



March 2015  
Volume 7 Issue 3

Councilmember  
Todd Gloria proudly  
represents

Balboa Park

Bankers Hill/Park West

Downtown

Golden Hill

Hillcrest

Middletown

Mission Hills

Normal Heights

North Park

Old Town

South Park

University Heights

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#### Contact Todd

202 C Street, MS 10A  
San Diego, CA 92101  
Phone 619-236-6633  
Fax 619-595-1481  
toddgloria@sandiego.gov  
www.sandiego.gov/cd3



@ToddGloria  
Facebook.com/toddgloria



## City Helps Spruce Up Local Small Business

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

Small businesses are the foundation of San Diego's economy, and the city has resources available to help them succeed. I was happy to see StreetCar Merchants of Fried Chicken, Doughnuts, and Coffee in North Park take advantage of this assistance to upgrade its location, and I hope more businesses are inspired to do the same.

StreetCar qualified for a total of \$12,500 in Storefront Improvement Program grants. The business, located at 4002 30th Street in the heart of North Park, opened in December 2014 and specializes in fried chicken, doughnuts and coffee. The proprietors RaVae Smith and Ron Suel also took advantage of the streamlined sidewalk café permitting measures I supported in 2013.

Created in 1986, the Storefront Improvement Program stimulates private investment and customer patronage in the city's older commercial districts by focusing on revitalizing building facades visible to customers, neighboring merchants, and residents. As part of a comprehensive approach to small business assistance and neighborhood revitalization, the city provides design assistance and construction costs incentives to small businesses.

The City's Storefront Improvement Program is available to small businesses with 12 or fewer employees located in San Diego with a current Business Tax Certificate. All applications are subject to review for eligibility as part of a competitive process. More information on the program including exclusions and a link to the application can be found on the City's website [online](#).

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## \$9.5 Million Approved to Repair Historic Bridge

Councilmember Todd Gloria announced on March 3 a critical step forward for renovations to the historic 100 year old Georgia Street Bridge, which spans University Avenue. The City Council approved acceptance and expenditure of \$9.5 million of federal funds to complete construction of the project. The Infrastructure Committee tentatively approved the funding on February 11.

"These federal funds will ensure the historic Georgia Street Bridge will remain a landmark between North Park and Hillcrest," said Councilmember Gloria. "Addressing our public infrastructure is a wise and worthy investment, and I look forward to the completion of these renovations in 2016."

The Georgia Street Bridge was initially constructed in 1914 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. The bridge requires seismic retrofitting and rehabilitation, and the city has been

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### Join Councilmember Gloria and the Todd Squad for a Hillcrest Clean Up

March 14, 8:00 a.m.

Meet at Heat Bar and Grill, 3797 Park Boulevard (at Essex Street)

## Councilmember Gloria Speaks to National Homelessness Conference

On February 19, Councilmember Todd Gloria spoke to over 1,000 attendees at the National Alliance on Ending Homelessness Conference in San Diego. Thanks to Councilmember Gloria's leadership, the City of San Diego has redirected its limited resources to national best practices to address homelessness, including the Housing First model, and he shared local experiences with the conference's attendees.

"Homelessness is a challenge in cities throughout the country. It's imperative we share our experiences about what works and what doesn't so more progress can be made to help homeless individuals and families," said Councilmember Gloria.



## City Council Approves 647 Affordable Housing Units

The San Diego City Council demonstrated its commitment to addressing affordable housing needs by approving 647 new units between mid-January and the end of February.

"A city of economically diverse people must have housing stock of all kinds," said Councilmember Todd Gloria. "I'm proud of the work we have done in San Diego to build affordable units throughout our city."

- 60 units at One Paseo in Carmel Valley. The City Council approved the project with the condition that 10% of the units be affordable.
- 44 units at Ouchi Courtyards in Lincoln Park. The City Council approved the Disposition and Development Agreement.
- 205 units at Atmosphere in the Cortez Hill neighborhood. Council approved the Final Bond Authorization.
- 120 units at Village North Senior Garden Apartments in Clairemont Mesa. The City Council, sitting as Housing Authority, approved the acquisition of these units to be converted to affordable housing for seniors.
- 195 units at Pacific Highlands Ranch I and II in Pacific Highlands Ranch. The City Council approved the Final Bond Authorization.
- 23 units at Community Housing Works' Arizona Street Project in North Park. The City Council approved the permits as part of a larger development that will provide housing and services for LGBT seniors.



