

# HILLSBOROUGH

## 4TH QUARTER 2007



## TOWN COUNCIL SEEKS WIRELESS SITING AND TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

A recent proposal to install a cell phone tower at Vista Park provoked a strong community response. Although the applicant, T-Mobile, ultimately withdrew its proposal for Vista Park because of a deed restriction on the property, the subject of cell phone facility siting in the Town is an ongoing and important issue.

Residents have expressed conflicting views on the installation of wireless facilities in Town. "Allowing this structure to be placed in tiny Vista Park puts in jeopardy the very sizable investment the Town and its citizens have made in Vista Park and (seriously diminishes) the visual appeal of the space," one resident wrote to City Council.

Other residents argue that better cell phone coverage is needed. "I do live near one of the proposed sites. I would welcome the improved cellular reception which is lacking in so many neighborhoods as well as critical community sites such as the schools," a resident wrote.

In July 2007, the City Council directed staff to conduct a detailed fact finding process involving all of the existing wireless carriers who are currently interested in adding wireless service in Hillsborough, specifically Sprint, Nextel, Verizon, T-Mobile, AT&T, NextG and MetroPCS, to determine existing wireless coverage in Town and to

assess the future coverage goals of the carriers. To begin that process, Town staff invited all of the wireless carriers to a face-to-face meeting at Town Hall.

The fact finding meeting was held on August 22, 2007. The wireless carriers at the meeting discussed their current service availability in the Town and the future plans for additional coverage and services. Slide and oral presentations were made by City Manager Tony Constantouros; Public Works Director Martha DeBry; Assistant City Manager Kathy Leroux; Police Chief Matt O'Connor; and the city's wireless technology consultant, Jonathan Kramer, Esq.

Based on the information provided at the August meeting, Town staff identified a number of information points that would help to provide the City Council with a clearer view of current and future wireless services. That resulted in the development of an in-depth questionnaire soliciting that information from the various wireless carriers.

The responses to the questionnaires were turned into the Town in September. They are currently being tabulated and analyzed by Town staff and the wireless technology advisor.

A report of the findings to date will be presented to the City Council as a Study Session item prior to the regular Council meeting on November 13, 2007. Study Sessions are open to the public.

## WHERE TO LEARN WHAT IS GOING ON IN HILLSBOROUGH

Hillsborough's City Council, Communications Advisory Committee and staff make every effort to keep residents informed about Town news and issues.

The most comprehensive and readily available information exists on the Town website, [www.hillsborough.net](http://www.hillsborough.net). The website contains everything from the entire municipal code, to forms and services, to information on every city department, to City Council and ADRB meeting agendas, minutes and public notices. A site index, under Forms and Services on the home page, includes every topic, from A to Z.

If you want to follow a topic of interest, consider attending meetings. Study Sessions and City Council meetings are open to the public. The discussion at a Study Sessions is very detailed and pros and cons are weighed. Action on an item is generally taken at a City Council or Architecture and Design Review Board (ADRB) meeting, preceded by some discussion. Dates of Study Sessions or Council meetings can be found on the website under the calendar section. If you want to be notified about a particular topic, sign up for E-Notify on the website. You will automatically be sent information on upcoming meetings, agendas, minutes, and other information on topics you specify of interest to you.

If you do not have access to the Town website, there are other ways to find out about meetings. City Council and ADRB agendas and meeting dates are posted on the Town bulletin boards. The board outside Town Hall, 1600 Floribunda Avenue, is easy to access. If need be, you may phone Town Hall, 650-375-7400, and ask questions.

The Town also provides information by mail. Quarterly, the Town newsletter is sent to every homeowner in Town. The newsletter covers topics ranging from important issues in Town, to news on employees, to tips on fire and police safety, recycling, building permitting and more. Important Town phone numbers and officials are listed on the back of the newsletter. On occasion, the Town will alert residents about an item of importance with a brightly colored postcard.

City Council meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. Agendas are posted on the website and bulletin boards on the Friday before the meeting. At each meeting, there is an appointed time for public comment on any item not on the agenda. For agenda items, the public is asked to comment at the time the item is addressed. Speakers are asked to fill out cards identifying themselves for the public record.

