



July 2015  
Volume 7 Issue 7

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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## Love and Justice Prevailed

*By Councilmember Todd Gloria*

On June 26, both love and justice prevailed when the Supreme Court affirmed that the Constitution provides same-sex couples' the right to marry throughout the nation. The Court's decision makes it unequivocally clear that ALL Americans are free to marry the one they love, and I thank all of those in the LGBT community and our allies who have fought so hard, shared their stories, and struggled to help us reach this point.

Civil rights were extended to more Americans with the Court's decision. This will ensure that same-sex couples are recognized at the state and federal level for critical issues including healthcare decision-making and tax and inheritance determinations, and Social Security and Veterans spousal benefits. No longer will couples living in states that do not recognize their marriage face disparate treatment; equality has been secured for more of our neighbors, and that is worthy of celebration.

As we gather together to celebrate Pride Month, I will hold with me extra gratitude for reaching this point and the determination to take additional steps to end the discrimination and bullying still facing so many in the LGBT community. While work remains ahead, I am buoyed by this long-awaited recognition that love is love.

Happy Pride, San Diego!

## Project 25 Saves Lives and Saves Taxpayers \$3.7 Million

Efforts to end homelessness are having an impact. On June 2, Councilmember Todd Gloria helped announce the impressive results of Project 25, an initiative of the United Way. Results: 36 formerly homeless people were housed and taxpayer costs decreased 67%, meaning \$3.5 million was saved over the course of a 24 month period. These are the final outcomes for Project 25, United Way's initiative to permanently house at least 25 of San Diego County's chronically homeless, high frequency users of public resources.

"Project 25 has proven that connecting homeless individuals with housing and appropriate services is a way to end the cycle of homelessness," said Councilmember Gloria, who chairs the Regional Continuum of Care Council. "The collaborative approach of the RCCC has been key to looking at this issue from a regional perspective and implementing systemic changes. Of course, I see the United Way's Project 25 effort as the launching pad for how we're now making progress."

"The results are impressive," said Dr. Lynn Reaser, Chief Economist for the Fermanian Business and Economic Institute at Point Loma Nazarene University. The Institute produced an independent report on the outcomes of Project 25, which uses the "Housing First" model to house participants in permanent homes and provide supportive services to keep them housed.

Stable and secure housing for chronically homeless and frequent users of public resources, combined with a comprehensive set of health and social services, can yield a dramatic reduction in the use and expense of various public services.

*Continued on page 6*

## City Council Unanimously Approves City Budget

On June 8, Councilmember Todd Gloria announced the City Council's approval of the Fiscal Year 2016 budget with a General Fund of \$1.3 billion. The budget was approved by unanimous vote.

"The budget approved by the Council is reflective of the needs of San Diego's neighborhoods and provides a fair distribution of services and projects across all council districts," said Councilmember Gloria. "As the city benefits from a better economy and increased revenues, I am pleased to see core services expanded and funding being invested back into our communities."

Councilmember Gloria advocated for several of the following budgetary priorities which were included in the approved budget.

- \$2,300,000 for additional library hours spread across 23 branches and the Central Library.
- \$1,000,000 for the Penny for the Arts Program.
- \$100,000 for an interim dog park at Ward Canyon Park in Mid-City while funding is identified for phase one of the permanent expansion.
- \$100,000 to fund a staff member to reinstate the City's Film Commission and allow San Diego to take advantage of state tax credits.

As chair of the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee, Councilmember Gloria led the annual Budget Review Committee hearings throughout the month of May, during which community members provided feedback on how to improve the Mayor's proposed budget. Throughout that process, the Council submitted budget prioritization memos to the Mayor, playing a key role in the budget that was approved in June.

*Continued on page 6*

## City of San Diego Honored as an Energy Efficiency Grand Champion

The City of San Diego and Balboa Park were honored as Energy Efficiency Grand Champions at the 10th Annual San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) Energy Showcase event in June.

