April Showers Bring May Flowers

We all know the saying, “April showers bring May flowers” like the beautiful tulips that pop up each Spring in Gamble Garden. This year those April showers lingered into May, giving us nearly 18 inches of rain since January and keeping our Foothills green a little while longer. Likewise, we have some good “green” news to share with you this month.

Message from the Mayor
One of the Council Priorities this year is Climate Change and I am happy to say we are working on many levels to confront this challenge of our times.

**A Cleaner, Greener Way: Ceremony to Usher in New Wastewater Treatment Plant**

On Wednesday, June 5, the City will mark an environmental milestone when it ushers in a more sustainable form of wastewater treatment at the Regional Water Quality Control Plant (RWQCP) on Embarcadero Way. I hope you will join me at the 10 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of our new dewatering facility.

As we bring that facility online, we will simultaneously pull the plug on the sludge-burning incinerators on the site. The updated treatment process will reduce climate-warming greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 15,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year—another step in the City’s goal to reduce greenhouse gasses 80% by 2030.

**Bike to Work Day’s Road to Success**

More sustainability inroads were made at this year’s Bike to Work Day held on May 9. I joined the record 2,400 bicyclists who pedaled through one of the four Energizer Stations sponsored by the City. That’s a 2.1% increase from the record Bike to Work Day numbers set in Palo Alto last year. I hope to see you in the bike lane burning carbs instead of carbon again soon.
On Track with Connecting Palo Alto
The Connecting Palo Alto rail program continues to move full steam ahead on this year's Grade Separation Council Priority. On May 13, Council voted to eliminate a citywide tunnel scenario that carried an estimated price tag between $2.5 and $3.8 billion... [more]

Call for Entries to Spice Up the Chili Cook Off
Think you have a sizzling chili recipe that packs the heat and could take home a prize? Then come compete in the 38th Annual Chili Cook Off that's held every 4th of July at Mitchell Park.... [more]

Celebrate World Music Day
Get ready to celebrate dads, grads, and music makers at the 11th Annual Palo Alto World Music Day taking place on Father's Day, Sunday, June 16 from 3-7:30 p.m.... [more]

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