

Hello District 5 Neighbors!

I just completed my first full month in office and while this is truly the honor of a lifetime to serve as your councilmember, this is a very challenging time for our city and our nation. Responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic remains my main focus as we start the new legislative cycle here at the city. In addition to maintaining our city's core government services, our top priorities must be getting shots in the arms of San Diegans as quickly as possible, helping tenants and landlords, and aiding our small business community.

While not as fast as we would like, the vaccine roll out in San Diego has started to ramp up and is on track to expand access so that any resident who wants a vaccine, can get a vaccine. I toured the Vaccine Super Station near Petco Park as well as the San Diego Fire-Rescue Vaccine Center to see their technical infrastructure and operations as they administer the vaccine. I am so proud of the work they do and look forward to working on strengthening our regional partnerships in this effort with the county, state, and federal governments. I want to thank our partners, healthcare workers, and first responders who have done a fantastic job getting these programs up and running.

It has also been a pleasure to start working with the different community groups, especially with many new projects coming to our District 5 communities. During my campaign I attended many community group meetings as a candidate, and I look forward to continuing to attend as your councilmember.

I have sincerely enjoyed hearing from so many of you these past few weeks and I welcome everyone's continued thoughts on how to improve our great city. Please don't hesitate to reach out to my office and wish everyone a safe and healthy year ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marni von Wilpert'.

Councilmember Marni von Wilpert
MarnivonWilpert@sandiego.gov



COVID-19 Update

Mayor Gloria to Lead Town Hall on COVID-19 Vaccinations-Tonight, February 1st at 5:00pm

The Mayor will be joined by City Council President Dr. Jennifer Campbell and public-health experts to provide information about vaccine development, safety and effectiveness. Residents are encouraged to attend and can register [here](#).

\$42 Million in Federal Emergency Rental Assistance for San Diegans

Mayor Gloria has proposed \$42.3 million from the latest federal stimulus to provide financial assistance to cover unpaid rent and utilities for qualifying residential households affected by COVID-19. It is critically important that we keep as many people in their homes and businesses as possible, make sure rent debt is not accumulated over time, and ensure landlords are not at risk of foreclosure. This funding will be distributed through a program administered by the San Diego Housing Commission, and details on eligibility and the application process are forthcoming.

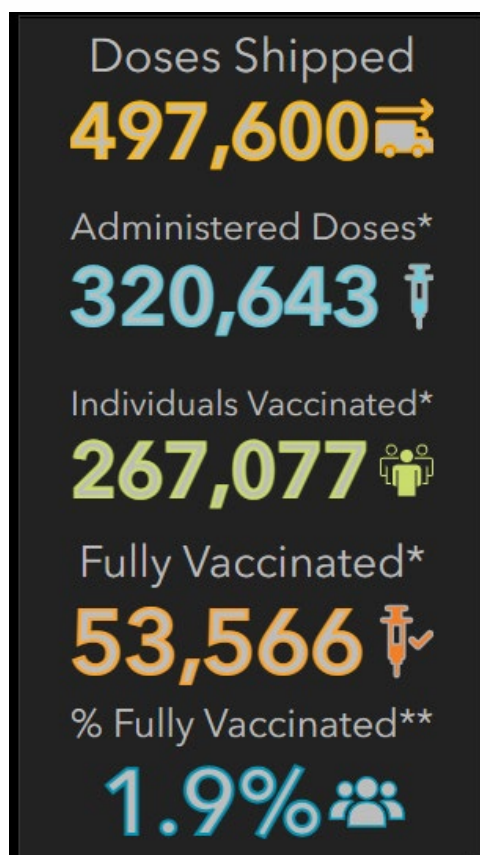
San Diego Eviction Moratorium Extended

This week the City Council voted to extend the eviction protections for renters and businesses. While an eviction ban is not something I take lightly, I was happy to support this extension of the eviction protections for renters and businesses to ensure no one becomes homeless or loses their storefront due to COVID-19. The new ordinance places a ban on evictions for residential renters and businesses who can't pay their rent because of job loss or revenue loss due to the pandemic. Affected businesses will have six months from the end of the commercial eviction moratorium to repay any outstanding payments. Residential eviction moratorium details can be found [here](#).

Third-party food delivery fees in City of San Diego at 15%

The COVID-19 pandemic has put a severe financial strain on local restaurants, particularly the small businesses already operating on thin margins. Last week I joined with my council colleagues in issuing a memo asking Mayor Todd Gloria to consider issuing an executive order to place a Temporary Fee Cap on third-party delivery services operating within the City. I applaud his quick executive action he took to aid our restaurant community during this challenging time. Read the executive order [here](#).

San Diego County Vaccination Progress



[Click here for a full breakdown of San Diego's vaccination progression.](#)

When Can I get My Vaccine?

