Making Spirits Bright

'Tis the season to be jolly and no matter how you "deck the halls" and celebrate the holidays, our wish is that you find time to enjoy this festive season of goodwill. From the lighting of the menorah to twinkling tree lights, there is so much that brightens this merry time of year, including the seasonal classic Nutcracker production. There’s still time to have visions of Tchaikovsky's "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies" as the Palo Alto Children’s Theatre version of the Nutcracker runs through Sunday, December 22. Click on the button below to find the showtimes and ticket information.
Message from Mayor Filseth

It’s nice to close out the year making progress on another one of our Council Priorities centered around climate change and sustainability goals. On December 10, the Valley Water board of directors approved a two-part agreement with Palo Alto and Mountain View to create an advanced treatment facility for recycled water at our Regional Water Quality Control Plant located on Embarcadero Way.

The deal also includes the potential for the City to eventually transfer half of its treated wastewater to an advanced water purification center that could help supply Santa Clara County's drinking water through groundwater basin recharge. Lots of effort and goodwill went into making this happen. The region can look forward to the benefits of this agreement for years to come.

Have a Say! Share Your 2020 Council Priorities
Speaking of Council Priorities, this year we are once again asking the community to weigh in with their choice of priorities for Palo Alto in the new year. A Council Priority is an issue that receives significant attention during the year, and they typically have a three-year time limit.

The City Council priorities for 2019 are:

- Climate Change
- Grade Separation
- Traffic and Transportation
- Fiscal Sustainability

Please share "Your Priorities" by Friday, January 31, 2020, at 11:59 p.m.

Share Your Priorities

You’re Invited!
Council has accomplished so much this year and it has truly been an honor to serve you and this great city as your mayor. Keeping with tradition, when we return from break on Monday, January 6, we will swear in a new mayor and vice mayor for 2020. I hope to see you at the Council Reorganization meeting that begins at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers. Thank you for engaging with me on the issues that matter most to the community. From all of us at the City of Palo Alto, we are wishing you lots of good cheer into the new year.

Take [this quick survey](https:// surveymonkey.com/r/railcomment) to share your thoughts about rail crossings in Palo Alto. Share your questions too and we will use them to update our [Connecting Palo Alto](https://connectingpaloalto.org) FAQs.
Rent Protection Resources
Renters in Palo Alto have some extra assurance against no-fault evictions. The emergency renter protection ordinance that passed by City Council last week covers the period from December 2 until the new state law goes into effect on January 1, 2020... [more]

Community Conversations in 2020
The City will be hosting several community conversations in the first half of 2020, including three town hall meetings and new, informal conversations with City staff about transportation issues, including rail... [more]

Do You Hear What I Hear?
Watch the Palo Alto Children's Theatre Choir perform Winter Wonderland. Sign up to join the choir here.

Watch Video

We are Social
If you mention @CityofPaloAlto or #PaloAlto in a social post, we might feature it here.
Be sure to LIKE, SHARE, RETWEET and FOLLOW us!