City Council can hold a "special" meeting with 72 hours advance notice, also posted on the website and bulletin boards. They can call an "emergency meeting" with 24 hours posted notice. All Council meetings and Study Sessions are open to the public. Only closed sessions are not open; closed sessions deal with personnel, real estate or litigation matters or other reasons requiring confidentiality.

ADRB meetings, where building plans are reviewed and approved or disapproved, are held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 4 p.m. at Town Hall.

City Council invites and encourages public participation and comment.



PHOTO BY SUE REYNOLDS

Chief Matt O'Connor (left), Captain Nick Gottuso and Officer Nick Chinca tell Crocker School administrators and teachers how they could best help SWAT respond to a shooter on campus.

## SWAT TEAM TEACHES TEACHERS

If there were a “shooter” at a Hillsborough school, the Town’s SWAT team would be there about two minutes after being alerted. Teachers and staff at all four schools welcomed a group of SWAT team members who recently trained the educators on proper procedures to follow during such a “highly unlikely” situation.

Audiences learned they should immediately call 911, then announce a school-wide lockdown and lock all students in their classrooms (in closets, if possible), keeping doors locked and windows covered until an agreed-upon “all clear” code is sounded. Keeping children from being seen by a shooter is critical. If a fire alarm sounds, be sure there’s a fire before unlocking doors. Teachers on yard duty should use small radios or cell phones to alert the school office of trouble, then call 911 and instruct children outside to run, zig-zagging to a hiding place.

The first officers to arrive would immediately confront the shooter. As Captain Nick Gottuso said, “Their only job is to get to wherever the shooting is and stop it.” Hillsborough’s trained officers would use all means to draw fire away from innocents.

Asked by a teacher if he should “try to be a hero,” the Captain responded, “A shooter doesn’t expect resistance, and if five or six people rush him, he can’t get all of you. But it’s your own personal decision.”

The chance of such an incident at Hillsborough schools is extremely unlikely. “You have a better chance of winning the lotto or being hit by lightning,” Gottuso stated.

The first SWAT training for educators, which followed the Columbine shootings in 1999, alerted Hillsborough school ad-

ministrators that not all classrooms had doors that could be locked from inside. “That has been corrected,” noted Crocker Principal Janet Chun. “It’s good to let the community know we are getting prepared, even though there is very little likelihood of such a situation at our schools.”

## COUNCIL SETS SET-BACK REQUIREMENTS FOR LARGE HOMES

Last year, as a result of growing concerns over development in Hillsborough, 20 residents with diverse backgrounds were selected to put their heads together with city staff and make suggestions regarding the issue of large homes on small lots. One result is an interim policy approved by City Council in February that increases the amount of footage required between the street or front property line and home (front building setbacks) and between side property lines and the home (side building setbacks) for structures 8,000 square feet or larger.

“This sets a basic visual standard for a neighborhood,” explained Associate Planner Gina Tynan. “It’s one of the tools we use as a baseline to help characterize street frontages, to achieve consistency. When

## CONTRACTORS INTRODUCED TO SITE ETIQUETTE

For a town of its size, there is a lot of construction activity in Hillsborough, according to Chief Building Official John Mullins. Consequently, Town staff and City Council are in the process of developing standards and ordinances aimed at turning construction sites into “good neighbors.”

It is inevitable – and necessary – that a construction site produce a degree of dirt and noise. The goal of the new guidelines and rules is to minimize the impact of the disturbance and debris and to instill, as Mullins calls it, “construction etiquette.”

When a homeowner comes to Town Hall with plans for a home building or improvement project, the owner and contractor are presented with a packet of papers outlining the rules of etiquette, ranging from working hours, traffic control and site requirements to hefty fines for violating construction time limits. “We are trying to be proactive,” Mullins explained. “We want people to know, at the very beginning of a project, what the Town expects and requires of them.”

An ordinance approved a couple of

years ago requires pre-construction meetings for large projects and an on-site job superintendent who can address questions of Town staff as well as concerns of neighbors. The ordinance also requires a deposit of cash or bond to guarantee completion of a project within a time line determined by project size.

