



Experience Fremont History with **boxART!**

Our local history is now on display in Downtown Fremont! The City's boxART! Program and District Art Program have transformed four new traffic signal control boxes with photos representing different eras selected from the Washington Township Museum of Local History archives. Next time you're Downtown, stop by these boxes and learn more about Fremont's unique history. More information about each photo is available at www.MuseumofLocalHistory.org/boxart.

Park and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey Wraps Up

The results are in! Thank you to all the residents who contributed to the Park and Recreation Needs Assessment Survey. Results showed that Fremont residents really value their parks, **with 97% of respondents visiting a park within the last 2 years**—much higher than the national average of 79%. The overall findings emphasized multi-generational indoor recreation spaces for fitness and wellness programming, local and regional trail connectivity, and increased park land / improvement in existing park amenities.

Next steps in the Master Plan process include analysis of existing conditions and equity mapping, determining the future vision, prioritizing capital improvement projects, and determining funding strategies for successful implementation.

To learn more and join the mailing list for periodic updates, please visit www.InventFremontParks.com.

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Letter from Fremont's City Manager

It's hard to believe it's been over a year since Fremont declared a local state of emergency in response to COVID-19. We've learned a lot in that time and continue to lead, listen, and innovate when providing support to our community. With the State's recent announcement that Alameda County has advanced to the Red Tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy reopening framework, I look forward to sharing future updates on how we're moving Fremont forward.

In the meantime, the major highlights of the last year include:

- Opening one of the Bay Area's first drive-through COVID-19 testing centers.
- Preparing more than 20,000 meals for unhoused and senior members of the Fremont community.
- Approving a COVID-19 aid package for Fremont renters and small businesses.
- Launching pioneering programs such as Gift Fremont and Pop-up Patio to further assist local businesses.
- Establishing an eviction moratorium and anti-gouging, anti-hoarding, and anti-grouping ordinances.

In addition to providing aid within Fremont city limits, we also helped other cities in California. In January, four Fremont Fire Department Paramedics were deployed to the Adventist Health Bakersfield hospital as part of the CAL OES request for Paramedics and EMTs. They helped staff hospitals due to the surge in statewide COVID-19 cases and have since returned home to Fremont safely and in good health.

We continue to offer free COVID-19 testing sites in Fremont, thanks to community and County partnerships. The sites are open to everyone and no insurance or doctor's notes is required. You can find the most up-to-date testing information at www.Fremont.gov/CovidTesting.

Moving to vaccination efforts, the Fremont Fire Department has collaborated with Haller's Pharmacy

and the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency to facilitate an appointment-only COVID-19 Vaccination Point-of-Distribution/Dispensing at the FFD Tactical Training Center.

We have also developed an internal City committee as part of our Emergency Operations Center, that meets regularly to discuss vaccine distribution for both City employees and the public.

In addition, the City's Zoning Administrator approved an Emergency Zoning Administrator Permit to allow a temporary vaccination clinic located at 43971 Boscell Rd. in South Fremont, operated by Kaiser Permanente.

Outside of Fremont, COVID-19 vaccination appointments are available at the Alameda County Fairgrounds via a drive-thru vaccination clinic provided by Alameda County, Stanford Health Care – ValleyCare, and Sutter Health. Additionally, the State of California partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to launch a mass vaccination site at the Oakland Coliseum. For information about vaccination notifications and scheduling an appointment when it's your turn in Alameda County, please visit: <https://covid-19.acgov.org/vaccines>.

Additional information about notifications, scheduling appointments and vaccine eligibility may also be found from the State at <https://myturn.ca.gov> or by calling 833-422-4255.

Planning for Fremont's future remains our primary focus. We held our annual City Council Retreat on January 26. The Council came to a consensus on priorities for the year including: Budget, financial health, increasing the tax base; Continue Fremont's response to COVID-19; Continue to innovate and find solutions to mitigate the city's homeless population; and Neighborhood improvement. Stay tuned for more information on these topics.

