



81 Days of Progress

INTERIM MAYOR TODD GLORIA

City of San Diego

WEEKLY UPDATE: OCTOBER 3, 2013

Federal Government Shutdown: The most obvious impact of the federal government shutdown is today's announced cancellation of the Miramar Air Show. Though the Air Show had already been modified because of sequestration, San Diegans were looking forward to their annual pilgrimage to Miramar to celebrate our armed forces. The emotional and economic impact of losing this year's event are great, and I am disappointed in the political extremists who have brought the country to this point. Other than the Air Show, most of the local impacts of the shutdown are expected to be indirect. For example, less spending by federal personnel that would have an impact on sales tax revenues, and less tourism would have an impact on Transient Occupancy Tax generated. Also, there are possible indirect implications for the City's credit rating. Direct impacts may include the lack of Federal Aviation Administration support for the air traffic tower at Brown Field Airport. However, Brown Field would remain open to air traffic. A longer term federal government shutdown would likely adversely impact the City Capital Improvement Program because of permits through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other federal agencies, and because of federal grand funding reimbursements. Further, the City may be unable to reimburse itself for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) expenditures to sub-recipients, which would cause a cash flow issue for the CDBG program.

Washington, D.C. Advocacy: I traveled with approximately 100 other San Diego leaders to Washington, D.C. on a trip coordinated by the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. Some of my highlights were:

- Meeting at the Smithsonian to discuss its possible participation in the 2015 Centennial. I am seeking to formalize the relationship with them, seeking loans of various objects in its collection for 2015, discussing the potential of hosting Smithsonian exhibits in the park, and getting assistance with speakers for the Centennial's forum.
- Positive discussions with Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein about the Point Loma Wastewater permit. They pledged their help with ongoing discussions with the Environmental Protection Agency in advance of 2015 permit expiration.
- For the San Ysidro Port of Entry, there is continued support from all corners for the next phases of construction. I shared bipartisan support for reducing border wait times, ongoing coordination with Mexican government, and support for the Safe and Secure Border Infrastructure bill just introduced by Congressman Scott Peters.

In other meetings, I shared my condolences with the Secretary of the Navy for the Navy Yard shooting and repeated my belief that San Diego is the best place for any future realignments or relocation of forces. I also continued advocating for the Mid-Coast trolley extension and built support with members of Congress and the Department of Transportation.

Transition of San Diego's Chief Operating Officer: The City's Chief Operating Officer (COO), Walt Ekard, will leave City service on October 30. Walt has been a tremendous asset to our City, our employees, and to me, personally. He deserves an enormous amount of credit for helping put our City back on solid footing after all the turmoil of the past several months. His management of the City's day-to-day operations has been invaluable and has served as a showcase for his truly remarkable talents. Walt Ekard and Scott Chadwick have helped steady our City, and I am confident that our progress will continue with operations in Scott's capable hands.

Balboa Park Parking: The City Council will consider on October 14 or 15 adding nine more accessible parking spots to the Alcazar Lot to address concerns resulting from the reconfiguration of the Plaza de Panama. If approved, this will be more than a simple re-striping job. Because of previous work done there, re-grading is needed to make sure all 14 accessible spaces are actually accessible. This work is expected to be done by the start of next summer, should the Council agree with the plan.

Fighting for Equality: As further evidence that San Diego is back, I am now listed among Mayors for the Freedom to Marry. This is a broad-based and nonpartisan group of mayors who believe that all people should be able to share in the love and commitment of marriage. San Diego has continually spoken up to support equality, and Interim Mayor Gloria is proud to be among like-minded leaders. Learn more here: <http://www.freedomtomarry.org/pages/mayors-for-the-freedom-to-marry>. I also wrote a letter to the mayor of San Diego's Russian sister city, Vladivostok, strongly encouraging him to reconsider his country's recent legislation discriminating against LGBT citizens and visitors. I'm realistic about my letter's potential impact, but I cannot sit idly by when a sister city is obviously displaying values contrary to our own.

The San Diego Library @ Joan ^ Irwin Jacobs Common: Full evidence that San Diego values knowledge, technology, literacy, and education can be seen at the new Central Library. Presiding over the opening of the San Diego Library @ Joan ^ Irwin Jacobs Common was a thrill for me, and I am grateful to Library Director Deborah Barrow and her team, and the architect, designers, builders, and generous funders who transformed the skyline and the City's future with the new library.

Food Truck Update: As of last Monday there had been only three complaints received and investigated by Neighborhood Code Compliance regarding food truck enforcement efforts.

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