



January 2015
Volume 7 Issue 1

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

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2015: Leading San Diego Forward

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

I have been looking forward to 2015 since I began representing District Three on the City Council six years ago. This year will spotlight the centennial celebration of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition in Balboa Park with festivities, programs and legacy improvements like the reopening of the California Tower. It will also focus on a host of important City issues that I'm eager to make progress on with the continued participation of San Diegans.

The City's first priority will always be the safety of our citizens. We must do all within our power to ensure the dedicated men and women of the San Diego Police Department are compensated at a level that reflects their hard work and retains their experience for the protection of our neighborhoods. This is the most significant short-term challenge facing us, and I believe we must tackle it early in 2015.

Whether I'm at the grocery store or dry cleaners or just checking Twitter, the biggest frustration you continue to share with me is the condition of our streets and sidewalks. In recent years, we have begun to chip away at this problem. Road repairs have ramped up and the first ever assessment of San Diego's sidewalks is nearly complete, but we must do better. I have serious concerns with the lack of a comprehensive solution to this multi-billion dollar infrastructure problem that is the biggest long-term challenge facing us. As the Chairman of the Council's Budget and Government Efficiency Committee, I will schedule hearings to draw attention to this matter throughout 2015.

Infrastructure investment, improvements to our purchasing and contracting processes, increasing our Equal Opportunity Contracting achievements, and ensuring fiscal discipline as our finances continue to improve top the list of my Committee's priorities.

Before we have the opportunity in June 2016 to approve the minimum wage increase I championed, I will pursue the application of California's new earned sick leave law to the hundreds of hourly City employees that do not currently have this benefit. Allowing seasonal lifeguards, library aides, recreation

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2014 Highlights of the San Diego City Council

During Councilmember Todd Gloria's two year tenure as Council President, he was very proud of the progress made as a Council and as a city. "From balancing the budget to paving more streets to leading the City through the civic nightmare of a mayoral resignation in a bipartisan, respectful way, San Diego is better off today than it was two years ago." The accomplishments of the City Council in 2014 are below.

January 2014:

- As part of the City's commitment to become a more plug-in friendly city, the Council approved amendments to the municipal code, proposed by Councilmember Kersey, which allowed specific parking areas to be designated for electric vehicles.
- The Council approved over \$120 million in bond funding for citywide neighborhood infrastructure improvement projects such as facility maintenance, street and sidewalk repairs, ADA improvements, and storm drains.

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Centennial Celebration Continues with Tower Opening, Concert, More

San Diegans are rediscovering Balboa Park as it celebrates the centennial of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. Three major events over the New Year's holiday set the tone for an exciting year ahead.

The arches of the Cabrillo Bridge are now illuminated nightly, the Spreckels Organ Pavilion hosted a special New Year's Eve concert, and members of the public are again able climb in the California Tower.

"When we began discussing how San Diego would commemorate the Centennial, I knew we had to celebrate with more than a sheet cake on the Plaza de Panama. The three New Year's events, the countless exhibits planned for the park's institutions, and the investment of more than \$62 million into the park so far ensure that Balboa Park's history will be honored and its future will be strong," said Councilmember Gloria.



Three views from atop the California Tower.

The Cabrillo Bridge, whose arches span State Route 163 on the west side of Balboa Park, are now lit at night. The new permanent lighting was installed as part of the bridge's retrofit project being completed by Caltrans and the City of San Diego to seismically strengthen the structure originally built in 1915 for the Panama-California Exposition. Work to complete the full project continues inside the columns and is expected to wrap up by March 2015.

The Spreckels Organ Centennial Concert on December 31 marked the organ's 100th anniversary. It included a grand processional, 150 voice choir, brass fanfare, two bagpipe bands, fireworks, and a world premiere composition by Civic Organist, Dr. Carol Williams. Councilmember Gloria welcomed guests, and live music and a big screen display of historic photos preceded the concert.

The Museum of Man's California Tower reopened to the public on January 1 for the first time since 1935.

"The restoration I am perhaps most personally excited about is the reopening of the California Tower. San Diego's iconic cultural landmark has been closed to the public for 80 years. Built for the Panama-California Exposition, the tower closed after the second exposition in 1935. Following three years of work by the Museum of Man, the doors are open once again, providing access to the 150 foot tower and arguably the best view of our city to Museum of Man visitors," said Councilmember Gloria, who took part in tower's ribbon cutting on Thursday, January 1.

