Fiscal Year 2016-2017
By the Numbers

The second Community Annual Report reflects on the service efforts and accomplishments of the City of Foster City for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. The report serves as an essential tool to further the City's goal of transparency in local government.

Over the past year, the City has successfully upheld its high standard in its delivery of municipal services and programs while continuing to move forward with important improvements to the City's infrastructure, streets, levee, lagoon and park system. The City established a balanced budget with healthy reserves that will provide resources and ensure a positive, sustainable future for Foster City.

The majority of the City's revenues are in the General Fund, a fund comprised predominantly of property and sales taxes, as well as fees for services. The General Fund is the primary operating fund for the City and provides the support for most of the City's day-to-day services such as police and fire services, parks and recreation, community development, public works services, and government administration. Integral to all City initiatives is fiscal sustainability, and the City of Foster City continues to report both healthy revenue growth and responsible fiscal planning. This enables the City to invest its financial resources in the City Council's priority areas and accumulate reserves for its future needs.

Economic Development

On September 19, 2016, City Council approved the first two years of the Economic Development Strategic Plan. From the work plan, Council approved a carpooling program with Scoop to alleviate commute-time traffic, partnered with micro-lender Kiva to offer interest-free loans to Foster City small businesses and a Commercial Linkage Fee Policy, with generated funds used to maintain and create affordable workforce housing opportunities. The City also launched two community websites, connectfostercity.com, a transportation portal which consolidates all the commuter options available in and out of Foster City, and sustainable.fostercity.org, which highlights programs and achievements centered around the City's Sustainable Foster City initiative.

New business licenses: 418 applications (100 more than last year!)
Achievements

Grants
Funds were granted for the following:
- Shorebird Park: New outdoor public art (geese sculpture)
- Leo J. Ryan Park Refurbishment: New pickleball courts, amphitheater lighting and synthetic surface

Awards
- APWA Project of the Year Award – Vintage Park Overcrossing
- Rotary Employee of the Month – Nazmeen Schroeder, for spear-heading the Audubon School Garden project at Killdeer Park
- MISAC Award for Excellence in Information Technology Practices 2016

Green Achievements
- The City sponsored compost giveaways, e-waste collection, community document shredding and “Coats for Kids” drive.
- LED Lighting was installed or converted at bocce ball courts, Leo J. Ryan stage, tennis and pickleball courts, Leo J. Ryan Park/Recreation Center Boardwalk and throughout several parks.
- Lawns at the library and Catamaran Park conversion projects were completed with drought tolerant landscaping and drip irrigation.

Rebate Programs
- Solar Rebate Program: 13 Rebates Issued (8 additional funding reservations pending)
- High-Efficiency Toilet Rebate: 92 Toilets Replaced for 58 Customer Accounts
- Washing Machine Rebate: 46 Energy Star Water Conserving Washers Installed (program ended 12/31/16)
- Approximately 42,935 sq. ft. of turf replaced with synthetic turf

Sustainable Foster City
- Since launching the Scoop carpooling initiative in October, there were over 15,000 fewer commute-time car trips in and out of Foster City, saving over 375,000 pounds of CO2.
- Foster City residential water use from 2007 to 2016 was reduced by 32%.
- City staff received the final 2015 Municipal Operations Inventory report which tracks the City’s greenhouse gas emissions. The report showed a 22.9% decrease in CO2 emissions from the 2010 report.
- The City launched the Community Dialogue Series in 2017, a series of four interactive community events designed to inform, engage and involve centered around topics such as workforce housing, transportation and commercial retail. You can learn about upcoming sessions at sustainable.fostercity.org/social/
- City Council approved all Municipal facilities and operations switch to Peninsula Clean Energy’s 100% Renewable Energy Plan, which comes from 100% renewable energy sources and is 100% carbon free.

Community Engagement

From July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, the City continued to create an inspiring, inclusive and diverse culture of public engagement that enhances community relations through genuine dialogue.

The City joined Nextdoor as a Public Agency this past year. 21 videos were released on YouTube, including 7 chapters of the Foster City Docuseries: Jewel of the Bay.

