

News from Councilmember Todd Gloria

District Three

DIALOGUE



City of San Diego

September 2011 Volume 3, Issue 9

Honoring Fallen Heroes

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

This month marks the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks. That day and its aftermath were devastating, and the resulting renewed appreciation and love for our country have been transformative.

Here at home, I am honored to participate in the unveiling of San Diego's 9/11 Memorial on September 9 at Fire Station 21. Designed by San Diego Firefighter Tim Swanson, the memorial includes the names of all first responders who paid the ultimate sacrifice responding to that morning's attacks. It also features a piece of steel from New York's World Trade Center. Please visit the memorial when you are in Pacific Beach and help make sure we never forget the sacrifices made by so many that day and since.

Local emergency personnel can encounter danger every day as they provide selfless service, a fact which was made too clear with last October's killing of Police Officer Chris Wilson and the recent fatal shooting of Police Officer Jeremy Henwood.

I was tremendously saddened by the senseless and tragic loss of Jeremy, a hero who served the Mid-City Division and my home neighborhood of City Heights for several years. I want to thank my neighbors who assisted law enforcement to apprehend the suspect and who provided comfort and aid to Officer Henwood at the scene.

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Councilmember Gloria Secures Funds for Local Organizations

Councilmember Todd Gloria spent some time this summer handing out big checks — big both in size and in the monetary amount.

Councilmember Gloria distributed funds that were awarded by the City's Commission for Arts and Culture to organizations in and around Council District Three.

This year's recipients included the Balboa Park Online Collaborative, the Hillcrest Business Association, Jacobs Center, and the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership for the Smith Leadership Symposium and the Green Balboa Park Initiative. Hillcrest's funds will be used for the 2011 Hillcrest Hoedown, scheduled for October 16. Funds for the Jacobs Center were for Somali Youth United's Cultural Celebration.

Additional allocations will soon be distributed to the San Diego Music Awards Foundation for the North Park Music Thing and to the San Diego Asian Film Foundation for its Youth Day and for film festival access for low-income and underserved communities.

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Rich Cherry of the Online Collaborative accepts funds from Councilmember Gloria.



District Three Dialogue

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Vintage Trolley Service Begins in San Diego; More Streetcars are Next



Councilmember Todd Gloria took the inaugural ride on August 18 on San Diego's Silver Line vintage trolley in downtown San Diego and pledged extended streetcar service in coming years.

"Looking to the past has given us great ideas for improving public

transportation for San Diego," said Councilmember Todd Gloria. "The Silver Line will add a fun and useful element to our current trolley service, and more streetcars will improve mobility through our urban neighborhoods."

The Silver Line uses a restored trolley car built in 1949 and started operating in a loop around downtown on August 27.

Efforts are underway to extend a similar vintage service from downtown up Park Boulevard to Balboa Park in time for the 2015

Coffee with your Councilmember

Saturday, September 17
10:00– 11:30 a.m.
R Gang Eatery, 3683 Fifth Ave.

Water Conservation Garden of the Month: 3000 Block of Ivy Street



Call for Submissions

Where is your favorite drought-tolerant yard in District Three? Submit the address and a photo to ToddGloria@sandiego.gov, and you may see it in a future District Three Dialogue. As always, don't be afraid to submit your own!

Centennial Celebration of the Panama-California Exposition, which is being recognized as the 100th birthday of the Park. For more information, visit <http://www.sdmmts.com/streetcarstudy.asp>.

Councilmember Gloria, who also serves on the Metropolitan Transit System's (MTS) Board of Directors, is a tireless advocate of strengthening public transportation systems for economic, environmental and planning purposes. He successfully fought for the inclusion of streetcar service in the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. Thanks to his leadership, additional funds were allocated to the light rail projects for San Diego's mid-city neighborhoods, moving up the timeline for completion to 2035. This will include the conversion of the approved Mid-City Bus Rapid project connecting downtown to San Diego State University from a bus line to a light rail line.

Please visit www.sdmmts.com for more information about Silver Line vintage trolley service downtown.

Small Business Districts Benefit from City Council Policy Change

In August, Councilmember Todd Gloria announced that San Diego's Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) would benefit from a policy change approved unanimously by the City Council.

The new policy provides direct payment of applicable assessment funds to BIDs on a monthly basis, providing much-needed financial stability and cash flow for the organizations that work to support neighborhood small businesses. The policy change was generated by Councilmember Gloria's memo to City Attorney Jan Goldsmith in January 2011.

"I believe this policy will greatly enhance BID operations as well as promote autonomy, responsibility and cooperation between our BIDs and the City. It will also eliminate unnecessary City staff work processing reimbursement requests," said Councilmember Gloria.

BIDs collect assessments from member businesses and previously could only access those funds on a reimbursement basis, even if they were for ongoing, approved expenses. Councilmember Gloria was troubled that some were waiting multiple months to receive reimbursements.

