

## Tri-City Animal Shelter Launches New Website & Expands Lost Pet Services

The City of Fremont recently upgraded and unveiled the Tri-City Animal Shelter’s new website **1**, giving residents easier access to animal services, resources, and ways to get involved, all while promoting adoptable pets in our local area.

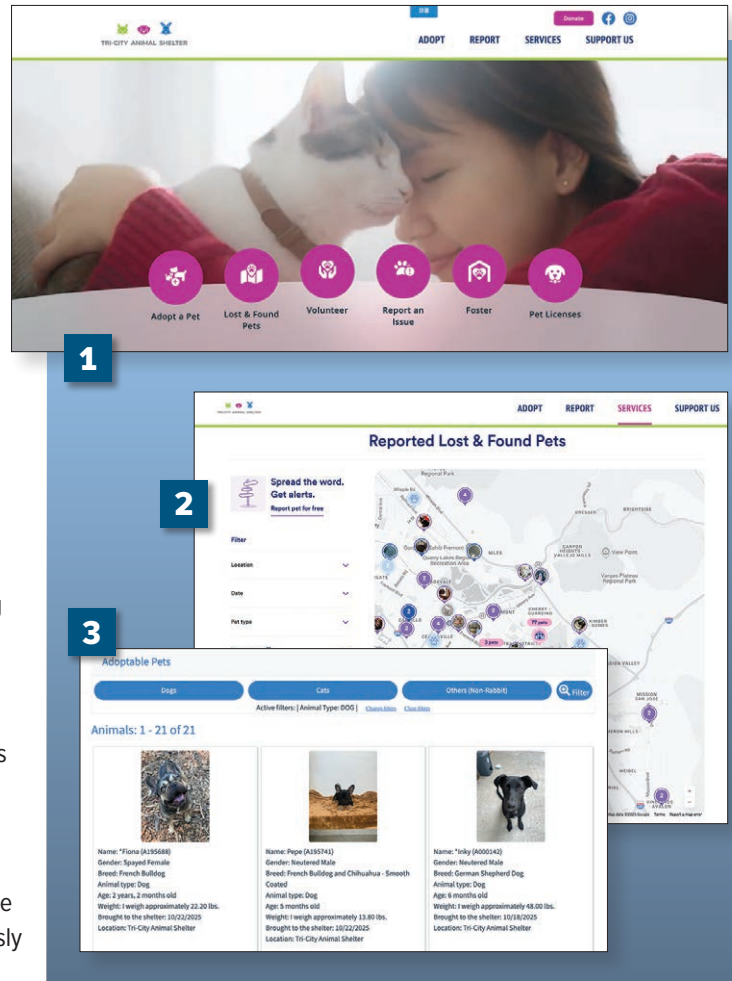
As a part of this enhancement, the Tri-City Animal Shelter also deployed PetcoLoveLost **2**, an innovative tool that uses image recognition and community reports to help reunite pets with their families. The tool scans reports from the shelter as well as reports from Nextdoor and Neighbor, allowing families to find their pets faster, often without ever having to enter the shelter. On the website, community members can see an interactive map where animals have been found throughout the city.

Not only does this technology empower community members to help their neighbors, but it also improves outcomes for pets and families and makes shelter operations more efficient.

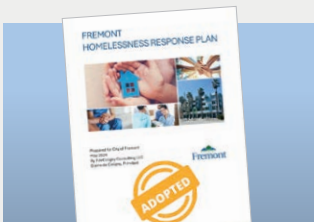
The website also includes online pet licensing through DocuPet, simplified forms for reporting animal-related issues, and expanded resources for community cats. Visitors can explore “diaries” of adoptable pets **3** featuring videos and stories and access information on low-cost services, such as pet pantries, spay and neuter programs, and veterinary care support.

For those interested in giving back, the website highlights multiple ways to support the shelter, including donating, volunteering, or helping in other roles that do not involve direct animal handling. The new streamlined volunteer onboarding process now includes online training portals that volunteers can easily complete from home before getting started.

To explore all these new features, or to find your next furry friend, visit the new website at [city.fremont.gov/animalshelter](http://city.fremont.gov/animalshelter). Please note that previously bookmarked pages may no longer work and may need to be updated.



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# Letter from **FREMONT'S CITY MANAGER**

It's hard to believe that 2025 is drawing to a close and as we reflect on this year, there is a lot to be proud of. Just in the last few months, we have celebrated several exciting City projects and initiatives. We opened a new Entry Plaza and Rose Garden at California Nursery Historical Park, and Free Public Wi-Fi was launched in six of our commercial business districts. During our annual Manufacturing Week, we previewed the new DoorDash autonomous delivery robot, Dot, which is manufactured right here in Fremont. We also opened Osgood Family Apartments, now providing 210 affordable homes in Fremont.

