



NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTER E-BLAST



An information-sharing service of the
Neighborhood Development Center (NDC)

January 2009

The mission of the Neighborhood Development Center is to build strong neighborhoods by connecting individuals to information, technology, and opportunities for civic engagement.

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What's new at the Neighborhood Development Center (NDC)?

NDC has merged its website with the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) website. Please visit us at www.strongneighborhoods.org/NDC.asp. The website is constantly being updated so we encourage you to check back periodically for any new updates. The community will soon be able to access this newsletter on our new website. The SNI website also has information for the new Cycle 23 of funds for the Community Action and Pride (CAP) grant, along with links to websites for San José Beautiful, Volunteer San José, etc.

Building Strong Neighborhoods Pilot Projects

Through the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative, the City of San Jose has demonstrated its commitment to promote active community engagement in underserved areas, to create partnerships with city staff and to align resources with neighborhood priorities. Building Strong Neighborhoods Pilot Project Areas is enabling this work to continue in neighborhoods throughout the City.

There are currently three pilot project areas in the City of San Jose:

Seven Trees Area (City Council District 7)

Silver Leaf Area (City Council District 2)

Hillsdale/Camden Area (City Council District 9)

Building Strong Neighborhoods is based on several concepts:

Develop neighborhood leadership

Organize neighborhoods by working collaboratively with residents

Build on neighborhood strengths and assets

Develop clear priorities and connect them to established resources

Help achieve the delivery of city services and neighborhood priorities

Community Action and Pride (CAP) Grants:

CAP Grant Cycle 23 is NOW OPEN!

The Community Action & Pride (CAP) Grant Cycle 23 Application is now available. Applications are available via the NDC CAP Grant Website <http://www.strongneighborhoods.org/CAPHOMEPAGE.asp> or at the NDC office located at 1601 Foxworthy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95118.

Who Is Eligible?

Neighborhood Associations or other neighborhood-based groups located within the City of San Jose may be eligible to apply. See the Cycle 23 Grant Guidelines for details.

What Does CAP Fund?

The CAP grant funds projects that strengthen local neighborhoods and promote long-term community building. Such activities may include community newsletters, beautification projects, and community events such as National Night Out.

Where Can I Get More Information?

Technical assistance is available from the Neighborhood Development Center between December 15, 2008 and February 11, 2009. You can reach CAP Grant staff at (408) 723-4114. You may also reach us by emailing alex.ruvalcaba@sanjoseca.gov

Applications are due February 13, 2009!

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Community Leadership Academy – CAP approved trainings

How to Handle your Grant Money

Wednesday, January 7, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Kirk Community Center, 1601 Foxworthy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95118 (Room 4)

Map: http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result.php?q1=1601+foxworthy+Ave%2C+san+jose%2C+ca

Presented by: Ken Podgorsek, Executive Director of United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County

The in's and out's of creating an effective Action Plan and administering your grant efficiently. Now that there is money in your neighborhood association bank account, you need to learn "best practices" of making sure your organization remains financially sound, what the financial responsibilities are of an organization and ways to keep your money in order. This includes tracking, reporting and administering your grant.

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### **CAP Grant Workshop Cycle 23**

**Saturday, January 10, 2009 from 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.**

**&**

**Thursday, January 15, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

**Kirk Community Center, 1601 Foxworthy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95118 (Room 4)**

Map: [http://maps.yahoo.com/maps\\_result.php?q1=1601+foxworthy+Ave%2C+san+jose%2C+ca](http://maps.yahoo.com/maps_result.php?q1=1601+foxworthy+Ave%2C+san+jose%2C+ca)

Presented by: Ernest Guzman Community Service Supervisor Neighborhood Development Center

The workshop is designed to review the application packet. Attendance at one of these workshops is highly recommended. Questions will be answered and training on how to fill out the application will be provided. Spanish and Vietnamese translation available if requested as part of reserving a space at these workshops.