Foster City Access makes it easy to report non-emergency issues from a smartphone, tablet or computer. Over the past year, 722 issues were reported, and 719 were resolved.

A new City website will launch by the end of 2017.

Get Connected
The City has increased its presence online so that the community can stay connected 24/7. Find a way to contact the City that's best for you; it’s easy, convenient, and always open!

- www.fostercity.org
- www.connectfostercity.com
- www.sustainable.fostercity.org
- City Hall - CityofFosterCity
- Fire Department - FosterCityFire
- Police Department - FosterCityPolice
- Parks & Recreation - FosterCityRecreation
- FC Youth Programs - fcp Pryouth
- City Hall - @cityoffc
- Police Department - @fostercitypd
- Parks & Recreation - @fcrecreation
- FC Youth Programs - @fcprdyouth
- City Hall - cityoffostercity
- FCTV - Foster City TV
- Nextdoor - nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ca/foster-city/city-of-foster-city/
- City Manager Blog - kevinmillercm.blogspot.com
- Foster City Forum - www.fostercity.org/ourcommunity/Foster-City-Forum.cfm
- Foster City Access - www.fostercity.org/ourcommunity/Foster-City-Access.com
- Foster City Current Newsletter - www.fostercity.org/cityservices/enewsletter.cfm
- Foster City News Alerts - www.fostercity.org/enewsletters
Community Infrastructure Improvements

Improvements Underway

- **Levee Protection Planning and Improvements** – The project will raise the levee to meet the required elevation, per Federal Regulations, to regain accreditation.

- **Water Distribution System Master Plan Study and Wastewater Collection System Master Plan Study** – The project will identify system deficiencies and establish a 10-year Capital Improvement Project Plan for wastewater collection and water distribution systems.

- **Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Intersection Evaluation Study** – The project will evaluate existing facilities and identify potential areas of improvement for inclusion in the Capital Improvement Project plan.

- **Dredging at the Lagoon Intake Structure** – The project will remove sedimentation to restore the channel, allowing unobstructed flow of bay water into the lagoon via the Intake Structure.

- **Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Improvements** – The project will rehabilitate or reconstruct nine sanitary sewer lift stations throughout Foster City.

- **Sewer System Rehabilitation Project** – The project will address localized pipe repair, replacement and rehabilitation of manholes throughout Foster City.

- **Traffic Improvements at Lincoln Centre Drive and East Third Avenue** – The project will install traffic signals and pedestrian ramps at the intersection to accommodate expected increased traffic from the BioMed development project.

- **Sanitary Sewer Force Main Rehabilitation** – The project will rehabilitate the sewer force main on northbound Edgewater Boulevard from Beach Park Boulevard to Regulus Avenue.

- **Street Rehabilitation** – The project will repair and/or repave streets throughout Foster City. The project also includes removal of bricks on Chess Drive (west side of Foster City Boulevard) and replacement with asphalt concrete.

Completed Improvements

- **Sidewalk Installation Adjacent to Bridgeview Park Entrance** – This project extended the sidewalk from the north side of 1940 Beach Park Boulevard, and connected the Bay Trail to the south side of Bridgeview Park driveway.

Infrastructure Maintenance & Rehabilitation

- 2 Miles of Street Resurfaced

- 1,393 Square Feet of Sidewalk Replaced

- 430 Linear Feet of Curb and Gutter Installed

- 25 Handicap Access Ramps Installed

- 600 Gallons of Pond Dye Applied in the Lagoon

- 30 Street and Regulatory Signs Replaced

- 1,100 Feet of Storm Drain Line and Drains Installed

- 3 Intersections Modified

- 600 Catch Basins Cleaned

- Numerous Potholes Filled

- Maintenance of 1,698 Sanitary Sewer Lines, 48 Sewer Lift Stations, and 1 Pump Station

Staff Success

- 197 full-time employees and 100 part-time employees who provide City services. Collectively, 120 employees have college degrees and 110 have speciality certifications or professional licenses.

- Promoted 19 employees within the City, and attracted 22 new employees.

