

## Celebrate Independence Day in El Cerrito

EVERYONE IS INVITED to the 17th annual City of El Cerrito and worldOne July 4th Festival in Cerrito Vista Park on Saturday, July 4! This long-running event offers daytime family fun and entertainment from all over the globe. Admission is free.

The Festival begins on Friday night, July 3rd, at 5 p.m., in Cerrito Vista Park. There will be a free performance by the El Cerrito High School Jazz Ensemble, with special guest musician Erik Jekabson. Bring your own blanket or low-back chair.

On Saturday, July 4th, the following performers will appear on the main stage:

- Rust Duet (Classical)
- Gamelan Sekar Jaya (Bali/Gamelan)
- Suhaila Salimpour (Middle East/Belly)
- Caribbean Allstars
- Carlitos Medrano (Cuban Salsa Orchestra)
- Klaxon Mutant All Stars (Jazz)
- Andre Thierry (Zydeco)

Other performers include DJ Doug Wendt, DJ Gregg McVicar, MCDJ worldOnelove, BrasArte, Hoopin' Heather, Mohawk Round Dance, Magical Nathaniel, and the always-popular Circus Imagination!



Kids can enjoy carnival rides and games, face painting, and bounce houses.

The El Cerrito Art Association's annual 4th of July Art Show and Sale will include the work of local artists. Food stalls will feature food from around the world, as well as delicious carnival treats.

You'll find crafts, toys, clothing, books, jewelry, and accessories for sale, and valuable information about local organizations and clubs.

There is limited street parking in the area. Free bike valet parking will be available on Moeser Lane. Dogs are not allowed at the event.

The City of El Cerrito and worldOne Radio KECG-88.1 FM thanks Honda of El Cerrito, Marin Clean Energy (MCE), Stege Sanitary District, WCCUSD, East Bay Sanitary Company, and many other sponsors for their support.

For more information, call **559-7000** during office hours or go online to [www.el-cerrito.org/july4festival](http://www.el-cerrito.org/july4festival).



## News AND Views

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## UPCOMING EVENTS!

### Monday, June 8 through Friday, August 21 SUMMER DAY CAMPS!

Day camps for children of all ages are available throughout the Summer. The Recreation Department offers flexible programming so your child can attend a morning or afternoon camp or combine the two for a full day of care and fun! Visit [www.el-cerrito.org/recreation](http://www.el-cerrito.org/recreation) for more information and to register. Email [recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) or call 559-7000.

**When:** Monday Friday, 7am–6pm

**Where:** Register at the  
Community Center  
7007 Moeser Lane

### Through August 23 SWIM CENTER SUMMER HOURS

Summer hours at the Swim Center are in effect now. The Center offers exercise classes, lap swim, family swim, Splash Park, and party rentals! For more info, ask at the entrance, call 559-7011 or visit [www.el-cerrito.org/swimcenter](http://www.el-cerrito.org/swimcenter). Starting July 10, every Friday night is “Family Fun Night”—3 hours of open swim with special discounted rates.



**When:** Check schedule for  
open swim times

**Where:** Community Center  
7007 Moeser Lane

### Friday, July 3 ECHS JAZZ BAND CONCERT

Start your Independence Day celebration early with a free performance by the El Cerrito High School Jazz Ensemble. Bring your own blanket/chair and picnic dinner.



**When:** 5–7pm

**Where:** Cerrito Vista  
Park  
950 Pomona  
Avenue

### Saturday, July 4 JULY 4TH FESTIVAL

Happy Fourth of July! See page one for details, or for a list of vendors and performers, go online to [www.el-cerrito.org/july4festival](http://www.el-cerrito.org/july4festival).

**When:** 10 a.m.–6 p.m., music to 7 p.m.

**Where:** Cerrito Vista Park  
950 Pomona Avenue



### Wednesday, July 22 OFFICE HOURS FOR ASSEMBLYMEMBER THURMOND

Assemblymember Tony Thurmond is holding quarterly office hours in El Cerrito. Meet with a field representative on a drop-in basis. For more information, visit <http://asmcd.org/members/a15/>.

