



Sunnyvale City Manager Activates Emergency Operations Center, Issues Local Emergency Proclamation

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 12, Sunnyvale City Manager Kent Steffens activated the City's Emergency Operations Center and Issued a Local Emergency Proclamation. Both actions were taken in response to the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Steffens stated that the actions did not signify any increase in risk to Sunnyvale.

The primary purposes of the actions were to ensure the continued delivery of essential City services and to keep residents informed.

The City Manager's declaration is in effect for seven days and, pursuant to the Sunnyvale Municipal Code, must be ratified by the City Council. Council is expected to consider the matter at its meeting on March 17. A ratification by Council has a duration of 30 days, and can be re-ratified by Council at least every 30 days until Council deems the emergency to no longer exist.

Critical operations continue in Sunnyvale, including regular operations of the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety. Garbage and recycling collection, and water and sewer service are all continuing with regular service. Sunnyvale parks are open during regular operating hours.



**Sunnyvale
City Manager
Kent Steffens**

A number of Sunnyvale facilities are closed until early April at the soonest. This includes the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Sunnyvale Community Center, the Columbia Neighborhood Center, the Sunnyvale Theater and the Sunnyvale Senior Center.

Sunnyvale residents can stay up to date on the City's response to the coronavirus health emergency by visiting sunnyvale.ca.gov/news/topics/coronavirus.htm.

City Seeks Resident Input on Active Transportation Plan

A COMMUNITY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 12 to discuss a draft of Sunnyvale's Active Transportation Plan was cancelled due to coronavirus concerns. But the City still wants resident input on the plan, which encompasses the pedestrian circulation plan, the bicycle master plan and the safe routes to school plan.

Residents are encouraged to visit sunnyvaleatp.altaplanning.site/#/ to learn more about the draft Active Transportation Plan and provide comments. The public comment period ends on March 24.

Arrests Made in Separate Public Safety Incidents

ARRRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE in two separate public safety incidents, one occurring on Sunday March 1, and the other on Saturday March 6.

On the evening of March 1, the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety received a report of a United Parcel Service (UPS) employee sending threatening text messages to his employer. The employee was identified as Thomas Andrews, a 32-year-old Sunnyvale resident. The text messages indicated Andrews was planning a mass shooting at the UPS facility in Sunnyvale.

Patrol officers began an investigation and discovered Andrews was the registered owner of four handguns and a rifle. Officers began an extensive search for Andrews and spotted him later in the evening in the area of Fair Oaks Avenue and Maude Avenue. Officers attempted an enforcement stop, but Andrews fled, driving onto southbound Highway 101. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) joined the pursuit and the suspect was safely taken into custody on Highway 101 in San Jose.

DPS detectives executed a search warrant for Andrew's Sunnyvale residence, finding over 20 thousand rounds of handgun and rifle ammunition, numerous high capacity magazines, five tactical style rifles, one shotgun, three handguns, and body armor. Several tactical backpacks containing ammunition were staged at the front door of the Andrews' residence.

Andrews was booked into the Santa Clara County Jail under charges of making criminal threats, evading police, driving under the influence and several counts of weapons violations.



On March 7 at about 4:25 p.m., the Department of Public Safety received a report of a shooting near the intersection of Homestead Road and Linnet Lane in Sunnyvale. Officers arrived and located an adult male deceased in

a vehicle and an adult female suffering from a non-life threatening gunshot wound. The female victim was transported to an area hospital for medical treatment.

The suspect and the victims were involved in a minor vehicle collision near Homestead Road and Linnet Lane. The male victim pulled onto Linnet Lane to exchange information when the shooting immediately occurred. The suspect is believed to have fired several rounds into the victim's vehicle.

The suspect, identified as Jason Tahara, a 23-year-old San Jose resident, was located in San Jose and taken into custody by the San Jose Police Department less than three hours after the shooting.

Sunnyvale DPS obtained a search warrant for the vehicle and located two tactical style rifles, loaded high capacity rifle magazines, a tactical style external body armor vest, two handguns with loaded high capacity magazines, over 200 rounds of handgun ammunition and over 200 rounds of rifle ammunition.

Early the next morning, detectives executed a search warrant at Tahara's San Jose residence, locating several tactical rifle parts. Detectives believe Tahara was possibly building and modifying tactical style rifles in his home. The handgun used in the homicide is not registered and has no serial number.

Tahara was booked into Santa Clara County Jail on charges of murder and attempted murder.



Said Sunnyvale Councilmember Russ Melton, "The loss of life over a minor traffic collision is truly shocking and I am glad the suspect is behind bars. And yet another potential mass shooting was averted thanks to the quick work of DPS patrol officers. I am so grateful for the hard work performed every day by the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety to keep our community safe."

