

Friends,

Happy Friday! I am pleased to share with you that I have taken the Veg Pledge and am trying out a completely vegetarian diet for the week. For those of you who don't know, I enjoy "quick cuisine," so this is a challenge! I appreciate the Animal Protection and Rescue League for inviting me to take the pledge and am glad to be doing my part to help the environment, animals and my health. To round out this busy week, I want to share some news and upcoming events with you.

NEWS

City Council Approves Major Grant Reforms

For nearly five months, I have been working closely with Councilmember Tony Young, the Mayor's office, the Independent Budget Analyst's office and concerned San Diegans to develop reforms that would fundamentally change the structure of our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The San Diego City Council took a big step toward improving our CDBG program at a special meeting on Thursday. The reforms we supported will enhance the City's ability to address the goals and objectives as stated in our Consolidated Plan, <http://www.sandiego.gov/cdbg/pdf/consolidatedplan.pdf>. Furthermore, the changes will improve administrative oversight, customer service and the City's and non-profits' ability to make immediate and meaningful impacts in the communities that need it most. Many thanks to the various non-profit groups for participating in the hearing and my colleagues for supporting my efforts to rebuild this critical program.

Repaving Rough Roads

On Wednesday afternoon, Mayor Jerry Sanders and several of my City Heights neighbors joined me on Rowan Street in Fairmount Park to showcase the street repair work occurring citywide as part of our accelerated investment in public infrastructure. Rowan Street, which was in very poor condition, is just one of the many street segments being repaired. In Council District Three, 60 miles of roads will be repaved or overlaid by October 2010. To see a map of streets being resurfaced, please visit the Important Issues: Infrastructure Investment page on my website.

City Council Committee Makes History... Easier

I was proud to chair the Land Use and Housing Committee's meeting dedicated to Historic Resources on Wednesday. My committee colleagues and I strengthened protections for potentially historic resources by closing loopholes that had allowed some such structures to be demolished without any community review.

The Committee also discussed a proposal being developed by City staff to create Historic Conservation Areas, which would protect the character of areas with distinct physical characteristics due their form, character and visual qualities. Historic Conservation Areas in other cities often overlap with historic areas, and are considered a tool to protect established neighborhoods from incongruent development. This issue

will be considered in the coming months after Committee comments and concerns are incorporated into the proposal.

New Bus Shelters Improve Transit Experience

Many of you have noticed the new bus shelters throughout City Heights. This morning, I joined the City Heights Business Association to officially cut the ribbon on these great additions to our neighborhood. The City Heights Business Association deserves the community's gratitude for recognizing a need and pursuing funds and permitting for the last four years to purchase and install the 20 bus shelters. Thank you!

City Heights Project Area Committee Election Announcement

The annual elections for the City Heights Project Area Committee will be held on Monday, October 12, 2009. If you are interested in shaping future redevelopment projects in City Heights, register to vote and be a candidate today. At this time, there are two residential owner/occupant seats up for election, as well as three residential tenant seats, one seat for a business owner from south of Polk Ave. and one seat for a community organization at-large. The election notice is attached to this email for your information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

I have heard from several of you that my Upcoming Events lists are not all-inclusive. The events that appear in this e-newsletter and online are the events that I am scheduled to attend. A full listing of regularly-scheduled community group meetings is found on the Council District Three website under the Communities tab.

Coffee with your Councilmember

Saturday, September 26

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

City Heights-Weingart Branch Library

3795 Fairmount Ave.

Please stop by for the opportunity to discuss your concerns and learn about issues impacting the City in an informal setting with me.

Adams Avenue Street Fair

Saturday, September 26 and Sunday, September 27

All day

Adams Avenue between 32nd and 35th Streets

20th Anniversary AIDS Walk

Sunday, September 27

8:00 a.m.

Balboa Park

Quince Street at 6th Avenue

Join my team at aidswalksd.kintera.org

Pacific Islander Festival

Sunday, September 27

1:00 p.m.

Ski Beach in Mission Bay Park

Groundbreaking on the Normal Street Median Improvements

Monday, September 28

11:15 a.m.

Normal Street at Blaine Avenue

One block north of University Avenue in Hillcrest

Community Forum: Safeguarding Against Sex Offenders

Tuesday, September 29

6:30 p.m.

Joyce Beers Community Center

1230 Cleveland Ave.

Balboa Park Committee

Thursday, October 1

6:00 p.m.

Santa Fe Room of the Balboa Park Club

2150 Pan American Road

6th Annual Dinner for the San Diego Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill

Friday, October 2

6:00 p.m.

Catamaran Hotel

3999 Mission Blvd.

www.namisandiego.org

Uptown Planners

Tuesday, October 6

6:15 p.m.

Joyce Beers Center

1230 Cleveland Ave.

Coffee with your Councilmember

Saturday, October 10

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Kensington Café

4141 Adams Ave.

Free Home Buyer Workshop

Thursday, October 15

City Heights Recreation Center

4380 Landis St.

Join me and the San Diego Association of Realtors for an educational workshop covering issues including home loan qualification and various assistance programs available locally. Registration is required and seating is limited. Please RSVP to hoc@sdar.com or 858-715-8038.

If you cannot attend any of the above events, I encourage you to stay in touch with me by calling 619-236-6633, emailing ToddGloria@sandiego.gov, or using Facebook, Twitter or MySpace.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

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

Todd

If you would no longer like to receive updates, please visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd3>.