**When:** Noon–4 p.m.

**Where:** City Hall  
10890 San Pablo Avenue

### Saturday, August 1 through Sunday, August 2 RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay for Life is an overnight, community fundraising walk to support the American Cancer Society. For information or to register, contact Katie Capehart at [Kathleen.Capehart@cancer.org](mailto:Kathleen.Capehart@cancer.org).



**When:** 10 a.m., Saturday to  
10 a.m., Sunday

**Where:** Cerrito Vista Park  
950 Pomona Avenue

### Tuesday, August 4 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Host a block party, potluck, or ice cream social on National Night Out. NNO supports anticrime efforts, strengthens community, and promotes police–community partnerships. For more details, or to register your party with the City, visit [www.el-cerrito.org/nightout](http://www.el-cerrito.org/nightout) or call 215-4448.

**When:** Evening

**Where:** Your neighborhood

### Saturdays: August 1, September 5, and October 3 BAXTER CREEK WORK PARTIES

The City hosts monthly work days at Baxter Creek Gateway Park. Lend a hand to help keep this habitat clean and enjoyable for everyone by removing weeds and invasive plants, or by picking up litter. Tools, gloves and a light snack provided. There is a drinking fountain at the park but you may also want a water bottle. For more info, visit [www.el-cerrito.org/BaxterCreek](http://www.el-cerrito.org/BaxterCreek), or call 559-7685.



**When:** 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

**Where:** Conlon Avenue  
at the Ohlone Greenway

### Saturday, August 15 CPR/FIRST AID CLASS

Do you want to get certified in CPR and Basic First Aid, or renew an expiring certification? The Fire Department offers classes to the general public with priority registration for Kensington and El Cerrito residents. Advance registration required. Email [fire@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:fire@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) or call 215-4450.



**When:** 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Where:** Arlington Community Church  
52 Arlington Avenue  
Kensington

### Monday, August 24 WCCUSD SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

Did you know the City of El Cerrito Recreation Department offers state-licensed childcare at Fairmont, Harding, and Madera Elementary Schools? Email [recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:recreation@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) or call 559-7000 for more information.

For more about school boundaries and registrations, visit the West Contra Costa Unified School District website at [www.wccusd.net](http://www.wccusd.net) or call WCCUSD at 231-1195.

**Tuesday, August 25**

### **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**

Learn how to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors in a disaster. The 2015 fall Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training begins in August! Pre-register at **215-4450** or [www.el-cerrito.org/fire/cert](http://www.el-cerrito.org/fire/cert). Open to all El Cerrito and Kensington residents. Includes a hands-on drill.

**When:** Tuesdays through late October, 6:30–9 p.m.

**Where:** Arlington Community Church  
52 Arlington Avenue  
Kensington, CA

**Monday, September 7**

### **LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**

City administrative offices will be closed.

**Wednesday, September 9**

### **CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY**

See page 6 for details.

**Saturday, September 19**

### **TRI-CITY SAFETY DAY**

See page 7 for details.

**When:** 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

**Where:** El Cerrito Plaza (in front of Lucky supermarket)  
San Pablo and Fairmount Avenues

**Sunday, September 20**

### **MUSIC FOR MADERA**

El Cerrito Trail Trekkers will host a second annual musical fundraiser. Proceeds support habitat restoration in the City's Hillside Natural Area. Tickets are \$15. Details at [www.el-cerrito.org/maderaOS](http://www.el-cerrito.org/maderaOS) or email the Trail Trekkers at [davidsweinstein@yahoo.com](mailto:davidsweinstein@yahoo.com).

**When:** 1–6 p.m.

**Where:** El Cerrito Community Center  
7007 Moeser Lane

### **OCTOBER IS ARTS MONTH**

The City's Arts and Culture Commission is planning some exciting celebrations for National Arts Month in October. Stay tuned for details. To get involved, contact staff liaison, Suzanne Iarla, at **215-4318** or [siarla@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:siarla@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us).

## **Smoke Free Multi-Family Housing**

**T**O PROTECT THE public from the health hazards and environmental impacts of smoking, the El Cerrito City Council last year adopted the Smoking Pollution Protection Ordinance. It prohibits smoking in public places, commercial areas, and multi-unit residences. "Smoke" and "smoking" includes all forms of tobacco (including vaporizing with electronic smoking devices), marijuana, and other plant products.

