December 11, 2019

Here's the latest weekly edition of All Things Palo Alto, a brief digest of community interests and events taking place here in the heart of Silicon Valley.

Weigh in on 2020 Council Priorities

Get a head start on the new year by letting Council know your priorities for 2020. The annual Priorities Survey is now open for the community to share its input. Join the discussion and share "Your Priorities" on this topic by Friday, January 31 at 11:59 p.m. here. Your responses will be provided to the Council in preparation for their annual retreat that usually takes place in February. Council sets the priorities at the retreat each year.

Council Approves Unjust Evictions & Vaping Policies
Council approved two policies on Monday, December 9 that aim to provide public consumer protections. The first one is the emergency ordinance prohibiting landlords from unjust evictions ahead of the state Tenant Protection Act (AB 1482) that goes into effect on January 1. You can read the emergency ordinance here. We also have a list of resources and legal assistance that tenants can use. Find that here.

Council also directed staff on Monday to prepare an ordinance that would ban the sales of e-cigarettes or vaping products. The ordinance will also provide funding for an educational campaign on the health effects of vaping. This comes on the heels of the Palo Alto Youth Council presenting to Council in April its findings from a teen vaping survey.
Until December 23, the Development Center is opening one hour earlier at 8 a.m. each day to accommodate the expected increase in permit activity before building code changes go into effect on January 1, 2020. Please note however that the Development Center will be closed Tuesday, December 24 through Wednesday, January 1. The Development Center will reopen on Thursday, January 2, 2020. During the closure, the City will provide limited availability for some scheduled building field inspections. Learn more here.

Ring in the New Year Early

Seniors can ring in the new year several hours early at the New Year’s Eve Senior Brunch at Mitchell Park on December 31 from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Besides brunch and champagne toasts, there will be an opportunity to dance and enter raffle prizes. Find the ticket info here.
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