"The City of San Diego has been aggressive in our efforts to decrease our energy use, which results in benefits to the environment and our budget. I am proud we are recognized as an Energy Efficiency Grand Champion with the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership," said Councilmember Todd Gloria. "I look forward to additional energy savings with the approval and implementation of the Climate Action Plan I continue to champion."

The City of San Diego, in conjunction with Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, was honored for implementing energy efficiency measures and raising the bar on energy saving efforts. Between 2012 – 2014, the city secured \$1,729,279 in SDG&E rebates and incentives. Its three-year energy savings were 14,424,554 kilowatt hours (kWh), equivalent to carbon dioxide emissions from 1,119,215 gallons of gasoline consumed. The city also saved 25,225 therms, equivalent to carbon sequestered by 3,429 tree seedlings grown for 10 years.

The city installed 39,500 street lights, of which 3,600 are adaptive control LED street lights, making it the first deployment of its size in the nation. The city has demonstrated its commitment to sustainability at every level through various measures, including installation of 27 electric vehicle charging stations, participation in demand response programs, completion of numerous energy efficiency audits, and upgrades to 60 of the highest use buildings and facilities.

In Balboa Park, 103 sustainability projects were completed, resulting in annual energy savings between 2012 – 2014 of 2,522,690 kWh and 9,996 therms. Balboa Park Cultural Partnership continues to make progress toward its goal of being home to 10 LEED certified buildings; since 2009, six buildings in the park have been certified.

"The sustainability efforts that these forward-thinking customers have implemented this past year are outstanding," said Caroline Winn, chief energy delivery officer for SDG&E. "We are committed to a sustainable future and we look forward to continuing to help our business customers reduce their carbon footprint by finding innovative solutions to reduce their energy costs through the many rebates and incentives that are available through SDG&E."

SDG&E offers its business customers solutions to manage and save energy including energy rebates, demand response programs, free onsite energy-efficiency assessments and zero-interest financing programs. For more information on energy and money-saving programs available to SDG&E customers, call 800-411-7343, or visit [sdge.com/good4biz](http://sdge.com/good4biz).

## Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

### Strengthening Public Safety

- Streetlights were repaired in the 2100 block of Fifth Avenue, near Nile and Quince Streets, and near 30th Street and Meade Avenue.
- A major tripping hazard in the 3400 block of Adams Avenue was patched.
- Faded “No Parking” signs were replaced in the 2400 block of Linwood Avenue.

### Infrastructure Investment

- Initial repairs are underway at Bud Kearns Pool and the facility should reopen by August. More fixes will be needed after the summer.
- Just two hours after Councilmember Gloria was notified of a leaking water meter in Hillcrest, city crews were onsite performing repairs. Another leaking meter was repaired in the 4400 block of Park Boulevard.
- A sidewalk in the 3600 block of Meade Avenue was repaired thanks to property owner’s participation in the Sidewalk Cost Share program. Learn more: <http://www.sandiego.gov/street-div/services/roadways/sidewalk.shtml>.
- Water used to flush a new water line in Old Town was diverted to the Presidio Golf Course to ensure it was not wasted.

- A damaged median at the intersection of 10th and University Avenues was repaired.
- A street signal pole which was either knocked over or fell over at Sixth Avenue at Upas Street was fixed.
- Over 43 total feet of red curb will be removed at three locations in Hillcrest after it was determined to be excessive. Look for more parking by the end of the summer near Third and Brookes Avenues, Third and Pennsylvania Avenues, and First and Pennsylvania Avenues.
- Water meter and sidewalk repairs were completed in the 1400 block of Ninth Avenue and the 3700 block of 29th Street.
- City crews rebuilt a resident’s water meter box in the 4300 block of 33rd Avenue after the old box sunk below grade.

### Community Character

- A South Park business was assisted in securing an updated business license.
- The South Park Business Group put up community identifying banners throughout the neighborhood after Council approved a banner district there.
- Three trash cans were repaired in the 3100 block of University Avenue.
- Graffiti was removed from 30th Street and Meade Avenue and from the 3900 block of 30th Street.