Smoke-free zones around public places, commercial areas, public sidewalks, City-owned properties, parks, and open space went into effect on January 1. Provisions for multi-unit housing will be phased in by October 1. At that time, all housing with two (2) or more units must be smoke free. Smoking will be prohibited within 25 feet of patios, balconies, garages, carports, indoor, and outdoor common areas, as well as inside the rental units.

### **WHAT ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED OF LANDLORDS AND HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS?**

#### **Currently**

- Provide notice to tenants in writing.
- Include "No Smoking" clauses in all new and renewal rental agreements.

#### **By October 1**

- "No Smoking" signs in common areas.
- Remove ashtrays from common areas.
- Disclose the requirements of the Smoking Pollution Protection Ordinance to all prospective tenants and buyers.

Landlords and tenants can download an FAQ sheet (available in English, Spanish and Chinese) and other resources from [www.el-cerrito.org/smokefree](http://www.el-cerrito.org/smokefree). If you have any questions about the smoke pollution protection regulations, please call the Smokefree Information Hotline **215-4475** (recorded message/voicemail only) for more information or email [smokefree@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:smokefree@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us).

## **Sale of Tobacco Products**

**DURING THE DEVELOPMENT** of the Smoking Pollution Protection Ordinance in 2014, the City Council also directed staff to draft an ordinance to address regulating the sales of tobacco by businesses in El Cerrito. The City Council will consider adopting the proposed Tobacco Retailer Licensing Program this summer. The draft ordinance is available online and public comments are welcome. Go to [www.el-cerrito.org/trlo](http://www.el-cerrito.org/trlo) for more information, including when this will be presented to the City Council.

## **Water Conservation**

**D**UE TO THE severe drought in California, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD)



customers are expected to reduce their water use by 20 percent. To address California's critically low water supplies, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order on April 1, outlining new restrictions such as limiting landscape watering to two days per week between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. EBMUD expanded existing limits on outdoor water use and placed new limits on indoor use.

Visit EBMUD's WaterSmart Center at <https://ebmud.com/water-and-wastewater/watersmart-center> to find useful water conservation tips and links to free conservation devices and rebates. Free water conservation devices include low-flow shower heads, kitchen faucet aerators, and garden hose nozzles with shut-off valves. You can also find rebates for installing new washing machines, toilets, and irrigation equipment, or for converting a lawn to drought tolerant plants. To report water waste, visit <https://ebmud.com/report-water-waste>.



# El Cerrito Streets Now Among the Best in the Bay Area

**T**HIS YEAR, EL Cerrito was once again rated as having some of the best-paved streets in the Bay Area! But it hasn't always been a smooth ride in El Cerrito. Less than 10 short years ago, the pavement condition on local streets was among the ten worst in the Bay Area, and the City faced a backlog of street maintenance and repairs.

Transformation from “worst to among the first” was made possible by community support for intensive roadway rehabilitation work funded by the El Cerrito Pothole Repair, Local Street Improvement and Maintenance Measure, a ½ cent sales tax approved by voters as “Measure A” in February 2008. The program has been very successful, as demonstrated by the City’s Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating. (See box, page 5.)

The Measure A Street Improvement Program is an investment by the community in El Cerrito’s future and a commitment by the City to maintain and enhance the quality of life for residents and businesses. Annual monitoring of expenditures is provided by the City’s Citizens’ Street Oversight Committee, in keeping with El Cerrito’s tradition of transparency and fiscal accountability, to



*Deteriorating pavement and a rain-filled pothole show the condition of El Cerrito streets before Measure A improvements.*

ensure the work is done as approved by the City Council.

There were two phases to the Measure A Street Improvement Program: an initial intensive roadway rehabilitation phase, carried out in 2008–2011, and an ongoing maintenance program.

To rapidly improve El Cerrito’s street system in the most efficient way possible, the City committed to repair or resurface at least 70% of local streets within four years. To meet this ambitious goal, the City utilized bond financing. The City was able to further accelerate the program with state and federal grants, and by taking advantage of economic conditions.

