



### Greetings,

We need your help. I've pushed for an update to the 'health element' of the County General Plan and we are now at an important juncture, which is gathering community input. As more cities and counties are acknowledging the impact of "place" on the public's health, they are including health-supportive policies in their general plans, or creating a stand-alone general plan health element to address a broad range of community health topics.

The General Plan establishes the overall policy framework for seven areas: land use and development, transportation, housing, resource conservation, open space, health and safety, and noise. All such elements, as they are called in state law, have equal standing, and each addresses issues defined as important and pertinent to the community.

What is important and pertinent to our community? Both the Santa Clara County Department of Planning and Development and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department are working together to formulate a suggested health element to the Board of Supervisors. Community members are invited to share their ideas about how Santa Clara County can be a healthy community for all. Issues for discussion may include general health, public safety, environmental quality, healthy housing, walking and bicycling, safe streets, parks and recreation, and others.

Adults, youth, businesses, community groups, institution representatives, and community members who live or work in any part of Santa Clara County are invited to attend. Please join

April 2012



### Representing:

Cupertino  
Los Altos  
Los Altos Hills  
Monte Sereno  
Mountain View  
Palo Alto  
San Antonio Hills  
San Jose  
Saratoga  
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me at one of the following locations to provide your input. You may also submit comments to me by replying to this email. For more background see:

[Health Element Website](#)

**Thursday, April 26, 2012, 6:00-8:30 p.m.**

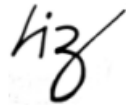
Quinlan Community Center (Cupertino Room)  
10185 N. Stelling Rd, Cupertino, CA

**Tuesday, May 8, 2012, 6:00-8:30 p.m.**

Avenidas (La Comida Room)  
450 Bryant Street, Palo Alto, CA

Below, I'm also pleased to offer multiple resources, some FYI news, and community events.

My best to you and your family,



**Great Resource for the Senior Community:**

[BayAreaOlderAdults.org](http://BayAreaOlderAdults.org)

There are many resources in our community, but finding information about them is not always easy. Bay Area Older Adults was designed specifically with seniors in mind, with over 1500 listings for free and low cost community activities; including: art and history, sciences, fitness, outdoors, food, and volunteering. Postings are listed on its website and, although members of the organization do receive a discount, becoming a member is not mandatory for participating and in any of these activities.

### **The Santa Clara County Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission Offering FREE Composting classes!**

Composting is nature's way of recycling. It is a satisfying way to turn fruit, vegetable and yard trimmings into a dark, crumbly, sweet smelling soil conditioner. Composting is easy, and:

- Saves you money by lowering garbage bills and replacing store-bought soil conditioners
- Helps garden and house plants by