A recently developed document clearly outlines construction requirements covering inspections, signage and such items as traffic controls and truck routes, tree protection, dust abatement, and safety

barricades. It even warns workers not to park in front of mailboxes, which prohibits mail delivery. A building permit form outlines in detail inspections required for grading, foundations, plumbing, roofing, electrical, etc.

“Job sites are not perfect,” Mullins said, “but we have developed these procedures and guidelines to help the situation, we will change and add as new issues come up, and we will continue to try to make the sites ‘good neighbors.’”

**Contractor hours are:**  
**Monday-Friday . . . . . 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**Saturday . . . . . 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
(noise not to exceed 70dba)  
**Sunday . . . . . Work not permitted**

you don’t want to increase a front setback on an uphill lot because the house would loom even taller.”

The exact setback measurements were recommended by a consulting firm that specializes in community design. The recommendation to change setbacks came from the Town’s Zoning Study Committee that met four times during the spring and summer of 2006 to study issues of concern. The committee was an outgrowth of a group of residents who approached City Council to voice displeasure with the appearance of large homes on small lots.

Council voted to use the new setback policy for a year before permanently changing the city code. “There are only a couple of homes built per year that would be affected by the new policy,” Tynan said.

## GREEN CORNER HILLSBOROUGH ACHIEVES ONE OF THE HIGHEST RECYCLING RATES IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Hillsborough has come a long way since 1999, when the Town kept just 25 percent of its trash out of the landfill through recycling and other diversion programs. Through redoubled efforts by residents and the creation of a model construction and demolition recycling program, the Town has increased its landfill diversion rate to an all-time high of 68 percent! Only two other municipalities in the region, Mountain View and East Palo Alto, report higher diversion rates.

Hillsborough as a whole generates just over 28,000 tons of waste each year -- about 9,000 tons is sent to landfill and 19,000 tons is diverted through source reduction, recycling and composting activities. That’s 56,000,000 pounds of waste per year, or 14 pounds of waste per person, per day. About 32 percent of the Town’s waste is generated by households. Hillsborough residents divert through recycling and composting an estimated 51 percent of the waste they generate.

The remaining 68 percent of Hillsborough’s waste comes from “non-residential” sources, mainly from home construction activities. The Town oversaw an incredible 89 percent of home construction waste diverted from the landfill in 2005 through its Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Program!

While there is a lot to be proud of, there is still more to do.

**Reduce:** The best way to reduce waste is not to produce it in the first place. Buying products in bulk or with less packaging is a good first step.

**Reuse:** The second-best way to decrease the amount of trash sent to the landfill is to keep usable items in use. You

can do this at home by being creative, or you can donate or resell unwanted items.

**Recycle:** The next best thing is recycling, a process in which items, such as aluminum cans, are remanufactured to make new items.

**Buy Pre-Owned or Recycled Products:** Donating or recycling unwanted items is only half the equation. Buying pre-owned or recycled products such as salvaged lumber or recycled content paper products creates a market for your discarded items. It’s one of the most important steps you can take to help the environment.

### New Battery & Cell Phone Curbside Collection

The South Bayside Waste Management Authority (SBWMA) has launched a new curbside recycling program for household batteries and cell phones. Hillsborough residents can now set out household batteries (rechargeable and disposable alkaline types, but no automotive batteries) in a clear plastic bag on top of their mixed paper recycling bin on recycling collection day. Cell phones should be wrapped in paper and placed inside the same clear plastic bag that contains the batteries. “This is an extremely innovative and timely new recycling service for our member agencies,” remarked Kevin McCarthy, executive director of the SBWMA. “With batteries and cell phones banned from trash disposal, residents have been struggling to find a convenient recycling option and now they have one.” For more information on this new curbside recycling service, contact Cliff Feldman at 650-802-3502 or cfeldman@rethinkwaste.org.

## GET PREPARED

Central County Fire Department is offering several classes to enable residents to prepare for emergencies.

**R U Ready?:** This basic disaster preparedness class will teach you how to prepare yourself, your family, home and workplace for a major disaster. The R U Ready class is scheduled for January 16, 2008, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the training room at the Burlingame Corporation Yard, 1361 No. Carolan. Free.