Recommendations for Individuals

In light of significantly increasing rates of COVID-19 in Santa Clara County, the Public Health Department is taking further steps to protect the health of our community. Public Health is making these recommendations in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and they are based on the best information we have at this time. These recommendations may be updated upon further evaluation and public health need.

Effective at **12:00am on March 14, 2020 until 11:59pm on April 4, 2020** all gatherings of more than 100 people are prohibited. Gatherings of 35 to 100 people are also banned unless certain conditions are met. The order as well as specific criteria for holding gatherings of 35 to 100 people can be found on our website www.sccphd.org/coronavirus.

General Precautions

- Avoid gatherings where several people are within arms-length of you
- Talk to your employer about telecommuting options, phone conferences & staggering work start/end times
- Get plenty of rest, drink plenty of fluids, eat healthy foods, and manage your stress to keep your immunity strong
- Stay away from people who are ill, especially if you are at higher risk for serious illness
- If you are sick, stay home and away from others in your household to the degree you are able. Contact your health care provider if you need medical care.
- Even if you are not ill, do not visit hospitals, long term care facilities, or nursing homes, or other settings with higher-risk populations. If you do need to visit one of these facilities, limit your time there and keep 6 feet away from all patients and employees of the facility at all times.
- **Do not go to the emergency room unless essential.** Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical needs. If you have symptoms like cough, fever, or other respiratory problems, contact your regular doctor first for instructions.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does **not** recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a healthcare facility).

Guidance for People at Higher Risk

The County Public Health Department strongly urges that people at higher risk of severe illness:

- Stay at home as much as possible. It's OK to walk outside as long as you keep an arms-length distance from other people.
- Do not attend gatherings of more than 10 people.
- Do not travel on airplanes or cruises. Also avoid airports, train stations, bus stations, and other forms of transportation, as much as possible.
- Those at higher risk include:
 - Older adults. The risk begins to increase over 50 and increases significantly with age, with persons over age 70 and 80 in the highest risk category.
 - People, regardless of age, with underlying health conditions including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, heart disease, or chronic lung diseases like COPD, blood disorders, kidney or liver disease, as well as those with severely weakened immune systems.

Enhanced Hygiene

Everyone needs to follow increased hygiene measures that include:

- Frequently wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be used in a pinch if soap and water are not available
- Avoid close contact with other people
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue

Regular Cleaning

Exposure is thought to mostly occur through respiratory droplets, but surfaces can still transfer the virus from person to person. Frequently touched surfaces should be regularly cleaned by businesses and organizations. Areas such as doorknobs, tabletops, counters, phones, desks, keyboards and fixtures should be disinfected several times throughout the day.



Sunnyvale Councilmember Russ Melton



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B I O G R A P H Y

GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

- Sunnyvale City Councilmember, 2017-Present
- Sunnyvale Vice Mayor, 2019
- Sunnyvale Planning Commissioner, 2012-2017; Commission Chair, 2014-2016

EDUCATION

- Masters of Business Administration (MBA), Santa Clara University
- Bachelor of Science (BS), Business Administration, California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Executive Vice President / Chief Operations Officer, National 1st Credit Union, 2009-2011
- Senior Finance Manager, National Semiconductor Corporation, 1995-2009
- Honorably Discharged from United States Navy

PERSONAL

- Sunnyvale resident since 2000
- Native Bay Area resident
- Married; two children in Sunnyvale public schools

Sunnyvale Contact Information

Non-Emergency
Police & Fire 408-730-7100

Abandoned Cars 408-730-7706

Graffiti/
Shopping Carts 408-730-7680

Job Center (NOVA) 408-730-7232

Sewer/
Water/Utilities 408-730-7400

Street Lights/
Sidewalks..... 408-730-7415

Street Trees/Parks 408-730-7506

sunnyvale.ca.gov

Use Access Sunnyvale to make online services requests, report issues or to contact City staff. City staff members monitor requests during regular business hours, Monday through Friday.

sunnyvale.dynamics365portals.us

Your Federal Elected Representatives

United States Senator **Dianne Feinstein**
San Francisco Office 415-393-0707

United States Senator **Kamala Harris**
San Francisco Office 415-981-9369

United States Representative **Ro Khanna**
Santa Clara Office 408-436-2720

Your State Elected Representatives

California State Senator **Jerry Hill**
San Mateo Office 650-212-3313

Calif. State Assemblymember **Marc Berman**
Los Altos Office 650-691-2121

Your County Elected Representatives

Santa Clara County Supervisor
Joe Simitian 408-299-5050

Santa Clara County Supervisor
Dave Cortese 408-299-5030