Councilmember Gloria acknowledged the countless individuals, institutions, and organizations who have contributed so generously their time and resources to make the Centennial as special and important as earlier San Diegans made the 1915 Panama-California Exposition. For more information about these projects and events and the myriad others in Balboa Park throughout 2015, please visit <http://celebratebalboapark.org/>.

Councilmember Gloria Breaks Ground on Little Italy's Piazza Famiglia

Councilmember Todd Gloria joined the Little Italy Association and San Diego-based developer H.G. Fenton Co. on December 1 to break ground on Piazza Famiglia, a 10,000-square-foot public plaza serving the Downtown neighborhood.

The plaza is designed to emulate the grand piazzas of Italy and other European cities and will feature classic Italian architectural details and design. The plaza, set for a 2016 opening, will also include landscaping, seating, gathering areas and a grand water feature.

Piazza Famiglia was approved by San Diego City Council in July, following years of collaboration among city officials, residents and business operators, the neighborhood association and developer. It will occupy a portion of West Date Street between Columbia and India streets.



Volunteers Needed! Help Todd End Homelessness in San Diego

Early in the morning on January 23, Councilmember Todd Gloria and other volunteers will traverse the streets and canyons of San Diego to meet with homeless people and update the region's data on this critical population. Join Todd and volunteer in the WeAllCount effort by reaching out to the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH). To register as a volunteer, go to <http://rtfh.volunteerhub.com/>.

Volunteers will deploy across the county in teams of two and three. Census tract maps will be used to record the number of homeless persons they see. RTFH will review the maps to ensure accuracy and will record and analyze the data collected. Demographic data for those who are unsheltered is derived from follow-up interviews administered by trained volunteers. Interviews will be conducted January 23–28, 2015 throughout San Diego County.

WeAllCount is known in other areas as the Point in Time Count (PITC) and is mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is conducted throughout the country in late January. The PITC identifies the number of homeless individuals (sheltered and unsheltered) and their location. It also captures detailed demographic information on a subset of these individuals. This data is vital when identifying strategies and services that can enable people to leave the street.

San Diego's count is administered by the RTFH on behalf of the San Diego City and County Continuum of Care (CoC). The Regional Continuum of Care Council (RCCC), chaired by Councilmember Gloria, consists of representatives of the 18 cities within the county, nonprofit service providers and other interested parties. The RCCC meets regularly to identify gaps in homeless services, establish funding priorities, and to pursue an overall systemic approach to addressing homelessness.



Todd speaks with a homeless neighbor during the 2012 WeAllCount.

2015 Priorities *(continued from page 1)*

center staff and others that regularly interact with the public the ability to take time off when they are ill is the right thing to do for our workers and for protecting public health.

Last year I led the City to make significant reforms to our homelessness programs. The changes we made focused on reallocating our limited resources to results-oriented programs proven to move people off the streets and into housing. In 2015, I will monitor and report on the efficacy of these programs and continue to build relationships between service providers, government, businesses, philanthropists, and the public to leverage additional resources to achieve our goal of ending homelessness in San Diego. While we still have a long way to go, we will not give up on this effort until we meet our objective.

As a new member of the Environment Committee, I look forward to the approval and implementation of San Diego's Climate Action Plan that is based largely on the plan I authored when I served in the Mayor's office. In the meantime, giving San Diegans more options than driving remains critical. Making our transit system a high quality transportation option with more efficient service like the Rapid and the addition of WiFi to some Rapid buses, and adding safer pedestrian and bicycle facilities throughout the City are changes I anticipate this year.

I also foresee the passage of a standardized parklet policy that will encourage development of creative public spaces in San Diego, a regulatory relief measure aimed at helping small and start-up businesses, and updating the City's non-discrimination language to ensure San Diego's policies reflect tolerance and respect for all people.

Since joining the City Council in 2008 and through my service as Council President and Mayor, I've tried my best to move San Diego forward and to leave the City I love better than I found it. I'm proud of the accomplishments we've achieved together and can't wait to celebrate more for you in 2015.

City Honored for Bicycle Infrastructure Investments



Councilmember Gloria accepts the Public Partner of the Year award on behalf of the City of San Diego from the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition on December 12 at Panama 66.