*Councilmember Gloria met with Secretary Julián Castro of the U.S. Housing and Urban Development about affordable housing on February 20.*

## Georgia Street Bridge to be Renovated (Continued from page 1)

working with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration to determine the most effective engineering alternatives to address the seismic, geometric and structural deficiencies in compliance with both Caltrans and historic guidelines.

The scope of the project includes seismically retrofitting and rehabilitating Georgia Street Bridge and the existing walls that extend along University Avenue between Florida Street and Park Boulevard.

- The bridge will be reconstructed from the arch ribs up;
- University Avenue will be lowered approximately 2 feet 4 inches underneath the bridge to increase the vertical clearance, and the lowering will transition to existing street grade before the Florida Street and Park Boulevard intersections;
- New soil nail walls will be constructed in front of the existing walls;
- New curbs and gutters will be constructed on both sides of University Avenue;
- The buffer on the north side which diverts traffic away from the arch rib and exists from Florida Street to just west of the bridge will be reconstructed;
- The sidewalk on the south side of University Avenue will be replaced and feature a minimum width of 5 feet extended to the cross walk at Park Boulevard where the missing curb ramp and pedestrian push button will be installed;
- New asphalt will be placed between the Florida Street and Park Boulevard intersections; and
- Bike sharrows will be added to the outside lanes.

Construction is anticipated to begin by Fall 2015 and last approximately one year. The renovations are being coordinated with SANDAG's North Park – Mid-City Bike Corridors Project improvements.

The city previously received \$1,742,240 of federal funds to complete the engineering work. The March 3 action brought the total amount of federal funds to \$11,242,240 for the Georgia Street Bridge Improvements Project.

# Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

## Strengthening Public Safety

- All-way stop signs were installed in the 4000 block of Georgia Street to mitigate traffic impacts.
- Graffiti was removed from the Georgia Street Bridge, the 3900 block of Illinois Street, the 2900 block of University Avenue, Fourth Avenue at Maple Street, Fifth Avenue at Maple Street, Fourth Avenue at Quince Street, and near the intersection of University Avenue and Boundary Street.
- A lighted crosswalk at University Avenue and Alabama Street was repaired.
- Yield markings were painted at the traffic circle located at Louisiana and Landis Streets.
- Faded stop legends and limit lines were repainted at the intersection of Vermont Street and Cleveland Avenue.
- Needles were removed from the North Park Library parking lot.
- Streetlights on Texas Street were repaired after being shot out.
- Visibility was improved at the intersection of Copley Avenue and West Mountain View by moving a contractor's debris.

## Infrastructure Investment

- Emergency sewer repair work was completed near 29th and Kalmia Streets.
- A sidewalk improvement project is currently under construction by Streets Division on Camino del Rio South just east of Texas Street.
- The sidewalk was patched in the 2500 block of University Avenue.
- Potholes were repaired in the 4400 block of Illinois Street,

near the intersection of 33rd Street and El Cajon Boulevard, near 25th Street and Broadway, near Grape Street Park, and in the 3200 block of Upas Street.

- Drainage issues were repaired near 33rd and Juniper Streets.
- The former IBEW building on W. Washington Street was not deemed a historical resource by the city's Historical Resource Board, so work will continue to transform the site into the new Hillcrest-Mission Hills Branch Library. Preliminary design is expected to be complete in Summer 2015.

## Community Character

- An abandoned donation bin was removed from the 2900 block of Lincoln Avenue.
- Mattresses were removed from the intersection of Villa Terrace and Arnold Avenue.
- Two sofas were removed from Juniper Street and another from Maple Street.
- A homeless encampment was removed from Alan Canyon in Mission Hills.
- Sneakers were removed from an electrical line above Dove Street with the assistance of AT&T.
- San Diego Police Department cracked down on illegal activity on Kettner Boulevard near Sassafras, and debris was removed from the location as well.
- The bus stop at Jackdaw Street and W. Lewis Street was cleaned up. Work orders are in to remove the old utility markings on the intersection's sidewalks and curbs.
- The Downtown San Diego Partnership completed a clean up of the 300 block of Park Boulevard.

