October is typically one of the hottest months in the San Diego region. Add the threat of powerful Santa Ana winds coming in from the mountains and it’s a dangerous recipe for out of control wildfires.

District 7 communities are especially in danger of wildfires due to large open-spaces and canyonlands. Many houses within the district go right to the canyon’s edge.

It’s also important to remember that wildfire danger isn’t just near canyonlands. In the 2007 fires, houses were burning when the fire-front was miles away. Flying embers have been known to travel over five miles from a wildfire.

To ensure a home is prepared for wildfire season, some suggestions include:

- **Roofs:** Burning branches, leaves, and embers can be carried by the wind and land on the roof. Roof materials should have a Class-A rating. Slate, terra cotta (clay) or standing-seam metal roofing are examples of Class-A fire-resistant suggested material.

- **Vents:** All vents should be covered with 1/8 inch metal mesh. DO NOT use fiberglass or plastic mesh.

- **Rain gutters:** Screen or enclose rain gutters to prevent accumulation of plant debris.

- **Garage Door:** Install weather stripping around and under doors to prevent embers from getting inside.

It takes everyone to keep a community safe. A wildfire only needs one unprepared home to spread to an entire neighborhood. This is why it is important that everyone stays diligent in the upcoming months.

For further safety tips, please visit San Diego Fire-Rescue’s website here. Also, if you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact my office at 619-236-6677 or email at ScottSherman@SanDiego.Gov

In Service,

Scott Sherman
Last month, the City Council approved a municipal code amendment to allow mixed-use zoning in the City of San Diego. The new code change creates six new zones that allow developers to mix employment and residential uses.

In addition to creating more flexibility, the zones will be applied in Transit Priority Areas (TPA’s) which will encourage residents to live, work, and play in the same area. Encouraging growth in TPA’s also helps the city achieve its climate action goals by reducing the need for vehicle trips.

Most importantly, these new zones will allow the market to dictate the need. The new zones will allow 20 to 30 percent more uses by right and lets builders develop based on need, not bureaucratic code ordinances.

“This code change provides another tool in the toolbox to spur growth and development in San Diego,” said Councilmember Sherman. “The cost of housing continues to rise in our region and the City Council must consider all options to help ease the financial burden on San Diego families.”

An ordinance adopted in 2002 calls for the city to use a minimum of six percent of its budget on libraries. Unfortunately, this ordinance has not been followed. In fact, a recent assessment of branch libraries found that 30 percent are in poor condition.

The “Friends of the Library” at Serra Mesa/Kearney Mesa have helped augment the library’s budget by selling books and magazines in the foyer. However, additional funds are needed for security cameras, a new hand dryer, and some additional maintenance.

Any help supporting the library would be greatly appreciated. All donations are tax deductible. Donations envelopes can be picked up at the library or a check made payable to FSDPL (Friends of San Diego Public Library) and written in memo – Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa branch, can be mailed to the library, 9005 Aero Dr. San Diego, CA 92123-2312.

For more information, please click here.
In 2018, San Diego voters overwhelmingly approved Measure G, which will transfer ownership of the SDCCU stadium site to San Diego State University once terms are negotiated with the city. If implemented in the right way, SDSU West could help transform the region in a positive way.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry who supported Measure G, and Councilmember Scott Sherman who opposed the measure joined together at a recent press conference to voice their concerns regarding the process so far and offered solutions to help ensure the project is successful for all San Diegans.

