

As New Year Begins, City of Clayton Reflects on Accomplishments Reached in 2022

From park improvements to investing in local businesses, city focused on further strengthening Clayton's quality of life

Clayton, Calif., (January 9, 2023) – With 2022 behind us, the city of Clayton reflects on the accomplishments achieved during 2022.

Across California and in Clayton, 2022 was another year where local businesses worked hard to stay afloat in the midst of economic pressures created by the pandemic. In 2022, the American Rescue Plan Act made it possible for nearly \$800,000 to directly support both community businesses and qualified individual households in Clayton.

“In order to maintain the heart and soul of our community, it was clear that we needed to immediately invest in supporting our local economy,” said Peter Cloven, Councilmember (2022 Mayor), City of Clayton. “By making these investments, we took the necessary steps to protect the quality of life that has always made our community so desirable.”

Focused on improving the resident experience, city officials programmed \$185,000 in state grant funds to improve Clayton Community Park and provided \$250,000 in grant funds for The Grove Park. City officials also successfully supported a full year of special events and summer concerts, which were possible for the first time since 2019.

The city of Clayton is always focused on maintaining a healthy financial foundation. City officials entered into the first phase of an agreement that will provide Clayton with an evaluation of potential opportunities to reduce energy and water costs with the goal of saving city dollars in the future. Clayton also formed the Community Financial Sustainability Committee as an accountability and engagement tool to ensure the financial health of the city.

“Through smart investments and budgeting, we will continue working to ensure that our city is able to provide our residents with the necessary quality-of-life services required to enhance the Clayton experience,” said Jeff Wan, 2023 Mayor, City of Clayton. “I look forward to a renewed focus on operational excellence and working with my colleagues and city staff to strengthen the bond between our city's government and the residents that we serve.”

With the goal of making government more accessible to the public, hybrid meeting technology was implemented that allows for remote meeting participation by the public while resuming in-person meetings for the City Council and Planning Commission. Clayton also implemented software that makes the city's budget and financial process open and transparent to the public.

“As a city, it has always been our goal to make our city’s decision-making process easily accessible to the public,” said Reina Schwartz, City Manager, City of Clayton. “By having an on-going conversation with our residents, we can make decisions that incorporate regular public feedback. That is what public service is about.”

About the City of Clayton: The City of Clayton was incorporated in 1964 and founded in 1857. Nestled at the bucolic base of picturesque Mt. Diablo, Clayton is in close proximity to the greater San Francisco Bay Area with all the amenities, sports and cultural opportunities offered by that choice location. Clayton is a safe residential community of around 11,288 people. It is a town which values civic partnership with business leaders, community leaders, and our neighbors. Clayton is a great place to live, work and play for people who cherish small-town living and traditional American values. Understandably, Clayton has been listed three times running as one of CNN’s Money Magazines “Top 100 Places to Live in the Nation” for small cities.

For more information: <https://claytonca.gov/>

###