Community Pipeline Safety Initiative
Newark City Council

March 10, 2016
• PG&E’s top priority is the safety of our customers and communities – we are testing, studying and upgrading our gas system, including:
  - **Hydrostatic pressure testing** which verifies the pipeline’s strength and safe operating pressure
  - **Internal pipe inspection robots** to check for signs of corrosion
  - **Valve automation** to allow faster response during gas emergencies
  - **Leak survey** of our entire gas pipeline system more frequently
  - **Aerial and ground patrols** to identify any excavations, signs of construction and other potential safety concerns
**WHAT WE’RE DOING**

- Checking the area above the gas transmission pipeline for trees and structures that pose an emergency access or safety concern
- Helping to ensure immediate access for first responders and safety crews, and preventing potential damage to the pipe
- Working with our customers and communities where a safety risk has been identified to develop shared solutions
- Planting new trees at a safe distance from the pipeline and restoring the area to preserve the natural beauty of our communities
“The San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District’s top priority is keeping our community safe. The gas safety work PG&E is undertaking across the East Bay is critical and will make our communities safer for first responders and the public.”

Paige Meyer, Fire Chief, San Ramon Valley Fire District

“The work PG&E is doing now to improve gas safety will help our first responders better access pipelines in the event of an emergency.”

Scott Jalbert, Fire Chief, San Mateo County Fire Department and the Coastside Fire Protection District
Guide to Safe Landscaping

Making sure the right plants and trees are located in the right location adds to the safety and natural beauty of your community.

- **Outer Zone**
  - Typically 12′ to 14′ from the edge of pipe

- **Border Zone**
  - Typically 5′ to 10′ from the edge of pipe

- **Pipe Safety Zone**
  - Typically 3′ on either side of the pipe

- **Border Zone**
  - Typically 10′ to 14′ from the edge of pipe

- **Outer Zone**
  - Typically 12′ to 14′ from the edge of pipe

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- **Pipe Safety Zone**: Lawns, flowers, low-profile grasses and low-growing herbaceous plants work well within the Pipe Safety Zone.

- **Border Zone**: Small to medium shrubs with a trunk or main branch less than 8” in diameter at full maturity work well within the Border Zone. Diameter is measured 4.5 feet above the ground.

- **Outer Zone**: Large shrubs and small trees with a trunk or main branch less than 36” in diameter at full maturity work well within the Outer Zone. Diameter is measured 4.5 feet above the ground.

*Please note easement widths can vary and the above represents best practices and guidance for safe landscaping near gas pipelines.*
• We understand how important trees are to your community and the environment

• To ensure we are only replacing trees that pose an emergency access or safety concern, we conduct a review of all trees near the gas pipelines

• The review is completed by gas safety experts and involves analyzing factors such as tree height, species and distance from the pipe

• We share the results with the city or property owner and, together, work to develop a path forward

• If a tree poses a safety concern and needs to be replaced, PG&E works together with the property owner to offer replacement trees and restore the area
Community Pipeline Safety Initiative – Newark

Community Partnership and Outreach

• It is important to us that our customers fully understand and support this safety work

• Our outreach includes:
  - Meeting with city officials and staff to discuss the safety risks and work together to plan for gas safety work in public areas
  - Communicating about gas pipeline safety to all residents within 500-feet of the safety work
  - Notifying nearby residents before any safety work takes place
  - Hosting answer centers near work areas
  - Contacting private property owners regarding any safety work proposed for their property

• We will not move forward with any planned work until we have a signed agreement in place with the customer
Contact Information

- For questions regarding the upcoming pipeline safety work, please contact Treva Reid, Local Government Relations Representative, at 1-510-874-2244 or by email at treva.reid@pge.com
- For more information, visit us at pge.com/GasSafety
Thank You