

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

CITY MANAGER'S

WEEKLY LETTER TO COUNCIL

Mayor Liang Chao
Vice Mayor Kitty Moore
Councilmember JR Fruen
Councilmember Sheila Mohan
Councilmember R "Ray" Wang

Dear City Council,

I hope this message finds you well. Please find below this week's updates on recent and upcoming City news and events.

GENERAL UPDATES

2025 CREST Honorees Announced

Congratulations to the 2025 CREST Awards Winners! The winner selection concluded last week with Mayor Chao and Commission Chairs voting across five award categories. This year's recipients are Dennis Whittaker (Lifetime Achievement), Raymond Lancon (Volunteer of the Year), Cupertino Little League (Organization of the Year), Adlok Patel (Hometown Hero), and Sarah Shelke and Reena Shah (Rising Star). The honorees will be formally recognized at the City's 70th Anniversary Celebration on October 29 for their exceptional contributions to Cupertino.



Volunteers Help Out at Regnart Creek for Coastal Cleanup Day 2025

On Saturday, September 20, the Environmental Programs and Sustainability Division hosted a Coastal Cleanup Day event at Wilson Park. This volunteer event is sponsored by Valley Water with cities hosting sites where the community is provided with equipment and access to a creek to remove trash and litter. The Cupertino event had 32 volunteers of all ages, including Vice Mayor Kitty Moore, to clean up Regnart and Calabazas creeks.

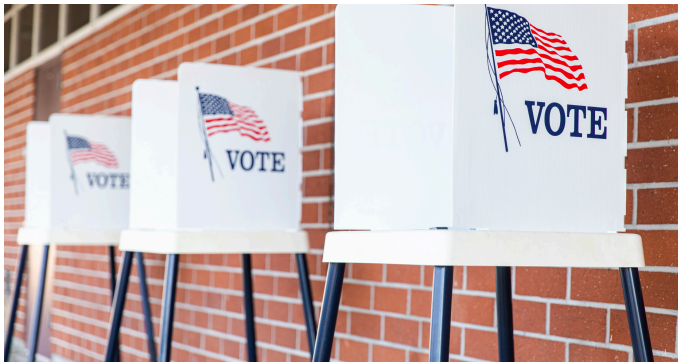
A total of 80 pounds of trash and debris were removed! The next event will be National River Clean Up Day in May 2026. The location and details for this event will be announced closer to the event date. Thank you to our community for helping to keep our creeks clean!

Business License Transition to HdL

The City successfully launched its new [business license portal](#) with HdL Companies on Monday. This transition streamlines the license renewal process, improves compliance, and provides an online platform that enhances customer service for our businesses. HdL brings extensive experience supporting California cities and will help the City strengthen its reporting, collections, and compliance efforts. This change is also cost effective for the City and allows staff focus on other critical financial and capital priorities. Staff will continue to monitor the rollout closely and provide updates to Council as businesses begin to transition into the new system.



Upcoming November 4, 2025 Statewide Special Election



On November 4, 2025, there will be a statewide special election in Cupertino. All registered voters will automatically receive a vote-by-mail ballot. Cupertino has no local measures, but voters will consider Proposition 50, which would temporarily allow the legislature to adjust congressional district maps instead of using the Citizens Redistricting Commission's maps.

Early voting at the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters is available from October 6–November 3. Voters may also cast ballots or obtain a replacement in person at Seven Springs Club House (21125 Seven Springs Dr) from November 1–3, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., and on Election Day, November 4, 7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Voters must be registered by October 20 to receive a ballot by mail or vote in person.

Torre Avenue Parking Restrictions for Fall Bike Fest

In preparation for Cupertino's annual Fall Bike Fest this Saturday, all cars must be moved off Torre Avenue by the end of the day on Friday, September 26. City vehicles are encouraged to park in the City Hall annex lot or on Pacifica Avenue next week.



Torre Avenue will be closed to cars on Saturday, September 27, to make way for the festivities. We thank everyone for their cooperation and invite the community to join us for this annual celebration of biking in Cupertino.

MEETINGS AND RESIDENT CONCERNS

Mary Avenue Villas Project Meeting

On Monday, Councilmember Mohan and I met with concerned residents to discuss the Mary Avenue Villas project.

Crosswalk Safety Meeting on Stevens Creek

On Monday, September 22, I met with residents near the Stevens Creek Boulevard and Phar Lap Drive crosswalk along with Community Development Director Ben Fu, Assistant Director Luke Connolly, Public Works Director Chad Mosley, to discuss urgent pedestrian safety concerns. The on-site meeting provided an opportunity to review the situation firsthand and work collaboratively with the community on potential safety improvements.

West Valley Mayors and Managers Meeting

On Wednesday, I joined Mayor Chao at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse in Cupertino for the monthly West Valley Mayors and Managers gathering. The meeting brought together mayors and city managers from neighboring jurisdictions to exchange updates and discuss regional issues. It was a valuable opportunity to strengthen partnerships and coordinate efforts on challenges facing the region.

Meeting with CADRE Executive Director

On Wednesday, I met with Marsha Hovey, Executive Director of Collaborating Agencies' Disaster Relief Effort (CADRE), along with Citizen Corps Coordinator Kenneth Ericksen and Interim Deputy City Manager Kirsten Squarcia. The discussion centered on opportunities for Cupertino to work closely with CADRE in strengthening local emergency management efforts. With the City rebuilding its emergency management team, the meeting provided a timely opportunity to explore collaboration and community engagement in disaster preparedness.

Meeting with Richard Lowenthal – Stevens Creek Trail Area

On Thursday, I met with Richard Lowenthal following the City's decision to revoke the encroachment permit for a trail crossing City property north of Stevens Creek Boulevard, west of Stevens Creek. Mr. Lowenthal would like to continue discussions around the future use of the property with the City. A few neighbors in that area have shared concerns about the trail with staff and council. Staff will be notifying the neighbors of this update.

Community Reminder: Coyote Sightings

Staff has recently received questions about coyote sightings in Cupertino neighborhoods. Coyotes are common not only in Cupertino but in many nearby cities as well. While they generally avoid humans, residents are reminded to practice simple safety measures, such as making eye contact, waving arms, or speaking firmly if one approaches. Avoid leaving out pet food, bird seed, or fallen fruit, and keep pets indoors or supervised. For more tips on safely coexisting with coyotes, visit www.projectcoyote.org.

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KUDOS RECIEVED

Prompt Action on Stevens Creek Crosswalk

The City received notes of appreciation from residents for the swift response to a visibility concern at the Phar Lap/Stevens Creek crosswalk. Following an onsite meeting on Monday, September 22, staff quickly trimmed overgrown vegetation that was obstructing visibility. Residents expressed gratitude for the prompt action, noting the City's commitment to community safety and responsiveness to concerns. Thank you to Chad Mosley, David Stillman, Jonathan Ferrante, and Diego Rodriguez Zacarias for their work on this!



Informational Memos

The following Informational Memo has been added to the City website. The information can be accessed at cupertino.gov/memos.

- [09 - September 25, 2025 - SB 79 Impact to Cupertino](#)
- [09 - September 25, 2025 - Mayor and Commission Chairs Meeting on September 17, 2025](#)
- [09 - September 25, 2025 - Findings on Unclaimed Funds and Corrective Action](#)
- [09 - September 25, 2025 - Monthly Treasure's Investment Report for August 2025](#)
- [09 - September 25, 2025 - Monthly Treasure's Report for August 2025](#)

Wishing you a wonderful weekend. Thank you for your continued support!

WARM REGARDS,



Tina Kapoor

INTERIM CITY MANAGER