



City of Burlingame 2015 Significant Achievements and Successes

The City of Burlingame made considerable progress toward achieving the City Council's five primary goals in 2015. Below is a summary of notable achievements and successes. Residents are encouraged to attend the next annual goal setting meeting on January 30, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Lane Room at the Main Library.

Goal 1: Ensure that Burlingame is an attractive and safe community that honors its history and community character

- Partnered with the Burlingame Historical Society to preserve and promote the experiences and memories of long-time residents through the Living History Project at the Main Library.
- Hired four new firefighters and promoted two Captains, a Deputy Fire Chief and a Battalion Chief.
- Established a Burlingame Neighborhood Network ("BNN") liaison, sponsored a Central County Fire Department Safety Fair, and offered Community Emergency Response Team courses and CPR classes to empower residents in the event of an emergency situation.
- Collaborated with PG&E to monitor power reliability and to test underground gas lines.
- Adopted the 2015-2023 Housing Element update to promote the production of affordable housing.
- Coordinated with cities and agencies in San Mateo County to conduct human trafficking stings, traffic safety details, residential and auto burglary suppression details, and Super Bowl 50 safety planning.
- Developed and deployed an information-sharing service among local schools, hotels and the Police Department to quickly and collaboratively address suspicious or criminal activity.
- Created a Police Department social media committee to enhance community engagement and provide tips on recovered property, traffic safety, crime prevention and domestic violence prevention.
- Improved railroad safety at Broadway and Bayswater by installing new signage and striping, analyzing a potential grade separation at Broadway, and conducting community outreach around this project.
- Prevented flooding issues by proactively implementing flood protection solutions throughout the city.
- Engaged in extensive public outreach and collaboration with Caltrans to improve traffic safety at the El Camino Real and Floribunda intersection while preserving the Howard-Ralston Historic Tree Row.

Goal 2: Sustain long-term financial strength with increased and diverse revenue sources, greater expenditure controls, and strong reserve policies

- Invested \$1.2M in street reconstruction and resurfacing using state gas taxes and Measure A funds.
- Obtained a \$278k grant from Office of Traffic Safety to implement traffic safety programs.
- Saved \$140k in energy costs at the City's waste water treatment plant by converting waste water into electricity.
- Secured \$16k in Library grants for equipment and services, including a new bike station at the Library.
- Received a \$20k grant from the California Energy Commission to conduct an energy audit on five City facilities.
- Updated the City's reserve policy to incorporate findings from a recent risk-based analysis.

Goal 3: Enhance Burlingame's downtown and commercial districts

- Commenced the first comprehensive update of the City's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance in more than 30 years; the City continues to seek community input through a dedicated website, www.envisionburlingame.org, stakeholder meetings, and open houses.
- Offered 16 weeks of free "Start Smart: Starting a Small Business Workshop" classes at the Library in partnership with the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center.
- Fostered consistent coordination between the City and business districts and developed a "welcome packet" for new businesses in order to ensure continued business vitality and economic development.
- Promoted monthly safety/security meetings and information sharing forums between the Police Department and local merchants, residents, restaurants, and hotels.

- Improved traffic safety by installing pedestrian crossing flashing beacons at Broadway and Paloma Ave and installing additional traffic signage along Broadway.
- Worked with the Broadway Business Improvement District to install new bicycle racks throughout the area.
- Installed way-finding signage for downtown parking lots; developing plans to expand smart meters in the commercial districts.
- Introduced and coordinated sustainability and energy efficiency opportunities with local businesses.

Goal 4: Maintain and enhance Burlingame’s high quality services that meet the needs of the community

- Launched accessBurlingame, the City’s first mobile app, which allows users to access City information, sign up for classes, and report issues.
- Negotiated a term sheet with the San Mateo Union High School District to improve community access to the Burlingame High School pool.
- Welcomed three new Department Heads, including a City Clerk, City Librarian and Fire Chief for the Central County Fire Department.
- Collaborated with the Burlingame School District to increase participation in the Summer Reading Program by 12% and Poetry Month by 10%; also, issued 195 new library cards through the Kindergarten Library Card Drive and completed 309 class visits to over 5,100 kids in Burlingame schools.
- Improved water consumption data in water invoices to assist customers in understanding water usage.
- Launched a convenient, online utility bill payment system for water and sewer bills.
- Resurfaced 13 streets, replaced 46k square feet of sidewalk, and replaced nearly 13k linear feet of sanitary sewer and water distribution pipeline with new PVC systems.
- Enhanced services for seniors by adding several new social events, a weekly documentary film series, and classes; doubled attendance for the Friday Senior Matinee Movie Program and increased the number of senior day trips by 20%.
- Increased attendance at the annual Family Campout at Washington Park by over 44%.
- Collaborated with Mercy High School for use of their site for summer enrichment classes.
- Completed the Village Park Restroom Replacement project, installed lighting at Washington Park, and installed 60 new trash and recycling bins throughout City parks.
- Connected City Police and Fire with the community through attendance at National Night Out block parties.
- Implemented a robust sidewalk cleaning program along Broadway and Burlingame Avenue.
- Added an agility course to the Bayside Dog Exercise Park based upon user feedback.
- Reduced flood insurance premiums for local properties in the flood zone areas by working with FEMA to obtain approval of Burlingame’s flood protection program.

Goal 5: Strive to promote more environmentally sustainable policies and outcomes

- Collectively achieved 33% water conservation compared with the same period in 2013; beat State target of 16%.
- Adopted four Property Assessed Clean Energy (“PACE”) programs - innovative financing solutions that enable property owners to reduce the high upfront costs of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.
- Joined Peninsula Sunshares, a bulk renewable energy purchasing program for residents.
- Conducted a waste audit in City buildings and installed eight new recycling bins along Burlingame Avenue.
- Created a graywater webpage and resource brochure for interested residents and contractors.
- Launched a new free sprinkler nozzle program for Burlingame residential water customers to save water.
- Participated in the City’s first Bike to Shop day to promote bike riding for local shopping.
- Provided assistance to local businesses to become more sustainable by connecting them to energy efficiency opportunities and helping them to complete waste and water audits.
- Received four Beacon Spotlight Awards from the Institute for Local Government for conserving electricity and heating gas consumption in City buildings and facilities.
- Installed four electric vehicle charging stations in City Parking Lot V next to the Burlingame train station.
- Developed first comprehensive Sustainability Plan for City operations to conserve resources and save money.
- Organized over 350 community volunteers to remove 700 pounds of refuse and 300 pounds of recyclable trash from the City’s shoreline in conjunction with the 18th Annual Bayfront Cleanup event.