

STATEMENT

For immediate release: June 17, 2011

Contact: Katie Keach, 619-235-5268

Councilmember Gloria Fights for Redevelopment *Budget and Redevelopment Chairman Urges State Compromise*

SAN DIEGO, CA (June 17, 2011) – San Diego Councilmember Todd Gloria, Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee on Redevelopment, today issued the following statement about the future of redevelopment.

“This week, State Legislators approved a budget package which included actions to disband redevelopment agencies and redistribute their tax increments as a way to balance the budget. This decision was irresponsible and short sighted, and despite the veto of the budget by Governor Brown, the threat of redevelopment’s elimination is still very real.

“Most concerning about the action taken by the State Legislature is that the budget package included the passage of two trailer bills relating to the elimination of redevelopment agencies, AB X1 26 and 27.

“Local governments have very few tools to invest into critical infrastructure, stimulate the economy, and create jobs. Redevelopment has been one of those tools. It’s one of our greatest locally-governed services which has assisted in shaping urban development, providing much-needed affordable housing, eliminating blight, and improving the livability and economy of many of our communities, including City Heights and North Park.

“There are better ways than this to balance a budget. Just last week, San Diego’s Mayor and City Council approved an on-time, balanced budget that is fiscally responsible and responsive to the needs of the citizens of the City of San Diego. Despite the difficult yet necessary cuts, this process was done peacefully, and in the spirit of collaboration and compromise.

“I vow to continue the fight to retain redevelopment tools for San Diego. I urge our State representatives to come together as we have in San Diego and compromise on meaningful structural reforms.”

###