Addressing homelessness remained the most pressing issue for the City Council and Fremont community. Over the last six months, the City of Fremont, in collaboration with Union City, East Bay Regional Parks, and the Alameda County Water District, worked diligently to resolve the City's most entrenched encampment at Isherwood Park. The park officially closed on November 3, and community members residing there were offered shelter and support, through the City's Housing Navigation Center and Winter Relief Shelter program. Isherwood Park will remain closed for the next several months for clean up and environmental remediation. This effort highlights Fremont's commitment to a comprehensive and thoughtful approach to encampment resolution. The City continues to focus on the priorities outlined in our Homelessness Response Plan, aimed at keeping vulnerable people housed and supporting others to transition from homelessness.

In lighter news, there's much to highlight at City Parks. At Central Park, a new adult fitness equipment area with benches recently opened near the basketball courts, new restrooms are under construction, and we will officially break ground on the new Community Center next spring. Construction is underway at Vallejo Mill Historical Park, opening in early 2026, offering new pickleball facilities, a dog park, and ADA-compliant walkways. Staff will also present the 13-acre Palm Avenue Community Park Master Plan to City Council in the new year.

As always, we monitor the City's financial picture closely to ensure we can carry out this important work. In November, we presented the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Year End Budget Report to the City Council and reported that unforeseen expenditures ended higher than projected, causing the City to draw down reserves. While we can still carryout our work plan, we will continue to make prudent recommendations to the City Council as we navigate this uncertain economic time. The next budget update will be presented in March.

In closing, please save the date for the City's 70th birthday which will be celebrated on Friday, January 23 at the Downtown Event Center—more information will be shared soon!

I wish you and your loved ones a happy holiday season.

Karena Shackelford

## CITY OF FREMONT

### The City Council

meets the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Ave. Meetings are broadcast over Cable TV Channel 27 or webcast online at [city.fremont.gov/webcasts](http://city.fremont.gov/webcasts).

**Sign up** for our news at [city.fremont.gov/subscribe](http://city.fremont.gov/subscribe)

### City Council

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Mayor Raj Salwan  
Vice Mayor Yajing Zhang  
Councilmember Teresa Keng  
Councilmember Desrie Campbell  
Councilmember Kathy Kimberlin  
Councilmember Yang Shao  
Councilmember Raymond Liu

### City Manager

Karena Shackelford

### Fremont City News

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### Fire Department

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### GIS

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510-494-4745



## MY FREMONT

**Get involved** - MyFremont gives you the opportunity to provide feedback and receive updates on priority City projects, events, and initiatives. Scan the QR code to find out more today!

**MyFremont**  
[my.fremont.gov](http://my.fremont.gov)



## SOCIAL MEDIA

**Follow the City** and many of our departments on social—we will keep you posted on community events, new business openings, traffic updates, and much more!

**City Social Media**  
[city.fremont.gov/socialmedia](http://city.fremont.gov/socialmedia)





## My City. My Voice. We want to hear from you!

### *Keeping Fremont Safe, Clean, and Self-Reliant*

Fremont is proud to be a safe, clean, and well-maintained community — a place where residents can live, work, and raise families. As state actions and the loss of federal support place added pressure on local services, it is becoming more challenging to maintain the high standards our community expects and deserves.

To plan responsibly for the future, the City is beginning a strategic planning process now to help guide decisions about essential services beginning next year; including fire and police protection, emergency response, street and park maintenance, youth and senior programs, and homelessness services. Thank you to the residents who have already shared their feedback.

As we continue this work, your input is vital.

Please take a moment to share your priorities for a safe, strong and self-reliant Fremont at [my.fremont.gov/myvoice](https://my.fremont.gov/myvoice).

To stay informed, or for future updates, visit [fremont.gov/myvoice](https://fremont.gov/myvoice).

Join the Conversation today!



## Homelessness Response Update

The City of Fremont continues to further the goals and strategies outlined in Fremont’s adopted Homelessness Response Plan. We’re providing an update on key initiatives that respond to the ongoing crisis of homelessness in the Fremont community:

