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## OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER AT-A-GLANCE

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## DEVELOPMENT NEWS

### Update: Major development projects in San Jose



Although our [Key Projects List](#) doesn't list every project under review, approved, or under construction, but it does reflect 22,984 residential units, 3.2 million sf of commercial retail space, 32 million sf of commercial office space, and 2,600 hotel rooms. Of this, construction is underway on 4,000 residential units, 1.3 million sf of commercial retail space, 8.6 million sf of commercial office, and 465 hotel rooms.

Downtown development continues to remain strong: the Cityview project was approved by Council in June and 200 Park and Miro are well underway with construction. In July, 200 Park pulled their foundation permit and Miro was able to celebrate topping out of the building.

Several new downtown towers have been submitted over the past few months including DiNapoli's Almaden Boulevard Tower (500K+ office space), Westbank's Park Habitat tower (1.2M+ office, commercial, and Tech Interactive expansion) and Urban Catalyst's The Mark (222 residential units), and we anticipate more projects are preparing to submit Planning permits.

Our [blogpost](#) includes further details on projects throughout the city.

READ THE FULL STORY



## "Reach Codes" for construction support Climate Smart San Jose

### CLIMATE CHANGE AND SAN JOSE

The effects of climate change are devastating, and the climate challenges of this century directly affect the quality of life of all residents in San Jose. From floods to heat waves, San Jose has seen the effects of climate change.

Such events impact the health of residents and visitors, the safety of neighborhoods, the success of businesses and institutions, and the viability of local plants and wildlife.

In April 2020, City Council directed the City Manager to return to Council in the Fall of 2020 with an ordinance amending the natural gas infrastructure prohibition to extend to all new construction, including mid-rise and high-rise multifamily, and commercial buildings. The ordinance would exempt restaurants, hospitals, industrial, and manufacturing facilities.

City staff will continue to address identified barriers to implementation, as well as, provide no-cost technical assistance for project owners interested in pursuing all-electric new construction. To stay up to date with this ongoing work, fill out the Reach Code Stakeholder Notification Form to be added to the notification list. For more details on the Reach Codes and how natural gas affects the climate, read ESD's guest blogpost.



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For more information, contact Emily Lipoma. Development Facilitation Officer, OED.

## ECONOMIC RECOVERY UPDATE

### Business support and recovery activities in San Jose - March through August, 2020

Since the start of the Shelter in Place response to COVID-19 in March the City of San Jose has undertaken a wide range of activities to support the vulnerable businesses and residents in the City..

Both under the Emergency Operations Center activation and as the departments move gradually back into more "normal" operations, the City's key strategies included:

- Researching, recruiting and promoting funding sources that our businesses could access
- Policy changes that would make outdoor business operations both possible and as easy as possible, such as the Al Fresco initiative to support outdoor business operations.
- Developing online webinars for small businesses on finance, COVID guidance, marketing, etc;
- Transitioning from in-person to online service operations and streamlining permitting and other interfaces with the development community
- Developing multiple communications channels and tactics ranging from a multi-lingual email box, phone support, new web pages, email blasts to 40K+ businesses and Flash Report items.



See our blogpost for more details.



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For more information, contact Nathan Donato-Weinstein, Business Development Officer, OED

## Rent Relief grant program offered to SJ small businesses



From Sept. 9 through Sept. 22, online applications for grants of up to \$15,000 for small businesses located in San José were accepted by the Enterprise Foundation / Small Business Development Center (SBDC) on behalf of the City of San Jose.

Grants from this brand-new, federally-funded program could be used for unpaid or pending rent from March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020.

Applicants from the recently closed San José CDBG Microenterprise Grant Program as well as recipients of funding from Payroll Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program were eligible to participate in this program. Read our blogpost for more details.

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For more information, contact Vic Farlie, Business Development Officer, OED.

## DOWNTOWN NEWS

### Qmunity Opens, Hella Gardens bloom in Downtown

More and more, the new normal feels like the old normal in downtown San Jose. One week in September, downtown was alive with new normal public space-making events such as al fresco (outside dining) and the weekly Farmers' Market, plus two unique events described in a guest blogpost by Rick Jensen of the San Jose Downtown Association.:



On a day that dawned orange because of California wildfire smoke conditions, Qmunity is inaugurated on Post Street.

Association Executive Director Scott Knies agreed, each speaking at the media event and participating in a symbolic splash of 11 different colors of the rainbow acknowledging all the types and colors of people deserving equity and inclusion.

### HELLA GARDENS STOREFRONT AND WINDOW PAINTING EVENT

#### POST STREET QMUNITY DISTRICT

Post Street between First and Market streets officially became the South Bay's first LGBTQ+ community, known as *Qmunity District*. The designation occurred Sept. 10 at a socially distant media event that was hazed over by wildfire smoke.