2014 Highlights

(continued from page 1)

- Following a recommendation from Council President Todd Gloria and Councilmember Marti Emerald, the Council formed the Utility Undergrounding Advisory Committee to address community concerns and improve communication between residents and local utility companies.
- Council President Todd Gloria (as Interim Mayor) and Councilmember Kersey initiated the City's first sidewalk assessment in an effort to evaluate the condition of the City's approximately 5,000 miles of sidewalk.
- To bring the first permanent fire station to Mission Valley, Councilmember Scott Sherman and Council President Todd Gloria (as Interim Mayor) broke ground on the new two-story Fire Station 45 across from Qualcomm Stadium.



Sidewalk assessments kicked off in January.

February 2014:

- In response to concerns brought forth by both residents and visitors, the Council approved the development of two public restrooms in Downtown San Diego. One will be located on the corner of Market Street and Park Boulevard with the other set to be installed at L Street and 14th Street.



Fire-Rescue Chief Javier Mainar presents Interim Mayor Gloria with a fire chief's helmet at the Fire Academy Graduation on January 31, 2014.

- The Council approved amendments to the Living Wage Ordinance (adopted June 2005) that clarified and strengthened enforcement mechanisms.
- The full Council allocated \$32,500 of CPPS funds to support the Sports Training Academics Recreation Police Athletic League (STAR/PAL), a non-profit youth services organization.
- The Council passed revisions to Council Policy 900-15, Small Business Enhancement Program, which updated the regulations to be consistent with the City's current organizational structure, granted the ability to contract with community partner organizations to administer programs, and gave flexibility to fund projects depending on the prevalent needs at any given time.
- The Council authorized plans presented by Civic San Diego to revitalize the corner lot of Horton Plaza into a new urban plaza with a large outdoor amphitheater, water features, architectural luminaries, and public restrooms.
- To honor the life of fallen San Diego Police Officer Jeremy Henwood, Councilmember Marti Emerald joined the San Diego Police Department and community members to designate a portion of City Heights as "Officer Jeremy Henwood Memorial Park."

- To enhance the City's priority of fiscal discipline, the Council revised the City's Financial Reserve Policy by mandating a new 14% standard in General Fund reserves instead of the previous 8%.

March 2014:

- To meet the emerging demand of the mobile food truck industry, the Council approved an ordinance that permitted mobile food trucks to operate in specific locations citywide while preserving community character and economic interests of the public and private businesses.
- Following the approval of the Bicycle Master Plan Update in late 2013, the Council established the Bicycle Advisory Committee to receive community input on cycling issues and help the City develop a sustainable bicycle network.
- The Council amended the City's Land Development Code and Local Coastal Program to include Medical Marijuana Consumer Cooperatives as a new separately regulated land use, thereby allowing cooperatives to be properly zoned within City limits.
- Setting the stage for a world-class golf event, the Council entered into an agreement with the United States Golf Association (USGA) to host the U.S. Open in June 2021 at Council District 1's Torrey Pines Golf Course.
- The Council approved collective awards of over \$6 million in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to support programs and projects citywide following recommendations from the City's Consolidated Plan Advisory Board.
- With leadership from City staff and Councilmember Scott Sherman, the Council approved the usage of CIP funds for the development and construction of an administrative facility inside Mission Trails Regional Park that would house staff offices, public restrooms, and a picnic shelter.

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2014 Highlights

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April 2014:

- Continuing with the City's commitment to green energy alternatives, the Council authorized the City of San Diego to participate in the HERO and FigTree Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs, giving residential property owners the option to finance energy and water conservation projects through a special tax assessment on their property.
- The Council approved a series of renovations to the Lyceum Theatre in Horton Plaza which will include new restrooms, lobbies, carpeting, and mechanical and engineering systems.
- Councilmember Mark Kersey, in collaboration with the City's Public Utilities Department, successfully reopened the Lake Hodges Reservoir to the general public for windsurfing. Located in Rancho Bernardo, this is the only City public reservoir that permits windsurfing.

May 2014:

- Mayor Kevin Faulconer and Council President Todd Gloria unveiled a new bike loop in Downtown, a seven mile network of on-street bicycle lanes that connects cyclists to destinations.