Space is limited, so please register early for this FREE classes.

Community Leadership Academy Trainings are hosted by the Neighborhood Development Center. Contact us at:

1601 Foxworthy Avenue

San José, CA 95118

**Phone (408) 723-4114 • Fax (408) 264-2359 • Email: [ndc@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:ndc@sanjoseca.gov)**

To request an accommodation or alternative format for City-sponsored meetings, events or printed materials, please call (408) 723-4114 or (408) 294-9337 (TTY) as soon as possible, but at least three business days before the class.

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## ***Neighborhoods Commission***

The new City of San Jose Neighborhoods Commission will be seated in January, 2009. The Commission will be in a pilot phase for two years, before going back to council for an assessment of it's work and process.

<http://www.strongneighborhoods.org/NeighborhoodsCommission.asp>

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## ***Keep San Jose Beautiful***

***Making San Jose more beautiful through community advocacy, education and empowerment***

### ***Spring 2009 Beautification Grant***

Grant applications are available now and must be received by Friday, February 6, 2009. Grant amounts range from \$500 to \$3,500 and are for plants and materials for beautification projects. The amount requested must be matched by other contributions and/or volunteer hours. Neighborhood organizations and school groups are welcome to apply. There will be a grant application workshop for first time applicants or those who have questions.

**Wednesday, January 14, 2009**

**6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**

OR

**Saturday, January 10, 2009**

**10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

**Location:**

**Kirk Community Center-Room 4, 1601 Foxworthy Avenue, San Jose CA 95118**

*For more information about these and other Keep San Jose Beautiful programs, please visit us on the web at [www.sjbeautiful.org](http://www.sjbeautiful.org) or call the office of Keep San Jose Beautiful at (408) 723-1574.*

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## ***Volunteer San Jose***

**City Hall Tour Guides Needed!**

We are looking for volunteers who want to help showcase City Hall to students, seniors and community groups. Guided tours include showing the building from top to bottom, showing the art exhibits, and the council chamber.

The tours consist of:

- Flexible days/hours (10 AM – 2 PM, Monday through Friday)
- 1.5 hours of walking around facility

Volunteers will receive:

- Training material
- Free Parking
- Polo Shirt

This position is very flexible and can be either short term or long term. Great opportunity for College Students or Seniors! If you are interested, please call (408) 535-1244

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## ***Other Funding Opportunities***

### ***NEEF's Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award***

**Deadline: January 31, 2009**

The Richard C. Bartlett Environmental Education Award is awarded annually by the National Environmental Education Foundation to an outstanding educator who has successfully integrated environmental education into his or her daily education programs.

The award is given to a 5th-12th grade educator who can serve as an inspiration and model for others. A \$5,000 cash award is provided for the recipient to continue their work in environmental education.

>If you know a teacher who stands out among the rest, please [nominate him/her for the 2009 Richard C. Bartlett Award.](#)

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Fiskars' Project Orange Thumb

Deadline: February 17, 2009

Launched in 2003, Fiskars' Project Orange Thumb has awarded more than 100 community groups, schools, churches, and other organizations more than \$300,000 in total grants for their garden programs.

This year, the program will award 20 grants within the U.S. and Canada. Each will receive up to \$1,500 in Fiskars garden tools and up to \$800 in gardening-related materials (i.e. green goods). Each of these recipients will receive up to \$1,000 in Fiskars Tools and up to \$1,000 in gardening-related materials.

[>Get more information about the Project Orange Thumb grants here.](#)

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Community Meetings/Events

Anti-Graffiti/Anti-Litter Program

Lend A Hand To Wipe Out Graffiti Anti-Graffiti Community Volunteer Week January 12 - 18, 2009

Residents are encouraged to volunteer to wipe out graffiti in their neighborhoods. The City of San Jose Anti-Graffiti Program will provide Anti-Graffiti kits to volunteers.

