

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 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. Below, you'll find this week's updates on recent and upcoming City news and events.

GENERAL UPDATES

Community Tree Lighting

This evening, I joined the Mayor, Vice Mayor, councilmember Mohan, commissioners, community members, and Santa for Cupertino's beloved Annual Tree Lighting tradition at the Quinlan Community Center. Together, we kicked off the holiday season as the tree came alive with hundreds of twinkling lights, filling the plaza with a magical glow. A big thank you to the Parks Department staff for their efforts on this event!



City Manager's Office Recognition



During the December 2 Council meeting, staff from the City Manager's Office were invited forward to receive a proclamation recognizing their dedication, collaboration, and service to the organization and community. Our team remains committed to working together with integrity, accountability, and a shared focus on supporting the City's mission and advancing Council priorities.

Living Safely with Coyotes Community Meeting

On December 1, residents attended a Living Safely with Coyotes community meeting hosted in partnership with the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Santa Clara County Mosquito and Vector Control District. Experts shared information on coyote behavior, reducing attractants around homes, appropriate responses to sightings, and available local resources. The full meeting can be viewed [here](#).



West Valley Mayors and Managers Meeting

On November 26, I joined Mayor Liang Chao and regional partners in Los Gatos for the monthly West Valley Mayors and Managers gathering. The group discussed leadership roles and appointments for the upcoming year, as well as city updates across the region. It was a productive meeting and a welcome opportunity to connect for regional partnership.

2025 STAR Awards

On Thursday, I joined Councilmembers and Parks and Recreation Director Rachelle Sander at the 2025 STAR Awards hosted by the Cupertino Chamber of Commerce at the Juniper Hotel. The event recognized local businesses and community members, as well as Christina Lopez from Parks Department and provided an opportunity to connect with attendees and support the Chamber's annual celebration.





Photovoltaics Project Begins December 8

The City will begin construction on its Photovoltaics Project on December 8, with work occurring at the Quinlan Community Center in the Alves parking lot, the Cupertino Sports Center parking lot and the roof of Community Hall. From December 8 through December 24, construction fencing will be installed in the Alves parking lot and Cupertino Sports Center parking lots, in the designated areas shown on the maps. During this period, parking will not be available in these locations. Construction activity will also take place on the roof of Community Hall, temporarily affecting seven adjacent parking spaces.

City Hall Closed Temporarily on December 9

City Hall offices, including the [Permit Center](#), will be closed on Tuesday, December 9, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. due to a citywide meeting. Regular operations and hours will resume at 1:30 p.m.



New Sticker Permits Starting 2026

Beginning in 2026, the City will introduce an optional vinyl sticker parking permit for employees as an alternative to the existing placard system. This change is intended to improve visibility for enforcement staff and reduce citations where placards may not be displayed. Vinyl stickers will also be available to Councilmembers who prefer this option.



ECONOMIC BUZZ

Cupertino Business Outreach Program



On Thursday, December 4, 2025, staff visited local businesses at the Marketplace Shopping Center as part of the City's Cupertino Business Outreach Program (CBOP). During the visit, staff connected with several businesses - such as Beard Papa's, Yogurt Land, and CTBC Bank - and shared information about the newly launched Cupertino Business Resource Hub. <http://cupertino.gov/bizresources>.

Cupertino High School Students' Permit Instruction Videos

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students from Cupertino High School completed their school project on identifying potential improvements to the City's permitting process by creating a two-part video. Earlier in June 2025, their project placed third nationally at the 2025 National Leadership Conference. Throughout the project, City staff – Economic Development Manager Daniel Degu and Building Official Sean Hatch – worked closely with the students, providing guidance and support. The videos can be found here: [Application Submission](#) and [Plan Review](#).



El Camino Health Submits Building Permit Application

El Camino Health submitted a building permit application to renovate their 20,545-square-foot office building located at 19400 Stevens Creek Boulevard. The project valuation listed on their application is \$3.5 million, and the business purchased the vacant property this summer for \$10.4 million.

Dine Local This Holiday Season

This holiday season let's spread joy right here at home. Cupertino local eateries are at the heart of what makes our community vibrant. The City Council recently proclaimed November 29 as Small Business Saturday in Cupertino, and in that spirit, we invite you to savor the festive treats, warm meals, and unique dining experiences waiting just around the corner.

To celebrate, visit cupertino.gov/holidaydining2025 to explore the full list of participating eateries that joined this year's newest Shop Local initiatives: Dine Out for the 4th of July and Restaurant Week in October. Let's dine locally, support our community, and make this holiday season bright for all.



Cupertino Welcomes NaiSnow

A new Chinese-based tea shop and bakery named NaiSnow will be coming to Cupertino in 2026. NaiSnow will locate at 19600 Vallco Parkway at the Nineteen800 Shopping Center. The business was recently featured in the [Silicon Valley Business Journal](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mayor and Vice Mayor Election

The annual Mayor and Vice Mayor Election and Oath of Office will be on Thursday, December 11 at Cupertino Community Hall, 10350 Torre Avenue. Community members are welcome to attend and take part in this City tradition.





Mayor's Initiative Wrap-Up and Reception

Mayor Liang Chao will host a Mayor's Initiative Wrap-Up & Reception on Thursday, December 11, at 5 p.m. at Cupertino Community Hall. The gathering is open to the public and will offer light refreshments.

Breakfast with Santa

Families are invited to enjoy Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 6, at the Quinlan Community Center, with seating at 8:30, 9:30, and 10:30 a.m. The event includes North Pole-style pancakes, crafts, and photos with Santa. Space is limited, and early registration is encouraged; children under age two are free and do not require registration.



San Jose Water Webinar

San Jose Water will host a noon webinar on December 10 covering 811 "Call Before You Dig," safe excavation practices, and infrastructure protection during construction. You may view more details [here](#).

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Families can enjoy winter story time through the County's Dolly Parton Imagination Library, which mails a free, age-appropriate book each month to children ages 0–5. Registration is available in English and bilingual English/Spanish, and 13.5 percent of eligible children have already enrolled. Families may sign up [here](#).



RECAP MEETING AND RESIDENT CONCERNS

On Thursday, I met with concerned residents at the Cristo Rey roundabout alongside Public Works Director Mosley and staff to observe reported pedestrian safety issues. Residents highlighted challenges crossing the area, particularly for wheelchair users. Staff is reviewing potential improvements, and we appreciate the community's partnership in identifying safety needs.

KUDOS RECEIVED

Appreciation for Communications

The City received positive feedback from a resident who appreciated timely updates regarding construction impacts associated with the photovoltaic project. We value this acknowledgment and remain committed to providing clear and proactive information on important city projects.



Appreciation for Swift Response

A resident also expressed gratitude for the prompt response and follow-up relating to concerns about an encampment in the Alves Drive area. We appreciate this recognition and continue to prioritize responsive communication and attentive service to our community.

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

WARM REGARDS,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Tina Kapoor', written in a fluid, cursive style.

Tina Kapoor
CITY MANAGER