




**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT GEORGETTE GÓMEZ
NINTH DISTRICT**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: August 5, 2019
TO: Honorable Mayor Kevin Faulconer
FROM: Council President Georgette Gómez, Ninth Council District 
SUBJECT: Proposed Transitional Storage Facility in Chollas Triangle on Lea Street

The purpose of this memo is to respectfully request additional information and commitments relating to the proposed storage facility in Chollas Triangle. It is my hope that we are able to address the more immediate concerns relating to the placement of the site, as well as long-term interests of the surrounding communities.

Housing our unsheltered population is a shared priority, and I stand by my commitment to uplift the quality of life in our neighborhoods including our most vulnerable populations. I recognize that the presence of unsheltered San Diegans living in the canyons and watershed of the Chollas Triangle demonstrates a need for a facility to provide services and access to permanent housing.

Throughout this proposal's outreach process, I have heard concerns of adjacent community residents, business owners, and property owners. Some residents have expressed concerns related to an increase in debris, illicit activity, and neighborhood security. Additionally, some have expressed concerns regarding outreach to surrounding communities and a lack of public infrastructure investment in Chollas Triangle.

Specifically, at the town hall held on July 11, City staff communicated short-term commitments to address these concerns, including increasing City presence, infrastructure improvements, and beautification of the surrounding community. In an effort to better communicate and be transparent with our constituents, I respectfully request more information related to the specific short-term improvements our communities can expect.

In addition to these above short-term commitments, I also hope that the City can invest in creating a General Development Plan and Capital Improvement Project to conduct a feasibility study along Chollas Parkway between 54th Street and University Avenue to advance a road

closure and ultimately the development of a community park, consistent with the 2015 Chollas Triangle Master Plan. The Mid-City Public Facilities Financing Plan has the approximate cost of the Chollas Triangle Street Closure & Park Development listed at \$5,000,000. I respectfully request that the City begin this process by funding the General Development Plan for the future park, estimated at \$400,000, in the City's FY 2020 Mid-Year Budget Revise. The commitment to hiring a consultant and starting a community process is a high priority that has been listed in our budget priority memoranda for three years, and our communities and stakeholders look to the City to ensure this park is delivered.

As Council President it has been my duty to listen and advocate to meet the needs of all San Diegans, both unsheltered and not. I urge the City to continue engaging our Chollas Triangle neighbors, including the impacted adjacent Redwood Village and Oak Park communities, to ensure an equitable and transparent process that incorporates the community's feedback.

Thank you for your consideration of these commitments. I look forward to your response and a continued dialogue between our offices and the community as we work to address our homeless and housing crisis.

cc: Hon. Councilmember Monica Montgomery, Fourth District
Kris Michell, Chief Operating Officer
Aimee Faucett, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Robert Vacchi, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Neighborhood Services
Francis Barraza, Deputy Chief of Staff for Community Engagement, Office of the Mayor
Jessica Lawrence, Director of Finance Policy & Council Affairs, Office of the Mayor
Keely Halsey, Chief of Homelessness Strategies & Housing Liaison
Sarah Jarman, Senior Advisor, Homelessness Strategies
Eric Young II, Community Representative, Office of the Mayor