

News from Councilmember Todd Gloria

District Three

DIALOGUE



City of San Diego

January –February 2012 Volume 4, Issue 1

Happy New Year!

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

2011 was a productive year for the City of San Diego and especially in Council District Three, and 2012 will see more advancement for our neighborhoods.

Two of the issues that have dominated the news are the City's budget and Redevelopment. As the chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, I am proud that the City Council took a more proactive role in the development of the City's annual budget, and a balanced budget that restored the fire engine brownouts was passed on time in 2011.

Despite our local efforts to reform redevelopment, its future is highly questionable since the California Supreme Court found the state legislature's

elimination of redevelopment legal on December 29.

The Court's decision will have a tremendous impact on San Diego. Redevelopment has been one of our best tools to build infrastructure and affordable housing, eliminate blight, and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. The full impacts of the decision will be dependent on many factors including actions the City may take and potential future efforts by the state legislature to reinstate a modified redevelopment program.

Though not covered nearly as extensively as those topics, the many improvements delivered to your communities were hugely important to a strong quality of life for District Three neighbors. Read more about those throughout the rest of this issue.

Reward Offered for Tips in University Heights Arsons

San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria urges University Heights neighbors to help solve a recent string of arsons. A reward of up to \$10,000 is offered from Crime Stoppers, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is offering a reward of \$5,000 for tips that lead to arrests in the cases.

Deliberately set fires occurred at the Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall on December 20 and December 30, 2011, and another arson attempt was made at 12:30 a.m. on January 3, 2012.

The television program San Diego's Most Wanted profiled the church arson case on its episode airing January 14 and 15.

Alice Birney Elementary School on Campus Avenue was the target of arson on January 16. The school suffered tremendous damage and lost all materials for its before-school and after-school programs. Donations can be made online at www.friendsofalicebirney.org.

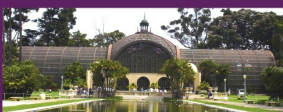
"San Diegans must stand together against these senseless acts," said Councilmember Gloria. "I encourage anyone with information about the crimes

Whether you are involved in big policy issues or simply appreciate public services like having safe drinking water come from your tap and knowing police and firefighters will reach your family quickly in an emergency, I encourage you to be engaged in 2012. Our neighborhoods and our City are only as strong as you demand, so be involved. Share your concerns with me, talk to your neighbors, report potholes, ask questions, attend community group meetings, volunteer, or just pick up that piece of trash off your sidewalk instead of wondering how it got there.

I wake up every day feeling lucky to have my dream job representing you. I hope you'll continue to help make sure I'm fulfilling your needs.

to tell the authorities. Crime doesn't pay, but helping catch the responsible criminals may yield a reward."

The church is located on Adams Avenue near Florida Street. The Metro Arson Strike Team is investigating. Anyone with information related to these crimes is asked to call arson investigators at 619-236-6815, or to remain anonymous, calls can be made to San Diego County Crime Stoppers at 888-580-8477 or send an anonymous text or web tip at sdcrimestoppers.com.



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Arts Tix Booth Saved!

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

I was honored to lend my assistance to ensure that the popular Arts Tix booth, operated by the San Diego Performing Arts League (SDPAL) in Horton Plaza for more than 20 years, remains a fixture into the future. The Booth provides financial and promotional support for arts and culture groups throughout San Diego. Supporting dance, theater and the performing arts adds to the vibrancy and quality of life of our neighborhoods.

I'd like to thank Mayor Sanders, Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC), SDPAL, particularly President Bruce Warren, and the Westfield Corporation for finding a solution to assure the continued presence of an Arts Tix booth in the new civic space being planned for Horton Plaza. SDPAL is finalizing an agreement with CCDC and Westfield to accommodate the services into a new booth that will be located on Fourth Avenue near the Balboa Theater.



Arts Tix has helped expose San Diegans to fine arts and performances for years. It will continue to serve its important purpose in a new location in the future.

2011 Wrap Up: Infrastructure Improvements

Pothole Repairs

- A pothole was repaired on Washington St. at Richmond St.
- Potholes near 3446 University Ave. were repaired.
- Potholes were filled in the 1900 block of 33rd St., at Polk Ave. and Menlo Ave., 2900 and 3000 blocks of Beech St., 1500 and 1600 blocks of 30th St., 2000-2200 blocks of 31st St., 2800-3300 blocks of Vancouver Ave., Sixth Ave. at Palm St.; 3400 block of University Ave., University Ave. at Sixth Ave., University Ave. at 41st St., Boundary St. at Upas St., and on Mountain View Dr.
- Potholes were filled in the 3600 block of Fifth Ave. and behind the Model Railroad Museum and Prado Restaurant.
- A large pothole was filled in the 4300 block of Alder Dr..
- Potholes were filled in the 2800 and 2900 blocks of Georgia St. and on Marlborough Dr. near Ridgeway.

