

From: "Councilmember Joe LaCava" <cd1news@sandiego.gov>
Subject: LaCava's Column: Let's Talk Housing!

LACAVA'S COLUMN

Your District 1 News Update



Friends,

Last week at Council's Land Use and Housing Committee, I brought forward a proposal to scale up and leverage development on publicly owned land to deliver the affordable housing our region so desperately needs.

There is no silver bullet, no one policy or program that will solve our housing crisis for San Diego families. This initiative serves as a template beyond our traditional housing toolbox and would allow the City to partner with other public agencies to develop more affordable housing. By breaking down silos among public agencies, we can leverage public land to scale and enable housing affordable (truly affordable) to families including service workers, teachers, public safety, and more.

Large-scale housing construction will create opportunities for skilled and trained local jobs, increase the supply of affordable and sustainable housing, and allow families to stay in San Diego. Since the Land Use and Housing Committee meeting, I have been contacted by elected officials and public servants across multiple agencies, who are excited to begin this dialogue. The introduction is just the first step in a process that will require commitment and partnerships.

We need more solutions like this: big, bold, and, dare I say, a little beautiful.

Yours truly,



Councilmember Joe LaCava
joelacava@sandiego.gov

District 1 News

Ocean Air Field Open to All

Ocean Air Recreation Center field is officially reopen for all to enjoy.

Extensive repair work to the Ocean Air Field included irrigation system repaired, leveling the field and filling the holes, and replacing the sod across the field was accomplished over the summer. Once again this joint use field can be used safely for recreation by young and old.

Thank you City of San Diego Parks and Recreation for your continued good work on joint-use fields such as this one.

Flooding is Water Under the Bridge in Sorrento Valley

Work is well underway clearing the Flintkote and Roselle Drainage Channels in Sorrento Valley, the heart of San Diego biotech. The clearing provides much needed flood protection and water quality benefits for our local businesses - helping keep “clean rooms” clean. Maintaining our infrastructure is how we help local companies thrive and keep our city resilient.



News from City Hall

What Was on the Docket? (9/13 - 9/24)

Date	Item	Final Vote	D1 Vote
9/21/21	Amending Council Policy No. 100-03, "Transient Occupancy Tax" to update how city funds local Arts and Culture	Approved unanimously (D5 not present)	Yes
9/22/21	Approve Wastewater and Water Rate Adjustments, and Cost of Service Study	Approved unanimously (D5 not present)	Yes

[Input Needed – Library Master Plan](#)

Help shape the future of the library system in San Diego and share your thoughts on the newly released master plan! The master plan will create a long-range vision and strategy for San Diego Public Library facility, technology, and program investments.

For more information on the master plan, as well as a full copy of the draft and comment submission link, please visit <https://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/about-the-library/library-master-plan>.

[San Diego Black Homebuyers Program](#)

In collaboration with The San Diego Foundation, LISC San Diego, and Urban League of San Diego County, the San Diego Black Homebuyers Program is providing Black, low- or medium-income families and individuals up to \$70,000 towards a down payment and/or closing costs on a first home purchase. This program is designed to help build generational wealth among Black families in San Diego to create stronger and more equitable communities.

Those interested can learn more [here](#).

[Rental Assistance for Small Landlords](#)

Small-scale, independent property owners experiencing significant rental payment shortfalls due to COVID-19 may be eligible for funding from the County of San Diego's Rental Assistance for Small Landlords (RASL) program.

The program will assist landlords who are not able to access any other source of governmental COVID-19 financial assistance that would compensate for lost rental income. The County will compensate rental arrears accumulated from April 2020 for a maximum of \$15,000 per award and only one application per owner will be accepted.

Applications are now open and will be accepted until funds are no longer available.

Learn more [here](#).

[FY23 Community Development Block Grant \(CDBG\) Application Opening Friday, September 24](#)

Nonprofit organizations are invited to apply for a Economic Development Department (EDD) FY23 CDBG beginning today, September 24, 2021.

Information regarding the application process will be continuously posted to the CDBG [webpage](#). Organizations must submit a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) by October 22, 2021, at 5 p.m. (PDT) for consideration.

First-time applicants are highly encouraged to attend a virtual workshop, which will be held on Wednesday, September 29 at 10 a.m., accessible via the link found on the [CDBG webpage](#). This workshop will review topics such as: tentative FY 2023

timeline, organization requirements, project types/categories, and an ED Grants overview.

District 1 Gets it Done

Last month, I highlighted that despite the so-called legislative recess, for the District 1 staff, August means anything but a leisurely break. I am incredibly proud of Team LaCava for our accomplishments this past month.

Please see below for a few of our most recent “community wins.”

San Dieguito River Valley

- Secured cooperation from the private property owner to help repair and restore an important segment of the Coast to Crest Trail along the river.

Carmel Valley

- Identified five park lights that were out in the Carmel Creek Neighborhood Park and ensured a quick resolution by Parks and Recreation staff;
- Alerted Parks and Recreation to excess vegetation on median along Del Mar Heights Road between El Camino Real and High Bluff Drive, resulting in a swift vegetation abatement treatment;
- Secured a commitment by City staff to review the community’s Livability Report, ending several years of frustrating back and forth;
- Team LaCava participated in Coastal Clean Up Day with I Love a Clean San Diego by cleaning up litter at Big Tony’s Trailhead.



Torrey Hills

- Secured improvements to communication between City departments in light of surprise removal of mature street trees within the Maintenance Assessment District.

University City

- Helped Environmental Services facilitate the repair of a resident's blue recycling bin within two days of the damage being reported;
- Worked with City Parks and Recreation to design Marcy Park improvements in collaboration with the Rec Council's current and future recommendations;
- Secured City action on lights out at the Standley Park tennis courts;
- Helped kick-off a tour with San Diego Coastkeeper of homes employing water saving devices including rain capture and greywater recycling systems.

La Jolla

- Temporarily closed access to Point La Jolla as an emergency action to separate the public from sea lions and their pups;
- Worked with City Code Enforcement and prompted actions regarding a setback violation in The Village and back yard blight in the Country Club area;
- Secured an expanded backstop at Bird Rock joint-use field, preventing stray balls from leaving the field and into neighbor's yards and homes - a complaint first registered over 12 years ago!



Before



After

If you would like to report an issue in your community, do not hesitate to reach out to your community representative via email or phone or stop by their weekly office hours – we are here working for you.

Community Representative Office Hours

If you haven't had a chance to say hello yet, stop by your community representative's Zoom "office hours" happening each week!

- Brian Elliott (bellriott@sandiego.gov) will be hosting **Del Mar Heights office hours** from **10 – 11 a.m. on Wednesdays** ([link here](#))
- Kaitlyn Willoughby (kwilloughby@sandiego.gov) will be hosting **University City office hours** from **10 - 11 a.m. on Fridays** ([link here](#))
- Ricky Flahive (rflahive@sandiego.gov) will be hosting **Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, and Torrey Hills office hours** from **11 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Wednesdays** ([link here](#))
- Steve Hadley (srhadley@sandiego.gov) will be hosting **La Jolla office hours** by ***request only.***

Stay Connected with District 1

To stay up to date on all district news and updates, make sure to follow me on Twitter, ([@JoeLaCavaD1](#)) Facebook, ([@JoeLaCavaD1](#)) and Instagram ([@joelacava_d1](#)) and invite your neighbors to sign up [here](#) to receive email updates like this one!

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