

El Cerrito Voters Approve Measure R Extension

IN NOVEMBER, 2014, El Cerrito voters approved the extension of Measure R at the one percent sales tax rate for twelve years. This revenue will enable the City to maintain its current level of programs and services. The new sales tax rate will go into effect on April 1, 2015 and will sunset (end) on March 31, 2027.

Since the original measure passed in 2010 at the half-cent rate, Measure R has generated revenue that was essential to maintaining the high level of city services over the past four years such as 9-1-1 emergency response, police patrols, and fire protection.

Thanks to voters, Measure R will allow the City to continue to fulfill its commitment to community priorities. Those priorities include to maintain current levels of public safety, including police services, neighborhood patrols, crime prevention programs, and rapid 9-1-1 response times, as well as after-school programs and maintenance of city parks, playfields, paths, and open spaces.

The City prides itself on transparent and fiscally prudent financial practices, which include citizen participation in the annual budgeting process, mandatory financial audits, and reports to the community. This same level of financial accountability is required by the new Measure R. These practices continue to ensure that all voter-approved funds are spent as promised.

The development, adoption, and implementation of El Cerrito's budget is a complex undertaking that will impact everyone. We welcome community participation in this process. To learn about the different ways that you can get involved with budget planning, contact Finance Director Lisa Malek-Zadeh at **215-4312**.

Smoke Free El Cerrito—Starting Jan. 1

TOBACCO USE CAUSES death and disease and continues to be an urgent public health challenge. Secondhand smoke puts non-smokers at risk for death and disease too. When smokers toss their cigarette butts, it is not only unattractive, but it can harm wildlife and pollute local waterways such as creeks and the bay.

El Cerrito has a Strategic Plan goal of ensuring public health and safety. To help meet this goal, the City Council adopted

a comprehensive Smoking Pollution Protection ordinance in October.

Effective January 1, 2015, the new law prohibits smoking in public places, commercial areas, and multi-unit residences in El Cerrito. The prohibition extends 25 feet around all designated non-smoking areas. These include the areas listed below and schools, as well as other areas covered by State or Federal law.

100% SMOKE-FREE PARKS, OPEN SPACE, AND PUBLIC PLACES

- Parks, playgrounds, and sports fields
- Recreation areas
- Open space
- Trails
- City-owned facilities, including buildings, grounds, and parking lots
- Public sidewalks, including sidewalks in residential areas
- Public events, such as farmers' markets, festivals, food events, and recreation events

► **SMOKING:** Page 5

News AND Views

Upcoming Events	Pages 2-3
Dynamo Golf Scramble	Page 3
Community Choice Aggregation	Page 4
Sustainable Guidelines	Page 4
Stop Smoking Resources	Page 5
Tobacco Retailer Licensing	Page 5
December Toy Program	Page 5
EDPD on Social Media	Page 6
Wall of Fame Profile: Jean Siri	Page 6
Emergency Preparedness Drill	Page 7
Become a WriterCoach Volunteer	Page 7
Street Tree Pruning	Page 7
Newly Elected Officials	Page 8



UPCOMING EVENTS!

Saturday, December 13 through Friday, December 26 SHADI HOLIDAY DISPLAY

Enjoy an El Cerrito tradition! Take your family and friends to visit the Shadi Holiday Display showing Bethlehem on Christmas Eve. This folk art installation was created by Sundar Shadi as a gift of peace to the community. For information, call Jane Bartke at 235-1315 or visit www.shadiholidaydisplay.com.



When: 5–10 p.m.

Where: Moeser Lane above
Sea View Drive

Week of December 22 Week of December 29 HOLIDAY BREAK CAMP

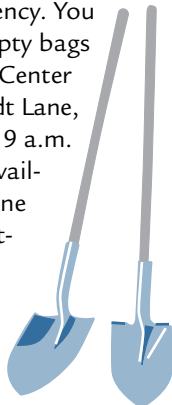
Open to students in grades K–6. Campers will enjoy holiday activities, gift projects, and more. For more details and registration information, contact the Recreation Department at 559-7000 or go online to www.el-cerrito.org/recreation.

When: December 22, 23, 26, 29, and 30, and January 2

Where: El Cerrito Community Center
7007 Moeser Lane

SANDBAGS AVAILABLE!

