

Unity.  
Community.  
Opportunity.

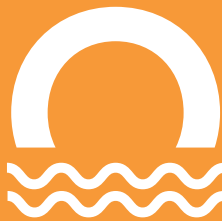




I present this annual report with the hope that it will offer you inspiration, assurance, and hope for the City of Antioch. As public servants, city staff remains committed to serving this beautifully diverse community and celebrating each person's unique contribution - this commitment is unwavering.

This year, I encourage everyone to see the opportunity presented by challenges and to find their own inspiration to make this great community even greater. Through it all, we thank you for your support and partnership in realizing tomorrow's opportunity.

**Forrest Ebbs**  
Acting City Manager





# Faces of opportunity



Whether you're considering starting a new business or expanding an already established one, put Antioch at the top of your list. These business owners have found success in Antioch because we know how to make businesses feel welcome and thrive. **Sean McCauley** is a well-known venture capitalist entrepreneur who is elevating our community through direct investment in the people and businesses that make us who we are. He envisions a thriving downtown fostering a close-knit local community.

**Laura Markstein** moved her family's 100+-year-old wholesale beverage distributorship *Markstein Sales Company* to Antioch because the process of building was welcoming, fast and efficient. **Danya Bey** and his family opened a new storefront locally for their bakery, *Way to Life Foods*, quickly became a community favorite. Antioch is committed to entrepreneurship. With local leadership and public policies that promote business, there is opportunity for your vision to grow here.





## Open for business

COVID-19 significantly shaped daily life everywhere and in Antioch, it significantly altered commuter and consumer spending patterns. In spite of the pandemic, the City gained financial strength from our residents remaining in City limits during the traditional work week. While delivering essential services to our community for the duration of the pandemic, we also made the most of reduced traffic in City Hall for much needed modernization. We are back, better than ever and here to serve you. The Finance Department re-opened with an improved physical environment and public access, staffed with an energetic, professional and freshly trained team of customer service representatives ready to assist our community.

**Our annual audit for the period that spans July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, was completed on time as required by State law, and we received an unmodified opinion, otherwise known as a “clean audit.” This outcome is a reflection of tested, sound and transparent financial practices. We are proud of it.**

We ended the fiscal year with an unassigned fund balance of approximately \$26M or 30% of General Fund revenues. We are on solid ground relative to the City's Budget Reserve Fund Policy which calls for a 20% set aside. For the thirty-second consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awarded our local agency with the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

The City Council will be considering the fiscal year 2023/25 budget for adoption on June 13, 2023, after a series of public budget sessions with community input conducted since March. The City Council continues to be dedicated to maintaining the City's fiscal health, with General Fund unassigned reserves projected to be over 30% in both fiscal year 2024 and 2025 while staying focused on City Council priorities.







## Here's the plan

**The Action Plan is organized around these major initiatives:**

**Initiative 1:** Business Development  
(Job Creation) Pipeline

**Initiative 2:** Real Estate Development  
Capacity/Site Readiness

**Initiative 3:** Workforce Opportunity Initiative

**Initiative 4:** Entrepreneurial Development/  
Startup Assistance

**Initiative 5:** Direct Project Investment/  
Public-Private Partnerships

**Initiative 6:** Leveraging Housing Demand to  
Promote Economic Development

**Initiative 7:** Regional Interface/Advocacy

**Initiative 8:** Funding/Resource Expansion

**Initiative 9:** Coordination with City (and Other)  
Foundational Functions

*For more information, please visit the Strategic  
Plan – City of Antioch, California web page*



**We're updating our General Plan!** The current General Plan was adopted in 2003 when we were experiencing rapid residential growth. Instead of focusing on expansion, we can look inward and focus on reinvesting in established communities, emphasizing job-producing economic development. We recently completed updates to the Housing and Environmental Hazards/Safety Elements. We are also preparing the City's first Environmental Justice Element. Once authorized by the City Council, the remainder of the General Plan will take about two years to complete. It will provide a modern perspective on the growth and priorities of Antioch. The plan will be in place for the next 20 years, so it's essential to get it right. We'll partner with school districts and local organizations to ensure everyone's on the same page. We'll also ask the public for input via surveys and virtual workshops. So, stay tuned—we want your opinion!