June 2014:

- The Council authorized an agreement between the City and Taser International, Inc. to bring body cameras to the San Diego Police Department. This initial purchase supplied 300 body cameras and the necessary digital storage infrastructure.
- To help modernize parking citywide, the Council entered into an agreement with IPS Group, Inc. to bring single space smart parking meters to the City of San Diego, which allows patrons to pay with credit cards and collects parking data for the City. The agreement authorized the purchase of up to 5,000 new meters.
- After the passage of the Neighborhood Parking Protection Ordinance in 2013, the Council made final amendments to and implemented it to restrict oversized vehicles from parking on City streets without a permit. These regulations went into effect August 1, 2014.
- With leadership from Council President Pro Tem Sherri Lightner, the Council adopted the City's 2014-2016 Economic Development Strategy, which lays a foundation for economic recovery and continued fiscal stability. Fundamental tenets of the plan include increasing local economic activity, expanding the City's economic base, and expanding the number of job opportunities for residents.
- The Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget proposed by Mayor Kevin Faulconer which includes investing 50% of General Fund revenue growth to neighborhood infrastructure and repairs, recruiting police officers and firefighters, increasing library hours, and more focused funding for homelessness solutions.



Rapid service launched along El Cajon Blvd. on June 8, 2014

July 2014:

- The Council passed the Minimum Wage and Earned Sick Leave Ordinance that would increase the minimum wage in the City of San Diego and allow employees to earn up to five sick days per year. This measure has been placed on the ballot for June 2016.
- With leadership from Councilmembers Marti Emerald, Scott Sherman, and Lorie Zapf, the City received a grant from the California Department of Housing and Community Development to design and build two new skate parks, one in City Heights and the other in Linda Vista.
- The Council began the process to bring various improvements to parks throughout the City with the allocation of \$2.45 million of 2013 Park Improvement Funds that will retrofit parts of California Tower in Balboa Park (D3), improve drainage at Sunset Cliffs Park (D2), upgrade ADA compliance at Chicano Park (D8), and restore the Mohnike Adobe and Hay Barn located within the Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve (D5).
- With leadership from Mayor Kevin Faulconer and Council President Pro Tem Sherri Lightner, the Council authorized an Economic Development Incentive Agreement with Illumina, a technology company that specializes in the manufacture of medical devices, which kept the company's



Todd visits with veterans at Stand Down in July 2014.

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2014 Highlights

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operations in San Diego thereby retaining thousands of manufacturing jobs and the gaining the potential for the City to receive additional sales tax revenues.

- The Council approved an agreement between the City and Atlas Environmental Services for tree trimming activities and maintenance citywide, which includes litter removal, sweeping, edging, and weeding of tree debris.
- The Council supported a resolution introduced by Councilmember David Alvarez that encouraged the U.S. General Services Administration and the U.S. Department of Customs and Border Protection to work with and consult the interests of the San Ysidro community on the expansion of the San Ysidro Port of Entry.

September 2014:

- Stemming from a series of assaults in the North Park, City Heights, and Normal Heights neighborhoods, Council President Todd Gloria worked with the San Diego Police Department and community members to bring safety improvements to the area, including brighter LED bulbs for street lights.
- Mayor Kevin Faulconer and Council President Todd Gloria announced funding to integrate the region-wide homelessness information system that will help local homeless service providers share data in real time and increase efficiencies in the provision of homeless services.
- Council President Pro Tem Sherri Lightner, as the Chair of the Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations (EDIR) Committee, hosted a first of its kind bi-national economic development meeting with members of the EDIR committee and members of the Tijuana Economic Development Commission. The purpose of this meeting was to bring leaders from both cities to dialogue and collaborate on effective economic methods that will better position the San Diego-Tijuana region as an economic powerhouse.
- Councilmember Marti Emerald and Councilmember Mark Kersey championed amendments to the municipal code that restricted the use of electronic cigarettes (or “vaping”) in areas where smoking is currently prohibited as well as established new regulations on the sales of e-cigarettes consistent with existing California law.
- Following a recommendation from Councilmember Ed Harris, the Council approved a comprehensive update to the Ocean Beach Community Plan that protects OB’s community character with a focus on urban design, coastal resource protection, and historic preservation.
- The Council supported the recommendation of Council President Pro Tem Sherri Lightner and the City’s Planning Department to begin the process for amending the University City Community Plan to reflect current development activity and planned mobility improvements, and allow for the removal of the Regents Road Bridge and the Genesee Avenue widening project.

