



CITY OF ALBANY 1000 San Pablo Avenue, Albany CA 94706

www.AlbanyCA.org

ALBANY CALIFORNIA CITYWIDE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014



Join Us to **Celebrate** America Recycles Day

Saturday, November 15, 2014
10 am – 2 pm

Davis Street Resource Recovery Complex
2615 Davis Street, San Leandro
www.davisstreet.wm.com



CITY COUNCIL & ADVISORY BODY

happenings

RECENT ACTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL

ALBANY BULB TRANSITION PLAN

The City of Albany received a grant from the State Coastal Conservancy in the amount of \$168,000 to conduct a public planning process that results in preparation of a transition plan for the Albany Neck and Bulb to become part of the larger McLaughlin Eastshore State Park. The City Council authorized a contract agreement with the consulting firm Wallace Roberts & Todd (WRT) to assist with the planning process and development of the transition plan.

ALBANY HOUSING ELEMENT

The Council authorized submittal of the working draft 2015-2023 Albany Housing Element to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for Administrative Review. All cities and counties in the Bay Area are required by state law to adopt new Housing Elements by January 31, 2015. The Housing Element presents the City's policies for housing production, conservation, and affordability. A number of public meetings and planning sessions were held to obtain community input regarding the housing element. Additionally, the City sponsored a "Housing Symposium" that included presentations by local affordable housing professionals. The Housing Symposium can be viewed on the City's [YouTube](#) page.

NORTH COUNTY WINTER RELIEF - INCLEMENT WEATHER RESPONSE PROGRAM

The Council approved an allocation of \$15,000 from the City of Albany to participate in the North County Winter Relief - Inclement Weather Response Program. The program is a collaboration between the County of Alameda along with the cities of Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville and Oakland to provide warming centers, additional shelter beds, street outreach, vulnerability screening and rapid re-housing funds to persons who are homeless.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

The Council presented certificates of appreciation to the Participants in the City of Albany Audio/Visual Apprentices Program: Milo Siegmann-Watson, Joshua Tang, Owen Fraser, and Edward Mighetto for their service as Audio/Visual Apprentices.

Photo Credit Peggy McQuaid



CITY COUNCIL & ADVISORY BODY

Get Engaged in your Local Community: Become a Member of an Advisory Body to the City Council

There are several Advisory Bodies to the City Council. Members are appointed by the City Council for a term of two years. Advisory Bodies (aside from the Planning & Zoning Commission) typically meet every month or every other month.

Arts Committee

Charter Review Committee

Civil Service Board

Community Media Access Committee

Library Board

Parks & Recreation Commission

Planning & Zoning Commission

Social & Economic Justice Commission

Sustainability Committee

Traffic & Safety Commission

Interested in serving on an Advisory Body to the City Council?

Applications are now being accepted - [complete the application online](#).

[Check out our new video to learn more about our Advisory Bodies to the City Council.](#)



UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS



FIRESIDE SONGS AND S'MORES

Friday, November 21st

6:30-8:30pm

Memorial Park Picnic Area Fireplace

FREE

Spend a crisp November night bundled up with your friends around the campfire. We will be roasting s'mores on an open fire, singing camp songs and warming our bellies with hot chocolate. Bring a chair, a blanket and meet at the Memorial Park Picnic area. All ages welcome. S'mores and hot chocolate provided by the Albany Recreation Department.

ALBANY TOOL POOL

Are you looking for a few tools to finish that fall garden project? How about a sledgehammer when all you have is a finishing hammer? Don't go out and buy a brand new tool...just borrow one from the Albany Tool Pool!

Visit albany.myturn.com/library and check-out a tool from our growing inventory. Tools are available for one-week rentals. If you have old tools laying around that you no longer use, we are also accepting tool donations at any time.

HOLIDAY GIVING -COLLECTION DRIVE

The City's Annual Toy, Food and Coat Drive is now underway. Donate canned or dry goods, new unwrapped toys or a nice warm coat. Collection barrels are located at the Albany Community Center lobby, 1249 Marin Avenue through Friday December 19th

Food will be provided to the Alameda County Food Bank, toys and coats will be provided to the Richmond Bay Area Rescue Mission.



ALAMEDA COUNTY FOOD BANK

Holiday Food Hotline

(510) 635-3663 From November 1 - December 25, the Alameda County Community Food Bank will offer information about sites that distribute holiday food. Call (510) 635-3663 and follow prompts for holiday food. After you enter your Zip code and household size, a prerecorded message will inform you of location(s) near you.

Emergency Food Helpline

(800) 870-3663 Countywide referral program that will connect you to a source for a bag of groceries or a hot meal on the day you call.

OUR COMMUNITY AT WORK

Friends of Albany Parks

Are you a “Friend of Albany Parks”?