Water System Repairs

- A water leak in the 4400 block of 32nd St. was repaired.
- Drainage issues were investigated in the 2900 block of Vancouver Ave. and the 4400 block of Arizona St. The issues were added to the deferred maintenance backlog.
- A water leak was fixed near Florida St. and El Cajon Blvd.
- A water line in the 3700 block of First Ave. was repaired.
- The water meter at a business in Hillcrest was replaced after the owner noticed unusual readings. The old meter was examined to determine cause of the malfunction.

Street Signs

- Knocked down street signs on Adams Ave. in University Heights were replaced twice.
- The crosswalk sign at University Ave. and 44th Street was replaced.
- A missing stop sign was replaced at Euclid Ave. at Monroe Ave.
- A knocked-down street sign near SR 163 at Washington Street was repaired.

Street and Sidewalk Repairs

- A broken curb on Adams Ave. in University Heights was repaired.
- The 4300 and 4400 blocks of Illinois St. were determined needy of repaving and added to the unfunded needs backlog.
- The dirt alley near the 1400 block of Essex St. was graded.
- Damage by City crews to a driveway apron on Meade Ave. was repaired.
- A concrete alley behind Crestwood was patched.
- A sidewalk on 7th Ave. near University Ave. was ramped to address a tripping hazard.
- Curb and median improvements near Azalea Park and Poplar St. are underway.
- Pedestrian ramps and a driveway were installed at Fairmount and Poplar.
- A broken sidewalk was repaired for a constituent in the 4900 block of Canterbury Dr.

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2011 Wrap Up: Strengthening Public Safety

Lighting

- Street lights were repaired in the following locations: 3900 block of University Ave., 3300 block of Felton Ave., 4400 block of Mission Ave., 2900 block of El Cajon Blvd., 4900 block of Lorraine Dr., W. Talmadge Dr., Arizona St. at Collier Ave., on Natalie Dr., 4200 block of Marlborough, and the southwest corner of Marlborough and El Cajon Blvd.
- Streetlights were repaired near Marlborough Avenue and Alder Drive as well as Edgeware Rd. at Alder Dr.
- Multiple blocks of streetlights were repaired throughout Kensington.
- A streetlight was repaired on Lucille Dr.
- A broken streetlight was replaced on the 3300 block of Adams Ave.
- Multiple circuits of streetlights around Talmadge Circle were repaired just in time for Halloween.
- Because of the concern of a neighbor who felt the lights at Golden Hill Park were set to come on too late, they now come on at 5:00 p.m. in fall and winter months.
- Emergency tree trimming occurred in the 4100 block of Menlo Avenue to cut back fronds that were blocking a streetlight.
- Streetlights were repaired on Palisades Rd. and Norfolk Terrace.
- Multiple streetlights were repaired in Talmadge.

- Burned out lights on Balboa Park's California Tower were replaced.

Law Enforcement Activity

- Parking enforcement was ramped up on Iowa Street following complaints of perpetual 72-hour violations.
- The Environmental Services Department increased enforcement activity against recycling scavengers in the alleys of Normal Heights.
- The Hillcrest police bicycle team and Neighborhood Resource Team actively assisted with homeless complaints in the 3900 block of Normal St.
- Parking enforcement staff worked with a Hillcrest neighbor to ensure her guests would have sufficient parking in a restricted area for a social event.
- Vehicles violating the 72-hour parking regulations were cited in University Heights.
- Police patrols ramped up in the 1000 block of University Ave. to address concerns of transients.
- Drug activity in the 3900 block of Iowa St. was investigated by the Police Department.
- A food truck vendor operating unlawfully on El Cajon Blvd. was cited by Neighborhood Code Compliance staff.

