



News from **Councilmember Todd Gloria**

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

Friends,

I am proud of the critical progress toward solutions to homelessness that occurred yesterday and encouraged by recent important announcements regarding the City's finances and infrastructure. I want to share my perspective on those, as well as remind you about upcoming events, including my next community coffee.

Homelessness: It's Time for Solutions

As Chair of the Land Use and Housing Committee, I dedicated yesterday's meeting to solutions to homelessness. We marked a new chapter in San Diego when it comes to meeting the needs of our homeless. By renewing our commitment to the winter shelter program, moving forward with a permanent facility that will move people to supportive housing, and embarking on a new approach to solve homelessness, I believe San Diego will stand proudly in our care for our homeless neighbors.

I look forward to sharing the impressive plans for a comprehensive permanent homeless services facility with San Diegans over the next two months and anticipate the Land Use and Housing Committee will take action on the proposal in June.

Survey Finds Public Support for New Revenues to Preserve City Services

The Office of the Independent Budget Analyst released the results of a Survey on Residents' Opinions on City Services. Commissioned by the City of San Diego and conducted by Behavior Research Center, Inc., the survey found that generating new revenue, ending service cuts and implementing managed competition were all favored in the survey as integral to overall budget solutions. The full report can be found online, http://www.sandiego.gov/iba/pdf/10_34.pdf.

San Diegans highly value their quality of life and are supportive of a balanced approach in solving the City's budget challenges. They are adamant that City services not be further reduced and understand that additional revenues are a sensible part of an overall budget solution.

Among the notable findings of the survey:

- 70% of San Diegans believe City services should not be further reduced.
- 59% of citizens agree that the City should generate new revenues through increased fees to help avoid additional service reductions.
- Further reductions to City employee salaries and benefits are not seen as a panacea, with 48% of citizens commenting they approve of the idea and 47% disapproving.

The survey also showed that San Diegans are most concerned about essential services.

The increased demands on our budget, coupled with lower than anticipated revenues, makes prioritizing vital services more critical now than ever before. Along with San Diegans, I believe that our street infrastructure, public safety and homelessness must be funded first.

I have consistently advocated for your interests in essential services and your rational willingness to pay for them. I am confident the survey results will help my fellow City leaders move forward with a responsible and balanced approach to solving the long-term structural budget deficit, including revenue options.

Increasing fees is no one's favorite way to address budget challenges, but after almost a decade of budget cuts, we have run out of viable alternatives. When our fire engines aren't staffed and other service levels are falling, raising new revenues should no longer be a tough decision.

Even as a longtime critic of contracting out City services, I understand that managed competition, a method supported by 74% of citizens in the survey, will be part of any comprehensive budget solution, along with new revenues.

In other cities where managed competition has been implemented, municipal employees have fared well. I know that will be the case here and support the will of the public to move forward as long it is done responsibly and contracts are vigilantly overseen by City leaders.

Increased Street Repairs

I am thrilled that the investments into road repairs begun last year will continue, an appropriate reflection of the priorities stated in the survey. Many of you have shared with me your gratitude for some of the freshly repaved streets that have occurred in District Three. But even more of you remain frustrated by the poor conditions of our roads. To find out which streets are scheduled for improvements, please visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd3/issues/infrastructure.shtml>.

Upcoming Events

Please join me for my next community coffee to discuss your budget priorities or any other issue of concern. If you can't make it to Caffe Calabria on Saturday, please check out the other events listed here and on my website.

Coffee with your Councilmember

Saturday, April 24

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Caffe Calabria, 3933 30th St. in North Park

Normal Heights Canyon Clean Up

Saturday, April 24

9:00 a.m.

Meet across from 3110 Camino del Rio South

Adams Avenue Roots and Folk Festival

Saturday, April 24-Sunday, April 25

All Day

Adams Ave. in Normal Heights

Community Plan Update "Open Mic" Presentations

Monday, April 26

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Santa Fe Room of the Balboa Park Club

2150 Pan American Road

This meeting will feature a series of short presentations by speakers from various community-based and professional organizations about the Community Plan Update process for Uptown, North Park and Greater Golden Hill.

Regional Transportation Plan Workshop

Monday, May 3

4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Bayside Community Center

2202 Comstock Street in Linda Vista

Learn how the RTP sets the stage for the development of transportation networks and connecting those networks to jobs, schools, homes, and other destinations. For more information, please visit www.sandag.org.

North Park Festival of the Arts

Sunday, May 16

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

University Ave. between 30th and 32nd St.

City of San Diego Bicycle Master Plan Update Open House

Thursday, May 20

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Hall of Champions in Balboa Park

2131 Pan American Plaza

Old House Fair in South Park

Saturday, June 19

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

30th and Beech St.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve, and Happy Earth Day,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd".

Todd

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