The initial intensive roadway rehabilitation work plan focused on resurfacing streets to bring them up to good pavement condition, including fixing potholes and installing curb ramps. The City used three pavement resurfacing treatments (asphalt overlay or inlay, cape seal, and slurry seal), depending on pavement conditions and economic factors. The City replaced some failing storm drain pipes, curbs, and gutters, and also created curb ramps to meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## ACCELERATED WORK PLAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Originally, the accelerated work plan was scheduled to take five years. However, the City was able to complete it in less than four years:

- In 2008, the City repaired 500,000 square feet of potholes and other pavement failures, repaved 1.3 miles of streets, and constructed over 300 new curb ramps.
- In 2009, the City resurfaced 26.7 miles of streets, constructed 12 new curb



*(top) Bulldozer applies a cape seal treatment as part of the 2013–14 Street Improvement Project. (bottom) New traffic striping and pavement markers.*

ramps, and repaired 40 failing storm drains.

- In 2010, the City resurfaced 15.7 miles of streets, constructed 18 new curb ramps, and also repaired 16 inlets, 2 manholes, and 500 linear feet of failing storm drains.

## ONGOING STREET MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION

With completion of the accelerated work plan in 2011, the program entered phase two: ongoing maintenance of the roadway system to ensure the streets remain in good pavement condition, and major rehabilitation or reconstruction of a few distressed streets. In the last few years, the City has completed slurry seal, patch paving and miscellaneous pavement repair projects, and obtained additional state and federal funding to complete more significant work.

The two largest projects completed in the last few years are:

- The 2013–14 Street Improvement Project resurfaced 15 moderate- to severely-distressed pavement segments, using an asphalt rubber cape seal treatment. (This resurfacing treatment had also been used extensively and successfully in 2009 as a critical element of the City’s Accelerated Work Plan.) The project was funded through a \$354,000 State–Local Partnership Program (SLPP) grant and additional funds of \$479,000 provided by Measure A and completed in spring 2014.

- The 2014 Pavement Rehabilitation Project is currently underway and will repair the roadway surface on Colusa Avenue from Terrace Drive to Errol Drive, Fairmount Avenue from Richmond Street to Colusa Avenue, Manila Avenue, from Richmond Street to Kearney Avenue and Arlington Blvd from Arbor Drive to Villa Nueva Drive. The pavement treatment places a thin asphalt concrete overlay above the existing pavement surface. The project also includes replacement of areas of curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and driveways damaged by street trees; enhanced traffic striping; and replacement of street trees removed as part of the project. This project was funded through a \$630,000 One Bay Area Grant (OBAG), a federal grant and additional funds of \$380,000 provided by Measure A.

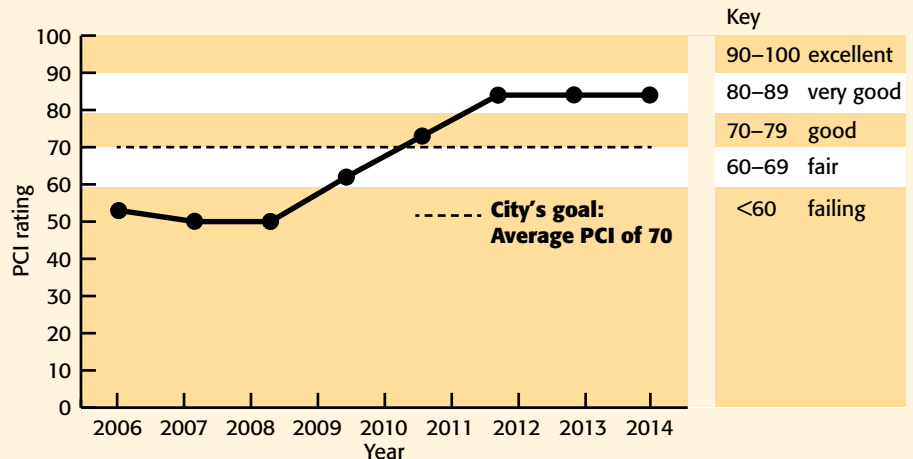
These two recent projects bring the percentage of all city street segments treated since 2008 to 89%. The City is currently developing a slurry seal project, anticipated to be completed in fall 2015, that would bring the total close to 95%.

# El Cerrito’s Pavement Condition Index

**ONE GOAL OF** the Measure A program was to raise the City’s Pavement Condition Index (PCI) from near 50 to 70 by 2015. This goal was surpassed in 2010 when the City achieved a score of 85.

