



How the City is Faring Financially with COVID

Where We are Doing Better than Expected

- Sales Tax – Up To \$1,000,000 – More Construction and Business to Business than Retail Oriented – Also, Larger Percentage of Overall County
- Property Tax – Up to \$400,000 – Staff was very conservative not anticipating increases – Received increases from new construction on Sierra Point
- Business Taxes – Did not anticipate value of Cannabis Delivery in Town since this is a new businesses category – Up to \$350,000

5:08 / 34:13

If you caught the State of the City in November, Finance Director Stuart Schillinger gave a report on the City’s budget and finances. In that report, he talked about the various taxes the City receives, and how all of them, except for Transient Occupancy/Hotel Tax, are doing better than expected.

For instance, Sales Tax, which is the City’s largest revenue source, is up about **\$1,000,000 more than** what he would have anticipated, thanks to our mix of businesses in town being more construction-related and businesses that sell products to other businesses

(B2B) vs. businesses that sell finished products and services directly to consumers (B2C), such as shopping malls. As a direct result of COVID, Brisbane became a larger percentage of the County’s overall countywide sales tax collection (normally, we’re about 3% of the County’s overall sales tax, but in recent quarters, we’ve been closer to 5-6%).

Another area we’ve been doing better is in Property Tax, where the City is up **\$400,000 more than** what was anticipated due to the new construction happening at Sierra Point. Staff was very conservative in making their projections and hadn’t projected any increases in this area due to not being sure how COVID would affect property taxes. You’re probably aware that property taxes get paid to a variety of agencies, of which the City is one; we receive approximately 20% of the property tax paid for on a house. And with construction being an “essential businesses”, it was able to continue after just a short delay at the start of the pandemic, with the healthcare campuses coming along nicely as you may have noticed when visiting the Brisbane Marina or Bay Trail.

One of the things we consider very important in the City are our Recreation programs, and that is why our Pool, which not many cities have, has been open since July for water aerobics and lap swim, with the facility operating under strict COVID protocols. We’re also providing childcare as we know that is a need for working parents, as well as have increased Senior Lunches from being offered one to two times a week, with the help of Samaritan House providing the hot lunches themselves where they’re easily and safely picked up via a drive-thru operation on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Sunrise Room. (continued on next page)





Parks and Recreation staff Steve Beaty and Teresa Madrigal helping distribute Senior Lunches outside of the Sunrise Room.



At the end of 2020, the City Council, seeing the need to assist residents struggling to make rental payments, set **aside \$100,000** from the City's Housing Authority Low Income Funds to provide renters with the greatest need a grant up to \$4,000 for rental assistance, or 80% of the amount of rent owed. The City Council, also realizing that many non-profits were not able to hold their annual or end-of-year fundraisers due to COVID distributed **\$10,000 in grant funds**, based on proportionate losses from the pandemic, to San Bruno Mountain Watch (\$5,440), BES PTO (\$2,550), Brisbane Dance Workshop (\$1,150), and the Brisbane Eagles Club (\$850).

Lastly, we've also completed a couple major Capital Improvement Projects **during** COVID. One of them being the Water Main Replacement Project, which will receive a slurry seal on Kings Rd. when the temperatures and precipitation risks are more conducive to the successive application of the slurry seal surface, allowing for a smoother and more even-looking roadway. The subcontractor is standing by until there's a suitable break in the weather and we can move forward with completing this roughly \$2M project. Another project that was recently completed was the retaining wall on Kings Rd. This project allowed for slope stabilization on the 400 block and cost about \$250,000.



With that, we hope you're able to see that Brisbane has weathered the pandemic probably better than you may have thought, or seen reported on the news. We attribute that to prudent financial planning of both the Council and the staff along with a robust mix of businesses, all of which help ensure that we are still able to meet our obligations and provide the services our community needs, and expects...even in light of a pandemic. To play back the State of the City, please visit: youtu.be/uZcxQARCUcl.

Find Moments of Joy

SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
All together better.

#SMCGettingThroughCOVID

This may be a familiar face, as it's none other than Brisbane's own, Dolores Gomez, whose image was used by San Mateo County Health as part of their #SMCGettingThroughCovid campaign.

