



News Release

Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

For Immediate Release

July 9, 2014

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Summer of Fun in St. James Park in San José
*Wide range of activities are activating convenient
open space in the heart of downtown*

SAN JOSE, Calif. – A pilot program aimed at getting more people to spend some of their summertime in St. James Park in downtown San José drew a happy crowd today who showed up to do yoga exercises, play soccer and other games, and enjoy food-truck hot dogs and ice cream as part of “Summer in St. James Park.”

“This is a great park right in the heart of our city that hasn’t been very active as a convenient spot for recreation in a long time,” said Brian Clampitt, events coordinator with the San José Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services.

“We want to turn St. James Park into a welcoming destination for downtown neighborhood residents, office workers, and visitors to take a break, have lunch, and enjoy a wide range of activities during the days and evenings.”

Over the past several weeks, the park hosted World Cup viewing events on large outdoor screens. The remaining World Cup matches will be shown this weekend, including the championship game between Germany and Argentina that will start at noon on Sunday, July 13, and the third-place game between Brazil and Netherlands at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 12.

More events are scheduled in the park later this month, including Starlight Cinema showing “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade,” and Music in the Park.

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The city received a \$60,000 grant from the Knight Foundation to fund the pilot project. Staff from various San José departments have worked over the past several months with the San José Downtown Association and local businesses to develop a comprehensive program of fun events in the park.

“Although St. James Park has suffered from neglect in recent years, we’re optimistic that it represents huge potential as a positive downtown amenity,” said Clampitt.

“We’ve received tremendous support and positive responses from our local businesses and other community groups that have joined our effort to transform the park into active space for all people.”

A full list of events can be seen here: <http://sjdowntown.com/summerinstjames>. The city is working to add more events, and there are opportunities for competitive grants for vendors in the park.

About San José Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services

PRNS has one of the most diverse service models of any agency of its type. The recreation, social services and outdoor spaces serve the million residents of San José plus those from other Silicon Valley communities. PRNS is committed to building healthy communities through people, parks and programs and to being a national leader in cultivating healthy communities through quality programs and dynamic public spaces. For more information, visit <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns>.

About San José Downtown Association

The San Jose Downtown Association is a non-profit membership-based organization founded in 1986 that represents business and property owners and works to enhance vitality and livability of Downtown San José. SJDA receives financial support from private sponsors and contributing members, the Downtown Business Improvement District, and the City of San José. More information can be found at <http://sjdowntown.com>.

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