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2011 Wrap Up: Protecting Community Character

Debris Removal

- A-Frames and construction equipment in Kensington were removed.
- Feces were removed from behind the Blind Community Center. Balboa Park Rangers and the San Diego Police Department increased patrols of the area to address concerns about transients.
- Out of date "No Parking" signs left over from playground renovations were removed from Campus Ave.
- Out of date "No Parking" signs left by a utility company were removed from Meade Ave.
- Illegally dumped construction materials were removed from Pennsylvania Ave. between Albatross St. and Curlew Street.
- Construction materials were removed from Talmadge Circle.
- Debris was cleared multiple times from Washington St. at SR-163 by the Environmental Services Department and Alpha Project.
- A mattress was removed from Washington Street near the 163 ramp.
- A mattress was removed from the alley near the 3900 block of Iowa St.
- City property near the Swift Ave./805 overpass was cleared of trash, debris and brush, and a tree was trimmed.

- Illegally dumped debris in the alley behind Copeland Ave. was removed.
- The 163 off-ramp to Robinson was cleared of debris by Caltrans.
- Litter was removed from the Georgia Street Bridge.
- Debris left by a City street sweeping truck was cleared near Adams Avenue.
- The Adams Ave./I-15 on- and off-ramps were cleared of trash.
- Broken glass and debris left by an Environmental Services truck was cleared upon notification to the District Three office.
- Urban Corps removed weeds and trash from the corner of Lincoln Avenue and 33rd Street.

Vehicle Abatement

- Two abandoned vehicles were removed from streets in Talmadge.
- The owner of an illegally parked trailer in Kensington was issued a notice to comply with setback and parking requirements.
- "No Parking" signs were installed at the corner of Florida St. and Upas St. because the area is dedicated parkland.
- An RV was cited for blocking a sidewalk on Lila Dr.

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2011 Wrap Up: Protecting Community Character *(Continued from page 3)*

- An abandoned vehicle was removed from Maryland Street.
- A vehicle was cited for violating the 72-hour parking limit on Dawson.

Community Clean Ups



- Council District Three staff coordinated with Allied Waste to arrange for two donated dumpsters for the Fairmount Park cleanup in June.
- A dumpster was secured for the Altadena Neighborhood Association to clean up its future community garden location at 32nd and Thorn St.
- Three dumpsters were secured from EDCO to assist with City Heights' Fall FaceLift.

Signage

- A new Manzanita Canyon sign was added to the entrance behind Joyner Elementary School.
- Construction signage was removed from the historic gate in Talmadge.

Vegetation

- 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.
- Trees and bushes were trimmed on Golf Course Drive to

improve vehicular access.

- A dead tree was removed near 43rd St. and Myrtle Ave.
- A business in the 1000 block of University Ave. received assistance in getting permission to trim a nearby tree in the public right-of-way.
- Fallen palm fronds were removed from Panorama Drive.
- Arundo was removed by Alpha Project from the paper alley near the 2600 block of 46th Street.

Troublesome Properties

- A citation for structural non-compliance was issued in the 4000 block of Illinois St.
- A civil penalty was assessed for an illegal business in the 2200 block of Boundary St.
- Debris was removed from a dilapidated building in the 3700 block of Arnold Avenue.
- Administrative citations were issued to individuals in the 3300 and 3400 blocks of University Avenue to address illegal signs and objects in the public right-of-way.
- Neighborhood Code Compliance officers investigated and cited a blighted property in the 3100 block of Howard Ave.
- A Neighborhood Code Compliance case was investigated about alleged drug activity and noisy dogs in the 4600 block of Boundary St.
- A property in the 1400 block of Pennsylvania Ave. was investigated by Neighborhood Code Compliance staff for alleged violations related to health and safety standards, building code violations, theft of utilities, illegal construction activities, fire hazards and public nuisances.
- An administrative citation was issued to a property owner in the 3500 block of Utah Street because of miscellaneous storage on the front porch and wood piled up on the south side of the property.

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How Green is Your Business?

Does your business or organization exemplify the "green" mantra? If so, you could be the winner of the City of San Diego's **Recycler of the Year Award** or the **Director's Recycling Award**.

Each year, the City's Environmental Services Department (ESD) selects businesses and organizations located within the City that have implemented or expanded innovative and successful waste reduction, recycling and recycled product purchasing programs. The Recycler of the Year Award winners will be honored at a Special Event in April 2012.

Recycling award applications are due by Friday, February 17, 2012. Award applications can be downloaded from www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/advantage.shtml or obtained by calling Meghan Cannis at

858-492-5009. Completed recycling award applications can be faxed to 858-492-5089, e-mailed to MCannis@sandiego.gov or mailed to:

City of San Diego
Environmental Services Department
Attention: Meghan Cannis
9601 Ridgehaven Court, Suite 320
San Diego, CA 92123

The Environmental Services Department provides local businesses with assistance in developing waste reduction and recycling programs with a free comprehensive waste analysis. For more information about ESD's programs, call 858-694-7000, or visit the website at www.recyclingworks.com.

