



**COUNCIL PRESIDENT SHERRI S. LIGHTNER  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM MARTI EMERALD  
COUNCILMEMBER MYRTLE COLE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Lightner, Emerald and Cole Travel to Washington, D.C.**  
*Delegation to make San Diego's voice heard in the Nation's Capital*

SAN DIEGO --- San Diego City Council President Sherri Lightner, Council President Pro Tem Marti Emerald and Councilmember Myrtle Cole will all travel to Washington, D.C. this week to advance their "Families First" agenda. The Families First agenda places San Diego families as the focus and priority when considering and introducing legislation. Whether the item has to do with public safety, infrastructure or the budget, the priority is to consider how the policy will impact the lives of San Diego's working families on a day-to-day basis.

The delegation is a proactive effort to advocate for support of the City of San Diego's top priorities and issues. Among the topics to be discussed are economic development, infrastructure financing, workforce development, homelessness and cyber security. In addition to industry specific meetings, the San Diego delegation will be meeting with the other elected officials from the San Diego region, including Congressman Scott Peters, Congresswoman Susan Davis and Congressman Juan Vargas.

"I'm looking forward to meeting with our contacts in Washington regarding their approaches to issues such as cyber security and workforce development," stated Council President Lightner. "We're bringing a lot of good ideas, and I believe San Diego will benefit from strengthening our partnerships with some of the nation's foremost industry professionals."

Council President Lightner will also address San Diego's water issues, and provide the closing remarks for the Washington, D.C. premiere of National Geographic's "World's Smart Cities San Diego," which is airing on the National Geographic Channel in the coming weeks. During the trip, each Councilmember will address specific topics to ensure that San Diego's voice is heard in Washington regarding the City's top priorities and identify possible resources.

"As Chair of the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee, I'm looking forward to discussing our city's public safety needs and issues with various stakeholders at the federal

level,” said Emerald. “I also want to discuss my support of the Trauma Informed Approach with our Congressional representatives. The Trauma Informed Approach understands the vulnerabilities and triggers of trauma, and makes social services and programs more supportive. Being on the same page with our Congressmembers on this issue will help us better serve all of our communities.”

“As Chair of the Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee, I facilitated this trip to ensure that the City Council has a strong, effective advocacy voice and presence for public policy at the federal level. It’s another way to advance the City’s Legislative Agenda which will help to develop a climate conducive to improving the quality of life in our great city,” said Cole. Councilmember Cole’s top priorities are public safety, infrastructure improvement, and economic development.

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