DURING WET WINTER weather, the City provides up to ten (10) sandbags per household to residents with proof of residency. You can pick up the empty bags from the Recycling Center Office, 7501 Schmidt Lane, Monday to Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sand is available on Schmidt Lane on a first-come-first-served basis. You will need to fill the bags yourself, but shovels will be provided.



Wednesday, December 24 through Friday, January 2 WINTER BREAK

City Hall and Fire Administration will be closed from Wednesday, December 24 through Friday, January 2, reopening on Monday, January 5. The Community Center, Senior Center, Swim Center, Recycling Center Office and Police Administrative Office will all have modified hours. Visit the City's website to see schedules for these facilities.

There will be no curbside collection of garbage, green waste, or recycling on December 25 or January 1. All collections during the break will be one day later than usual, for example Friday collections will be on Saturdays. The usual schedule resumes on Monday, January 5. For collection details, call 215-4350 or visit www.ecenvironment.org.

Monday, January 19 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

City offices including City Hall, the Recreation Department office, and the Recycling Center will be closed. Curbside collection of recycling, green waste, and garbage will take place on their scheduled days.

Monday, January 19 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Join in the annual parade from the El Cerrito DMV to El Cerrito High School, and attend a spirited rally at the ECHS Performing Arts Center celebrating the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The City of El Cerrito, St. Peter Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the El Cerrito Branch of the NAACP, and the West Contra Costa County Unified School District proudly cosponsor this event. For information, call event coordinator Patricia Durham at 234-2518 or visit www.el-cerrito.org/mlk.

Parade: Gather, 9 a.m.
Parade starts, 9:30 a.m.
DMV, 6400 Manila Ave.

Rally: 10:30 a.m.–12 noon
at the ECHS Theater
540 Ashbury Ave.

Sunday, February 8 FAMILY SWEETHEART DANCE

Put on your dancing shoes and bring your little someone special to our Family Sweetheart Dance! Open to all ages. Dancing, refreshments, and photo booth included.

Tickets are \$12 for a family of four; purchase of pre-sale tickets is encouraged. Register for tickets online at www.el-cerrito.org/recreation (Activity #46777-01) or call the Recreation Department at 559-7015.

When: 3–5 p.m.

Where: El Cerrito Community Center
7007 Moeser Lane



Monday, February 16 PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY

City offices including City Hall, the Recreation Department office, and the Recycling Center will be closed. Curbside collection of recycling, green waste, and garbage will take place on their scheduled days.



Starting February 26 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING

Are you and your family ready for the next earthquake? Do you want to be better prepared to help your neighbors during a disaster? Attend the Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) on Thursday nights, February 26–April 16. Can't attend weekly classes? Check out the CERT Boot Camp (one day class) offered on April 11. Free. To register, or for more details, call 215-4450 or visit www.el-cerrito.org/fire/cert.

When: 6:30 p.m.–9 p.m.

Where: Arlington Clubhouse
1120 Arlington Ave.

**Monday, March 2
through Sunday, March 8
COMPOST GIVEAWAY**

El Cerrito residents (with proof of residency) may collect up to 6 cubic feet of free recycled compost, while supplies last. Bags, containers, and shovels not provided (please bring your own).

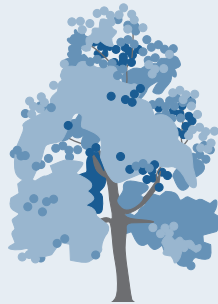
When: 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Where: Recycling + Environmental Resource Center
7501 Schmidt Lane

**March 7–14
ARBOR WEEK**

In collaboration with the El Cerrito Garden Club, the City will host a public tree planting event during Arbor Week.

Look for details in February at <http://www.el-cerrito.org/trees> or call City Arborist Stephen Pree at 559-7685.



**Saturday, March 14
Saturday, April 25
CPR/FIRST AID CLASSES**

The El Cerrito–Kensington Fire Department offers classes in CPR and Basic First Aid, with priority registration for El Cerrito and Kensington residents. Space is limited. Call 215-4450 or email fire@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

When: Two classes on each date
CPR, 8:30 a.m.–noon;
First Aid, 1 p.m.–4 p.m.

