

Office of Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry San Diego City Council

District 1

For Immediate Release

May 6, 2019 Contact: Lora Fleming Ifleming@sandiego.gov O: (619) 235-5286 C: (619) 201-9214

Day 4 of Budget Deliberations: Utilizing funds in the most efficient way

San Diego— The Budget Review Committee heard from several departments including Police, Fire-Rescue, City Auditor, and the San Diego Housing Commission.

With the tragic shooting in Poway, I asked the Police Department if we track white supremacy. I was heartened to learn that we do. I also asked if Police Investigative Service Officers (PISO) could conduct scooter enforcement rather than using sworn police officers. Chief Nisleit explained that only sworn police officers can issue most moving violations. Fortunately, the City of San Diego just received a grant for \$149,000 from Office of Traffic Safety to help with scooter enforcement. I remain concerned that we will be using police officers in an overtime capacity to enforce scooter regulations. This is a very costly way to fund enforcement.

During the Fire-Rescue presentation, I highlighted that Fire Station 50 is under construction and that we're looking forward to the UCSD fire station groundbreaking. Fire Station 50 is being paid for by developer fees and UCSD is funding the station on their campus. I also expressed my displeasure that the current budget does not include funding for the additional life guard positions. I will be including those in my revised budget priority memo.

I thanked the Housing Commission for stepping in to help address homeless issues. Several of my Council colleagues and I addressed the fact that we borrowed local property reserves to operate bridge shelters and the storage connect program. We are now paying that back through community development block grant (CDBG) and low/moderate income funds. Theoretically, we could have used both of those pots of money to build more housing.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry represents San Diego City Council District 1, which includes the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and University City.