DID YOU KNOW...

You can stay connected with us on Instagram and other social media outlets?

Nextdoor

Black History Month 2021



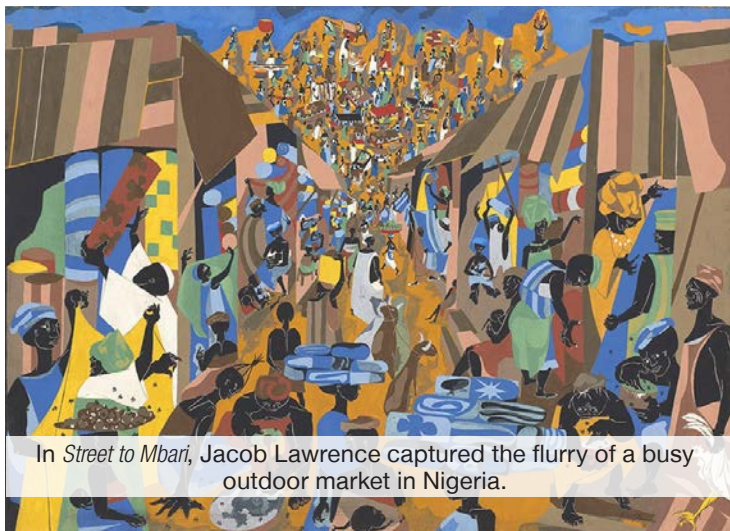
Since 1976, every American president has designated February as Black History Month, also known as African American History Month, and endorsed a specific theme.

The Black History Month 2021 theme, “Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity” explores the African diaspora, or the movement from their original homeland, including the spread of Black families across the United States.

The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration holds a wealth of material documenting the African American experience, and highlights these resources online, in public programs and online exhibits, and through traditional and social media.

Find the Archives here: [archives.gov/research/african-americans](https://www.archives.gov/research/african-americans).

See more selected exhibits and collections here: africanamericanhistorymonth.gov/exhibits-and-collections, including Art & Design, Civil Rights, Music & Performing Arts, and Resource Guides from the Library of Congress.



In *Street to Mbari*, Jacob Lawrence captured the flurry of a busy outdoor market in Nigeria.

Your Spare Room Can Change a Life



Rent it *with* HIP Housing

[HIPhousing.org](https://hiphousing.org)

(650) 348-6660

HIP Housing is a non-profit based in San Mateo County that matches individuals who have a spare room or Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) with individuals seeking housing. HIP Housing interviews applicants, conducts background searches, develops a “Living Together Agreement,” and provides on-going follow-up support. HIP Housing is supported by the City of Brisbane, the County, and 19 other municipalities in San Mateo County. Request a virtual appointment at hiphousing.org or call (650) 999-6450.



IT ONLY



WORKS



IF YOU



USE IT

Smoke Alarms at Home



SMOKE ALARMS ARE A KEY PART of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

SAFETY TIPS

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology including multi-sensing, which could include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.
- Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

FACTS

- ! A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- ! Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection.
- ! Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