### Economic Development

The most notable accomplishment for Economic Development was the adoption of the "Reinvest Antioch" Action Plan and Tool Kit. The plan places significant importance on creating economic incentives, policies, and other resources that could assist in achieving the City's primary economic development objectives that include:

- Creating good-paying jobs
- Attracting real estate and business investment
- Increasing City fiscal revenue
- Encouraging a land use mix that supports an economically vibrant, high-amenity community
- Prioritizing economic development investments that promote social equity and enhance economic opportunities for historically disadvantaged persons, businesses, and neighborhoods.





## Meet the Antioch Police Department

The mission of the Antioch Police Department, in partnership with our community, is to promote the quality of life in Antioch by proactively reducing crime with integrity and commitment to excellence. We greatly value our role as community members and pledge to work closely with the Department of Justice to address and enact structural change. As such, we seek opportunities to build relationships and partnerships to ensure open communication, encourage dialogue, and discuss ways to improve our organization. We commit to demonstrate the following values, day in and day out: **Integrity, Openness and Sensitivity, Professionalism and Competency, Accountability and Responsibility, Encouragement and Recognition, Fun, and Vitality.**

In 2022, we welcomed our new Chief of Police, Dr. Steven A. Ford. He served over thirty-one years with the San Francisco Police Department, then chose to lead the Antioch Police Department in April of 2022. He was the interim Police Chief until appointed as the permanent Police Chief in October. Chief Ford is a highly accomplished, knowledgeable, and hands-on law enforcement leader. We are excited to have him as our leader for this forward-thinking organization.





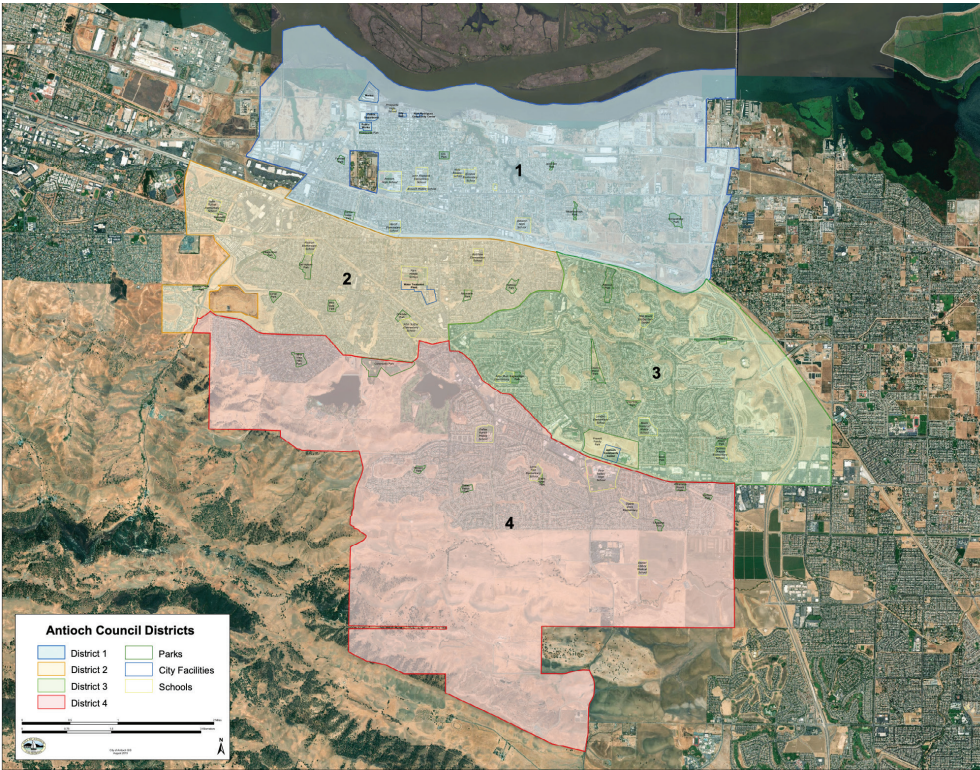


Community Engagement was and will continue to be a top priority for our department. We continue to prioritize our relationship with our community and recognize the importance of their contribution to the goal we are trying to achieve, keeping our community safe. Dr Steven A. Ford crafted a Community Forum which were and are scheduled monthly. The Community Forums allow the community a platform to ask questions of Chief Ford and other Police Department staff and hear about the recent happenings at the police department.

