



Office of Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry
San Diego City Council
District 1

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Contact: Moriah Gaynor

mgaynor@sandiego.gov

C: (619) 207-8616

A Call to Develop Plans for Opening San Diego Beaches and Parks the First Week of May

San Diego— San Diegans have done a tremendous job of adapting quickly to working remotely, following social distancing requirements and wearing face coverings. Because we have been proactive, it appears we have slowed the spread of COVID-19.

Now it is time for the City to work with our scientific community and County health officials to develop a plan to re-open parks and beaches as soon as the first week of May, a plan that should include social distancing and face covering requirements. In the last week, I have spoken with leaders in our biotech community, who advise that the production of test kits is increasing exponentially, and every day we are reading about the development of new vaccines and treatments.

Our parks and beaches play an important role in San Diego life, particularly for our residents who live in dense neighborhoods. From parents looking for a safe outing for their now-at-home kids to apartment dwellers itching for more space, these public areas are irreplaceable and are an important component of our physical and mental health. As always, such decisions must be based on science and the advice of public health experts, but I believe it will be possible to develop prudent plans to re-open our beaches and parks by early next month.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry represents San Diego City Council District 1, which includes the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and University City.

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