The Friends of Albany Parks program was recently created to encourage community members to get involved with the care, maintenance and beautification of their favorite neighborhood parks. This in turn fosters a better sense of community and builds social capital as neighbors meet and work together. As part of the program, the Recreation & Community Services Department has hosted clean-up days at different Albany parks each month. Earlier this month, we teamed up with the local non-profit organization Friends of Five Creeks and headed to Creekside Park. Creekside Park is a rare nature-lover’s paradise tucked in the side of Albany Hill. A group of 12 volunteers cleared out blackberry vines and other invasive species. Together we filled an entire dump truck. Several bags of garbage were also hauled away. Afterwards, the team was rewarded with pizza provided by the Albany Community Foundation.

November marks the last clean-up day of the year. Once again, we are teaming up with the Friends of Five Creeks for a fun day on Albany Hill. Take a journey to Albany Hill and encounter hikers, runners, dog walkers, Monarch butterflies, hawks, and breathtaking views of the San Francisco Bay. This is Albany’s most defining landmark! We hope you will roll up your sleeves and join us on November 22nd for our last park clean-up day of the year.

Saturday, November 22
Top of Albany Hill
Meet at 9am
Pizza served at 12:00pm

Don't forget...wear long pants and sleeves, sturdy, closed toed shoes, a hat, sun glasses and sun screen.



Special thanks to the Albany Community Foundation, the Friends of Five Creeks and Transition Albany. Coming Soon....the park clean-up schedule for 2015 will be posted soon. We hope you will come out and join your neighbors in keeping your community beautiful. Become a park steward!



ALBANY POLICE DEPARTMENT *happenings*



EDUCATING PRESCHOOLERS

Albany's preschools often ask for a visit from a police officer. This allows young students a chance to build familiarity with officers and helps us get the message out that we are here to help them if they are ever in trouble. In September the Creative Play Center came for a visit and toured the police department, and in October we visited the Albany Preschool to talk with them about common safety tips.

To schedule a visit please contact: (510) 525-7300

ALBANY POLICE VISIT ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL

Each fall for the past nine years, Albany Police officers visit Albany High School's Identity, Health & Safety classes to talk about interacting with the police. During high school, the likelihood of coming into contact with a police officer increases dramatically: students may start driving, staying out later, expand their social interactions, "live" in a broader geographic region, etc. This October, Chief Mike McQuiston and Sergeant David Belman spent time with Albany's freshman class talking about interacting with the police and describing rights and responsibilities.



GRANT AWARD

The Albany Police Department has been awarded a \$69,685 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to fund a year-long program aimed at preventing deaths & injuries on our roadways through special enforcement and public awareness efforts. The first of these efforts took place on October 17th with speed enforcement & crash prevention enforcement and on October 24th with distracted driver enforcement.



ALBANY FIRE DEPARTMENT

*happenings***PANCAKE BREAKFAST & OPEN HOUSE - A BIG SUCCESS!**

Thanks for joining us for our annual pancake breakfast—it was great to see so many of you! All proceeds were donated to the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation and we thank you for your generosity.

CERT CITYWIDE EXERCISE - THANKS FOR GETTING PREPARED!

Over 350 individuals and 14 blocks came out for Albany's first-ever CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) citywide exercise on October 18th. Participants practiced basic emergency response skills including "drop, cover & hold on" during an earthquake, reviewing use of personal protective equipment such as hard hats and durable shoes, responding to a pre-set meeting location following an emergency, and working collaboratively to assess local neighborhood damage.

Check out our many resources on our [website](#)

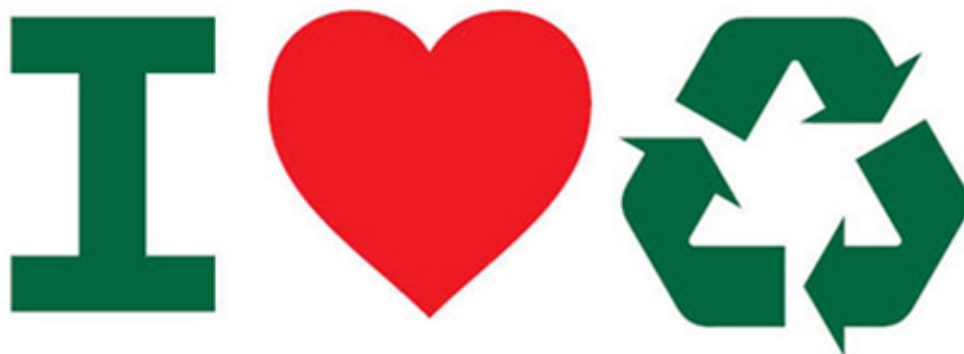


ALBANY'S PARKS ARE GETTING EVEN GREENER



We have installed new “BIG BELLY” Solar trash, recycling, and organics containers in our City Parks. The containers help us reduce waste by adding both recycling and organics containers to our parks. Additionally, the containers include solar-powered trash compaction to help reduce trash overflows.

