

URBAN VILLAGES

SAN JOSE, CA

MEET THE PLAYERS

[START WITH THE CITY'S URBAN VILLAGE WEBSITE](#)

Planning Staff



Planners provide recommendations to decision-makers on how best to use land or to develop a project.

Click through the current plans on the city's website. Find which planner is the main contact for your plan area. Email them asking to be added to the email list for your urban village.

SUBSCRIBE

Neighborhood Associations



The planning department relies on neighborhood associations to help get the word out about planning.

Get to know your neighborhood association's board members and attend the meetings to stay plugged-in to your community.

ATTEND

Developers



Developers make money by building or renovating properties for sale. Time is money for developers. They want to connect with the community early to avoid costly delays later.

Ask planning staff who is developing in your neighborhood. Reach out to the developer and talk about your shared goals.

RESEARCH

City Council



The City Council is the ultimate decision-maker on an urban village plan.

By the time a plan goes to the council for a final vote, most of the work has already been done.

Ensure that your ideas have been captured in the plan before it gets to them.

INFLUENCE

Council Office



If you don't have a relationship with your councilmember, now is the time to develop one.

Introduce yourself to the councilmember who was elected to represent you and your district. Also get to know the staff who work in the council office.

To find your district, use the maps provided on the City's website.

SAY HELLO

Property Owners



Property owners have a financial stake in what happens around their land. They will likely weigh in with their opinions.

The City will send notices to property owners, as well as those who rent or lease from them, about a planning process or proposed nearby development. Listen to their concerns and understand their goals.

LISTEN

Planning Commission



Planning Commissioners are residents like you who are passionate about how the city grows. They volunteer to sit on the commission.

You can be a resource to them as they deliberate over plans and projects.

They hear from planning staff and developers often, but they also need a resident's perspective on urban village plans.

BE A RESOURCE

Neighborhoods Commission



This commission provides a voice on neighborhood quality-of-life issues. They review proposed policies affecting neighborhoods, and make recommendations to the City Council on budget, public safety, transportation, and code enforcement.

As your urban village plan evolves, they can be a sounding board and an advocate for the plan.

ALIGN

FRIENDS

organizations and community groups—like bike coalitions and "friends of" groups—will help you along the way

NETWORKS

connect with community groups and their members to build support faster than you could on your own

EXPERTISE

organizations like Greenbelt Alliance are experts in planning processes and provide free training and support

HOW MANY

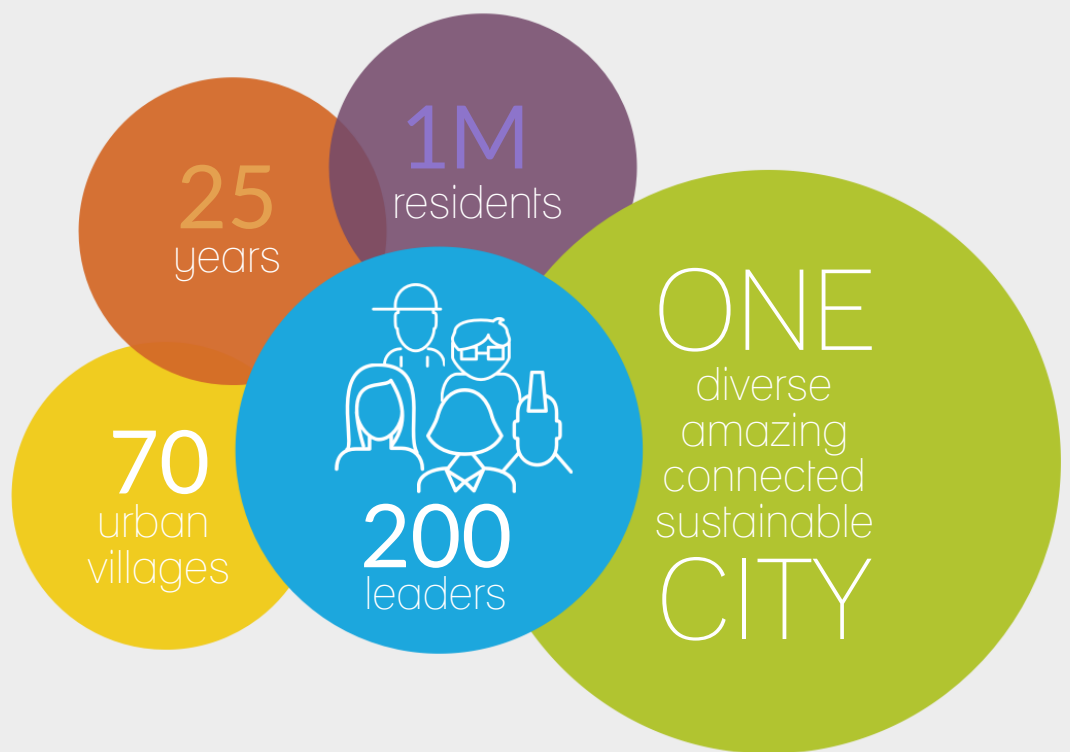
over the next 25 years, the City of San Jose will tackle **70** urban villages [get the map](#)

TIMELINE

the City takes on two or three urban village plans at a time [check the timeline](#)

LEADERS

if three leaders step up for each urban village, there will be over 200 new advocates for great city planning



FOR MORE TIPS
[Get The Urban Village Toolkit](#)

greenbelt.org/uvtoolkit