- Provided over 1,000 hours of training in safety, leadership, project management, business writing, finance and mandated public safety courses.

- Staff celebrated the following milestones serving Foster City: 10 years (8 employees), 15 years (15 employees), 20 years (5 employees), 25 years (2 employees) and 30 years (4 employees).

- One-third of our employees take classes in leadership, management, supervision, safety, legally mandated education and technical certification.

- The Fire and Police Department complete all mandated and safety training annually and most staff complete advanced certification in specialty disciplines.

- 15 individuals participated in the City’s educational reimbursement program to pursue college degrees.

- Monthly training is provided for all managers at the “Management Team” meetings covering topics of budgeting, legal issues, communications and team building.
Community Recreation

Community Events
Total economic value of top 5 events combined: $196,100
Total estimated attendance of top 5 events combined: 81,100

Polynesian Festival — Free community cultural event at Leo J. Ryan Park including food/beverage vendors and arts and crafts vendors, as well as cultural performances celebrating Polynesian culture.

CityFEST — Annual event sponsored by the Foster City Chamber of Commerce. This festival features craft booths, food, entertainment and carnival rides.

Summer Concert Series — Free community events in the Amphitheater featuring music performances on Friday nights in July and August.

4th of July Celebration — Annual event in Leo J. Ryan Park consisting of family games, family parade, music, food and drinks, vendors and fireworks.

Head of the Lagoon — Organized by Peninsula Aquatic Center Junior Crew and Stanford Rowing Center for college and high school rowers. The regatta is sanctioned by the United States Rowing Association.

Programs and Volunteers
- Number of program registrants: 4,590
- Number of youth classes/programs: 338 classes; 121 camps
- Number of adult programs/classes: 212 classes
- Volunteers this year: 7,000 hours; 250 volunteers
- Volunteers: AARP Tax Preparation volunteers filed 175 tax returns

Senior Services
- Number of senior classes and programs: 13 classes offered weekly; approx. 960 students per year
- Senior trips: 22 trips offered per year; approx. 400 participants
- Senior Express Bus: 1,300 rides provided per year

Park Infrastructure Improvements
- Catamaran Synthetic Soccer Field Turf was replaced under prorated warranty with a new 8-year warranty.
- Pathway renovation project completed at Sea Cloud, Boothbay, Edgewater, Killdeer, and Constitution Walkways in conjunction with Public Works Street Rehabilitation Project (CIP 653).
- Boardwalk refinished was completed at Leo J. Ryan Park.
- Shade-structure and site-furnishing installed at the Edgewater tennis courts completed. Funded by a trust given to Foster City Tennis Club.
- Various Eagle-Scout Projects completed:
  - School-Garden at Killdeer Park
  - Wooden Park signs refinished
  - Kiosks on the Levee refinished
- Rotary Interact Project completed in May 2017 – Refurbishing of planter areas near the beach area in Leo J. Ryan Park. Planter Renovation at corner of Boothbay Park/Galveston.
- Amphitheater improvements including synthetic turf, overhang maintenance, and glass panel windowscreen maintenance.

Completed Improvements
- Catamaran Playground Refurbished.
- Ketch Playground Replacement - New playground installed with added features.
- Park Signs - Wooden signs replaced with concrete cast monument signs at Marlin, Gull, Catamaran, Leo J. Ryan, Sea Cloud, Erckenbrack, Port Royal, Shorebird, Bridgeview, Baywinds and Boat Parks.
Community Safety

**Fire Department**
Calls for Service (fires, medical emergencies and vehicle accidents): 1,877
Fire Safety Inspections: 952
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Hours: 2,785

Fire has increased their ability to service the public with water emergencies by augmenting their water rescue team with 2 jet skis. Firefighters assisted with 11 wildfires throughout the state as well as in Georgia and Tennessee.

Nationwide, the Insurance Service Office (ISO) evaluates and grades 46,042 fire agencies using a newly updated Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) every four years. The Foster City Fire Department has maintained a class 2 rating in the past fiscal year. Nationwide, only 241 fire agencies have earned a class 1 rating and 1,324 were rated as a class 2 Fire Agency. That places our Department in the top 3.42% of all fire agencies rated by ISO.

