On a foggy night in February 1985, two legendary quarterbacks, Dan Marino and Joe Montana, faced each other for the right to be enshrined in football immortality. On this night, the San Francisco 49ers would defeat the Miami Dolphins in Super Bowl XIX at Stanford Stadium in Stanford, California. This was the second of San Francisco's five Super Bowl wins. It also marked the last time a Super Bowl was hosted in the San Francisco Bay Area.

When Levi's Stadium, the new home of the 49ers, was proposed and constructed, there was hope that the stadium and the area one day would host the game's most important event. However, it was not expected to happen so soon.

About a year into construction in 2013, The NFL voted for the yet-to-be-completed stadium to host Super Bowl 50 on Feb. 7, 2016. As the event rapidly approaches, the entire Bay Area is preparing for one of the largest sporting events to take place in recent memory. Not only is Santa Clara hosting the most important game of the season, but it is also the 50th anniversary of the Super Bowl.

Even though the game will be played in Santa Clara, many of the events leading up to the big game will take place in San Francisco, the unofficial host city. The annual “NFL Experience” will be held at the Moscone Center and the “Super Bowl City” will open Jan. 30 at Justin Herman Plaza on the Embarcadero.

Santa Clara will still host events in preparation for the Super Bowl with a parade down Great America Parkway, a beer, wine and food festival at Santa Clara University, and a weeklong event to be held at the Santa Clara Convention Center, right across the street from Levi's Stadium.

While the Super Bowl and its events are expected to bring in a lot of revenue for the Bay Area, The Super Bowl 50 Host Committee has planned to dedicate 25 percent of all the money it raises for local philanthropies. The committee has already raised more than $40 million through local big name sponsors such as Apple, Google, Yahoo!, and Dignity Health.

The Super Bowl is expected to generate a lot of local and tourist interest with the week's events alone expected to draw more than 1 million people. There's no doubt that as the event draws near, the anticipation for the Bay Area hosting the big game is higher than ever.