Right now, healthcare workers, all others in Phase 1A, and individuals 65 and older can make an appointment at a County vaccination site. [Click here for a more comprehensive breakdown of when you can receive a vaccine.](#)

You can also sign up for California's test website [MyTurn](#) to find out if it's your turn to get vaccinated and schedule vaccination appointments.

Related COVID-19 News

- President Joe Biden announced his national strategy for COVID-19 preparedness and response. Click [here](#).
- Gavin Newsom proposed extended renter protections and \$600 checks for low-income Californians. Click [here](#).
- President Joe Biden proposed \$1.6 Trillion Stimulus Package- the American Rescue Plan. Click [here](#).

Committees and Boards

On December 15th the City Council approved the committee assignments set forth by Council President Jennifer Campbell.

Committee on Active Transportation and Infrastructure

I am proud to serve as Chair of the Committee on Active Transportation and Infrastructure to build upon the great work that my predecessor, Mark Kersey, began. As Chair, I will work hard to streamline internal processes while improving public outreach to deliver critical infrastructure faster and with less impact on our communities. My fellow committee members submitted their priorities as we create our Work Plan for the year and in the next issue of *The von Wilpert Report*, we will announce the finalized 2021 Work Plan for the Committee on Active Transportation and Infrastructure.

Committee on Environment

I will also serve as Vice Chair of the Committee on Environment and I will work with Chair Sean Elo-Rivera to update and follow through in implementing our Climate Action Plan, reduce pollution, and ensure that every family and every neighborhood in San Diego has access to clean air and water. I look forward to working with my fellow Environment Committee Members and members of the public as we address San Diego's short- and long-term environmental priorities. You can read my priorities for the Environment Committee [here](#).

Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods

As member of the Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods, I look forward to working with Chair Monica Montgomery Steppe as the city implements the Commission on Police Practices, as well as prioritizing fire safety, fighting the opioid epidemic, and finding lasting solutions for our homelessness crisis. I am honored to serve on this incredibly important and impactful Committee. You can read my priorities for the PS&LN Committee [here](#).

I was also honored to be appointed by Mayor Todd Gloria to the San Diego Regional Airport Authority Board and the North County Transit District Board of Directors.

City Hall Update

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities Memo

In response to Councilmember Chris Cate's request as Budget and Government Efficiency Chair, I submitted my budget priorities memo for FY 2022. This outlines what I will be fighting for as your councilmember, but I will always be honest with you, and right now we are facing a significant budget crisis. To quote our Mayor, "the state of our city is fragile." I am committed to working closely with my Council colleagues, the Mayor, the

IBA, city staff and members of the public to develop a budget that is balanced and addresses the needs of our communities. As we move forward in the development of the FY 2022 budget, our #1 priority must be maintaining our city's core government services and focusing on COVID-19 response and recovery. There is no doubt this is a challenging time for our city, but I believe that working together, we will get through this crisis and ensure every family in every neighborhood thrives in San Diego. You can read my full Budget Priorities Memo [here](#).

The public budget hearings will be held on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 10th and 11th of May. As we get closer to the dates, the Budget Committee will release more details on how to participate in public comment. You can find the full legislative calendar [here](#).

City Receives \$6 Million Federal Grant for Storm Drain Project

As Chair of the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, repairing our City's Stormwater infrastructure is one of my top priorities. This \$6 million federal grant is a great example of federal-city partnerships, led by Mayor Todd Gloria to complete critical infrastructure repairs. Read more details [here](#).

San Diego's Gas and Electric Franchise

The city's gas and electric franchise agreement is the contract that allows SDG&E to use public right-of-way to provide gas and electric services to San Diegans. The previous 50-year contract was set to expire on January 17th, 2021 and in order to seek a better deal for ratepayers that meets our climate action goals, I supported a 5-month extension to allow our new mayor and new councilmembers time to negotiate a new deal. Read more details [here](#).

In the Community

December 31st—Judy Neu Costco Career Proclamation

Our office had the pleasure of issuing my first proclamation to honor the career of Costco's longest tenured employee ever, Judy Neu. Judy began her career in 1976 when Costco was still Price Club, as the 18th employee EVER HIRED by the retail giant. Her 44-year long career included time in the Carmel Mountain Costco location, where in the middle of a pandemic she continued to work 40-hour weeks until her retirement to make sure our neighbors in District 5 got the essential supplies they needed. Her impeccable work record is complemented by her remarkable philanthropy, having raised over \$75,000 for Rady's Children's Hospital, ten cents at a time by recycling cans and bottles from the warehouse. Thank you, Judy, for making my first proclamation as a councilmember so special. I wish you the best of luck in your well-deserved retirement!



January 6th – Fixed streetlight on Chaco Ct. in Peñasquitos

A Rancho Peñasquitos resident reported a broken streetlight on Chaco Ct and City maintenance crews showed up to repair it. The resident filed a report using the Get It Done app and our staff was able to track the progress of the repair using the report number*. Using the Get It Done app or website feature is the best way to alert the city of the need to report streetlight repairs, potholes, graffiti, and much more. Learn more about the services provided by Get It Done [here](#).

