

THE SPOTLight

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

February 14, 2012

Representing the communities of:

- Black Mountain Ranch
- Carmel Valley
- Del Mar Mesa
- La Jolla
- Pacific Highlands Ranch
- Rancho Peñasquitos
- Torrey Highlands
- Torrey Hills
- Torrey Pines
- University City

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Saving Our Special Events

As a result of ongoing litigation over how the city permits its special events, some of San Diego's most treasured traditions are being held hostage, including annual Fourth of July Fireworks shows, EarthFair, the La Jolla Christmas Parade and the Standley Park Banana Split.

Sherri believes these types of events improve our quality of life and help our economy.

To bring common sense back to the City of San Diego's event permitting process, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce is working with State Senator Juan Vargas and Assemblymember Martin Garrick on proposed state

legislation (SB 973) that would exempt park use and special event permits from costly environmental reviews.

Sherri supports the legislation because it provides the right balance between environmental and economic stewardship.

"I made a pledge to my constituents that I would do everything in my power to make sure that La Jolla celebrates the Fourth of July as it always does — with fireworks," Sherri said at press conference on Jan. 27. "This legislation makes good on that pledge."

Sherri is working with the



Sherri joined the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, State Senator Juan Vargas, Assemblymember Martin Garrick and community groups to support the Save Our Events Act.

Chamber and state legislators to help alter current state law and protect special events from being harmed.

To find out more about the legislation or to get involved, please click [here](#).

Growing San Diego's Economy

Ensuring that San Diego businesses are ready to compete in the global economy and create high-quality jobs was the focus of the first meeting of the newly formed Economic Development and Strategies Committee held on Jan. 30. The committee is tasked with

improving city functions to encourage business expansion and job growth.

As Chair of the new committee, Sherri set an ambitious timetable, promising a 90-day action plan on the committee's priorities including:

- Streamlining the permitting process.
- Upgrading the city's web functions so business owners can fill out forms and pay fees online.
- Expanding Enterprise Zones and Business Improvement Districts.

Update: Protecting Los Peñasquitos Lagoon



Los Peñasquitos Lagoon.

One of the most devastating aspects of the massive Sept. 8 blackout was the sewage spill that affected Los Peñasquitos Lagoon.

Sherri quickly responded to the spill by meeting with city staff and asking them to come up with a plan to prevent this from ever happening again. As a member of the Natural Resources and Cultural Committee, she requested regular updates on the city's progress.

The spill occurred because the sewage pump station on Roselle Street did not have backup generators. The facility is on a small parcel of land so it instead relied on electrical feeds from two separate SDG&E substations.

To solve the issue, the city's Public Utilities Department plans to rent temporary generators while it builds platforms so the facility can accommodate permanent generators. The cost

of the project is \$12 million.

Sherri is pleased with the quick response and progress on the issue because it will prepare the city for any contingency and could help to limit or eliminate potential fines related to the sewage spill.

"This type of investment will ensure that we prevent future sewage spills from occurring," Sherri said.

"There's an opportunity to make this a win-win for the community and for the U.S. Postal Service."

Preserving La Jolla's Historic Post Office

News that La Jolla's historic post office was on the federal government's chopping block is a huge concern for Sherri.

She has joined with the La Jolla Historical Society and concerned community members to save the post office, which sits in the heart of the Village, from being sold and relocated.

On Feb. 4, Sherri headlined a rally and urged attendees to get involved in the cause.

Keeping the post office open as is the No. 1 goal. Another option is purchasing the property and leasing it back to the U.S. Postal Service for a nominal fee and redeveloping the back part of the post office for

use by the community or some other beneficial reuse.

Sherri believes that there's an opportunity to make this a win-win for the community and the U.S. Postal Service.

To find out more, go to savelajollapostoffice.org.

University City Playground



A playground is slated to be added to University Village Park at Florey Street and Cather Avenue.

Children and parents alike have been waiting a long time for a playground at the University Village Park.

The park revamp would install play equipment, a drinking fountain, benches, and a picnic table.

To make this playground a reality, Sherri wants to see it funded in the upcoming budget, which the Council will hear in late spring.

Once funding is in place, engineers can begin designing the playground.

