

Welcome to the San Diego City Council District 7

Year in Review

A word from Raul on our first year in office

To our Neighbors in District 7,

Wow, this first year in office has certainly flown by. While this has been a challenging past year for our region, state, and nation, we have not let the pandemic hold us back from achieving real results on behalf of District 7 families. Whether it is on much-needed road repairs, driving down the cost of housing for working San Diegans, putting forth real, workable solutions to the homelessness crisis, or advocating for more childcare facilities for San Diego parents, I am proud of all that we have accomplished in the first quarter of my term. Throughout this update you will read about some of our many accomplishments during my first year in Office and the highlights of my time in City Hall.

It continues to be the honor of my lifetime to serve as your representative, and Nadia and our two Schnauzers, Jojo and Kiko, are blessed to have you as our neighbors. Please know that my office is always available to assist with any issue you may be facing in your neighborhood.

Happy New Year!

Raul A. Campillo

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The Office of Councilmember
Raul A. Campillo

Proudly serving San Diego's 7th District

Road Improvements

If there is one thing I hear about constantly from District 7 residents, it is the dire conditions of our roadways. We cannot be America's Finest City without making real investments in our infrastructure. This is why getting as many miles of District 7 paved with slurry seal and asphalt overlay is a top priority of mine as your Councilmember.

Since taking office, I have been in constant communication with residents to hear first-hand about where attention needs to be placed. I then take that feedback and relay it in my conversations with the City staff in charge of those repairs, like those great hard-working gentlemen pictured below, who I met as they performed street repairs at the crack of dawn in Tierrasanta and Serra Mesa, respectively. When it comes to road repairs, I have invested significant time in getting to know the City staff for this department to hear about the obstacles they face and how we can support them at the Council level in getting the resources they need to keep our roadways safe and smooth.



Major and Minor Spending

It is critical that we spend San Diegans' hard-earned tax dollars wisely. I am proud to be a good steward of our City's coffers and to stand by all of the projects I have voted in favor of allocating spending towards. I highlight some of those here:

- ❖ Alvarado Creek: **\$1.2 million** for Invasive Species Removal. **Purpose:** Fire mitigation and ecological preservation.
- ❖ Secured **\$10 million** in the SDG&E Franchise Agreements for a middle- and low-income solar panel installation program. **Purpose:** Reduce energy usage and promote climate resiliency in our communities.
- ❖ Moved to approve a resolution for the issuance of multifamily housing revenue bonds for ShoreLINE apartments in the Grantville Community. **Purpose:** Affordable housing in District 7.
- ❖ Moved to approve the City's creation of a new Emergency Rental Assistance Program funded with over **\$90 million** of CARES (Coronavirus Relief) Act funding for Struggling San Diego Families. **Purpose:** keeping San Diegans in their homes and off the streets during the height of the pandemic, and ensuring mom and pop property owners have the rental income they depend on.
- ❖ Worked with the City's Economic Development Department to secure **\$180,000** for the Linda Vista Skate Park Phase Two project. **Purpose:** A beloved community amenity that gives Linda Vista Youth a place to go to have fun and stay out of trouble.
- ❖ As a member of the San Diego River Conservancy Board, approved spending **\$1 million** to prevent wild res from occurring in the San Diego River Watershed.
- ❖ Advocated for and secured funding in the FY21-22 budget to restore library hours and to invest **\$500,000** to enhance library youth programming.
- ❖ As a member of the San Diego River Conservancy Board, approved **\$500,000** to reduce fuel loads on approximately 9 acres of public land along Alvarado Creek to reduce the risk and intensity of re in this area surrounded by commercial and residential properties.
- ❖ Secured **\$400,000** for Kelly Street Neighborhood Park to fund the park's General Development Plan. Staff with Parks and Recreation will be conducting outreach to residents of the area to get feedback on what they would like to see implemented in this community amenity.
- ❖ Actively advocated through Rep. Sara Jacobs for **\$500,000** to be allocated to the Linda Vista Library reading porch as part of the federal budget.

"Sexy Streets" Coming to District 7, Courtesy of Councilmember Campillo

While we have patched and repaired dozens of damaged streets in District 7 during my first year in office, I am advocating tirelessly to the Gloria Administration for major, long-term solutions to the structural deficiencies of our streets. I am pleased to report that the Mayor has heard our calls for reinforcements, and these calls have been answered.

