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## **NEWS BRIEFS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Fremont and Kaiser Permanente Partner for Vision Zero Street Banners**

On Wednesday, October 30, the City of Fremont and Kaiser Permanente unveiled the designs for Vision Zero traffic safety street banners that will be displayed in Fremont through the end of 2020. Approximately 150 banners will be installed along Fremont Boulevard, a key corridor that is traveled by more than 25,000 people every day. The five banner designs, which were designed by City staff, focus on educating the community about behaviors that data driven analysis indicates are high risk factors in Fremont: unsafe speeds, failure to yield to pedestrians, driving under the influence, and inattentive driving. The project is supported by a \$25,000 Kaiser Permanente Northern California Community Benefit Program.

In the past three years following adoption of its Vision Zero program, the City has reduced major traffic crashes by fifty percent. That is in an environment where nationwide pedestrian and cyclist fatalities increased from 2017 to 2018. The City's accomplishments since 2015 include upgrading all 16,000 street lighting with brighter LED streetlights; installing pedestrian countdown signals at all 220 traffic signals; restriping more than 50 miles of roadways with better bikeways and to promote safer speeds; enhancing more than 10 crosswalks with pedestrian signals and flashing beacons; and delivering 300 safety improvement projects near schools.

Karen Tejcka, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Executive for the Kaiser Permanente Fremont Medical Center stated in her remarks, "This critically important campaign directly aligns with Kaiser Permanente's focus on Total Health that goes beyond our members to include the communities that we serve."

Visit [www.Fremont.gov/VisionZero2020](http://www.Fremont.gov/VisionZero2020) for more details about the City's Vision Zero program.



*From left to right, Kaiser Permanente Fremont Medical Center Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Executive Karen Tejcka, Mayor Lily Mei, Councilmember Rick Jones, and City Manager Mark Danaj with samples of the Vision Zero Street Banners.*

**City of Fremont Breaks Ground on Downtown Event Center and Plaza**

Last Friday, October 25, the City of Fremont held a groundbreaking celebration for the much anticipated Downtown Event Center and Plaza in partnership with the Fremont Chamber of Commerce at its last Street Eats event of the year. Mayor Lily Mei, City Manager Mark Danaj, and Community Services Director Suzanne Wolf presided over the festivities and gave remarks about the planning and purpose of the intended downtown facilities.



Over 400 people attended the celebration event, partaking in the ceremony and entertainment including a live band, artists and entertainers, street games, and bounce houses.

This first phase of the Civic Center project marks a big milestone in meeting the public demand and City’s vision for an active, vibrant downtown that will serve as a central gathering location in the Fremont community. The future Downtown Event Center will provide meeting rooms, amenities, and a large spacious lobby, a catering kitchen, and more, for networking, local business gatherings, and conferences.

The outdoor plaza will host the event needs of our community by offering a lawn, multipurpose space, a designated area for food trucks, and a garden breakout space under a canopy of trees. The project

also aligns with the City's sustainability and public art initiatives. When complete, the building will be Fremont's first all-electric building with zero dependence on fossil fuels, and will also feature commissioned artwork.

Construction for this project is anticipated to take approximately 18 months with a completion date slated for spring 2021.

### **SunShares Program Offering Discounts on Solar Installations and Electric Vehicles**

*Participants must sign up by November 15 to receive discounts*

There is still time to sign up for Bay Area SunShares, a City-sponsored community program helping local residents access discounted pricing on solar installations and zero-emission vehicles.

Two local and recognized solar installation companies—SkyTech Solar and Solar Technologies—are participating in the program and offering a 15% discount, making now the most affordable time to go solar! In addition, those who choose to go solar can still take advantage of the federal solar tax credit.



SunShares is also offering zero-emission vehicle discounts on the 2019 all electric Nissan Leaf and the 2019 hydrogen fuel-cell Toyota Mirai.

Imagine the possibilities...save on your home utility bills, cut your gas costs, reduce your greenhouse gas footprint, and drive on clean energy!

To sign up, visit [www.BayAreaSunShares.org](http://www.BayAreaSunShares.org). This limited time offer is only available until November 15, 2019.

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