District 7 Dispatch

November 2015

Serving the Neighborhoods of the 7th District

- San Carlos
- Del Cerro
- Allied Gardens
- Grantville
- Mission Valley
- Serra Mesa
- Linda Vista
- MCAS Miramar
- Navajo
- Tierrasanta



City of San Diego



District 7
Department of Common Sense



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Performance Audit of Code Enforcement Division Shows Reforms Needed

Recently, the Audit Committee released the results of a Performance Audit of the Code Enforcement Division (CED) by the Office of the City Auditor that discovered several needed reforms.

The City of San Diego's CED is the first line of defense in protecting the quality of life in our neighborhoods and the protection of property values within the City. It is important that the CED division runs at an optimal level. Audit findings include:

- 1. Tracking system modifications and increased training and oversight are needed to reduce response times for high-priority cases
- **2.** Increased consistency when issuing fines, penalties, and warnings will improve efficiency, effectiveness, and fairness of code enforcement efforts
- **3.** Resources expended on some lower-priority violations can be reduced
- **4.** Performance reports used by CED management, policymakers, and public are inaccurate, and do not measure important metrics including response times and average time to achieve compliance

5. CED needs a replacement system for its Project Tracking System that is specifically designed for code enforcement use

This performance audit shows that much needed improvements and reforms are necessary to increase effectiveness within Code Enforcement. This Audit is just the beginning. It is now up to the City Council and Code Enforcement to implement improvements.

I appreciate all the hard work City Auditor Eduardo Luna and staff put into this comprehensive audit. Rest assured, I will do everything in my power to make sure these audit recommendations are implemented in a timely manner.

To view the full report, click here.

As always, please feel free to contact my office if we can ever be of help.

In Service,

Scott Sherman Councilmember –District 7

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Visit the new City
resource page for a
directory of City
services on our
website:
http://www.sandiego.
gov/citycouncil/cd7/f
aq/index.shtml

Sherman Partners with San Diego Opera for New Youth Program



Councilmember Sherman and the San Diego Opera will officially launch a new student education program, called *My Voice in the Arts* on November 12th.

The program will provide free full season subscriptions to two middle or high-school students (plus their chaperones) in each of the nine San Diego Council Districts. A total of 36 free subscriptions will be provided to help expose students from all backgrounds to the arts.

My Voice in the Arts will provide a comprehensive arts education to children

of all backgrounds between the ages of 6 to 12.

"To be a world class city, San Diego needs world class arts and entertainment," said Councilmember Sherman. "This new youth program will help inspire new interest in the opera for the next generation of San Diegans."

For more information regarding the new program or to apply, please view the following link: www.rodworksinc.com/education/my-voice-in-the-arts.

Community Cleanup Event in Linda Vista

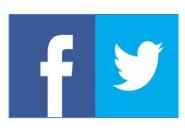


The Environmental Services
Department will be holding a minicommunity cleanup and recycling
event this month in the Linda Vista
Community to help residents get rid
of unwanted waste and clutter around
their homes.

The cleanup will take place on Saturday, November 21st and will pick up recyclables, appliances, electronics, lawnmowers, metals, and woods and yard trimmings. Also, non-recyclables that can be picked up include: carpeting, junk furniture,

mattresses, and palm fronds. Crews will not accept light bulbs, construction or demolition rubble, hazardous wastes, and tires.

Residents can place the recyclables and waste at their regular trash collection spot by 8:00 am on Nov. 21st. For more information, please contact Officer Gary Warren at 858-492-5079.



Events Attended by Councilman Sherman

10/1: Attended Grand Opening of Junior Achievement Finance Park

10/7: Took tour of Public Utilities Customer Care Center for National Customer Service Week

10/9: Attended opening of Veterans Village of San Diego facilities

10/13: Inspected Allied Road in Allied Gardens with City staff

10/20: Media event for completed repayement of Allied Road

10/21: Chaired Audit Committee meeting

10/21: Met with Executive Director of the Commission for Arts and Culture

10/22: Met with members of San Diego Library Foundation

10/26: Meeting with regional water district representatives

10/28: Smart Growth and Land Use Committee meeting

10/28: NFL Public Hearing on Chargers

Pension Stabilization Fund Needed to Protect Neighborhood Services



Last month, the Budget Committee heard a proposal from the Mayor's office to create a reserve fund to protect the City's General Fund and funding for vital city services such as streets and roads from unforeseen increases in required pension fund payments.

The pension reserve fund will help ensure that important city services such as libraries, street repair, and recreation centers would be shielded from potential damaging cuts. Many San Diego residents remember the harsh

budget cuts in the past that drastically reduced city services.

After a 3-2 vote to stall the implementation of the fund, Councilmember Sherman said: "The idea behind this fiscally sound policy is that when times are good, you save. When times are bad, you wish you had. It is important that the City Council learn from the mistakes of the past and be prepared when, not if, markets decline."

Councilmember Sherman will be pushing for a full Council vote and hopes his colleagues will vote to approve this fiscally sound policy and to consider the ramifications of their decisions should they choose to vote against common sense budgetary procedures.

Mission Valley Gets a New State of the Art Fire Station



Councilmember Sherman and colleagues celebrate the opening of Fire station 45 in Mission Valley.

Councilmember Sherman joined Mayor Faulconer, fellow Councilmember's, and local residents to celebrate the official opening of San Diego's newest fire station located in the heart of Mission Valley.

Located north of Friars Road across the street from Qualcomm Stadium, the new permanent fire station replaces a temporary station that had been serving Mission Valley since March 2006. The new station will enhance the safety of neighborhood residents and nearby businesses while also giving the Fire-Rescue Department the ability to house additional engines and firefighters needed for future generations.

