



EPISODE TRANSCRIPT

EPISODE INFORMATION

- Episode Title:** San Mateo city Resources
- Episode # & Date:** Episode #10 – January 2, 2020
- Episode Description:** Judy takes us on a tour of where to get information that every San Mateo resident will find useful and important.
- Episode Web Page:** <https://sanmateofocus.com/san-mateo-city-resources/>

TRANSCRIPT

I'm Judy Gordon, and *this* is San Mateo Focus. San Mateo Focus is a weekly podcast that gives you a shot of San Mateo information.

San Mateo celebrated its 125th Birthday in September, 2019. From the early Spanish explorers and missionaries in the 1700s, to the great Ranchos, to the Railroads and resulting large estates, San Mateo is now a city that is considered an integral part of the Bay Area and Silicon Valley. Right now, San Mateo is preparing for the next 20 years and if you go to strivesanmateo.org, you'll be able to participate in the process. That previous sentence leads me to the topic of this episode. Have you ever heard of strivesanmateo.org? I had not until I was made aware of it while looking at the vast amount of online resources that are available from the city of San Mateo website. I'm going to guess that a lot of people have questions that can be answered by the city website, so I thought I'd do an episode on online access for time-constrained residents, thanks to the assistance of the communications department at the city.

When I need to find out something about San Mateo—like library hours or when the concerts in Central Park start—I usually do a search and eventually find the answer. Frequently, I'm directed to a page on the city website, but I don't tend to look at the URL, because I've found my answer. I'm sure that I'll continue with those habits, but the city does recommend that if you search for something outside the city website, to check the URL to see that you've been taken to the city's actual website, so that you know your information is accurate. If you do want to go directly to the city website, there is a good search function within it. I do understand that you're listening to this now, and the city website might not be in front of you, so don't worry. Any of the links that we discuss will be included on the episode resources at sanmateofocus.com.

On the [Home Page](#) of the city website is the *News and Announcements* section. It's good to look at that section every once in a while if you have time. However, getting email updates for topics that interest you is probably more efficient for most people, and that can be accomplished from the city website. There are [a lot of updates](#) that you can sign up for: agendas for different city department meetings, library events, volunteer opportunities, employment opportunities, and planning department updates. I signed up to get the citywide *Community Newsletter* sent to my email address.



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Emergency updates are in a different part of the website. Signing up for them can be done through [Nixle](#) to your email address, or by texting your zip code to 888777.

Get a few San Mateo residents together, no matter their background, and we'll all agree on one thing: there are a lot more people in the city and traffic congestion is much more evident than it was even just a few years ago. When you finally get to your destination, where to park matters. There are some new lots, new regulations, and permits for people who work downtown to consider. All of that information is now rolled into one [parking and transportation spot](#) on the city website. From this section of the website you'll learn that downtown has two zones for street parking. The green zone on the perimeter of downtown is less expensive than the inner streets downtown. People who work in San Mateo and drive there will definitely want to [check out this web page](#) on the city site and apply for a monthly parking permit at one of eight city-owned garages.

Do you see new buildings sprouting up everywhere and wonder what's going on with them? Another thing that I discovered is that there's a [page on the city website](#) called *What's Happening in Development* that makes tracking new developments in San Mateo easy. It provides information on current and under-construction projects. People can search for a project on a map or by the stage of development. Looking at the map gives you an idea why there are so many more people and cars on the road in San Mateo.

There are times when you see things that don't look right, but it's not an emergency. Like a street light is out, or there's a pothole, or a tree or a limb is on the street. If making a phone call to the city is inconvenient, you can get straight to [the reporting page](#) by clicking on *I Want To* from the home page of the city website. The reports are processed from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday. Also embedded in the website is a [page called](#) *Speak up San Mateo*. You can subscribe to topics via email and understand what people are thinking. One of the two open topics currently is the 28th Avenue Bicycle Boulevard Survey.

What's a city council meeting like? Watch one from your home on your TV on *Channel San Mateo*, or through a mobile device on the city's YouTube channel. Channel San Mateo is San Mateo's local Public, Education, or Government channel, providing local cable subscribers with a wide variety of programming. It's channel 26 on Astound, Channel 27 on Comcast, and Channel 99 on AT&T U-verse.

Finally, Here's the Deal: you can get email notifications for street sweeping! Although it's not hard to figure out how to do it on the city website, we've included the [direct link](#) to get your own notifications on this episode's resources at [sanmateofocus.com](#).

Okay, that's all the time we have for this episode. Have a great week. Thanks to Jack Radsliff for the original music to this podcast. If you'd like more information about our sponsor or the topics in today's episode, go to [sanmateofocus.com](#).



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HELPFUL LINKS:

Book: "San Mateo: A Centennial History" by Mitchell P. Postell

<https://www.amazon.com/San-Mateo-Centennial-Mitchell-Postel/dp/0942087089>

Official San Mateo City Website

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/>

San Mateo City Street Cleaning Schedule

<https://www.sanmateostreetcleaning.com/>

San Mateo Parking and Transportation Information

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/2125/Parking-and-Transportation>

San Mateo Downtown Parking Permit Information and Application

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/4124/Downtown-Parking-Permit>

San Mateo Development Information and Map

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/1176/Whats-Happening-in-Development>

San Mateo Police Department (on Nixle website)

<https://local.nixle.com/san-mateo-ca-police-department/>

San Mateo Community Complaint Online Form

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/FormCenter/Reporting-a-Problem-15-15/Community-Complaint-Form-68-68>

San Mateo Speak Up Page (Online Discussions)

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/3263/Speak-Up-San-Mateo>

Official City of San Mateo YouTube Channel

<https://youtube.com/cityofsanmateo>

Official City of San Mateo Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/cityofsanmateo/>

Official City of San Mateo Twitter Account

<https://twitter.com/CityofSanMateo>

Official City of San Mateo Instagram Account

<https://www.instagram.com/cityofsanmateoca/>

Official City of San Mateo LinkedIn Account

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-san-mateo/about/>

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PODCAST OVERVIEW

Podcast Name: San Mateo Focus

Logo:



Description: Whether you're new to San Mateo, California, or a long time resident, the San Mateo Focus Podcast is the place to learn about local history, good eats, and things to do.

Website: <http://www.sanmateofocus.com>

Email: info@sanmateofocus.com

Host & Founder: Judy Gordon

Producer/Co-host: Peter Radsliff

Where to listen: [Apple Podcasts](#) | [Google Podcasts](#) | [Stitcher Podcasts](#) | [TuneIn Podcasts](#)

How to listen:

- 1) On the San Mateo Focus **website**: <http://www.sanmateofocus.com>
- 2) On your favorite **iPhone** or **Android** smartphone podcast app
- 3) On your favorite smart speaker:
 - For **Amazon Echo**, say: *"Alexa, play the podcast, San Mateo Focus."*
 - For **Google Home**, say: *"OK Google, play the podcast, San Mateo Focus."*
 - For **Apple HomePod**, say: *"Hey Siri, play the podcast, San Mateo Focus."*
- 4) On an **iPhone**, say: *"Hey Siri, play the podcast, San Mateo Focus."*
- 5) On an **Android** phone, say: *"OK Google, play the podcast, San Mateo Focus."*