2011 Wrap Up: Strengthening Public Safety *(Continued from page 3)*

Homeless Encampments

- A homeless encampment was removed from the 4200 block of Kansas Street.
- A homeless encampment was removed from North Park Community Park.
- Environmental Services staff abated a homeless camp in Auburn Creek in November.
- The Police Department removed a homeless encampment near the 4200 block of Arizona St.
- Homeless encampments near Arizona Street and El Cajon Boulevard and near the 600 block of Pennsylvania Avenue were vacated by police following complaints from neighbors. A faulty fence near the Pennsylvania Avenue location was reported.

Traffic Calming

- An additional "25 mph speed limit" sign was installed between the 3500-3600 blocks of Pershing Ave. to encourage more responsible driving.
- A traffic study was performed at the request of neighbors for an all-way stop sign at Myrtle Avenue and Felton Street. It was determined that the intersection did not qualify for the stop sign.
- Two "School Ahead" signs were added near Rowan Elementary School to improve safety.

- Striping to narrow the lanes and calm traffic on the 30th St. Bridge was installed.

Traffic Safety



- Sharrows were added to streets throughout Council District Three to encourage safe automobile and bicycle coexistence.
- An investigation found no need for an all-way stop sign at Pershing Ave. and Dwight St.
- SDPD will increase traffic enforcement in the 3600 block of 33rd
- An all-way stop sign was installed at Lincoln and Center.
- Street signal timing was adjusted at the intersection of Adams Ave. and Marlborough to allow for longer more cars to pass through with each light.
- The signal at Adams Ave. and 30th St. was re-timed.

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2011 Wrap Up: Infrastructure

(Continued from page 2)

- Curb ramps will be added to the intersection of 36th St. and Polk Avenue near Edison Elementary in the next available contract.
- The 3700-3800 blocks of Georgia St. were patched with asphalt. Resurfacing of these blocks is scheduled for mid-2012.

Park Improvements

- The toddler swing at the Kensington Library Park was repaired. 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.
- Grape Street Dog Park was re-turfed, thanks to community member donations and an allocation from Councilmember Gloria's office.
- Stairs linking Azalea Park's active recreation space to Manzanita Open Space Park were installed.

More Infrastructure Improvements

- A leaning light pole on Park Boulevard in University Heights was repaired.

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Coffee with your Councilmember

Join Todd for his first community coffees of 2012!

Saturday, January 21
10:00—11:30 am
30th Street Café
3620 30th St #G

Saturday, February 25
10:00—11:30 am
Location TBD

Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

Drop off your Christmas tree by January 23.

Tree Drop-Off Sites

Golden Hill Recreation Center
2600 Golf Course Dr.

SDSU
Parking Lot D off Alvarado Rd.

More information and additional locations:
<http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/>

2011 Wrap Up: Protecting Community Character *(Continued from page 4)*

- A tenant in the 4100 block of Pepper Drive was warned by Neighborhood Code Compliance staff about storage on the property.

Trash Bins

- A broken trash bin was repaired.
- Multiple trash bins were relocated to their proper alley locations after they were mysteriously found in another alley.
- Overflowing trash cans in Balboa Park near Florida and Upas Streets were cleaned and added to the regular pick up schedule.
A large dumpster on Florida St. was determined to be legally permitted through November and therefore would not be cited for removal by the Neighborhood Code Compliance Department.
- An overflowing trash can in the 1400 block of Washington St. was addressed.

More Community Assistance

- Unnecessary utility wires hanging from a pole in Talmadge were removed due to a neighbor's concern.
- A constituent was assisted in transferring his Section 8 assistance to a new location.
- A misspelled Louisiana Street sign was replaced with a correct version.