Pick-up your Anti-Graffiti kits from the Anti-Graffiti Program Office - 501 Vine Street
(Cross Streets: Almaden Blvd. and Woz Way) on:

**January 12 - 17, 2009
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, January 18, 2009 by appointment only**

For more information, or to set up and appointment contact the Anti-Graffiti Program at (408) 277-3208.

To arrange an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act to participate in this public event please call (408) 277-3208 or the TTY number, (408) 294-9337, at least 48 hours before the event.

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### **Bay Area Quality Management District - San Jose Green Vision**

**Join the San Jose "Green Vision" Resource Team**

**Thursday, January 22, 2008**

**4:00pm – 6:00pm  
City of San Jose  
City Hall, 200 East Santa Clara Street  
Environmental Services Department  
Room T-550 (in the Tower)**

The City of San Jose and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District are proud to announce the formation of a “resource team” to help with implementation of the City’s Green Vision on a local level. Business, civic, environmental organizations will join together to select local projects that embrace a green vision and implement them!

**This is an opportunity to roll up our collective sleeves and work together to make green visions into collaborative realities! Join the team and green San Jose.**

For more information about resource teams visit:

<http://www.sparetheair.org/community/resourceteams.htm>

For questions, please call or email Jim Smith at (415) 749-4631 or

[jsmith@baaqmd.gov](mailto:jsmith@baaqmd.gov).

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Free Thermometer Exchange Program

Mercury Fever Thermometer Exchange

Mercury is toxic and can cause damage to the nervous system, brain, kidneys, liver, and immune systems in humans and animals.

Bring us your glass mercury fever thermometer and exchange it for a digital thermometer.*

**Become Mercury-Wise!
Saturday, January 24, 2009
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Vineland Branch Library
1450 Blossom Hill Rd, San Jose, CA 95118**

Please double-bag thermometers using two sealed plastic bags to prevent spills.

For more information, please call (408) 945-3000 or visit: www.baywise.org

*Limit one free digital thermometer per household.

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Teen Awareness Group.

Next Door Solutions for Domestic Violence is recruiting teens for their 10 week Teen Awareness Group that will begin in mid January. Teens can receive community service hours while they are learning positive tools for creating healthy relationships.

Teen Awareness Group

A safe place to discuss teen issues in the context of building Non Abusive and Healthy relationships; igniting critical thinking...a space where Teens and their Experiences are acknowledged and Honored, a place where you can communicate not only by using words but through Art, Theatre, Music, dance & Poetry.

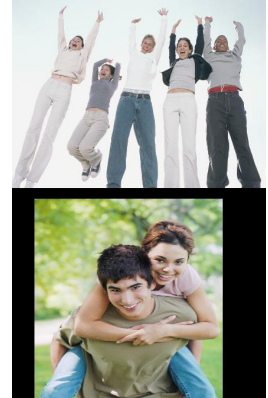
This is a DRAMA FREE environment...for teens age 13-16 years old.

Tuesdays at 5:00pm

77 Kentucky Place San Jose, CA 95116

Teens interested in attending the Teen Group must schedule an INTAKE appointment with Crystal Talitonu: 501-7566: ctalitonu@nextdoor.org

QUESTIONS? Call, email, or MSG us!!! www.myspace.com/datingviolence



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The 2009 Community Breakfast

Chuck Reed, Mayor of San Jose, and the San Jose City Council cordially invite you to a very special event:

The 2009 Community Breakfast

Featuring:

The State of the City Address and Recognition of Outstanding Citizens

Wednesday, January 14, 2009
Doors open at 7:30 a.m.
Breakfast will be served at 7:45 a.m.

San Jose McEnery Convention Center
150 West San Carlos St.
San Jose, CA 95113

Tickets are required for all who attend
\$25.00 per person / \$250.00 per table of 10
A limited number of free-view only (no breakfast) seats are available.

