



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

NEWS RELEASE

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The Challenge of the City's Five Year Financial Outlook
Councilmember Advocates Active Response to Mayor's Report

SAN DIEGO, CA – Councilmember Todd Gloria advocated for a plan of action following today's release of the City of San Diego's Five Year Financial Outlook.

"As a City, we must pursue comprehensive solutions that tackle the immediate financial shortage while moving forward aggressively and openly about potential means of general revenue production for the long term sustainability of the City," said Councilmember Gloria.

Nine out of 10 cities in America are grappling with similar budget troubles because of the global economic recession. However, San Diego's financial challenges are exacerbated by a structural budget deficit; expenses are designed to be greater than revenues, causing the City to make annual cuts to personnel and services, even during healthy economic times. Councilmember Gloria urged his colleagues and the public to recognize and address this longstanding problem by immediately opening budget discussions.

"I appreciate the honesty of Mayor Sanders and support his call to examine every responsible alternative to deal with the realities of our budget, including service cuts, efficiencies and funding mechanisms," said Councilmember Gloria. "I have never heard a constituent tell me that they get too many City services; our solution cannot solely consist of cutting already low service levels. Pursuing additional revenues must also be included in the equation to balance our ledger. The Five Year Financial Outlook will be seen by some as a bitter pill to swallow, but I urge my colleagues to embrace it as a challenge to act upon. We owe it to the public to make real remedies a priority and literally cannot afford to wait any longer."

Councilmember Gloria looks forward to working closely with the public, his City Council colleagues, the Mayor and City employees to set funding priorities and pursue appropriate new revenue streams.

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Councilmember Gloria welcomes media inquiries about the Five Year Financial Outlook. He is available throughout the day and on Friday morning. To arrange for an interview or schedule him for a television or radio program, please contact Katie Keach, 858-245-7673 or kkeach@sanidiego.gov.