"The assessments that were collected to promote, support and strengthen business districts were being held up by unnecessary red tape, limiting the districts' abilities to perform their essential duties," said Councilmember Gloria. "I am confident that the policy approved today maintains City oversight and accountability while further empowering BIDs to succeed."

Councilmember Gloria represents six of the City's BIDs: Adams Avenue, City Heights, El Cajon Boulevard Central, El Cajon Boulevard Gateway, Hillcrest and North Park.

Redistricting Commission Draws New District Three Boundaries

The City of San Diego's Redistricting Commission approved boundaries for City Council Districts in late August.

District Three will no longer include Kensington, Talmadge and City Heights.

"These communities will always mean a great deal to me and my family, and I am sorry to lose direct representation of them," said Councilmember Gloria. "I am excited, however, to continue to work with North Park, South Park, Golden Hill, University Heights, Normal Heights, Hillcrest and Balboa Park and to conquer the challenges that await me in Mission Hills, Bankers Hill, Park West, Old Town and Downtown, which are all new to Council District Three."

The map is now final, yet some mystery remains as to its effective

date. Some authorities believe that councilmembers begin representing the new districts this Fall. The City Attorney has opined that councilmembers begin representing the new districts in December 2012, following the next election cycle. In the meantime, rest assured that Councilmember Gloria and his team will continue to work hard for constituents.

It is worth noting that the final map is the result of a lengthy public process and developed and approved by an all-volunteer Redistricting Commission made up of seven private citizens. To learn more about the Commission, please visit www.sandiego.gov/redistricting.

Councilmember Gloria depends on the input of all San Diegans on issues impacting local neighborhoods. Please stay in touch by phone, email, Facebook or Twitter and let Councilmember Gloria know how he may best serve you.

Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

Public Safety

- Parking enforcement staff worked with a Hillcrest neighbor to ensure her guests would have sufficient parking in a restricted area for a social event.
- A homeless encampment was removed from North Park Community Park.
- Streetlights were repaired on Palisades Road and Norfolk Terrace.
- An all-way stop sign was installed at Lincoln and Center.
- A knocked-down street sign near SR 163 at Washington Street was repaired.
- Vehicles violating the 72-hour parking regulations were cited in University Heights.

Infrastructure Improvements

- A large pothole was filled in the 4300 block of Alder Drive.
- Pedestrian ramps and a driveway were installed at Fairmount and Poplar

Community Character

- A historical tree on the southeast corner of Richmond and Pennsylvania was spared from alteration that was planned as part of a street repair project.
- A broken swing at the Kensington-Normal Heights Library Park was repaired.
- Litter was removed from the Georgia Street Bridge.
- The new pump station enclosure on the Balboa Golf Course will be painted and

landscaped to help mitigate its visual impact on neighbors near 28th and Redwood.

- Trees and bushes were trimmed on Golf Course Drive to improve vehicular access.
- Multiple trash bins were relocated to their proper alley locations after they were mysteriously found in another alley.
- An abandoned vehicle was removed from Maryland Street.
- Street sweeping was performed on 10th Avenue after that part of the route was missed originally.

Funds Provided for Local Organizations

(Continued from page 1.)

Funding comes from the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), a tax levied on individuals who stay overnight in the City's hotels, motels and other lodging establishments.

The Commission for Arts and Culture annually awards funds to support the City's nonprofit arts and culture organizations and projects implemented by a variety of nonprofit organizations. These funds are awarded through two competitive application processes. For more information, visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture/funding/index.shtml>.



Honoring Our Heroes *(Continued from page 1.)*

Their efforts helped us to bring justice to this terrible crime, helped us give a resolution to the Henwood family, and helped us remove a stain on our community.

The San Diego Police Officers Association has established a trust fund for Officer Henwood's family. Donations can be mailed to:
Officer Jeremy Henwood Family Trust, c/o San Diego Police Officers Association, 8388 Vickers Street, San Diego, CA 92111

Checks can be made payable to the San Diego Police Officers Association (SDPOA). Please write "Officer Jeremy Henwood" in the memo line. Any donations (100%) will go directly to the family. The SDPOA is also accepting online donations: www.sdpoa.org/sdpoa-contactus.aspx.

Let us always be grateful for the courage and sacrifice of the men and women who uphold the law and keep us safe.

Tracking Todd

Councilmember Gloria enjoyed an active summer. Clockwise from right, Todd chatted with fellow attendees of one of the concerts at Bird Park; he joined Assistant Chief Jeff Carle at Normal Heights' Fire Station 18 to acknowledge Captain Jeff Cheek's 25 years of service with San Diego Fire-Rescue; Todd visited the City's Water Purification Demonstration Project; and he was honored to spend time with Pearl Harbor survivor Allen Bodenlos at the "Spirit of '45" event on August 14.



Councilmember Gloria serves on the following:

- Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
- Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Redevelopment
- Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
- Land Use and Housing Committee
- Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
- Metropolitan Transit System Board
- San Diego Association of Governments
- San Diego Workforce Partnership
- San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau
- San Diego River Conservancy

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