



December 2015
Volume 7 Issue 12

Councilmember
Todd Gloria proudly
represents

Balboa Park
Bankers Hill/Park West
Downtown
Golden Hill
Hillcrest
Middletown
Mission Hills
Normal Heights
North Park
Old Town
South Park
University Heights

In this issue

Climate Action Plan, p. 2
Infrastructure Update, p. 2
Community Connection, p. 3
Earned Sick Leave, p. 3
City Finances and Efficiency, p. 4
Progress Toward Equality, p. 4
Centennial Wrap Up, p. 5
Neighborhood Investments, p. 5
Tracking Todd, p. 8

Contact Todd

202 C Street, MS 10A
San Diego, CA 92101
Phone 619-236-6633
Fax 619-595-1481
toddgloria@sandiego.gov
www.sandiego.gov/cd3



@ToddGloriaD3



www.facebook.com/
toddgloriad3

Year in Review

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

2015 is a year that I will remember for several programs and projects achieved to advance the quality of life in San Diego.

The City recently transitioned our interim housing facility from a 16-week winter tent system to a year-round indoor housing facility in order to use our limited homeless services funds more effectively. The building includes 350 interim beds, and approximately three times as many people will receive services through this change. Learn more below about the tremendous impacts of this change, and other progress made to address homelessness.

Of the neighborhood improvements completed this year, the one I hear most about is the implementation of smart parking meters, many of which are equipped with pay-by-phone technology. Also, we'll soon cut the ribbon on the dog park improvements at Ward Canyon Park which were added to the City budget earlier this year. Other neighborhood investments are outlined starting on page 5.

As a policy wonk, I was proud this year to secure greater transparency in the City's referendum and initiative laws, and ensure City workers could start earning sick leave. I include other policy wins through out the following pages, and look forward to the Climate Action Plan gaining approval this month.

At this time next year, I'll be wrapping up my time as your Councilmember. I am confident we will then recount the successful completion of many other critical initiatives that will help make San Diego a truly great city.

Homelessness Progress

Homelessness remains a complex and critical challenge throughout San Diego, and its impacts would be far worse without the efforts of the last year.

Interim Housing Facility: The transition of San Diego's interim housing facility from a seasonal tent to a permanent structure open year round occurred on April 1 and was fully implemented on July 1. Through September 30, 1,414 unduplicated clients were served; 863 clients exited the program and of that total 454, or 53%, left for permanent or more stable housing; and 749 clients who exited, or 87%, left with one or more source of income during the reporting period.

Housing First: In the year since the City and the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) committed to the Housing First approach, many positive impacts have been realized. Among Housing First's achievements are the investment of more than \$8.2 million by SDHC toward two new affordable housing developments that will generate 121 new studios with supportive services; renovations of the 101-year old Hotel Churchill, which will be home to dedicated units for homeless veterans, youth aging out of foster care, and adults exiting the corrections system; and 180 new federal rental housing vouchers are assisting homeless and formerly homeless San Diegans.

Funding: The San Diego region was awarded more than \$16 million in federal grants in 2015 to support housing and serving programs for local homeless people. These funds renewed effective projects

Continued on page 7

Climate Action Plan Moves Forward

The City of San Diego is poised to implement the aggressive Climate Action Plan developed by Councilmember Todd Gloria. Scheduled for consideration by the City Council on December 15, the Climate Action Plan sets measureable goals that will help protect the environment from further harm, including the transition to 100% renewable energy use in San Diego by 2015. Much work in 2015 has led to this pivotal point, and Councilmember Gloria is proud of the additional steps taken this year toward energy and water efficiency.

Water Use: The City Council approved new water regulations designed to ensure the City meets its state-required 16% reduction in water usage. Thanks to the regulations and continuing conservation efforts by San Diegans, the City has used about 20% less this year than 2013.