**CERT:** CERT, or Citizen Emergency Response Team, classes are designed to train residents to be an asset to the community in the event of a disaster. The next class will begin on February 6, 2008 and run for five consecutive Wednesday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., with a final Saturday class on March 8, 2008. Those who sign up are expected to participate in all 20 hours of the course. Class location is Fire Station #34, 799 California Drive, Burlingame.

Pre-registration is required. Call Central County Fire at 650-558-7600.



# POLICE BLOTTER

## Investigations

During the past quarter, Hillsborough police investigators worked on a case that started when Corporal Pat Ahern responded to an in-progress auto burglary on Roberts Way and caught a suspect fleeing on foot. The suspect was found to be in possession of two stolen credit cards and, investigators discovered, the focus of numerous criminal activities. One of the investigations was a more serious crime in Foster City, so the case was handed over to that jurisdiction.

Investigators report a noticeable increase in counterfeit check cases, wherein suspects obtain people's checking account information and then print counterfeit checks from those accounts. Using fraudulent driver's licenses, the suspects then enter various banking establishments and cash the bogus checks. The victims usually do not find out about the fraudulent activity until receiving their bank statements, at which point it is difficult to trace the suspects.

A sexual assault case was pursued when a San Mateo County Sheriff stopped a suspicious vehicle and learned from the female passenger that she had been accosted by the driver in her Hillsborough home. The suspect was tracked to his parents' home in South San Francisco and taken into custody on a number of charges, including violation of parole.

Three suspects using the aliases 'Lil Mama, Dollar Bill and Bunny Love came under investigators' radar recently when Inspector Dave Agee learned the true name of 'Lil Mama, who is on probation. He followed the trail to her family's home in Morgan Hill and found that Dollar Bill is probably her boyfriend. The case was handed over to Morgan Hill police. The 'Lil Mama, Bill and Love trio are suspected of being part of a larger ID theft ring that uses fraudulent checking account information to pay for cell phones, which are then used to facilitate other criminal activities.

From a recent police log:

- Two adults seen peeking into home where owners are away prove to be relatives of the homeowner.
- Real estate agent, about 45 years old and dressed in a grey suit, found to be in violation of city ordinance when she knocked on the door of a home to inquire if the owner wanted to sell the property.
- Person at police station reports her boyfriend never showed up and wants to investigate all avenues before reporting him missing.
- Verbal dispute over a homeowner's ex-girlfriend applying to have her child attend a Hillsborough school when she resides in Daly City.
- Domestic in charge of watching two children receives calls from male threatening to come over and hurt her. Dispute over child support payments. Told to resolve in court.
- Homeowner receives call from bank reporting unauthorized charges on his account.
- Possible prank call from alleged credit company saying person had illegal charges on her account. When asked why bank was not calling instead, person hung up.
- Sonoma Cattle Exchange attempts to sell meat door-to-door in violation of city ordinance.
- Three men seen dropping trash on fire trail on Churchill.
- Report of stolen or lost Kazakhstan passport.
- Overnight theft of construction equipment on Hillsborough Boulevard, amounting to approximately \$8,000. Front gate cut. One of several construction site thefts.
- Trash from other residences found in recycling bin on home on Glendale. One of several similar cases.
- Report of ongoing parking problem on Terrier where numerous vehicles are parked on the street.
- Resident wants to dispose of container filled with diabetic syringes. Referred to her physician.
- Report of mailbox completely crushed on Floribunda. Several reports of damaged mailboxes.
- Report of smoke in area. Was fire from cigarette thrown in easement.
- Report of a motorcycle in canyon below Parrott making a motorcross path and loud noise.
- Request for extra patrols at night on El Cerrito where homeowner experiences ongoing problem of neighbor on Rockridge throwing garbage into yard over fence.
- Requests for extra patrols on Bellevue where resident experiences repeated vandalism and theft. Will board up windows and post No Trespassing signs.
- 9-1-1- call, phone off hook with conversation in background regarding burning smell. Was sponge in microwave.
- Report of car driving more than 100 mph on El Portal and West Santa Inez several times per day for past week.
- Verbal dispute with person on bicycle who runs stop sign at Crystal Springs Road and El Cerrito on weekends.
- Suspicious subject in red, white and blue shorts seen walking and going up to homes. Said he was stopping to get water out of faucets as he passed homes.
- Man said while he was on vacation, son had party and now his (man's) Rolex watch is missing, as is son's cell phone.
- Unknown subjects entered vacant residence on Bellevue and vandalized. Possible juveniles.
- Construction work on holiday at three locations, on Mountainwood, Woodgate and Stonehedge. Told to stop work for the day.
- Homeowner reports her 16-year-old daughter let into house two male juveniles who are unwanted and homeowner is requesting to leave or be arrested for trespassing.
- Neighbor reports alarm at house on Woodridge. Proves to be alarm from clock radio that was on the roof.



