

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



SAN DIEGO DISTRICT 9



oFood



**SEAN
ELO-RIVERA**
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
COUNCILMEMBER FOR DISTRICT 9



Intro From Sean

So much has happened in District 9, San Diego, and the world since we entered office in December 2020. There have been ups and downs, tragedies and heroics, and everything in between. Over the course of the past year, what stood out most was the benefits of commitment to cause and persistence.

Many of our highlights from the year are the results of efforts that have persisted for years. Investments in parks, expansions in housing rights, and financial commitment to youth opportunity are all examples of community wins the community spent years fighting for. Oftentimes, these efforts took far longer than they should have, but nonetheless persistence paid off and we are all better off for it.

It isn't just the wins of the past year that inspire me. It's the seeds I've seen planted over the past year as well. Neighborhood groups that had long sat dormant and are now reactivated and making progress in highlighting their needs, the once small group of neighbors who were gathering for community cleanups that has now grown to dozens of folks meeting on a regular basis to remove hundreds of pounds of garbage, and the small group of residents

who responded to a neighborhood tragedy by taking action to improve street safety. It's not hard to see the potential in each of these individual efforts and, even more exciting to me, the potential for our whole community if the seeds planted this past year are giving the persistent love and attention needed to bloom.

It's an incredible honor to work with you and my team to make these improvements in our community. I hope you are just as proud as I am of all we accomplished over the past year.

With gratitude,

SEAN ELO-RIVERA

City Council Member, District 9

Committees and Boards Sean Served On

SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

- ◆ Rules Committee, Chair
- ◆ Community and Neighborhood Services Committee, Vice Chair

EXTERNAL COMMITTEES AND BOARDS:

- ◆ San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Board of Directors, Representative & Vice Chair
- ◆ SANDAG Executive Committee, Representative & Vice Chair
- ◆ SANDAG Borders Committee, Alternate
- ◆ San Diego Consortium Policy Board (Workforce Partnership), Second Rep.
- ◆ San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Board of Directors, Board Representative
- ◆ MTS Executive Committee, Representative
- ◆ MTS Budget Development Committee, Representative
- ◆ MTS Taxicab Committee, Representative & Chair
- ◆ MTS Airport Authority Advisory Committee, Representative
- ◆ San Diego County Air Pollution Control District, Governing Board Member
- ◆ Cradle to Careers Board of Directors, Appointed Representative
- ◆ Community Action Plan on Homelessness Leadership Council
- ◆ San Diego Promise Development Committee



Constituent Engagement

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND MEETINGS, INCLUDING:

 **200+**
Community
meetings and events

 **3**
Budget forums

 **700+**
Individual Constituent
Casework





Youth Leadership Development

D9 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Investing in youth leaders is important. True to our word of creating meaningful pipelines of opportunities for our community, our office has been grateful to have several interns support our office with administrative, community, policy and communications work.

**Meet our 2023-2024
Field Representative Cohort!**



Daniela Garcia Cervantes



Bryan Bello



Addisalem Tekle



Julia Nemeroff



Gino Rodriguez



Budget Wins

CITYWIDE

With housing and homelessness as our most pressing civic issues, Council President Elo-Rivera led on making several investments through the Fiscal Year 2024 budget to address these crises, especially on preventing homelessness:

- ◆ **Eviction Prevention Program**
- ◆ **Tenant Protection Ordinance implementation**
- ◆ **Housing Instability Prevention Program**
- ◆ **Improvements to and support for the Neil Good Day Center**
- ◆ **Continued support for LGBTQ Affirming Shelter Beds and Wrap-Around Services**
- ◆ **Continued support for existing City shelters**
- ◆ **Continued support for homelessness outreach efforts**
- ◆ **New funding for safe parking and sleeping sites**

Council President Elo-Rivera also led on the following investments in projects, programs and services that will serve San Diego residents citywide, including:

- ◆ **\$2.2 million to Energy Independence Fund, which Council President Elo-Rivera established to plan for San Diego's energy future.**
- ◆ **Pay increases for City workers so we can recruit and retain the workers we need to deliver the services our residents expect and deserve.**
- ◆ **Broadband internet access expansion**
- ◆ **New staffing to implement the Climate Action Plan**
- ◆ **New staffing and support for City lifeguards**
- ◆ **New staffing for Fire Department**
- ◆ **New civilian staffing to support the Police Department**
- ◆ **Weed abatement and fire prevention**
- ◆ **\$104 million in road repairs**
- ◆ **Increased investments in street safety and traffic calming**
- ◆ **Increased staffing for and investments in urban forestry**
- ◆ **Investments in fixing streetlights**
- ◆ **Support for the arts and culture community, including World Design Capital San Diego-Tijuana 2024.**
- ◆ **Continued support for the Small Business Enhancement Program**
- ◆ **More funding for library maintenance and materials**



DISTRICT-WIDE

Council President Elo-Rivera helped secure almost \$40 million in infrastructure projects throughout Council District 9. These projects will result in new sidewalks, repaved roads, improved parks and repaid streetlights.

