

THE SPOTLight

News From Councilmember Sherri Lightner
City of San Diego, District One

March 18, 2011

Lifeguard Service Returns to Black's Beach

Lifeguard services at Black's Beach in La Jolla were restored on March 14. "Our highest priority is to provide for the safety of our citizens and visitors. Restoring lifeguards to world-famous Black's Beach will keep people safe as they surf, swim, and hike," Sherri said.

UC San Diego will contribute funding to pay for the City lifeguards. Lightner has held talks with UC San Diego officials since last year about how the University and the City of San Diego could collaborate to restore lifeguard services.

City budget reductions that began in January 2010 resulted in an elimination of lifeguard services from Labor Day through mid-June, and a reduction in lifeguard service during the mid-June through Labor Day high-season at Black's. Strong rip currents, high cliffs, and difficult access make Black's an especially dangerous beach and have contributed to a number of deaths in recent years.



Sherri is joined by representatives from UCSD and City Lifeguards, including several UCSD alumni, at Black's Beach to announce restoration of lifeguard services.

Lifeguard services are now restored to previously existing levels:

- Labor Day through mid-June, two lifeguards will be stationed daily at Black's Beach.
- Mid-June through Labor Day, as well as during the week of UC San Diego spring break, six lifeguards will be stationed daily at Black's Beach.

Delivering Transportation Options to Carmel Valley Seniors



The *Rides and Smiles* senior transportation program will soon be available in Carmel Valley.

After being contacted by several community members voicing concerns about the lack of senior

transportation in Carmel Valley, Sherri worked with the Carmel Valley Community Planning Board and Jewish Family Service to secure funding for the *Rides and Smiles* program's expansion to Carmel Valley.

Rides and Smiles is a volunteer-based transportation service operated by Jewish Family Service. The program provides transportation to senior citizens and people with disabilities.

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Working to End Fire Engine Brown-outs

For over a year, Sherri has advocated for exempting from brown-outs the engines at Fire Stations 35 (University City) and 40 (Rancho Peñasquitos). Sherri [recently requested](#) the Mayor work to find a way to exempt at least four fire stations, including Stations 35 and 40, from brown-outs as a part of the budget that starts July 1st. The Mayor's office is [currently exploring this option](#). Sherri will continue to advocate for fire and life safety in University City and Rancho Peñasquitos until Stations 35 and 40 are restored to full service.

Destructive High-Speed Rail Routes Eliminated

Land Use & Housing Committee Update



Sherri held a press conference with concerned residents in November 2009 to urge high-speed rail to use the I-15 corridor instead of cutting through the community.

Residents of University City, Rancho Peñasquitos, and Carmel Valley can sleep a little easier knowing that several destructive high-speed rail routes that had been proposed to cut through their communities are no longer under consideration. At a March 3rd meeting, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA)

decided to eliminate from further study previously proposed high-speed rail routes through Rose Canyon and the SR-56 corridor.

A statewide high-speed rail transit project is the result of the Proposition 1A ballot initiative that voters passed in the fall of 2008. It will bring high-speed rail to San Diego.

Sherri urged the CHSRA to study a route down I-15 to Qualcomm Stadium and to extend high-speed rail to the international border. The CHSRA is moving forward with environmental review of two routes between I-15 and Lindbergh Field: one tunneling underneath University City to I-5 and one using the SR-163 corridor to I-8. A community meeting will be held this spring for the public to give input on these routes.

[Additional information about high-speed rail is available on our website.](#)

Since Sherri became Chair of the Land Use and Housing Committee, the Committee has considered a variety of policy items:

- Amendments to community gardens regulations
- Update on this year's Winter Homeless Shelter
- Waiving portions of Council Policy for certain Mills Act applicants to expedite historical home designations
- Implementation of Adopted Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans

The next LU&H Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 30 at 2 pm and will include the discussion of the following policy items:

- Affordable Housing Fund FY 2012 Annual Plan
- California Green Building Code
- Linkage fees
- Affordable housing best practices

Additionally, Sherri plans to docket the following issues for consideration in the coming months:

- Next year's Emergency Winter Homeless Shelter
- 7th Update to the Land Development Code
- Amendments to Council Policy 600-27, "Affordable/In-Fill Housing and Sustainable Buildings Expedite Program," upon the issuance of recommendations by the CPC
- Abandoned Properties Ordinance
- 2010 California Building Code Amendments

High-Speed Rail Routes



•Routes and stations withdrawn from consideration are shown in grey.