PHOTO BY SUE REYNOLDS

## MARK LADAS NEW DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

*Crowning nearly a quarter century of public service, Mark Ladas now wears the hat of Deputy Fire Chief for the Central County Fire Department. In that role, he oversees the daily operations of the six on-duty fire companies. In his new position, Deputy Chief Ladas is tasked with revising the Department's training program, rewriting policies and procedures manuals, and also developing a community involvement committee and program. Having been raised in the Town of Hillsborough, Ladas is excited about the opportunities to set the direction of fire protection, prevention and emergency response services that are now before him.*

## HILLSBOROUGH "ADOPTS" A UNIT OF THE 101<sup>ST</sup> AIRBORNE

Hillsborough's City Council recently adopted a resolution to "adopt" the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault, through the America Supporting Americans (ASA) organization. The ASA organization is an apolitical, non-partisan program created in 1968 to provide a mechanism whereby an American city could adopt any branch(es) of the United States Armed Services.

Hillsborough residents and employees now have a convenient way to send letters, snacks, magazines, books, toiletries, and other items to the Town's adopted unit, showing concern for their well being and boosting their morale. For a list of items, visit [www.asa-usa.org](http://www.asa-usa.org). Items or letters, especially from children, can be delivered to the Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To make a monetary donation (to be used for postage, boxes and purchase of more items), make checks payable to Hillsborough Adopt-a-Unit (Federal Tax ID # 94-6001433), c/o Captain Nicholas Gottuso, Hillsborough Police Department, 1600 Floribunda Ave., Hillsborough, CA 94010.

Early this year, City Manager Anthony Constantouros directed the HPD to move forward with this initiative. Gottuso quickly arranged the adoption. He will serve as liaison between the Airborne unit and the Town.

This program is a tangible, caring way for the Town's employees and its residents to show their support for the men and women in uniform who make great sacrifices every day to defend our country. Local school

children and Town staff will be encouraged to write letters and assist in the collection of items to be shipped to the unit, creating a bond of mutual respect. There is no direct financial impact to the Town budget, as the program is funded through donations.

The HPD is preparing an informational section for the Town website that will give the public ideas of the kinds of items to contribute for the adopted Airborne soldiers. Gottuso says, "Please join us by participating in this worthwhile endeavor."

## SEWER OVERFLOWS PREVENTABLE

Sewer overflows—there were 14 last year—can be prevented. Just do not flush cloth-like materials such as baby wipes, disposable mops or dental floss down the drain. Such materials can catch on rough edges in the six-inch-wide sewer mains and cause backups.

Overflows are costly; the Town's most expensive claim was in excess of \$425,000. Initial cleanup of sewage backup into a home involves cutting away drywall, blowing the space dry, then replacing or repairing damages. Fortunately, the January 2007 ordinance requiring every Hillsborough home to have backwater protection has reduced the Town's liability.

Now, fewer backups are damaging homes, but overflows onto streets still occur.

### Sewer Hygiene

The only materials that are appropriate to flush down toilets are human waste and toilet paper. Paper towels, cotton balls and swabs, women's sanitary products, packaging for medicines or cosmetics and scrap paper can clog the sewer line. Grinding fish, poultry and meat bones as well as fats, oils and grease in the garbage disposal can block the pipes.

Discarded food should be put into the trash, not dumped into the sewer system. Public Works Director Martha DeBry points out, "It wastes water to put food down the sink. The South Bayside Waste Management Authority is considering adding food waste to green waste because it can be composted."

