



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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San Diegans Encouraged to Participate in SDPD Chief Selection

CITY WELCOMES RESIDENTS TO SHARE PRIORITIES VIA CITYWIDE COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND ONLINE SURVEY

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego today encouraged community members to participate in the selection process for a new Chief of the San Diego Police Department (SDPD). The City's [timeline](#) to hire a successor to Chief Shelley Zimmerman, who will retire in March 2018, includes public input opportunities.

The ideal candidate must demonstrate and represent qualities and characteristics that reflect San Diego's unique communities. Recognizing the critical ongoing importance of community policing and neighborhood engagement, the City will host four community meetings throughout the City this fall and unveil an online survey to capture the priorities and comments of San Diegans for the next Chief of Police.

"Under Chief Zimmerman San Diego has become a leader in community policing and remained one of the safest big cities in America. Our next police chief must build on her commitment to excellence and continue to forge strong bonds with our neighborhoods," said Mayor Faulconer. "The police chief serves all of San Diego so we want everyone to have a chance to participate in the selection process. I am encouraging San Diegans to attend these community forums so the public's voice is heard."

All input received will be used throughout the recruitment and selection process, which will be managed by the City's Chief Operating Officer Scott Chadwick, on behalf of Mayor Faulconer. The City will be hiring an executive recruitment firm to assist in the process.

"I look forward to the upcoming recruitment and selection process for the new San Diego police chief," said Council President Cole. "I am eager to receive community input so we can decide on an individual who will continue effective community policing strategies."

Multiple rounds of interviews are anticipated as part of the process. To help ensure the selection process is not compromised, the names of interview panelists will be shared after a selection has been made.

"I am looking forward to the beginning of the Police Chief selection process," said Councilmember Chris Cate, Chair of the Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods. "Public safety is a shared responsibility and it is imperative we engage with San Diegans in all neighborhoods to be part of the public process."

An online survey is scheduled to launch in September from www.sandiego.gov/next-police-chief. The City will announce details in the coming weeks.

Community Conversation Calendar

Standley Recreation Center
3585 Governor Drive
San Diego, CA 92122
Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017
6 p.m.

Mira Mesa Senior Center
8460 Mira Mesa Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92126
Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2017
6 p.m.

Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation
404 Euclid Ave.
San Diego, CA 92114
Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017
1 p.m.

St. Paul's Cathedral
2728 Sixth Avenue
San Diego, CA 92103
Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017
6 p.m.

Timeline of significant steps in the recruitment process*:

Early September 2017	Select executive recruitment firm
September-October 2017	Community feedback via community forums and online survey
October-November 2017	Chief candidate recruitment
December 2017-January 2018	Candidate interviews
January 2018	Selection of new chief
February 2018	City Council confirmation hearing

**This is subject to change.*

Pursuant to City Charter Section 57, the new police chief will be appointed by Mayor Faulconer and the appointment will be confirmed by a majority of the City Council.

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