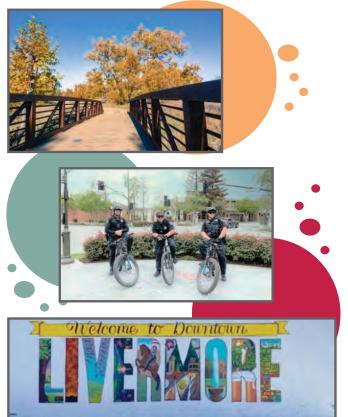




OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LIVERMORE

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# Livermore SHINES in 2020 National Community Survey



Residents view Livermore as a great place to live, visit, and raise children. Livermore's vibrant downtown and overall quality of life continue to receive very high ratings. Overall, Livermore's ratings remained stable between 2018 and 2020. However, several areas increased greater than five percentage points from 2018, which is statistically significant. Some of these areas include:

- ◆ Place to Work
- Vibrancy of Downtown
- ◆ Ease of Public Parking
- Availability of Walking Trails and Paths
- ◆ Crime Prevention
- ◆ Emergency Preparation
- ◆ Livermore Open Space
- Stormwater Management
- ◆ Street Cleaning and Repair
- ◆ Overall Customer Service by Livermore Employees
- ◆ Treating all Residents Fairly

Compared to other west coast communities of various populations and characteristics, Livermore ranks 'similar', 'higher', and 'much higher' in all categories and 'lower' in none. Results show that since the first survey in 2004, Livermore tends to receive strong ratings across all facets of community livability, and the 2020 survey was no exception.

The NCS was sent to 6,000 randomly selected Livermore households in November 2020. The NCS captures residents' opinions considering ten central facets of a community: Economy, Mobility, Community Design, Utilities, Safety, Natural Environment, Parks and Recreation, Health and Wellness, Inclusivity and Engagement, and Education, Arts, and Culture. Livermore has conducted the NCS every other year since 2004. Results are used by staff and elected officials for community planning, resource allocation, program improvement, and policy making. View the 2020 NCS results and previous years' results at <a href="https://www.cityoflivermore.net/NCS">www.cityoflivermore.net/NCS</a>.

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## What's New?



In April 2020, the City Council authorized the first phase of the East Avenue Corridor Study. The purpose of the study is to develop and look at alternatives to enhance mobility and safety for all modes of travel along East Avenue. Through a series of public workshops, surveys and correspondence, public input has helped shape analysis of alternative roadway configurations to accommodate bike lanes along the entire corridor. A future phase of the study will include installing temporary improvements, such as paint and traffic delineators, along East Avenue to test and evaluate the alternatives and gather additional public feedback. The temporary alternative improvements will allow the community to experience the proposed roadway improvements firsthand and provide feedback to City staff before long-term permanent improvements are constructed. Visit www.eastavecorridorstudy.com for more information.

#### **Citywide Historic Resources Update Project**

Livermore has a rich history dating back to its founding in 1869. To protect that history, the Community Development Department has been working to update the City's historic preservation program.

As part of the update, City staff has worked with professional architectural historians since February 2020 to inventory all City properties to determine if they have historic importance. About one percent of Livermore's parcels were found to be significant or potentially significant. Historic properties identified include the Carnegie Library downtown, Hageman Ranch along Olivina Avenue, the Railroad Depot at the Livermore Transit Center, and the Ravenswood estate in South Livermore.

In February, the Historic Preservation Commission recommended approval of the program update and the Planning Commission recommended approval in March. The City Council will review the update this spring.

#### DOWNTOWN UPDATE

As the next step in progressing on the City's approved Downtown Plan, Eden Housing will be submitting their plan for a new affordable housing opportunity. The plan will provide housing to a variety of frontline workers and their families. These may include:

- Entry-level public safety
- Teachers and school staff
- Health care workers
- Office workers
- Restaurant employees
- Retail employees, and many more.

The same people who work in and visit Livermore, spend their time and money in Livermore will soon be able to live in our vibrant downtown. The project will be adjacent to new cultural facilities and includes a public park (Veterans Park) that together with Stockmen's Park will provide a pedestrian oriented space and connection from South Livermore Avenue to L Street. The Planning Commission and City Council will review the project this spring. For more information visit cityoflivermore.net/downtown.