Councilmember Sherman’s Concerns include:

- The proposed traffic mitigation measure do not live up to voters ‘expectations as outlined in Measure G and the campaign.
  - A representative for SDSU stated at a September 11, 2019 Land Use & Housing Committee that $21 million in “traffic improvements” are planned.
  - City staff estimate the offsite improvements proposed in the EIR value approximately $2 million, inferring that $19 million will be within the project site itself. When asked at the committee, the SDSU representative did not have the specific breakdown of traffic improvement spending onsite vs. offsite.
  - The traffic mitigation in the EIR consists mostly of traffic signal optimization and turn lanes, and does not mitigate for freeway traffic aside from promoting alternative modes of transportation.
- The draft EIR is inconsistent with the newly passed Mission Valley Community Plan.
  - The Fenton bridge connection was not analyzed in their EIR
  - This connection was modeled for the Community Plan and found to be essential for circulation, public safety and expanded access to transit.
  - The SDSU Mission Valley Campus Master Plan does not provide for a cycle track along Friars Road, which is included in Mission Valley Community Plan, but instead adds another vehicular lane.
- The draft EIR omits improvements or maintenance of Murphy Canyon Creek to prevent flooding
  - Measure G specifies that SDSU will mitigate drainage impact
  - The Measure G boundary map clearly connects to Highway 15
  - Now SDSU is claiming a new boundary line west of Murphy Canyon Creek.
  - At the Sept. 11th hearing the SDSU representative said that the channel is not part of the project and they do not have to improve it.
City officials recently announced that cleanup crews have removed over 4,000 tons of trash and debris from neighborhoods across the city since 2017.

This year’s budget marks the third fiscal year in a row that significantly expanded the program’s funding to more than $10 million – nearly quadrupling the investment in annual cleanup efforts since Fiscal Year 2017.

The latest expansion went into effect July 1st with the hiring of second- and third-shift crews, enacting litter removal on a 24/7 basis and working to manage weeds and brush growth in medians and areas across the city.

In partnership with the San Diego River Park Foundation, the City has also targeted cleanup efforts along the San Diego River – reducing the number of homeless encampments by 90 percent.

The 4,000 tons of trash collected includes:

- 7,500 mattresses and box springs
- 2,140 shopping carts
- 985 tires
- 590 appliances

Do you have an issue or problem in your community? Please contact my office at 619-236-6677 or email at ScottSherman@SanDiego.Gov. We are here to help!
Upcoming District 7 Events

Linda Vista Farmers Market – Every Thursday in October 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Stop by the Linda Vista Farmers market every Thursday this month to buy delicious, organic, and local fruits and vegetables to feed your family. The Farmers Market is open from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm and is located at the Linda Vista Plaza Shopping Center at 6939 Linda Vista Rd, San Diego, CA 92111.

San Carlos Library Used Book Sale – October 5th 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

The San Carlos Friends of the Library will be holding their monthly used book sale. They offer a large array of books in every genre. All proceeds go to support the library. The San Carlos Library is located at 7265 Jackson Dr, San Diego, CA 92119. For more information, please email booksales@sancarlosfriendsofthelibrary.org

Tierrasanta Community Council Meeting – October 16th 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

11220 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA 92124. Held in the Recreation Center Building in the far west end of the parking lot, west of the basketball courts.

See what's going on in your community! Want to participate? Several committees need your input to keep Tierrasanta one of San Diego’s greatest communities! Click here for more information.

Linda Vista Town Council Meeting – October 17th – 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

The Linda Vista Town Council’s primary objective is to improve the quality of life in the community. Meetings are held at the Bahai Faith Center at 6545 Alcala Knolls, 92111. For more information, please click here.

Friends of Ruffin Canyon Meeting in Serra Mesa – October 23rd 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Ruffin Canyon is Serra Mesa’s natural open space with more than 84 acres. The canyon extends from the south end of Ruffin Road to Mission Valley and the unique habitat is in need of care. The goal of the organization is to foster community participation in the protection of Ruffin Canyon. The event will be held at the Serra Mesa/Kearney Mesa Library at 9005 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA 92123.

2019 San Diego County Healthier Living Workshops Scheduled Throughout the Year

Healthier Living workshops organized by the San Diego County Government are peer led workshops that train participants in skills to relieve pain, reduce fatigue, calm anxiety, relieve shortness of breath, soothe muscle tension, and improve sleep to name a few! Workshops are held once a week for six weeks for 2.5 hours. Participants cannot join the class after the second session. For more information, please click here.