

# CITY NEWS

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2022 FOLSOM NEWSLETTER



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CITY OF  
**FOLSOM**  
DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE

## Let's Map Folsom's Future Together



The City of Folsom is transitioning to a by-district system for electing City Councilmembers and wants to hear from residents about how to draw five City Council districts.

The process for establishing districts is controlled by federal and state laws, including data from the federal census. The city has hired a professional demographer to assist in the creation

of proposed district boundaries based on demographics and input from Folsom residents.

The Folsom City Council held the first and second of five required public hearings September 14 and October 12. Additional public hearings will be held January 11, February 8, and February 22. The hearings will provide an opportunity for public input about the content of the draft district maps. The draft maps will be published at least seven days before the January 11 public hearing.

Learn more at [www.folsom.ca.us/DistrictElections](http://www.folsom.ca.us/DistrictElections). For more information, contact City Attorney Steven Wang at 916-461-6025 or [attydept@folsom.ca.us](mailto:attydept@folsom.ca.us).



### JANUARY 18 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Join the Councilmembers and city staff for a special Folsom City Council meeting at 1 p.m. January 18. Staff will present current and projected fiscal conditions and future challenges to guide policy and decisions that may have an immediate or long-term influence on city operations, strategic goals, and community services. The City Council will also consider next steps for identifying community priorities and preferred funding approaches. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, located at City Hall, 50 Natoma Street. You can also watch online at [www.folsom.ca.us/CouncilLiveStream](http://www.folsom.ca.us/CouncilLiveStream).



# Active Transportation Plan Update

The Active Transportation Plan (ATP) guides the planning, development, and maintenance of existing and future bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the Folsom. The city began the update process in August 2020 and hosted a series of in-person and virtual public workshops and outreach events throughout 2021.

The feedback provided by workshop participants and through the online project map identified the following elements for the ATP:

## Goals

- Safety & Comfort
- Connectivity & Access
- Maintenance & Supportive Infrastructure

- Education & Encouragement
- Funding & Implementation

## Recommendations

- Bikeways/Trails Network & Infrastructure Improvements
- Pedestrian Network & Infrastructure Improvements
- Spot Improvements Recommendations
- Program Recommendations

The Draft ATP is expected to be open for public comment in February and March. It will then move on to public hearings with the Parks & Recreation Commission and Folsom City Council, and final adoption will take place in the spring.

Contact Brett Bollinger, City of Folsom Senior Trails Planner, at [bbollinger@folsom.ca.us](mailto:bbollinger@folsom.ca.us) to receive notifications for upcoming events and plan updates, and to submit questions or comments about the ATP.



## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITH FOLSOM PARKS & RECREATION

Partnerships help Folsom Parks & Recreation provide community events and enrichment programs for all ages. They also support the city's community recreational facilities—the sports complex, aquatic center, gallery and art center, senior center, and the CAVE teen centers. Custom partnership packages are tailored to reach your target audience and aligned with your business interests. Act now to take advantage of the full year of events and activities: call Frankie Nelson at 916-461-6614 or Marilyn Robitaille at 916-461-6616 to learn more.

## CAPITAL SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR PROJECT UPDATE

Progress continues on the Capital SouthEast Connector project—a 34-mile expressway that will connect the southern area of Sacramento County to El Dorado County in the east and serve as a connection between Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, and Folsom.

Crews completed construction on a four-lane bridge over Alder Creek and the realignment and widening of Prairie City and White Rock roads. Prairie City Road has reopened to motorists and White Rock Road will be fully open in the spring of 2022.

In spring 2022, construction will begin on the Scott Road extension. The project will realign the existing Scott Road to a signalized intersection at White Rock and Prairie City roads.

When complete, the long-planned Capital SouthEast Connector project will serve as a commute alternative to Highways 50 and 99, relieve traffic congestion, and improve roadway safety. This large-scale project is divided into segments that are being completed as funding is available. Learn more at [www.connectorjpa.net](http://www.connectorjpa.net).





# Mandatory Commercial Organics Recycling

SB 1383 was signed into California law in 2016, as part of the state's broader effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This is the most significant recycling mandate adopted in California in the last 30 years.