Solar Power: San Diego ranked second among major U.S. cities for installed solar panels in the Environment California Research & Policy Center's "Shining Cities" report. The report said San Diego's solar stature is largely due to the clear commitment to solar energy from Councilmember Gloria and other City leaders.

"The fact that our City ranks second nationwide in solar proves that this option makes both environmental and business sense for San Diegans," Councilmember Gloria said.

Los Angeles again topped the list for most solar power installations in the "Shining Cities" analysis. However, San Diego is gaining on the lead set by its southern California neighbor, installing 42 megawatts of solar power during 2014 as compared to L.A.'s 38 megawatts over the same time. According to researchers who examined solar power installations in 65 American cities in nearly every state, San Diego had enough solar energy online at the end of last year to power more than 32,000 homes.



Continued on page 6

Infrastructure Progress



Local neighborhoods have seen increased infrastructure investment this year with several streets and sidewalks repaired and significant progress made on both the Upas Street Pipeline Project and the University Avenue Pipeline Project.

While the budget approved by the City Council includes \$29.2 million for street repairs and \$3.2 million for sidewalk repairs, Councilmember Gloria remained concerned about the lack of identified funding sources for more than \$2.16 billion of San Diego's infrastructure backlog.

Also this year, the City completed long-awaited assessments on its public facilities and sidewalks, both of which included a growing list of needs and a lack of funding options. Councilmember Gloria looks forward to analysis of the financing plan recently proposed by Councilmember Mark Kersey, but would prefer a proposal for new revenue to dedicate to deferred maintenance.

Councilmember Gloria supported SANDAG's effort to move forward with a 2016 ballot measure to fund transportation, water quality, and other regional projects. He noted, "Since I walked door-to-door and visited 25,000 households in 2008, San Diegans have consistently made it clear to me that they want fewer potholes, smoother sidewalks, and no more water main breaks. In response, I have long advocated for the development of a proposal for a much-needed new funding source to address the City's maintenance backlog. While resources from SANDAG's measure would be collected and invested throughout the region instead of wholly directed at the City's \$1.7 billion deferred maintenance funding gap, I believe it could provide a long-term solution to some of the City's neighborhood infrastructure problems." The ballot measure's specifics are being developed, and SANDAG expects to have a final draft for public review in Spring 2016.

Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

Strengthening Public Safety

- The City of San Diego is again trimming trees in the public right of way, and staff have already been seen providing service in North Park and University Heights in District Three. The simplest way to find the schedule is to visit www.sandiego.gov and search “tree trimming.”
- An all-way stop sign was installed at the intersection of Kansas Street and Howard Avenue.
- The guard fence at the intersection of Adams Avenue and Texas Street was replaced.
- A stop light at the northeast corner of 32nd Street and University Avenue was repaired.
- At the request of a nearby resident, the intersection of Herbert and Myrtle was evaluated for stop signs. City staff determined the location qualified, and installation should occur in Spring 2016.
- A “Dead End” sign will be installed at the intersection of Clark and Guy Streets.

Infrastructure Investment

- A right turn lane was installed on Upas Street at 30th Street.
- Unnecessary red curb was removed from Balboa Drive to allow for additional parking for Redwood Bridge Club members.

- A Cortez Hill resident reported trench work had formed a pothole on Ash Street and 8th Avenue. City's Streets Division filled in the pothole.
- Sidewalk and alley repairs were completed between University/Lincoln and Arizona/Hamilton.
- Street repairs were completed in the 3500 block of 33rd Street and in an alley east of the 4600 block of Oregon Street.
- Parking conversions on Park Avenue and Illinois Street resulted in the creation of 11 new parking spaces.
- A water leak was repaired in the 3900 block of 30th Street.

Community Character

- A shield will be installed on a streetlight located on 35th Street south of Meade Avenue to redirect light from shining directly into the window of a nearby home.
- Signs were installed highlighting the Burlingame Historic District (pictured).



