



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

Friends,

I am incredibly pleased to say that the music will go on! The City Council approved a new contract with our civic organist, Dr. Carol Williams. She is a tremendous San Diego asset and will continue to share her talent with residents and visitors alike at free public concerts at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion at Balboa Park. Be sure to check out a concert this summer. Visit <http://sosorgan.com> for the schedule and more information.

I'm glad we were able to get the contract approved on this last day before City Council goes on legislative recess for the remainder of August. Though we won't have City Council meetings, my staff and I will be working hard for you! I've included updates on some neighborhood projects as well as details about some community events that are on the horizon, including my next community coffee, which is scheduled for this Saturday morning at Grant's Marketplace in South Park.

Coffee with your Councilmember

Please join me for the latest in my series of community coffees. I hope you will stop by for a casual conversation about hot topics in the City.

Coffee with your Councilmember
Saturday, August 6
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Grants Marketplace, 2953 Beech St.

Update on Two Parks

McKinley Elementary School Joint Use Field:

I was pleased to secure \$107,000 in the Fiscal Year 2012 budget for the preliminary planning of the joint use field at McKinley Elementary School in North Park. I expect to have more details this winter.

Central Avenue Mini Park:

The City Heights Recreational Council will hold a workshop on the Central Avenue Mini Park on August 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the City Heights Recreation Center, 4380 Landis St. The purpose of this meeting is to have the design team present conceptual plans for the park based on the community input from the first meeting, and the results of the survey received from the community. This is the second of two community meetings to guide the design of this park, which will be located on the east side of I-15 on Central Ave. between Dwight St. and Landis St. Members of the community will have the opportunity to comment on the conceptual park plans.

Small Business Districts Benefit from City Council Policy Change

Yesterday, I was glad to announce that San Diego's Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) would benefit from a policy change approved unanimously by the City Council.

The new policy provides direct payment of applicable assessment funds to BIDs on a monthly basis, providing much-needed financial stability and cash flow for the organizations that work to support neighborhood small businesses. The policy change was generated by my memo to City Attorney Jan Goldsmith in January 2011.

I believe this policy will greatly enhance BID operations as well as promote autonomy, responsibility and cooperation between our BIDs and the City. It will also eliminate unnecessary City staff work processing reimbursement requests.

BIDs collect assessments from member businesses and previously could only access those funds on a reimbursement basis, even if they were for ongoing, approved expenses. As the representative of six of the City's BIDs -- Adams Avenue, City Heights, El Cajon Boulevard Central, El Cajon Boulevard Gateway, Hillcrest and North Park -- I was troubled that some were waiting multiple months to receive reimbursements.

The assessments that were collected to promote, support and strengthen business districts were being held up by unnecessary red tape, limiting the districts' abilities to perform their essential duties. I am confident that the policy approved yesterday maintains City oversight and accountability while further empowering BIDs to succeed.

More Upcoming Events

Fairmount Park Neighborhood Block Party
Saturday, August 6
2:00 – 7:00 p.m.
3850 Westgate Place

CityFest
Sunday, August 14
All Day
Fifth Ave. and University Ave.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,



Todd

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