



COMMUNITY UPDATES

DISTRICT 6 • CONVOY • KEARNY MESA • MIRAMAR • MIRA MESA
SORRENTO VALLEY • SCRIPPS RANCH • UNIVERSITY CITY



Neighbors,

The City Council unanimously approved a final budget last week — one that funded many of the core services that were cut and better reflects what we value as a city.

I am especially proud to share that our final budget action fully reversed the proposed cuts at every library and recreation center in District 6.

The Council's unanimous action also included significant restorations of funding for arts and culture, community festivals and programs, funding for stormwater channel clearance and emergency preparedness efforts identified by public safety officials, as well as other key restorations that strengthen neighborhoods across San Diego.

I want to thank you — our community — for fighting for a budget that not only balances our books, but balances the priorities of the people we serve.

Despite the fiscal challenge San Diego continues to face, we worked to identify solutions that protect many of the programs and services that residents told us matter most.

Please continue reading below for a more in-depth breakdown of what was restored in District 6, as well as excerpts from my recent discussion on NBC7's Politically Speaking.

Our office is especially grateful to the community members, advocates, artists, library supporters, and recreation center users who helped shape this process through their engagement and advocacy. We also thank City staff and the Independent Budget Analyst for their partnership and efforts to deliver a meaningful result.

We did not achieve everything everyone wanted, but together we delivered a budget that is far stronger than where this process began — and one that better reflects the values of the communities we serve.

Kent Lee

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget

The final approved budget ultimately restored many of the core services that were cut in the Mayor's Proposed FY27 Budget — and better reflects what we value as a city. We

accomplished this by making key reductions in other non-frontline areas, while working with the IBA to identify available resources that would not add to our structural deficit.

Here's What We Restored:



Arts & Culture

We led a collaborative effort to restore \$10.35 million in arts and culture funding:

- \$6 million in arts and culture funding (appropriated through Transient Occupancy Tax revenue)
- \$1.35 million in key grant programs supporting local artists, community events, and cultural festivals
- \$3 million commitment from the Prebys Foundation to match our investment

Thank you to the Prebys Foundation for their generosity and confidence in San Diego. We also share our appreciation to the County of San Diego – and celebrate their recent \$3 million effort supporting Arts and Culture!

Library & Recreation Center Hours

We proudly reversed ALL of the proposed cuts at D6 libraries and recreation centers.

- Half-Saturday hours restored at Mira Mesa Library
- Restored from 40 to 60 hours of operation at each of these facilities:
 - Doyle Recreation Center
 - Mira Mesa Gil Johnson Recreation Center
 - Hourglass Field Community Park and Field House
 - Nobel Athletic Fields and Recreation Center
 - and Standley Recreation Center

Public Safety & Infrastructure

- Funding for stormwater channel clearance and emergency preparedness efforts identified by public safety officials
- Investing in Lifeguard Wellness
- Additional investments to preserve and protect core neighborhood services

Politically Speaking with NBC7: Tough Choices Behind San Diego's Budget

In this candid interview on *Politically Speaking*, I sat down with host Joey Safchik to talk about the real story behind those headlines: the months of negotiations, the services we couldn't fully restore, and the structural deficit that's not going away anytime soon.



[Watch the full video here or click image above]



Community Resources

RATE CHANGE
New rates start July 1, 2027



Reduced Fees for Trash and Recycling Collection for City Customers

↓ 95-gallon bundle drops from \$55 to **\$38.75** a month

🔗 **View the new rates:** sandiego.gov/trash
📞 **Questions?** 858-694-7000

Current fees for the previously adopted fee schedule do not change before July 1, 2027. No action needed to keep your current service.

Solid Waste Fees Reduced Starting July 1, 2027

The San Diego City Council has approved a settlement agreement that will reduce future solid waste management fees for City-served customers. For customers with the 95-gallon trash bundle, the monthly fee drops to \$38.75, effective July 1, 2027. Fees for the smaller 65-gallon and 35-gallon bundles are also reduced. Each service bundle includes one trash container, one recycling container and one organics container.

Current fees do not change before July 1, 2027, and no action is needed to keep your service. Regular trash, recycling and organic waste pickup continues as normal. Review your service

level and request changes through the Customer Portal at sandiego.gov/trash or by calling Environmental Services Department (ESD) at 858-694-7000.

The settlement package also affects **Balboa Park parking**. Paid parking in Balboa Park will remain in effect through the end of 2026, ending effective Jan. 1, 2027.

Ready, Set, Go: San Diego's Fire Season Doesn't Take a Break

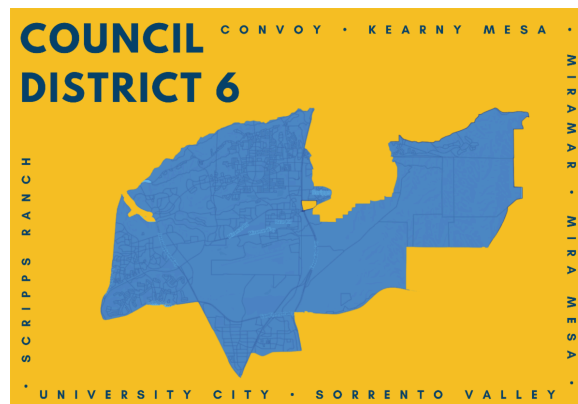
Recent fires in San Diego, specifically in our district, are an important reminder that fire season is year-round—and being ready is a shared responsibility.

San Diego Fire-Rescue is prepared to respond, but residents can help protect their families, neighborhoods and first responders by **signing up for emergency alerts**, preparing a Go Kit, knowing evacuation routes and clearing dry brush and other flammable materials around their homes.


Learn more and get the full Ready, Set, Go! **Wildfire preparedness resources here.**



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