Check them out!



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10 am – 2 pm

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www.davisstreet.wm.com





A GREAT GRANT

The City of Albany was awarded a statewide Active Transportation Grant from Caltrans for the design of the Complete Streets features along San Pablo Avenue northern segment (from Washington to the El Cerrito City Limit) and at three locations on Buchanan Street: The Buchanan/Marin merge, Buchanan/Taylor, and gateway improvements at the Buchanan bridge overcrossing. Stay tuned for the design process scheduled to begin in the fall of 2015. The new improvements are intended to enhance pedestrian crossings on some of our busier streets.

ALBANY 2035 - GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

The Albany community is invited to join the Planning and Zoning Commission as they work to update the City's General Plan. The General Plan provides a vision for Albany's future, and the policies and actions to guide us to that vision. The Plan is a legal document and includes the City's official policies for how land may be developed and how natural resources may be used. The City has established a website www.albany2035.org to provide information on the project, including draft reports for public comment and announcements of upcoming meetings. As parts of the Plan are completed and background materials are produced, they are posted to the website for review and comment. The next Commission discussion is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers in City Hall. For more information, contact City Planner Anne Hersch at ahersch@albanyca.org.



KEEP IN TOUCH

CUSTOM EMAIL ALERTS

Interested in what's happening Around Your Block, certain City projects, events, meeting agendas or programs?

Please [sign up for e-notify](#) to receive email updates on subjects that interest you.

www.albanyca.org/enotify

www.albanyca.org/socialmedia

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Website: www.albanyca.org

Emergency: 911

Fire & EMS: 528-5770
albanyfire@albanyca.org

Police: 525-7300
albanypolice@albanyca.org

Public Works: 524-9543
apworks@albanyca.org

Community Development: 528-5760
com-dev@albanyca.org

Recreation & Community Services: 524-9283
recinfo@albanyca.org

City Hall: 528-5710
cityhall@albanyca.org

Passport Office: 528-5720
Jobline: 528-5777

Get Connected!

Visit www.albanyca.org to know what's going on in your city!

Sign up for e-notify to receive emails on topics that interest you.
www.albanyca.org/enotify

Connect with Albany through our social media sites and never miss a thing!
www.albanyca.org/socialmedia

Don't forget to tune in to **KALB Channel 33** for original content, council meetings, and other events.

1000 San Pablo Avenue
(510) 528-5710
cityhall@albanyca.org

Urban Village by the Bay



Invitation to a special community-wide meeting:
**An Open Forum Discussion on
Outreach and Education Campaigns
to Reduce Albany's Carbon Footprint**

* The City of Albany Sustainability Committee invites you to attend a special meeting. We will be exploring the opportunity to create a network of local organizations and/or local volunteers to lead community outreach and education campaigns to reduce Albany's carbon footprint, toward a long range goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. We hope that together, we can harness our city's many active organizations and engage concerned citizens to form joint community campaigns promoting energy conservation and carbon reduction. .

November 20th, 2014, 7 to 9 p.m.

Albany City Hall Council Chambers
1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, CA 94706

Please RSVP to Claire Griffing at: cgriffing@albanyca.org



Albany Senior Travel Troupe Goes

PARADISE

Informational Meeting

Monday, December 1, 2014

1:00pm

Albany Senior Center



Come join us at the Senior Center for a fresh refreshing "Mock-Tail" and see all of our upcoming Day Trips, Lunch Troupe Trips, and Extended Tours.

Please give us a call to Register:

FREE EVENT

Trip Presentations

Free Raffle

Free Refreshments

Priority Registration

Lots of Surprises

Registration is recommended for the meeting but not required.

**Albany
Senior
Center**



846 Masonic Ave., Albany, CA 94706
Phone: (510) 524-9122 FAX: (510) 524-8940

www.albanyca.org

Email: seniorinfo@albanyca.org

[Facebook.com/Albanyseniorcenter](https://www.facebook.com/Albanyseniorcenter)



Albany Senior Center

Flu Shots

Monday

November 10, 2014

9:00am-11:30am



**Clinic provided
by the Over 60
Health Center**

Bring your Medicare/Medical card & Picture I.D.

First come, first served

**Albany
Senior
Center**



846 Masonic Ave., Albany, CA 94706
Phone: (510) 524-9122 FAX: (510) 524-8940
www.albanyca.org
Email: seniorinfo@albanyca.org
[Facebook.com/Albanyseniorcenter](https://www.facebook.com/Albanyseniorcenter)