Treated sewer water flows to the Bay; therefore, drugs should be discarded at the Police Department lobby, in the Pharmaceutical Disposal box.

## BE ON THE ALERT

Don't forget to sign up for SMCAAlert, an internet-based, wireless text notification service that will contact you, via cell phone, pager or email, to warn you of any emergency that affects your health, safety or well-being. Only important messages, tailored to you and your area, be it your home, work, and/or other, will be sent. Register by going to [www.SMCAAlert.info](http://www.SMCAAlert.info) and follow the simple directions. The San Mateo County Community Alert program is funded by Homeland Security.



# HILLSBOROUGH SEES FIRST SIGNS OF SUDDEN OAK DEATH

Sudden Oak Death Syndrome (SOD), unfortunately, is becoming a real threat to Hillsborough’s thick, green foliage. While there have been very few specific cases found in Town, the disease has been well documented throughout San Mateo County and could become a problem in Hillsborough if preventative measures are not taken.

“Hillsborough has such a beautiful landscape, so keeping on top of this is very important,” said Elizabeth Cullinan, director of building and planning.

Sudden Oak Death Syndrome affects native oaks and other trees. The disease is caused by a plant pathogen, *Phytophthora ramorum*, which causes a rapid dieback, and often death of the infested tree. It spreads from tree to tree and persists in wet and damp places. It affects native trees such as coast live oak and tan oak, but also can live on other tree species such as California bay laurel and common garden plants such as rhododendrons and camellias.

The disease is active. It spreads by wind on the leaves, bark or branches of infected trees, or it can be transported by animals or humans to other trees. In California, infestations have been found in 14 central and northern coastal counties, including San Mateo.

SOD is difficult to detect in its early stages of infection. Look for spontaneous wilting of new growth; cankers on the trunk, branches, and/or leaves, usually within the first 10 feet of the stem; leaves with a dead tip, a yellow halo on the leaf directly above the dead tip, and a few dark brown to black spots on the green leaf portion; subtle changes in the leaves, sometimes resulting in a rapid and complete browning of the whole tree crown within two to four weeks following infection; or a gradual leaf loss and death rather than a rapid browning of the crown. Symptoms vary by species so be sure to consult a professional arborist or forester for confirmation.

While there is no cure for SOD to date, there are preventive measures that may protect un-infested plants. Inspect native trees (especially oaks) on your prop-

erty. If the disease is suspected, contact a professional arborist or forester, who is licensed and bonded and has experience with SOD, to conduct tests and provide any necessary treatments. It is imperative to prevent spreading of the disease, so action may involve cutting, pruning and treating nearby trees. Equipment that has come into contact with a diseased tree should be cleaned and disinfected. Vegetative litter from the infected area should not be transported. Good information on the disease and treatment can be found at [www.suddenoakdeath.org](http://www.suddenoakdeath.org).

When considering removing a tree, it is wise to note that tree removal in Hillsborough requires a permit for certain size trees and an encroachment permit if removal or pruning activities would occur within the public right-of-way. Approval for tree removal is required from the Planning Department for removal of trees with a trunk (or multiple trunks) with a total diameter of 36 inches or more, measured at four feet, six inches above natural grade.

## HOW THE GATEHOUSE PROJECT WILL BENEFIT YOU

Starting in the 30s, the guard in the “Gate Keeper’s Lodge” screened those wishing entrance to the gated community on old Ralston Road. When the cottage is rebuilt, our Town’s unique and charming historical icon will be used by the police as a back-up command post, a back-up communications center, and an interior storage area for miscellaneous equipment.

- **Will the gatehouse be open to the public?** No.
- **Will there be a parking lot? Criminals?** No and no.
- **Where would the police park?** They would park in a driveway off Ralston at the west end of the garage.
- **Who would pay for the building’s interior equipment?** The Town would work with grants from the Department of Homeland Security.

## NEW CIRCLE IN TOWN

The traffic circle at Forest View and Sharon avenues is back in Town.

