



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 San Diego Residents,

Keep taking care of each other during this pandemic crisis. Please continue to wear a facial covering, physically distance from people not in your household, and wash your hands. We are all in this together and the City has been taking action to provide relief and assistance. Recent actions include:

Giving Renters and Small Businesses More Time to Pay Rent

One-third of all Americans missed their last housing payment. We have to provide an opportunity for the assistance that is being passed by local, state, and federal levels to get to those who need it before they lose their homes and businesses.

In a first reading on July 28, the City Council voted 5-4 to approve my proposal to [extend the deadline for residents and small businesses to pay](#) any rent that they have been unable to pay due to financial hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic from September 30 to December 30. However, the ordinance will need to come back to Council for a second vote and is subject to the Mayor's veto.

Please contact your councilmember and share your support for helping your neighbors and local small businesses by extending the repayment period.

"I am grateful that a majority of my colleagues agrees that we need to give tenants harmed financially by COVID-19 more time to pay their rent. We are deep into an economically devastating health crisis. Residents are out of work. Small businesses are closed or suffering from lack of customers. This extension will give them added peace of mind. Now the federal government must step forward and provide more financial assistance to benefit renters, small businesses, and landlords."

Temporary Outdoor Operating Permits for Businesses

The City Council approved emergency regulations to allow San Diego businesses to temporarily operate outside. The following businesses can apply [online](#):

- Eating and drinking establishments
- Retail and wholesale businesses
- Gyms and fitness centers
- Instructional studios
- Personal services, including hair and nail salons
- Massage establishments
- Religious assembly

Targeted Small Business Assistance

August 4, the City Council approved \$700,000 of Federal CARES Act funds for businesses in historically underserved areas of the City, including those located in Promise Zones, Opportunity Zones, Low-to-Moderate Census Tracts, and other areas impacted significantly by COVID-19.

Businesses will be eligible for grants from \$1,000 to \$5,000 used to purchase personal protection equipment and cleaning materials, maintain staff on payroll, or meet existing payments like rent and utilities.

The funding would also support citywide specialized outreach to target at-risk businesses by offering informational resources and help identifying further relief opportunities. More information about the application will be coming in the next few weeks on the [City of San Diego Coronavirus webpage](#).

Parking Enforcement

The City is limiting parking enforcement and issuance of citations to holiday or Sunday enforcement regulations until Sept. 1, 2020. Citations will continue to be issued for vehicles parked illegally at red, white and blue painted curbs.

Food Assistance

The City's Park and Recreation Department is partnering with the San Diego Parks Foundation, Feeding San Diego, and Albertsons Companies' Nourishing Neighbors program to help feed children this summer. To meet the needs of the community, members of the public will be able to pick up prepared 'to go' lunch and breakfast for children ages 18 and under at a dozen City recreation centers throughout the summer. Find locations on the City's [Park and Rec webpage](#).

[San Diego Unified School District](#), [Feeding San Diego](#), [the San Diego Hunger Coalition](#) and [the San Diego Food Bank](#) also have additional resources and sites for families in San Diego.

PROTECTING AND ENHANCING THE POWER OF COMMUNITIES

To increase the diversity and power of community voice in the City's decision-making process, I brought forward amendments to the Municipal Code and Council policies that govern the City's [Advisory Boards and Commissions](#). On July 28, the City Council approved my proposal, 8-1.

August 6, the City Council passed my [resolution affirming the First Amendment rights of American citizens](#) and denouncing unlawful tactics used by the United States government against protestors peacefully engaged in constitutionally protected activities on the streets of America's communities.

"Seeing an escalation of violence due to the presence of federal forces in places like Portland does not sit well with me or the majority of our City Council. I thank my Council colleagues for standing with me and the San Diego chapter of the Truman National Security Project in signaling to our residents that we fully support their First Amendment rights and that we condemn the use of unconstitutional activities by federal law enforcement agencies."



Office of Council President

Georgette Gómez

UPDATE
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HELPING ADDRESS THE HOUSING CRISIS:

Tuesday, July 21, the Council voted unanimously to allow movable **tiny homes** in San Diego. They are cost-effective and require little space, making them a great way to help address our housing crisis. Thank you to Councilmember Sherman for his partnership in moving this forward. I look forward to seeing tiny homes throughout San Diego.

So much of our lives has moved online during COVID-19, including celebrations. I want to thank the **San Diego Housing Commission** and its members for choosing me as the 2020 winner of the John Craven Memorial Award for their 30th Annual Ruby Awards. This award honors public servants for their dedication to affordable housing in the memory of John Craven, who did so much for the residents of San Diego. I am truly honored.

Around District Nine:

District Nine's first Slow Street is here!

During the COVID-19 crisis, cities nationwide are making streets safer/friendlier for walking & biking. District Nine's first slow street is in the College Area on Saranac St, from 67th to 70th, next to Harriet Tubman Village Charter School.

Islenair Historic District Street Signs

I was happy to help the residents of the Islenair community navigate the City process to get historic district markers installed on street signs throughout the neighborhood. They look great!

Chollas Triangle Park is on its way!

In 2015, the Mid-City Community Plan was amended to include a 5-acre park and the restoration of Chollas Creek adjacent to the park. It is an important improvement in quality of life for El Cerrito neighbors. It has been a priority of mine in every city budget discussion since I was elected. I'm excited that the project is moving forward.

Last year, I fought for funding for parks in District Nine. The Council allocated \$400,000 for the preliminary engineering phase, or evaluating the space for the future park and the options for its future amenities like space for games and sports, picnics, bikeways, landscaping, and more.

This phase has been completed and City staff will begin the next phase which is to create a general development plan to design the park over the next 12-18 months with significant community engagement. When the public meetings are scheduled, I will share that information so you can provide input.

CLEAN CANYONS FOR A CLEAN COAST VIRTUAL CLEANUP IN CITY HEIGHTS, SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 8:00 A.M TO 11:00 A.M.

Join I Love A Clean San Diego and San Diego Canyonlands 8a-11a on August 15 for the Clean Canyons for a Clean Coast Virtual Cleanup in City Heights. Learn more and register at www.cleanSD.org.

In Solidarity,

"We have to attack the housing crisis from every possible angle. The Housing Action Plan I released in 2017 included adding tiny homes to our housing mix because it's a commonsense, low-cost option that can work for many San Diegans struggling to find an affordable place to live. It's a great way to encourage property owners to be part of the solution."



San Diego Housing Federation

July 23 at 5:24 PM · 🌐

John Craven Memorial

Winner: Georgette Gomez, Council President

Congrats to Council President **Georgette Gomez** on her Ruby Award! Her passionate for affordable housing is clear and under her leadership she has increased funding for new affordable homes. #30thRubyAwards



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