North County Fire Authority

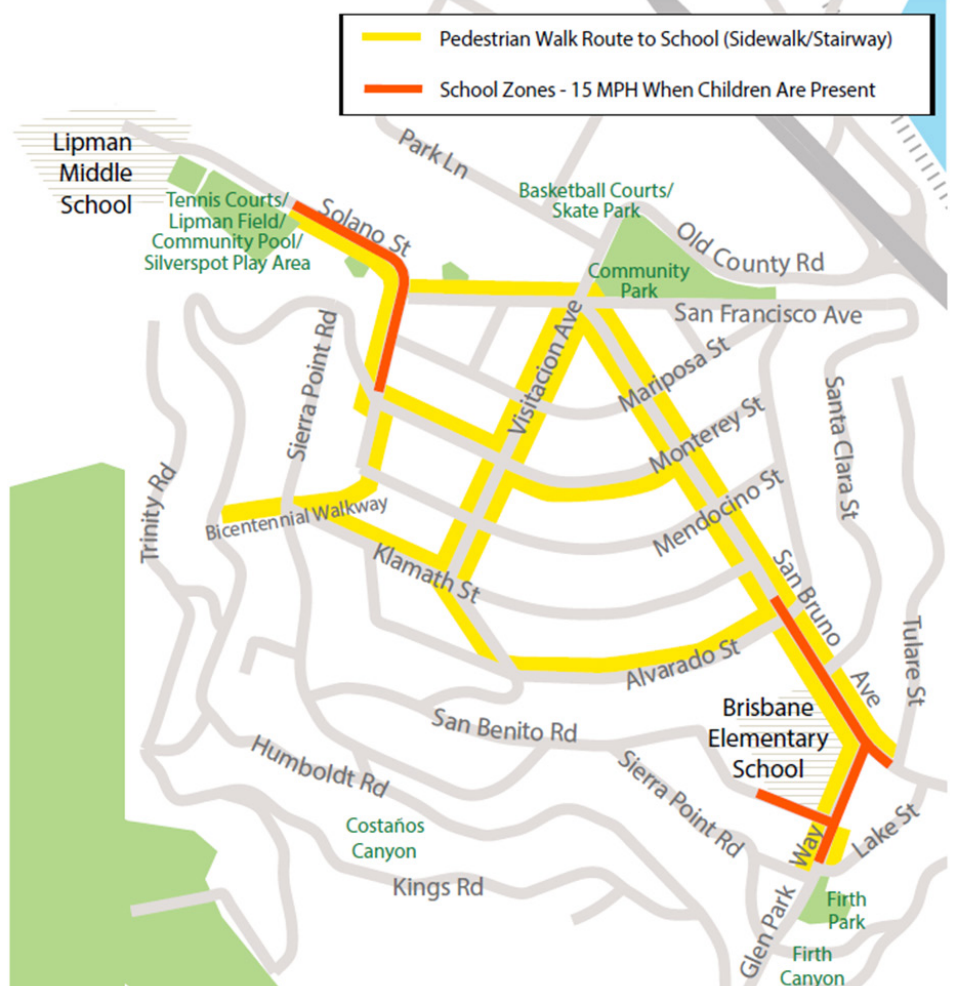


Update on Official Walk Routes to Schools and Green Infrastructure Project



As you might have noticed, the pandemic has brought about a lot of interest in walking, bicycling, and heading outdoors to stay physically active. With that, the City of Brisbane would like to remind you of the Walk Routes to Schools that you are encouraged to use while walking around town or for going to school when it comes time for BES and Lipman to either re-open to full in-person learning or a hybrid rotation schedule. The Walk Routes are intended to provide designated routes for students, families, and other pedestrians to get around Central Brisbane on foot as safely and comfortably as possible. The Walk Routes were chosen based on sidewalk clearance, visibility, and observed walking trends.

Several pedestrian safety improvements were made in Central Brisbane last summer, with the help of grant funding from the City/County Association of Governments, which included new curb ramps, re-striping intersections with high-visibility “piano key”-style crosswalks, adding related signage, and inseting wayfinding markers such as the one shown here along the Walk Routes to Schools. Green infrastructure bio-retention basins, or bioswales, that use native and drought-tolerant plants to help treat stormwater, were also installed at various locations along the Walk Routes. These basins serve a dual purpose – stormwater capture and flood prevention, as well as safer intersections by way of the bulb-outs which provide for safe crossings and greater visibility into the intersections used frequently for walking to school. If you would like to see a “mature” version of a bioswale, just head down to City Hall, where adjacent to the parking lot is one of the County’s first demonstration projects. Read more in the Countywide Flows to Bay Sustainable Streets Master Plan: flowstobay.org/data-resources/plans/sustainable-streets-master-plan.



Brisbane, City Hall Green Parking Lot

The San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program has helped advance green infrastructure and sustainable streets in the county through local funding initiatives. This is one of many demonstration projects from our program.