RSVP by January 6, 2009
For tickets or more information call (408) 286-2600 X23
(M-F 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.)
Or visit www.symphonysiliconvalley.org

To arrange accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act to participate in this public event, please call (408)535-4833 (voice) or (408)294-9337 (TTY) at least two business days before the event.

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Census 2010 Employment Opportunities

Employment Opportunities Available for Census 2010

Approximately 600 Census Workers to be hired

In Spring 2009, hundreds of Santa Clara County residents will be hired to work locally as census workers for Census 2010. The Local Census Office has started the recruiting process and is encouraging residents to join this endeavor.

Census workers will be hired as Lister, Crew Leader, Crew Leader Assistant or Field Operations Supervisor. Depending on their positions, the workers will be paid \$22-25/hr.

Basic qualifications for applicants include U.S. residency, at least 18 years of age, a valid social security number and passage of a background check. Field workers should also have a valid driver's license. Applicants will also be tested on their clerical, reading, math and organizational skills. For a sample test and to learn more about Census 2010, go to: www.census.gov. To apply for positions and schedule testing with Census 2010, call 1-866-861-2010.

Every year, more than \$300 billion in federal funds is awarded to states and communities based on census data.

About the census

The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States, both citizens and non-citizens. The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The first census was conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau in 1790.

The Census Bureau is legally bound to protect the confidentiality of individual respondents and their households for 72 years.

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Library Events

Activities scheduled on January 15 & 17; February 14

“Dream to Reality” – an 80th Birthday Celebration Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Evening performances of gospel music, poetry and dance; re-enactments from the Civil Rights Era; a speaker panel; a resource faire; story time, crafts and more characterize this special commemorative event for all ages honoring the enduring legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Activities spanning three dates (January 15 & 17; February 14) take place at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, located at 150 E. San Fernando St. in downtown San Jose, and the Hal Todd Theater in neighboring Hugh Gillis Hall. For full details, visit SJLibrary.org/mlk80birthday.htm or call (408) 808-2397.

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### ***Don't Let Your TV Become Extinct!***

**A guest speaker from the Federal Communications Commission will give an overview of the Digital TV transition.**

**Monday, January 5, 2009, 6:30-7:30 p.m.**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

150 E. San Fernando Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Rooms 225/229

*For information: (408) 808-2397*

*Presented by the General Collections Department*

Bus routes 63, 64, 72, 73 and 81 stop at the library

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Free Wi-Fi Service Widely Available at King Library

Full Internet Access via WiFi is now available to ALL King Library visitors; both public and university customers alike.

“How to” info for those that need it is posted here:

http://www.sjlibrary.org/services/computers/new_wireless_handout_public.pdf

In addition—with very few exceptions—restrictions on public access *from within the King Library* to selected SJSU subscribed databases have been eliminated. The few for which access is still limited to academic customers are clearly marked on the SJSU Database/ A-Z page as “[Get Password \(SJSU Only\)](#).”

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**Exhibits—**

**Sunday, December 7 - Saturday, January 31, All Library Open Hours  
Exhibit Area, 2nd Floor**

*My Neighbors: A Photographic Exhibition by Joe Claus*

"My Neighbors" celebrates the small business owners of San Jose who are often overshadowed by the large businesses in our area. The exhibit features photographs that are portraits, in nature. These black and white images represent a growing monograph that consists of over 100 photographs that communicate the diversity and pride of our local small business community. They are printed in a variety of sizes: from 30 X 30 inches to 5 X 5 inches. The exhibit is intended to be appreciated by people of all ages. For more information, call (408) 547-7326.