#### **Legacy Livermore Project**



The Legacy Livermore project continued construction in 2020. The project will include 222 market-rate rental units and approximately 14,000 square feet of retail space along First Street. The expected completion is 2022.

### **Your Tax Dollars at Work**



# Measure B, Measure BB, Vehicle Registration Fees and SB1 Projects

Did you know that a portion of your tax dollars come back to the City to help plan, construct, and maintain our transportation infrastructure?

The City of Livermore spends approximately \$4.5 million annually from these sales and fuel taxes on transportation projects in the City. Projects currently underway this year include: Iron Horse Trail Improvements - Isabel Avenue to Murrieta Boulevard, 2018 Arterial Rehabilitation Project, Downtown Street Lighting Enhancement, Downtown Bicycle Parking, Annual Slurry Seal, Annual Street Resurfacing, East Avenue Corridor Study, and the ADA Transition Plan.

For more information regarding SB1, Measure B, and Measure BB, please visit the City's website at <a href="https://www.cityoflivermore.net">www.cityoflivermore.net</a>, the Alameda County Transportation Commission at <a href="https://www.alamedactc.org/">www.alamedactc.org/</a>, or call the Livermore Engineering Division at (925) 960-4500.

#### **Livermore's Asset Management Program**

From traffic signals to Flagpole Plaza — proper asset management is our green light to a great future! Learn how the City cares for Livermore's infrastructure in this short video by scanning the QR code.



# **Business Highlight**

The COVID-19 pandemic strained the City's small businesses, causing service interruptions, reduced hours, layoffs and in some cases permanent closures. However, we have seen tremendous support from the community and in August of last year, the City Council authorized \$2 million from the City's General Fund to help businesses weather the COVID-19 pandemic. Since that time, the Office of Innovation and Economic Development has created and administered the largest small business assistance program in City history, awarding grants totaling over \$1,250,000 to over 267 Livermore small businesses, signed up over eighty businesses under the Gift Livermore eGift certificate program to encourage shopping locally, and provided rental assistance to our small businesses and our most vulnerable residents.

There are strong economic indicators on the horizon, including the opening of two new hotels by the outlets, permits for new construction, continued progress downtown, and the opening of new restaurants that include Wingen Bakery, First Street Nutrition, La Botica, Plucked, Murphy's Paw, Quiote, Locanda, Yafa Mediterranean, and Pho Hoa. For more information visit OIED.net.



# **Did You Know?**

# Affordable Home Improvement for Livermore Residents



Short on money but need to fix up your house? The Renew Alameda County program was created just for that!

Qualified Livermore homeowners can get 1% simple interest loans up to \$150,000 with no monthly payments for necessary renovations. Payments do not begin until the home is sold. Common projects include HVAC work, ramp installation, new roofs, and bathroom and kitchen upgrades. Learn more about eligibility by calling Habitat for Humanity's Home Repair Hotline at (510) 803-3388 or visit their website at <a href="https://www.kenewAC.org">www.kenewAC.org</a>.

#### Plastic Recycling in the Kitchen

Not all plastic is created equal. Some types are more easily recyclable than others. In Livermore, any plastic bottle, jar, or tub labeled with #1 through #7 should go in the recycling bin. Below are the current rules for how to properly sort some of the most common types of plastic.

Remember to rinse or wipe containers before recycling and place all caps and lids in the garbage. It is not always easy, so thank you for recycling right! Visit www.livermorerecycles.org for more information.



# **Become a Waterwise Gardener this Spring**

Did you know that most households use more water on their landscaping than for showers, cooking, and clothes washing combined? This spring make your yard "waterwise" – reducing outdoor water use and preventing harmful runoff from flowing into local storm drains and creeks. Start with these tips and visit <a href="cityoflivermore.net/waterwiselandscape">cityoflivermore.net/waterwiselandscape</a> for more simple ways to become a waterwise gardener.

### • Spring Irrigation Check-Up

Ensure your irrigation system is running up to date and efficiently will save more water and money during the hot summer months. Check



sprinkler heads for clogs, overspray, or tilting and trim back plants that are blocking spray heads.

After the rainy season ends, schedule your irrigation controller to water your yard before sunrise to reduce evaporation.

#### Money Saving Rebates

Both Livermore Municipal Water and California Water offer rebates on products that will help reduce outdoor water use. Visit your water service provider's webpage to review rebate options at either – cityoflivermore.net/rebates or calwater.com/rebates.

