



# Council President Georgette Gómez

**April 2019**

**Mission:** To engage, empower, and advocate for our diverse communities

**Vision:** An equitable and welcoming community with a high quality of life where all are represented and treated with dignity and respect.

Dear District Nine Residents,

Spring is always a busy time for the City Council. Inside this newsletter, I'm excited to share details with you about what's happening including:

- [Council President's 2019 Workplan for the City Council](#)

Since I was elected Council President by my Council Colleagues, my vision for the Council Presidency has been to create a local government that is inclusive, equitable, transparent, and accountable. The first step was to create a workplan that is clear about the Council's priorities this year.

- ["Budget Season" is Beginning](#)

The months of April, May, and June are "Budget Season" at the City. During this time, budget review hearings are held at Council regarding the Mayor's proposed budget for the upcoming year. This is a good time to come forward with questions and information that helps shape the new budget.

- [Continuing to Move Policy for More Affordable Housing, Transit, and other Community Priorities](#)

I remain committed to bringing forward policies that make a real difference for our communities and I am happy to report that we are seeing the outcomes of policies that were passed in previous years.

I invite you to read this month's newsletter and to reach out to me via email, phone, your Council Representatives, and at my office hours in the community.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Georgette Gómez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

## Setting the Agenda for 2019

In January, I released my 2019 Council President's Workplan for the City Council. My colleagues on the Council have shared their feedback and in early April, the final Workplan will be shared at City Council.

This plan is a first for City Council and serves to foster a stronger relationship with my council colleagues and the Mayor around the City's top priority problems and through developing implementable solutions.

I look forward to aligning and prioritizing our efforts around the policies below.

I invite you to view the full Workplan on my website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd9>



### Council President's 2019 Workplan for the City Council

1. Restructuring Council Administration to further support all council offices
2. Addressing our unsheltered population
3. Reinforcing and establishing new tenant protections
4. Continuing to develop innovative housing solutions
5. Achieving targeted economic development in our communities
6. Proactively protecting our environment and implementing our Climate Action Plan
7. Reforming and transforming public safety throughout our communities
8. Increasing the City's grant outreach and coordination
9. Providing responsive and timely constituent services and adopting a human capital plan

## Policy Changes Making a Difference

### Building More Affordable Housing

Last Fall, my proposal to prioritize partnerships to build affordable housing at trolley stops was approved by the Metropolitan Transit System Board. Now, new housing is on its way at the following:

Location	Number of units
<b><i>Negotiations started:</i></b>	
Palm Avenue Trolley Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 150 low-income units ( 30%-60% area median income - for example, an individual earning \$20,350—\$40,920 per year)</li><li>• (100 middle-income units (80% - 120% area median income - for example, an individual earning \$54,500—\$85,875 per year)</li></ul>
<b><i>Competitive bidding started:</i></b>	
12th & Imperial Trolley Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 960 homes (20% affordable units) in East Village</li></ul>
Grantville Trolley Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 185 affordable units + 240 student units in Grantville</li></ul>

# Creating a Shared Vision of Transit for San Diego

Over the last few months, the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) took the first steps to creating a shared vision of transit for all San Diegans, including conducting a preliminary poll that shows that San Diegans support taxing themselves to invest in a transit system that works for them.

***"We are taking the next steps to creating a shared vision of the San Diego we want to see and this includes real public transit choice in how residents move throughout their day," said MTS Board Chair and San Diego City Council President Georgette Gómez.***



The next nine months will see a robust public participation plan to shape the transit that will help us now and in the future. Outreach will include forums in the community and at transit stops, convening a Community Advisory Committee of nonprofits who serve those who use transit or have transportation as part of their mission, industry-specific focus group. Look in your mailbox, your email inbox, and on social media for the various ways you can participate and help shape the vision of transit for San Diego.