**Thru Saturday, January 31, All Library Open Hours  
Exhibit Area, 4th Floor**

**“Water for Elephants” (Animation – Illustration Exhibit)**

View works on display resulting from an assignment to the Animation/Illustration Senior Seminar class, based on *Water for Elephants*, the fall 2008 Campus Reading Program selection. The novel is set in a depression-era circus traveling through America by train. Students were asked to develop work appropriate for either a feature-length live action or a feature-length animated adaptation of the book. Each student then chose one of the following areas of focus for their work; animation, modeling/texturing, story, or visual development and character design. Students carefully researched topics pertaining to the project and to the time period before beginning their work. Circus trains and wagons, circus tents, midways and sideshows, circus performers, circus animals, roustabouts, circus management and business, social trends, inventions and innovations, prohibition, and politics of the day were all considered. Projects completed in the BFA Senior Seminar class become part of the portfolio each Animation/Illustration student develops to represent them when they apply of internships and employment in the screen arts.

**Professors:**

Alice Carter, Courtney Granner Animation/Illustration Program Co-Coordinators Rex Grignon,  
Distinguished Educator, DreamWorks  
David Chai, Assistant Professor

For information, contact Alice Carter at (408) 924-4403.

## ***Strong Neighborhoods Initiative Victories***

### ***Edenvale Shopping Center Lot Improvements***

The improvements to the Edenvale Shopping Center parking lot are part of the Redevelopment Agency's effort to revitalize deteriorated and blighted neighborhood shopping centers. The shopping center is located near the Edenvale/Great Oaks Strong Neighborhoods and in the Neighborhood Business Clusters (NBC) Redevelopment Project Area of Monterey/Roeder, which was adopted by the Redevelopment Agency's Board on September 6, 2001.

Originally built in the 1960s, Edenvale Shopping Center expanded from one to six buildings and now offers more than 74,000 square feet of retail space and is home to nearly 30 tenants, including a grocery store, restaurants, hair salons, gift stores, and a church. The renovations include new circulation pattern for increased parking capacity, the installation of new asphalt paving, new landscaping and trees, enhanced lighting and pedestrian pathway from the bus stop to the stores.

The Agency invested \$600,000 for the parking lot improvements and the property owners have contributed \$150,000. To date, the Agency has invested approximately \$2.7 million to improve the Edenvale/Great Oaks Strong Neighborhoods and plans to contribute \$13.2 million for an additional three projects currently in the planning or construction phase: Edenvale Community Center, Streetscape Pedestrian Lighting Project at Roundtable Drive, and the Multifamily Housing Improvements Project at Roundtable Drive.

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Roosevelt Community Center and Skatepark

New 30,000-square-foot center to provide teen area, computer lab, fitness room

The new 30,000-square-foot, two-story Roosevelt Community Center is a multi-service facility that is more than three times the original facility built in 1974. It will provide rooms/spaces for educational classes for seniors and adults, physical fitness and activities, computer training, teen activities, arts and crafts and early childhood education. The \$25.4 million project was primarily funded by bond funds from Measure P, which was approved by San José voters in 2000. Additional funds were provided by Proposition 40 Urban Parks and Community Facilities State of California Grant, along with the City's Park Trust and Construction and Conveyance (C&C) Tax Funds.

The new center features public art by two artists. Jackie Brookner created "Touching the

Earth, Touching the River,” a site-integrated artwork that protects the nearby Coyote Creek by filtering storm water run-off from the facility’s roof. San José artist Edward “Scape” Martinez created two murals -- “Shapeshifters 1, 2, & 3” in the upstairs and “Spiritual Stonehenge” in the juice bar and extending to the exterior of the north entrance. His sculpture of painted and chromed steel in the art room depicts a range of images that create “an ode to the culture of the neighborhood.”

The center, skatepark and public art works were designed with input from the community, including members of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative’s Five Wounds/Brookwood Terrace, 13th Street and University areas.

The \$1.1 million, 10,000-square-foot skatepark was financed by \$500,000 from the San Jose Redevelopment Agency and \$600,000 from the City’s Park Trust fund. The skatepark features banked walls, ledges, stairs, grinding rails, manual pads, a flow-bowl varying in elevation and a kidney pool with a bonus pocket. It offers terrain for both beginners and advanced skaters.