Mt. Hope

- ◆ Park lighting and safety improvements at Dennis V. Allen Park.

City Heights

- ◆ Park lighting and safety improvements at Colina del Sol Park.
- ◆ Park lighting and safety improvements at Azalea Park.
- ◆ City Heights Sidewalks and Streetlights – new sidewalks and infrastructure improvements on Euclid Avenue.
- ◆ El Cajon Boulevard traffic calming – three new Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at the intersections of El Cajon Boulevard with Altadena Ave, 50th St and 58th St.
- ◆ Federal Boulevard improvements - project design and construction of sidewalk improvements and stormwater upgrades.
- ◆ Chollas Creek Oak Park Trail construction
- ◆ City Heights Library Performance Annex improvements
- ◆ City Heights Urban Village/Officer Jeremy Henwood Memorial Park improvements

College Area

- ◆ Montezuma pipeline project – new potable water pipelines and road resurfacing on Mohawk Street and 70th Street
- ◆ Sidewalks on 70th Street – new sidewalk on the west side of 70th street between Alvarado Road and Saranac Street.

Rolando Park

- ◆ Street safety - improved safety through the provision of traffic signal modifications and upgrades, associated improvements and by addressing accessibility needs at the intersections of 58th Street at University Avenue, Aragon Drive at University Avenue and College Avenue at Judy McCarty Way.

- ◆ Streamview Drive improvements - installation of roundabouts, new raised median, new sidewalk including curb and gutter, Class II bike lanes, and traffic circles on Streamview Drive from 54th Street to Michael St, and on Streamview Drive from Gayle St to College Ave.

Rolando Village

- ◆ Funding for Clay Park improvements, which include new playground, shade structures, security lighting, and more.
- ◆ Overall Street safety - improved safety through the provision of traffic signal modifications and upgrades, associated improvements and by addressing accessibility needs at the intersections of 58th Street at University Avenue, Aragon Drive at University Ave. and College Avenue at Judy McCarty Way.
- ◆ Streamview Drive improvements - installation of roundabouts, new raised median, new sidewalk including curb and gutter, Class II bike lanes, and traffic circles on Streamview Drive from 54th Street to Michael St, and on Streamview Drive from Gayle St to College Ave.

Normal Heights

- ◆ Expansion of Ward Canyon Park

Talmadge

- ◆ El Cajon Boulevard traffic calming – installation three new Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at the intersections of El Cajon Boulevard with Altadena Ave, 50th St and 58th St.

El Cerrito

- ◆ El Cajon Boulevard traffic calming – installation of three new Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at the intersections of El Cajon Boulevard with Altadena Ave, 50th St and 58th St.



Policy Wins

Bettering the lives of our District 9 constituents is at the heart of everything we do. Affecting public policy is a key part of that.

Below are policies our office championed that advance these three core values:

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Resolution Declaring Housing is a Human Right

Right – The City Council voted to declare its support for the right to housing as a fundamental human right and reaffirmed its commitment to providing more housing and services geared toward putting a roof over the head of every San Diegan. Council President Elo-Rivera brought this resolution forward as a values statement and invitation for accountability for the City to uphold the dignity and rights of San Diego residents.

Residential Tenant Protections Ordinance – Demonstrating the Council President’s commitment to housing as a human right, Council President Elo-Rivera lead the effort to bring diverse stakeholders to the table and craft tenant protections informed both by tenant advocates and housing providers. The landmark protections provide tenants with protections on day one, financial relocation assistance for renters forced to move out for no fault of their own, and strict noticing and accountability measures to rebalance power between renters and their landlords.

“Seniors Safe at Home” Homelessness Prevention Program – Council President Sean Elo-Rivera worked with local philanthropy and helped support the “Seniors Safe at Home” program, which received a \$500,000 investment from the Lucky Duck Foundation to provide partial rental subsidies needed to stabilize seniors’ housing to prevent homelessness.