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) is working with local jurisdictions across the state, including the City of Folsom, to divert up to 26 million tons of organic material from landfills annually by 2025 to reduce methane emissions and support the state's climate change goals. SB 1383 also requires the state to increase edible food recovery by 20% by 2025.

Beginning January 1, all commercial businesses that do not already subscribe to food waste service with Atlas Disposal or Republic Services will be required to subscribe to organics recycling services provided by the City of Folsom Waste and Recycling Division.

Businesses must offer a three-container collection system to separate organic waste, traditional recyclables, and items to be landfilled. This includes a green bin for food scraps and food-soiled papers, a blue bin for recycling (cans, bottles, paper, cardboard), and a gray bin for trash. Folsom businesses should begin providing three-bin systems wherever food waste is generated by employees or customers.

The City of Folsom is here to help local businesses with the new requirements. To schedule a training or for additional information, contact the Waste & Recycling Division at 916-461-6748 or [recycle@folsom.ca.us](mailto:recycle@folsom.ca.us).

A residential food waste recycling program begins July 1. Stay informed at [www.folsom.ca.us/organics](http://www.folsom.ca.us/organics).



## HOW TO DISPOSE OF ELECTRONIC WASTE

From phones and laptops to toys and gadgets, it's out with the old and in with the new during the holiday season—and that means a lot of electronic waste. In California, it is illegal to throw away electronic waste. When batteries and electronics end up in landfills, toxics like lead, mercury, and cadmium leach into the soil and water.

Most types of electronics and batteries can be recycled for free in Folsom's Door-2-Door Residential Household Hazardous Waste Collection program. Schedule an appointment or look up the best options for disposing of an item at [www.folsom.ca.us/wastecollection](http://www.folsom.ca.us/wastecollection) or call 916-461-6730.

You can also drop off your old, unwanted batteries at participating Folsom retailers. Find a retailer near you at [www.folsom.ca.us/hazmat](http://www.folsom.ca.us/hazmat).



## PARKING FINES INCREASE IN FOLSOM HISTORIC DISTRICT

Formed by the Folsom City Council in 2019, the 11-member Historic District Parking Solutions Ad Hoc Committee developed a list of possible solutions for the parking issues in the district. One of the committee's high-priority recommendations was to increase the frequency and scope of parking enforcement.

In November, the Folsom City Council approved an increase in parking fines. Parking tickets have increased from \$25 to \$75 in the Historic District. The increase only applies in the Historic District, bounded by and including Coloma Street, Leidesdorff Street, Folsom Boulevard, and Natoma Street.



## HISTORIC DISTRICT PARKING PILOT PROGRAM

The City of Folsom implemented a new six-month pilot program for a resident-only parking permit zone on Friday and Saturday nights in the Historic District. The area includes Figueroa Street between Scott and Reading streets, and the intersecting blocks of Scott, Decatur, and Wool streets between Figueroa and Sutter.

Permits are required to park in the area on Friday and Saturday nights from 6 p.m. to midnight. Residents are allowed up to four free parking permits per household, including additional guest permits.

The program's goal is to direct weekend Historic District visitors to the underused parking garage and Light Rail parking lots rather than residential neighborhoods.

For more information on either of these changes, contact the City of Folsom Public Works Department at 916-461-6702 or [pwdept@folsom.ca.us](mailto:pwdept@folsom.ca.us).

## CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

The City of Folsom will hold its annual Christmas tree recycling drop-off event Saturday, January 8. Trees will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Rodeo Park at the end of Stafford Street. All ornaments, tinsel, lights, nails, and stands must be removed before dropping off a tree.

The trees will be recycled and converted into mulch, which adds nutrients into the soil and helps it to retain water.

In addition, community organizations will collect trees throughout the city as part of their fundraising activities. Residents may also recycle Christmas trees in the green waste bins. Trees must be cut into pieces no larger than two feet in length and four inches in diameter, and the lid must close completely to receive service.

For more information, contact the City of Folsom Waste & Recycling Division at 916-461-6748 or [recycle@folsom.ca.us](mailto:recycle@folsom.ca.us).