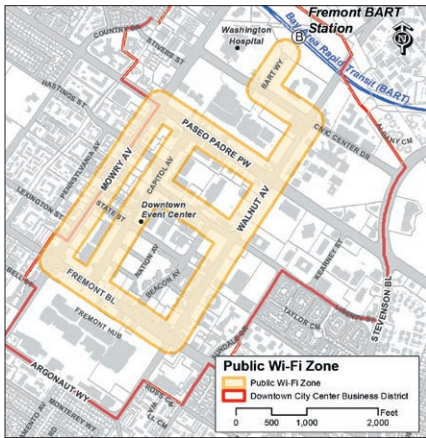
- Alameda County Measure W funds are anticipated to provide \$1.4 billion for the Home Together Fund that will address homelessness over the next eight years. The City continues to advocate for funding and services to be equitably supported and expanded in the South County region. You can sign up for Measure W updates at [forms.office.com/g/4BGN4GQiUP](https://forms.office.com/g/4BGN4GQiUP).
- In November, the City humanely and effectively resolved the long-term encampment at Isherwood Park. Community members residing at the park were each offered shelter options in Fremont, and most are sheltered in the City’s Winter Relief Program. Isherwood Park will remain closed over the next several months as City crews and contractors conduct park clean up and environmental remediation in the creek area.
- Mark your calendars and volunteer for the 2026 Point in Time Count, taking place this year on January 22, 2026, between 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. Every two years communities across the nation take a literal count of neighbors experiencing homelessness. This information serves as a baseline metric to understand trends in homelessness and determines funding for local communities to respond to the crisis. The 2024 Point in Time Count estimated 807 people experiencing homelessness in Fremont. Register to volunteer at [alameda.pointintime.info](https://alameda.pointintime.info).
- You can view our current Fiscal Year 24-25 Year in Review report with highlights on services and City response to homelessness at [city.fremont.gov/hryearinreview24-25](https://city.fremont.gov/hryearinreview24-25).



Looking toward 2026, we’re working to launch an encampment response dashboard to show in real time City staff’s response to community-driven service requests and concerns.

For more info about the City’s homeless response efforts, visit [city.fremont.gov/homelessresponse](https://city.fremont.gov/homelessresponse).

# FREE Public Wi-Fi Rolling Out Now Across Commercial Districts with Expansion Plans Underway



Our free public Wi-Fi program, AccessFremont, has begun rolling out in Downtown, Niles, Irvington, Mission San Jose, and the Ohlone College area, with plans to expand to Warm Springs and Centerville, creating a total of 125 access points to make it easy to stay connected.

Digital equity guided every step of bringing AccessFremont to life. The City’s Information Technology Services (ITS) Infrastructure team targeted areas where free, reliable internet could make the biggest impact. From assisting students with schoolwork and supporting job seekers, to boosting local businesses and keeping families connected, our goal is to make Fremont a place where everyone has the tools and opportunities to learn, work, and thrive.

In Downtown, the initiative brings our community together in a more tangible way. By keeping visitors connected, it encourages them to hang around, grab coffee, and shop locally, directly helping our small businesses and furthering Downtown’s reputation as a vibrant hub for all.

To make AccessFremont areas easier to locate, we’ve placed signs to clearly indicate



Wi-Fi coverage. No password is required, so anyone can locate, connect, and utilize the service quickly by:

1. Opening Wi-Fi settings on your device.
2. Selecting the network named ACCESS FREMONT.
3. Accepting the Terms and Conditions when prompted.

Similar to Wi-Fi in cafes and public spaces, AccessFremont is an open network. It is not encrypted, so please avoid transmitting sensitive information like passwords, banking details, or personal data. While the network can reach speeds up to 1 Gigabit, performance may vary at times depending on the number of users or the presence of physical obstacles like buildings and trees.

We’re excited about the enhanced accessibility that AccessFremont brings and encourage everyone to try it out and stay connected in Fremont!

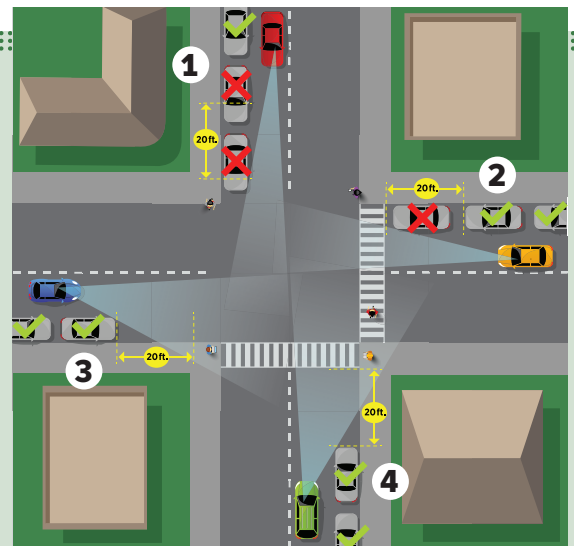
## California’s Daylighting Law Provides Another Tool for Safer Streets

Did you know that parking too close to a crosswalk can put everyone at risk? That is where California’s Daylighting Law (AB 413) comes in.

Implemented earlier this year on January 1, 2025, the law prohibits parking within 20 feet of the approach of any marked or unmarked crosswalk, even if there are no signs or curb markings. (For reference, the average car length is approximately 15 feet.)

