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1. Joining residents in Golden Hill for thoughtful discussions on neighborhood issues and City Council priorities. Thank you, Krakatoa for hosting us! 2. I joined my congregation, the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, in announcing our decision to become a sanctuary congregation. 3. Spending a wonderful afternoon at the San Diego Imperial Court's 16th Annual Community Egg Hunt. Thank you to all those who donated baskets and helped put this amazing event together! 4. Washington Street is one of many areas that has drastically been affected by homelessness. It was a pleasure to spend some time last month connecting small business owners with available resources to address the daily challenges they face.

**Councilmember Ward serves on the following:**

Chair, Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations

Chair, Council Select Committee on Homelessness

Vice-Chair, Regional Task Force on the Homeless

Member, SANDAG Public Safety Committee

Alternate Member, California Coastal Commission

Vice-Chair, Budget Committee

Member, Infrastructure Committee

Member, Rules Committee



## NEWS FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS WARD

Dear Neighbors:

On April 12th, I stood with Mayor Faulconer and fellow Councilmembers to announce a proposed budget that will safeguard essential city services and expand San Diego's commitment to public safety and homelessness. I have been an outspoken advocate for securing resources to address the persistent homeless crisis that continues to overwhelm our neighborhoods. In a year where we were warned to expect significant budget deficits the initial budget maintains our commitment to neighborhood infrastructure and services while remaining fiscally responsible.

This proposed budget includes millions for additional investments in homeless services while keeping our long-term goal of implementing permanent housing solutions. Within the last year, the City has brought online three temporary shelters to house 700 individuals, an additional storage facility to serve 500 clients, and will soon break ground on a centralized homeless navigation center. We've made programs such as safe camping and safe parking more accessible to those in need. These are a few of the investments necessary to continue the work of moving thousands of San Diegans off our streets and into housing.

The primary responsibility of your city government is public safety and this budget addresses our police retention issues, allocating \$28.3 million to help fill more than 200 vacant sworn officer positions in the San Diego Police Department. In order to return to community policing and properly address neighborhood quality of life issues we need a fully staffed department. The proposed capital improvement budget will also increase to \$553 million which will help fund many of the long-awaited infrastructure projects throughout our neighborhoods.

I'll be thoroughly reviewing the rest of this budget to ensure the final product satisfies the needs of our neighborhoods while making bold decisions for San Diego's future. I encourage everyone that can participate in this process to attend a budget meeting and if you cannot make it, share with my office what your priorities are. If we get involved, if we make our voices heard, our City budget can genuinely be an expression of the values we hold.

DISTRICT 3

May 2018



## District Three Business Walk in Mission Hills & Hillcrest

The issue of homelessness touches all our lives—from public policy to our tax dollars, from our neighborhoods to our businesses. As any business owner in the area can attest, when people are struggling to attain necessary resources like food, shelter and medical or psychological care, it puts a strain on the community. Washington Street is one of many areas that has drastically been affected by homelessness.

Recently, I spent time connecting small business owners with available resources to address the daily challenges they face. There are several ways small businesses can address the immediate issues and impacts related to homelessness.

If you see an individual who requires assistance, offer to help and call for public services.

- Avoid confrontation and maintain a safe distance if you see suspicious activity.
- Dial 2-1-1, a free 24/hr confidential phone service that connects clients with health, housing and additional county services.
- Talk to the SDPD Community Relations Officer for your neighborhood about any suspicious activity you encounter.
- File a Letter of Agency (LOA) with SDPD authorizing the police department to enter your property to investigate suspicious activity. Find this form at <http://sandiego.gov/police>.



## Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations Committee

The Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee recently discussed a new framework to Council Policy 900-12: Business and Industry Incentive Program.

This ordinance, enacted in 1993, was designed to attract and retain major revenue, job-generating, and revitalization projects throughout San Diego. Since its passage, there have been significant shifts in our local economy as well as changes to known practices attributed to stimulating economic development.

The new framework prioritizes inclusiveness, ensuring every community has a relevant connection to our local economy. It also focuses on strengthening San Diego's workforce increasing the local purchasing power, improving the demand for local goods and services while sustaining small business.

Accountability measures for any business that receives assistance from the City have also been included to ensure a transparent and fair process.

The committee will discuss the final version of this framework in June before deciding whether to forward it to the full City Council. In the meantime, I directed city staff to engage community stakeholders and explore how this new framework can better support investments in our local workforce. If we reach out to our community partners, we can strengthen our commitment to supporting small business and increase the number of good paying jobs we see in our communities.

Sign up for our e-news! Visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd3/>



## Your District Three Staff



**Molly Chase**  
Chief of Staff  
Balboa Park  
[mbchase@sandiego.gov](mailto:mbchase@sandiego.gov)

**Lucas O'Connor**  
Economic Development &  
Intergovernmental Relations  
Committee Consultant  
[loconnor@sandiego.gov](mailto:loconnor@sandiego.gov)

**Brian Elliott**  
Policy Advisor  
Downtown, Little Italy  
[belliott@sandiego.gov](mailto:belliott@sandiego.gov)

**Brittany Bailey**  
Council Representative  
Mission Hills, Middletown,  
Bankers Hill, Hillcrest  
[bnbailey@sandiego.gov](mailto:bnbailey@sandiego.gov)

**Brett Weise**  
Council Representative  
Normal Heights, Golden Hill,  
South Park  
[bweise@sandiego.gov](mailto:bweise@sandiego.gov)

**Tyler Renner**  
Council Representative  
University Heights, North  
Park, Burlingame  
[trenner@sandiego.gov](mailto:trenner@sandiego.gov)

**Vanessa Bernal**  
Director of Office  
Administration  
Old Town  
[vbernal@sandiego.gov](mailto:vbernal@sandiego.gov)

**Ansermio Jake Estrada**  
Communications Manager  
[Estradaaj@sandiego.gov](mailto:Estradaaj@sandiego.gov)

### Community Meetings:

We look forward to seeing you soon out in the community at one of our upcoming events:

- Budget Town Hall: May 9, 6:00pm—7:00pm, The Bankers Hill Club- 3030 Front Street.
- Budget Review Committee: May 14, 6:00pm—9:00pm, City Admin Building- 202 C Street.
- Community Office Hours: May 16, 4:00pm—6:00pm, Golden Hill Rec Center- 2600 Golf Course Drive.
- Cocktails with your Councilmember: May 22, 5:30pm—7:30pm, Farmer's Bottega- 860 W Washington St.

For more information on any of these events, contact my office at [ChristopherWard@sandiego.gov](mailto:ChristopherWard@sandiego.gov) or (619) 236-6633.

## Camelot Canyon (Vermont St Bridge) Fire

I have been calling for increased environmental clean ups and brush abatements to address concerns from residents related to our canyons. Immediately after the recent fire under the Vermont Street Bridge, crews from the San Diego Environmental Services Department, Urban Corps and Caltrans combined their efforts to remove debris from Camelot Canyon.

The Fire Department's Code Compliance Supervisor determined that this area is in violation of the San Diego Municipal Code. To bring the area into compliance, the City is required to remove all dead vegetation, remove all the foliage from the recently cut trees and fallen trees, lace up all trees a minimum of 6' from ground and reduce the vegetation by 50% in accordance with the City's brush management regulations.

We will continue to advocate for more resources and attention to this area and other impacted canyon areas in District 3. I will continue to update everyone when we have more information about scheduled brush and vegetation abatement. In the meantime, I will be fighting for a future more comprehensive abatement of brush and vegetation in conjunction with Caltrans.