The improvements have long been awaited by the community as essential additions to the 10-acre Roosevelt Park, which also offers play areas, a baseball field, handball and basketball courts, San Jose’s only full size outdoor roller hockey rink, an open turf area and future connectivity to the Coyote Creek trail.

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***Selma Olinder Dog Park***

San Jose’s newest dog park is located within Selma Olinder Park, is situated on a three-quarter-acre site at the south end of the park and is designed with pet-friendly amenities including a double-gated entry, separate large and small dog areas, fencing and benches. The design of the dog park fits within the guidelines of the City’s Greenprint for Parks and Community Facilities and Programs. The facility is designed to accommodate 20 to 30 dogs at one time. It’s surfacing consists mainly of wood chips and decomposed granite to minimize operation and maintenance costs. Mature trees, preserved and protected during construction, now provide valuable shade for both dogs and their owners. The dog park also includes 11 new parking spaces specifically for dog park users.

City staff began holding public meetings with residents in late 2005 to solicit input and comments from the surrounding community regarding the development of the dog park. At a community meeting in February 2006, the community soundly endorsed staff’s recommendation to develop a dog park at Selma Olinder Park. This \$379,000 project was jointly funded by the City and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency. The park will be operated and maintained by the City of San José Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services Department.

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West Evergreen Strong Neighborhood Celebrates School Field Improvements

The O.B. Whaley Elementary School Field Improvement Project was identified as one of the Top 10 priorities by West Evergreen Strong Neighborhood residents, through a series of community workshops and meetings conducted by the Neighborhood Action Coalition (NAC), as part of the San Jose's Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) project.

The four-acre school field is located on the campus of the O.B. Whaley Elementary School. The newly renovated baseball diamond and field feature pedestrian pathways, trees, benches, drinking fountain, walking path, play structure for children, new fences, irrigation system and bleachers. The field is designated as a joint-use school and community field, which means students will be using it during regular school hours, and the public on the weekends and after regular school hours.

The \$925,000 improvement project was funded by three organizations, with the Redevelopment Agency investing \$500,000, San José City Council District 7 contributing \$200,000 and \$225,000 from the Evergreen School District. To date, the San Jose Redevelopment Agency has invested nearly \$1.5 million to improve the West Evergreen Strong Neighborhood.

The Strong Neighborhoods Initiative's purpose is to build Strong Neighborhoods by developing community leadership and working collaboratively with residents to achieve the delivery of City Services and Neighborhood Priorities. For more information, visit www.strongneighborhoods.org.

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Resources Available for Neighborhood Associations

The Neighborhood Development Center (NDC) continues to have the following resources available for neighborhood associations and individual residents that are interested in or are currently working on improving their neighborhood.

High-Speed Gestetner copy machine (Free use - just bring the paper! Great for copying flyers and newsletters). Library with resource books on grants, organizing, volunteers, leadership, etc. Meeting rooms at Kirk Community Center.

Please be aware that NDC staff is frequently in the field. If you need services provided by the NDC, please call to ensure that someone will be available at the office to assist you. Please contact NDC staff at (408) 723-4114 for more information or to make an appointment for the use of these resources.

CONTACT US:

City of San José, City Manager's Office
Strong Neighborhoods Initiative
Neighborhood Development Center
1601 Foxworthy Avenue
San José, CA 95118
Office: (408) 723-4114 Fax: (408) 264-2359 E-Mail: ndc@sanjoseca.gov
Website: www.strongneighborhoods.org

The NDC E-Blast is published on a monthly basis. If you would like to submit an article of citywide interest or if you would like to provide any feedback, please send an email to ndc@sanjoseca.gov. Articles are subject to editorial decision to publish or edit for publication. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to others in your organization.

If you wish to add an email address, are receiving duplicate emails, or no longer wish to receive emails from the Neighborhood Development Center, please send us a reply to ndc@sanjoseca.gov. Feel free to forward to others in your organization.

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