

Dear SLNA Member,

Every now and then, I announce a meeting as “critical” to your quality of life in the Silver Leaf neighborhood. This is one of those times. I need you to reserve January 14<sup>th</sup> for a very important meeting that impacts the safety of our community. Our City Councilmember, Ash Kalra, has scheduled a **Silver Leaf Road Traffic Calming public meeting**. The SLNA board has complained for YEARS about speeding vehicles down Silver Leaf and Southview. We were successful at getting the stop sign at Silver Leaf and Flintwell, but we haven’t been able to make any more progress. Now is our chance! Ash has scheduled this meeting, so we have his attention. It’s vital to us to attend in order to help Ash help us. After all of our complaining, we really need some attendance to demonstrate that this is a HOT issue with the neighborhood. Remember, *silence is the voice of consent*. If you aren’t there to speak up, the City will assume you are satisfied with the current situation. Here are the specifics on the meeting, as copied from an email from his office:

Councilmember Ash Kalra would like to invite you to participate in a meeting on the Silver Leaf Road Traffic Calming Project on:

Date: Thursday, January 14, 2010

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: Edenvale Library – Community Room ( 101 Branham Lane East , San José , 95111)

The Department of Transportation will be giving a presentation, as well as answering any questions, on the traffic calming project planned for Silver Leaf Road . As I do not have everyone’s email address within the Silver Leaf Neighborhood, at your convenience, please pass this message on to your neighbors and fellow community members. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you and I hope to see you there!

**Stacie Shih**

Office of Councilmember Ash Kalra

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**SLNA ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE**

Only 1 more week to go, folks. We have a great start, though. I’ve already turned in 1 over-flowing barrel!! I’m so pleased. If you haven’t dropped some canned food off, I would really appreciate having a second full bin for next week’s pickup. It’s been a tough year, so the food has never been more needed.

**HIGH SPEED RAIL PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Attend a public open house to learn about next steps in the environmental review of the San Jose to Merced section of the proposed California High-Speed Train system. The California High-Speed Rail Authority will display to the public the results of the draft Alternatives Analysis Report and its recommendations for carrying alternatives, stations and design options forward in the draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement (EIR/S). After comments are received, the report will be refined and issued as the Final Alternatives Analysis Report.

**Gilroy**

Monday, January 11, 2010  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Hilton Garden Inn  
6070 Monterey Road

**San Jose**

Tuesday, January 12, 2010  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
Roosevelt Community Center  
901 East Santa Clara Street

The meeting will be held in an open house format. You are welcome to stop by at any time during these hours. The information provided will be the same at each meeting.

The proposed 800-mile high-speed train system will provide Californians with a fast, safe, reliable and environmentally-friendly transportation alternative, linking all major cities in the state.

For more information, please call 1-800-881-5799, or visit [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)

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# NEWS from CPSC

## U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, DC 20207

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 14, 2009  
Release #10-065

**CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772**  
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

### **Ten Tips to Keep Your Holiday Home Fire and Injury Free:** *Fires Lead the List of Hazards Related to Holiday Decorating*

WASHINGTON, D.C.- As the holiday season approaches, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is urging consumers to make safety a factor in holiday decorating. Whether it is careful candle placement or checking the warning

label on the holiday lights, simple safety steps can go a long way in preventing fires and injuries this year.

Annually, during the two months surrounding the holiday season, more than 14,000 people are treated in hospital emergency rooms due to injuries related to holiday decorating. In addition, Christmas trees are involved in hundreds of fires resulting in an average of 15 deaths and \$13 million dollars in property damage annually. Candle-related fires lead the list of hazards averaging more than 12,000 a year, resulting in 150 deaths and \$393 million in property damage.

“Holiday decorating-related fires and injuries most often involve defective holiday lights, unattended candles and dried-out Christmas trees,” said CPSC Chairman Inez Tenenbaum. “We are providing this list of 10 simple safety steps to help keep your holiday home safe.”

Use the following ten safety tips when decorating this year:

### **Trees and Decorations**

1. When purchasing an artificial tree, DO look for the label "Fire Resistant." Although this label does not mean the tree won't catch fire, it does indicate the tree is more resistant to catching fire.
2. When purchasing a live tree, DO check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and do not break when bent between your fingers. The bottom of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.
3. When setting up a tree at home, DO place it away from heat sources such as fireplaces, vents, and radiators. Because heated rooms dry out live trees rapidly, be sure to monitor water levels and keep the stand filled with water. Place the tree out of the way of traffic, and do not block doorways.
4. In homes with small children, DO take special care to avoid sharp, weighted or breakable decorations, keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children who could swallow or inhale small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a child to eat them.

### **Lights**

1. Indoors or outside, DO use only lights that have been tested for safety by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory, such as UL or ETL/ITSNA.
2. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Throw out damaged sets. DON'T use electric lights on a metallic tree.
3. If using an extension cord, DO make sure it is rated for the intended use.
4. When using lights outdoors, DO check labels to be sure the lights have been certified for outdoor use and only plug them into a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protected receptacle or a portable GFCI.

### **Candles**

1. Keep burning candles within sight. DO extinguish all candles before you go to bed, leave the room or leave the house.
2. DO keep lighted candles away from items that can catch fire and burn easily, such as trees, other evergreens, decorations, curtains and furniture.

Get a free brochure with more holiday decorating safety tips at CPSC's web site [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) (PDF).

Consumers can also view a [video clip \(transcript\)](#) about this recall. This is in "[streaming video](#)" format.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from thousands of types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's Hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (301) 595-7054. To join a CPSC e-mail subscription list, please go to <https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.aspx>. Consumers can obtain recall and general safety information by logging on to CPSC's Web site at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

David Wilkins

*"The greatest of all mistakes is to do nothing, because you can only do a little."* Sydney Smith