The law aims to improve the safety of all roadway users by increasing visibility at intersections. Removing the obstruction of parked vehicles allows drivers to have a clear view of pedestrians waiting to cross the street, while allowing pedestrians to see approaching cars without having to step into the intersection.

Forty-three states currently have similar laws in place to protect roadway users. To learn more, visit [city.fremont.gov/daylightinglaw](http://city.fremont.gov/daylightinglaw).



**How It Works** Leaving a clearance of 20 feet provides a greater field of visibility for all roadway users (as shown in scenarios #3 and #4), whereas not providing that clearance greatly reduces the visibility (as shown in scenarios #1 and #2).



## Revitalizing Parks And Green Spaces Across Fremont

The City of Fremont is moving forward with several exciting park projects that highlight the City’s commitment to providing safe, inclusive, and engaging outdoor spaces for the Fremont community to enjoy:

- **Azevada Park** – The City completed renovations in September, bringing new equipment and rubber play surfacing to create a safer, more inviting space for the neighborhood to enjoy.
- **California Nursery Historical Park** – Also completed in September, the new Entry Plaza and Rose Garden now feature over 200 rose varieties and enhanced pathways, offering visitors a welcoming experience.
- **Central Park** – Recent updates include the water quality pilot program at Lake Elizabeth and the new adult fitness equipment area, featuring a fitness rig, benches, drinking fountains, trash receptacles, and upgrades to existing pathways.
- **Vallejo Mill Historic Park** – Construction is underway to add new pickleball facilities, a dog park, ADA-compliant walkways, and other site improvements. The completion is anticipated in 2026.
- **Palm Avenue Community Park** – Following community input and a design review process, construction is scheduled to begin in 2027 and is expected to finish in 2028, pending the adoption of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which outlines a combination of new active sports facilities and open spaces to serve citywide recreational needs.

To learn more about Fremont’s parks and upcoming projects and find ways to get involved, visit [city.fremont.gov/parks](http://city.fremont.gov/parks).

## Alameda CTC and Measure BB Continue to Deliver Transportation Improvements

In November 2014, the voters of Alameda County approved Measure BB, initiating a ½-cent sales tax increase to fund transportation improvements over a 30-year period (2015-2045) with an approximate value of \$8 billion.

Over the past decade, Measure BB funds, administered by the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC), have delivered a wide range of transportation improvements in



Fremont. These include widening Interstate 680 through the Sunol Grade, constructing the west side access to the Warm Springs/South Fremont BART Station, implementing complete streets and traffic signal coordination in the Fremont Blvd. and Walnut Ave. corridors, and funding basic street improvements to provide smooth pavement conditions and enhance traffic safety.

Currently, the Centerville Complete Streets project is underway, upgrading segments of Thornton Ave. and Fremont Blvd. with improved pavement, modernized traffic signals, and enhanced safety for walkers and bikers, particularly near Thornton Middle School and the Centerville Train Station. Another “complete streets” project along Fremont Blvd. in the Downtown area is already funded and scheduled to begin construction in 2027.

Looking ahead, Measure BB funds will support additional projects, including a new Irvington BART Station, the East Bay Greenway Trail with a bridge over I-880 in south Fremont, and multimodal enhancements in the Dumbarton/Decoto corridor in North Fremont. The Alameda CTC is preparing an updated County Transportation Plan (CTP) to help set priorities for future investments over the next decade. Learn more at [alamedactc.org/planning/countywidetransportationplan](http://alamedactc.org/planning/countywidetransportationplan).



## Fremont Flood Zones and Insurance Requirements

Most of Fremont’s homes and businesses are protected from flood impacts due to modern building standards and Alameda County Flood Control’s management of flood control channels. However, there are still some parts of Fremont that are at risk of flooding from major storm events.

Large, special flood hazard areas are located in the Grimmer, Irvington, South Blacow, and East Industrial neighborhoods, along with pockets throughout other parts of Fremont. Properties within these areas are subject to special flood insurance requirements and construction standards.

As a reminder, federal law requires the purchase of flood insurance as a condition to acquire a federally backed mortgage, and the City’s participation in the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) Community Rating System Program allows these residents and business owners to receive a 10% reduction in premiums for flood insurance.

The City has participated in the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program since 1983 ([fema.gov/flood-insurance](https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance)). To learn more about flood insurance requirements or whether a property is within a special flood hazard area, visit the FEMA website at [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov) or the City’s website at [city.fremont.gov/floodinfo](https://www.city.fremont.gov/floodinfo).

