Latest Welcoming Star Awardee

Redwood City Together is a Redwood City 2020 initiative that builds empathy, understanding, and supportive action to bridge social divides such as race, class, and immigration status in order to create a welcoming environment for all. To honor local pioneers and programs which help build an inclusive and respectful community, Redwood City Together gives a quarterly Welcoming Stars award. At Monday’s City Council meeting, the City Council of Redwood City and Redwood City 2020 celebrated the latest Welcoming Stars award recipient, the DREAM Center at Cañada College. The Cañada College DREAM Center is a resource center and safe space for undocumented students, community members, and allies. The center provides services including free legal consultations, scholarship and financial aid resources, art and writing workshops, peer mentoring, and a student club. By promoting educational access and attainment for undocumented people in a safe and welcoming environment, the Cañada College DREAM Center makes this community more welcoming for all.

Walk and Bike Audits Completed for Selby Lane, Hoover, Garfield, and Taft

The Redwood City 2020 Safe Routes to School program, in partnership with parents, principals, school staff, facilities leaders, city/county engineers, and law enforcement partners, recently finalized walk and bike audits for four schools in the Redwood City School District (RCSD). The
Audits, prepared by Alta Planning + Design, will be used by the city of Redwood City, the county of San Mateo, and the city of Atherton to guide future pedestrian and bicycle improvements near schools in our community. Walk and bike audits are often a requirement in large infrastructure grant applications, especially if the grants are earmarked for Safe Routes to School projects. Redwood City 2020 has facilitated official walk and bike audits at thirteen schools in the RCSD; these audits have collectively generated millions of dollars in infrastructure funding.

The recent walk and bike audits can be viewed using the following links: Selby Lane, Hoover, Garfield, and Taft. Previous walk and bike audits can be found on the Redwood City 2020 website.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Community Education

Redwood City 2020’s Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Prevention Partnership conducted two well-attended Community Education Workshops last week. Working in partnership with Redwood High School and CSM Consulting, Redwood City 2020 staff presented two marijuana-focused workshops aimed at informing parents about the immediate and long-term dangers of young people using marijuana, increases in availability, and legalization. Next week, Redwood City 2020 is presenting the documentary Chasing Heroin, which underscores the U.S.’s heroin crisis in a fresh and provocative light. The film tells the stories of individual addicts, while also illuminating the epidemic’s years-in-the-making social context, deeply examining shifts in U.S. drug policy, and exploring what happens when addiction is treated like a public health issue, not a crime.

The AOD Prevention Partnership’s Community Education Workshops are hosted in diverse venues in Redwood City and North Fair Oaks and seek both to open and deepen the dialogue about environmental factors that challenge the health of our residents. For more information about upcoming workshops (or to host one at your organization’s site), please contact AOD Prevention Partnership Coordinator Gregg Zaire at gzaire@redwoodcity.org.