



May 2015
Volume 7 Issue 5

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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City Employees Can Earn Sick Leave

By Councilmember Todd Gloria



Councilmember Gloria was joined by Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, Council President Pro Tem Emerald, and city workers to announce the implementation of earned sick days for hourly city employees.

On April 27, the San Diego City Council unanimously approved my proposal to provide earned sick leave for hourly city employees to comply with A.B. 1522, the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014.

City employees are committed to San Diego, and allowing them to earn sick leave will help ensure their continued ability to serve the public in a healthy and productive way. When I learned that over 1,300 of our employees, many of whom worked closely with the public, didn't have the ability to take sick days, I knew something had to be done. Providing workers with fair pay and benefits is always a good investment.

A.B. 1522 was authored by Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez and entitles individuals working in California for 30 or more days within a year to paid sick leave of no less than one hour for every 30 worked. The law, which goes into effect July 1, 2015, allows employees to earn up to three sick days per year. As a charter city, San Diego had to take steps including meeting and

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Balboa Park's Garden Party of the Century is May 9

Please join Councilmember Todd Gloria for the Garden Party of the Century on Saturday, May 9, in Balboa Park. The Garden Party will be a free day-long affair and is the signature event for spring during the Centennial Celebration honoring the Panama-California Exposition of 1915.

Working in partnership with the San Diego Floral Association, Botanical Foundation, Friends of Balboa Park, San Diego Zoo, Fern Street Circus, and others, the Garden Party will feature a Centennial-inspired flower show, master gardener demonstrations, garden tours, special horticulture discussions and a wide variety of music, art, and activities for the whole family.

There will also be a Kid's Floral Wagon Parade during which children, families, and community groups are welcome to decorate a wagon in a floral theme to be pulled from Spanish Village to the Plaza De Panama. Parade participants get a special Centennial Celebration commemorative ribbon and tickets to the San Diego County Fair. To participate in the parade, you must complete and submit a participation form. Visit the link below to sign up.

For kids with wagons, people who love plants and flowers, San Diegans interested in our local history, and anyone who wants an excuse to visit Balboa Park, the Garden Party of the Century will be a memorable occasion.

Visit www.celebratebalboapark.org/celebrate/garden-party-century for more information or to sign up for the wagon parade.

A Progress Report on Ending Homelessness

Councilmember Todd Gloria, as Governance Chair of the San Diego Regional Continuum of Care Council (RCCC), presented an update on efforts to end homelessness at the April 15 Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee.

The RCCC is the federally recognized planning entity for homelessness issues in the region charged with the responsibilities required under the HEARTH Act for the regional Continuum of Care. The RCCC includes all of the geography within the County of San Diego, including 18 incorporated cities and all unincorporated areas. This is a collaborative effort of diverse stakeholders working together as a system of programs to increase success.

The RCCC brings in more than \$16 million annually of federal competitive dollars for homeless housing and services. Among the RCCC's goals are:

- Coordinated Assessment and Entry – to ensure people are matched to appropriate services and housing and prioritized based on need;
- Permanent Supportive Housing – targeted to people with the most significant challenges;
- Rapid Re-housing – targeted to people with fewer barriers to housing stability; and
- Housing First – orientation of entire system toward removing barriers and assisting people to access appropriate permanent housing, with right level of services, as quickly as possible.

The RCCC also announced in April that the annual count of San Diego County's homeless population found that there were 8,742 people living on the streets or in shelters, a 2.8 percent increase from last year.

The WeAllCount Campaign, also known as the Point-in-Time Count, was held in the early morning hours on January 23, 2015. This annual effort helps determine the number and location of homeless individuals in the San Diego region and is critical in securing more than \$16 million dollars in federal funding for needed housing and services.

"The results of the WeAllCount census prove that more must be done to help end homelessness in our region and we still have a long way to go to reach that goal," said San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria, who chairs the RCCC. "The RCCC's efforts over the past year to better utilize our limited funding will help move more people off the streets, and we need to more strongly advocate for an update to the antiquated federal funding formula for homeless services so we can secure sufficient resources to address this growing issue."