With eGIS Public Viewer, residents can view basic Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) information, floodway maps, flood depths, and special flood hazard areas. Other land constraints and hazards, such as earthquakes, fires, and hillside areas, can also be viewed at [city.fremont.gov/gis](https://www.city.fremont.gov/gis).

For additional information including basic FIRM information, problems not shown on the FIRM, flood depth data, special flood-related hazards, and historical flood information, contact the City’s Engineering Division at 510-494-4718 or [FloodInfo@fremont.gov](mailto:FloodInfo@fremont.gov).

## Upcoming Rainy Weather and Potential Impacts

With the potential for severe weather conditions, it is important to know how your household might be impacted. There are several simple steps you can take to prepare for flooding, including:

1. Checking whether your property is in a flood zone.
2. Purchasing flood insurance.
3. Building responsibly. Obtain a permit from the City’s Permit and Development Services Center before you build. Call 510-494-4460 or visit [fremont.gov/permits](https://www.fremont.gov/permits) for more information.
4. Developing an evacuation plan with your family.
5. Designating a place for your family to meet after an evacuation order is issued.
6. Refreshing your knowledge of how to act and who to call during emergencies.

7. Removing any leaves and debris from storm drain inlets with a rake or shovel.
8. Reporting any clogged storm drains and trash or debris in our natural streams.
9. Storing important documents and valuables in a waterproof container.
10. Having sandbags on hand. Fremont residents and businesses may pick up a maximum of 10 sandbags per household/business at the three locations below (while supplies last). The City provides the sand and bags, but please remember to bring your own shovel.
  - **City of Fremont Maintenance Yard:** 42551 Osgood Rd.
  - **Fire Station No. 5:** 55 Hackamore Ln.
  - **Fire Station No. 10:** 5001 Deep Creek Rd.

### WHO TO CALL for Services in Fremont



#### Alameda County Water District

**Report Water Main Breaks:** (510) 668-6500

#### PG&E

#### Power Outage (Report or View Status):

1-877-660-6789

If you see downed power lines, leave the area immediately and call 9-1-1. Then, call PG&E at 1 (800) 743-5000.

#### Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District & Alameda County Public Works Agency

#### Report Flooding of Alameda Creek:

(510) 670-5480

#### Union Sanitary District

#### Report Sanitary Sewer Emergencies:

(510) 477-7500

#### City of Fremont

#### ■ Fallen Tree/Limbs

Maintenance Operations

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: (510) 979-5799

#### ■ Blocked Storm Drains or Debris

(on side of road)

Maintenance Operations

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: (510) 979-5700

#### ■ Flooding or Obstacles (in middle of road)

Maintenance Operations 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: (510) 979-5700

After Hours: Fremont Police Non-Emergency (510) 790-6800, ext. 3

#### ■ Streetlight Outage

Bear Electric Solutions

1 (800) 462-3271

#### ■ Traffic Signal Outage

Fremont Transportation Engineering

Business Hours: (510) 494-4745

**IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 9-1-1.** For non-emergency after-hours calls (4:30 p.m. – 7:30 a.m.), contact Fremont Police Non-Emergency at (510) 790-6800, ext. 3

# Update on Affordable Housing in Fremont

The City's affordable housing projects and programs are making a real difference.

2025 was a landmark year for affordable housing in Fremont! The City proudly celebrated the opening of five new affordable housing properties, providing 567 new units for low-income households.

Fremont's momentum in affordable housing will continue over the next few years, with several new properties now in the early stages of the development process. For details, visit [city.fremont.gov/upcomingunits](http://city.fremont.gov/upcomingunits).

Below market price (BMP) homes are occasionally listed for sale through the City's First Time Homebuyer Program. To learn more, visit [city.fremont.gov/bmphomes](http://city.fremont.gov/bmphomes).

The City also has an Assisted Housing Directory, where existing affordable rental properties are listed. You can view contact information for each of the properties at [city.fremont.gov/assistedhousingdirectory](http://city.fremont.gov/assistedhousingdirectory).

To receive information about future affordable housing opportunities, sign up for the City's Affordable Housing Interest Lists at [city.fremont.gov/affordablehousinginterest](http://city.fremont.gov/affordablehousinginterest).

The City will continue to prioritize affordable housing in Fremont to meet State and local housing goals and provide housing options for all members of our community.



## SAVE THE DATES:



## Get Ready to Dig In: Restaurant Week 2026 is On Its Way!

Fremont's favorite culinary celebration is back! The 4th Annual Fremont Restaurant Week returns March 6–15, and it's shaping up to be our biggest and most delicious year yet. Last year, we saw a record number of local restaurants take part in showcasing the rich and diverse flavors of our community, and we're excited to keep growing.

This is a great opportunity to spotlight local businesses, attract new customers, and be part of a citywide event that Fremont's food lovers look forward to each year.

