



City of San Diego

MARK KERSEY

CITY COUNCILMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Infrastructure Investment Surge Approved by Committee

Proposed infrastructure bond expected to go to City Council in January

SAN DIEGO, California, Monday, Oct. 28, 2013 – The San Diego City Council Infrastructure Committee today approved a proposed \$120 million infrastructure bond that invests more than \$40 million toward street repairs and provides \$27 million in public safety facility improvements, including the design of two new fire stations recommended by the Citygate report.

The infrastructure bond will now be sent to the full City Council for final approval.

“An investment surge is critical to reversing years of neglect that’s plagued our neighborhoods,” said Councilman Mark Kersey, chair of the Infrastructure Committee. “This bold step shows that we will make good on our promise to rebuild San Diego.

The bond proposal would fund \$43 million in street repairs and dedicate another \$21 million for upgrades to San Diego storm drains. Several more facilities projects would also be funded by the proposed infrastructure bond, such as:

- Mid City Fire Station #17: \$11.2 million
- Design of Home Avenue and Skyline Fire Stations: \$3 million
- Hillcrest/Mission Hills and San Carlos Libraries: \$5 million
- South Mission Beach Lifeguard Station: \$2.1 million
- ADA improvements: \$4.7 million
- Sidewalk improvements \$1 million

The funding for ADA improvements will allow the city to complete the final projects recommended as part of a 1997 ADA transition plan.

The current infrastructure backlog is priced at nearly \$1 billion but the Independent Budget Analyst recently reported that the estimate is low and could be as much as double once several big ticket items are taken into account. In addition, some assets have yet to be assessed, including San Diego’s 5,000 miles of sidewalks and its park and recreation facilities. Assessments were funded in the current budget year.

As Committee Chair, Councilman Kersey is currently holding neighborhood input meetings throughout the City to solicit input directly from residents about the type of projects they think should be a priority. The next meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 30 with Councilmember Myrtle Cole at the Malcolm X Library Music Room (5148

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Market Street, San Diego, CA 92114.) The input will be the foundation of the City's first five-year infrastructure plan, which will lay out a long-term plan for rebuilding and maintaining San Diego infrastructure.

A draft outline of the five-year plan will be discussed at the next Infrastructure Committee meeting on Monday, November 18.

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