## Hourly City Employees Start Earning Sick Leave

Hourly city employees, many of whom work directly with the public, started earning sick leave July 1.

Assembly Bill 1522 (A.B. 1522), the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014, authored by Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, went into effect statewide July 1 to allow all employees to earn up to three sick days annually. Earlier this year, Councilmember Todd Gloria successfully championed three measures to implement the law for city employees.

“Providing earned sick leave is the right thing to do as a responsible employer; the city respects our employees and the people we serve,” said Councilmember Gloria. “Allowing city employees to earn sick leave is a good investment that helps ensure their continued ability to serve the public in a healthy and productive way.”

A.B. 1522 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. As a charter city, San Diego had to take steps including meeting and conferring with its employee organizations in order to implement earned sick leave. Councilmember Gloria developed the implementation proposal for municipal employees.

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, were not eligible for annual leave now benefit from sick leave through the implementation of A.B. 1522.

Councilmember Gloria championed 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, Assemblywoman Gonzalez secured three earned sick days statewide. For more about the new law: [www.CAPaidSickDays.com](http://www.CAPaidSickDays.com).

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.

# San Diego Strengthens Pedestrian Safety with Crosswalk Policy

Councilmember Todd Gloria announced on June 2 a critical policy action that will result in greater pedestrian safety throughout San Diego. The City Council approved an amendment to Council Policy 200-07 “Marked Crosswalk Criteria at Uncontrolled Locations” to incorporate changes in pedestrian safety practices and technology. The city anticipates installing four times as many crosswalks in the upcoming year as occurred in the previous year.

“Having safe, walkable neighborhoods is a quality of life issue which is of deep importance to the people in communities throughout San Diego,” said Councilmember Gloria. “Along with our city’s recent adoption of high visibility ‘continental’ crosswalks, this update is a much needed improvement that will make walking a safe, viable transportation option.”



The current policy was adopted in 1990 and was based on the most up-to-date pedestrian safety practices available at the time. In the 25 years since then, there have been substantial changes in pedestrian safety practices and technology, and the amendment passed today incorporates those changes.

To qualify for a crosswalk, a location must score a minimum of 16 points. As part of today’s action, the City Council increased the total number of available points from 34 to 38, meaning there are more elements to consider. In addition, the Pedestrian Volume Warrant threshold was reduced and a new Latent Pedestrian Demand Warrant was created and may be used in lieu of the Pedestrian Volume Warrant to account for areas

with a pedestrian traffic generator where people do not currently cross due to lack of safe pedestrian facilities.

The revised policy also includes the potential for special crosswalk treatments like flashing beacons and raised crosswalks, and Councilmember Gloria advocated for additional funding to implement these in appropriate locations.

The estimated city fiscal impact due to the Council Policy 200-07 update is expected to be approximately \$31,500 per year. The number of uncontrolled crosswalks installed by the Street Division is expected to increase from approximately seven locations per year to twenty-eight locations per year at an average of \$1,500 per location. This increase will be absorbed in the Street Division’s budget.

## Updates on Uptown Bike Project and SR-94 Expressway Project

Uptown Bike Corridor: The SANDAG Transportation Committee voted on June 5 to move ahead to final engineering on the Uptown Bike Corridor project. The project includes several bike paths through Old Town, into Mission Valley, protected bike lanes into Downtown through 4th and 5th Avenues in Bankers Hill, protected bike lanes and a sidewalk on the ramps between Washington Street and University Avenue, and protected bike lanes on the east leg of University. While University Avenue will not have protected bike lanes near the 163 interchange as part of this project, the city could elect to move forward with this as a future project. Additionally, the board was overwhelmingly in support of pedestrian improvements and other treatments along the west end of University Avenue. While protected bike lanes were a preferred for the full project, expanded sidewalks and other traffic calming measures will improve safety for all users on the road. This project will be a huge improvement in safety over conditions today and Councilmember Todd Gloria hopes you stay engaged as the city and SANDAG continue to move forward improving bike and pedestrian safety.