GOVERNANCE

San Diego Housing Commission CEO recruitment – Last year, Council President Elo-Rivera appointed a committee to recruit a new Chief Executive Office of the San Diego Housing Commission, which administers critical affordable housing, homelessness, and rental voucher programs. In December 2023, the City Council approved the hiring of Lisa Jones as the Housing Commission's CEO.

Ethics Commission appointments – In keeping with his commitment to good governance and transparency, Council President Elo-Rivera nominated a member to the Ethics Commission in November. Along with other nominees confirmed by the City Council, the Ethics Commission currently has a full board, which allows it to carry out its essential duties of monitoring, administering, and enforcing the City's governmental ethics laws.

Changes to community funding program – The City's Community Projects, Programs, and Services (CPPS) funding is awarded to nonprofit organizations and public agencies for community, social, environmental, cultural, and recreational needs. Council President Elo-Rivera led the charge on changing program rules that allow more organizations to make use of this funding and to make the funding easier to use.

California Business Round Table Initiative Opposition Resolution – Council President Elo-Rivera brought forward a resolution to formally oppose the deceptive "Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act," which would shield multimillion-dollar corporations from local accountability measures and put at risk millions of dollars that fund our city's core services.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Commission on Police Practices – Under Council President Elo-Rivera's leadership, the City Council appointed the initial commissioners to the City's new Commission on Police Practices, which is now reviewing cases while developing the bylaws and governance for this independent commission following 2020's successful Measure B.

Youth Drop-in Centers – Council President Elo-Rivera supported the funding of an innovative violence interruption program that provide youth safe places to go, known as "drop-in centers." Community members have long sought funding for this program and Council President Elo-Rivera was proud to support their proposal.

TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

Youth Opportunity Passes – As SANDAG Vice Chair, Council President Elo-Rivera led the push to allocate \$13 million to fund and extend the Youth Opportunity Passes until 2026. The Youth Opportunity Passes provide youth 18 and under with free transit passes to use on the MTS and NCTD transit systems.



Bikeway Infrastructure Projects – In the fall, Council President Elo-Rivera advocated and successfully allocated \$30 million dollars to finish several bikeway infrastructure projects within the City of San Diego. Specifically:

- ♦ **Eastern Hillcrest Bikeway**
- ♦ **Pershing Drive Bikeway**
- ♦ **Downtown to Imperial Bikeway**
- ♦ **North Park/Mid-City Bikeways: University Bikeway**
- ♦ **Barrio Logan Bikeway**
- ♦ **Inland Rail Trail Phase 2 (North County)**

PRONTO Extend – As an MTS Board member, Council President Elo-Rivera successfully added the PRONTO Extend pilot program into the MTS annual operating budget, transitioning the pilot into a permanent program. The PRONTO Extend program provides free transit passes to transitional age foster youth 24 and under around our region.

Rapid 625 Planning – As the Council representative for San Diego State and the College Area, Council President Elo-Rivera was able to secure \$10 million dollars for SANDAG to conduct the advance planning of the future Rapid 625 bus. The Rapid 625 bus would reduce traffic in the College Area by increasing student ridership of public transportation.

New Bathrooms at MTS Transit Oriented Developments – Council President Elo-Rivera led the MTS Board in the negotiations to require housing developers building on MTS owned parcels, to build new public bathrooms as part of their projects.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

New City Heights BID Administrator - The City Heights business community's vibrancy is very near and dear to Council President Elo-Rivera's heart. With its broad variety of small, local businesses, Council President strives to ensure that all businesses receive world-class services, not only to operate, but to thrive. The City Heights Business Improvement District is a geographically recognized area within District 9 that serves to provide resources, technical assistance, and other helpful services to businesses in City Heights. This year, Council President Elo-Rivera worked to have the City Heights Community Development Corporation (CHCDC) take on the role of administrator for the City Heights Business Improvement District. CHCDC has a strong relationship with City Heights and an expertise in serving the Community.





Community Wins

Below is a capture of some of the great work we have been able to do with our community members and partners.

CASTLE: The installation of 14 new streetlights in several locations in castle neighborhood were secured, with an expected completion date of Spring 2024.

CHEROKEE POINT: With the support of the San Diego Parks Foundation, the Park de la Cruz Community Center celebrated the opening of the new community garden. The garden has accessible garden beds, shade coverings and more for older adults, individuals with disabilities and other community volunteers.