The PCI is used by communities to rate streets on a 100-point scale. Failed streets are rated at 0 and excellent streets at 100. This rating system helps cities to determine what type of work is needed for each street, and to set priorities when choosing which streets to repair. It also allows communities to compare their pavement condition to that of other communities. This was the method used by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) when they rated El Cerrito’s streets among the best in the Bay Area for the past 3 years! In 2012, El Cerrito’s Measure A was highlighted in a short video by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission that can be found online at [http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/street\\_fight/](http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/street_fight/).

**MTC’s PCI Ratings for El Cerrito  
(three-year moving average)**



PCI scores of 90 or higher are considered “excellent.” These are newly built or resurfaced streets that show little or no distress. Pavement with a PCI score in the 80 to 89 range is considered “very good,” and requires primarily preventive maintenance. Pavement in the “good” category, including scores from 70 to 79, shows only slight or moderate distress. But streets with PCI scores in the “fair” range (60 to 69) are worn to the point where rehabilitation may be needed to prevent rapid deterioration.

## OTHER STREET IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to pavement projects, Measure A also funded some pedestrian, bicycle and traffic safety and management improvements:

- Moeser Lane and Ashbury Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Corridor Improvements
- Central and Liberty Streetscape Improvements

- Arlington Boulevard at Brewster Drive Curve Safety Improvements
- Traffic Safety and Management Program

Approximately \$420,000 in Measure A funds were used to leverage \$2.2 million in grant funds for the first three projects listed above. For more information about streets, please visit the City’s website at <http://ca-elcerrito.civicplus.com/index.aspx?NID=516>

# New Ways to Finance Efficiency and Seismic Improvements

**E**L CERRITO PROPERTY owners now have an exciting, new financing option for residential and commercial renewable energy; water and energy efficiency improvements; electric vehicle charging infrastructure; and seismic improvements.

In March, the City Council took action to make four Property Accessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs available to El Cerrito property owners. PACE financing allows property owners to finance certain upgrades through a lien that can be repaid by means of an assessment on their property tax bills.

## WHAT IS PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY FINANCING?

PACE financing allows property owners to fund energy efficiency, water efficiency, and renewable energy projects with few, if any, up-front costs. In some cases, seismic and other upgrades may also be eligible. Any property owner who qualifies for financing can choose to participate in the program.

## WHAT CAN BE FINANCED WITH PACE?

Improvements are considered eligible if they will become a permanent part of the property and reduce on-site electric, gas or water consumption. Some examples include attic insulation; heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment; solar photovoltaic and thermal systems; and low-flow toilets. For questions regarding specific product eligibility, contact PACE providers. (See below.) To be eligible, installation must be performed by a contractor certified by the PACE program.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

PACE providers finance different improvements. Contact individual providers for more information on eligible products. El Cerrito Property owners can choose from these four PACE programs:

- CaliforniaFIRST PACE Program, [www.CaliforniaFirst.org](http://www.CaliforniaFirst.org)

- AllianceNRG, [www.allianceNRG.com](http://www.allianceNRG.com)
- California HERO Program, [www.heroprogram.com](http://www.heroprogram.com)
- Figtree PACE program, [www.figtreefinancing.com](http://www.figtreefinancing.com)

Interested in making renewable energy or energy and water efficiency improvements for your home or business? Contact the City's Planning and Building Division at **215-4360** or email [building@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:building@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) for more information on permit requirements or clearances or a list of pre-qualified PACE contractors. Contractors can also perform an energy assessment that will help you find ways to save money on your energy bill and reduce your carbon footprint.

# Renew Your Business License

**DO YOU OPERATE** a business or own rental property in El Cerrito? If so, your business license expires on June 30. To avoid penalties, you need to renew no later than July 31.

Anyone who does business within city limits must obtain a business license. This includes residential and commercial landlords. Quarterly and semiannual licenses are available for some categories.

You may need other city, county, or state licenses or permits as well. For more information, go online to [www.el-cerrito.org/biz](http://www.el-cerrito.org/biz), contact Account Clerk Megan McDermott at **215-4335**, or email [mmcdermott@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:mmcdermott@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us).

# Citizens' Police Academy

**T**HE EL CERRITO Police Department (ECPD) hosts its fourth annual Citizens' Police Academy this fall. The Academy's mission is to provide the community with a deeper understanding of the Police Department and the complexity of modern law enforcement. Participants learn how the ECPD operates, the reasons behind our procedures, the profession of policing, and the standard of service in El Cerrito.