The City Council meets the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Ave.

Meetings are broadcast over Cable TV Channel 27 or webcast online at Fremont.gov/Webcasts.

Sign up for our news at Fremont.gov/eNews

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Mayor Lily Mei
Vice Mayor Yang Shao
Councilmember Teresa Keng
Councilmember Rick Jones
Councilmember Jenny Kassan
Councilmember Raj Salwan
Councilmember Teresa Cox

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City Social Media
Follow the City and many of its departments on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Nextdoor, and Nixle—we will keep you posted on everything from community events, new business openings, traffic updates, friendly tips, and other City-related information that may help you and your family.
www.Fremont.gov/SocialMedia

Our Community



Council Approves City Priorities for 2021

At the City Council retreat held in January 2021, the Council identified four top priority areas on which to focus City resources in 2021. Those priority areas include 1) Budget, financial health, increase the tax base, 2) Continue response to COVID-19, 3) Continue to address homelessness, and 4) Neighborhood improvement.

During the Council retreat, norms and protocols between the Councilmembers and executive staff were also developed to maintain a strong dynamic of Council-staff teamwork. The City contracted with Management Partners to facilitate the one-day virtual discussion and prepare the 2021 Council Retreat report.

While the Council has continued to prioritize addressing homelessness, and neighborhood improvement in recent years, this year's discussion focused heavily on the COVID-19 Pandemic with an emphasis of providing support to residents and businesses who have been affected. The Council's priorities will be incorporated into the upcoming budget process and staff work plan.

To read the full-length City Council Retreat report, visit www.Fremont.gov/CouncilRetreatReport.

Other recent priorities adopted by the City Council include the 2021 Legislative Guiding Principles and Priorities. These represent a framework for organizing the City's legislative interests at the regional, State, and federal level and form the foundation of the City's advocacy. For more information visit www.Fremont.gov/LegislativePriorities.

Housing Element Update

Fremont's General Plan includes a Housing Element that identifies local housing needs and helps inform future housing decisions. Under State law, cities are required to update their Housing Element every eight years to show how they plan to meet the housing needs of current and future residents at all income levels. The City is beginning work on a Housing Element update, with a goal of completion in 2022.

As a part of this update, known as the Regional Housing Need Allocation process (RHNA), the State identifies the estimated total housing need for the Bay Area from 2023-2031. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) then determines how to fairly distribute this need to local governments. ABAG recently approved draft allocations for the upcoming RHNA cycle, which includes 12,897 Fremont housing units. The updated Housing Element will convey how the City plans to accommodate its portion of the region's housing need, while balancing community values and priorities. For more information on the Housing Element Update, please visit www.Fremont.gov/HousingElement.



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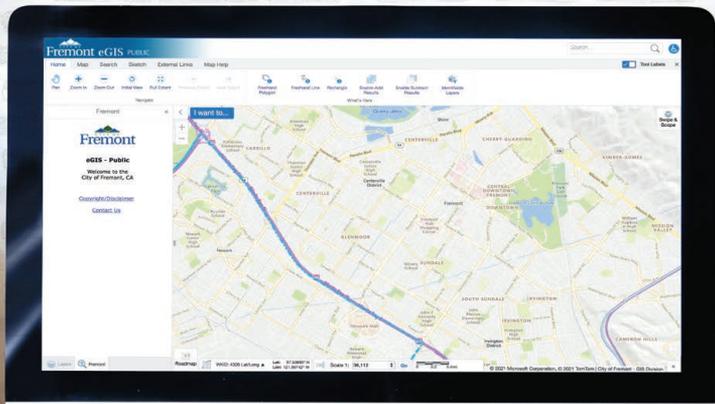
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New eGIS Public Viewer Now Available



The City of Fremont GIS Team launched a new version of its enterprise Geographic Information System (eGIS) Public Viewer which allows users to easily access Landuse, Zoning, Council Districts, FEMA, Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Projects, Monument Inventory, Street Sweeper Zones, Storm Drain information, and more—no plug-ins required.