October 2014:

- Following the vision of Councilmember David Alvarez as Chair of the Council’s Environment Committee, Mayor Kevin Faulconer joined Council President Todd Gloria and Council President Pro Tem Sherri Lightner to release the City’s updated Climate Action Plan, which lays the foundation for the City to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and receive its electricity from renewable sources by 2035.
- The City of San Diego’s first series of smart parking meters were installed in Downtown and the Gaslamp Quarter, beginning the replacement process for approximately 97% of the City’s current parking meters.
- Through collaboration with the Office of the Governor, State Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins, and Mayor Kevin Faulconer, the Council passed a clarifying resolution of Proposition A, that gives the City discretion to require or utilize project labor agreements thereby making the City eligible for hundreds of millions of dollars in state funds.
- Led by Councilmember Myrtle Cole, the Council reestablished and updated the Workforce Housing Offset fee (also known as the Linkage fee or Housing Impact Fee) designed to bring additional dollars for the development of affordable housing options. The fee will be phased in starting January 1, 2015.



The City’s first smart parking meters were installed in October 2014.

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2014 Highlights

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- Mayor Kevin Faulconer and Council President Todd Gloria announced the plans for the Balboa Park Centennial, which includes the reopening of California Tower, expansion of free public WiFi throughout the park, and numerous other infrastructure improvements that will revitalize the park.
- The Council officially took action to form and recognize the Barrio Logan Planning Group. With leadership from Councilmember David Alvarez, the Council approved the group's by-laws and initial membership. Though one of the oldest urban neighborhoods in San Diego, this is the first time that Barrio Logan will be represented by a community planning group.
- The Council supported a series of recommended amendments to the municipal code, introduced by Councilmember Mark Kersey, pertaining to the recall of elected officials. The amendments updated the time frame for the public to gather signatures while preventing abuse of the recall system.

November 2014:

- Because of the City's continued financial discipline, Moody's Investors Service upgraded the City of San Diego's investment ratings citing growth in top revenue sources, strong financial management, and an improvement in the five-year financial outlook.
- To help meet the demand for taxi service within the City and with leadership from Councilmember Marti Emerald, the Council supported an amendment to Council Policy 500-02 that lifted the cap on the number of taxi permits issued within the City.

December 2014:

- The 2015 Centennial of the Panama-California Exposition kicked off with the illumination of exterior LED lighting throughout the park, December Nights, and a New Year's Eve concert at the 100 year old Spreckels Organ Pavilion.
- Thanks in part to a contribution of Community Projects, Programs, and Services funds from the City of San Diego, 83 trees along the C Street corridor were added to increase safety and beautification.



Todd talks about the benefits of new lights along C Street, which were installed in December.

At Your Service: Pothole Repairs

No one gets more frustrated by potholes than Councilmember Todd Gloria. He was grateful the one pictured below was quickly repaired in December at Florida and Meade and he needs your help making sure the City knows which streets need attention. Take a moment to bookmark the City's Pothole Reporting site into your phone for easier use, and of course let Councilmember Gloria know what needs fixing.

Report a pothole: <http://apps.sandiego.gov/streetdiv/> or contact Councilmember Gloria, 619-236-6633 or toddgloria@sandiego.gov.



Upcoming Events

Equality Professionals Network Luncheon
Thursday, January 15, 12:00—1:30 p.m.
The Center, 3909 Centre Street

El Cajon Blvd. BIA Annual Meeting
Thursday, January 15, 5:30—7:00 p.m.
3737 El Cajon Blvd.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Human Dignity Award Breakfast
Friday, January 16, 7:00—9:00 a.m.
Town & Country, Atlas Ballroom, Hotel Circle

Bankers Hill Community Group Monthly Meeting
Monday, January 19 — 6:00—8:00 p.m.
San Diego Indoor Sports Club, 3030 Front Street
Join Councilmember Gloria and learn more about San Diego's Climate Action Plan.

Adams Avenue Business Association Annual Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 8:00 a.m.
Location TBD. Check <http://www.adamsavenuebusiness.com/> for updates.

Tracking Todd



Todd returned to his alma mater, Madison High, to honor school safety patrols for their hard work. The cadets from Washington and Grant Schools were named among the best in the city.



Todd wishes neighbors Happy Holidays at the North Park Toyland Parade.



Todd was proud to help dedicate the Urban Angels kitchen at the city's homeless services center. This philanthropic initiative by the owner of Fit Athletic Club serves 75,000 meals a year while training homeless veterans for jobs.



Todd flips the switch on new LED exterior lighting in Balboa Park. This investment will remain after the Centennial.

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

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

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