SR-94 Expressway: Councilmember Gloria recently stated his concerns about the proposed SR-94 Expressway Project and requested some changes from Caltrans and SANDAG. First, he requested a transit stop serving Golden Hill and Sherman Heights be added so those neighborhoods could benefit from the infrastructure that will impact them. Second, he requested environmental review of the SR-15 to SR-94 connector.

“While these changes will require additional investment, I am confident they will result in the robust transit system this region should expect,” said Councilmember Gloria.

While the additional study is being conducted and the South Bay Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) moves forward, Councilmember Gloria also asked that SANDAG and Caltrans conduct a pilot program to study one of the community preferred alternatives and allow buses to use the shoulder.



# Draft Community Plan Updates Now Available for Public Review

After years of work, the draft community plans for Uptown, Golden Hill, and North Park are available for public review.

The draft plans can be accessed online:

Golden Hill: <http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/greatergoldenhill/>

North Park: <http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/greaternorthpark/>

Uptown: <http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/uptown/>

As part of public review, the city is requesting comments from the community at-large and the designated planning groups be provided by Fall. The project schedules anticipate a draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) distributed for public review for each neighborhood toward the end of 2015 and Final EIRs in Spring 2016. Public hearings are anticipated by Summer 2016.

## Putting Parking Meter Money to Better Use



Councilmember Todd Gloria announced on June 30 policy changes to put parking meter funds to better use. The San Diego City Council approved amendments to Council Policy 100-18 to clarify the eligible uses of parking meter revenue and defining the areas where the funds can be spent. Changes approved today also included the additional requirement for Community Parking Districts (CPDs) to report their performance and outcomes to a City Council committee each year and to submit five-year budgets as part of their annual plans.

A city audit requested by Councilmember Gloria was completed in November 2014 and determined nearly \$18 million of parking meter funds meant to address parking challenges were sitting idle in accounts. Councilmember Gloria, who represents the neighborhoods where most of San Diego's parking meters are located, found this unacceptable and has been working with city staff to address deficiencies in the community parking district program.

"Parking is in short supply in many of our communities, but in many cases, funding is plentiful to address this challenge. The changes approved today will make it easier to

implement parking solutions with available parking meter revenue," said Councilmember Gloria.

The policy now clarifies that expenditures of parking meter revenue may generally be expended within a one-quarter mile radius from a parking meter zone for parking or traffic control and management purposes, including pedestrian and vehicle safety. Funds shall be focused on improvements and activities that increase the availability, supply, and effective use of parking for residents, visitors, and employees. Examples of appropriate purposes are provided such as: leasing, purchasing, or construction of additional on-street or off-street parking; acquisition of land, project design, financing, construction, and/or operation of public parking facilities (not including special event parking); providing mobility (parking and access) information through wayfinding signage or media; community shuttles or circulator systems; and enhancing mobility within the Community Parking District and facilitating the use of alternative forms of transportation to reduce parking demand.

To complement the approved changes, performance measures for CPDs are being developed that will help clarify the benefits achieved by each organization annually.

Councilmember Gloria has consistently championed improvements to parking challenges throughout his tenure on the City Council. The city is currently implementing mobile pay technology for approximately 1,000 smart meters in the Uptown neighborhoods as a six month pilot program. Should the mobile pay option be well-utilized and function properly, the city intends on expanding it to additional meters. He led efforts to reform and re-launch the Uptown Community Parking District when its predecessor's financial dealings were found to be questionable; he pushed the Mid-City Community Parking District to produce more than studies; requested the legal opinion that opened the door for parking meter funds to be used on some bike and pedestrian projects; completed the city's contract for smart parking meters; and is working with the Parking Advisory Board to develop amendments to the angled parking conversion policy to make those projects easier to implement.