Where: March 14
El Cerrito Senior Center
6500 Stockton Avenue
April 25
Arlington Community Church
52 Arlington Ave., Kensington



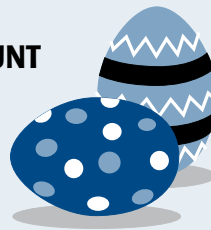
**Wednesday, April 1
GARDEN CONTEST DEADLINE**

Nominate your favorite El Cerrito garden for consideration in the El Cerrito Garden Club annual contest! Some of the criteria that judges will consider are design, creativity, environmental friendliness, drought tolerance, use of native plantings, and lawn removal. Gardens must be visible from the street. Entry form online at www.el-cerrito.org/ECGC-contest. Your entry must be received by the Club by April 1 (no fooling!).

**Saturday, April 4
ANNUAL EGG HUNT**

Children enjoy this traditional egg hunt with candy and treats. There will also be a visit from a very special bunny.

When: 10 a.m. sharp
Where: Arlington Park
1120 Arlington Blvd.



**Monday, April 13
DYNAMO GOLF**

See the article at right for details.

**Saturday, April 18
EARTH DAY**

Want to help spruce up your neighborhood park or assist with maintenance in the Hillside Natural Area? Or do you have an idea for a beautification project?

Work parties take place at various locations around town, followed by a free lunch at the Community Center. Contact us if you have an idea for a new project and would like to get involved. For more information, or to register to volunteer, visit www.el-cerrito.org/earthday or call 215-4350.



Annual Dynamo Golf Scramble

PLAY FOR A great cause! Join the 18th Annual Dynamo Golf Scramble on Monday, April 13, at the Mira Vista Country Club in El Cerrito. The Scramble benefits recreation programs for youth and seniors.

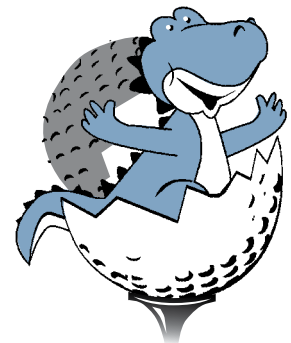
The Dynamo Golf Scramble is the City's largest fundraiser for both the David Hunter Memorial Youth Scholarship Fund and the Open House Senior Center Trust Fund.

The David Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund helps youth who otherwise could not afford to participate in the wide-ranging recreational and educational activities offered by the Recreation Department. In 2014, the David Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund provided nearly \$12,000 in scholarship awards.

The Open House Senior Center provides useful and enjoyable programs and services for older adults—from the vigorous and independent to the frail and vulnerable.

The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. All levels of play are welcome (best-ball format). The entry fee of \$130 per person or \$500 per Foursome includes a cart, 18-hole game, lunch, and awards. For more information, or for a registration form, go online to <http://www.el-cerrito.org/recreation> or visit the El Cerrito Community Center.

The Annual Dynamo Golf Scramble would not be possible without the support of local businesses. We are still welcoming 2015 sponsors—contact Chris Jones at cjones@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us, or 559-7005, if you would like to join other community members in underwriting this event.



El Cerrito Considers Community Choice Aggregation

THE CITY COUNCIL is considering having the City join Marin Clean Energy (MCE) to give electric customers in El Cerrito the opportunity to purchase greener, affordable electricity as an alternative to PG&E. MCE is a not-for-profit power agency that partners with PG&E to provide electricity services. This arrangement is known as Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). MCE currently provides electricity and related programs in Marin County, Napa County, and the City of Richmond, and will begin serving the Cities of San Pablo and Benicia early next year.

WHAT IS CCA?

In 2002, California passed a Community Choice Aggregation law (AB 117) that enables public agencies and Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs) to combine the electricity demands of their constituents to more easily acquire electricity from preferred sources. Partnering with MCE, PG&E still handles electric delivery and power line maintenance. It sends a monthly bill for these services. MCE takes over PG&E's job of determining power sources, called electric generation. So instead of paying PG&E for both electric delivery and generation services, customers pay MCE for generation and PG&E for delivery.

IS ELECTRICITY FROM MCE CLEANER?

By acquiring a greater percentage of electricity from renewable electricity generators (such as solar and wind power), MCE supports new in-state and local renewable energy projects and is able to reduce the percentage of fossil fuel energy in the electricity purchased by its customers. At present, MCE offers customers the choice of purchasing 50-100% renewable energy at prices lower than PG&E's.