## Did you know...

It is possible to plant trees and dedicate park benches in Balboa Park in memory of a loved one? Friends of Balboa Park partners with the city's Park and Recreation Department on bench and tree dedication programs. For more information, please contact the Friends of Balboa Park at 619-232-2282 or [info@friendsofbalboapark.org](mailto:info@friendsofbalboapark.org).

## Storefront Improvement Program (Continued from page 1)

In the current fiscal year, the City allocated \$220,000 to the Storefront Improvement Program, which is a part of the Small Business Enhancement Program. Programs administered through the Small Business Enhancement Program are funded through an annual General Fund appropriation equivalent to \$20 per small business registered with the city.

Since 2010, 36 businesses in my district have utilized the Storefront Improvement Program and received a total of \$209,256 in grants. These include local favorites like Buona Forcetta, Salt and Cleaver, The Haven Pizzeria, Coffee & Tea Collective, Eclipse Chocolate, Air Conditioned Lounge, and many others.

Because of its tremendous positive impacts to businesses and neighborhoods, I am examining possible ways to increase the Storefront Improvement Program's effectiveness and reach so more small local businesses are able to take advantage of it. I expect to have a proposal ready by this summer and welcome your suggestions.



# Tracking Todd



1. Todd celebrates Chinese Year on February 8 at Jasmine Restaurant.
2. Students from the Urban Discovery Academy were welcomed by Todd to City Hall.
3. Todd honored the newest Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) graduates on February 18.
4. Todd spoke to the San Diego Leadership Alliance about the Climate Action Plan, addressing homelessness and more.
5. Todd commemorated the completion of renovations to the 3,000th home in the Airport Authority's Quieter Home Program on February 26.

Councilmember Todd Gloria serves on the following:

Chair, Budget and Government Efficiency Committee  
 Member, Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee  
 Member, Environment Committee  
 Member, Smart Growth and Land Use Committee  
 Chair, San Diego Regional Continuum of Care Governance Board

Chair Pro Tem, Metropolitan Transit System Board  
 Member, San Diego Association of Governments Board  
 Chair, SANDAG Transportation Committee  
 Member, SANDAG Executive Committee  
 Liaison, Civic San Diego

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# **EASTER BASKET DRIVE**

## **Donate an Easter Basket for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt**

Councilmember Todd Gloria has partnered with the Imperial Court de San Diego to collect Pre-Filled Easter baskets for children ages 12 and younger. The baskets will be distributed at a free community event held at Trolley Barn Park on Easter Sunday. Please deliver the baskets and/or a monetary donation for baskets by **April 1st at 12:00pm** to Adriana Martinez in the Council District 3 office. This will allow time to deliver the baskets to the sponsoring organization before the event.

**SPONSORED BY THE IMPERIAL COURT DE SAN DIEGO**  
P.O. BOX 34104 SAN DIEGO, CA 92163





THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT**

will pick up  
the following items:

**Recyclables**

- Appliances
- Electronics (e.g. tv's, computer monitors, vcr's, cpu's)
- Lawnmowers (Free of oil and gas)
- Metals
- Wood & Yard Trimmings (bundled & tied, not to exceed 50 lbs., nor over 6' long)

**Non-recyclables**

- Carpeting
- Junk Furniture
- Mattresses
- Palm Fronds (bundled & tied, not to exceed 50 lbs., nor over 6' long)

**NOT  
ACCEPTED:**

- All light bulbs/tubes
- Dirt, construction or demolition rubble
- Hazardous wastes (paint, motor oil, batteries)
- Propane Tanks / Gas Cylinders
- Tires

Call ESD for information about the proper disposal of "Not Accepted" waste items or other questions

about ESD's programs:  
**(858) 694-7000**



The City of San Diego

**FREE**

**MINI-COMMUNITY CLEANUP  
AND RECYCLING EVENT**



**Thursday, April 2, 2015**

**SEPARATE WASTE AND METALS AND PLACE AT POINT OF REGULAR  
TRASH COLLECTION BY 8:00 A.M.**

Due to time constraints, city crews will not be able to return to collect items placed out after 8:00 a.m.

**➡ DO NOT USE AUTOMATED REFUSE CONTAINERS.**



**RESIDENTS IN MAP AREA ONLY**



Sponsored by  
**The City of San Diego  
Environmental Services Department**



For cleanup event information, call  
Officer Deanna Navarro at (858) 627-3315