Parking meter revenue is split between the city and CPDs, with the city getting 55% and the local CPD receiving 45%. CPDs are represented by a neighborhood advisory board, which is charged with monitoring parking meter utilization and recommending parking-related improvements that can be funded with parking meter revenues.

## Reminder: Waste No Water

Rebates for turf removal, rain barrels and micro-irrigation are available through the city. Learn more at [wastenowater.org](http://wastenowater.org). Other rebates are now available from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. All city water customers must reduce landscape irrigation to two days a week, for five minutes each time, and there should be no watering for 48 hours after rain. Also, no one should hose down hard surfaces such as sidewalks, parking lots, and patios except to avoid safety or sanitation hazards. Enforcement of these restrictions by the city can result in notices of violations, administrative citations, and fines of up to \$1,000.

The city is doing its part, too, by complying with all water use restrictions. In city parks, hundreds of sprinkler heads were replaced with water-efficient nozzles, irrigation was stopped at dog parks, and more drought-tolerant landscaping is being planted. Also, toilets are being replaced with water-efficient models, and self-closing drinking fountains and sinks have been installed in city facilities.

## Project 25 *(continued from page 2)*

Conceived of and funded by United Way with \$1.5 million over three years, Project 25 is a historic public-private partnership between the County of San Diego, City of San Diego/San Diego Housing Commission, and United Way. Father Joe's Villages, San Diego's largest local homeless service provider, managed the pilot and will continue to oversee the program moving forward.

"I am tremendously proud of the trail Father Joe's blazed with our work on Project 25. This work was critical to assess how San Diego can best help the most needy among our chronically homeless population," said Deacon Jim F. Vargas, president and CEO, Father Joe's Villages. "With the help of public and private funding and the continued support of the Housing Commission, we are expanding the program and continuing our work to tailor solutions to the individuals who come to us at a critical turning point in their lives." United Way provided \$100,000 of additional bridge funding in the program's fourth year to help boost fundraising.

The report, "Project 25: Helping the Most Frequent Users of Public Services," analyzed 28 individuals enrolled in the program and housed in the first year. The individuals ranged in age from 22 to 61, with a median age of 47. Five were veterans. All of the individuals studied had some form of mental illness, a serious physical disability and/or a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. Many had all three.

As a result of Project 25, the median expense per user decreased from nearly \$111,000 in 2010 to less than \$12,000 in 2013.

Today, 33 participants remain housed in their own apartments (three passed away from natural causes during the program), have health insurance and receive preventative health care through a community clinic versus regularly accessing emergency care.

## Budget *(continued from page 1)*

The City Council continued their proven track record in fiscal responsibility as championed by Councilmember Gloria over his five years as Budget Committee chair. The budget fully funds the city's reserves to target levels. Sensible decisions including paying the city's pension obligations in full and on time for eleven consecutive years and developing a prudent reserve policy have led to San Diego's bond rating being upgraded twice since 2008 and will ensure the long-term financial health of the city.

Additionally, the Councilmember spoke during Council's deliberations on the final budget about the lack of a long term strategy to fund the city's infrastructure needs. The Mayor's budget calls for \$29.2 million for street repairs and \$3.2 million for sidewalk repairs, but the infrastructure backlog is at \$3.87 billion, and \$2.16 billion of that need lacks identified funding sources.

"The lack of a comprehensive long-term solution to our multi-billion dollar infrastructure problem is the single greatest issue facing San Diego today," said Councilmember Gloria. "I support efforts to continue to explore financing options on an upcoming ballot."

The FY 2016 budget also includes significant public safety funding including \$11.1 million to implement the recently approved contract with the San Diego Police Officers Association, \$2.1 million to expand the police body camera program, \$2.5 million for the operation of East Side Mission Valley Fire Station and the Skyline Temporary Fire Station, and the addition of several more code enforcement officers to address substandard housing.

