



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria
City of San Diego ▪ District Three

Friends,

Thank you for your continued interest in Council District Three. Before sharing news with you, I need to state that data staff outside of my office mistakenly added individuals to my email list. I have been assured that this problem has been rectified, and ask that if you did not sign up for this newsletter and are receiving it in error that you please accept my apologies and notify me by responding to this message.

This week, I am pleased to share with you progress on infrastructure in our neighborhoods and notifications of two upcoming meetings.

A Solution To Our Road Woes

Today I spoke out about the need for additional infrastructure funding and transit use in response to a report from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) which determined that more than half the roads in San Diego were in poor condition.

The fact that our roads are falling apart is not surprising news to anyone who drives in our City. The real news is that the City of San Diego is investing in our streets. By October 2010, more than 60 miles of streets in Council District Three will be slurry sealed or overlaid to improve their condition and extend their lives.

Thanks to funds from the City's \$103 infrastructure bond, State Proposition 42, State Proposition 1B and trenching fees, San Diego is accelerating its progress on addressing its growing deferred maintenance list.

As stated in AASHTO's report, "Rough Roads Ahead: Fix Them Now or Pay Later," the costs of sustaining deteriorating roads is significantly higher than maintaining roads that are in good condition.

Waiting for our roads to fail is absolutely foolish. Spending \$1 to maintain our decent roads is much smarter than spending \$7 to reconstruct them once they fail.

Infrastructure below the roads is often the cause of potholes and other street surface problems. San Diego's streets are part of an expansive infrastructure network, including water and wastewater pipes, much of which is literally crumbling beneath us.

One of the contributing factors to worsening road conditions described in AASHTO's report is the number of cars that travel on them. Decreased personal use of cars in favor of public transportation is another means of addressing the issue. Though not discussed specifically by AASHTO, an effective and efficient transit system would take some cars off San Diego's roads or at least reduce car trips. I will continue to fight for improved transit and more infrastructure funding as Chair of the City Council Committee on Land Use and Housing and through my positions on the Metropolitan Transit System Board and SANDAG.

I am very pleased that 60 miles of streets in the neighborhoods of Mid-City will be repaired in the coming year, but more must be done. Council District Three's communities are at least 100 years old, and preserving them through regular maintenance is an effort worth pursuing with community input and support.

Don't Ask, Don't Tell

My colleagues and I will consider supporting the repeal of the federal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law at the City Council Committee on Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations meeting tomorrow. This discriminatory policy took effect 15 years ago. Since then, more than 12,500 people have been discharged from the service because of their sexual orientation. According to a Blue Ribbon Commission Report, the cost to replace and train service members discharged under this law between 1994 and 2003 exceeded \$363.8 million. Further, the law has a severe detrimental impact on our military readiness. In spite of this, some lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals are proudly and openly serving our country. Some are still harassed and serve with the fear of losing their chosen careers.

The City of San Diego has historically taken positions on federal and state legislation, and I am hopeful my colleagues will join me in supporting the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Please join me at the Rules Committee on Wednesday morning, or consider sharing your input with me and my colleagues by phone or email.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell"
City Council Rules Committee
Wednesday, May 13
9:00 a.m.
202 C Street, 12th floor

Coffee with your Councilmember

After several good conversations over coffee at Lestat's in Normal Heights last weekend, I will host another community coffee this Saturday and encourage you to join me for an informal discussion and to share with me your questions and concerns.

Coffee with your Councilmember
Saturday, May 16
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Baja Betty's
1421 University Ave.

I hope to see you at one of these events or hear from you soon.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Todd