A traffic circle, or roundabout, existed at the Forest View/Sharon three-way intersection years ago but was removed when the street was re-paved. At the request of neighbors, the city engineer and Police Department explored options for calming traffic at the intersection. Traffic was monitored and speed surveys performed. The most cost-effective method to slow traffic was the island. Improvements are not complete. In addition to landscaping, more street marking and signage are under consideration.

The circle cost \$37,586, and will be



landscaped by the Hillsborough Beautification Foundation. It has a 6-inch vertical curb and a water meter to determine water usage.

The new circle is the second in Town, joining the one at Hayne and Darrell roads.

## TWO DEPARTMENTS MERGE UNDER NEW DIRECTOR CULLINAN

Elizabeth Cullinan has been selected to fill the shoes of City Planner Maureen Morton, who retired earlier this year. However, Cullinan is being given a new title – Director of Building and Planning – to reflect City Council’s desire to unite the two functions that share a common focus, residential development.

“Residential development is the largest issue for the Building and Planning departments,” Cullinan said. “The Town already does it very well, so I see this position more as a job of opportunity than challenge.”

During Morton’s tenure, many basic plans, procedures and guidelines were successfully implemented. “Council is now interested in concentrating on enhancing the process, making it more user-friendly and less complicated,” Cullinan said. “I’ll be talking to people who have been through the process and looking for ways to streamline procedures.” Cullinan also pointed out that the time is ideal to look at issues strategically.

The new director has a head-start on the job. As part-owner of Neal Martin & Associates (that supplies municipalities with various professional planning services), she held the position of interim city planner for six months before receiving her official title. Cullinan’s 19-year affiliation with Neal Martin & Associates has led her to numer-

ous contract appointments in building and planning departments throughout the Peninsula. As interim planner in Hillsborough, she discovered she really enjoyed the work and wanted to continue. “I was quite taken by the community, staff and Town, and the professionalism I encountered,” she said.

One could say Cullinan has planned all her life to be a planner. She can recall at 11 years old being interested in how cities grow and develop. Given a camera, she took pictures of cities. Given an essay to write, she chose to analyze cities and their sections. She grew up in Boston, attended a girls’ school on the East Coast and majored in law and justice as an undergraduate student at the University of Massachusetts. The real outlet for her burgeoning interest in cities finally came in graduate school where, at Golden Gate University in San Francisco, she earned a masters degree in public administration. Her first position out of school was with Neal Martin & Associates, which she and a partner purchased when her boss retired.



Elizabeth Cullinan

## TOWN BRIEFS

During the past quarter, City Council:

- Awarded a contract for \$25,000 for the completion of a project to cut minor vegetation to a height of three inches or less in publicly-owned open space areas and easement roads.
- Awarded a contract for \$1.2 million for the fifth in a series of projects aimed at replacing an antiquated and undersized water distribution system throughout the Town.
- Authorized spending \$21,000 in additional funds to complete the 2007 Street Maintenance and Rehabilitation Project. Extra funds were needed to stabilize a portion of West Santa Inez and do additional work on Marlborough and Pinehill roads, and Fallenleaf Drive.
- Agreed to participate in the California Energy Commission’s Energy Partnership Program to help identify energy efficiency improvements in Town.
- Approved participation in the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) water use education program. An expenditure of \$6,268 allows the program to be brought to all fifth grade students in the Hillsborough City School District.
- Allocated \$34,000 for participation in BAWSCA’s Landscape Audit Program to work toward a 10 percent reduction in water use, following the fourth driest winter on record since 1919.
- Adopted a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan, developed by Central County Fire in conjunction with county and federal agencies, accomplished in part with a grant from the Department of Homeland Security. Following adoption, all Emergency Operations Center staff will be trained in the plan’s use and will receive regular exercises to maintain the knowledge, skills and abilities required to deal with disastrous events.
- Awarded a contract for \$103,000 to build a concrete wall at Vista Park to mitigate the impact of noise to an adjacent property. The homeowner will share 50 percent of the cost.
- Approved spending \$39,000 to interconnect two water systems to provide a redundant water supply for the Tournament tank and pressure zones, improv-

ing the reliability of the water supply to the area.