Topics include a K-9 Unit demonstration, a mock crime scene investigation, driving simulators, use-of-force simulators, and presentations by the traffic and school resources units. Each participant also gets to ride along with a patrol officer. Some program alumni have gone on to serve the community by becoming members of our Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Unit.

The next Citizens' Police Academy will begin on September 9. Classes will meet weekly for 8 weeks, plus one full Saturday in October.

The Academy is part of the ECPD's public outreach and partnership with our community. The experiences offered at the Citizens' Academy are similar to real-life situations faced by police officers, and can help participants to better understand the Police Department. The Academy also provides an opportunity for officers to hear from residents about their expectations of the department. The Citizens' Academy is one way to become more involved with the Police Department and the City of El Cerrito, and completion of the program can lead to volunteering with the ECPD.

Citizens' Academy participants must be 18 years or older, reside in El Cerrito, and pass a background check before being accepted into the program. (Note: Exceptions to the residency restriction will be considered on an individual basis.)

If you are interested in attending, please view our web page and enroll online at [www.el-cerrito.org/police/cpa](http://www.el-cerrito.org/police/cpa). For questions about the Academy, please call Lt. Robert De La Campa at **215-4448**.







A bomb squad robot demonstration at last year's Tri-City Safety Day.

## Bring the Family to Safety Day

**T**HIS YEAR'S TRI-CITY Safety Day will be an exciting one, informative and fun for the whole family!

Fire and Police Departments from the cities of El Cerrito, Kensington, Albany, and Richmond, as well as the East Bay Regional Park District, will showcase their finest equipment, perform demonstrations, and answer questions about their departments and operations. The UC Berkeley Bomb Squad will show off their bomb disposal robot in a show with an explosive climax! The El Cerrito Fire Department will perform a vehicle extrication demonstration as they chop apart a car with the "Jaws of Life" to rescue a trapped victim. Contra Costa County's Environmental Health HazMat team, with its space-age truck and equipment, will be there, as will the U.S. Secret Service to provide picture IDs and take fingerprints of your children for their national database. American Medical Response will have an ambulance at the fair, and the Red Cross, Animal Control, and FEMA will all have information booths to answer your questions.

There will be plenty of fun giveaways for everyone. The El Cerrito and Kensington Fire Department's Fire Safety House will host fire safety lessons and practice home fire escape drills, using a dramatic smoke-filled house.

For years, this has been the most exciting and informative safety fair in the region, and this year's promises to be even better.

Tri-City Safety Day will take place on September 19 at El Cerrito Plaza.

## New Police-Community Partnership

**T**HE POLICE DEPARTMENT is starting a voluntary security camera registration program as a way to enhance criminal investigations by partnering with the community to use technology to help solve crimes.

During criminal investigations, officers often conduct a neighborhood canvass, talking with residents in the area where the crime took place. Footage from security camera systems at residences, apartment buildings, and businesses has assisted El Cerrito police investigators in solving crimes, and has helped lead to the capture of criminal suspects in some cases.

Security camera footage aids in the arrest of suspects and plays a large role in the successful prosecution of offenders. By knowing where private security cameras are located, officers can identify cameras that might have footage showing a suspect or a vehicle license plate.

### HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

- The program is voluntary and administered by [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com), an ECPD partner. Their database is not maintained by the ECPD.
- The ECPD will only request footage as part of an investigation.
- During a criminal investigation, officers may go to a registered security camera address, and ask to review video from around the time of the crime in the presence of the security camera owner.
- You can opt out of the registration program at any time.

By sharing security camera footage, you can aid the ECPD in investigations and help keep our community safe. You can register your security camera system online at [www.crimereports.com/camera\\_registration#/agency/266](http://www.crimereports.com/camera_registration#/agency/266). Trouble registering? Call the ECPD at **215-4424**.

## Are You Thinking about Installing a Gray Water System?

**G**RAY WATER IS the water discharged from bathtubs, showers, clothes washing machines, and laundry tubs. The current (2013) California Plumbing Code stipulates very specific requirements for gray water systems.