If you or someone you know is a restaurant owner in Fremont and is interested in participating, we'd love to hear from you. To get involved and have your restaurant featured, please reach out to Economic Development Specialist Travis Bell at [tbell@fremont.gov](mailto:tbell@fremont.gov).

Please note that participating restaurants need to be located in Fremont and have no more than three locations within Alameda County.

To stay updated on Fremont Restaurant Week, including featured restaurants, promotions, and events, sign up for our newsletter at [city.fremont.gov/restaurantweekupdates](http://city.fremont.gov/restaurantweekupdates). Let's make this year's Fremont Restaurant Week the best one yet!

## Student Job & Internship Fair & STEAM Event

The City of Fremont and Fremont Unified School District are excited to host two annual events at the Downtown Event Center this spring:

**The Spring into STEAM Event** – Sponsored by Cargill, this event promotes educational programs that inspire future careers in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM). Join us on March 18, 2026, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm for hands-on STEAM activities, giveaways, music, and more.

**The Student Job & Internship Fair** – Our annual student job fair takes place on March 26, 2026, from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm, offering students and families the opportunity to explore career pathways and connect with local employers in fields such as customer service, marketing, manufacturing, healthcare, and more.

Don't miss these opportunities to learn, connect, and discover future career possibilities!

For details, visit [city.fremont.gov/SpringIntoSTEAM](http://city.fremont.gov/SpringIntoSTEAM) and [fremontunified.org/StudentJobFair](http://fremontunified.org/StudentJobFair).





## Fremont Unified School District Updates

### FUSD LAUNCHES NATION-LEADING VEHICLE-TO-GRID SCHOOL BUS PROJECT

In a step toward clean energy and grid resilience, Fremont Unified School District (FUSD) has launched the nation's first fully integrated Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) bidirectional charging system for electric school buses. This pioneering project, Project Blueprint, aligns with the City of Fremont's climate action goals and showcases the collaboration between FUSD and the City.

"We're lucky to have such an expert team on this cutting-edge green energy project that supports our students' future," said Ernest Epley, FUSD's Director of Transportation.

At the ribbon-cutting ceremony in August, the District and City celebrated alongside partners including The Mobility House, World Resources Institute, Polara Energy, PG&E, and the grant-funder, Center for Transportation and the Environment.

This first-of-its-kind system not only delivers zero-emission student transportation but transforms school buses into mobile energy storage units that can send power back to the grid, especially critical during Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).

This project sets a national precedent for sustainable school infrastructure, energy resilience, and climate-forward



planning. Watch videos and learn more at [fremontunified.org/v2g](https://fremontunified.org/v2g).

### BEHIND THE SCENES WITH GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA

The City of Fremont's Geographic Information System (GIS) Division recently completed a successful data sharing project with the school district's Facilities Department. This behind-the-scenes partnership plays a key role in planning and improving services for the Fremont community.

Fremont Unified School District manages the most diverse range of properties across the city. Accurate spatial data supports emergency plans, updated maps, clear City Council voting districts, and high school attendance

area boundaries. This recent project provided additional data for long-term infrastructure development.

These GIS data-driven boundaries help determine key factors such as who appears on your ballot and which high school team to cheer for on Friday nights. You can explore a wealth of public data through the City of Fremont's Open Data Hub [city.fremont.gov/opendatahub](https://city.fremont.gov/opendatahub), or locate your neighborhood schools at [fremontunified.org/locator](https://fremontunified.org/locator).

### FUN FACTS

Did you know Fremont Unified School District rents out facilities for events and activities when use does not interfere with school activities? Interested in renting? Check availability and view photos at [fremontunified.org/rental](https://fremontunified.org/rental).

Currently enrolling, Fremont Unified offers accessible, free education distinguished by strong academics, a welcoming and diverse community, caring and experienced staff, and a commitment to safety and service in collaboration with the California Department of Education, which is known for its equitable, data-informed guidance.





## From Home to Curbside: Your Holiday Tree Collection Guide

### SINGLE FAMILY HOMES:

Republic Services® will provide free curbside holiday tree collection from Monday, December 29, 2025, through Friday, January 9, 2026—no need to call ahead. Please remove all decorations and choose the option below that is applicable to you:

- **Green Compost Cart:** For natural trees, cut the tree into pieces that fit loosely in the cart, so the lid remains closed.
- **Black Garbage/Landfill Cart:** For trees that are flocked or have decorations or tinsel, cut the tree into pieces that fit loosely in the cart, so the lid remains closed.
- **Curbside:** Trees under 6 feet may be placed in the gutter (not on the sidewalk). Trees larger than 6 feet must be cut in half.

### APARTMENTS/CONDOS:

Contact your property manager/HOA to arrange for collection.