Earned Sick Leave



On April 27, the San Diego City Council unanimously approved Councilmember Todd Gloria's proposal to provide earned sick leave for hourly City employees to comply with A.B. 1522, the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014.

“City employees are committed to San Diego, and allowing them to earn sick leave will help ensure their continued ability to serve the public in a healthy and productive way. When I learned that over 1,300 of our employees, many of whom worked closely with the public, didn't have the ability to take sick days, I knew something had to be done. Providing workers with fair pay and benefits is always a good investment,” said Councilmember Gloria.

Addressing the needs of workers is an ongoing interest of Councilmember Gloria. After championing the successful approval in 2014 of a measure that increased San Diego's minimum wage to \$11.50 per hour and provided earned sick leave of up to five days per year, corporate interests challenged the compromise measure through a referendum, forcing the item onto the June 2016 ballot.

“While that implementation is paused, I'm excited that Assemblywoman Gonzalez secured three earned sick days statewide,” said Councilmember Gloria.

A.B. 1522 was authored by Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez and entitles individuals working in California for 30 or more days within a year to paid sick leave of no less than one hour for every 30 worked. The law, which goes into effect July 1, 2015, allows employees to earn up to three sick days per year. As a charter city, San Diego had to take steps including meeting and conferring with its employee organizations in order to implement earned sick leave. Most City employees earn annual leave which can be used for either vacation or sick time. Over 1,300 City employees, including recreation leaders, seasonal lifeguards, and library staff, are not currently eligible for annual leave and will now benefit from sick leave through the implementation of A.B. 1522.

City Finances and Government Efficiency

As Councilmember Todd Gloria wraps up his fifth consecutive year as Chair of the Budget and Government Efficiency Committee, the fiscal strength of the City cannot be questioned, and improvements were made to increase efficiency and transparency to two City functions.

Finances: In August, the City's independent auditor released his Performance Audit of the City of San Diego's Financial Condition, which determined that between Fiscal Year 2005 and Fiscal Year 2014, San Diego scored among the best compared to six cities of similar population size for its financial improvements.

The annual budget approved on June 8 demonstrated the City's continued focus on core services, and included several priorities requested by Councilmember Gloria including

- \$2,300,000 for additional library hours spread across 23 branches and the Central Library;
- \$1,000,000 for the Penny for the Arts Program;
- \$100,000 for an interim dog park at Ward Canyon Park in Mid-City while funding is identified for phase one of the permanent expansion; and
- \$100,000 to fund a staff member to reinstate the City's Film Commission and allow San Diego to take advantage of state tax credits.

Government Efficiency: The City Council unanimously approved in October the referendum process reforms proposed by Councilmember Gloria. The approved amendments include the filing of additional campaign statements with the City Clerk during the signature gathering period to increase transparency and provide more timely information on campaign funders. The City Council is scheduled to consider additional reforms on December 8.

Earlier in the year, Councilmember Gloria announced the City Council's approval of updates to the City's Utility Undergrounding Program (UUP), generated from a year long collaborative process. The approved updates include direction to improve coordination between the Mayor's office, Council offices, UUP staff, utility companies, and the community through a formalized process to establish local preferences prior to the start of engineering design in each affected neighborhood; revise UUP documents to ensure consistent language; expand UUP website with current program and project information, illustration of utility company above ground equipment and city owned equipment, graphic depiction of where above ground equipment may be located, design options, and a flow chart of community participation in the design process; provide public information support from the city's Communications Department and UUP staff; revise and simplify public notice mailers; create design options; examine innovative equipment design and sizing; implement quality control; and implement Council training.

Progress Toward Equality

2015 saw the monumental affirmation by the Supreme Court that the Constitution provides same-sex couples' the right to marry throughout the nation.

"The Court's decision makes it unequivocally clear that all Americans are free to marry the one they love, and I thank all of those in the LGBT community and our allies who have fought so hard, shared their stories, and struggled to help us reach this point," said Councilmember Gloria.