Another new feature includes the introduction of 15 MPH speed zones on several streets near BES and Lipman. You may have seen the new signs while traveling through town. The streets are listed in the table on the next page:

Locations for Establishment of

15 MPH Speed Zones During School Hours When Children Are Present 25 MPH Speed Zones Outside School Hours

No.	School Name	Street Name	Limit 1	Limit 2
1	Brisbane Elementary	San Bruno Avenue	75 ft. north of Alvarado Street	Tulare Street
2	Brisbane Elementary	Glen Parkway	San Bruno Avenue	Lake Street
3	Brisbane Elementary	San Benito Road	Glen Parkway	245 ft. west of Glen Parkway
4	Lipman Middle	Solano Street	School Entrance	Monterey Street/Humboldt Road

Per the California Vehicle Code, the speed limit on these streets is to be **15 MPH only when children are present at the start and end of the school day**. Outside of those hours, the speed limit will remain 25 MPH when traveling through a school zone. Although the signs are in place now, they will not be enforced until the schools begin either a hybrid learning or full in-person schedule and where more students will be using the Walk Routes to Schools. When enforcement of the speed zones begins, Brisbane Police will start with a warning period before citing drivers for violations. We'll also be sure to provide another reminder in the STAR, as well as work with the schools to remind parents and guardians, when that time comes.

For now, we encourage you to be active and to replace a driving trip with a walking trip whenever possible. While using the Walk Routes, please be sure to maintain social distancing and be aware of your surroundings. You can find additional safe walking tips from the Safe Routes Partnership here: brisbaneca.org/safe-walking-tips.

For more information on the Walk Routes to Schools improvements, please contact Assistant Engineer Justin Yuen at jyuen@brisbaneca.org.

Fill out the Residential Design Preference Survey!



What design elements do **you** like to see in any new residential development in Brisbane? Setbacks and yards between the building and the street? Balconies or bay windows that break up tall building walls? Landscaping that provides screening? Do your design preferences depend on where the residential development may be located? Complete the Residential Design Preference Survey on the City's website at brisbaneca.org/SB2survey and let us know!

The Residential Design Preference Survey is part of the SB2 Planning Grant Implementation Program (PGIP) (brisbaneca.org/sb2). As we shared in the December STAR, the SB2 PGIP is a State-funded program to update the City's zoning regulations and procedures related to housing development to comply with new State laws that require our housing

design standards to be objective. Objective standards require no interpretation or personal judgment, as opposed to subjective standards that are subject to interpretation and which may cause different people to disagree based on their personal perspectives and opinions.

For a full explanation of the SB2 PGIP and to sign up for email updates, visit the project webpage at brisbaneca.org/sb2. You can see a list of all subscription options at brisbaneca.org/subscribe.

February City Calendar



The City's **Meals for Seniors Lunch Program** takes place **Mondays & Wednesdays** from **12-12:45pm** outside the Senior Sunrise Room (2 Visitation Avenue) for drive-by pick-up. Call (415) 508-2144 if you would like to participate in the meal program.

The **Brisbane Farmers' Market** takes place now **Thursdays** from **2-6pm** in the Community Park. Face coverings are required, and 6 ft. markers are being placed at the two produce booths. To keep everyone safe, please enter those booths from the entrance only.

Brisbane Community Calendar link: brisbaneca.org/calendar

Residential Street Sweeping: 2nd Monday of Every Month

Commercial Street Sweeping: Weds. 3-6am

Public Meeting Agendas may be viewed online at brisbaneca.org/meetings at least 24 hours prior to a Special Meeting, and at least 72 hours prior to a Regular Meeting.

01, Monday, 6:30pm

Regular Complete Streets Safety Committee Meeting

B – Broadcast on Comcast Ch. 27 and youtube.com/brisbaneca

04, Thursday, 7:30pm

City Council Goal Setting Workshop, B

City Hall Regular Hours of Operation (staff available by phone or email, except for 2/12 for Lincoln's Birthday and 2/15 for President's Day):

M, T, Th 8am-5pm, W 8am-5pm, F 8am-1pm

05, Friday, 6-7pm

Virtual Valentine: Chocolate Tasting & SMCL Fundraiser (investinsmcl.org/virtualtastingregistration)

Do you have questions about the STAR or have an article to suggest? Articles are due by the 15th of each month. Contact Caroline at ccheung@brisbaneca.org or call her at (415) 508-2157.

