

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 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

Whole Foods Market Reopens

Whole Foods Market reopened on Monday, September 29, after passing inspections from Santa Clara County Health, Santa Clara County Fire, and the City of Cupertino. As part of the reopening, the City Council was invited to tour the store. Did you know that the **Cupertino location is the largest Whole Foods Market in California?**



Toyokawa Delegation Visit

On Thursday, the City welcomed the Toyokawa student delegation at City Hall. Mayor Liang Chao and I greeted the group, and the program included remarks, proclamations presented by the Mayor, short delegation speeches, and group photos. Toyokawa has been a valued sister city to Cupertino for many years, and this visit was another meaningful opportunity to celebrate the friendship and cultural exchange between our two communities.

Annual Wellness & Benefits Fair

The Administrative Services Department hosted the City's Annual Wellness & Benefits Fair on Thursday, at the Quinlan Community Center. Employees received flu shots, enjoyed chair massages, lunch, and the chance to connect with benefit providers, local agencies, and Cupertino businesses. Raffle prizes were also awarded to participating staff.



2025 Cupertino Bike Festival

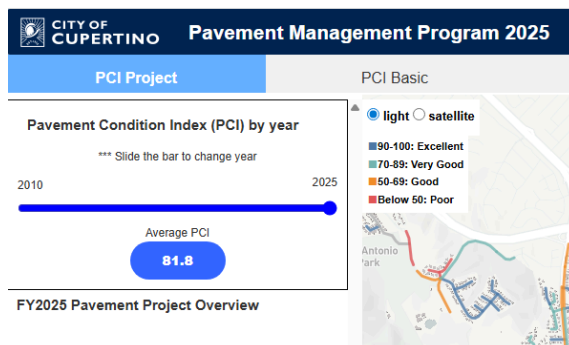


Over 750 community members came out for a bike-filled fun day at our Fall Bike Fest last Saturday! Collectively, this year's participants and volunteers biked over 1,300 miles during Bike Fest. That's the **equivalent of a bike ride to the Grand Canyon and back!** Even more incredibly, 72 miles of that was contributed by the 275 tricycles, training wheel bikes, and scoot bikes who rode 2028 laps of the Little Loop!

Mayor Chao gave the keynote address emphasizing Cupertino's commitment to traffic safety, while Vice-Mayor Moore and Santa Clara County Supervisor Abe-Koga also each said a few words. Many, many thanks to all, including commissioners and the 140 volunteers who generously donated their time and talents for the day.

Business Growth Workshop Supports Cupertino Entrepreneurs

On Thursday, the City of Cupertino in partnership with the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce and SCORE, hosted a workshop aimed at helping businesses attract new customers and retain existing customers. Attendees gained valuable insights into effective marketing strategies, customer engagement techniques, and leveraging digital tools to grow their businesses. This event underscored the importance of collaboration in fostering growth and success for Cupertino's business community.



2025 Slurry Seal/Fog Seal Project – Pavement Maintenance Program

The 2025 Slurry Seal/Fog Seal Project is underway and will continue during the month of October. The schedule of work is dependent upon the weather. Please visit the [Pavement Maintenance Program webpage](#) for more information on specific areas improved in this year's program.

New Minimum Wage Rate Effective January 2026

The Cupertino Minimum Wage will increase from \$18.20 to \$18.70 per hour, effective January 1, 2026. The rate applies to all covered employees who perform two hours or more of work per week in Cupertino, with tips not included. In accordance with Ordinance No. 2151, Economic Development staff will publish a bulletin announcing the updated rate and make it available to businesses at Cupertino.Gov/WageWatch. Staff will also issue a courtesy notice to businesses informing them of the minimum wage adjustment for 2026.



Starbucks Closure on Homestead Road

Starbucks recently [announced](#) the closure of 40 Bay Area locations as part of their goal to shutter 1% of its stores across North America. The Cupertino location at 22390 Homestead Road has already closed, leaving the city with four remaining Starbucks stores. Economic Development staff will reach out to the property owner to begin discussions about a new tenant for the space.

Stevens Creek Quarry Compost Site Closed 10/3 and 10/4

The Stevens Creek Quarry compost site will be closed on Friday, October 3 and Saturday, October 4 due to the rain and muddy conditions. Cupertino residents can still pick up compost at Sunnyvale's SMaRT Station during their normal hours of operation, 8 a.m. to 5p.m. seven days per week. For more information, visit the [City's Compost Webpage](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Special City Council Meeting with Legislators

On Monday, October 13, the City will hold a Special City Council Meeting with invited legislators. Assemblymember Patrick Ahrens and Senator Josh Becker will provide updates and a recap of their work from the recent legislative session.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025

MEETING AND RESIDENT CONCERNS

Meeting with CUSD on Finch Avenue Property

This week, Interim City Attorney Floy Andrews and I met at the Cupertino Union School District Superintendent's Office to discuss the City's interest in the property at 10480 Finch Avenue. The meeting followed recent correspondence from Superintendent Stacy Yao and provided an opportunity to explore options for the site's future use.

Incident Resolved Quickly Through Partnership

We'd like to recognize the strong partnership between the community and the Sheriff's Office in resolving a recent incident involving a young woman in distress. Thanks to timely updates provided by a vigilant resident, dispatchers and deputies were able to quickly locate her and ensure she received the help she needed. Lieutenant Shawn Flores commended the collaboration, noting that it is community partnerships like these that allow the Sheriff's Office to continue delivering the high level of service our community relies on.

New Administrative Policy Regarding Communications

As you are aware, this week I implemented a new policy regarding communications between community members and city staff to establish clear standards and clarify roles. My intent with this policy is to provide consistency in how communications are handled, ensuring that residents receive information, while at the same time, staff feels supported in their roles, and Council priorities are carried out effectively.

FUN FACT

We Are One of The Best Small Cities!

In a recent study survey by WalletHub, Cupertino ranked among the Best Small Cities in California for 2025, placing #4 statewide. The 45 indicators highlighting cities livability fell into five main categories: 1) Affordability 2) Economic Health 3) Education & Health 4) Quality of Life and 5) Safety. Full article [HERE](#).



There will be a short pause in CC Weekly next week as I will be in Long Beach with several of you attending the California Cities 2025 Annual Conference and Expo. I look forward to the conference and will resume CC Weekly the following week. Wishing you a wonderful weekend. Thank you for your continued support!

WARM REGARDS,

Handwritten signature of Tina Kapoor

Tina Kapoor

INTERIM CITY MANAGER