HOW DO INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES JOIN?

Participation in a CCA is automatic for all electricity account holders within a jurisdiction that offers CCA, but customers who do not want to participate and prefer to purchase power from PG&E can opt out of the CCA. The transition to CCA service is seamless since the energy transmission, distribution, repair,

most customer service, and billing are still administered by PG&E.

WHY IS THE CITY INTERESTED?

The El Cerrito Climate Action Plan (CAP), adopted May 2013, identified joining a CCA as one of the more cost-effective ways to reduce the pollution that causes climate change, because it results in large reductions in greenhouse gas emissions with very little financial investment on the part of the City.

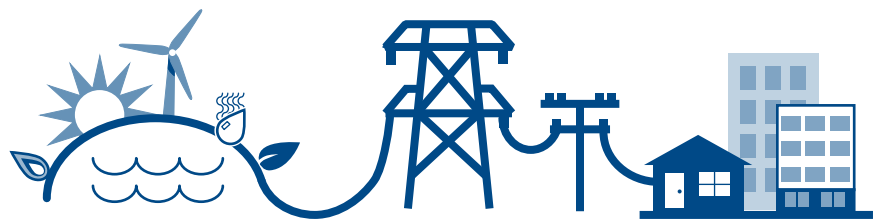
The City's Environmental Quality Committee has discussed CCA and the possibility of joining MCE multiple times during 2013-14. In November, the City Council held a study session to consider the risks and benefits of joining Marin Clean Energy. At that session, they elected to further explore membership in MCE. The City has hosted several forums to gather community input, including a community workshop that was held on

December 3, and has also taken feedback through its online engagement forum, Open El Cerrito.

NEXT STEPS

On December 16, the City Council will hold a public hearing to consider joining MCE. A second reading of the ordinance to join MCE is scheduled for the following City Council meeting on January 6, 2015. If the City Council elects to join MCE, MCE will begin a multilingual community outreach process to explain to El Cerrito customers that they have the option of remaining with PG&E.

Visit www.el-cerrito.org/CCAforum to view and take part in the community conversation about joining MCE. For more information, visit www.el-cerrito.org/CCAforum or contact Maria Sanders in the Operations and Environmental Services Division at **215-4361** or msanders@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.



RENEWABLE ENERGY
Electric Generation
MCE

SAME SERVICE AS ALWAYS
Electric Delivery
PG&E

YOUR COMMUNITY CHOICE
A Greener Electric Option
YOU

GRAPHIC COURTESY MCE

Guidelines for a Sustainable Future

TWO LONG-RANGE PLANNING efforts, the Active Transportation Plan and the Urban Greening Plan, will be released for public comment in early 2015. The City needs community input on these two draft plans to help in developing a more sustainable, accessible, and vibrant El Cerrito.

The Urban Greening Plan is a citywide plan to establish new green and open spaces and to enhance existing spaces. The Plan also recommends a set of projects, policies and programs to support a greener El Cerrito.

The Active Transportation Plan updates the 2007 Circulation Plan for

Bicyclists and Pedestrians. It proposes new priority projects and policies to close gaps in the transportation network and provide more flexibility for community members who want to work, learn, shop, and play without having to use their cars.

To learn about the public comment period, review the draft Plans when they are released, or receive ongoing information about the two plans, please call Emily Alter, Community Planning Analyst, at **215-4385**, email ealter@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us, or go online to www.el-cerrito.org/CommDev.

Resources to Help You Quit Smoking

IF YOU ARE a smoker and want help quitting, there are resources to help you quit. It's the single most important action a person can take to improve his or her health. To learn about resources available to help you or a loved one stop smoking, go online to the Contra Costa County Tobacco Prevention Project's webpage at <http://cchealth.org/tobacco/time-to-quit-smoking.php>.

You can also call the California Smokers' Helpline to receive self-help materials, a referral list of other

programs, and one-on-one counseling over the phone. Services are available in multiple languages and specialized services are also available for teens, pregnant women, and tobacco chewers. The Helpline also provides information to the friends and families of tobacco users.

All Helpline services are free of charge to anyone in California. The Helpline has been in operation since 1992 and is funded by both the California Department of Public Health and First 5 California.

