

City of San José Grand Opening New San Jose City Hall

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San Jose's New City Hall was officially opened to the public on October 15, 2005. The entire building was available to citizens who wanted to explore the new house of their city government. Over 3,000 people attended, wandering through the tower where different floors showcased various city departments.

The adjacent west wing was also a popular place, housing the new council chambers, and a gallery of historic photos and other historical exhibits. The new Rotunda, perhaps the building's signature feature, was opened to a literal fanfare by the San Jose State University Spartan Band, following a brief ceremony that included speeches by Mayor Ron Gonzales and the building's renowned architect, Richard Meier.

In the broad plaza spaces there was music from a wandering Mariachi group to the stage which featured a host of music and dance performers throughout the day. Hands-on, interactive art was provided for the many young people who attended. A barbecue in the back of the building fed the multitudes, as well.