This year, as part of the Mayor's "Sexy Streets" initiative, the Department of Transportation sought input from Councilmembers regarding their priorities for street selection in developing the overlay program for Fiscal Years (FY) 2022 and 2023. After listening closely to our input, the Mayor has promised that the following roads in District 7 will be prioritized for repair in the coming year under his "Sexy Streets" initiative:

- **College Avenue from Interstate 8 to Del Cerro Boulevard**
- **Navajo Road from Camino Estrellado to Park Ridge Boulevard**
- **Waring Road from Interstate 8 to Adobe Falls Road**
- **Margerum Avenue from Navajo Road to Quiet Slope Drive**
- **Comstock Road from Lanston Street to Fulton Street**
- **Frost Street from Health Center Drive to Berger Avenue**
- **Genesee Avenue from Linda Vista Road to Whitney Street**
- **Linda Vista Road from Levant Street to Genesee Avenue**
- **Wandermere Drive from Park Ridge Boulevard to Casselberry Way and Golfcrest Drive to Sunny Brae Drive**

In August 2021, I joined my colleagues in approving **\$293 million** in appropriations, including roughly **\$40 million** for the Sexy Streets initiative. The **\$40 million** allocation will allow us to pave roughly 54 miles of road for San Diegans over the next two years, in addition to the **\$146 million** in road resurfacing projects currently in progress. While I will celebrate the prioritization of some of our most egregiously damaged streets, I will continue to advocate for slurry seal and asphalt overlay everywhere it is necessary in my District.

Introducing the Office of Child and Youth Success

One of the greatest victories of this year for our District and our City, if not the biggest, was the inclusion of a new office within our City's administration in the FY2022 budget: the Office of Child and Youth Success. Along with my partners on the Council and outside advocates, I went to the mat to get this priority funded on behalf of our City's children and families, and they all won when a majority of Councilmembers voted to include the proposal in the final adopted budget.

As part of my mission to usher in an economic recovery that puts people first and builds our City back better, and in my role as Chair of the Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, I felt called to action by the demonstrable shortage of child care facilities real San Diego families can afford.

Plummeting school enrollment rates alongside lower-than-average female labor force participation all point to the same unsettling trend: San Diego has become a less family-friendly City. We are not powerless to combat this, though. We can and must invest more of our City resources with the success of children in mind. By establishing an Office of Child and Youth Success, the City of San Diego will leverage its assets to make our City a great place to grow up and raise a family. Once established, this Office must commit itself to increasing access to affordable, quality childcare and combating housing and food insecurity for youth and families, among other important objectives.

I am looking forward to working with my Committee colleagues in the coming year to fully staff this Office and get it up and running serving our City. and bolstering access to educational and career opportunities for young adults. By not having such an office, San Diego currently lags behind other major cities, both nationally and here in California.



On Redistricting and Our New District 7 Boundaries

As many residents are aware, every ten years, an independent commission is appointed to re-draw the lines that separate Council districts in the City of San Diego. We now have a newly-shaped district! I was heartened to see how many District 7 residents made their voices heard about proper representation for their communities and what they would like to see their Council district include.

In the end, I believe the redrawing of District 7 was done fairly, transparently, and equitably. While there were no dramatic changes to the landscape of our District, there are some differences residents should be aware of:

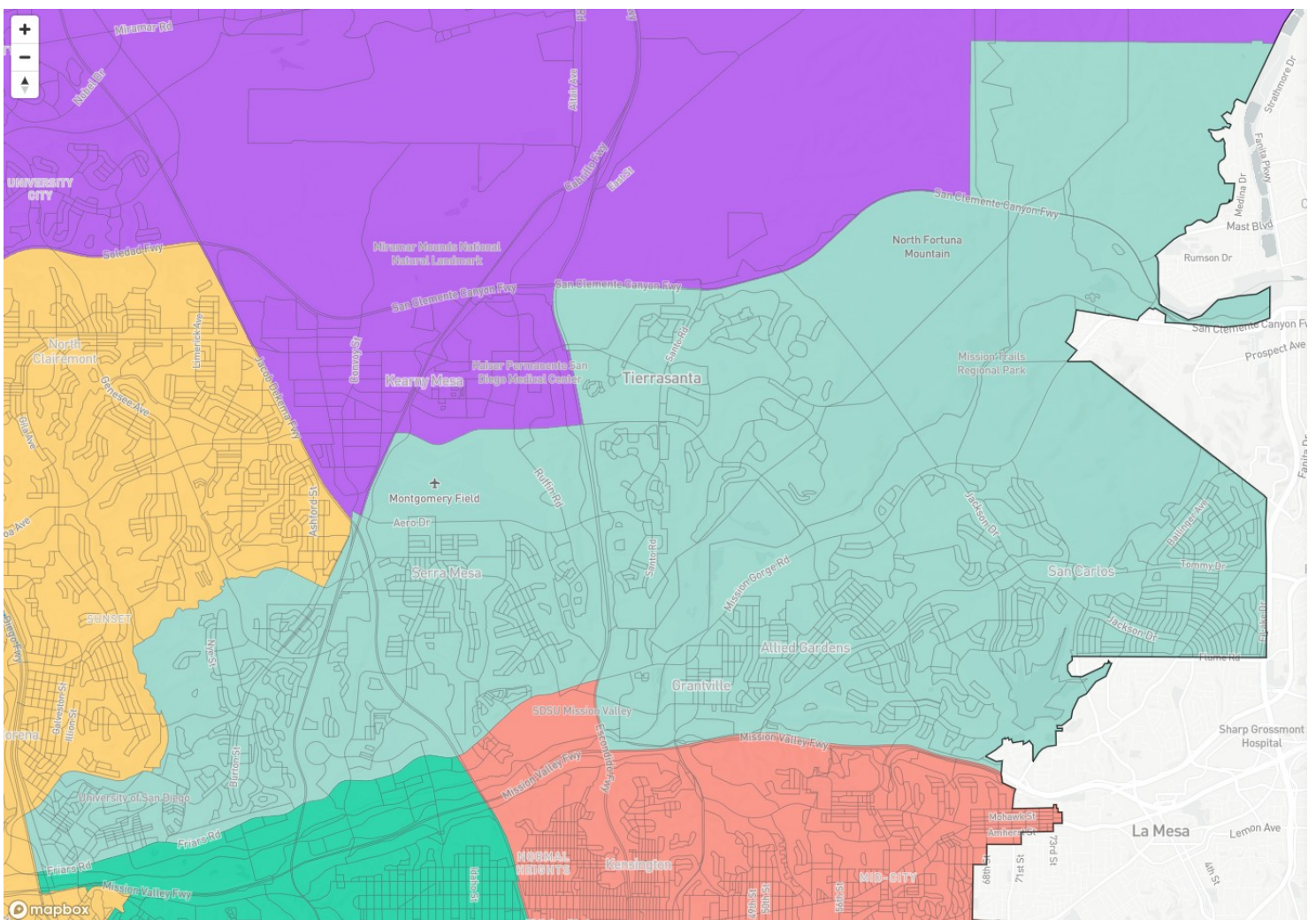
District 7 will be pleased to add:

- ❖ The University of San Diego and the Morena neighborhood south of Tecolote Road
- ❖ Montgomery Gibbs Executive Airport
- ❖ A small portion of Kearny Mesa north of Aero Drive and south of Balboa Avenue

And we are glad to be keeping:

- ❖ Linda Vista (in its entirety)
- ❖ Mission Valley (north of Friars Road only)
- ❖ Del Cerro
- ❖ Allied Gardens
- ❖ Grantville
- ❖ San Carlos
- ❖ Serra Mesa
- ❖ Birdland
- ❖ Mission Trails Regional Park

The new District 7 can be seen in light green on the map below. If you have any questions about the new District 7 boundaries, please reach out to my office at RaulCampillo@SanDiego.Gov or call 619-236-6677.



District 7 Board and Commission Appointments

I have had the privilege of hosting some of the best and brightest San Diegans in my office this past year, many of whom felt the same call to service I felt which compelled me to run for this seat. It has been my pleasure to nominate a number of people to City of San Diego Boards and Commissions. There is still a large number of vacancies on our City Boards and Commissions. I encourage all residents to check out the list of Board and Commission vacancies and consider applying today.

It is my pleasure to highlight some of the great individuals I have nominated to San Diego Boards and Commissions:

As a child growing up in Everett, Washington, **Shawna Hook-Held** (below, left) spent many days exploring the library, checking out as many books and movies as possible. When she was in high school, Ms. Hook-Held used the library as a refuge. As a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, the library gave her access to programs, videos, books, and magazines that validated her identity and instilled a confidence that can only come from a sense of true belonging. Now as the parent of two young children in Council District 7, Ms. Hook-Held and her children regularly visit the San Carlos Library, fondly known in her home as "Book Park." Ms. Hook-Held's background will benefit the residents of San Diego immensely by ensuring the Board of Library Commissioners continues to have an eye toward equity and inclusion as well as a skilled collaborator who is a passionate library advocate. I thank her for her willingness to serve and I am proud to have nominated her for this role.