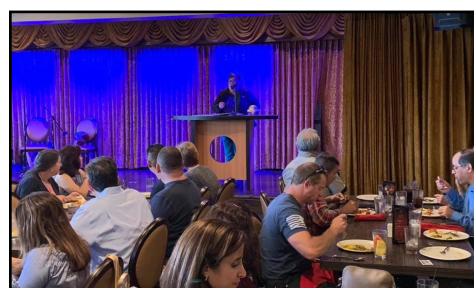
## Celebrating the Diversity of District Nine & San Diego



Mobility Tour with Disability Advocate Kimbrah Gonzalez



Ocean Discovery Institute—City Heights



Norouz (Persian New Year) - Assoc. of Iranian American City Employees



Little Saigon Freeway Signs on I-15



Rolando Community Council Succulent Swap



Penelope's Mexican Food Grand Opening - Rolando/El Cerrito



Southeastern Little League Opening Day



Community Forum on Domestic Violence



STEMFEST: Inspiring youth to study math and science



National Association of Eritrean Women, San Diego Chapter



Sayulita's Mexican Food Grand Opening, - Southcrest



# FY 2020 Budget Hearings Begin

In January of every year, City Council members submit their priorities for the upcoming year's budget.

My full budget priorities and those of my Council colleagues can be found on my City Council website. My priorities include:

- Ensure investment in underserved communities.
- Maximize opportunities that support affordable housing and create well-paying jobs.
- Prioritize investments in communities that need them the most.
- City projects should deliver concrete community and environmental benefits and meet our Climate Action Plan goals.

Key dates and public hearings are below. I encourage you to read the documents, ask questions, and advocate for your neighborhoods in person at the hearings or through reaching out to my office on the phone, email, and through your Council Representatives.

## **Budget Town Hall**

### **Join Us!**

**Date:** May 9, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** Performance Annex  
(By the City Heights Library)  
3795 Fairmount Ave  
San Diego, CA 92105

**RSVP:** Anna Medina  
AOchoaMedina@sandiego.gov  
(619) 236-7042

## **Budget Resources**

### **Council Budget Priorities**

<https://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd9>

### **IBA Guide to the Budget Process**

<https://www.sandiego.gov/iba>

### **IBA Guide to Infrastructure**

<https://www.sandiego.gov/iba>

## **FY 2020 Budget Key Dates**

Fri, April 12	Mayor releases FY2020 Proposed Budget	
Mon, April 15	Mayor presents FY 2020 Proposed Budget at City Council	2:00 p.m.
Fri, April 26	Independent Budget Analyst releases Review of Mayor's FY 2020 Proposed Budget	
Wed, May 1-Fri, May 3	Budget Review Committee	9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
<b>Wed, May 1</b>	<b>Budget Review Committee—Evening Hearing</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
Mon, May 6—Wed, May 8	Budget Review Committee	9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
<b>Mon, May 13</b>	<b>City Council meeting on Budget—Evening Hearing</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
Tue, May 14	Mayor releases May Revision to FY 2020 Proposed Budget	
Mon, June 3	Independent Budget Analyst releases final report on City Council modifications to Mayor's FY 2020 Proposed Budget	
Mon, June 10	City Council votes on FY 2020 Budget	2:00 p.m.
Mon, July 1	First Day of FY 2020 Budget	

## Reforming and Transforming Public Safety

Improving the quality of life through safer and more livable neighborhoods for underserved communities is a priority in my Workplan for the City Council.

One of the first steps is to rebuild trust between our communities and our San Diego Police Department, including developing policies that improve accountability and transparency within the department and our communities.

Last November, Aleah Jenkins died while in-custody of the San Diego Police Department following a traffic stop. There are questions regarding the treatment of Ms. Jenkins during this tragic interaction.

Councilmember Montgomery and I have formally requested that the State of California's Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General conduct an independent investigation of the events that led to the in-custody death of Aleah Jenkins. We also call on the San Diego Police Department to revise its Paramedic and Emergency Treatment Policy.

Our offices will continue to work closely with the community and will work to implement the policy accountability measures outlined in the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhood Committee's Workplan.