Understanding that more progress is necessary, Councilmember Gloria secured City Council approval of an amendment to add gender identity and gender expression as types of unlawful discrimination to the City of San Diego's Nondiscrimination in Contracting Ordinance.

Further, the San Diego City Council kicked off a study of local lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) significance thanks to a state grant.

The San Diego LGBTQ Historic Context Statement will provide a broad historical overview on the growth of gay and lesbian identities, communities, and politics in San Diego and focus on themes and geographic areas associated with known resources. The Context will be in a succinct format to provide guidance to staff and the public in identifying and evaluating potential historic resources relating to San Diego's LGBTQ history, but is not intended to be a definitive history of LGBTQ San Diego.

Balboa Park Centennial Wrap Up

Throughout 2015, San Diegans and visitors celebrated the centennial anniversary of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition in Balboa Park. Councilmember Gloria focused on attracting investments to the Park that would help ensure its beauty and significance for at least 100 more years.

These efforts continued through November, when Councilmember Gloria joined the Patrons of the Prado to dedicate a Centennial Time Capsule in Balboa Park that will be sealed until November 16, 2115. The capsule includes a letter from President Obama, submitted by Councilmember Gloria. The Councilmember also presented a proclamation in honor of the Museum of Man's 100th anniversary, and celebrated the purchase and planting of 100 new drought resistant, California-friendly trees made possible by the generosity of the San Diego Foundation and the Balboa Park Conservancy.



“From the seasonal events and institution programming to the investment in all level of Park infrastructure, the Centennial Celebration successfully drew people to San Diego’s crown jewel all year,” said Councilmember Gloria.

A few other highlights of the Centennial include:

- San Diego’s historic Balboa Park was recognized in October by the American Planning Association (APA) as one of six Great Public Spaces on the organization’s annual Great Places in America list;
- Philanthropic benefactors donated \$1 million in annual Family Explorer Passes for at-risk and underserved San Diego families through Balboa Park’s Community Access Pass Program (<http://www.communityaccesspass.org/>);
- The Japanese Friendship Garden was expanded; and
- The Museum of Man’s iconic California Tower was reopened to the public for the first time since 1935 after significant upgrades.

Neighborhood Investments

From parks to renovations of historic structures to smart parking meters, neighborhoods throughout District Three saw tremendous investment in 2015.

Parking Meters: Continued improvement of the City’s smart parking meter technology generated the addition of mobile pay technology to between 800-900 smart parking meters in Hillcrest and Mission Hills. Should the pilot prove successful, drivers will be able to pay for parking via a cell phone app at all meters in the City.

Parks: Faultline Park, the first public park to open in East Village in more than a decade, opened on August 28. Elsewhere Downtown, work is nearly complete at Horton Plaza Park. In addition to reviving the 20,000-square foot historic park, a public plaza is being created.

An interim dog park is being created at Ward Canyon Park in Normal Heights in response to requests from Councilmember Todd Gloria and countless Normal Heights neighbors. After Councilmember Gloria included Ward Canyon Park improvements in his list of budget priorities, and several community members made their cases for the funding at budget hearings last spring, funding for the improvements were included in the budget. The dog park is expected to open in early 2016.

New park space is hard to come by in older, urban neighborhoods, which has generated growing interest in the development of parklets. Parklets, or pedestrian plazas, are spaces in the dedicated public right-of-way like parking spaces, unused bus stops, or other vehicular areas that are publicly accessible to all and are intended to provide a space for enjoyable public interaction. As a relatively new concept, parklets did not easily fit into permitted project categories, meaning extensive investment and review were necessary. Councilmember Gloria successfully championed regulatory revisions to ease the siting of parklets. The new policy lowers the review cost and clarifies the requirements for parklets including what needs to be submitted for a permit and location restrictions.