Tyler Duncan (below, right) is a highly effective and committed leader in the human resources (HR) sector. Throughout his career, he has worked nationally in the HR field, both in the private and non-profit sectors. He is a certified professional with the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM-CP) and the HR generalist for the Downtown San Diego Partnership. I am confident Mr. Duncan will bring extremely valuable knowledge and experience to the City of San Diego's Human Relations Commission, to which I have nominated him and Mayor Gloria has appointed him.



District 7 Board and Commission Appointments

(cont)

Rafael Castellanos (below, left) has been on the Board of Port Commissioners since April 15, 2013, to represent the City of San Diego. Earlier this year, I was thrilled to reappoint him to serve another term. Mr. Castellanos is the Chair of the Port's Environmental Advisory Committee and he is also a partner with the law firm Solomon Minton Cardinal Doyle & Smith LLP, where he specializes in commercial real estate and business law. He was named one of the San Diego Daily Transcript's Top Young Attorneys and later one of San Diego Metro Magazine's 20 Men Who Impact San Diego. I look forward to continuing to work with Mr. Castellanos to strengthen our Blue Economy.

Ellis Clay (below, middle) is a life-long resident of Del Cerro and has a diverse range of personal and professional experiences. He is a veteran of the United States Army who currently teaches high school history and government within the Grossmont Union High School District. He is an advocate on issues relating to racial equity, police reform, and educational inclusion. Mr. Clay also values civic engagement as his volunteer experience includes serving on the Del Cerro for Black Lives Matter Leadership Council and as Education Committee Chair on the Voice of Del Cerro Community Council. I was pleased to nominate Mr. Clay to the position of board member on the Citizens' Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations, where I know he will serve and represent our District admirably.

Jennifer LeSar (below, right) is the founding CEO of LeSar Development Consultants and the founder of the Global Policy Leadership Academy, two firms working together to grow thriving, healthy and vibrant communities. She combines a background of more than three decades in community development, real estate development, and investment banking with a deep working knowledge of eco-system change management and organizational strategy. It was my pleasure to nominate Ms. LeSar to the Board of Port Commissioners, where she is currently serving honorably.



District 7 Board and Commission Appointments

(cont)

I also had the pleasure of nominating two young leaders to the newly-reconstituted youth commission. **Andrew Levikow** (below, left) is a current high school senior and resident of San Carlos where he is an active leader at Patrick Henry High School. He is one of three students who serve on the school's site council and was also the only student member of the interview panel for the hiring process to find Patrick Henry High's new principal during his junior year. Levikow currently serves the youth in his community as a volunteer Little League Umpire for the Mission Trails Little League Minors Division as well as being Co-President of Athletes Training Athletes, which trains special needs students for annual Special Olympics competitions.

Maria Fernanda Freaner (below, middle) is a current high school junior and resident of Serra Mesa where she has extensive volunteer experience at City Tree Christian School with teachers and pre-school students. Freaner plans to pursue a career in filmmaking to tell the stories of individuals of diverse backgrounds.

Last but not least, you may have heard about the amazing humanitarian efforts of **Shawn VanDiver**, (below, right) the founder and President of #AfghanEvac working with government leaders at all levels throughout California and the federal government to identify innovative solutions to long-term civic challenges. After my nomination, he was appointed by the City Council to the Board of Directors of the San Diego Convention Center this past year, and is the founder of the San Diego Chapter of the Truman National Security Project. Additionally, he serves as Executive Director of the Defense Entrepreneurs Forum's San Diego Chapter and on the Boards of Directors for Emerge California, Veterans Community Connections, and the Downtown San Diego Partnership.



Small Business Highlights

Each month, as part of my regular newsletter, I highlight one small, family-owned business in District 7 that has caught my eye. Whether this is a delicious new restaurant or food stand, or a storefront selling retail goods, small businesses are the backbone of our economy and culture. I am grateful to have all of these entrepreneurs in my District and to have the opportunity to highlight the great work they are doing. Below are four of the businesses I have highlighted this past year:

Homestyle Hawaiian is a family-owned restaurant located at 10601 Tierrasanta Boulevard in Tierrasanta and offers five other locations throughout San Diego County. They aim to provide authentic Hawaiian cuisine for the best value. Homestyle Hawaiian boasts an all-day menu offering breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and tops it off with delicious desserts.