### DROP-OFF:

- Available Friday, December 26, 2025, through Friday, January 30, 2026
- Republic Services, 42600 Boyce Rd., Fremont
- Open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Cost is free for natural, undecorated, and compostable trees
- \$5 fee for flocked/decorated trees, which are sent to the garbage/landfill



## Recycle Right: Keep Plastic Film Out of Your Blue Cart

**RECYCLING TIPS:** Plastic bags, bread bags, and plastic wrap from water bottles cannot go in your blue recycling cart. These materials jam sorting equipment at Fremont’s recycling facility and are rejected as trash.

A better option is to take your clean, dry plastic bags to participating grocery stores and retailers. To find a convenient drop-off location, visit [resource.stopwaste.org](http://resource.stopwaste.org) or scan the QR code and enter “Plastic Bags” with your ZIP code.

As a last resort, throw away plastic bags in your black garbage cart.

Or find a place to drop off your plastic bags!

[resource.stopwaste.org](http://resource.stopwaste.org)





## Understanding Watersheds and Why They Matter

Watersheds might not be the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Fremont, but they play an important role in our community.

A watershed is an area of land that drains water, rainfall, and snowfall to a common point. Watersheds can vary in size, shape, and boundary line, but they all function the same. Water travels through neighboring storm drains, creeks, lakes, and down through our local watersheds, which all eventually flow out to the San Francisco Bay.

In Fremont, local watersheds include Agua Fria Creek, Laguna Creek, Mowry Slough, Plummer Creek, Newark Slough, Crandall Creek, and Lower Alameda Creek. By protecting our watersheds' health, we gain significant benefits that improve our environment and community, including managed flood control, reduced drought, reduced fire risk, protected wildlife habitats, improved water quality, and enhanced opportunities for recreation, such as fishing, swimming, and boating.

Keeping our watersheds clean starts with stopping pollution before it reaches our roadways, waterways, and storm drains. Simple measures like maintaining green spaces, properly disposing of pet waste, and preventing spills go a long way in protecting our watersheds.

Ready to help keep our watersheds healthy? Volunteer opportunities are available, including the Adopt-a-Drain program and local park and creek cleanups. To learn more, visit [city.fremont.gov/esvolunteer](http://city.fremont.gov/esvolunteer).



## Your Guide to Identifying and Protecting Our Waterfowl



Why are so many waterfowl species migrating to Fremont? Because they know a good thing when they see it! They're drawn to our mild climate and rich habitats where our marshes, ponds, lakes, and creeks provide abundant food and shelter.

### What are waterfowl?

Waterfowl are birds that spend much of their lives in and around water. Three types of birds are considered waterfowl: ducks, geese, and swans. Generally, waterfowl share the following characteristics:

- Webbed feet that help them swim efficiently
- Boat-shaped bodies that keep them afloat
- Spoon-shaped bills that allow them to feed on a variety of aquatic organisms
- Relatively long necks that help them forage while keeping their bodies above water
- Special feathers that keep them warm and dry

Many species of ducks and geese are commonly found throughout Fremont, while swans are spotted occasionally in our community.

### How can we help waterfowl?

When rain washes down our roadways, it flows into storm drains and into our creeks, lakes, and wetlands where waterfowl live. If trash, soap, or chemicals enter the water, it can make the birds sick. You can help protect them by:

- Disposing of trash properly
- Picking up pet waste
- Limiting pesticide use
- Taking your car to a car wash instead of washing it at home
- Never pouring anything into a storm drain

Clean water means happy, healthy birds! Learn more about Fremont's waterfowl by visiting the City's Nature Learning Center, located at 40224 Paseo Padre Pkwy. in Central Park.

For more information, visit [city.fremont.gov/nlc](http://city.fremont.gov/nlc).



## Fremont's Coastal Cleanup Day: A Community Success

This year's Coastal Cleanup Day in Fremont was a remarkable display of community spirit and environmental commitment! On Saturday, September 20, a total of 201 enthusiastic volunteers mobilized across seven designated sites. They covered 275 acres and made a significant impact on our local waterways. Their collective effort resulted in the removal of an impressive 2,138 pounds of debris, including 1,620 pounds of trash,

318 pounds of recyclables, and 200 pounds of compost. Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers!

Among the usual debris, some interesting finds included several toys and a bag of IDs, credit cards, and checks (turned over to the Fremont Police Department). The cleanup also highlighted a serious issue: a significant amount of pet waste. As a reminder, pet waste must be disposed of in the trash

to prevent pathogens and parasites from washing into our waterways.

The wide range of debris collected underscores the variety of waste that accumulates in our environment. We encourage everyone to continue reducing waste in their daily lives. By working together, we can protect our natural resources and keep Fremont a beautiful place for generations to come.