# Gallery at 48 Natoma Hosts Exhibit Reception

The Gallery at 48 Natoma hosts the West Coast premiere of the nationally traveling “Small Expressions” exhibit by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. from January 28 to April 7. The community gallery features the annual “It’s a Small World” exhibit by members of the Folsom Arts Association. Both shows will be celebrated at the opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, January 28; the reception is free and open to the public and art is available for purchase.

The galleries are located at 48 Natoma Street and are managed by the Folsom Parks & Recreation Department. The galleries showcase high-quality original art exhibits by regional and national professional artists, area museum collections, and traveling exhibitions. The galleries are open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Visit [www.folsom.ca.us/Galleryat48Natoma](http://www.folsom.ca.us/Galleryat48Natoma) or call 916-461-6601 for more information.

## LIBRARY OFFERS NEW SUITE OF FREE SKILL BUILDING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

The Folsom Public Library added a broad array of free software to help library patrons learn new vocational and educational skills, earn professional certificates, and prepare for jobs.

Thanks to a grant from the California State Library and funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), library patrons now have free access to thousands of online classes from six providers: Coursera, GetSetUp, LearningExpress, LinkedIn Learning, Northstar, and Skillshare.

These online resources expand the digital workforce platform offerings at Folsom Public Library and allow patrons to visit the website or use the library’s public internet computers to participate in online classes, take practice exams, learn new skills, and more. Access to these platforms normally comes with subscriptions and other fees, but for at least one year through ARPA funding, they are all available for free to any California library user.

To access the programs and learn more, visit [www.folsom.ca.us/library](http://www.folsom.ca.us/library).





50 Natoma Street  
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# Folsom Utility Rate Increase

On December 14, the Folsom City Council approved utility rate increases needed to support the operational and capital requirements determined for running the organic waste recycling program mandated by SB 1383. The new rates will appear on your utility bill for solid waste services beginning in January 2022. The cost for waste collection at the typical household will increase from \$34.50 per month to \$46.25 per month.

The rate increases are needed to comply with the unfunded state mandate under SB 1383 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The state-mandated programs significantly increase costs. Folsom's organics recycling program includes weekly collection of all organic materials from residents and businesses, community outreach and education, procurement of products made from recycled organic material, edible food recovery, and enforcement. Learn more at [www.folsom.ca.us/utilityrates](http://www.folsom.ca.us/utilityrates).

## SANDBAGS AVAILABLE FOR STORM PREPARATION

Here are some tips to help prepare your home or property before a storm hits:

- Clear rain gutters of any debris to allow water to flow smoothly.
- Remove all excess yard materials, such as leaves and ground cover bark—both can shift significantly during storms and cause gutter and storm drain blockages.
- If you have a storm drain by the curb of your home, keep leaves/debris cleared from the grate and the area surrounding it.
- Have sandbags ready to place in flood-prone areas on your property.

Sand and sandbags are available for Folsom residents and business owners at no charge. The city's two self-serve sandbag stations are next to Fire Station 36 at 9700 Oak Avenue Parkway and behind City Hall at 50 Natoma Street. Learn how to fill a sandbag and find other information at [www.folsom.ca.us/sandbags](http://www.folsom.ca.us/sandbags).



## JOIN THE FOLSOM ZOO SANCTUARY'S DOCENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The zoo sanctuary is excited to announce the return of the long-awaited Docent Training class! Docents help host school tours, assist with story times and youth day camps, participate in community events, and other ongoing activities. The training class will cover the zoo sanctuary's guiding mission and vision, information and facts about the animal residents, and expectations for docent volunteers. Current docents will also share their experiences and the rewards of volunteering. Classes are held Mondays from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. starting February 14 and continuing through March 21. Class fee is \$40 and includes training materials; must be age 21 or older. Deadline to register is February 7; find more details and register at [webtrac.folsom.ca.us](http://webtrac.folsom.ca.us). Call Sue Bean at 916-715-8610 or 916-933-3664 with questions.

### FOLSOM CITY COUNCIL

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