

Downtown Digest

Summer of Soccer

With the 2026 international soccer tournament taking place June 11–July 19, and matches being played locally June 13–July 1, the City of Mountain View is planning a month-plus of fan-friendly celebrations.

Business Deals and Events - Explore the Summer of Soccer Business Map, highlighting special deals, promotions, and soccer-themed events at businesses throughout the City. The map will be live on June 1.

Opportunities for Play - Get in the game with FootGolf at Cuesta Park (starting June 11) or join a pickup match at the Downtown Mini Pitch (starting July 2). More information and details coming soon to the Summer of Soccer webpage.

Weekend of Music and Watch Parties - Celebrate the tournament’s finale with a weekend of festivities in Downtown on July 18 and 19. Enjoy live music, games, giveaways, and screenings of the bronze and final matches. The Downtown Entertainment Zone will also be activated, allowing visitors to purchase alcoholic beverages from participating businesses and enjoy them within the designated area. Learn more below.

Stay tuned for more information at MountainView.gov/SummerOfSoccer.



Entertainment Zone

Approved by City Council in April, the Downtown Entertainment Zone Pilot Program is a new initiative that allows the City to designate areas along Castro Street where people can enjoy alcoholic beverages outdoors during specific, City-organized events.

Enabled by a recent California law (SB 969), the 18-month pilot is intended to support a vibrant and active Downtown by allowing patrons to move from participating businesses to nearby public spaces. To ensure economic benefits remain local, only existing, licensed brick-and-mortar businesses within the zone are permitted to sell alcohol.

The City is working on plans to activate the zone during events surrounding the upcoming World Cup watch parties on July 18 and July 19, with the goal of creating an engaging, “festival-like” experience that encourages visitors to stay longer and explore Downtown. The program includes clear operational and safety requirements, such as defined boundaries, security planning, and age verification, and will be closely monitored throughout the pilot period.



Bollard Art Installation Complete

Artists have completed their work transforming bollards into vibrant, one-of-a-kind art pieces along the Castro Street Pedestrian Mall. Participating artists include Anne-Sophie Gaudet (100 block at Villa), Zoe Caron (200 block at Villa), Katherine Liu (200 block at W Dana), Human Shaped Animals (300 block at W Dana), and John Patrick Thomas (300 block at California).

This project brings a fun, colorful elements of creativity to the pedestrian mall, enhancing the Downtown experience for visitors, residents, and businesses alike.



Train Depot Public Art Installation



New public art celebrating Mountain View's history and cultural diversity was installed in May at the Mountain View train depot building. Through a partnership between the City of Mountain View, Arts Mountain View, and the Valley Transportation Authority, a series of colorful panels created by Bay Area artist John Patrick Thomas now wrap portions of the depot building.

The installation adds vibrancy to this highly visible gateway and creates a more welcoming experience for the thousands of residents, workers, and visitors who pass through the area each day. The City is planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 11, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., to celebrate the public-private partnership that made this project possible.

Planter Boxes

As part of the City's effort to attract visitors and keep the community informed about construction timelines and project impacts, the City introduced a new Downtown logo, [Downtown MV in Motion](#), last year. Inspired by the colorful decorative street treatment, the logo reflects the dynamic energy of Castro Street and celebrates everyday moments such as enjoying live music, playing street games, and gathering with friends. As part of this branding effort, the City recently installed colorful graphics on Downtown planter boxes, featuring imagery inspired by Mountain View's natural landscape.



Music on Castro



The 2026 Music on Castro series returns to Downtown Mountain View from now through October, featuring live performances every Wednesday. From 5:00 to 6:45 p.m., enjoy a dynamic lineup of local and regional talent while exploring Downtown shops and dining. Make it a midweek tradition and experience the perfect blend of music, community, and fun!

Visit MountainView.gov/MusicOnCastro to view the performance schedule. No performances during inclement weather.

Concerts on the Plaza

The Concerts on the Plaza music series returns this June. Held on Friday evenings from June through September, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., the series brings live music to Downtown Mountain View all summer long. Downtown Mountain View will pulse with energy as top music acts take the stage, filling the air with incredible sounds. Join your friends, neighbors, and fellow music lovers for nights packed with fun, food, and dancing.

Visit MountainView.gov/ConcertsOnThePlaza to view the performance schedule



Adult Cornhole League – Summer 2026 Season



Registration is now open for the Summer 2026 Adult Cornhole League. Gather your team and join the fun for a season of friendly competition, held Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the summer in Downtown Mountain View.

The deadline to submit all applications is Friday, May 29. Learn more at QuickScores.com/MountainViewRec.

Wayfinding

New pedestrian wayfinding signage will be installed this spring/early summer to help visitors navigate Downtown and locate key destinations, including public parking facilities and community attractions. The signs feature visual elements inspired by Mountain View's history and surroundings, reinforcing the community's character and sense of place.

The new signage will be installed along Castro, Hope and Bryant streets between El Camino Real and Central Expressway. The signs will be mounted on existing light poles, and will include three main sign types:

- Directional Signage – These signs will point to civic facilities and local attractions such as City Hall, Library and Transit Center.
- Maps – Located beneath each directional sign, these maps will orient pedestrians with a “You Are Here” marker and a five-minute walking radius.
- Parking Identifiers – Installed at public parking facilities, these signs will help visitors remember where they parked using playful, memorable phrases (e.g., “It takes 2 to Tango” sign in Lot 2), and improve wayfinding back to their vehicles.



Corso (Lot 12) Affordable Housing Project – Under Construction



Mountain View Lot 12 is the site of a new 5-story 100% affordable housing development by Alta Housing and Related California, in collaboration with the City of Mountain View, which began construction in late February 2026. Located at 424 Bryant Street, the development, called Corso, will bring 120 affordable apartments to Downtown Mountain View.

Apartments will be available for families earning between 30% to 60% of the area median income, including twenty units for households referred by the Santa Clara County Office of Supportive Housing Rapid Rehousing Program, ten units for households transitioning out of homelessness, and fifteen units for households with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Construction is advancing quickly with excavation largely complete. Vertical construction began earlier this month and will proceed into the fall.

For weekly construction updates, visit the project website at MountainViewlot12.org.

New Bike Racks Coming Downtown

The City was recently awarded grant funds by the Bay Area Air District's Transportation Fund for Clean Air to install new bicycle racks in Downtown.

This project is a part of the City's ongoing efforts to make the Downtown area more accessible, promote active transportation, and improve traffic congestion and air quality. 15 new single racks and 10 triple-rack sleds will be installed on Castro Street between El Camino and W. Evelyn Avenue by June 2026 creating a total of 90 new bicycle parking spaces.

Cyclists are reminded that bike riding is not allowed on the Castro Street Pedestrian Mall (100-300 blocks of Castro St). Please help keep the space safe for all by walking your bike and utilizing new and existing bike racks.



Call for Mountain View Makers!

The City is excited to launch a Downtown Makers Market, a pilot series coming to the 300 block of Castro Street this fall. We are seeking local vendors and makers who want to be part of this high-foot-traffic activation. Interested in participating? Visit MountainView.gov/Downtown for the vendor application, program guidelines, and a helpful FAQ.



Open Gallery Hours

Stop by the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts on Monday, June 8 to experience the "Foolish Perseverance" art exhibition and meet the artist, Sixian Wang, in person.

📍 Where: MVCPA Lobby Gallery (500 Castro St, Mountain View)

📅 When: Monday, June 8

🕒 Time: 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. No RSVP is required.

