



News from  
Councilmember Todd Gloria

District Three

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Mid-Year Budget Report Projects Strong Economic Outlook**

*Budget Committee Approves Adjustment Including \$4 Million for Homeless Veterans Initiative*

SAN DIEGO, CA (February 24, 2016) – The Budget and Government Efficiency Committee today unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2016 Mid-Year Budget Monitoring Report. Councilmember Todd Gloria, who has chaired the Budget Committee for six years, spoke in favor of recommendations for budget adjustments including \$4 million for the City's Homeless Veterans Initiative.

The annual mid-year report provides an opportunity for the City Council to compare the current year's adopted budget with the first two quarters' performance to make budget adjustments and authorize new appropriations.

The report projects a \$7.6 million surplus based on a net \$3.7 million increase in revenue and \$3.9 million in decreases in expenditures. The revenue increase was a result of strong hotel tax numbers and state legislation that freed up local funding, while the \$3.9 million decrease in expenditures was due to efficiencies in information technology, lower than expected energy and gasoline costs, and water conservation.

**"Higher than anticipated revenues, a low unemployment rate, and rising property values translate to increased funding for City services and programs,"** said Councilmember Gloria. **"Overall, the fiscal reforms the Council has enacted over the years along with the oversight provided by the Budget Committee have prepared San Diego's financial outlook to remain strong despite slowing growth and economic uncertainties."**

The committee approved the recommendation to utilize \$5.8 million in surplus funds to replenish the City's Public Liability Reserve, though the reserve would still be approximately \$8 million short of meeting the targets set by the City's reserve policy. The remainder of the surplus was recommended to be set aside to address any year end variances.

A \$4 million appropriation for San Diego's Homeless Veterans Initiative was included in the Mid-Year Ordinance accompanying the report. This contribution is part of a larger \$12.5 million dollar effort being administered by the San Diego Housing Commission to house 1,000 homeless veterans by providing landlord incentives, supportive services, and rapid re-housing vouchers.

**"As chair of the Regional Continuum of Care Committee that oversees federal funding for homelessness in the region, supporting the Homeless Veterans Initiative is one of the most meaningful steps we can take to serve the women and men that protect our nation. Other large cities and even entire states have ended homelessness among their veteran populations by utilizing the Housing First model, so this is an achievable goal that everyone should support."**

The mid-year report will be considered by the full City Council on Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

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