To view the updated eGIS Public Viewer in all major browsers, visit www.Fremont.gov/egis.

Later this year, the City plans to release Story Maps to promote citizen participation and engagement. Story Maps combine authoritative geospatial data with maps, photos, multimedia, and narrative text to visualize a theme or sequential events.

New Version of Fremont App to Streamline Maintenance Service Requests

A new version of the Fremont App, a CRM application that enables residents to report a wide range of local, non-emergency issues directly to City departments is now available in the Apple App Store and Android Google Play Store. Since launching the Fremont App in May 2020, the City closed out more than 720 service requests reported within the app, ranging from illegal fireworks (38%), COVID-19 health order violations (12%), graffiti abatement on public property (9%), and traffic signals (9%).

The new version of the Fremont App has centralized the “Request” button to give residents the option to Create a New Request, view any previously submitted Request(s), or check for any Nearby Requests reported by others.

The City’s Information Technology Services Department continues to work closely with City departments to maintain the 30+ request types available for residents to currently report, as well as continues identifying expansion opportunities for new request types in the app.

Download or update your Fremont App today and engage with City staff to report local, non-emergency issues. For more information, including how-to videos, visit www.Fremont.gov/App.





New Electronic Plan Review for City Permits

The City is now using Electronic Plan Review (ePR) for planning permits, building/fire permits, solar permits, and engineering permits. When requesting one of these permits, applicants can use the City’s online permitting portal, Citizen Access, to submit their project plans and connect with City staff on the review process. This new process eliminates the need for paper documents and allows for a more efficient and transparent permit processing system. For more information, please visit www.Fremont.gov/EPR.

Fremont Connect: Get Involved & Stay Informed



Staying connected and updated is more important than ever before. Fremont Connect is here to help! Combining a newly designed weekly e-newsletter with a new online community engagement information hub, Fremont Connect allows Fremont residents to weigh-in on important City projects and learn about timely City news.

By accessing the new Fremont Connect webpage at www.Fremont.gov/FremontConnect, you can participate in projects and initiatives that are being planned and/or are currently taking place in the community. The webpage will be regularly updated with opportunities for community members to meet virtually with staff and consultants, take online surveys, follow and receive updates on project timelines, and more.

Additionally, we recently debuted a new, online weekly community e-newsletter, The Fremont Connection. Powered by email subscription service GovDelivery, this new communication replaces our previous Fremont news subscription emails through the City’s website.

Sign up for The Fremont Connection today, as well as City of Fremont press releases, by visiting the subscribe webpage at www.Fremont.gov/GovDelivery, and be sure to add our email address – fremont@news.fremont.gov – to your email safe senders list, so you get the news directly in your inbox.

Affordable Housing Opens in Fremont

Construction has been completed on several affordable housing developments throughout the city. These new developments bring over 540 affordable units to Fremont: Central Commons in Central Fremont and Innovia, Geo Apartments, Reilly Station, and Canyon Flats in the Warms Springs Innovation District. We are excited to welcome these new residents and would like to thank everyone who made this possible.

In the coming years, Fremont will make more affordable housing units available. If you are interested in receiving information when units become available, please sign up for the City’s interest lists at www.Fremont.gov/AffordableHousingInterest.



Our Community

Community Park Reminders

With springtime just around the corner, here are some friendly reminders for visiting your local parks:

- Wear a mask
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Bring your own water and hand sanitizer
- Keep your dogs on a leash
- Do not enter closed areas

Please keep in mind that group gatherings are also restricted at this time. For more information, visit www.Fremont.gov/ParksandRecreation.

