



For Immediate Release:

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**Fiscal Year 2019/20 & 2020/21 Biennial Budget Approved:  
Reduced Community Center and Library Hours Soon to Take Effect**

A recently approved City budget has resulted in reduced community center and library hours, which are soon to take effect.

Effective Tuesday, September 3, 2019, the Holly Community Center and Ruggieri Senior Center will be closed on all Fridays, except for scheduled fee-based classes or programs. All other senior activities that occur on Fridays, including the senior lunch program have been cancelled.

Effective Tuesday, September 3, 2019, the Kennedy Youth Center will be closed on alternating Fridays. The preschool program and the Teen Center Program will remain open at the Kennedy Youth Center during center closures.

Effective Tuesday, September 3, 2019, the Mark Green Sports Center will be closing early on weekends. New hours on Saturday and Sunday will be 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Effective August 28, 2019, the Alameda County Library will have reduced hours every Wednesday. Instead of their regular 8:00 PM close time, the library will be closing at 6:00 PM.

Closures and reduced hours can be found on the City's calendar at <https://www.unioncity.org/calendar.aspx>.

**Background on the City's Budget**

The City Council considered many options to fill a roughly \$7 million gap over the next two years in order to balance the budget.

Leading up to budget discussions that began in April, the City conducted a public survey to assess community attitudes about service cuts. The City Council weighed many options including closing an underused fire station, cuts to social service funding, and service cuts to park maintenance, recreation services and library hours.

A combination of service cuts were ultimately approved, to include reductions in community center and library hours and the elimination of an unfilled park maintenance position. The rest of the budget gap was filled by spending \$5.5 million out of the City's savings account. More information and resources about the Fiscal Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 Biennial Budget can be found at <https://www.unioncity.org/413/FY-201920-202021-BIENNIAL-BUDGET>.

In July, after the budget was approved, additional fiscal stability measures were taken when the City Council voted to close Fire Station 30 – an underused fire station operated by the Alameda



County Fire Department. A plan and a timeline on this closure has yet to be put into place. More information about Fire Station 30 can be found at [www.unioncity.org/firestation30](http://www.unioncity.org/firestation30).

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