2011 Wrap Up: Infrastructure

(Continued from page 5)

- Damage to an irrigation line and parkway strip on Lila Drive was repaired.
- Work on the Quince Street Bridge was complete in August. The bridge was badly damaged in Spring 2011 by a fallen eucalyptus tree.
- Bike racks were approved for installation on parking meters in the 1600 block of University Ave.
- The long-awaited construction of the Museum of Man roof repair project should be complete in early 2012.
- An exposed sewer drain near Alder Drive in Kensington was blocked off and then sealed by City staff.
- A blue curb was installed for a disabled property owner on Aldine Drive.
- Parking "T"s were painted at the northeast corner of Fifth and Pennsylvania Avenues to mark a new legal parking space.
- An exposed sewer drain near Alder Drive was blocked off and will be sealed.
- Due to neighbor concerns, parking will not be eliminated from W. Washington Street in the Five Points community.

- An investigation into a potential sewer spill in Snowdrop Canyon revealed the questionable smell was caused by a decomposing cat, which was removed.
- Shoes were removed from utility lines on the 3000 block of Lincoln Ave. and the 4200 block of Poplar St. and from a utility line near Idaho Street and El Cajon Boulevard.
- Street sweeping was performed on 10th Avenue after that part of the route was missed originally.
- A business owner received assistance obtaining a permit for a hot dog stand.
- A new home was found for the old neon Hillcrest sign.
- A tractor and port-a-pottie were removed from Commonwealth and Boundary Street.
- A construction trailer was moved from Collier Avenue so a neighborhood block party could proceed.
- Business tax licensing issues were resolved for two constituents.

2011 Wrap Up: Public Safety

(Continued from page 5)

- A "Stop Ahead" sign was installed on Sycamore approaching Violet St. Additional traffic safety measures are also forthcoming for this area.

Graffiti Removal

- Graffiti was removed from the Georgia Street bridge twice.
- Graffiti was removed from the 2600 block of El Cajon Blvd.
- Graffiti was removed from light poles and on the sidewalk near Adams Ave. and E. Mountain View Dr.
- Graffiti was removed from a building on El Cajon Blvd. near Texas St.
- Graffiti was removed from Teralta Park.

More Public Safety Accomplishments

- A hazardous backflow cage was removed from the 3300 block of University Ave.
- A tripping hazard was removed from the 3300 block of University Ave.
- After assistance from the District Three office, Parking Administration accepted a constituent's previously unacknowledged parking citation appeal.
- Fire regulations and requirements were clarified for residents of an apartment complex in Normal Heights.
- Staging of construction trucks in Mission Hills was changed to allow appropriate emergency access to red curbs.

Auburn Creek Cleaned Up



The Auburn Creek bed was cleared of Arundo by Recon Environmental in December. Several other invasive species and a fairly sophisticated transient camp and its occupants were also cleared from the area. The cut areas were treated with herbicide, and the biomass was hauled away as green waste. Follow up herbicide treatment is scheduled over the next two years as needed.

Join the North Park Planning Committee

The Greater North Park Planning Committee (NPPC) will hold Board elections at its March 20, 2012 Board meeting.

To be eligible to vote in or run for the Board you must have a valid registration form on file and have signed in at one NPPC Board meeting between March 2011 and February 2012. If you have not attended meetings in that period, the NPPC meetings of January 17, 2012 and February 21, 2012 will be your last opportunities.

Election registration forms are available on the NPPC website: <http://www.northparkplanning.org> and at NPPC Board meetings.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact NPPC Chair Vicki Granowitz, NPPC-Info@cox.net.

Aldine Drive Reopened

Everyone knows that Councilmember Gloria thinks there's nothing sexier than a newly paved street, and Aldine Drive is among the first sexy streets of 2012.

Following six months of

construction, a new retaining wall was completed in early January, and a freshly paved Aldine Drive was reopened to traffic on January 9.

The wall was built to stabilize the steep hillside from erosion and protect the road and nearby homes from potential damage.

Aldine is a frequently used route into Kensington and connects that neighborhood with Talmadge.



Roosevelt Tennis Court Improvements

On December 19, Councilmember Gloria joined Roosevelt Middle School parents and Hillcrest residents, including NBA great Bill Walton, to accept a donation from the Greater San Diego City Tennis Council that will restore the school's tennis courts for students and the public to enjoy.



Tracking Todd



Todd spoke at the Youth Synergy Summit on Dec. 17 (above), thanked school safety patrol participants on Dec. 19 (top right), celebrated the addition of affordable housing units at Commercial and 15th on Dec. 8 (middle right), helped break ground on the first phase of improvements on the North Embarcadero on Jan. 5 (bottom right), and helped open the Cox Solutions Store in Hillcrest on Jan. 7 (below).



Councilmember Gloria serves on the following:

- Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
- 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 Convention and Visitors Bureau
- San Diego River Conservancy

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