

April 1, 2008

For Immediate Release:

### Santa Clara City Invites Students to Apply for Santa Clara Youth City Council

Santa Clara City is organizing its first Youth City Council and invites all interested students (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2008-2009 school year) to apply if they live in Santa Clara and meet the program qualifications. Selections for Youth City Council will be made after the application deadline of May 2, 2008, and those selected will be notified on May 15, 2008. Of those selected, the following assignments will be available: Youth City Council Mayor, City Manager, Council Members (5), Department Director/Recorder, and Finance Officer/Treasurer. Applications are available at the Santa Clara City Hall and on the City's website at [www.santaclaracityutah.com](http://www.santaclaracityutah.com). Completed applications need to be returned to Wally Ritchie at Santa Clara City Hall before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2008.

Qualifications for program admittance include: Santa Clara City resident; 2.50 grade point average; completion of application; 2 letters of recommendation; one page letter from applicant regarding desire to be a Youth City Council participant; and a resume of both school and other accomplishments/experiences.

The 2008-2009 Santa Clara Youth City Council program will begin June 11, 2008 with an introduction to the City Council. An orientation will be held during the summer, and will include team building exercises, appointment of positions, introduction of responsibilities, schedule of events, and the agenda for the first Youth City Council meeting to be held in August. The Youth City Council meetings will continue through March of 2009 and each meeting will have a different focus with one small research assignment. In January the Youth City Council will attend a day session of the Utah State Legislature. Close of the 2008-2009 program will be in March of 2009 and include a dinner for participants and parents, speakers, presentation of awards, and letters of recommendation.

Santa Clara City is very pleased to be offering this program to students, and both Council and staff feel that participating students will gain a greater understanding of government and how our political system works. This also will be a valued opportunity for youth to develop leadership skills, problem solving techniques, and team building skills.

Contact:

Wally Ritchie

Santa Clara City

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