English	1-800-NO BUTTS
Chinese	1-800-838-8917
Korean	1-800-556-5564
Spanish	1-800-45-NO-FUME
TDD/TYY	1-800-933-4TDD
Vietnamese	1-800-778-8440

Tobacco Retailer Licensing Program Under Consideration

DURING THE DISCUSSION regarding the Smoking Pollution Protection Ordinance, the City Council directed staff to also develop an ordinance to regulate the sales of tobacco products by businesses in El Cerrito.

Strong tobacco retailer licensing ordinances have been proven to reduce illegal tobacco sales to minors and encourage compliance with local, state and federal tobacco laws in other communities. For example, after Contra Costa County adopted a tobacco

retailer license, the illegal sales rate in the unincorporated areas of the County decreased from 37% to 7%.

It is expected that the City Council will consider adopting a tobacco retailer license ordinance in early 2015. For more information, or to comment on the proposed ordinance, please contact Suzanne Iarla, Community Outreach Specialist, at **215-4318** or siarla@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

Richmond/El Cerrito Toy Program

FOR OVER 20 years, the Richmond/El Cerrito Firefighters' Annual Toy Program has brought cheer to disadvantaged children in West Contra Costa County. Firefighters work with the Richmond Police and the Coronado YMCA providing toys through the Toy Program and food through the Richmond Police Department's Food Basket Program.

Monetary donations to the Toy Program can be made throughout the year on the Toy Program website, or at any Richmond or El Cerrito Fire Station.

If you are a business owner or event planner in West County and would like to host a toy donation barrel, contact Firefighter Rob Murphy of the ECFD at **215-4450**. A colorful donation barrel can be delivered at your convenience. Barrels can also be provided for special events such as holiday work parties.

For more information, please contact the Richmond/El Cerrito Firefighters Toy Program at www.toyprogram.org, info@toyprogram.org, or **774-5133**.

SMOKING: Continued from page 1

100% SMOKE FREE COMMERCIAL AREAS

- Places of employment (public or private)
- Shopping Centers
- Outdoor dining areas
- Sidewalks
- Service areas, including bus stops, ATM lines, and taxi stands
- Hotels/Motels

100% SMOKE FREE MULTI-UNIT HOUSING AND COMMON AREAS

- Insides of all existing units and any new units yet to be built
- All shared spaces, indoor and outdoor, including patios, balconies, garages, carports, laundries, and eating areas

Landlords of multi-unit housing are required to include smoking prohibitions in their new leases, effective January 1, 2015. Changes to existing leases must be implemented by October 1, 2015, or at the time of lease renewal, whichever is sooner. All multi-unit housing provisions must be met by October 1, 2015.

RESOURCES

Landlords and employers can download an FAQ sheet and other resources from www.el-cerrito.org/smokefree. If you have any questions about the smoke pollution protection regulations, please contact Karen Pinkos, Assistant City Manager at kpinkos@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or **215-4302**.





Connect with the El Cerrito Police Department on Variety of Social Media

THE CITY POLICE Department (ECPD) is active on many types of social media and offers a choice of new ways for the public to learn more about its work, making it easier than ever for community members to get the facts about public safety. You can connect with the ECPD online using the following programs:

Nixle Alerts: To receive free public alerts, register at www.nixle.com. These

are usually weekly summaries of criminal activity, information about public safety hazards, in-progress crime or traffic hazard bulletins, as well as announcements of public outreach events. Nixle alerts can be received on your smart phone via text messages, email, or the Nixle app.

You can also read the Nixle alerts on both of the websites mentioned.

Twitter: Both the ECPD and Police Chief Moir are on Twitter. By signing up, anyone can *follow* the Department. Followers are first to hear about public outreach programs. Posts also include crime prevention tips, department news, recruitment, and information about Explorers, volunteers, the K-9 unit, and more. Look for us at [@elcerritopd](https://twitter.com/elcerritopd) and [@ecpdchief](https://twitter.com/ecpdchief). The City of El Cerrito is also on Twitter at [@cityofelcerrito](https://twitter.com/cityofelcerrito) and the Recreation Department is at [@ElCerritoREC](https://twitter.com/ElCerritoREC).

CrimeReports: To view a digital pin map of crimes reported to the ECPD go to www.crimereports.com. Sign up for notifications of all crimes, specific types of crimes, or crimes occurring in the area of one or more addresses. The crime reports are also available on a crime reports app.

