districtpolicing.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

Youth & Family Services (YFS) has been making a difference in the lives of Union City residents for over a decade. The beginning of a new school year provides an opportunity to connect with Union City students and their families. Not only does YFS provide direct supportive services for youth on and off NHUSD campuses, but also education and prevention resources, such as:

- › Cannabis/marijuana awareness
- › Fentanyl and opioid crisis
- › Knowing the signs of an overdose and what to do

Please contact a YFS counselor today to discuss topics such as:

- › Counseling/Crisis Intervention
- › Overdose Prevention/Narcan Training
- › Connection to Support Services
- › Violence Prevention
- › Employment
- › Drug Awareness/Prevention

For more information about these FREE services, please visit the YFS website at www.unioncity.org/yfs.



JOIN US FOR THE STATION DISTRICT COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE!

Featuring: Quarry Lakes Parkway, BART East Entrance, Future Intercity Rail Station, and New Housing

Join us for the Station District Open House to learn more about the future of Union City! The Open House will be held on Saturday, December 2 from 11:00 AM–2:00 PM at Studio 11 (34626 11th Street, Union City, CA 94587). Parking will be free during event hours.

Learn more about Quarry Lakes Parkway, the opening of the east entrance to BART, plans for a future intercity passenger rail station, and new market-rate and affordable housing soon to be built in the neighborhood. In addition to an exhibit walk with informative project boards, Union City staff and project engineers will be present to answer questions community members may have. Translation services will be available. There will also be children's activities, complimentary refreshments, and a drawing where you can enter to win a prize!



To RSVP or for more information, please visit www.unioncity.org/UCopenhouse.

NEED SOMETHING FIXED IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

USE OUR ONLINE SERVICE REQUEST FORM!

Did you know – whether it's a pothole that needs filling, a streetlight to be fixed, or you would like to request a tree service for a City tree, you can conveniently submit a service request to the Public Works Department by filling out an **online form**. Use the form to report or request service for the following:

- › Potholes
- › Uneven sidewalks
- › Traffic signal and streetlight malfunctions
- › Unsafe street conditions
- › Plugged storm drains
- › Graffiti removal
- › Street or park maintenance
- › Tree trimming, clearing, or removal (in the public right-of-way)
- › Illegal dumping cleanup (on City streets only; on private property, please contact neighborhoodpreservation@unioncity.org)

The online form can be found on the Public Works Department main page at www.unioncity.org/publicworks.

STAY IN TOUCH!