#### ◆ Use Less-Toxic Pest Control



Are aphids invading your garden? Is powdery mildew ruining your roses? Before reaching for pesticides, learn how to deal with pests without

chemicals. Not only will it keep kids and pets safe, but it will also prevent pesticide runoff from flowing into local waterways. Visit <u>ourwaterourworld.org</u> to learn about less-toxic alternatives for common garden pests.

# **Library Lore & More**

#### 2021 Summer Reading

The Livermore Public Library Summer Reading Program is transitioning to an app based platform with an option to participate on paper. There will be a reading game for all ages: Pre-Readers, Independent Readers, Teens, and Adults.



Once registered, participants will be able to track the number of minutes read, as well as participate in activities that will earn them digital badges to earn prizes selected for their age group! New to the program is a community reading goal 500,000 minutes. For more information about the Summer Reading Program, summer classes and events that will be digital or distanced, visit <a href="https://www.livermorelibrary.net">www.livermorelibrary.net</a>.

# Library Brings Community Together in Support of Adult Literacy



Did you know the Livermore Public Library has a program to help adults with their basic reading and writing skills? For nearly 35 years the Library's Literacy Program has been bringing trained volunteer tutors together with adults who want to improve their skills and achieve their aspirations as parents, workers, community members,

and life-long learners. Pairs meet once or twice a week for one to two hours. Instruction is based on each individual learner's pace and goals.

The results can be positively life changing, and as one adult learner recently noted, "There's a good chance you'll get a good friend out of it too." For more information or to sign up to become an adult learner or volunteer tutor, visit <a href="www.livermorelibrary.net">www.livermorelibrary.net</a> and look for 'Literacy Program'.

#### WE'RE SOCIAL. LET'S CONNECT!









## **Around Town**



The City continues to update its Climate Action Plan to combat the challenges presented by climate change. City staff and the Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee (CAPAC) have been developing strategies for how the City will continue to reduce emissions from buildings, transportation, water use, wastewater treatment, and solid waste. Additionally, staff and the CAPAC are developing strategies to help Livermore prepare for the impacts of climate change, such as increased flooding, heat waves, droughts, and wildfires. The City is conducting outreach this Spring to get the community's feedback on these strategies. Learn more about the project and provide input at www.livermoreclimateaction.com.



# **Spotlight**



#### **Learn About Livermore**

Are you interested in going on an adventure throughout Livermore, finding clues, and solving puzzles for a chance to win prizes? Join the over 600 people who have completed the City's Asset

Geocache. Participants will be guided around the City of Livermore searching for five hidden caches while learning about community-owned infrastructure, including roads, pipes, traffic signals, and more. It's fun, COVID safe, and engaging for all ages. Learn more about how the City cares for Livermore's infrastructure at <a href="https://www.livermoreassets.net/geocache">www.livermoreassets.net/geocache</a>.



#### **Grow Food the Waterwise Way**

Free Virtual Workshop

Thursday, April 22, 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.





Celebrate Earth Day by learning how to grow food with a waterwise approach! In this webinar. Suzanne gardening expert Bontempo will share techniques and strategies for growing an abundance of produce for a season-long harvest while using less water. This class is suited for all skill levels. Space is limited, so reserve spot https:// а at bit.ly/GrowWaterwiseFood or scan the QR code.



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City Council	960-4010
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CITY OFFICES	
Abandoned Vehicle Hotline	
Administrative Services	
Airport	960-8220
Animal License	960-4315
Building Inspections(24hr R	ec)960-4430
Business License	215-4906
City Attorney's Office	
City Clerk's Office	960-4200
City Manager's Office	960-4040
Community Development	960-4400
Office of Innovation and	
Economic Development	960-4140
Engineering	960-4500
Fire Department	454-2361
Graffiti Hotline	960-8060
Housing & Human Services	960-4580
Human Resources	
Job Hotline	
Library	373-5500
Maintenance	960-8020
Neighborhood Preservation	
Permit Center	
Planning	960-4450
Police	
Public Golf Course	455-7820
Public Works	960-8000

#### GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Information	96	0-4000
California Relay Ser	vice	. 7-1-1
Website	www.cityofliverm	ore.net
Fmail	info@cityofliverm	ore net

Utility Billing ......960-4320

Water Resources......960-8100

Water Resources Emergency .......960-8160