The Point-in-Time Count found that the number of unsheltered homeless individuals in San Diego County was 4,156, an increase of 4.3 percent from last year, while the number of homeless persons in shelters was 4,586, up 1.4 percent. Of the unsheltered population, an estimated 2,911 – or 70 percent – were males and an estimated 631 – or 15.4 percent – were veterans. Almost 28 percent of those who live on the street are estimated to suffer from either addiction or severe mental illness. More than 70 percent of those living on the street reported having been homeless for a year or longer.

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May is Bike Month

May is Bike Month! Councilmember Gloria has successfully worked to make bicycling safer, and he encourages you to explore your neighborhood and your city by bike this month. To give the San Diego community more transportation choices, \$200 million is being invested in bikeway projects over the next decade. Learn more about these plans and how you can choose to GO by BIKE by checking out this new website by SANDAG: www.gobybikesd.com. There you will find bike route maps and upcoming workshops related to biking.

The Councilmember kicked off Bike Month with a special Centennial Bike Ride and Bike Fiesta at the San Diego Central Library on May 2 and looks forward to Bike to Work Day on May 15. Join thousands of bike riders throughout the San Diego region on the morning of Bike to Work Day and help reach the regional goal of logging 25,000 bike miles that day, the equivalent of one trip around the world and one million calories burned. Be sure to log your Bike to Work Day trip in TripTracker on iCommutesd.com to make sure you're counted and to be entered to win prizes, including a new bike. The same website includes a map of pit stops for the day to make your ride even easier and more enjoyable.

Councilmember Gloria at the 2015 Earth Fair



Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

Strengthening Public Safety

- Fulfilling a request he received at a recent Joint Meeting on Crime, Councilmember Gloria delivered all-way stop signs for the intersection of Fort Stockton Drive and Randolph Street. This will make walking in the neighborhood even safer, especially for the students of Grant School.
- SDPD cited an illegally operating mobile food vendor in the 400 block of F Street after Councilmember Gloria received complaints.
- A streetlight was repaired at Ninth Avenue and Cedar Street.
- The sidewalk in the 4700 block of Panorama Drive was patched.
- A utility box that had exposed wiring in the 3700 block of Goldfinch Street was repaired with assistance from AT&T.
- A trip hazard was removed from Ray Street south of University Avenue.
- A fire hydrant was repaired at Ohio Street and University Avenue.
- A sewer waste access cover was repaired in the 2500 block of Boundary Street.
- Four new mid-block street lights were installed on 35th Street between El Cajon Boulevard and Meade Avenue.

Infrastructure Investment

- After initially being skipped for a surface overlay after recent infrastructure improvements, work on Ivy Lane was completed on April 23.
- Road repair work was completed in the 3500 block of Florida Street, in the alley between 30th and Kansas Streets north of Meade Avenue, and in the alley parallel to the 4600 block of 30th Street.

- New amenities including two new picnic tables, one bench, and one hot coal disposal bin, are being installed at Ward Canyon Park after the old versions were badly damaged by an automobile in October 2014.
- The Downtown Parking District is purchasing bike racks. Where should they be placed? Contact Stephanie Shook to request one: shook@civicsd.com, 619-533-7119.
- SDG&E poles were removed from 30th Street in South Park and new city light poles were activated.
- A water meter was repaired in the 3500 block of Fir Street.

Community Character

- After one year of seeking assistance from city departments, a resident on the 3600 block of Richmond Avenue contacted Councilmember Gloria to request tree trimming. The troublesome trees were trimmed within one week.
- News rack concerns were addressed at the southwest corner of 29th Street and University Avenue and the southeast corner of 30th and Dwight Streets.
- “No Parking — Street Sweeping” signs requested by neighbors will soon be installed on Third Avenue between Redwood and Spruce Streets.
- A two month pilot program is underway for franchise refuse haulers to pick up and return trash bins inside the businesses in the Gaslamp Quarter to decrease scavenging and littering.
- Two couches were removed from the 3000 block of Elm Street.
- A trash can was repaired at the northeast corner of 30th and University Avenue.
- Graffiti was removed near University Avenue and 30th Street.

Todd Squad Cleans Up

Fact about Councilmember Todd Gloria: One of his hobbies is cleaning. He’s bringing his penchant for cleanliness to the streets of Council District Three. Following successful clean up efforts in Hillcrest and North Park in March and April, Councilmember Gloria and the Todd Squad will focus on both Downtown and University Heights later this month.