*"It was very heart-wrenching to hear Ms. Jenkins asking for help and water for over an hour after vomiting and no assistance was rendered. The treatment displayed in the video further supports the need to reform our policing policies," said Councilmember Monica Montgomery.*

*"I am deeply troubled about the treatment of Ms. Jenkins while in custody. The video clearly indicates a decline in her well-being. We must all strive to do better to respect the basic human rights of everyone in custody," said Council President Georgette Gómez.*

## Policy Changes Making a Difference

### Increasing Ridership on Buses and Trolleys



In the Fall, the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) made small changes to 12 popular bus routes throughout San Diego, mainly increasing the frequency of the buses on the routes.

In the seven months since the changes, ridership on these 12 bus routes increased by 6%.

Overall ridership on all bus and trolley lines increased by 200,000 trips in the same seven months.

***"This is great news for the goals of the region's various Climate Action Plans and for riders. This shows there is a real mandate to invest in improving transit," said Council President Georgette Gómez.***

In December, the South Bay Rapid Bus service began, connecting Otay Mesa to Downtown San Diego, and a new transit center opened across from the Otay Mesa border crossing. Both routes connect more San Diegans to where they want to go.

### Helping Families Find and Stay in Their Housing



Last year, the City Council passed my proposed ordinance barring landlords from rejecting applicants for rental housing because they use rental subsidies, like Section 8.

***"All we are asking is that landlords allow Section 8 to apply and to evaluate (recipients) in the same way as any other applicant."***

The law goes into effect in August but many landlords are already abiding by the new law, making it easier for families to find and keep their housing.

For more information or for assistance, contact the San Diego Housing Commission (see Resources section on back page) or the Legal Aid Society of San Diego at (800) 735-2929.

## Resources and Events

### You're Invited to Join Team Gómez at the 17th Annual Creek to Bay Cleanup



**Date:** April 27, 2019, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Location:** Several sites across D9.  
Check our website for locations.

**RSVP:** Gloria Cruz Cardenas  
GCardenas@sandiego.gov  
(619) 236-6681

### Office Hours

Schedule an appointment or drop-in at my community office hours.

Email Brenda Lugo at BLugo@sandiego.gov or call (619) 236-6699 to schedule an appointment.

**When:** Fridays, 2:30 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

**Where:** City Heights Recreation Center  
(Tennis Court Entrance)  
4380 Landis Street, San Diego, 92105

### Family Justice Center

Dedicated to helping people who are experiencing family violence.

For more info: (866) 933-4673

**Domestic Violence Hotline (888) 385-4657**

### Housing Commission

Help with affordable housing & Section 8

For more info: (619) 578-7553

### Status of City Construction Projects

Questions about City Public Works, Capital Improvements, or Paving Projects?

<https://www.sandiego.gov/cip/projectinfo> or (619) 533-4207

### Get It Done App & Website

Report Non-Emergency problems using the app or online at:

[www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done](http://www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done)



### Your District 9 Community Representatives:



**Gloria Cruz**

(619) 236-6681

GCardenas@sandiego.gov

Mount Hope, Mountain View, Southcrest,



**Sanna Loando**

(619) 533-4774

SLoando@sandiego.gov

Alvarado Estates, College Area,  
College View Estates, Kensington,  
Talmadge



**Anna Medina**

(619) 236-7042

AOchoaMedina@sandiego.gov

Azalea Park, Castle, Cherokee Point,  
Fairmount Village, Swan Canyon,  
Mountain View, Ridgeview, Bayridge,  
Fairmount Park,



**Christopher**

**"Stopher" Vallejo**

619-236-6725

CVallejo@sandiego.gov

El Cerrito, Rolando Village, Colina Park,  
Corridor, Teralta - East & West, Chollas  
Creek, Fox Canyon, Islenair

### Contact Us:

202 C Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor

San Diego, CA 92101

(619) 236-6699

georgettegomez@sandiego.gov

### Stay Connected:



[www.sandiego.gov/cd9](http://www.sandiego.gov/cd9)



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