

# City Manager's NOTES AND QUOTES



John Doughty — Acting City Manager

September 19, 2014

“Deciding what not to do is as important as deciding what to do.” — Steve Jobs

## Building a Community Gathering Place

On August 20, 2014 over 300 volunteers came together to build a new play space at Bell Street Park.



More than building a playground, the Bell Street KaBOOM! Playground Project was about building community. From the Coupons.com employees who gave up their holiday party to pay for equipment to the community volunteers who gave up their work day to build benches, dig holes or construct the playground, everyone involved in the Bell Street Park KaBOOM! Playground project came together to experience the joy of giving back to their community. Share their experience by visiting the City of East Palo Alto's facebook page at [facebook.com/CityOfEastPaloAlto](https://www.facebook.com/CityOfEastPaloAlto).

## Bell Street Park Playground is Now Open!



The new Bell Street Park Playground was officially opened to the public on Saturday, September 6, 2014. The new playground will bring the more than 3,200 kids in East Palo Alto one step closer to having the childhood they deserve – one filled with safe, fun places to be active, healthy and happy! Complete with slides, swings, shaded rest areas, climbing walls, picnic tables and vibrant artwork, Bell Street Park is a picture-perfect play space for the entire family!



## What Do You Like Best?



When you visit the new playground, be sure to post your photos using the hashtag **#playinEPA** and let us know what you like best about this new play space!

## Mural Music & Arts Project

The Mural Music and Arts Project (MMAP) began in 2001, employing local teens to design and create murals. Recognizing that art and music have been a vital part of activities at Bell Street Park, the City of East Palo Alto was pleased to partner with MMAP for the design and completion of multiple public art projects including two ninety-foot murals, painted utility boxes and plywood letter cutouts embellished with motifs reflective of the City's rich ethnic diversity.



Designed by Edward “Scape” Martinez and Laura Nagle, the murals capture both the City's tagline of “EPA - A City on the Move” and the vision for Bell Street Park as a “Vibrant Park: A Healthy Community.” Special thanks to Sonya Clarke-Herrera, MMAP Executive Director, the Ravenswood School District and PG&E for keeping arts alive at Bell Street Park.



## Kudos to our Dream Team!

The Bell Street Park Playground Project was made possible by the City's Dream Team of Community Partners. We would like to thank the many organizations who donated their time, energy and resources to make this project happen (in alphabetical order): Canopy, Inc., Catered Too!, Collective Roots, Community Church of East Palo Alto, Community Law Center of EPA, Coupons for Change/ Coupons.com, East Palo Alto Apostolic Church, East Palo Alto Senior Center, Inc., East Palo Alto Fit Zone Program, Girls to Women, IKEA, Izzy's Brooklyn Bagels, Live in Peace, MMAP, Menlo Park Fire Department, Mi Pueblo Foods, Palo Alto Kiwanis, PG&E, Ravenswood School District, Ravenswood Family Health Center, San Mateo County Library System, Stanford Community Law Center, Starbucks, the Sobrato Organization, Staying Connected and Togos.



