



Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood Newsletter

Volume 26, Issue 2

www.stfna.org

Fall 2026

*Preservation of the Santa Teresa Foothills – Creation of a public trail along the Coyote-Alamitos Canal
Public Education and Awareness – Safe Neighborhoods – Hillside Development Enforcement*

STFNA General Meeting

Featured Speaker:

San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan

Thursday, October 15, 2026 | 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Southside Community Center, Multi-purpose Room
5585 Cottle Rd., San Jose, CA 95123

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Financial update
- Councilmember George Casey's District 10 update with Q & A
- San Jose Tree Canopy – Our City Forest
- Marquee Speaker: San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan with Q&A

STFNA Partnership with Our City Forest

The Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association (STFNA) began partnering with [Our City Forest](#) shortly after our association was formed. In 2001, neighborhood volunteers planted eleven trees in the foothills at the undeveloped park at the end of Snell Avenue. More than two decades later, we are excited to continue that partnership and explore new opportunities to plant and care for trees in the Santa Teresa community.

San José's urban forest needs that continued attention. A recent [Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury report](#) highlighted the continuing decline of San José's urban tree canopy. The report notes that citywide canopy coverage fell from 15.4% in 2012 to 13.2% in 2020. Tree canopy is the portion of the ground that is shaded from above by the leaves, branches, and foliage of trees. A healthy urban forest provides many benefits to our neighborhoods, including:

- Cooling streets, homes, and public spaces
- Improving air quality
- Providing habitat for birds and other wildlife
- Helping manage stormwater
- Making our neighborhoods greener, more beautiful, and more enjoyable places to live

[Our City Forest](#) is a San José-based nonprofit that works with residents, schools, neighborhood groups, public agencies, businesses, and volunteers to grow and care for our region's urban forest. Its programs help residents access trees, learn how to properly plant and care for them, participate in community planting and tree-care events, and become long-term stewards of neighborhood trees.

Since its founding, Our City Forest has planted more than 80,000 trees, engaged 175,000 volunteers, reached more than 35,000 students, and supported hundreds of AmeriCorps members. Its trees have an approximately 95% survival rate. Our City Forest can help residents choose the right tree for the right place and provide guidance on planting, permits, and long-term tree care.

Want to get your hands dirty? Our City Forest offers [volunteer opportunities](#) throughout the year, including community tree plantings, nursery workdays, and tree-care activities. Community plantings take place nearly every Saturday during planting season.

Come learn more about STFNA's continuing partnership with Our City Forest – and opportunities to grow the tree canopy right here in our Santa Teresa neighborhood - at our General Meeting on October 15.

Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (OSA) Update

Since the spring newsletter, [Measure D](#) was passed that will help provide long-term support for OSA's management of approximately 30,000 acres, with another 4,000 acres anticipated over the next five years.

In Coyote Valley, OSA broke ground May 1 on [accessibility improvements](#) at the Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, intended to broaden all-abilities access.

The OSA Board of Directors unanimously [opposed](#) Applied Energy Services' (AES) proposed 40-acre Jewelflower battery-storage project on prime farmland; AES subsequently withdrew before filing a permit application.

The OSA Board unanimously [adopted a resolution](#) formally opposing the proposed Heritage Oaks Memorial Park, a 102-acre cemetery, crematory and funeral complex planned for the hillsides above Coyote Valley in south San Jose."

Upcoming public [events](#) include Starry Nights, Astrophotography Workshop, Poison Oak – Friend or Foe?, and Autumnal Art at Ulistac. There are also lots of [volunteer opportunities](#).

[Andrea Mackenzie](#), General Manager and the driving force behind OSA's success for the last 15 years, is planning to retire at the end of 2026.

Interested in C.E.R.T.ification?

C.E.R.T. stands for Community Emergency Response Team. Recent events have made it clear that disasters are not just something that can happen "over there" or "somewhere else". They can happen in San Jose also.

In the event of a major disaster it's quite possible that emergency response services could be overwhelmed or even interrupted by the damage. CERT is a way to prepare to support yourself, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a major disaster which could interrupt response services for several days.

For more information, visit <https://sjncert.org>. CERT classes are held periodically, but the CERT Training team will offer scheduled classes to sponsor neighborhood groups where there is sufficient interest. STFNA is consider sponsoring training sessions. If you are interested, please send an email to contact@stfna.org, indicating your interest.

Please Join Our Neighborhood Association or Renew Your Membership

If you have not joined Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association, please sign up either on-line via the website <https://www.stfna.org/>, or by filling out the form below. The QR code to the right will take you directly to the sign up web page. We'd also appreciate it if you would make a voluntary donation of \$25 or more. The funds go to support fees for our website, printing our newsletters when we have enough volunteers to deliver them, and various neighborhood projects that we undertake.

Already a member? If you haven't already this year, please renew your membership. Like above, you can do this on-line or by utilizing the below form and mailing it in with your check.



JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION!

STFNA Membership Application and Renewal

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

(your e-mail is private and will not be shared outside of STFNA)

Address: _____

City / Zip code: _____

Phone: _____

Date: _____

☐ Check here if this is a renewal.

Mail form and enclose check payable to:
Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Assoc.
PO BOX 53432
San Jose, CA 95153



Register online
www.stfna.org
or email
contact@stfna.org



Please accept my voluntary contribution of: \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$_____ Other

Tell us which issues interest you the most:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Foothills Open Space Preservation | ☐ Coyote Alamos Trail |
| ☐ Public Education and Awareness | ☐ Safe Neighborhoods |
| ☐ Neighborhood Beautification | ☐ Neighborhood Watch |

Other: _____

THANK
YOU!