Chapter 16 of the Plumbing Code includes provisions for both simple and complex gray water systems. Gray water should never be discharged in such a way that anyone could come in contact with it. Instead, the water should be discharged underground, below at least 2 inches of rock, mulch, or soil. The re-used water may be used to water a lawn or ornamental plants, but may not be used on fruit trees or vegetable gardens (anything edible), or be connected to a potable water system.

It is a good idea to consult with a landscape architect, or a plumber with experience in designing gray water systems, to help determine what will work best with your property and lifestyle.

Remember that the installation of gray water systems requires a permit and inspection from the City Building Division. Direct laundry-to-garden systems may be installed without a permit, but the Building Division needs to be informed of the system. Plumbing Code requirements for such a system can be obtained from the Building Division.

An incorrectly installed or designed system could be a health and safety hazard. Obtaining a permit requires a site plan showing the locations of buildings on the property, the locations of irrigation fields and/or mulch basins, and piping diagrams with pipe sizes and diverter valve configurations.

Call the Permit Center at **215-4360** to talk with us about your project. For more information about the Plumbing Code, visit [www.el-cerrito.org/buildingcode](http://www.el-cerrito.org/buildingcode) or stop by City Hall.

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL:  
 PLEASE DELIVER BY JUNE 24, 2015

ECR-WSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER





**THE CITY OF  
EL CERRITO**

<p><b>EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL</b>  <b>Mark Friedman, Mayor</b>  <b>Greg Lyman, Mayor Pro Tem</b>  <b>Janet Abelson</b>  <b>Jan Bridges</b>  <b>Gabriel Quinto</b></p> <p><b>CITY WEBSITE</b>      <a href="http://www.el-cerrito.org">www.el-cerrito.org</a></p> <p><b>TWITTER</b>              @cityofelcerrito                                       @ElCerritoREC                                       @ElCerritoPD</p> <p><b>City Hall Holidays (office closed):</b>      Labor Day—September 7</p> <p><b>City Council summer meetings:</b>      July 15      August 19      September 15      October 6 and 20</p> <p>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.</p> <p>To watch meetings online, go online to <a href="http://www.el-cerrito.org">www.el-cerrito.org</a> and click on the "Streaming Media" link.</p> <p>The City Council meeting agenda packet is available at least three days prior to each City Council meeting at: <a href="http://www.el-cerrito.org/archive">http://www.el-cerrito.org/archive</a>.</p>	<p><b>CITY HALL (All area codes 510)</b>  <b>10890 San Pablo Ave.</b>  <b>City Management</b>      City Clerk 215-4305      City Council 215-4305      City Manager 215-4300      Human Resources 215-4315</p> <p><b>Community Development Department</b>      Building 215-4360      Code Enforcement 215-4374      Planning 215-4330      Economic Development 215-4385      Housing 215-4358</p> <p><b>Finance</b> 215-4310</p> <p><b>Public Works</b>      After-Hours Emergency 237-3233      Corporation Yard 215-4369      Engineering 215-4382      Maintenance 215-4369      Recycling &amp; Waste Management 215-4350      Recycling + Environmental Resource Center 7501 Schmidt Lane</p> <p><b>Community Center</b>  <b>7007 Moeser Lane</b>      Recreation Department 559-7000      Park/Facility Rentals 559-7004      Swim Center 559-7011</p> <p><b>The Open House Senior Center</b>  <b>6500 Stockton Ave.</b>  <b>Senior Services</b> 559-7677</p> <p><b>Public Safety Building</b>  <b>10900 San Pablo Ave.</b>      Emergency 911      Police/Fire/Medical Dispatch 237-3233      Fire Administration 215-4450      Police Administration 215-4400</p>
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## City Cuts Water Use

**A**S PART OF its efforts to cut water use in municipal operations by 20 percent, the City of El Cerrito will be taking the following water conservation measures:

- The City will conduct an audit of its irrigation system along San Pablo Avenue, in order to identify and repair any leaks in the system.
- To comply with the new State water restrictions, the City will stop irrigating ornamental turf in street medians. Most of El Cerrito's street medians have been converted to drought tolerant landscaping, but Ashbury Avenue, south of Fairmount Avenue, will be affected by this new regulation.
- Although it does recirculate water, the water fountain at City Hall will operate for fewer hours each day to reduce water waste from evaporation.



*The recirculated water fountain at City Hall*