10, Wednesday, 7:30pm

Regular Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, B

11, Thursday, 7:30pm

Regular Planning Commission Meeting, B

16, Tuesday, 1-6pm

Blood Drive and COVID-19 Antibody Testing at Vitalant, 400 Valley Dr. (tinyurl.com/brisbaneblooddrive)

17, Wednesday, 6:30pm

Regular Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting, B

18, Thursday, 7:30pm

Regular City Council Meeting, B

22, Monday, 3-6pm

COVID-19 Testing at the Pool, 2 Solano St. (tinyurl.com/brisbanecovidtesting3)

25, Thursday, 7:30pm

Regular Planning Commission Meeting, B

Schedule a FREE Painless, Oral Mouth Swab COVID-19 Test Today!

Monday, February 22nd from 3:00pm-6:00pm

Location:

Brisbane Community Pool
2 Solano St, Brisbane, CA

Appointment Registration Required

Register with the QR Code to the right or use the link below:

 tinyurl.com/brisbanecovidtesting3

Watch what the test is like:

 tinyurl.com/mouthswabtest



?s: Call: (415) 508-2144





Physician: Dr. Sachin Gupta



You may recall that early on in the pandemic, the City Council held a series of Virtual Town Halls (7 in all; see brisbaneca.org/virtualtownhalls), where two Councilmembers took turns rotating to share resources and information they were learning on their weekly calls with County Health officials. Joining them on two of those Town Hall events was Dr. Sachin Gupta, a practicing Pulmonary & Critical Care physician actively involved in clinical research, health advocacy, medical education, and health volunteering. He was eager to share his learnings and first-hand experiences with the Brisbane community, and at the time, was helping to create guidelines for physicians to use as a member of California Thoracic Society COVID-19 Clinical Practice Committee. We wanted to see how Dr. Gupta was doing, especially in light of the COVID-19 vaccine becoming available for health care workers and long term care residents.

When did you receive your vaccine and did you have any side effects?

My COVID vaccine experience was a positive one. Understanding the science behind the vaccine's development, appreciating the novelty of this form of immunization, and witnessing how devastating the pandemic has been to patients made my vaccination experience feel quite surreal.

I received my first dose of the Pfizer vaccine on December 19th and second dose on January 8th. After taking the first dose, I actually went on a hike and felt great. I budgeted in a nap for some of the fatigue I felt the first day, my arm was sore for about 3 days, and after that I felt fine. I was free of symptoms the same day after the second dose, however, on the second and third days I felt chills, body aches, a mild headache, and fatigue that had me turning in early for 2 nights; after that I've been symptom-free.

I highly encourage all adults to get the vaccine. There is an avalanche of misinformation out there about the vaccine on social media and group chats. While roll-out of the vaccine has been disappointingly slow, it will eventually improve. Right now is a great window of time to talk to your physician if you have specific concerns about getting vaccinated.

What has it been like in the hospitals?

Several months ago I made a transition to working in biotechnology, however, I have been helping out by picking up ICU shifts on weekends. Fortunately, PPE shortages are far less an issue now. The atmosphere in the hospital and ICU is noticeably different than before. Generally, the ICU is an energetic environment of ICU nurses (the best!), pharmacists, ancillary staff, and physicians. While the atmosphere remains positive, the energy is much lower and people look exhausted. The physical toll of repeatedly gearing up in PPE before seeing patients with COVID and managing the increased hospital volume, not to mention the emotional toll of seeing patients (many of whom are middle-aged) frequently

doing poorly despite aggressive interventions, has worn hospital workers down. Additionally, the mental toll in doing everything possible to avoid bringing the virus home to loved ones contributes to lower morale. ICU teams are inherently resilient by the nature of the work we do, but I am concerned for my colleagues over the next several months.

Personally, there are two things that particularly impact me during these times: One is having to share bad news with patients' family members over the phone, rather than having that conversation and last minutes/hours shared at the bedside (due to COVID visitation protocols). Two is seeing multiple family members hospitalized at the same time – it feels quite tragic.

Are you still involved with the California Thoracic Society COVID-19 Clinical practice committee, helping with creating guidelines for physicians?

