



City of San Diego

MARK KERSEY

CITY COUNCILMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Gina Jacobs
(619) 236-6655

City Begins Work on First-Ever Long-term Infrastructure Investment Plan

Multi-year plan will guide City in addressing infrastructure backlog

SAN DIEGO, California, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013 –The City of San Diego is developing its first-ever long-term infrastructure investment plan it was announced today at the City Council Infrastructure Committee. The multi-year plan will address the City’s capital investment needs that now likely exceed \$1 billion and range from streets and sidewalks to water pipes and fire stations.

The need for a long-term infrastructure investment plan was first identified in Councilman Mark Kersey’s Infrastructure Committee Work Plan released in January.

“Most large government agencies have a long-term infrastructure plan of this sort,” said Councilman Kersey, chair of the Infrastructure Committee. “Not only does San Diego not have one, there’s no record we’ve ever had one and that really explains how it is we got into this situation in the first place.”

Recent evaluations of City assets have identified at least an \$898 million infrastructure improvement backlog but that total doesn’t take into account a number of known issues like broken sidewalks or deteriorating parks and recreation facilities.

The plan will serve as a guiding document for infrastructure investment, identifying needed projects that encompass a wide variety of assets, priorities, funding and affordability. The plan will cover fiscal years 2015 through 2019 to start but will be a rolling document that will be regularly updated as needs are identified.

In October, the committee approved a \$120 million infrastructure bond that when approved by the full City Council, will fund more than \$43 million in road repairs and another \$21 million for storm drains. It will also fund the construction of three fire stations and the design of two new fire stations.

“When complete, this plan will give us the ability to invest the limited funding we have to the highest priority projects,” Kersey said. “It will also take into account the funding sources available and allow us to allocate them in a way that has the biggest impact.”

The first phase of plan development includes the collection of input from the Mayor, City Council, Community Planners Committee (CPC) and other stakeholders. Community input for the plan has already commenced, including meetings with residents in each Council District. Also part of the initial phase is the collection of condition assessments of various City assets, some of which have never been done before like one of San Diego’s 5,000 miles of sidewalks, which is currently underway.

The draft plan is expected to be completed and submitted for the Mayor’s and Council’s approval by May 2014 with implementation scheduled for the first quarter of 2015.

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