On January 21, 2017, Foster City was notified by FEMA Region IX Mitigation Division that its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan/Safety Element will be showcased as a best practice in a national working group convened by FEMA to develop guidance for integrated planning processes.

**Police Department**
Calls for Service: 12,507
Total Incidents Responded: 26,583
Average Response Time: 7.07 (minutes:seconds)
Number of Arrests/Crime Reports/Moving Citations:
- Arrests: 441
- Reports: 1,987
- Moving Citations: 1,358

The FBI & Unified Crime Reporting (UCR) crime statistics ranks Foster City as the 8th safest city in California and 63rd safest city in the nation.

Retired Officer Egan, Sergeant Hamilton-Frisz, Corporal Aslam, Officer Turner, & Officer Valdivia received Police Valor awards for their response to a suicidal subject with a knife. Corporal Greene also received a service award from the Peninsula Lions Club.

The Police Department held several community outreach events, including: First Annual Shred Event Skateboard Competition, three Coffee with a Cop events, and Bike Safety event at Bowditch Middle School.
Looking to the Future

Pilgrim-Triton
The Pilgrim-Triton Master Plan has been approved for an approximately 20.75 acre area, to be constructed in four phases. The first two phases of the project, The Plaza (307 units and 7,000 square feet of ground floor commercial) and 100 Grand (166 units and 5,000 square feet of ground floor commercial) are open and occupied. The Triton apartments (220 units and 5,000 square feet of commercial) will be opening in the fall of 2017.

TownePlace Suites Hotel and Retail
The TownePlace Suites Hotel, a 121 room extended stay hotel, will be opening in the fall of 2017 at the former Black Angus site on Chess Drive. Adjacent to the hotel, at 1297 Chess Drive, the site of the former Harry's Hofbrau, a 12,000 square foot retail building recently opened. Tenants include Panera Bread, MOD Pizza, Habit Burger and FedEx.

Gilead
Gilead continues development of their 72 acre campus. In 2016, Gilead opened two new buildings, a 314,000 square foot office building at 309 Velocity Way and a 191,000 square foot lab building at 355 Lakeside Drive. Currently, two new lab buildings are under construction. At 357 Lakeside Drive, a 231,000 square foot laboratory/office and pilot laboratory building is underway. A 357,000 square foot laboratory/office building is under construction at 324 Lakeside Drive. These buildings should be complete in late 2018 or early 2019.

Foster Square
The Foster Square project includes Atria; a 155 room assisted living facility, 200 for-sale condominiums for age qualified adults 55+ by Lennar Homes and 66 below market rate apartments for seniors at Alma Point. The ground floor of the Atria and Alma Point buildings will include 35,000 square feet of retail space, together with a small stand-alone pavilion in the center of the Town Square/Plaza that will serve as a gathering place for the entire Foster City Community. Atria and Alma Point are now open. Retail tenants, including Starbucks, Falafel Tazah, Boiling Hot Pot, Happy Lemon, and Chaat Indian Cuisine have signed leases for the retail spaces and will be opening soon. Lennar has sold over 40 condominium units. The first 24 units are complete, and residents are moving in.

BioMed/Illumina
BioMed Realty is developing the ±20-acre Lincoln Centre Life Sciences Research Campus site to allow development of up to 595,000 gross square feet of laboratory, manufacturing, office space, visitor and employee amenities and structured parking. The first phase of the project, which includes two office/R&D buildings totaling 370,000 square feet, a 40,000 square foot amenities building and a parking garage, is currently under construction and should be completed in early 2019. The buildings will be occupied by Illumina who is a leading developer, manufacturer and marketer of life science tools and integrated systems for large-scale analysis of genetic variation and function.

