



**COUNCIL PRESIDENT
SHERRI S. LIGHTNER
*COUNCIL DISTRICT 1***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Jennifer N. Kearns
(619) 236-6611

Press Release

City Council Approves Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Which Restores Essential Services, Recreation Center and Library Hours

SAN DIEGO --- Council President Lightner announced that today the San Diego City Council voted unanimously to approve the City of San Diego Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed Budget.

The final approved budget provides increased funding for multiple departments, but most notably public safety, including the addition of three Lifeguards for Windansea Beach and Pacific Beach. Also, three more Park Rangers will provide invaluable support to our police and lifeguards in addressing quality of life issues at parks and along our coastline.

There are also additional allocations for the Penny for the Arts Blueprint, which will benefit community events and programs throughout the city that receive funding from the Arts and Culture Commission, and funding to add three hours every Saturday at 23 branch libraries across the city. This will give residents citywide improved weekend access to their neighborhood libraries.

“This is truly the best budget we have seen in years,” stated Council President Lightner. “The Council can take pride in approving a final budget that responsibly restores public safety and neighborhood services, and funds additional infrastructure projects. Meanwhile, not only are we fully funding our reserves, but we are also setting aside over \$15 million in excess of those reserves for any unanticipated needs that may arise throughout the year.”

The final budget also includes an increase in operating hours at recreation centers in neighborhoods throughout the city, and funds additional park and recreation and library improvements. The additions the Council included in today’s final approved budget are based on increased revenue projections and adjustments to various department budgets that have arisen since the proposed FY16 Budget was first released in April.

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