Visit the City's website at www.Fremont.gov for the latest park updates related to the Red Tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

COVID-19

RECREATE RESPONSIBLY

This facility is not sanitized
Use at your own discretion

Public health officials remind you to:



Stay home if you're sick



Practice Social distancing



Face coverings required



Wash hands/use sanitizer before & after use

Distancing and other guidelines exist.
Scan QR code for the most up-to-date county health order



Recreation Spring & Summer Programs

The Recreation Services Division has you covered for spring and summer break with camps, distance learning support, virtual and in-person programs, and more. We have everything your child needs to stay active, engaged, and having fun this season. Check out our digital Recreation Guide to see a list of available programs following the Alameda County Public Health Department's health and safety guidelines. Don't delay—register today by visiting www.Fremont.gov/Recreation or by calling 510-494-4300!



Part-time Job Opportunities with Recreation Services

The Recreation Services Division is hiring! If you're a motivated individual seeking an exciting summer job, this is an excellent opportunity to make a difference. Whether you are looking to supplement your income or strengthen your college applications or resume, these positions help you gain valuable experience, develop critical skills, and create lasting friendships. Hours are flexible with day, evening, and weekend shifts available, making it a great opportunity for college-bound students, future educators, and all-around dedicated individuals. Apply today at www.Fremont.gov/RecJobs or call 510-494-4327.



Free Financial Navigation Services Available

Struggling to pay bills and manage finances since COVID-19? The Financial Navigation Program is available to provide free financial consultation to connect Alameda County residents to resources that will assist with managing financial issues, identify immediate action steps, and make referrals to other programs and services. In partnership with the International Rescue Committee in Oakland, the City of Fremont is providing phone-based Financial Navigation services at no cost to all Alameda County residents through a new Financial Navigator Program. While Financial Navigators do not provide financial assistance with cash or loans, they can connect you with the programs in Alameda County that can assist you.

To register for your free, 30-minute session with the Financial Navigator Program, visit <https://finnav.org/alameda> or call the Fremont Family Resource Center at 510-574-2000. Services are available in English, Spanish, Dari, and Arabic.

New Climate Action Plan Underway

Fremont's Climate Action Plan (CAP) provides a local roadmap for achieving reduced citywide greenhouse gas emissions. With a new CAP update underway, we have actively gathered community input over the past six months through virtual community workshops, stakeholder discussions, and an online community forum. Residents and businesses have shared their thoughts on key areas such as green building, clean energy, transportation, waste reduction, trees and landscapes, climate-smart infrastructure, and the green economy. We are now analyzing this feedback and identifying priority measures for the new CAP, with a first draft scheduled for late spring. Learn more at www.Fremont.gov/ClimateActionPlan.



Police Department Transparency Portal

The Fremont Police Department has a culture of accountability, openness, and integrity. The Department's Transparency Portal and Accountability Webpage are resources available to the public online to access police-related documents and procedures. This includes officer involved shootings, use of force incidents, departmental policies, training materials, agency practices, and crime statistics. The Accountability webpage provides information about records retention, community partnerships and youth engagement, FAQs about the Department's accountability, and more. To access these resources, visit:

- **Transparency Portal:** www.FremontPolice.gov/Transparency
- **Accountability Webpage:** www.FremontPolice.gov/Accountability
- **FAQs Webpage:** www.FremontPolice.gov/AccountabilityFaqs



FUSD Students Receive Distance Learning Support Through Fremont Programs

Since implementing a full distance learning model in March 2020, the Fremont Unified School District has sought resources to assist its students and families in adapting to a new way of learning. While fortunate in today's world that the technology exists to keep students connected and engaged with their teachers and lessons from home, interaction solely through a computer screen is far from optimal. As Fremont enters its second year under the COVID-19 pandemic, concern has grown not only for students' educational well-being, but mental as well.

To help provide students with both educational support, and the social interaction considered crucial at this stage of their lives, FUSD has partnered with the City of Fremont on ways to keep students engaged with their studies—and with each other.