"The South Bay LGBTQ+ community deserves a welcoming and affirming space of our own," said Nathan Svoboda, president of Project MORE. "A place for shopping, socializing, networking and night life. A district that highlights our history, cultures, and diversity. Post Street is the perfect place."

Civic leaders including downtown Councilmember Raul Peralez, Supervisor Cindy Chavez and San Jose Downtown

Twenty-three artists brought painted foliage and garden scenes to 21 downtown storefronts starting Sept. 11 and continuing as air quality conditions allowed the following week.

All the temporary window activation paintings had a floral theme. Pedestrians could even play a game of "Eye Spy" to find hidden bugs in the Hella Gardens art works.

The program to showcase the artistic diversity of San Jose was organized by Local Color and supported by the City of San Jose and San Jose Downtown Association. Read the blogpost for more details and images.



A corner of Downtown gets a fresh look, thanks to Hella Gardens

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For more information, contact Blage Zelalich, Downtown Manager, OED

COVID COMMUNICATIONS

Communicating with businesses during COVID-19

Over the past months, Santa Clara County and the State of California have been reviewing COVID-19 case, hospitalization and death statistics to manage the restrictions that had been imposed to reduce the spread of the disease.

As the restrictions were reduced and as the State changed the way it reviews and makes decisions, OED worked with the City's Emergency Public Information Unit to utilize all possible channels to our diverse business community.

Key communications efforts included:

- A blog post, Flash Report and email blast on the County being advanced to Tier 2/RED in the State's new framework for COVI-19 management
- Re-writing the AI Fresco page and the FAQs, with translations
- Supporting the City's Placemaking Team as they take the AI Fresco message to multiple commercial districts throughout the city.

Check our website for all the updated information.

READ THE FULL STORY



For more information, contact Elisabeth Handler, Public Information Manager, OED.

During the Shelter in Place, we encourage you to check out [Visit San Jose's site](#) that features tours, activities and events that you can enjoy online.

Santa Clara County is at

Red

Risk Level

Allowed indoors:

> Nail salons

> Body waxing salons

> Tattoo and piercing parlors

> K-12 Schools (after being 14 days in Red)

> Museums, zoos and aquariums at 25% capacity

> Gyms and fitness centers at 10% capacity

> Malls can increase capacity to 50% (opened at 25% in Purple)

Not currently allowed to resume operation under the County Order:

> Movie theaters

> Indoor gatherings

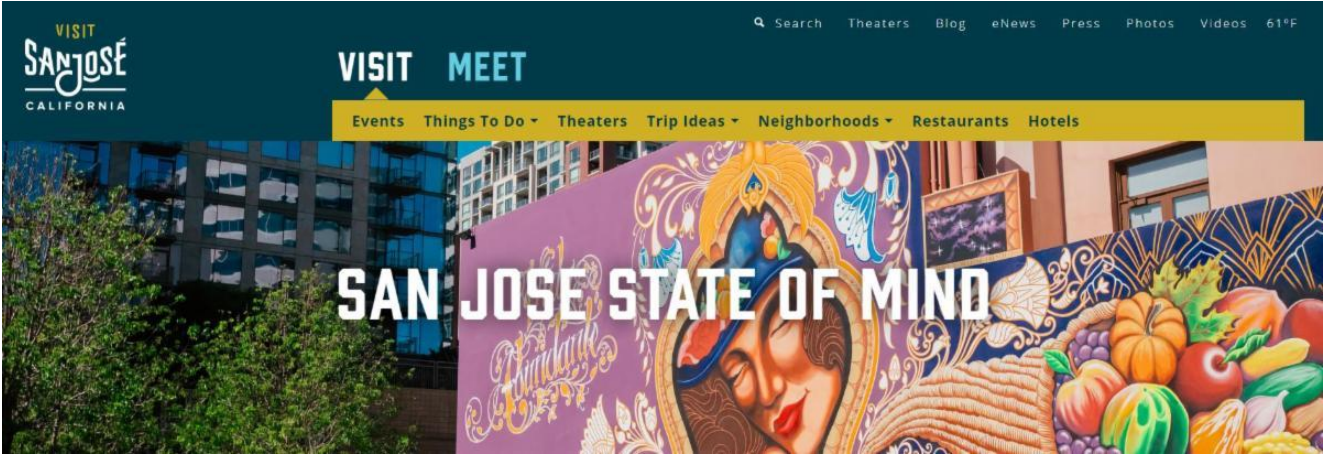
> Indoor dining

6 ft

Counties can move to a less restrictive level as COVID transmission goes down and testing goes up. Stay diligent about keeping your distance, wearing your mask, getting tested, and following all protocols and directives.

Our website has detailed information:

sccgov.org/cv19order



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