ECPD App: The El Cerrito Police Department released a department app earlier this year. The ECPD app features contact information, safety tips, information from the school resource officers, press releases, community information, a place for people to commend an officer, and other data. You can also use it to submit anonymous tips, receive notifications of public information, or to create an inventory (with optional photographs) of your personal property to help in recovery of the property in case of theft.

For more information about how the Police Department uses social media to help fulfill its commitment to service, safety, and enhancing the public trust, visit www.el-cerrito.org/police or contact Samantha Wendling at **215-4410**.

WALL OF FAME PROFILE

Jean Siri

JEAN SIRI WAS inducted into the El Cerrito's Wall of Fame in 1995. She was honored for her long history of public service as Mayor of El Cerrito, Stege Sanitary District Board member, East Bay Regional Parks District Director, and County Homeless Advisory Committee Member. Siri was also known for her work on environmental and social justice issues, lobbying for clean air and clean water in Contra Costa County. She was deeply involved in the Save the Bay organization. In addition, Siri advocated for the rights of the elderly and homeless.

During World War II, Siri served as a member of the U.S. Navy's WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). She met her husband, William Siri, while working at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and quit her lab job in 1952 to raise their two daughters, Ann and Lynn. She passed away in 2006.

WALL OF FAME

The El Cerrito Wall of Fame, located in the El Cerrito City Hall, recognizes residents who have made significant contributions to the community, over an extended period of time, through their work on special projects. The first honoree was Sundar Shadi in 1990. Most recently, Tom Panas was inducted in 2014 in recognition of



his significant contributions and efforts in preserving and sharing the history of El Cerrito.

The El Cerrito Wall of Fame includes Sundar Shadi (1990), Louis & Bettianne Flynn (1991), Arthur Schroeder (1992), Doreen Spellmann (1992), Don West (1993), Jean Siri (1995), Elmer Freethy (1995), Marvin Collins (1995), Nancy Gans (1996) Charles & Lucy Wilson (1999), Miriam Wilkins (2008), Richard Bartke (2011), Rose Lernberg (2011), Roy Mespelt (2011), Al Miller (2011), Jane Bartke, (2012), Amy Shinsako (2012), Tom Panas (2014).

To nominate an El Cerrito resident to the Wall of Fame, submit an application by March 9th. The application and guidelines for nomination and selection are available from the City Clerk, 215-4305.

WriterCoach Connection to Train New Volunteers

THANKS TO ITS volunteers, WriterCoach Connection (WCC), in partnership with local middle and high schools, has been providing one-to-one coaching in writing to El Cerrito students since 2010.

WriterCoach Connection is seeking new volunteer coaches for the spring 2015 semester. WCC welcomes parents, college students, working and retired people from diverse backgrounds. Volunteers must be proficient in English and make a commitment of 1-2 school day hours, 2-4 times a month. WCC will provide free training and on-going support. There will be several trainings in the



Spring, including the following trainings offered in El Cerrito:

- Mondays, January 26 and February 2 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- Fridays, January 30 and February 6 from noon to 3 p.m.

Other trainings will be offered in Richmond, Berkeley, and Oakland.

This is a much-appreciated volunteer activity. “Thank you for the help and the laughter,” one student told her WriterCoach at the end of the semester. Another WCC volunteer knew coaching was for her when a student told her that his mom had posted his first B+ writing assignment on the family refrigerator.

Founded 14 years ago, WriterCoach Connection has trained over 650 volunteers to serve more than 2,200 students in four east Bay school districts, including Korematsu Middle School and El Cerrito High School.

For information and to register, visit www.writercoachconnection.org and click “volunteer training.” Email volunteer.ecwcc@gmail.com for questions.

City Practices Response to Health Emergency

IN NOVEMBER, LOCAL health departments across the Bay Area participated in a regional drill to better prepare communities to survive large-scale health emergencies.

As part of the exercise, the City of El Cerrito and Contra Costa Health Services practiced delivering emergency supplies at a mock “point-of-dispensing” (POD) site. A POD site is where life-saving medication could be distributed to the public in a health emergency.

“This exercise provided an opportunity to put our plans into practice as a region. In Contra Costa County, we were excited that El Cerrito agreed to partner with us in our efforts to help save lives and prevent illness,” said Kim Cox, Emergency Services Manager for Contra Costa Public Health.