Continued on page 6

Neighborhood Investments *(continued from page 5)*

"Parklets are popular means of bringing character and public spaces to our communities, and I am glad that the City of San Diego is making it easier to make these great additions to our neighborhoods," said Councilmember Todd Gloria.

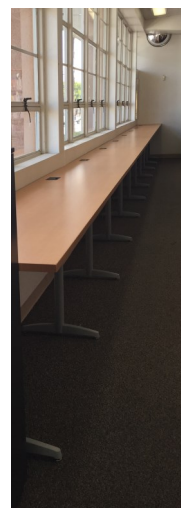
Historic Preservation: Retrofits for two key structures in District Three moved forward in 2015. The historic water tower in North Park is set to undergo a seismic retrofit in coming years, thanks to action taken this year. Also, the 100 year old Georgia Street Bridge, which spans University Avenue, will be retrofitted in the coming years, thanks in part to the City Council's acceptance and expenditure of \$9.5 million of federal funds to complete construction of the project. The scope of the project includes seismically retrofitting and rehabilitating Georgia Street Bridge and the existing walls that extend along University Avenue between Florida Street and Park Boulevard.

"These federal funds will ensure the historic Georgia Street Bridge will remain a landmark between North Park and Hillcrest," said Councilmember Gloria.

Community Projects, Programs, and Services: Councilmember Gloria and his Council colleagues unanimously approved creation of the South Park Banner District in March. The formation of the district was requested by the South Park Business Group to help identify the business area of the neighborhood and reflect community character. City of San Diego Community Projects, Programs, and Services (CPPS) funds will be used to pay for the banners.

CPPS funds are being used on additional projects throughout District Three. An allocation of \$6,602 went toward the operation of a portable pool last summer at the Adams Avenue Recreation Center. The Centennial Bike Ride on May 2 benefited from a contribution of \$2,500. Two projects in North Park were also completed: a study bar was added to the North Park Library (pictured), thanks to an allocation of \$10,516, and \$2,105 was used to complete the LED conversion of some streetlights in the neighborhood.

Councilmember Gloria allocated \$19,000 to the City's Arts and Culture Commission to assist with the restoration and repair of El Charro, a sculpture in Presidio Park. The sculpture was given to the City of San Diego by the Mexican government in 1970. The sculpture depicts a rider, wearing a bolero jacket, chaps and a broad-brimmed hat, sitting astride a male horse. The sculpture is in poor condition and is currently at risk for structural failure.



Climate Action *(continued from page 2)*

Energy Efficiency: The City of San Diego and Balboa Park were honored as Energy Efficiency Grand Champions at the 10th Annual San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) Energy Showcase event in June. Both were honored for implementing energy efficiency measures and raising the bar on energy saving efforts. The City's three-year energy savings were 14,424,554 kilowatt hours (kWh), equivalent to carbon dioxide emissions from 1,119,215 gallons of gasoline consumed. The City also saved 25,225 therms, equivalent to carbon sequestered by 3,429 tree seedlings grown for 10 years.

Transportation Options: Increasing transportation options is a key element of addressing climate change. Councilmember Gloria proudly supported San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan when it was approved by the Board of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) in October. Throughout its development over the past several years, Councilmember Gloria, who also serves as Chair of the SANDAG Transportation Committee, strongly advocated for expanded transportation options. His efforts are reflected in the approved plan. In the first five years of the plan alone, three out of every four dollars will be spent on transit and active transportation projects, and Council District Three neighborhoods will see additional benefit in future years with Rapid lines, a streetcar, and millions of dollars in projects improving biking and pedestrian facilities.



Making walking and bicycling feel safer can help more people consider active transportation as a means of getting around. The City Council approved an amendment to Council Policy 200-07 "Marked Crosswalk Criteria at Uncontrolled Locations" to incorporate changes in pedestrian safety practices and technology. The City anticipates installing four times as many crosswalks in the upcoming year as occurred in previous year. The revised policy also includes the potential for special crosswalk treatments like flashing beacons and raised crosswalks, and Councilmember Gloria advocated for additional funding to implement these in appropriate locations.