CITY HEIGHTS: Community walks were organized with our AAPI (Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders) community to increase safety, especially amongst our elders.

COLINA DEL SOL: Colina Park community pool renovations began construction in early November 2024 and the pool is expected to reopen Spring 2024. In partnership with community members, a feasibility study for an off-leash dog park at Colina Park is also being advocated for.

COLLEGE AREA: In partnership with College Area Community Council, we hosted a joint cleanup that involved all major sub-communities within the College Area. The cleanup included a dumpster day, electronics recycling and an organized furniture removal.

COLLEGE AREA: A second year of quarterly meetings were coordinated by our office to ensure collaboration and communication is occurring across multiple stakeholders within the City and SDSU.



COLLEGE AREA: Streetlights around the area of Mary Lane and Dorothy were addressed, dramatically increasing safety in the College Area neighborhoods for families and students.

COLLEGE AREA: With support from our office, the Little Flower Mural was completed by the College Area Business District in partnership with ArtReach San Diego and the College Area Community Council.

CORRIDOR: A series of community cleanups throughout the neighborhood were coordinated in partnership with the Corridor Neighborhood Association.

EL CERRITO: Street improvements were secured, with Collier (between 54th and Austin) and Spartan Drive both being repaved after years of activism.

KENSINGTON: A pedestrian crosswalk was installed on Biona and Adams. There was also the addition of red curb painting on that corner and enhanced improvements to painted signs along Adams Avenue.

NORMAL HEIGHTS: New netting and fencing were installed at the Adams Recreation Center. Additionally, necessary fixes to park lighting were completed.

ROLANDO PARK: In collaboration with Rolando Park Community Council members, V-Calming devices were installed in and around the community. These devices will help deter speeding and encourage motorists to slow down.

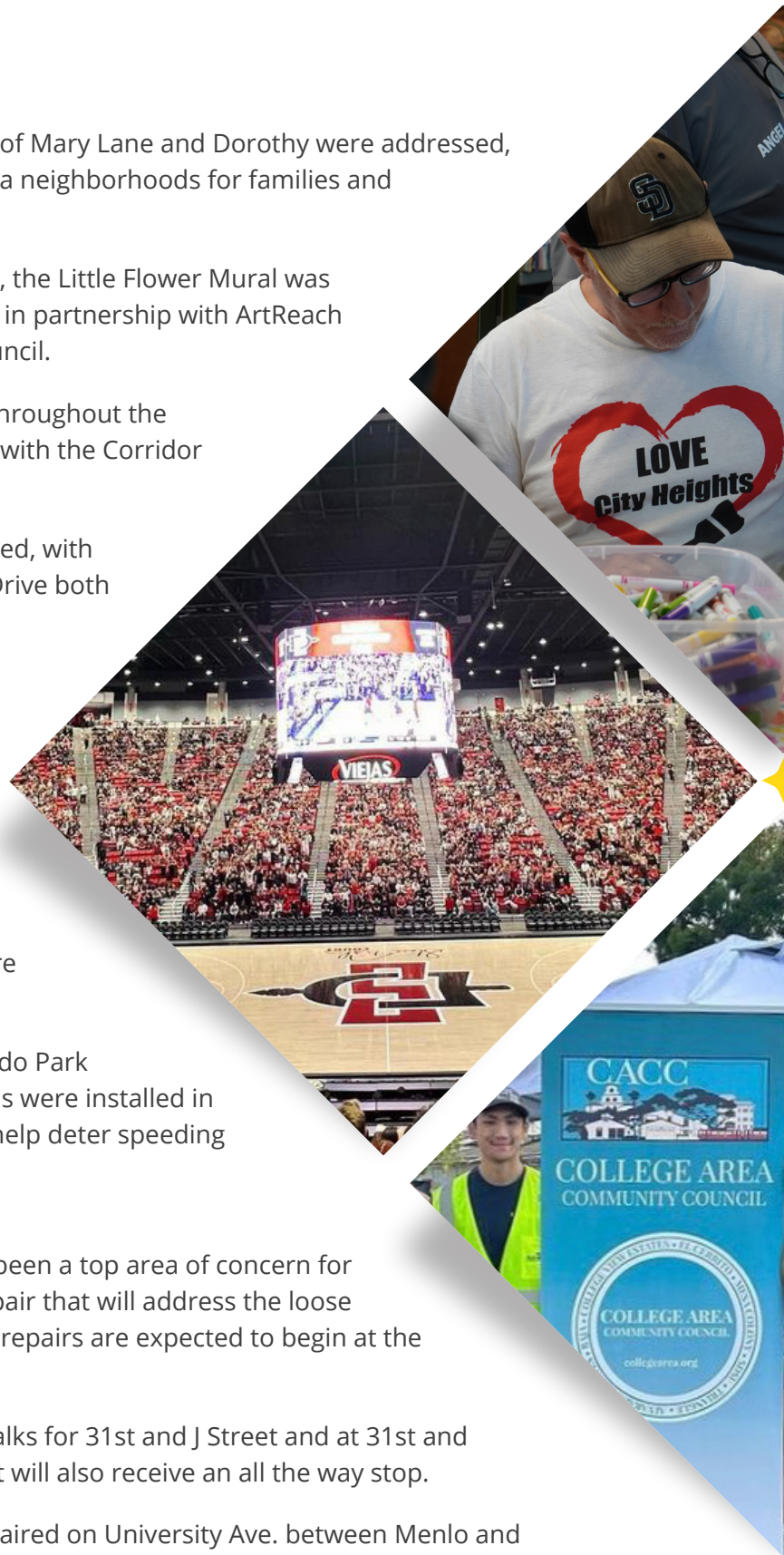
ROLANDO VILLAGE:

