



# CITY MANAGER'S NOTES AND QUOTES

Magda González

February 24, 2014

*If my mind can conceive it, and my heart can believe it, I know I can achieve it.*  
Rev. Jesse Jackson

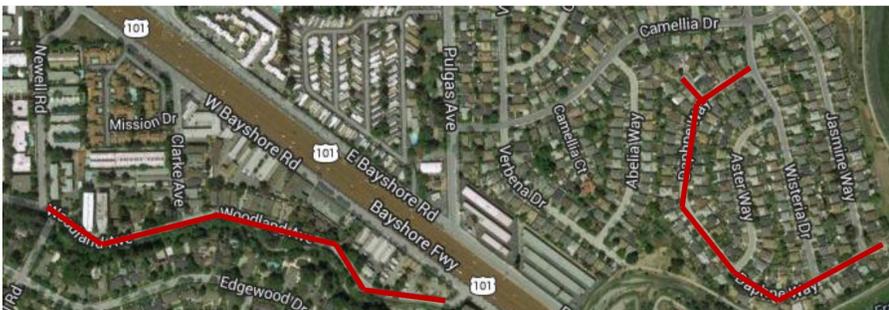
## Our Community

ABC7 recently reported that Suney Park, a teacher at Eastside College Preparatory in East Palo Alto will be heading to the White House in March to be recognized by President Obama and to receive the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching. Suney loves to interact with her students, and they say they have fun with her style of teaching. Suney, thank you for making an impact in our student's lives and for making East Palo Alto proud!



## Construction Work Notice

The City of East Palo Alto is planning to start construction work to repave Woodland Avenue, Daphne Way, and Daphne Court beginning February 20th through March 12th. The work is anticipated to last approximately three weeks (weather permitting). To perform this work, Woodland Avenue and Daphne Way may be temporarily closed to through traffic. A traffic detour with signs will be installed to direct traffic around the affected area. Please follow the detour signs to safely bypass the construction area.



## Gang Task Force

The San Mateo County Gang Task Force will be in the East Palo Alto and Menlo Park area for several days, working side by side with the East Palo Alto Police Department in an effort to diminish gangs in the community. Vehicles of other agencies will be seen around town.

## City Newsletter

If you have not seen the City Newsletter yet that is being mailed out, you can view it online at: [www.cityofepa.org/newsletters](http://www.cityofepa.org/newsletters)

## Meter Inspections

As part of their gas system maintenance program, PG&E is performing regular gas meter inspections to look for corrosion or rust. Meters identified with corrosion or rust will be repaired and/or replaced as necessary. Meter inspections will be expected to occur in East Palo Alto from late February into the first week of March, and will occur Monday through Saturday, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. During inspections, you may see PG&E employees on or near your property to access your meter. They will need easy access to your gas meter, but you do not need to be home. If PG&E is unable to access your meter, you will be contacted to arrange for access to inspect your meter on a later date. Visit [pge.com/gas](http://pge.com/gas) for more information about gas safety programs.



## Conserve Water

As you may be well aware, the State of California is currently in a water drought. We are asking that everyone voluntarily reduce their water consumption. Below is a list of tips from American Water Enterprises that can be used to conserve water both outside and inside your home. For a complete list of tips visit [www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com).

- Water your lawn only when it needs it. An easy way to tell if your lawn needs water is to simply walk across the grass. If you leave footprints, it's time to water. *SAVE: 750 to 1,500 gallons a month*
- Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints. *SAVE: 20 gallons a day for every leak*
- Wash your car using a bucket of soapy water instead of letting the hose run. Use a positive shut-off nozzle. *SAVE: 150 gallons per car wash*
- Install water-saving showerheads, flow restrictors and high-efficiency toilets. *SAVE: 500 to 800 gallons a month*
- Keep showers to 10 minutes or less. *SAVE: 700 gallons a month*
- Use a broom or rake instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. *SAVE: 150 gallons each time you sweep or rake*
- Don't use your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. *SAVE: 400 to 800 gallons a month*
- While waiting for hot water, capture running tap water for later use on household plants or in your garden. *SAVE: 200 to 300 gallons a month*
- Adjust sprinklers so they don't water the pavement, sidewalks, driveway or gutter. *SAVE: 500 gallons a month*
- Run only full loads in the washing machine or dishwasher. *SAVE: 300 to 800 gallons a month*
- Regularly check your toilet, faucets, and pipes for leaks by using our [Leak Detection Kit](#). If you happen to find a leak, fix it as soon as possible.
- Teach your kids about water conservation with the [Puddles Coloring Book](#). Come help Puddles the Duck and his friends conserve water. This exciting book is filled with characters and fun-filled lessons on conservation.

## JobTrain

For assistance on tax return preparations, JobTrain and Tax-Aid are offering free help on the dates below, located at the YMCA on 550 Bell Street. For more information visit [www.jobtrainworks.org](http://www.jobtrainworks.org).

March 8	10:00am – 2:00pm
March 15	10:00am – 2:00pm
March 22	10:00am – 2:00pm

## Health Insurance and Food Stamps

It's not too late to get health insurance! The Human Services Agency is here to help you navigate the selection process and enroll you in the available health insurance plans. For more information visit [www.smchsa.org](http://www.smchsa.org) or call 800-223-8383.

Calfresh (food stamps) helps families and individuals buy nutritious food with a convenient card that works like a debit card at most grocery chain stores, and many neighborhood stores in San Mateo County. You must meet the income limits and be a resident of San Mateo County to qualify. For more information visit [www.mybenefitscalwin.org](http://www.mybenefitscalwin.org) or call 800-223-8383.



## SamTrans Seeks Volunteers

Public members interested in providing input on local transit programs are encouraged to volunteer for the SamTrans Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC).

The 15-member CAC meets monthly and is responsible for offering feedback on the needs of transit users and informing San Mateo County residents of transit programs on the Peninsula. It also acts in an advisory capacity to the SamTrans' Board of Directors. The SamTrans CAC has the following openings:

- Two community representatives
- Two multimodal representatives
- Four bus rider representatives

The CAC meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the San Mateo County Transit District headquarters at 1250 San Carlos Avenue in San Carlos. Interested persons can download the CAC application here or call 650-508-6279 (TTY 650-508-6448). Applications are due by March 7.



## Jesse Jackson

Last week we had the privilege of having Reverend Jesse Jackson visit East Palo Alto. Reverend Jackson gave an encouraging message to local students at Menlo Atherton High School on Thursday, and met with Council Members and City Staff in the evening. We are grateful that he was able to visit with us.



## Rain



As you know, there is rain in this weeks forecast, and we ask that you be well prepared. The sand bag station is located at the David Lewis Community Re-Entry Center at 2277 University Ave. To receive emergency alerts, sign up for San Mateo County Alert at [www.smcalert.info](http://www.smcalert.info). For more information about floods in East Palo Alto be sure to visit [www.cityofepa.org/index.aspx?NID=478](http://www.cityofepa.org/index.aspx?NID=478).

*At the end of the day, we must go forward with  
hope and not backward by fear and division.*

Rev. Jesse Jackson