



Office of Council President

Georgette Gómez

UPDATE
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Need Help Finding Resources? The County's 2-1-1 System can help, in many languages. Call 211 on your phone or visit <https://211sandiego.org/>. For City of San Diego COVID-19 updates, visit: <https://www.sandiego.gov/coronavirus>

Dear District Nine Residents,

As we head into the holiday weekend, please stay safe and continue to follow the public health guidelines: wear a face covering, socially distance when around others not in your household, and wash your hands. These actions protect others as well as yourself. We are all in this together. Let's take care of each other.

On June 30, the City Council voted on two items to provide relief to San Diegans during the COVID-19 crisis:

- Extend the **Residential and Small Business Eviction Moratorium**. The ban, which had been scheduled to expire June 30, will be in effect until Sept. 30. For more information, visit the [San Diego Housing Commission website](#).
- To create a \$15.1 million additional **rental assistance** program through the San Diego Housing Commission. Information and applications will be available soon on the [San Diego Housing Commission website](#).

"I am pleased that we created a rent-relief program for families and individuals who have lost significant income as a result of the pandemic that may be facing eviction. Today we took action to extend the ban on evictions to give our residents and businesses peace of mind. In July, I plan to bring forward additional proposals focused on eviction relief."

The Council also approved the purchase and sale agreement for **SDSU Mission Valley**. This was the second required vote on two ordinances. It will go into escrow following the Mayor's signature and is expected to close by mid-August.

Ballot Initiative: Independent Commission on Police Practices

In a unanimous vote Tuesday, June 23, the City Council passed a resolution declaring an intent to place an initiative on the November ballot that would create an Independent Commission on Police Practices in San Diego. The Council will officially vote to place the measure on the ballot on **July 7**.

The new investigatory body would operate independently from the Mayor and the Police Department, have full-time legal counsel and subpoena power to compel witness testimony and seek records. Commissioners would be appointed by the City Council. See the draft changes to the San Diego City Charter [here](#).

"Today's action is a big step in the right direction toward real accountability and transparency. The Council's vote demonstrates our commitment to meaningful public-safety reform. In particular, I want to thank Councilmember Monica Montgomery for her leadership on this critical issue. I'm also grateful to Women Occupy San Diego, San Diegans for Justice, the ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties, Mid-City CAN, and the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association for their passionate advocacy in moving this proposal forward."

FY2021 City Budget

June 8, the City Council passed the budget for the fiscal year that begins today, July 1. It was a [difficult decision](#).

This budget protects and creates a series of services and benefits that council members proposed which are critical for both our historical neighborhoods and our underserved communities of color, like District Nine. Services and programs that were slated to be cut in the Mayor's proposed budget have been restored including:

- All library hours have been restored, including the Mountain View/Beckwourth library which was slated for permanent closure.
- All Park and Recreation hours have been restored, including swimming pools and aquatic programs.
- Weed and brush abatement has been restored, which is key as the region heads into fire season.
- Tree trimming and planting has been restored as well as funding to help meet the City's Climate Action Plan goals.
- Graffiti abatement has been restored.
- Enforcement of the City's Living Wage and Minimum Wage laws has been restored.

The budget also has new funding for:

- Investing \$1.5 million to move us away from our current system of outreach to unsheltered residents, in which police officers are a first point of contact, and toward [a proven, person-centered model led by social workers](#).
- An initial investment of \$22.6 million to preserve our current affordable housing and implement the San Diego Housing Commission's [Housing Preservation Program](#).
- A free or low-cost internet pilot program for low-income residents.
- Funding for more options to help our unsheltered neighbors get off the streets and into housing quickly.
- A new Office of Race and Equity to provide the space for the community and city to confront racial inequities together throughout city government, not just the Police Department.
- \$3 million for a Community Equity Fund to support organizations that do the hard work of addressing racial inequities and uplifting their communities.



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Around District Nine:



Fairmount Avenue was resurfaced and now has a new bike lane. I've been advocating for this and am happy to see it completed.



The **Mid-City Family and Senior Apartments** broke ground earlier this month at El Cajon Boulevard and 44th Street. Thank you to Price Philanthropies and Chelsea Development for their hard work and partnership.



Team Gómez joined San Diego Canyonlands for the June 20th **I Love a Clean San Diego Annual Creek to Bay** cleanup in Azalea Park.

Team Gómez helped distribute diapers to community organizations in City Heights. Thank you to all the groups that are working so hard to support families at this time. Special thanks to Price Philanthropies and the San Diego Food



For more information about City Council meetings or Council Committee meetings, visit [The People's Business](#).

In solidarity,

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