The exercise was held at the El Cerrito Community Center and included participants from Contra Costa Health Services, the cities of El Cerrito and San Pablo, the American Red Cross, and CERT members. Students from Pinole Valley High School Health Academy, DeAnza Health Academy, and the Contra Costa College nursing program participated, as did many individual community members. Some volunteers acted as disaster service workers in the POD, while others acted as clients.

Training exercises such as these help the City and partnering agencies to plan for and respond rapidly to disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires, hazardous material spills, or acts of terrorism.

To see photos from the exercise, visit www.el-cerrito.org/drill or go to [Facebook.com/CoCoHealthServices](https://www.facebook.com/CoCoHealthServices).

If you would like to learn more about how to better prepare yourself and your family for a disaster, visit **Ready.gov** and consider participating in the next El Cerrito– Kensington Fire Department’s Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program. For details, go online to www.el-cerrito.org/fire/cert or see the CERT listing on page 2.



Street Tree Pruning

THE CITY IS responsible for the management of the trees in all public open spaces, as well as those on parking strips and medians. The City’s new street tree care program is designed to evaluate and prune all street trees every 5 to 7 years.

During the fall, the City’s contractor performed pruning in Pruning Zone One (south end of town). To find your pruning zone, visit www.el-cerrito.org/trees. To report issues with public trees in the public right of way, please contact the Operations and Environmental Services Division at lbrazil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or **215-4369**.

City of El Cerrito
City Hall
10890 San Pablo Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OAKLAND, CA
PERMIT #2508

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL:
PLEASE DELIVER BY DECEMBER 13, 2014

ECR-WSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



The City of El Cerrito serves, leads and supports our diverse community by providing exemplary and innovative services, public places and infrastructure, ensuring public safety and creating an economically and environmentally sustainable future.

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

Janet Abelson
Jan Bridges
Mark Friedman
Greg Lyman
Gabriel Quinto

CITY WEBSITE www.el-cerrito.org

TWITTER @cityofelcerrito
@ElCerritoREC
@ElCerritoPD

City Hall Holidays (office closed):

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—Jan. 19
President's Day—Feb. 16

City Council winter/spring meetings:

December 16
January 6 and 20
February 3 and 17
March 3 and 17

Regular Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave. Schedules are subject to change; check the website for updates. Regular Council meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Cable channel 28 and KECG, 88.1 FM radio.

To watch meetings online, go online to www.el-cerrito.org and click on the "Streaming Media" link.

The City Council meeting agenda packet is available at least three days prior to each City Council meeting at: <http://www.el-cerrito.org/archive>.

CITY HALL (All area codes 510)

10890 San Pablo Ave.
City Management
City Clerk 215-4305
City Council 215-4305
City Manager 215-4300
Human Resources 215-4315

Community Development Department

Building 215-4360
Code Enforcement 215-4374
Planning 215-4330
Economic Development 215-4362
Housing 215-4358

Finance 215-4310

Public Works

After-Hours Emergency 237-3233
Corporation Yard 215-4369
Engineering 215-4382
Maintenance 215-4369
Recycling & Waste Management 215-4350
Recycling + Environmental Resource Center
7501 Schmidt Lane

Community Center

7007 Moeser Lane
Recreation Department 559-7000
Park/Facility Rentals 559-7004
Swim Center 559-7011

The Open House Senior Center

6500 Stockton Ave.
Senior Services 559-7677

Public Safety Building

10900 San Pablo Ave.
Emergency 911
Police/Fire/Medical Dispatch 237-3233
Fire Administration 215-4450
Police Administration 215-4400

Your Local Elected Officials

ON NOVEMBER 4TH, voters elected two new El Cerrito City Council members. Your current City Council members are:

- Janet Abelson (term ends 2018)
- Jan Bridges (term ends 2016)
- Mark Friedman (term ends 2016)
- Greg Lyman (term ends 2016)
- Gabriel Quinto (term ends 2018)

Each December, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor for the upcoming year.

Information about your City Council and a council meeting schedule are included on the back page of every issue of this newsletter. For more information visit www.el-cerrito.org/councilmeetings. To learn more about the City Council, contact City Clerk Cheryl Morse at cmorse@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us or call 215-4305.

