



News from **Councilmember Todd Gloria**

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

Friends,

This has been an especially exciting week to be your councilmember! We improved urban agriculture rules, saved a critical resource for our homeless neighbors, and I allocated funds for three District Three projects. I hope you'll take the time to read the news below, and please let me know what other issues need to be tackled.

Chickens, Goats and Bees: Coming Soon to a Yard Near You

On Tuesday, the San Diego City Council approved changes to local urban agriculture regulations, making it possible for more San Diegans to access locally-produced food. I was proud to champion many of the changes, which grew out of discussions during the Council's previous passage of an ordinance easing community garden rules.

At a community coffee in 2009, a couple of North Park neighbors told me about the challenges they faced because they wanted to raise a couple chickens in their small yard for their eggs. I am incredibly proud that the common-sense measures we passed will allow more San Diegans to keep small numbers of animals on their property and strengthen their connection to their food.

A few of the changes approved this week include:

Chickens:

- Roosters prohibited.
- Up to 5 chickens allowed with no setback requirements from the onsite house. The coop must be located outside the required setbacks.
- Up to 15 chickens allowed with no setback from onsite house. The coop must be outside required setbacks, or at least 15 feet from property line, whichever is greater.
- Up to 25 chickens may be kept on premises, as long as the coop and outdoor enclosure are a minimum of 50 feet from any residential structure.
- The coop must be predator proof, watertight, ventilated, easily accessed and cleaned, with a minimum of 6 square feet per chicken.

Miniature Goats:

- Can be kept at single family homes and lots developed with single family homes.
- Miniature goats only. Must be de-horned. Males must be neutered.

- Shed must be located outside required setback, predator proof, watertight, ventilated, easily accessed and cleaned, with a minimum of 5 square feet per goat.
- Enclosure must have minimum 5-foot high fence, minimum pen area of 400 square feet, excluding shed.
- Goat products allowed for personal consumption only.

Bee Keeping:

- Allowed Citywide.
- For up to 2 hives: Must be located no closer than 30 feet from offsite residence and 50 feet from right of way.
- More than 2 hives: Must be located 600 feet from offsite residence and 100 feet from right of way.
- No more than 2 hives allowed per lot.
- Must have 6-foot screen unless located 8 feet above grade.
- Required compliance with recognized best practices for bee keeping.

Community Gardens:

- Allowed to sell produce in residential zones one day per week.
- Allowed with Neighborhood Use Permit in the IL-21 industrial zone.

Complete information about the City Council item 333 can be found online:

<http://dockets.sandiego.gov/sirepub/pubmtgframe.aspx?meetid=1306&doctype=Agenda>

Most of the changes are expected to go into effect in mid-March. The new regulations on Retail Farmers, Farmers' Markets, and Community Gardens will be subject to Coastal Commission approval before they go into effect in the Coastal Overlay Zone.

City staff work on this was made possible partially by funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through the County of San Diego and the San Diego Association of Governments.

Homeless Service Preserved

This week, the San Diego City Council made a \$45,000 contribution to keep the homeless storage facility open through June 30, 2012. In an effort I coordinated, City Councilmembers allocated enough Community Projects, Programs and Services (CPPS) funds to keep what is known as the Water Man Check-in Center open through the end of the Fiscal Year.

The Check-in Center keeps the possessions of our homeless neighbors safe, while helping keep San Diego's streets clean.

The storage facility, located at 917 Ninth Avenue, houses secure bins that homeless individuals use to keep their property. Since its opening early in 2011, the Check-in Center has been credited for improved conditions on San Diego's streets and

applauded by homeless people and advocates for helping solve this longstanding challenge.

The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) will start accepting monetary donations from the public next week so the Check-in Center's future can be ensured beyond June. SDHC and I will announce the donation information on Valentine's Day. Stay tuned!

More than \$34,000 Coming to District Three Projects

From savings generated in my office budget, I am pleased to report that I contributed over \$34,000 in CPPS funds for three projects in Council District Three.

The funding will allow the Park and Recreation Department to provide hourly staffing for the restoration of 30 additional hours of operation per month at the Balboa Park Activity Center through June 30, 2012. The Activity Center, which had been closed on Sundays, will now be open seven days per week.

Further, a new marquee will be purchased and installed at the Adams Avenue Recreation Center, and the basketball and volleyball courts at the Golden Hill Recreation Center will be repaired and resurfaced. The marquee and court improvements will be complete by the end of June.

Finding ways to support local efforts is rewarding for the whole community. I previously allocated CPPS funds to further benefit City facilities and services:

- \$8,694 to help sustain restored hours at the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library and Performance Annex and the Mid-City Gymnasium. Along with grants of \$42,430 from the Price Family Charitable Fund, this contribution allowed the library to be open on Sundays through June 2012 and the gym to be open for Sundays in the summer of 2011.
- \$1,000 to help purchase and install sod and seed at Grape Street Park. These funds were matched by funds raised by the Dog Owners of Grape Street.
- \$2,400 toward the purchase of manual beach wheelchairs to increase disabled access to City beaches.
- \$10,000 for renovations to Fire Station 14 in North Park.

One More Way to Support Birney Elementary

I'll be at the University Heights Community Association meeting tonight to discuss the recent string of arsons. It's critical that we all stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity to prevent further crimes and to catch the criminals responsible for the senseless acts of the past several weeks.

If you've been meaning to contribute to efforts to help Birney Elementary recover from losses caused by arson a few weeks ago, don't miss a fun opportunity tomorrow: a food trucks rally! Enjoy the offerings of several local food trucks and help raise money for one of our great neighborhood schools.

Food Trucks Rally

Friday, February 3

3:30 – 7:00 p.m.

New Vision Christian Fellowship parking lot, 4353 Park Blvd

City Hall Honors Black History Month

I am extremely proud that my office has helped coordinate a display in the lobby of the City Administration Building to honor Black History Month. Opening next Tuesday, February 7, the exhibit will feature tributes to the Tuskegee Airmen, the Buffalo Soldiers and the San Diego Black Nurses Association. Please be sure to check it out, and join me for a brief ceremony with Council President Tony Young and representatives from each group at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 24.

Black History Month Exhibit

Tuesday, February 7 – Wednesday, February 29

City Administration Building, 202 C St.

Coffee with your Councilmember

The next community coffee is scheduled for Saturday, February 25 in South Park. I hope you'll stop by to chat!

Coffee with your Councilmember

Saturday, February 25

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Rebecca's Coffeehouse, 3015 Juniper St.

FREE Electronic Recycling Event

Do you have old electronics lying around that you've been afraid to send to the landfill? On Saturday, you can dispose of them safely for free!

Electronic Recycling

Saturday, February 4, 2012

9:00 am – 2:00 p.m.

AT&T Parking Lot in Hillcrest

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>.