Community Development

Planning/Code Encorcement Division

• Total Planning Permits Issued: 145
• Total Code Enforcement Cases processed: 362

Major Projects Approved:

• Gilead (NB 324) – Use Permit request to construct a new 4-story, 68’ tall, ±357,244 sq. ft. laboratory/office building to replace three existing buildings located at 320, 322 and 324 Lakeside Drive on the Gilead Sciences Corporate Campus in Vintage Park – approved on November 3, 2016
• Gilead (NB 357) – Use Permit request to construct a new 6-story, 124’ tall, ±231,000 sq. ft. laboratory building – approved on June 2, 2016
• Local Hazard Mitigation Plan/Safety Element – approved on November 21, 2016
• Commercial Linkage Fee for Affordable Housing – adopted on December 19, 2016
• Environmental Impact Report for the Levee Protection Planning & Improvement Project Certified by City Council on May 8, 2017

Building Division

• Permits Issued: 2,988
• Total Valuation for Issued Permits: $300,997,574
• Building Inspections Performed: 17,719
• Applications for Major Projects that were processed and approved (Foster Square, Gilead Sciences and Biomed Campus): 57

All of the permits for the buildings at Foster Square and the first phase of the Biomed Campus have been issued. The final stage of plan review is underway for the two new laboratory buildings at Gilead Sciences.

On February 10, 2017, the new TRAKit permitting system went live. This management system has added functionality above the previous system and was implemented on time and within budget. Shortly, the community will be able to electronically submit building permit applications and plans, schedule inspections, renew business licenses, make payment of fees, view permits, histories and code enforcement records online.
Mayor’s Message

Charlie Bronitsky

Over the past year, the City Council has continued to focus on our six top priorities: land use, traffic and transportation, infrastructure, sustainability, quality schools and citizen engagement. With some of the City’s biggest projects moving forward including improvements to the levee and upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, we continue to keep the community’s best interests in mind and remind ourselves of these priorities with every step. We have also spent time this year looking at additional programs and procedures to maintain and improve the quality of life that our residents deserve. We use the Community Annual Report as a point of reflection to acknowledge what has been achieved to make Foster City the best place to live, work, and play.

City Manager’s Message

Kevin M. Miller

This annual report for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 recounts a year of dedication by City employees and your City Council. In the past fiscal year, the City of Foster City has maintained a financially strong municipal organization, while offering excellent public services to residents.

The City Council adopted a balanced budget with healthy reserves in all operating funds. The City Council also adopted a focused mission and vision statement with clear policy priorities that will position our community for continued success.

The City strives for governing excellence, including transparency and participation not only from City Council and City staff, but from citizens as well. Several citizen committee vacancies were promoted extensively in an effort to provide a variety of experiences and ideas. Our presence online has expanded, so that citizens have the opportunity to reach us easily at their convenience.

A top priority of the City is continued investment and improvements to Foster City’s infrastructure and park system. City staff work diligently on new and ongoing Capital Improvement Projects that assure the safety and quality of life our residents and businesses can rely on. In FY 2016-2017, we have made huge strides in two of the most important projects in the City’s history, with the joint San Mateo and Foster City Wastewater Treatment Plant Project and the Levee Protection Planning and Improvements Project.

Our police and firefighters continue to maintain public safety, and we highly respect and appreciate their work. The motivation and dedication of our public safety organizations and the community is reflected in well-earned accolades as one of the safest cities in the bay area, state, and nation.

The City was also pleased to host the first session of the CommUNITY Dialogue Series, a series of discussions involving City staff and residents to discuss important City topics. The series will continue through 2017. The Economic Development strategy has brought new partnerships to Foster City that will improve the lives of both residents and business owners.

We have had a successful year in FY 2016-2017, and I look forward to another excellent year in FY 2017-2018. I would like to thank the Mayor and Members of City Council, City staff, and the community. Your commitment to Foster City is powerful, and it is felt in the uniquely beautiful, dynamic, and thriving city we call home.

City Council Mission and Vision

The City Council is committed to ensuring the long-term financial stability of the City and providing services that enhance the quality of life for those who live, work and play in Foster City. Our values are as followed:

Engagement, Leadership, Integrity, Innovation, Teamwork, Excellence

Sam Hindi
Vice Mayor

Herb Perez
Councilmember

Charlie Bronitsky
Mayor

Catherine Mahanpour
Councilmember

Gary Pollard
Councilmember