As part of the California Thoracic Society Clinical Practice Committee, we felt early on that it was important to help fill a gap in what other professional societies were generating in terms of practice recommendations and we focused on creating outpatient/clinic COVID-19 management guidelines for physicians and staff. We based our recommendations on our own best practices and available research. It includes recommendations on how offices should handle phone triaging of patients calling in with potential COVID symptoms, masks/PPE recommendations for patients in clinic who were suspected to have COVID, how to handle nasal swabbing, and therapeutic options for outpatients who are COVID-positive. It was a major undertaking for us but we all felt it was worth it to help support our colleagues across the state. Several months into the pandemic, most clinics established protocols and we hope our resource was and continues to be of help to them.



What sites do you frequent to keep up-to-date on the latest with news about the virus?

One of the upsides to Twitter during the pandemic is that the #MedTwitter postings usually carry scientific articles that are hot off the press. Some of the commentary that folks weigh in with is actually very helpful, and links/access to pre-prints (not peer reviewed) has been useful at times. This might be outside the scope for most casual readers. Otherwise, Medscape and [CHESTphysician.org](https://www.chestphysician.org) tend to curate good articles, summarize them, and frequently include commentary as well.

What would you like to tell your fellow community members at this time?

First off, I am proud of our community here in Brisbane. Whether it is on stroller rides around the Ridge, buying veggies at the Farmers' Market, or playing with our son at Mission Blue or the Community Park – I see residents doing the right thing. While initially a challenge, we have heeded the call necessary to reduce the spread of the virus among us and good habits have formed.

All of us have had to deal with the pandemic and have been affected in so many ways. It is clear, though, that several groups of people in our community have borne a brunt of the challenge. Our Latino/Hispanic and Black communities

are dealing with higher infection rates and, according to several studies, have comparatively worse COVID-related healthcare outcomes; additionally, the economic impact of the pandemic has been more pronounced for these groups. The elderly and disabled have also experienced worse COVID outcomes, and generally have been living with a greater mental health toll stemming from social isolation. People with existing, or newly-developed, mental health problems have had less access to mental health care and less social interaction during the pandemic; not unsurprisingly, drug overdoses and deaths have significantly increased as well. Women are frequently dealing with increased childcare & home responsibilities, while also being expected to be highly productive at work, leading to stress and burnout. And finally, children are a victim of shutdown classrooms, with online learning not a panacea, especially for younger kids; food insecurity for poorer children without access to school lunches; and reduced socialization with peers. A whole generation of children is being impacted in our local and surrounding communities.

I highlight each of these groups not to separate or divide, but rather to unite. When we wear the shoes of another, it eventually leads to compassion. Compassion bears out as forgiveness towards a co-worker who is snappy on a Zoom call, as an extra helping hand by asking a neighbor if they need help getting groceries, going out of our way to organize walks with friends or calling our relatives a little more, by being charitable with our time and money.

We have many more months ahead of us until vaccines will be widely available and our lives to return to a sense of normalcy – in the meantime, let's all keep up the good work of helping each other out, frequent hand-washing, keeping socially distanced, and wearing our masks! ★

A "Sweet" Event You Don't Want to Miss!



VIRTUAL VALENTINE: Chocolate Tasting and San Mateo County Libraries Fundraiser

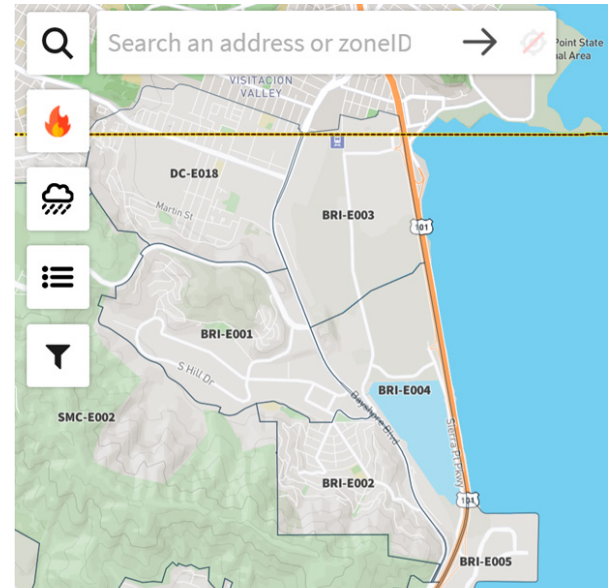
February 5th, 2021
6PM-7PM



The San Mateo County Library Foundation has your chocolates covered for Valentine's Day!! They are hosting a Virtual Valentine event on Friday, February 5th from 6-7pm with chocolates by Timothy Adams and dessert wine pairings by Zola. Learn more and register here: investinsmcl.org/virtualtastingregistration.

