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CITY OF SOLEDAD

NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY



City of Soledad Newsletter

Welcome to the City of Soledad's monthly newsletter. Here, you will get the latest scoop on our news, upcoming events, and important updates. Brought to you by City Manager Megan Hunter and the Community Engagement Office.

City of Soledad Joins County Immigration Ad Hoc Committee



On Wednesday, January 15, the City of Soledad joined the County of Monterey in a press conference announcing the services to inform the immigrant community about their rights. The City also launched a new [page_on_our_website](#) with essential resources on our website. On Thursday, January 23, the City of Soledad hosted a Know Your Rights on Immigration workshop with over 120 people in attendance.

Ballet Folklorico Arrives in Soledad



The Soledad Community Center has kicked off its Baile Folklorico dance program. Their wonderful instructor, Elizabeth, has years of experience teaching this vibrant and culturally rich dance to youth in the surrounding areas. Seeing such beautiful Mexican traditions continue to the next generation is wonderful. If you would like information on the next session, please call 831.223.5250 and ask for Rolando.



2025
STATE OF THE CITY

Siempre Soledad - Building an Inclusive City for All
Family friendly event

Light snacks and refreshments will be available while supplies last

FEB. 27 / 6 P.M.
SOLEDAD COMMUNITY CENTER
560 Walker Dr., Soledad Ca

FOR MORE INFO:
jvalenzuela@cityofsoledad.gov
(831)-223-5009



Would you like to learn more about what the City of Soledad accomplished in 2024? Then you can't miss this event. At the State of the City you will hear updates from our Mayor on key accomplishments. We will also have tables where you can talk to members of each department to get updates.

AB 413 – California Daylighting Law, What This New Law Means for Drivers

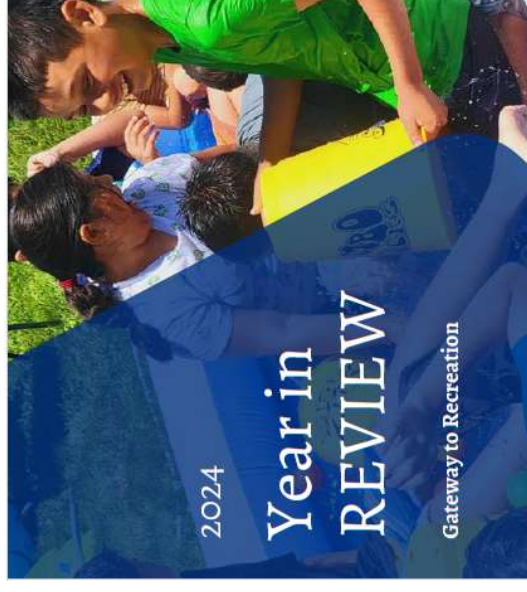


Assembly Bill 413 is meant to help make streets safer for everyone by reducing traffic collisions and saving lives through a measure known as daylighting. AB 413 prohibits the stopping, standing, or parking of a vehicle within 20 feet of the vehicle approach side of any unmarked or marked crosswalk or 15 feet of any crosswalk where a curb extension is present. AB 413 was signed into law on October 10, 2023, and went into effect as of January 1, 2025, which means that this law is now enforceable, and drivers not abiding will be cited by law enforcement.

The following links provide a short video developed by the City of Soledad to help its residents have a better understanding of this new law.

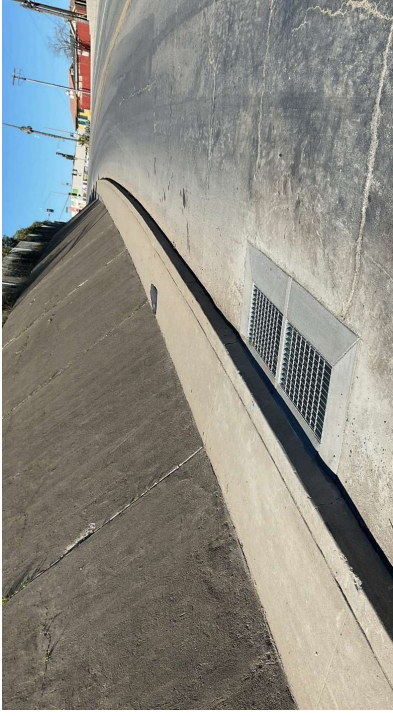
[Assembly Bill \(AB\) 413](#)
[Proyecto de Ley de la Asamblea 413 \(AB 413\)](#)

For more information on AB 413, please call (831) 854-6947 or email us at: publicworks@cityofsoledad.gov



The Soledad Parks and Recreation Year in Review is out, and what a year 2024 was for this department. You can read the full report [here](#).

Front Street Underpass Storm Drain Inlets Replacement

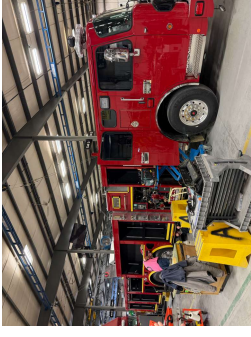


In an effort to enhance safety and improve travel conditions, the City of Soledad has prioritized addressing the Storm Drain Inlets as part of the ongoing Front Street Maintenance Project. These inlets have long posed a challenge for motorists and bicyclists, particularly in the underpass area, where they create a significant dip. This dip causes an uncomfortable drop for vehicles and poses a safety hazard for cyclists.

The issue arose over years of pavement overlays, where new layers of asphalt were added without adjusting the elevation of the Storm Drain Inlets, which remained at the level of the original Highway 101. This resulted in a misalignment between the inlets and the raised pavement surface. Traditionally, during pavement projects, manholes, valves, and grates have been raised or lowered depending on the new pavement elevation to account for the grades and slopes.

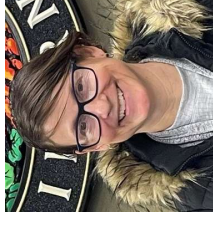
As part of this project, the City has invested in removing and replacing the Storm Drain Inlets along this section of Front Street. This adjustment will align them with the new pavement elevation, creating a safer and smoother travel experience.

The Soledad Fire Department Inspects Its New Truck



Thanks to the Soledad City Council and Senator Anna Caballero's office, the City of Soledad was able to purchase a new fire truck. The Soledad Fire Department would like to share with you the recent photos they took from the factory where some members of the Fire Department got to inspect the truck. The City of Soledad will be taking delivery of Truck-37 sometime this year. In order to house the new truck, the City will be constructing a new garage, known as an apparatus bay.

Meet Our New Staff!



Carla James

Carla is the City of Soledad's new Water Resources Manager; she is a South County native (born in Salinas and raised in Gonzales) and currently resides in Salinas. She has three grown children – a daughter, Gianna, and two sons – Elijah and Marcus. She has worked in the water and wastewater field for almost 25 years. Before joining the City, she was the Laboratory Manager at Carmel Area Wastewater District. Before that, she was at California American Water, where she supervised water treatment and coordinated water quality and environmental compliance. She holds Water Treatment (Grade T3) and Water