## Lake Elizabeth's New Water Quality Measures



Our beautiful Lake Elizabeth in Central Park has exciting new features as part of the City's Lake Elizabeth Water Quality Improvement Pilot Project. These features are designed to protect the lake's wildlife and make it healthier and more resilient, especially during hot summer days.

If visiting, you may notice these new features on the lake's surface:

- **Nine vegetated floating islands:** Not only are these attractive, but they will also create vital shaded shelters for fish and provide new habitats for both aquatic and land-based organisms.
- **A small fountain and two aerators:** These additions stabilize the water temperature, keep the water oxygenated, and improve water circulation to prevent algae growth.

In addition, the City has installed three monitoring probes to collect important data, which help us understand how effective these new measures are in keeping the lake's temperature and oxygen levels stable.

These measures, costing approximately \$175,000, are designed to reduce the likelihood of fish die-off events during extreme heat, like we saw in July 2024. If successful, the City may consider these measures for other sections of the lake.

Our goal is for Lake Elizabeth to remain a healthy haven for wildlife and a place our community can enjoy for years to come. Project updates are available at [city.fremont.gov/lakeelizabethwaterqualityproject](http://city.fremont.gov/lakeelizabethwaterqualityproject).

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSEDDM\*\*\*\*\*

## RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER



# CITY OF FREMONT HOLIDAY CLOSURE

As in years past, the City of Fremont will be implementing a Holiday Closure for many non-public safety City services. Some City offices will be closed from Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025, through Friday, Jan. 2, 2026. City Holidays are observed Dec. 24, 25, and 31, 2025, and Jan. 1, 2026, while limited City services will be offered Dec. 26, 29, and 30, 2025, and Jan. 2, 2026. City offices and facilities participating in the Holiday Closure will re-open for business on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026. This closure will not affect police and fire services.

### OFFICES THAT ARE TAKING PART IN THE HOLIDAY CLOSURE INCLUDE:

- ★ **City Hall**, 3300 Capitol Ave., Building A and Building B (Administrative offices)
- ★ **Fire Administration**, 3300 Capitol Ave., Building A
- ★ **Development Services Center/ Permit Center**, 39550 Liberty St.
- ★ **Maintenance Center**, 42551 Osgood Rd.
- ★ **All Community Centers and Recreation Buildings**
- ★ **Age Well Centers** at Lake Elizabeth and South Fremont
- ★ **Tri-City Animal Shelter**, 1950 Stevenson Blvd.

### DURING THE HOLIDAY CLOSURE:

- ★ Parks and Recreation Registration Desk, 3300 Capitol Ave., Building B is open for walk-in registration of recreation programs from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 26, 29, 30, 2025, and Jan. 2, 2026.
- ★ Parks and Recreation Division will offer camps and other programs at some facilities. Visit [RegeRec.com](http://RegeRec.com) for more info.
- ★ Human Services will provide limited services for Family Resource Center.
- ★ Healthy Start Program will provide limited services.
- ★ Afghan Elderly Association will not be providing services.
- ★ The Fremont Police Department and Fremont Fire Department will continue to provide public safety services.
- ★ A minimum number of City staff will be available in an on-call status to provide emergency maintenance services such as responding to storm-related issues.
- ★ Regularly-scheduled street sweeping will occur on Dec. 26, 29, 30, 2025, and Jan. 2, 2026; weather permitting. No street sweeping on City-observed holidays.
- ★ All construction and development services will be unavailable. The City's online permitting portal, Citizen Access, will be unavailable starting Dec. 23, at 12 p.m. through Jan. 5, 2026, at 8 a.m.

Online requests for permits and building inspections will not be available during this time. This includes planning, building, and engineering permits.

- ★ The Tri-City Animal Shelter at 1950 Stevenson Blvd. will be closed on City-observed holidays: Dec. 24, 25, and 31, 2025, and Jan. 1, 2026. Shelter staff will still be onsite caring for the animals, but the shelter will not be open to the public. For urgent matters, such as reclaiming a found pet, please email [animalshelter@fremont.gov](mailto:animalshelter@fremont.gov) or call 510-790-6645. Animal Services Officers will have limited hours during these dates.
- ★ There will be no garbage, recycling, and compost/organics collection by Republic Services on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Collection service will be delayed one day during these weeks due to holidays. (Friday services will occur on Saturday.) Call 510-657-3500 for more information.
- ★ The Fremont Tennis Center will be open for public play, weather permitting. There will be some limited holiday public hours; call 510-790-5510 for more info.

Many City facilities and programs experience a reduction in service demand during the Holiday Closure dates. The City anticipates the Holiday Closure will have little or no impact on service delivery efficiency.