This is the Foundation's first of four fundraisers in 2021, with ALL profits going to programs for San Mateo County Libraries. The more they're able to raise, the more community members they can serve. An example is SMCL's "Big Lift Inspiring Summers Program", a popular program amongst parents and serves many underserved children in our county. Please also check out smcl.org to see all the library system has to offer! You may be surprised at how many excellent programs and offerings there are in their catalog for every person in our community. But first, chocolate. Register with the link today!

“Know Your Zone” wth Zonehaven



In the event of a wildfire or an emergency situation, law enforcement and fire agencies issue evacuation warnings or evacuation orders for impacted areas. These notices are issued for a Zone with an evacuation Status. If you recall the wildfires from 2020, CAL FIRE used Zone Names in their press releases to indicate the evacuation status levels within San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Santa Clara counties.

Take a look at the map and note which zone you're in. If you want, you can then cut out the template above, fill in your zone, and then post it on your fridge or somewhere you can easily refer to if needed.

Please also make sure you are signed up for SMC Alert (smcalert.info), the City's and County's emergency alert notification system. You can also opt in to receive solely Brisbane alerts by texting "94005" to 888-777.

Introducing Nvoicepay

The Finance Department is pleased to announce the City of Brisbane has partnered with Nvoicepay, an ePayables solution, to expand our electronic payments program effective 1/14/21.

We are committed to the continued conversion of our vendors from manual check payments to electronic payments through this ePayments platform. This is a corporate initiative to streamline our payment process, and provide our vendors the opportunity to receive their payments more quickly, supporting them in minimizing the need to handle paper checks, especially helpful during this era of COVID-19, or that can get lost in the mail, and will accelerate their cash flow and improve efficiency.

HOW IT WORKS

Vendors can select the payment methods they accept. These include MasterCard and ACH payments.

Mastercard Payments: A detailed remittance advice, containing full invoice information and a single use virtual card number will be issued for each card payment made via email or fax. The email will contain a link to the Nvoicepay Payment Command Center where the vendor will enter a password to receive the complete information to process the card payment. Vendors will use the detailed remittance advice to clear the open



invoices as paid within their Accounts Receivable System. The vendor will also have access to reporting and historical payment history within the Payment Command Center.

ACH Payments: A detailed remittance advice containing full invoice information will be emailed or faxed to the vendor. The full payment amount is automatically deposited into their bank account. Vendors will need to confirm receipt of the payment in their bank account and use the detailed remittance advice to clear the open invoices as paid within their Accounts Receivable system.

If not enrolled, vendors will receive their payments in the form of a check from Nvoicepay.

VENDOR QUESTIONS

Nvoicepay commenced vendor outreach in October, making calls in addition to sending out enrollment letters on our behalf. Vendor questions should be directed to Nvoicepay's Vendor Support team at 877-626-6332 or vendors@nvoicepay.com. Vendors can also contact Lori Pierce, Stuart Schillinger, or Carolina Yuen in the City's Finance Department if have any reservations or other concerns at (415) 508-2150.

BiRite Becomes First to Complete City's New Brisbane Building Efficiency Program

BiRite Foodservice Distributors is proving that smart energy and water management pays off. Recently, BiRite completed an early compliance effort for the Brisbane Building Efficiency Program (BBEP) in November 2020. This Program was created in 2019 to help make local buildings more energy and water efficient and curb emissions driving climate change. Most owners of local buildings 10,000 sq. feet or more must benchmark their building and report results to the City annually starting May 15, 2021. By participating in the early compliance effort, BiRite was able to complete requirements ahead of time, take advantage of 1:1 support, and gain a better understanding of their building resource use.