Industrial Grind Coffee is a locally-owned full-service shop for fresh coffee, gluten-free baked goods, and make-at-home mixes. It is located in the Tierrasanta Gateway at 6020 Santo Road.

Maryanne Yu owns and operates the Lumpia Joint in the Fashion Valley Mall. The Lumpia Joint serves authentic Filipino fare. Visit them Mon-Sat: 11 A.M.-7 P.M. or Sun: 11 A.M.-6 P.M.

Lucca's Pizzeria and Market: Lucca's Pizzeria and Market aims to offer customers artisan pizza and a robust food market while providing excellent customer service. Lucca's is accessible by transit, just steps from the Rio Vista MTS Trolley Station, and offers gluten-free pizza options. It is located in Mission Valley at 2195 Station Village Ste. A, San Diego, CA 92108.



Highlighting Pillars of the District 7 Community

Through my involvement in the community and that of my staff, as well as by keeping up with local periodicals, I am constantly impressed by the accomplishments of District 7 residents, from the realm of academia, to philanthropy, to athletics and beyond. I strive to provide an official recognition, through a formal City commendation or proclamation, when I learn about an incredible accomplishment one of my constituents has achieved. I've highlighted just a few of them here.

Bruce Ingram (below, far left) has been spreading joy from a Serra Mesa street corner each morning for 30 years. He is famous in the neighborhood for constantly having a smile on his face and for brightening the days of Serra Mesa commuters. I introduced the resolution to proclaim May 21, 2021, as "Bruce Ingram Day" in the City of San Diego.

Tierrasanta resident **Rhonda Rogers**, a.k.a. the Myositis Warrior (below, middle right) is a real-life superhero. She suffers from a rare muscular condition known as Myositis. To spread awareness about this little-known disease, she dresses up in a superhero costume to attract attention and educate the public about Myositis. I introduced the resolution to proclaim May 27, 2021, as Myositis Warrior Day in the City of San Diego.

Donna Stewart (below, middle left) is a longtime resident of Allied Gardens who had an incredible career in broadcast journalism. Donna has been a member of the National Academy of Television Arts and Science, the Society of Professional Journalists, the National Association of Black Journalists and served as both Treasurer and past President of the San Diego Association of Black Journalists, as well as on the NBC-Universal Diversity Council. In honor of her retirement, I introduced the resolution to proclaim October 1, 2021, as Donna Stewart Day in the City of San Diego.

After a long and illustrious career in civil service, working for a number of elected officials and culminating in admirable administration of his duties as Deputy Director of Legislative Services for the San Diego City Clerk, Mission Valley resident **George Biagi** (below, far right) entered his well-earned retirement. June 16, 2021, was George Biagi Day in the City of San Diego.



Highlighting Pillars of the District 7 Community, cont.

John Allegra (below, left) is a Del Cerro resident who was able to get permission from San Diego State to build wall to prevent illegal entrance to Adobe Falls from Mill Peak Road. This was one of the two illegal entrances to Adobe Falls and his project, which he self-financed and did entirely on his own time, contributed greatly to public safety in Del Cerro. For this, Mr. Allegra also earned a commendation from my Office.

Mark Schulze and **Patty Mooney** (below, middle top) of San Carlos, own and operate a production company and serve on the San Carlos Area Council. For their great work, one of their productions was awarded a "Silver Telly" award. I was thrilled to present them with a commendation to recognize this achievement.

Lori Walker (below, middle bottom) has been a pillar of the Linda Vista community since 1965. Her help in coordinating the annual Linda Vista Family Reunion from 2009 to 2018 strengthens Linda Vista's community ties, and preserves their heritage of camaraderie and closeness with one another. The Linda Vista Family Reunion served a dual purpose to fundraise for the Linda Vista Recreation Center's youth programs, generating over \$55,000 in donations for the Youth Programs to purchase supplies and host events, and to subsidize registration fees for low-income families. I presented Ms. Walker with a well-earned commendation to honor this great work.