The Downtown event, hosted by the Gaslamp Quarter Association and Downtown San Diego Partnership, is scheduled for May 30. Activities will include sidewalk cleaning, painting of lampposts, trashcans, and street furniture, graffiti removal. Participants should wear comfortable shoes and clothing and will earn a t-shirt and other goodies.

The neighbors of University Heights will get together for the annual spring Rock 'n Roll Clean Up on Sunday, May 31 at 9:00 a.m. along Washington Street and at the entrance to Highway 163. There are a lot of roadside weeds to address after the runners pass by. Water, snacks, sunscreen, gloves, tools, and safety t-shirts and vests will be provided. If you have a broom or hedge clippers, please bring them along. Details for both clean ups are below.

Join Councilmember Gloria and the Todd Squad for TWO Clean Ups this Month

Gaslamp Quarter Clean Up

Saturday, May 30, 8:00—11:00 a.m.

Corner of 5th Avenue and Market Street

University Heights Clean Up

Sunday, May 31, 9:00—11:00 a.m.

Pascoe Street near the intersection of Lincoln and Washington.

San Diego Updates Nondiscrimination Policy

On April 7, Councilmember Todd Gloria announced the City Council approved an amendment to add gender identity and gender expression as types of unlawful discrimination to the City of San Diego's Nondiscrimination in Contracting Ordinance.

"San Diego stands against discrimination. Today's action demonstrates that by ensuring the city will not award contracts to any business that discriminates against anyone, including transgender people," said Councilmember Gloria.

Gender identity refers to both an individual's sense of self regarding characteristics labeled as masculine, feminine, both, neither or in-between. Gender expression means a person's gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth. The State of California Government Code includes both as protected classes for purposes of employment.

In the fall of 2014, the Human Rights Campaign released its annual Municipality Equality Index, a point based system that examines a city's laws and policies based on their inclusivity of the LGBT people who live there. San Diego scored exceptionally well, earning 100 out of 100 points. A few of those were considered bonus points, meaning there was still an area the city could improve. The city missed two points because its City Contractor Non-Discrimination Ordinance did not include gender identity.

"Even with an A+ for equality, I knew we could do better," said Councilmember Gloria, who worked with city staff on the development of the amendment.

With this action, the types of unlawful discrimination will be listed as: "race, gender, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, or disability" in four sections of the San Diego Municipal Code, Chapter 2, Article 2, Division 35. The city's Human Relations Commission and the Police Department Citizens' Review Board both recommended the update. The Budget and Government Efficiency Committee unanimously recommended approval at its meeting on March 18.

Bud Kearns Pool Renovations Update

The main drain at Bud Kearns Memorial Pool needs to be replaced and upgrades need to be made to the filtration system and sump pump. Other improvements to the fence and pool area may also be mandated by the County Department of Health. The pool will not be re-opened until the repairs are completed. An early estimation of the worst case scenario is that it could take nine months and cost up to \$1.2 million to fix. The best case scenario is that the pool will be allowed to re-open after the drain is repaired at a cost of less than \$200,000 in approximately two months, as long as a commitment is made to address the rest of the repairs as soon as possible. While the Bud Kearns Memorial Pool is being repaired, other pools are open: <http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/centers/aquatics/locations.shtml>.

Free Tree Program from Urban Corps

Urban Corps, a local non-profit organization, plants trees in public right-of-ways in partnership with the City of San Diego. Residents who agree to water the trees can request a free tree or trees to be planted in front of their property. Request your tree by signing the application and watering agreement accessed here: <http://urbancorpsd.org/pdf/Watering.pdf>.

For more information please contact Andres Amezcua at 619-235-6884 ext. 3313 or aamezcua@urbancorps.org. Please pass this on to your neighbors and spread the word! Trees beautify neighborhoods, increase property values, help clean and cool the air, produce oxygen, and have been shown to reduce crime and promote mental well-being.

Thank you!



To the generous people of District Three and all of San Diego, I thank you for answering my call for Easter basket donations! Local kids had a memorable Easter because of your kindness and the efforts of the Imperial Court de San Diego.

With gratitude,

Todd Gloria

Downtown Update

FORM15 Opening: On April 16, Councilmember Todd Gloria helped cut the ribbon on FORM15, a mixed use apartment project located on 15th and Market Street in East Village. The project includes 242 residential units, neighborhood serving retail space, dedicated open space for the public, electric charging stations for residents, a dog run, and a pet washing station for residents.

