



The Emerald News

Office of
Council President Pro Tem
Marti Emerald



Volume 8, Issue 3

March 2016

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- Hollywood Park
- Islenair
- Kensington
- Mesa Colony
- Mountain View
- Mt Hope
- Ridgeview
- Rolando
- Southcrest
- Talmadge
- Teralta-East & West
- Willie Henderson



As many of you know, Fire Station No. 17, located at 4206 Chamoune Avenue, will be reconstructed. A temporary fire station will be constructed at 4000 41st Street for use by San Diego Fire-Rescue staff until the construction at the current site is complete. The temporary station will include a modular trailer, an apparatus shelter, utility connections, and a parking lot.

Construction of the temporary station began in January 2016. The anticipated completion date is sometime in June 2016. Construction hours will be Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The tentative timeline for construction on the permanent site on Chamoune Avenue is June 2016 through February 2018. For questions regarding this project, please contact Jason Grani, Senior Engineer, Architectural Engineering & Parks, Public Works Department, at 619-533-7525 or jgrani@sanidiego.gov.

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INTERNSHIPS

San Diego City Council President Pro Tem Emerald's office is currently accepting applications from motivated high school and college students looking to gain experience interning for an elected official. Interested applicants should e-mail Julio Rivera a cover letter, résumé and at least one letter of recommendation to jcrivera@sanidiego.gov.

Community Representatives

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SR 15 Commuter Bikeway



The SR 15 Commuter Bikeway will provide a safe and direct bike route connecting the disadvantaged communities in the Mid-City area of the City of San Diego with the major retail, commercial, education, and entertainment destinations in the city's Mission Valley area. This Class I bikeway, which will be separated from vehicle traffic, will extend from Adams Avenue along a one-mile segment of northbound SR 15 to Camino Del Rio South.

The bikeway will be 12 feet wide, paved, and striped to provide two-way travel. It will be separated from the freeway shoulder by a concrete barrier. There will be locations where wider paved sections will be provided to accommodate resting or passing bike riders. Lighting will be provided along the bikeway.

Currently, the only bike route access between Mid-City and Mission Valley are Fairmount Avenue, which has high speed conflicts, and Texas Street, which has a high speed conflict, and a very steep, sustained grade. Neither route provides a convenient link for bicycle commuters between Mid-City and Mission Valley, and both routes result in several miles of additional travel.

The SR 15 Commuter Bikeway is rated a high priority project in the regional bike network established with the adoption of Riding to 2050, the San Diego Regional Bike Plan. This plan was adopted by the SANDAG Board of Directors in May 2010 and subsequently incorporated into the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy in October 2011. The project also is included in the City of San Diego Bicycle Master Plan and the Mid-City Communities Plan. The bikeway will be built in conjunction with the SR 15 Mid-City Centerline *Rapid* Transit Stations project.

The SR 15 Commuter Bikeway received environmental clearance in June 2012. The design was finalized in early 2015, and construction is anticipated to begin in March 2016. The bikeway is expected to open in early 2017.

The total cost of the bikeway is estimated to be approximately \$14 million. The environmental and design phases were funded by the regional *TransNet* half-cent sales tax for transportation administered by SANDAG. Construction will be funded by federal, Caltrans Active Transportation Program, and local *TransNet* funds.

CDBG Projects in D9

I am excited to announce that a big investment is coming to our community very soon. Back in 1974, the Housing and Community Development Act established the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The purpose of the CDBG program is to provide an annual source of funds to local governments for the purpose of implementing activities to develop viable urban communities, including decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. The City of San Diego has participated in the program since its inception. Every year, City Council allocates funding to projects in eligible areas. Through my advocacy, our council district is anticipated to be awarded over \$5 million this fiscal year. The Infrastructure Committee will hear this item on February 24, 2016 at 2pm. The final decision will be made by Council sometime in March 2016. We encourage our community members to come speak in support of this allocation. The projects include the following:

Park de la Cruz Community Center Improvements-

These improvements allow for immediate activation of the facility, interior and exterior accessibility and code/life safety. These improvements will allow the Park & Recreation's Therapeutic Recreation Services and Senior Services programs to occupy the building and begin offering programs to the surrounding low income community. These improvements will go hand in hand with our new City Heights Skate Park at Park de la Cruz.

Improvements at the Southeastern Police Station, Mid City Police Station, and City Heights Recreation Center-

The proposed multiple site project will install solar systems on city facilities, significantly offsetting each site's annual electricity usage and will undergo energy efficiency retrofits. Additional work will include exterior accessibility improvements to these facilities.

Please pardon our dust as we begin construction on these investments in our community

Police Service Dog "Storm" Day

I had the honor of proclaiming March 1, 2016 Police Service Dog "Storm" Day. After serving with the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) for three years, Storm retired due to congestive heart failure. Storm proudly represented the best of the department through his commitment to ensuring public safety and enforcement of the law. Six year old Storm began his exemplary career with the SDPD in 2013 as a general service dog assigned to Officer Scott Smith, and entered the San Diego Canine Unit's New Handler Academy. Upon graduation, Storm was assigned citywide responsibility and functioned as a capable member of the Canine Unit. Storm also protected the general public at large events, being used to conduct explosive searches at Comic-Con and every home San Diego Chargers game at Qualcomm Stadium



Out in the Community



I had the honor of attending SDPD's Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol's (RSVP) 70th Academy Graduation. These incredible volunteers help keep our communities safe by performing vacation house checks, You Are Not Alone (YANA) checks, and much more. I am grateful for their dedication and service to public safety.



I had the pleasure of hosting Hoover High School Cardinals Interact students at City Hall. They learned the importance of civic engagement and public service. They also sat in on a Council Meeting and visited Fire Station #1. Thank you for your service, commitment, and dedication to our community. My best wishes for your future success!