The intersection of Seminole and Bradford has been a top area of concern for residents. We secured a temporary localized repair that will address the loose asphalt within this intersection. The permanent repairs are expected to begin at the end of 2023.

STOCKTON: High visibility continental crosswalks for 31st and J Street and at 31st and K Streets have been approved. 31st and K Street will also receive an all the way stop.

TERALTA EAST: Multiple streetlights were repaired on University Ave. between Menlo and Highland avenues.

TERALTA WEST: The long-awaited Teralta Park mural was completed during the summer of 2023.





District 9 Communities

We are honored to have the following neighborhoods in our district:

- ✦ **ROLANDO PARK**
- ✦ **REDWOOD VILLAGE**
- ✦ **STOCKTON**
- ✦ **MISSION VALLEY EAST**
- ✦ **NORMAL HEIGHTS**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - AZALEA PARK**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - BAYRIDGE**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - CASTLE**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - CHEROKEE POINT**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - CHOLLAS CREEK**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - COLINA PARK**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - CORRIDOR**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - FAIRMOUNT PARK**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - FAIRMOUNT VILLAGE**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - FOX CANYON**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - HOLLYWOOD PARK**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - ISLENAIR**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - SWAN CANYON**
- ✦ **CITY HEIGHTS - TERALTA EAST & WEST**
- ✦ **COLLEGE AREA**
- ✦ **EL CERRITO**
- ✦ **KENSINGTON**
- ✦ **MOUNTAIN VIEW**
- ✦ **MOUNT HOPE**
- ✦ **ROLANDO VILLAGE**
- ✦ **TALMADGE**





Community Cleanups

Through our 20+ dumpster days and litter cleanups across the district, we have collected nearly

60 tons of trash!

We want to give a special thanks to the following partners for your collaboration on keeping our neighborhoods clean.

- ◆ Cherokee Point Elementary
- ◆ College Area Business District
- ◆ College Area Community Council
- ◆ Conam Management
- ◆ Corridor Neighborhood Association
- ◆ Environmental Services Department
- ◆ GEM Coffee
- ◆ Hoover High School
- ◆ I Love A Clean San Diego
- ◆ Rolando Park and Redwood Village Community Council
- ◆ SAY San Diego
- ◆ SDGE
- ◆ Stockton Community Group





Community Investments

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS (CPPS)

Funded a total of **24 organizations**, with grants ranging

**\$5K - \$10K, for a
total of \$150K.**

Investments were focused on several issues areas based on community needs and input, including:

- ◆ Youth
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Arts and Culture
- ◆ Parks

ARTS AND CULTURE (ACCF)

Funded a total of **8 organizations**, with grants ranging from

**\$5K - \$10K, for a
total of \$50K.**

Investments were focused on several issue areas based on community needs and input, including:

- ◆ Arts and Culture
- ◆ Theater
- ◆ Environment



THANK YOU

to everyone who made 2023 special. We're looking forward to a great 2024.



**SEAN
ELO-RIVERA**
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
COUNCILMEMBER FOR DISTRICT 9

