



News from **INTERIM MAYOR TODD GLORIA**

City of San Diego ■ District Three

Dear Friends,

I hope you all enjoyed the long Veterans Day weekend, and spent some time honoring our veterans and service members. On Saturday, I was proud to participate in Mt. Soledad Memorial Association's Veterans Day ceremony to commemorate all veterans and to honor Major Jeremy Henwood (USMC and SDPD) who was killed in the line of duty in San Diego on August 7, 2011. On Monday, I was in the Veterans Day Parade along Harbor Drive joined by a contingent of veterans who continue their public service as City employees. I am grateful for their service to our country and our City.



I've included some updates on important topics below and would love your feedback. You can even provide that feedback in person at my community coffee on Saturday. I'll be hanging out in South Park at Buona Forchetta, and I hope you'll join me for news about City issues and to share whatever neighborhood concerns are on your mind.

Coffee with your Council President

Saturday, November 16

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Buona Forchetta, 3001 Beech St, San Diego, CA 92102

More Affordable Housing for San Diego

Last week, the City Council passed an update to San Diego's Workforce Housing Offset. The Workforce Housing Offset requires commercial developers who build in San Diego to help cover the cost of providing affordable housing for low-wage workers through a one-time payment assessed as a small percentage of development costs. Our Municipal Code requires the City Council to annually update the amount of the Workforce Housing Offset. However, this has not been done since 1996 when the offset then was cut in half. That cut, and the 17 year lapse of offset adjustments, has cost San Diego millions of dollars of potential investment and hundreds of homes for working families. According to the San Diego Housing Commission, the recommended fee will generate an additional \$8 million to \$10 million per year, translating to 80 to 100 additional units annually, when fully implemented. Vibrant, 21st century cities need people from all walks of life, not just those with high incomes. The availability of affordable housing options creates healthy, stable communities.

Kudos to Our Traffic Engineering Division

The City of San Diego received some well-deserved recognition for its local transportation efforts. Our Traffic Engineering Division was selected by the Institute of Transportation Engineers San Diego Section as the *Public Agency of the Year*. Our Traffic Engineering Division was selected because of its dedication to repurposing the streets for all users, but particularly for cyclists, with innovative and progressive improvements being made in a short period of time. We have restriped 50 bike lane miles as part of our road resurfacing contracts which result in narrower car lanes, wider bike lanes, and buffers between the two. Also, the City's first "road diet" has been approved and should be installed by the end of December along Fourth and Fifth Avenues from Laurel Street to the I-5. Hundreds of sharrows have been installed with bike routes to improve the connectivity of the overall bike network. Additionally, the City is looking to install traffic control devices at three locations where pedestrian and bike paths exit onto major streets to minimize vehicular delays and maximize pedestrian safety. Finally, the City has purchased bike detectors for eight traffic signals so the green signal time is extended to allow a cyclist enough time to travel through the intersection. All these efforts complement the installation of 150 bike racks in the last year, the popular bike corral program, and the bike-sharing partnership with DecoBike, which will start next spring. This win for our Traffic Engineering Division is also a win for cyclists.

Sustaining San Diego

Last week I unveiled the first draft of an updated Climate Action Plan. This plan is designed to help San Diego mitigate its impact on the environment in the decades ahead. San Diego must take steps to reduce its carbon footprint to counter the very real problem of global climate change. It calls for a wide variety of approaches in the years and decades to come, from tapping into sources of renewable energy to increasing the percentage of commuters who bike and take mass transit to work. I am proud of the work my environmental policy director, Nicole Capretz, has taken to create this draft plan. For the first time ever, the City will have quantifiable data to assess how well we are doing in reducing climate pollution and reaching our goals. We want San Diego to be a national leader in healthy, livable neighborhoods powered by clean energy.

Also last week, fellow leaders and I announced a new sustainability goal for Balboa Park. Through collaborative efforts with local partners, the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership is adding several buildings to its LEED certification portfolio, bringing the total number of planned certified buildings up to 10 by the time of the 2015 Centennial Celebration.

Five Year Financial Outlook

This Thursday, I'll be releasing the City's Five-Year Financial Outlook for 2015-2019. This Outlook is the guiding document for long-range fiscal planning and will serve as the framework for the development of the FY 2015 budget, which will be considered by the City Council in spring 2014. The Outlook helps educate San Diegans and policy makers so our decisions are informed by longer term context. As the Budget and Finance Committee Chair, I've concentrated on increasing public participation in our budget development process so that we are spending tax dollars where neighbors see the need. As always, I would welcome your feedback and input on this.

Typhoon Haiyan

The devastation the people of the Philippines are experiencing as a result of Typhoon Haiyan is unfathomable. While the outpouring of support in response to this disaster has been swift, demand for relief in Tacloban, Basey and the surrounding region is staggering. I know, however, the Filipino spirit is resilient, and the Filipino sense of community cooperation is strong. My prayers remain with them during this unprecedented time of sorrow and loss.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve, and I hope to see you for coffee this Saturday.

Respectfully,

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

Todd Gloria
Interim Mayor