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City Council Approves Vendor Contracts for I-15/Mid-City Bridge Decks

Agreements Bring Increased Economic Vitality, Walkability

SAN DIEGO – Today, the City Council approved (9-0) agreements with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) that will allow small businesses to rent space at the El Cajon Boulevard and University Avenue transit plazas (or bridge decks) above Interstate 15.

Council President Georgette Gómez said, “The ability to activate the El Cajon Boulevard bridge decks for both residents and transit commuters is an exciting opportunity to bring even more economic vitality and walkability to this vibrant area. This is an example of strong local and state partnerships to strengthen our communities.”

The City Heights community has been eager to activate this area that spans the I-15 between North Park and Mid-City. The action today will allow local businesses to set up shop on the bridge decks to not only increase their economic return but also walkability along the transit routes.

In 1985, the City of San Diego and Caltrans entered into an agreement for the construction of Interstate 15 freeway and bridge decks through Mid-City communities. As part of the original agreement, the City was granted rights for any parks or other developments on decks spanning the freeway. With today's action, the City is taking the next step to enable vendors to activate the bridge deck plaza areas on El Cajon Boulevard and University Avenue.

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Council President Georgette Gómez represents the Ninth Council District of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Alvarado Estates, City Heights, College Area, College View Estates, El Cerrito, Kensington, Mountain View, Mt. Hope, Rolando, Southcrest, and Talmadge. She chairs the City of San Diego Rules Committee, is a board member of the Metropolitan Transit System, and sits on the SANDAG Board of Directors and Executive Committee.