Addressing Homelessness *(continued from page 1)*

already in operation and funded new projects including the Homeless Management Information System, Connections Housing, and rapid re-housing.

Councilmember Todd Gloria continues to advocate for additional resources to address the growing homeless population. In October, he joined Congressman Scott Peters and other officials in welcoming Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Julian Castro to San Diego to discuss local challenges.

Secretary Castro announced that HUD will open a comment period in Spring 2016 on revising the current formula for how federal homelessness funds are allocated. In 2014, despite having the fifth largest homeless population in the country, San Diego received the 23rd most funding.



HUD Secretary Castro (center) met with local and federal leaders in February about homelessness.

Overall, the San Diego Housing Commission invested \$68,096,672 between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 on homelessness prevention and solutions including the renovation of Hotel Churchill, dedication of 25 apartments for homeless San Diegans, the transitional storage center, and several voucher and transitional housing programs.

Part of the comprehensive approach to addressing homelessness is increasing the supply of affordable housing stock. In 2015, the City Council took steps to create and maintain 1,487 affordable units, and Councilmember Gloria helped celebrate the completion of many units, including those at Civita in Mission Valley. More are under construction as part of projects like Atmosphere in the neighborhood of Cortez Hill, which broke ground in March.

“A city of economically diverse people must have housing stock of all kinds,” said Councilmember Gloria. “I’m proud of the work we have done in San Diego to build affordable units throughout our city.”

On June 2, Councilmember Gloria helped announce the impressive results of Project 25, an initiative of the United Way (pictured).



Results: 36 formerly homeless people were housed, and taxpayer costs decreased 67%, meaning \$3.5 million was saved over the course of a 24 month period. These are the final outcomes for Project 25, United Way’s initiative to permanently house at least 25 of San Diego County’s chronically homeless, high frequency users of public resources.

Twenty-eight individuals enrolled in the program and were housed in the first year. The individuals ranged in age from 22 to 61, with a median age of 47. Five were veterans. All of the individuals studied had some form of mental illness, a serious physical disability and/or a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. Many had all three. As a result of Project 25, the median expense per user decreased from nearly \$111,000 in 2010 to less than \$12,000 in 2013.

As of June, 33 participants remain housed in their own apartments (three passed away from natural causes during the program), have health insurance and receive preventative health care through a community clinic versus regularly accessing emergency care.

Stable and secure housing for chronically homeless and frequent users of public resources, combined with a comprehensive set of health and social services, can yield a dramatic reduction in the use and expense of various public services.

Tracking Todd



1



2

1. Todd thanked veterans for their service before the annual Veterans Day Parade.
2. Todd was joined Supervisor Ron Roberts, Public Utilities Department leadership, and North Park neighbors to accept the American Society of Civil Engineers dedication of the iconic water tower as a Local Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.



3



4

3. Ken Jeong's support of Pac-Arts Movement's 16th Annual Asian Film Festival was worthy of November 7 being proclaimed Ken Jeong Day in the City of San Diego.
4. Todd kicked off Small Business Saturday in North Park.
5. Todd joined the City of San Diego Employees Filipino- American Employees Association to celebrate the work of Filipino labor organizer Larry Itliong and his role in the Delano Grape Strike 50 years ago.



5

Councilmember Todd Gloria serves on the following:

Chair, Budget and Government Efficiency Committee
Member, Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee
Member, Environment Committee
Member, Smart Growth and Land Use Committee
Chair, San Diego Regional Continuum of Care Governance Board

Chair Pro Tem, Metropolitan Transit System Board
Member, San Diego Association of Governments Board
Chair, SANDAG Transportation Committee
Member, SANDAG Executive Committee
Liaison, Civic San Diego

Sign up for our e-news! Visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd3/>