Due to our community partnerships and the diligent work of our patrol and investigations staff, statistics show a 5% decrease in aggravated assaults and homicides from year 2021 to 2022. Going into 2023, we are hopeful that number will continue to decrease as we create meaningful partnerships with local, state and federal entities.







The Antioch City Council includes our Mayor and four Council Members. The Council is proud to represent a city that is building on its historic legacy, creating bright opportunities for families to grow, offering places to play, enabling businesses to thrive and cultivating a unique downtown experience.

## Meet Your Government

The City of Antioch has four City Council districts. Each district elects a Councilmember to represent their district on the City Council. Find your City Council District using our lookup tool at [www.antiochprospector.com](http://www.antiochprospector.com)



*From left to right:*

**Lamar Thorpe**, Mayor

**Tamisha Torres-Walker**, Mayor Pro Tem | **District 1**

**Mike Barbanica**, Council Member | **District 2**

**Lori Ogorchock**, Council Member | **District 3**

**Monica Wilson**, Council Member | **District 4**





## Healthy Parks

**Bay Miwok Meadows Park** opened in 2022. **Julpun Park** will open in 2023. Three existing parks are receiving extensive renovations. Three more large outdoor projects are in development. Antioch provides ample opportunities for us to get and stay healthy.



## Expanding Outdoor Opportunities

Outdoor Recreation is crucial to the health of the individual and the community. Antioch is no exception and is rapidly expanding opportunities to improve quality of life. In 2022, Antioch unveiled its newest park, Bay Miwok Meadows Park, named in tribute to the indigenous peoples native to this land. Julpun Park, another new park named in homage to indigenous peoples, will open in 2023. City Park received a refresh of the playground, field, and rose garden. Major improvements are underway at Contra Loma Estates Park, Jacobson Park, and Marchetti Park, made possible with funding from Prop 68. The Rivertown Community Space and Veterans Memorial Park are being planned in the downtown area. And the revolutionary Bicycle Garden has been fully funded and will enter the planning phase through a partnership with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority. Antioch is committed to providing outdoor opportunities to highlight natural features and promote health and wellness.





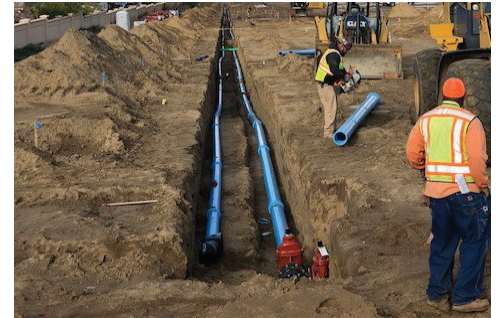


## Water is life

Purchased water is expensive and vulnerable to drought and natural disasters. But we no longer have to fully depend on such a risky water source. The Brackish Water Desal Project is part of our long-term strategy to improve Antioch's water supply reliability and quality by allowing us to use water from the San Joaquin River year-round. The project will utilize existing infrastructure where possible while planning for new buildings. Most importantly, the Brackish Water Desal Project will provide up to **six million gallons** of water per day.

## What is Brackish Water Desalination?

Water surrounding Antioch is considered brackish, which means it has a higher concentration of chlorides and dissolved solids than freshwater, but it's not as salty as the ocean. Desalination is the process of purifying that water by pushing it at high pressures through membranes to remove salt and minerals.







## Our Sesquicentennial

Antioch is one of California's oldest cities with a rich history and bright future. In 2022, the City held a series of 16 special events to commemorate our **150th Anniversary**, starting with the Incorporation Anniversary event on February 6th and culminating in the July 4th Spectacular, with concerts and fireworks on the delta. The events honored history, highlighted our parks and natural beauty, and celebrated the Antioch of today.







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