Downtown Hospitality Zone Parking Pilot Results: In 2014, at the request of Civic San Diego, the City of San Diego implemented a pilot program to change parking meter enforcement times in Downtown's Hospitality Zone from 8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. to increase parking spot turnover. In the Hospitality Zone, which is bound by First Avenue, Seventh Avenue, Broadway, and Harbor Drive, both parking space utilization and revenue increased dramatically during the pilot program. Parking space utilization grew to 80%, an increase of 45%. Revenue increased 46%. The parking meter enforcement times will remain 10:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m. for the foreseeable future, though further changes and an expansion of impacted area are under consideration.

Construction Underway on Downtown Rapid Stations: SANDAG has begun a new phase of construction on the Downtown Rapid stations. The three stations being constructed can be found on the south side of Broadway between First and Front, in front of 101 West Broadway; the north side of Broadway between Union and Front, in front of the old San Diego County Courthouse; and on the east side of India Street, north of Broadway, between B and C, near One America Plaza. Construction is expected to last five months through this fall. The new stations will be uniquely branded and feature shelters with a sleek, contemporary design, as well as digital displays announcing next vehicle arrival time. Additional improvements include new sidewalks, ADA-accessible curb ramps, and roadway paving and striping.

During construction, access to businesses and office buildings is being maintained. Construction will occur primarily on weekdays although some night and weekend work will be necessary in order to reduce traffic impact. A total of 11 Rapid stations will be built in Downtown to serve Rapid 215, 235, 280, and 290. Three have been completed and are open for service. Construction of the remaining eight stations is being split into two phases. The first phase, as mentioned earlier, will be completed in the fall. The second phase is scheduled to be completed in spring 2016. For more information, visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com, email DowntownRapid@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com, or call the project information line at 888-536-3939.

Homelessness *(Continued from page 2)*

Dolores Diaz, Executive Director of the Regional Task Force the Homeless, which coordinates the WeAllCount event on behalf of the RCCC, said it was a record-breaking year in terms of community engagement with 1,488 volunteers working out of 28 deployment centers throughout San Diego County to help count and survey homeless individuals.

"While the increase in the number of homeless persons is disappointing, it is critically important to know this information so we can ensure continued funding for much needed housing and services to effectively address homelessness in our communities," Diaz said.

The RCCC's next steps include advocating for more federal funding and expand other fundraising efforts, regionalizing the Downtown CAHP system; continuing to monitor currently funded programs for efficacy; continuing to establish a data driven housing and service system; and continue assessing appropriateness of housing programs and services to meet needs.

More information on the Regional Continuum of Care Council can be found at www.sandiegococ.org.

Sick Leave *(Continued from page 1)*

conferring with its employee organizations in order to implement earned sick leave. Most City employees earn annual leave which can be used for either vacation or sick time. Over 1,300 City employees, including recreation leaders, seasonal lifeguards, and library staff, are not currently eligible for annual leave and will now benefit from sick leave through the implementation of A.B. 1522.

Addressing the needs of workers is an ongoing interest of mine. After championing the successful approval last year of a measure that increased San Diego's minimum wage to \$11.50 per hour and provided earned sick leave of up to five days per year, corporate interests challenged the compromise measure through a referendum, forcing the item onto the June 2016 ballot. While that implementation is paused, I'm excited that Assemblywoman Gonzalez secured three earned sick days statewide. For more about the new law: www.CAPaidSickDays.com.

City employees will be able to earn sick leave starting July 1. The Department of Financial Management has estimated that implementation of up to 24 hours of paid sick leave to hourly, non-benefitted City employees will have a financial impact of approximately \$471,284 per fiscal year.

Tracking Todd



1. Todd is awarded for his work drafting San Diego's Climate Action Plan by the Environmental Health Coalition. 2. Todd and Councilmember David Alvarez enjoy Walk to Work Day. 3. Todd commemorates the Bonsai Club's 50th Anniversary. 4. Rosemary Pope honors Todd at the 9th Annual Older Americans Recognition Luncheon. 5. Todd spent time clearing Maple Canyon as part of the Creek to Bay Cleanup Day.

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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