*Right now there is a city-wide back-log to repair street lights. Please submit any street light repairs through the Get It Done app and work crews will get to it as soon as possible.



January 8th – Rancho Bernardo High School Fundraiser

District 5 staff participated in a fundraiser for Rancho Bernardo High School at the Carmel Mountain Ranch Dairy Queen. The Bronco Blizzard was delicious!



January 11th – Racist Graffiti Removed from Bike Bridge Along SR-56

Racism and hate have no place in our city. I am happy to report that hate speech graffiti was removed by City employees within 8 hours of it being reported to our office. A special thanks to our colleagues at Transportation and Stormwater who put boots on the ground and took quick action that same day. When submitting a Get It Done request for offensive or hateful graffiti, please provide photos and be sure to check the box saying “Offensive.” That way, the City knows to treat it as urgent.

January 15th – Sand Volleyball Courts Rototilled at Views West Park and Twin Peaks Park

After my office was contacted by a concerned resident, the sand volleyball courts at Views West Park and Twin Peaks Park were rototilled and cleared of debris by maintenance crews from Parks and Recreation. Thank you to resident Kim Harsch-Bird for contacting our office about this issue, and for her continued advocacy for our neighborhood parks. The city does not provide volleyball nets so if you head over to enjoy the freshly tilled courts, be sure to bring your own net and ball!

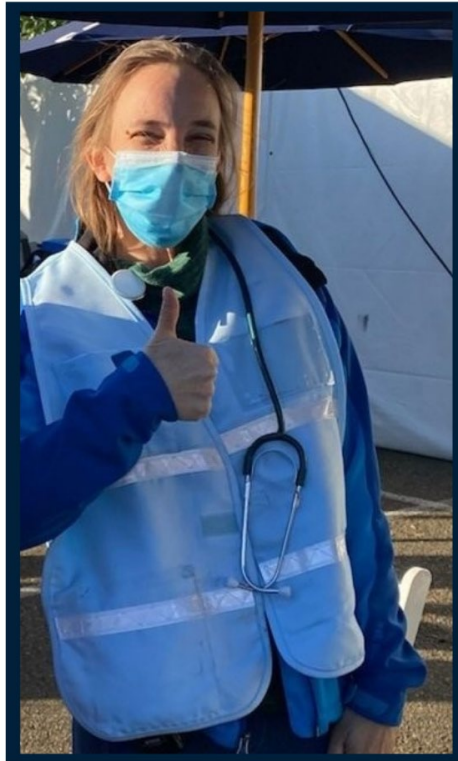
January 18th – All People’s Celebration

I attended the 33rd annual All Peoples Celebration where we honored the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Thank you to Alliance San Diego for hosting the virtual celebration, and a special congratulations to Councilmember Monica Montgomery Steppe on receiving the Ashley L. Walker Social Justice Award!

January 21st – Tour of Vaccination Super Station near Petco

Park

Last week I took a tour of the Vaccine Super Station near Petco Park. I want to thank UCSD Health, San Diego Padres, and the County of San Diego who have partnered with the city and have done a fantastic job getting this program up and running. While I was taking the tour, I ran into District 5 resident Dr. Shira Ables, who is working on the front lines delivering the vaccine. A special thank you to all the healthcare workers and volunteers who are helping to get shots in the arms of San Diegans as quickly as possible.



Announcements

Gas and Electric Franchise Community Forum

Mark your calendars! Join us on February 18th for a District 5 virtual community forum to discuss the future of San Diego's gas and electric franchise agreement. Date and Zoom link below.

When: February 18th, 2021

Time: 5:30pm

Zoom Link: <https://sandiego.zoomgov.com/j/1609762303?pwd=VVRoelM1OXhuenlPQWd3NXNHZmdLdz09>

COVID-19 Vaccination Volunteers Needed

Medical and non-medical volunteers are needed! Register to volunteer at the Vaccination

Super Station near Petco Park [here](#).

Californian's Urged to Review Current Insurance Policies

With a forecast of winter weather bringing the possibility of floods, mudslides, debris flows, and other disasters to recent wildfire burn areas throughout the state, Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara is [alerting Californians to review their current insurance policies](#) in order to protect themselves and their assets. Commissioner Lara also [issued a formal Notice to insurance companies reminding them of their duty to cover damage](#) from any future mudslide or similar disaster that is caused by recent wildfires that weakened hillsides. Please also consider sharing this “Consumer Alert” within your networks to inform consumers and policyholders, especially those living in recent wildfire burn areas throughout the state.

Staying Up to Date

To stay up to date with real-time news and updates, make sure you follow me on my social media pages.

Twitter: [@marnivonwilpert](#)

Facebook: [@councilmembermarnivonwilpert](#)

Instagram: [@marnivonwilpert](#)

Find contact information for District 5 staff [here](#).

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