The Standley Recreation Council voiced its support for the playground in January.

Sherri wants to hear what you think about this and other possible neighborhood projects. Contact her at sherrilightner@sandiego.gov.

Sherri Around Town in January



Sherri attended the grand opening of Seaside Home in La Jolla on Jan. 26. Located on Wall Street, Seaside Home offers some of the top names in local design and décor.

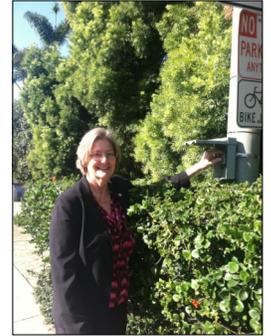


Sherri flipped the switch to activate the newly installed V-Calm speed indicator signs on Torrey Pines Road on Jan. 17.

Sherri organized a hard hat tour of the Westfield UTC shopping center renovation for University City community leaders. The \$180 million project will create 1,000 construction jobs and 1,400 permanent jobs.



Sherri visited with her Youth Commission nominees Anna Page and Ashlyn Lipori-Russie on Jan. 19 after a commission meeting. The Youth Commission provides advice to the Mayor and City Council.



Carmel Valley: Gonzales Trail Opening Soon

Concerns about how to pay for the ongoing cleanup of Gonzales Trail were threatening to delay its opening.

So Sherri decided to contribute \$5,000 from her office budget to pay for the required cleanup.

Sherri makes a point of running a lean, cost-efficient operation

so she has the financial flexibility to help solve neighborhood problems like this one. There is now enough funding to clean up after animals that use the trail through July 1, 2013.

Starting this spring, the public will be able to hike, bike or horseback ride along this scenic trail.

If you have any questions or concerns about Gonzales Trail, please contact our office at (619) 236-6611.



“Starting in March, the public will be able to hike, bike or horseback ride along this scenic trail.”

Local Business Spotlight: Janssen Labs

Sherri supports San Diego’s business community and is always interested to learn about new ways to help local companies thrive.

On Jan. 17, Sherri joined Mayor Sanders to recognize Janssen Labs, a cutting-edge innovation

center designed to foster scientific research and bolster San Diego’s biotech industry.

Who: Janssen Labs

Where: 3210 Merryfield Row, 92121

What you’ll find: 30,000 square feet of flexible and cost-

effective lab space and incubator for life science startups.

The upside: Fledgling companies have access to state-of-the-art equipment, helping to speed up the research and development cycle.



Sherri with Diego Miralles of Janssen Labs and Mayor Sanders.

Working for You in the Community



Need assistance in getting a pothole fixed? Call Sherri's office at (619) 236-6611. We are here to help.

Helping constituents get potholes filled, streetlights fixed and other neighborhood repairs is one of Sherri's top priorities. Here is a sampling of what her office worked on this past month:

Potholes

- El Paseo Grande between Paseo Dorado and Avenida de la Playa
- 7238 and 7275 Via Capri
- Whale Watch Way near Prestwick Drive
- La Jolla Mesa Drive near Rodeo Drive
- Lebon Drive from Charmant Drive to Nobel Drive

- Genesee Avenue from Centurion Square to Nobel Drive
- Charmant Drive from La Jolla Colony to Lebon Drive
- Governor Drive from Agee Street to Lakewood Street and near Panel Court
- La Jolla Colony Drive from Palmilla Drive to Gilman Drive
- Draper Avenue near Pearl Street
- Kline Street and Eads Avenue
- Debris removed at North I-5 onramp at Nobel Drive
- Damaged fence repaired at 7909 Roseland Drive
- Street striping at Del Mar Mesa Road and Aquitaine Court
- Sunken section of street repaired at 2750 Via de la Valle

Streetlights

- Streetlight fixed on Janan Way
- Streetlight fixed at Genesee Avenue and 52 West onramp

Cleanups and Repair

- Trees trimmed back at Via Capri and La Jolla Scenic Drive

Sherri is on the Web at

sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/

Follow Sherri:



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Twitter: www.twitter.com/#!/SherriLightner



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Your Community Representatives

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

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

Janie Hoover jmhoover@sandiego.gov (619) 236-6611

La Jolla

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University City / UCSD

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