•Routes and stations to be moved forward into environmental review are shown in blue, green, red, and white.



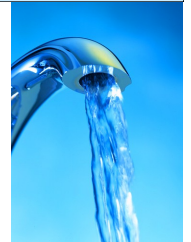
On February 26, Sherri presented the Mayor's Cyber Cup to the La Jolla High School team, winners of the annual high school cyber defense competition for the second year in a row. Students from Canyon Crest Academy also competed.

On February 28, Sherri spoke at a meeting of San Diego Unified School District's University City Cluster Association. The discussion focused on how the City and School District could partner together for the benefit of the community.



Comprehensive Water Policy Update

Sherri presented her Comprehensive Policy for a Sustainable Water Supply in San Diego to the City Council Natural Resources and Culture Committee on March 2. She continues to speak to stakeholders and hopes to present the policy to the full Council for approval later this year.



City Moves Forward on Sherri's Budget Suggestions

Many of the suggestions Sherri made in her yearly Budget Memorandum have been recommended for further analysis by the City's Independent Budget Analyst (IBA). These suggestions include:

- Expanding the use of a 4/10/5 work schedule
- Increasing the use of voluntary worker furlough
- Expanding the use of marketing partnerships
- Selling underutilized real estate assets
- Implementing false fire alarm fees

The IBA is currently working to research how these suggestions and others can be implemented and what savings they can achieve. We hope to incorporate them into the City's next budget.

Local Students Qualify for U.S. Physics Olympiad Semifinal

Congratulations to the District 1 students who qualified for the U.S. Physics Olympiad semifinal competition. Only 384 students qualified nationwide.

The Bishop's School
Jason Qu

Canyon Crest Academy
Marco Gentili
Anthony Tokman

Eastwood Christian Home School
Jesse Orlowski

Home School
Brent Belland

Torrey Pines High School
Soumya Basu
Robi Bhattacharjee
Albert Chen
Peicong Dong
Henry Huang
Howon Lee
David Zheng

Westview High School
George Du

Policy Highlights

- Development of a diverse local supply including conservation, desalination, graywater and rainwater collection and wastewater recycling
- Collaboration between local and regional businesses, agencies and other partners for securing water reliability
- Rate structures that encourage conservation and discourage waste
- Increased communication between the City Council, Public Utilities Department, County Water Authority, Independent Rates Oversight Committee and Ratepayers

Rides and Smiles (continued from page 1)

A reservation is required one week in advance of the requested ride.

The program is anticipated to begin later this year, and Sherri is working with Jewish Family Service to help enlist volunteers.

For more information on how to volunteer with *Rides and Smiles*, please call 858-637-3051 or visit www.jfssd.org/onthego.

2011 San Diego Science Festival: March 19 - 26

The annual San Diego Science Festival will soon be here. As a member of the Festival's Executive Committee, Sherri is working to encourage young people to pursue education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).



The Festival kicks off on Saturday, March 19, with Science Family Day at Balboa Park.

On Expo Day, on Saturday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Petco Park, there will be over 135 hands-on activities and 12 stage performances.

[Find out more at SDScienceFestival.com](http://SDScienceFestival.com)



On March 11, Sherri spoke to young women participating in the Women In Engineering Day activities at the offices of Lockheed Martin. The approximately 80 middle-school students participated in a full day of hands-on activities including creating their own balloon rockets and tin foil boats.

Your Community Representatives

If you have a concern or question about an issue in your neighborhood, please contact our constituent services representative or your community representative. We're here to help!

Torrey Hills / Constituent Services (street repairs, water leaks, traffic issues, code compliance, etc.)

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La Jolla

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