BiRite Foodservice Distributors is an owner-occupied food distribution center that has been in Brisbane since the late 1990s. The locally owned and operated company provides food service support to restaurants, catering, schools, and hotels in the greater Bay Area. Their 235,000 square foot facility, built in 1980, is served by Peninsula Clean Energy. Nathan Barulich is the third generation business owner who has led many of BiRite's smart resource management efforts and participation in the Building Efficiency Program. Nathan, alongside his two brothers and father as co-owners, says that they see tremendous value in owning and operating the business while supporting the

local community. His motivation to pursue smart resource management was doing what's right for the environment, for the company, and their finances. Nathan's goal is to be self-reliant as a company; the more variables he can control the better. Due to rising energy costs, he decided to install rooftop solar on the facility - a 1.6 megawatt system with a total of 4,500 solar panels - and add battery storage to offset peak demand charges and energy use. Nathan leveraged tax benefits and rebates, and encourages others to explore similar opportunities because the investment pays back faster than most realize.

Nathan benchmarked his facility using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM) to comply with Brisbane's Building Efficiency Program. Benchmarking refers to the process of tracking performance against a standard; in this case dividing a building's energy and water use by square footage. ESPM is an online tool managed by the Environmental Protection Agency that helps measure and track resource usage and greenhouse gas emissions for buildings. Nathan found ESPM easy to navigate and intuitive. It took about a month to complete, and Nathan expressed gratitude for the one-on-one support. Although it was a relatively straightforward process, Nathan cautions that building representatives allow themselves time to navigate the collection of data from PG&E and troubleshooting with utility representatives, which can be time consuming. He's glad to have completed the compliance requirements early and looks forward to analyzing his building's energy performance.

Although the Brisbane Building Efficiency Program requirements apply to buildings 10,000 sq. feet or larger, the benefits of energy and water benchmarking can be realized for buildings of all sizes, and resource savings from upgrades contribute to a more efficient, safer, and comfortable environment in any building. For more information about the Program, resources to leverage, and compliance requirements, please visit Brisbane's Program website at brisbaneca.org/bbep and contact bbep@brisbaneca.org or (415) 347-2010.



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www.youtube.com/BrisbaneCA

ARTISTS' EVENING of SHARING

Artists' Evening of Sharing - 2021
Saturday, March 27th | 6pm

City of Brisbane
4.7K subscribers

Join us for this LIVE virtual event showcasing talented Brisbane artists. For more information or if you are interested in being a featured artist visit BrisbaneCA.org/AES

Because of you, life doesn't stop

#VitalToLife

Blood Drive

Brisbane Community
Tuesday, February 16, 2021
1:30 PM – 6:00 PM
Location: Vitalant's 'Community Room'
400 Valley Drive, Brisbane, CA 94005

To make an appointment, visit:
www.tinyurl.com/brisbaneblooddrive

- ADVANCE APPOINTMENTS** are encouraged to help maintain social distancing.
- All donors must bring and wear a **MASK** or **CLOTH-BASED FACE COVERING**.
- DONATIONS TESTED FOR COVID ANTIBODIES** to help identify potential convalescent plasma donors.

DONATE BLOOD
vitalant.org 877-25-VITAL

vitalant

Put a FREEZE on Winter Fires

Did you know? As you stay cozy and warm this winter, stay fire smart!

DEC JAN FEB

Half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.

Plug only **1 heat-producing appliance** (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.

Keep anything that can burn **at least 3 feet** from any heat source.

U.S. Fire Administration | Fire is Everyone's Fight | NFPA

Be Kind to Your Mind – Get Access to Headspace for Free!

Whether near or far, we are all still connected.

headspace

Brisbane Rental Assistance Program

the Y RCA FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT* FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SAMARITAN HOUSE

brisbaneca.org/rentalassistance

Last year (and the current one!) has affected all of us in different ways. But there's one thing that keeps San Mateo County strong: a sense of community. That's why Headspace and San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services are working together to provide free resources that can help residents weather this storm.

Visit headspace.com/san-mateo-county to access Headspace meditations, sleep sounds, and movement exercises designed to help you care for your mind – all free through August 2021 if you live, work, or go to school in San Mateo County. Because in times like these, a little support goes a long way.

Printed on 100% recycled paper with soy-based ink.