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- 1) A City crew from the Transportation and Storm Water Department recently cleared the storm drain on Fort Stockton to prepare for rains in Mission Hills.
- 2) Councilmember Ward spent some time at the Hillcrest Farmers Market, speaking with constituents about his agenda for 2019.
- 3) Your District Three team recently visited the Kendall-Frost Marsh Reserve, a vital asset to San Diego's diverse ecosystem.
- 4) Team Ward hosted a successful community clean-up at Community Housing Works' Alabama Manor in North Park! We couldn't have got this done without help of residents and volunteers from the Southwest Council of Carpenters and North Park Main Street.

Councilmember Ward serves on the following:
 Chair, Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations
 Chair, Regional Task Force on the Homeless

Vice-Chair, Committee on Active Transportation & Infrastructure
 Vice-Chair, Committee on Land Use & Housing
 Member, Rules Committee

Member, SANDAG Regional Planning Committee
 Alternate Member, California Coastal Commission
 Member, MTS Board of Directors



NEWS FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS WARD

Dear Neighbor:

Uptown and Hillcrest residents are frustrated – all of us are frustrated. The vandalism of LGBTQ landmarks, criminal activity, and last month's gun violence has put a spotlight on our communities concerns regarding public safety.

I have been strong and vocal about my calls for help to both address criminal activities in Uptown and reduce gun violence in our city, and recent incidences highlight the need for more to be done. We've requested help in the form of patrol and proactive public safety resources to address this, and there has been some progress.

I've spoken with Chief Nisleit and Mayor Faulconer multiple times, and have been clear that we need to invest in and prioritize efforts to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety concern such as crime, social disorder, and the fear for one's personal safety.

Meanwhile, residents are working together to address this issue, starting neighborhood watch programs, like the Stonewall Citizens Patrol, and reporting suspicious activity to the SDPD. If you would like more information on how to start your own neighborhood watch program, or how you can ensure the safety of your property, please reach out to my office at ChristopherWard@SanDiego.gov

I promise that I will continue advocate for the much-needed increase in public safety resources for the Hillcrest and the Uptown community and push for action happen faster. I ask that the community joins me in this effort.

RAPID REHOUSING EMPLOYMENT PILOT

Last year, as Chair of the Select Committee on Homelessness, I supported the creation of a two year pilot employment program to connect 300 families currently in our Rapid ReHousing Program (RRH) with quality job opportunities.

This pilot program operates by incorporating employment goals as treatment and has the San Diego Workforce Partnership acts as a liaison between participants and employers to decrease the barrier for those who are homelessness who want to work.

Since the start of this program, 92 San Diegans have worked with a team of Employment Specialists to identify the job opportunities that will truly allow them to be self-sufficient.

Rapid ReHousing is meant to be short-term subsidy to help individuals stay housed, and not fall into homelessness, until a time they don't require a subsidy anymore. San Diego's RRH clients have one of nation's lowest rates of success to date with about 25% having gainful employment when starting the current RRH program and 25% having gainful employment when they exit the program.

We need to strengthen the collaboration between our workforce and homeless services systems and better connect clients with the opportunities required to be truly self-sufficient.

After all, employment success and housing stability go hand in hand.



CONNECT HILLCREST

Last month, a broad coalition of leaders launched a new homeless outreach pilot program: Connect Hillcrest, a new community-driven, civic initiative dedicated to providing coordinated and concentrated street outreach services to individuals experiencing homelessness in the impacted Hillcrest area.

It's my hope that the knowledge gained from this program will give local government and service providers the data needed to improve upon current homelessness outreach protocols while expanding services to other impacted communities across our region.

Our region needs to embrace a more focused, results-driven approach that prioritizes coordinated and persistent outreach and successfully delivers services to the people that need them. This is what we're trying to accomplish here with Connect Hillcrest: a person-centric, effective, data-driven approach to homeless outreach that is consistently improved upon and aligned with emerging best-practices.

I want to thank Supervisor Fletcher, the Regional Task Force on the Homeless, the San Diego Housing Commission, and the diverse groups of non-profits and local governments agencies that worked with my office to launch this program.



MID-CITY HOMELESS COORDINATOR PROGRAM

Last month, we officially launched our Mid-City Homeless Outreach Program— dedicated street outreach focused on connecting homeless individuals in North Park and City Heights with life-saving resources.

We know that homelessness in San Diego is not limited to just one or two neighborhoods, but exists regionwide. Too many of our homeless San Diegans are not receiving the level of outreach needed and we have to expand these services across more neighborhoods, offering focused outreach efforts modeled on nationally recognized, best-practices.

Thanks to the collaboration of multiple community stakeholders, we were able to secure funding to hire a full-time outreach coordinator through PATH—People Assisting the Homeless—to work specifically in this Mid-City region. In order to move people into permanent housing, we need to be in the neighborhoods and on our streets, building relationships, and delivering resources to our unsheltered population.



Community Events

I look forward to seeing you soon out in the community at one of the following District Three events.

- Coffee With Your Councilmember, March 2, 10:00am - 11:30am, New Mission Hills Library, 215 W. Washington Street
- Uptown Planners Meeting, March 5, 7:00pm - 9:00pm, Joyce Beers Community Center, 3900 Vermont Street
- Mission Hills Business Club Meeting, March 9th, 10:00am—10:30am, Toma Sol, 301 W Washington Street
- North Park Planning Committee, March 19, 7:20pm—8:00pm, North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way, 2nd Floor

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

District Three Staff

Molly Chase
Chief of Staff
Balboa Park
mbchase@sandiego.gov

Kathleen Ferrier
Policy Director
kferrier@sandiego.gov

Lucas O'Connor
Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations
Committee Consultant
loconnor@sandiego.gov

Brian Elliott
Policy Advisor
Downtown, Little Italy
belliot@sandiego.gov

Brittany Bailey
Council Representative
Mission Hills, Middletown, Bankers Hill, Hillcrest
bnbailey@sandiego.gov

Brett Weise
Council Representative
Normal Heights, Golden Hill, South Park
bweise@sandiego.gov

Tyler Renner
Council Representative
University Heights, North Park, Burlingame
trenner@sandiego.gov

Vanessa Bernal
Director of Office Administration
Old Town
vbernal@sandiego.gov

Ansermio Jake Estrada
Communications Manager
Estradaaj@sandiego.gov

Tyler Burch
Council Representative
Mission Hills, Middletown, Bankers Hill, Hillcrest
tmburch@sandiego.gov