## Night Plaza Returns to Downtown San Diego's Gaslamp Quarter

Looking for a new way to enjoy summer in San Diego? Handsomely decorated and inviting, Night Plaza will offer café-style seating, warm lighting, and spontaneous performances by musicians, buskers, and artists on specific nights in the Gaslamp Quarter.

Thanks to a partnership between the Gaslamp Quarter Association, Downtown San Diego Partnership, and Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation, Night Plaza is a pop-up public space on Island Avenue between 4th and 5th Avenues for free for all to enjoy between 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on five more evenings in 2015: Friday, July 31; Saturday, August 15; Friday, August 28; Friday, September 11; and Saturday, September 19, 2015. The first two Night Plasas demonstrated the popularity of the concept in June.

Learn more about Night Plaza by visiting <http://www.nightplaza.com>.

## Balboa Park to Host Maker Faire: Get Tickets or Apply for Exhibit Space



The fall signature Centennial event will be a Maker Faire in Balboa Park on October 3 and 4, 2015. The Maker Faire is described as part science fair, part county fair, and part something entirely new. Maker Faire is an all-ages gathering of tech enthusiasts, crafters, educators, tinkerers, hobbyists, engineers, science clubs, authors, artists, students, and commercial exhibitors. All of these “makers” come to Maker Faire to show what they have made and to share what they have learned.

The Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, San Diego Makers Guild, and Tijuana Innovadora will partner with the City of San Diego to put on this first-ever event showcasing innovators and creators from our binational region.

Earlybird tickets for Maker Faire San Diego went on sale on June 15. Adult prices start at \$15. Children prices start at \$10. For more information, to apply to showcase your creations, and to purchase tickets, go to <http://sdmakerfaire.org/>.

## ‘Tis the Season for Summer Concerts

Don't miss the San Diego summer tradition of neighborhood concerts. University Heights, North Park, and Mission Hills all host free family-friendly musical events throughout the summer. Check out the schedules below, grab a lawn chair and some snacks, and head to a park near you for fun entertainment.

### University Heights Summer in the Park Concert Series

Friday evenings, 6:00—8:00 p.m.  
Trolley Barn Park  
Adams Avenue at Florida Street

July 10: Caliber (70s, 80s, old school funk)

July 17: The Jazz Pigs (multicultural jazz, rock fusion)

July 24: Liz Grace & The Swing Thing (big band, swing, jazz)

July 31: Billy Lee & The Swamp Critters (zydeco, Cajun, Texas swing)

August 7: Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing Orchestra (boogie woogie and swing)

For more information, please visit  
[www.uhcdc.org](http://www.uhcdc.org).

### Mission Hills

#### Summer Concerts in the Park

Friday evenings, 6:00—8:00 p.m.  
Pioneer Park  
Washington Place

July 4 *Bonus Concert at 12:30 p.m.: Dr. Elvis*

July 10: Help! (Beatles tribute band)

July 17: Hullabaloo (free range, organic, kid-folk)

July 24: Liquidblue (cover band)

July 31: Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing Orchestra (boogie woogie and swing)

For more information, please visit  
[www.missionhillstowncouncil.org](http://www.missionhillstowncouncil.org).



### Bird Park Summer Concerts

Saturday evenings, 5:30—7:30 p.m.  
Bird Park

Upas at 28th Streets in North Park

July 11: Danny and the Tramp (rock)

July 25: Piel (electronic, techno)

August 9: Scott Martin Band (Latin, soul jazz)

More information:  
[www.northparksd.org/programs/](http://www.northparksd.org/programs/)



# Tracking Todd



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1. Todd helps honor General Cardenas at the unveiling of the retired military leader's statue in Balboa Park. 2. Todd chats with a constituent during his visit with the Downtown Residents Group. 3. Todd celebrates Philippine Independence Day. 4. On National HIV Testing Day, Todd demonstrated his commitment to Be the Generation that ends HIV/AIDS. 5. Todd presents Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins with Equality California's Vanguard Award.

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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