



eNews

A Community Conversation about Our City's Future

COMMUNITY ACTION IMAGINE
IDEA PEOPLE PARTICIPATE
CONVERSATION
BLUEPRINT



September 2017

Workshop Explores Rail Corridor Ideas

CONNECTING PALO ALTO



A crowd of about 100 people attended the second [Connecting Palo Alto](#) community workshop focused on identifying alternatives for the grade crossings along the rail corridor. The goal of this community engagement process is to narrow down design alternatives ahead of the increase in trains that Caltrain's electrification project and the potential high-speed rail is expected to bring.

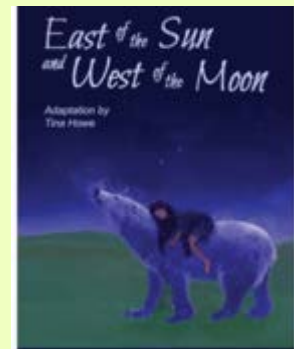
Calendar of Events



Murmur Wall
Public Art Installation
King Plaza
through September



Get Fit! Downtown
featuring Hip Hop
King Plaza
Sun., Sept. 24, 3-4 p.m.



East of the Sun and West of the Moon
Children's Theatre
1305 Middlefield Road
Oct. 26- Nov. 5



Participants took several quick surveys, worked in small groups to identify issues related to each of the four crossings and heard a presentation about the various alternatives and their pros and cons.

All of the presentations and documents related to the workshop will be posted [here](#).



Find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
Subscribe to [Our Palo Alto eNewsletter](#)
[Our Palo Alto Community Events Calendar](#)
[Our Palo Alto mobile App](#) for [iPhone](#) and [Android](#)

Earthquake Relief Efforts for Sister City Oaxaca

Our Sister City Oaxaca suffered heavy damage in the first of two deadly earthquakes that hit Mexico this month, and Palo Alto's [Neighbors Abroad](#) immediately responded by collecting donations. The goal is to raise \$10,000 to rebuild an orphanage and a school damaged in the quake.



The Palo Alto sister city organization already sent the first \$2,000 raised to the Union Hidalgo orphanage.

The school, Realmadrid Aerogubinos Foundation, is currently closed due to collapsed walls. The hope is to raise \$5,000 for each of the childrens' facilities.





Palo Alto and Oaxaca have been sister cities since the 1960s and our city has donated several ambulances and made several exchange visits over the years.

If you would like to donate to the earthquake relief effort, go to: neighborsabroad.org/donate

PAFD Comes to Rescue of Hurricane Victims



This year's menacing hurricane season has kept [California Task Force 3](#), an urban search and rescue unit out of Menlo Park, on the move from Hurricane Harvey in Texas to Hurricane Irma in Florida. Among the team members are two Palo Alto firefighters, engineer Chris Mosko and Dave Villarreal who were both deployed to Florida when Irma hit landfall on Sept. 8.





Mosko served as a driver and rescue specialist in the hurricane relief efforts, while Villarreal served on the hazmat team.

Mosko had just returned from rescue efforts in Texas, when Irma hit. He is the firefighter seen on the left in this photo, helping the man wade through the high waters left behind from Hurricane Harvey.

Community Health Fair Offers Something for Everyone

This Saturday, Sept. 23 the City is partnering again with the Palo Alto Family YMCA to co-host the 2017 Palo Alto Community Health Fair at Palo Alto City Hall and on King Plaza from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. This wellness event is free and has something for everyone. There will be fitness and nutrition classes, a health speakers' series, dozens of community health vendors, a virtual reality health activity, bike safety checks, interactive activities, and a teen debate on

teenage health-related issues. The fair coincides with Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and [Project Safety Net](#) is organizing a [QPR Suicide Prevention Training course](#) that can help bring greater education and emergency response to mental crisis.

The health fair is part of the Healthy Cities, Healthy Community Initiative adopted by Council in 2015. Click [here](#) for the full schedule of events, speakers and booth participants. [Preregistration](#) is encouraged for many of the health lectures.

Explore Bike Palo Alto





BIKE Palo Alto

Now in its 8th year, [Bike Palo Alto](#) is coming up on Sunday, Oct. 1 from 1-3 p.m. as part of the fall kickoff for [Walk & Roll Week](#) in Palo Alto schools. Registration is at El Carmelo School at Bryant and Loma Verde.



Riders can choose from three self-guided map routes to get around our bike friendly community. The maps feature bike bridges, underpasses and alternatives to busier roads.

Other event highlights include:

- Free bike bells (while supply lasts)
- Treat stations along the routes
- Frequent Rider Card (to help win prizes)

On the subject of bicycling, a new report from the [League of American Bicyclists Where We Ride 2016](#) shows Palo Alto has the third highest rate of bicycle commuters in the United States at 7.8 percent. That's up from 2014, when we were fifth with 7.3 percent.



Palo Alto Shines as a Platinum Beacon Award Winner



Palo Alto was recognized at the [League of California Cities Conference & Expo](#) in Sacramento last week as the first city in California to achieve a Platinum Level Beacon Award – the highest level possible – for its leadership in addressing climate change. Mayor Scharrf attended the conference and accepted the honor in recognition of the City's achievements. The award is a testament to our community's commitment to sustainability and its place as a core value of our citizens.



Tweets of the Month

Are you following us on Twitter yet? [Connect with us](#) and tell us what's on your mind.





[Simon Hudson](#) [@Hudson](#) Aug 28

This is the actual house where [@facebook](#) started in [#PaloAlto](#) during that famous summer! Boom pic.twitter.com/xuv8DoIKRh – at [The Original Facebook House](#)



[Sumeet Parmar](#) [@sumeetparmar](#) Sept 19

[#PaloAlto](#) downtown library- after hours 3D printing /cc [@cityofpaloalto](#)



[Minnie & Max Pugs](#) [@MinnieMaxPugs](#) Sept. 16

We're ready to order! [@pizzeriadelfina](#) [@cityofpaloalto](#) [@mattithepug](#) [#puglife](#)

To find out how you can get involved, or more information about Our Palo Alto, go to: www.ourpaloalto.org