- Authorized spending \$9,000 to study the feasibility of realizing significant savings from adding the Millbrae Fire Department to Central County Fire.
- Heard a presentation by the city engineer on justification for stop signs, following a request for a sign at the corner of Barbara Way and Ralston Avenue. Police and engineering departments will further study the matter and present their findings to a City Council subcommittee before the November Council meeting.

### People

- Caroline Serrato has been promoted from sergeant in the Hillsborough Police Department (HPD) to lieutenant. She will be supervising investigations and assisting with various administrative duties. She has been with the HPD since 1996.
- Nelson Corteway, with the HPD since 1996, has been promoted from corporal to sergeant and will be supervising the busy midnight weekend shift.
- Rob Chinca, with the HPD since 1996, has been promoted from inspector to corporal and will be second-in-command of the midnight weekend shift as well as serving as a field training officer.
- Peter Gould, with the HPD since 2005, has been appointed to inspector from officer and will be working on current and new cases as they are forwarded from patrol.
- Two new police trainees have been hired by HPD. Geoff Chenier and Dana Tandy are currently at the Police Academy and are being supervised by Tactical Officer David Young.

### Reminders

- By now, if you did not change your clocks on November 4, someone has reminded you. But did they also remind you to check the batteries in your smoke alarms? Dead batteries disable one of the most important fire safety devices in your home. If you didn’t check when you changed your clocks, do so now.
- Want to find out when the City Council agenda is posted? Want to know when ADRB is going to meet? Sign up with E-Notify on the Town’s website, [www.hillsborough.net](http://www.hillsborough.net), and the important Town information that you want to know will come your way.

## CALENDAR

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING

2nd Monday  
6 p.m. - Town Hall



### CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

Study Sessions are held as needed at Town Hall.



### ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN REVIEW

#### BOARD MEETING

1st and 3rd Monday  
4 p.m. - Town Hall



### DEPARTMENT COMMISSIONERS

John Fannon, Community Services  
D. Paul Regan, Administration  
Catherine U. Mullooly, Fire Department  
Thomas M. Kasten, Police Department  
Christine Krolik, Public Works

### ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

John Fannon, Commissioner  
Jennifer Werbe, Chairwoman  
Charlie Barnett, Mark Heine,  
Walter Heyman, George Jewett  
Bruce Herman, Alternate



## COMMITTEES

### FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

D. Paul Regan, Commissioner  
Jess "Jay" Benton, Chairman  
Al Clark, Josh Cooperman,  
John Lockton, Al Royse, David Steirman

### CITIZENS COMMUNICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Catherine U. Mullooly, Commissioner  
Diana Witzel, Chairwoman  
Marie Chuang, Candace Lyche,  
Janet MacGregor, BeBe Trinkner



### CENTRAL COUNTY FIRE BOARD

Catherine U. Mullooly, Chairman, D. Paul Regan

### HILLSBOROUGH RECREATION

342-5439

D. Paul Regan, Commissioner  
Christine Krolik, Commissioner

### HILLSBOROUGH CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Marilyn Loushin Miller, Superintendent: 342-5193

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Business: 375-7470  
Alarm Specialists: 375-7472

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Business: 558-7600

## NUMBERS

### TOWN HALL

Administration: (650) 375-7400  
Website: [www.hillsborough.net](http://www.hillsborough.net)

### Town Hall Hours:

Mon. – Thurs. 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Emergency after hours and weekends: 375-7470

City Council: 375-7400

Main and Finance Department: 375-7400

Water (service and billing):

Mon. – Thurs. 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Fri. 7:30 - 12:30 p.m. 375-7402

Building and Planning: 375-7411

Public Works and City Engineer: 375-7444

### CITY MANAGER

Anthony Constantouros: 375-7400

### Comcast

Customer Service: 1-800-945-2288

### PG&E (24 hrs.)

Outage Information: 1-800-743-5002

Customer Service: 1-800-743-5000

### Allied Waste

Main Number: (650) 592-2411

Hazardous Material: (650) 363-4718

*The Hillsborough Newsletter is published on a regular basis by the Town of Hillsborough to keep residents informed of local and Town news.  
Editor: Barbara Backer • Writer: Sue Reynolds • Design: Larry Zientarski*



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