



May 9, 2022

www.cityofpaloalto.org

COVID-19 PANDEMIC UPDATE



Santa Clara County Community Level Returns to Medium

- As of Friday, May 6, the 7-day rolling average of cases were up to 496 compared to 323 on April 27 in Santa Clara County
- The best way to prevent severe illness is to be vaccinated against COVID-19
- Wearing a mask indoors in public settings is also one of the most effective ways to prevent transmission

Biden Administration Warns of 100 Million New Infections this Fall and Winter

 Models closely tracking infections warn that if we don't get ahead by getting vaccinated and boosted, wearing masks, and testing often, another surge in infections is likely

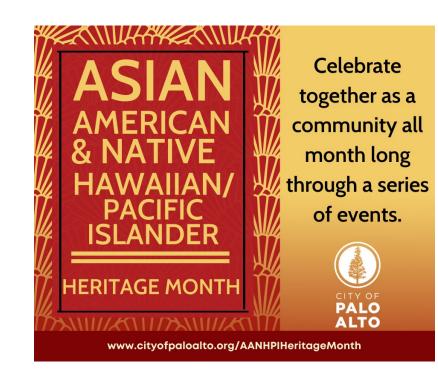
Free Community COVID-19 Testing Continues with new dates available for May & June

New dates and COVID-19 testing details available at www.cityofpaloalto.org/testing

ASIAN AMERICAN & NATIVE HAWAIIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATIONS



- May is Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month and we are celebrating with events hosted by the Library, Community Services Department, and community partners.
- Join us for a series of events for the entire community to recognize and celebrate the culture and contributions of our AANHPI community.
- Find upcoming AANHPI Heritage Month events by visiting www.cityofpaloalto.org/AANHPIHeritageMonth



MEET THE CHIEFS: PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE



- Tomorrow evening, we return to an annual (pre-pandemic) event with updates on public safety from Fire Chief Blackshire, Police Chief Jonsen, and Office of Emergency Services Director Dueker.
- Moderated by the Vice Mayor, the public safety community update will address crime trends, wildfire season preparations, and public safety initiatives like Palo Alto FireMed, Police Emergency Response Team, and wildfire detection.



 For more information, including listening session recordings, visit www.cityofpaloalto.org/MeetTheChiefs







PARTY IN THE PARK: COMMUNITY CELEBRATION & OFFICIAL GRAND OPENINGS OF THE PALO ALTO JMZ & RINCONADA PARK



- Join us to celebrate the official grand opening of the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo and Rinconada Park on Saturday, May 14.
- Family entertainment will be in abundance, tour the newly renovated JMZ for free, check out the renovated Rinconada Park, experience the new Voyage Solar System exhibit, enjoy free ice cream, music and more!
- Visit <u>www.cityofpaloalto.org/PartyInThePark</u> for details



SURVEY ON THE CITY'S STREET CLOSURES



- A community survey is open for the public to provide feedback about the temporary street closure extension on California Avenue and Ramona Street at University Avenue in Downtown.
- Feedback gained from the survey will help inform City Council as they consider recommendations at their May 16 meeting.



Take the survey by noon on Friday, May 13.

For more information and to take the survey, click on the home page, under "News"

MUNICIPAL SERVICES CENTER OPEN HOUSE



- **SAVE THE DATE!** The City is hosting an open house to showcase how City services are provided to the community and highlight career opportunities
- The community is invited to join the fun on Saturday, June 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to gain a "behind the scenes" view into the work we do for the community, with music, games and more
- More details will be provided soon at www.cityofpaloalto.org/MSCOpenHouse



NOTABLE TENTATIVE UPCOMING COUNCIL ITEMS



May 16

- Objective Standards
- Interim Closures of Ramona and California Avenues

May 23

Castilleja Project Review

June 1

 Board and Commission Annual Workplan Review Part 2

June 6 and beyond

- Draft Business License Tax and/or Utility Tax Ballot Measure and Third Survey Results
- Tree Ordinance Update
- Project Homekey Update
- City Budget Adoption
- Utilities Rate Schedules

STAY INFORMED

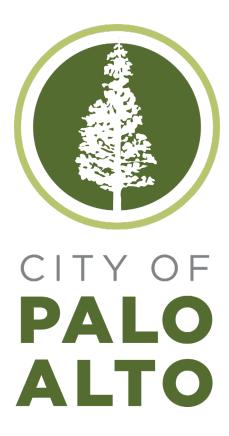
Read the City Manager Comments Blog Series at: Medium.com/PaloAltoConnect



Gain Coronavirus Updates at: CityofPaloAlto.org/Coronavirus

Sign Up for City Updates at: CityofPaloAlto.org/NewsletterSignUp

City Calendar of Events and Meetings: CityofPaloAlto.org/Calendar



Palo Alto FireMed

- PALO ALTO
- The Palo Alto Fire Department launched a new ambulance subscription program to enhance the services with a low-cost alternative to paying for an emergency ambulance ride.
- Starting at \$8 per month, residents and businesses can sign up to ensure no out-of-pocket expenses when transported by an emergency medical ambulance originating within the City.
- Palo Alto FireMed membership gives you and your household the peace of mind that you're protecting yourself and loved ones.
- For more information and to sign up, visit www.cityofpaloalto.org/FireMed



For more information and to take the survey, click on the home page, under "News"

POLICE CHIEF RECRUITMENT UNDERWAY



- In February 2022, the City Manager launched a community engagement effort to gain feedback on priorities for the Police Department and key skills needed for the next Police Chief.
- In March and April, three listening sessions were conducted, with participation from residents and stakeholders, and the community was also invited to submit written feedback.
- Input received helped to inform the City's recruitment process and themes heard was synthesized into a description of the ideal candidate's key characteristics.
- The recruitment is currently underway, and a recruitment brochure and other related details, including listening session recordings can be found online at www.cityofpaloalto.org/PoliceChiefSelection