Gwynne Bruck's (below, right) excellent new children's book, Dasha on the Trail, introduces to readers a curious, lighthearted dog named Dasha who enjoys hiking through the various trails that Southern California has to offer. Ms. Bruck's work has brought attention and visitors to Mission Trails Regional Park and has helped inspire the joy for hiking in our next generation. I introduced the resolution to proclaim November 13, 2021, as "Gwynne Bruck's Dasha on the Trail Day" in the City of San Diego.



The "Bridge for Max"

As many District 7 residents are aware, this past January a tragic accident took place at the San Diego River Trail Crossing in Mission Trails Regional Park which resulted in the drowning death of a 21-year-old man named Max LeNail. I did not have the pleasure of knowing Max while he was alive, but I have been blessed to get to know his family and advocate for a bridge to be built in his honor at the location of his tragic demise.

Since Max's passing, we have worked expeditiously to hear the family's proposal for a bridge at both the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee and the full Task Force, which I chair. The family's proposal for the Bridge for Max earned overwhelming support within both bodies, and the Bridge for Max will be built. This project will be fully privately funded, due to the fundraising prowess of the LeNail/Yoler family and the largesse of California Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, who was able to secure a \$1.5 million State grant to fund construction of this project. In addition to honoring the memory of Max LeNail, this bridge will make our Park better, safer, and more accessible year-round for all visitors.



(Left to Right) California State Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, Councilmember Joe LaCava, Councilmember and MTRP Task Force Chair Raul Campillo, Ben LeNail and Laurie Yoler, parents of Max LeNail, MTRP Foundation Executive Director Jennifer Morrissey, MTRP Citizens Advisory Committee Chair Dorothy Leonard, and MTRP Foundation Board President Lane MacKenzie.

A Safer Community, with 418 Guns Permanently Off Our Streets and Destroyed

This past September, I partnered with the United African American Ministerial Council, the San Diego Police Department and the San Diego County District Attorney's Office to put on an event that truly made our community safer. Our voluntary "Guns for Gift Cards" firearm exchange invited residents to come out and bring their unwanted firearms, no questions asked, in exchange for a \$100 or \$200 gift card to Target. Among the 418 firearms anonymously surrendered were a number of assault rifles, as well as illegal and dangerous untraceable (unserialized) "ghost guns."



Councilmember Campillo with SDPD's D7 Community Relations Officer John Steffen during the September 25 "Guns for Gift Cards" exchange which resulted in the voluntary surrender of 418 functional firearms.

Volunteer Outings



Since being in office, I have had a blast at nearly two dozen volunteer outings in District 7. While there is never a shortage of work to be done at City Hall, my team and I always find it extremely rewarding to be able to get out of the building and into the communities to help D7 families. Here are just a few examples of some of these many fun and rewarding events my team has participated in.



Top Left: District 7 team marches for justice for Breonna Taylor alongside Del Cerro 4 Black Lives Matter and other San Diego BLM chapters.

Top Right: Councilmember and team join volunteers from Bayside Community Center for a neighborhood cleanup on a Saturday morning.

Bottom Left: Councilmember and staff volunteer with San Diego Canyon Lands to remove invasive mustard from Navajo Canyon.

Bottom Right: Councilmember Campillo joins City Attorney Elliott at Family Justice Center's "Your Safe Place" to distribute holiday gifts to children who have been victims of abuse.

Above, Center: District 7 Office conducts a clean-up in Mission Valley along the San Diego River and Sefton Field/Presidio Little League.

Stay Tuned for a Registration Link for our 2022 Community Forum Series

In the first quarter of 2021, many District 7 residents participated in virtual community forums specific to D7 neighborhood issues. We had hoped to recreate those forums this year in-person, but due to the renewed state of the COVID-19 health crisis and changing State and Federal guidelines, we have decided to keep these forums virtual for another year. Please save the date for the forum specific to your neighborhood and stay tuned to your email for this opportunity to have your questions and concerns addressed for your neighborhood. The schedule will be as follows:

- ❖ Grantville-Allied Gardens: January 13, 5:30 - 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ Navajo East (San Carlos/Del Cerro): January 18, 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ Linda Vista/Mission Valley (North of Friars Road): January 27, 5 – 6 P.M.
- ❖ Tierrasanta: February 2, 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.
- ❖ Serra Mesa/Kearny Mesa: February 3, 5:30 – 6:30 P.M.

Thank you for reading, and I wish you a happy and safe 2022. As always, if you need to get in contact with my Office, we are open 9 – 5, Monday through Friday, and can be reached by email at RaulCampillo@SanDiego.Gov or by phone at 619-236-6677.