In August, the City launched a 'School Pods' program at the Central Park Age Well Center where students in grades 3-8 (2nd graders welcome if their sibling is in the program) can come together in pods of 14 or less, attend their daily distance learning classes, then take part in enrichment activities at the end of the school day. The program follows all safety guidelines provided by the County and State and all attendees are required to wear masks and maintain social distancing. All students are screened prior to entering the facility. City of Fremont Recreation staff members assist



students in completing their homework and lead after-school activities such as STEM projects, art, sports, and outdoor play.

Having previously established After School Academies (ASA) at Brier, Cabrillo and Grimmer Elementary Schools, the City took its program virtual for the 2020-21 school year. At ASA, students in grades 2-6 are given the opportunity to socialize and connect with their peers while participating in enriching hands-on activities and receive academic assistance. ASA supports students and families remotely using the Zoom platform. Supply kits for all activities are provided using each school's supply pick-up system. Virtual enrichment activities may include STEM, social and emotional learning, physical activity, health promotion, general recreation, global learning, career awareness, and other activities based on students' needs and interests.

"We thank the City of Fremont for its partnership in supporting our students—not only academically, but by providing the means to interact with one another and re-establish the social connections that are so important," said FUSD Superintendent, CJ Cammack.

For more information on Fremont's School Pod program, please visit www.Fremont.gov/SchoolPods or send an email to regerec@fremont.gov. For more information on After School Academies, please visit www.Fremont.gov/asa or email asa@fremont.gov. The City's Recreation Division staff is also available at 510-494-4300 for assistance.

Also, FUSD would like to thank the Fremont Fire Department and Haller's Pharmacy for their partnership in providing District employees with access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Plastic Bags Go in the Trash

Reminder! Unfortunately, our local recycling facility is unable to recycle plastic bags and other plastic film items like bread bags and plastic shipping envelopes. In fact, plastic bags are a big problem at our local recycling center, as workers must rip through them to retrieve the recyclables. Additionally, these bags can also get tangled in the machinery, making the system less efficient.

To make this process easier, simply toss your loose recyclables into the recycling bin. If you need a bag to transport your recyclables to the bin, use something recyclable like a paper bag or reusable bin or tote bag. If you must use a plastic bag, empty the recyclables into the bin and toss the empty plastic bag into the trash. Thank you for helping Fremont recycle right!



Tips for Better Recycling:

- It's better not to tear recyclable paper into smaller pieces. Most paper is sorted by hand at the recycling center and bigger pieces are best.
- Be sure your food and beverage containers are free of food residue and liquids to keep paper and cardboard items clean and dry.
- Food soiled paper and packaging can go into your green bin. This includes pizza boxes, too!
- Avoid the terrible "tanglers". Extension cords, ropes, garden hoses, wires, and wire hangers can get tangled up in the gears of the recycling equipment. These items go in the trash.
- Flatten cardboard boxes. This creates more space in your bin and makes it easier to process at the recycling facility.
- Put Styrofoam in the trash. This material is not accepted in your recycling program.
- Check out the labels on your collection bins for guidelines on what goes in each bin.
- When in doubt — throw it out! For more information on how to properly recycle, go to www.Fremont.gov/Environment.

Healthier Gardening:

Tips for a Less Toxic Home & Garden

Searching for the Best Pest Control?



Look no farther than your own backyard. Beneficial insects like bees, soldier beetles, syrphid flies, lacewings, and ladybugs are the ultimate non-toxic pest control because they naturally attack harmful aphids, doing

the work for you!

These beneficial insects are often more sensitive to pesticides than the pests you want to kill; after the pesticide has eliminated the beneficial insects, the pests are free to multiply. That's why pesticides should only be used as a last resort and should be the least toxic product available that's designed to kill your specific target pest. Go to www.cleanwaterprogram.org for more information.

Healthier Indoor Plants



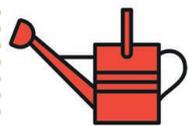
The last thing you want is for your indoor plants to attract insects. Here are a few non-toxic recipes for fighting common indoor plant pests:

Spider mites: Fill up a spray bottle with 40% isopropyl alcohol, 40%

water, and 20% dish soap then spray each leaf of the plant (top and bottom). Gently wipe the plant clean.