"I am proud to finally see the official opening of this state-of-the-art fire station that will serve the heart of Mission Valley where it is desperately needed," said Councilmember Sherman.

Constituent Issues Resolved in District 7

My top priority at City Hall is to help improve the lives of those I represent and the communities they live in. Below are just a few of the issues that my staff helped resolve in the month of October:

- Helped Serra Mesa resident replace trash can after being damaged by truck
- Reported illegal dumping at the end of Murphy Canyon Road in Serra Mesa
- Graffiti issues in <u>Linda Vista</u> were resolved
- Tree was trimmed to improve driving safety in <u>Tierrasanta</u>
- Illegal dumping signs placed at end of cul-de-sac in Linda Vista

Do you have an issue or problem in your community? Please contact my office at 619-236-6677 or email at ScottSherman@SanDiego.Gov. We are here to help!

Councilmember Sherman Addresses NFL Representatives at Public Hearing

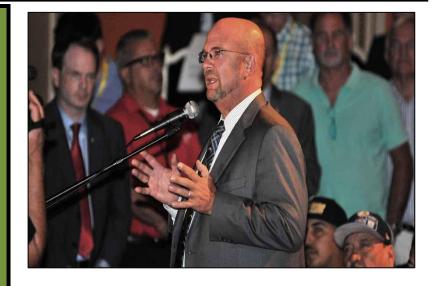
The NFL recently held a public hearing to hear feedback from Chargers fans regarding the possible relocation of the team to Los Angeles.

Councilmember Sherman spoke at the event to give an update on the City's progress to create a comprehensive stadium plan that is in the best interests of the NFL, the Chargers organization, and most importantly San Diego taxpayers.

Some comments from the Councilmember include:

- My name is Scott Sherman; I'm a City Councilman for District 7. I'm a native San Diegan and a lifelong Charger fan. I mean, if you cut me I basically bleed blue and gold, that's just the way it is.
- At heart, I'm a business owner, small businessman for 24 years. I've been through difficult situations. I understand what it is and what it takes to be successful. And at the end of the day, after all is said and done, the only thing a person has is their word and their handshake, and it has to mean something.
- Give us somebody on the other side who has the same integrity, whose handshake actually means something and you will get a deal done in the city that will keep the NFL in the 8th largest city in the country.

For a full transcript, please visit: http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd7/pdf/2015/release151028.pdf



Councilmember Sherman discusses progress the City has made to NFL Representatives.

Casework Corner

One of my top priorities is improving customer service at City Hall. I believe our government should be using these five simple words more:

"How may I help you?"

Neighborhood Issues Successfully Resolved in October:

56

Upcoming District 7 Events

<u>Linda Vista's Farmers Market – Every Thursday in November 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm</u>

Stop by the Linda Vista Farmers market every Thursday this month to buy delicious, organic, and local fruits and vegetables to feed your family. The Farmers Market is open from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm and is located at the Linda Vista Plaza Shopping Center at 6939 Linda Vista Rd. San Diego, CA 92111.

The Resourceful Baby Boomer Series - November 14th, 10:30 am

Attend the five part series that covers many problems faced by the elderly and those who care for them. The event is located at the San Carlos Library at 7265 Jackson Dr., San Diego, CA 92119. For more information regarding the series, please click here. Please call 619-527-3430 for more information.

San Carlos Friends of the Library General Membership Meeting – November 18th, 4:00 pm

Join library advocates to learn how you can help the San Carlos library. The agenda includes elections of Officers and Board Members for 2016. New volunteers and members are always welcome. The event is held at the San Carlos Library at 7265 Jackson Dr., San Diego, CA 92119. Please call 619-527-3430 for more information.

Serra Mesa Village Meeting – November 19th, 3:00 pm

Join members of the Serra Mesa Community for presentations on healthy lifestyles for older adults. The meeting takes place at the Serra Mesa/Kearney Mesa Library at 9005 Aero Dr. San Diego, CA 92123.

Linda Vista Town Council General Membership Meeting – November 19th, 6:30 pm

Join fellow neighbors and community leaders for refreshments, socializing, and networking opportunities. The event is also a great opportunity to learn about what's happening in Linda Vista. Refreshments and networking begins at 6:30 pm. The general meeting begins at 7:00 pm. The meeting is located at the Baha'i Faith Center at 6545 Alcala Knolls Drive, San Diego, CA, 92111.

Allied Gardens Townhall Meeting – November 24th, 7:00 pm

Please join the Allied Gardens/Grantville Community Council for a townhall meeting with the San Diego Police Department to discuss homeless issues. The meeting will be located at Ascension Lutheran Church at 5106 Zion Ave. San Diego, CA 92120.

Serra Mesa Friends of the Library Meeting – December 1st, 5:00 pm

Join community leaders and library advocates to learn how you can help the Serra Mesa Library. The meeting takes place at the Serra Mesa/Kearney Mesa Library at 9005 Aero Dr. San Diego, CA 92123.

Sherman in the Community

















From Left to Right

- Ground breaking of Junior Achievement Finance Park
- Taking a tour of the completed repavement of Allied Road in Allied Gardens
- Touring the new fire station located in the heart of Mission Valley
- Rise of the Jack
 O'Lanterns event
 at the San Diego
 Zoo Safari Park
- The line of Chargers fans going around the block to get into the NFL public forum
- Introducing the 5-peak challenge at Mission Trails Regional Park
- With Councilmember Alvarez calling for regulatory reform for Storm weather channels
- Firestation #34 giving disaster preparedness training to Turnford Drive community in San Carlos