Fungus gnats: Fill up a squirt bottle with 20% hydrogen peroxide (3% strength) and 80% water and spray it on the plant's soil. Make sure the top layer of soil is dry before watering plants with this solution. It's normal for the soil to fizz after application. To capture adult gnats, you can also add yellow sticky traps.

Caring for Your Plants



Knowing your plant's water, pruning, and fertilizer needs will keep your garden healthy. Follow these helpful tips to keep your plants in the best health, regardless of the season:

- Cover bare soil with mulch. Using a four-inch layer of mulch consisting of leaves, bark, compost, and/or garden waste will provide organic matter to the soil and a steady flow of nutrients and moisture. It also will prevent most annual weeds from growing.
- Don't pile soil around the plant any higher than the root crown. Additionally, avoid planting in a depression that allows for water to wash soil down and cover the root crown. A continually moist root crown can cause rot.
- During the first two growing seasons, deeply water new plants twice a week so that their roots will grow down into the soil.
- Learn how and when to appropriately prune your plants. While pruning is beneficial, severe pruning can damage the plant and encourage pests and diseases.
- Make sure your plants get watered regularly, especially in the hot weather. Even plants that are drought-resistant require regular watering to become established.
- If you need to fertilize, use organic, slow-release fertilizers.
- Try to avoid pesticides, but if you cannot, make sure you dispose of unused toxic products properly by taking them to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 41149 Boyce Rd. For more information about free drop-off of household hazardous waste, go to www.Fremont.gov/Environment.

How to Reduce Your Use of Single Use Disposables



ToGo/Curbside Orders

When ordering to-go and eating at home, tell the restaurant you don't need disposable items like utensils, napkins, and condiment packets in your bag. This will save the restaurant money and free up space in that junk drawer.

Food Delivery

Some food delivery apps have the option to say no to disposable items. If your request is not honored or you don't see this option, tell these apps that this is something you want.



BYO Bags

Bring your own bags to the grocery store. You may use reusable bags if you're bagging your own items and the store's employees don't have to handle them. Remember to wash reusable bags regularly!

Pro Tip

Switch to cloth napkins, "unpaper" towels, or rags in place of paper towels at home. Use different cloths for specific tasks like cleaning, hand drying, or to use while you're eating.



Practice waste reducing steps when shopping or ordering food and soon they'll become a habit. Bring your own bags and say "no thanks" to unwanted disposables.

Disposable Masks, Gloves & Wipes Go in the Garbage



Photo: Mary Cabral Poir



Please don't let masks, gloves, and wipes become litter. They are not recyclable and should not be left in streets or parking lots.

City of Fremont

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PRESRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
P A I D
FREMONT CA
PERMIT NO. 31

*****ECRWSSDDM*****
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

As a result of COVID-19...

- Are you struggling to pay rent?
- Do you owe your landlord past due rent?
- Do you owe past due payments on utility bills?
- Are you a landlord who is owed rent?



**Keep Fremont
Housed** 
Rental Assistance Program

In April 2021, as part of a federal relief package, the City's Human Services Department will be launching *Keep Fremont Housed* to assist eligible Fremont households and landlords financially impacted by COVID-19.

Keep Fremont Housed program will:

- Help renters pay past due rent or future rent
- Help renters get caught up on utility bills
- Help landlords who are owed rent

Program Eligibility for Renters

- Rental unit must be located in Fremont
- Renter has household income at or below 80% of Area Median Income
- Renter qualifies for unemployment or has experienced reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19
- Renter demonstrates risk of experiencing housing instability or homelessness

Priority given to households who have experienced unemployment for 90 days preceding their program application or have a household income at or below 50% of Area Median Income

Sign up now to receive future updates about
Keep Fremont Housed via email:
Visit [Fremont.gov/RentalAssistanceList](https://www.fremont.gov/RentalAssistanceList)
or call Family Resource Center at 510-574-2028

