



# The Emerald News

Office of  
Councilmember  
Marti Emerald

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## Improving Public Safety Technology

At the February 13, 2013 Public Safety & Neighborhood Services (PS&NS) meeting, I urged my colleagues to approve funding to finally update the antiquated San Diego Police Department Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System.

The City received a \$6.9 million reimbursement in Property Tax Administration Fees (PTAF) from the County of San Diego in November 2012. Mayor Filner and I quickly seized the opportunity to set the money aside for public safety. This unexpected one-time windfall created an excellent opportunity to fund the outdated CAD system.

San Diego's police are among the hardest working public safety officers in the country, but they depend on outdated technology for responding to calls for service. That is unacceptable. This long overdue update to such a critical component will improve our public safety system and save lives.

The San Diego Police Department's current dispatch software was originally written in the mid-1970s. The existing CAD system was installed in 1991 and is prone to outages, has limited support and is based on out-of-date and unsupported technologies. In addition, the current CAD system does not meet acceptable industry standards for high availability or emergency site recovery.

The replacement solution will facilitate the incorporation of newer technologies available for emergency response, improve operational availability and expand the tools available for the efficient dispatching of 9-1-1 calls. With improved operational availability, and more tools available to efficiently dispatch 9-1-1 calls, lives will be saved. The item is expected to be heard at the full Council in the next few weeks.

One of my goals as your representative on the San Diego City Council is to provide safe neighborhoods, and upgrading the CAD system will do just that. Please continue to share with me your ideas and concerns for improving public safety in our communities.

*Thanks, Marti*

### Mission Statement

*Empower constituents to improve their quality of life, economy, and neighborhoods through the effective use of a responsive, transparent, and trustworthy city government.*

### My Goals:

Provide Safe Neighborhoods, Empower People, Deliver Resources,  
Create Economic Opportunity, Promote Trust In Government

### District 9 Communities

- Alvarado Estates
- Azalea Park
- Castle
- Cherokee Point
- Chollas Creek
- Colina Park
- College Area
- Corridor
- El Cerrito
- Fairmount Park
- Fairmount Village
- Fox Canyon
- Hollywood Park
- Islenair
- Kensington
- Mountain View
- Mt Hope
- Ridgeview
- Rolando
- Southcrest
- Swan Canyon
- Talmadge
- Teralta-East & West

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Questions or concerns?  
Send an e-mail!

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## Troubleshooting in D9

**El Cerrito:** A new D9 homeowner contacted me because he had not received a water bill despite repeated calls to the City's Customer Support. We contacted Public Utilities, which got in touch with him right away and sent him his bill.

**Mount Hope:** Residents alerted me about overgrown vegetation in the medians located at the intersection of Market and Boundary Streets. My office contacted Civic San Diego, which trimmed the median, making the intersection safer and reducing the hazard of blind spots for drivers.



BEFORE



AFTER

**College Area:** My office contacted the Street Division and asked them to replace a broken street light electrical box cover on Montezuma Road along with a broken traffic signal concrete cover on the south side of Montezuma between 54th and 55th.

*For your troubleshooting needs, call us at (619) 236-6699.*

## Upcoming Budget Talks

In light of the many difficult budget decisions made in past years, I am very encouraged and look forward to approving a budget that will better protect and restore public safety and neighborhood resources. I look forward to approving a FY2014 City budget that responds to community concerns and prioritizes neighborhoods first. I encourage you to participate in these public hearings in May and June at City Council and let your voice be heard.

Below is a timeline of the Budget process for March:

**Friday, March 1, 2013:** City Council budget memos for the FY 2014 Budget Priorities Resolution due to the Budget and Finance Committee Chair

**Monday, March 11, 2013:** City Council reviews FY 2013 Mid-Year Monitoring Report

**Wednesday, March 13, 2013:** Budget and Finance Committee reviews FY 2014 Budget Priorities Resolution & Department Performance Measures and Service Level Indicators Targets and Results

**Monday, March 18, 2013:** City Council reviews and adopts FY 2014 Budget Priorities Resolution

For a complete list of budget hearings, please visit my website at:

[www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd9](http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd9)

## Community Highlight: Azalea Park

- On February 5, 2013, Councilmember Emerald proclaimed “**Azalea Park Neighborhood Association Day**” in the City of San Diego, for its commitment to serving the community and enhancing the quality of life for all residents of Azalea Park. The Proclamation was presented at the Azalea Park Water Conservation Garden on February 9<sup>th</sup>.
- At the February 9<sup>th</sup> event, Councilmember Emerald also honored **Tom Lashbrook** and **Larry May** for their tremendous contribution of volunteering with the Azalea Park Neighborhood Association.



- **Construction on the Azalea Park Welcome Sign** is expected to begin in June 2013 with construction to last approximately one month. If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact our office or Mark Giandoni, Associate Civil Engineer, by phone at (619) 533-4618 or by e-mail at [mgiandoni@sandiego.gov](mailto:mgiandoni@sandiego.gov).
- You may have noticed the construction along Manzanita Drive. Currently the project, **Water Group 787**, is in post construction. Pipe installation on Manzanita Drive is currently in process. In March, you will see the installation of about 50 curb ramps in the same area. The last step, slurry seal, will take place in the same area in April 2013. If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact our office or Carl Spier, Senior Civil Engineer, by phone at (619) 533-5126 or by e-mail at [cspier@sandieg.gov](mailto:cspier@sandieg.gov).



- Save the date for the **Azalea Park Easter Egg Hunt** set for March 30<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm. The egg hunt will take place at the Azalea Park Recreation Center, 2596 Violet Street. All ages welcome!

## March Community Events

### Saturday, March 9, 2013 – Teralta Park/Neighborhood Clean-Up and Health & Wellness Fair

Come and make City Heights' Teralta Park a cleaner and safer neighborhood with your neighbors! Join in from 8am to 11am at 4063 Polk Avenue or 3838 Orange Avenue. For questions, or in case of rainy uncertainty, contact Jennifer Guerra at (619) 961-1053 or [jguerra@cityheightscdc.org](mailto:jguerra@cityheightscdc.org). From 12pm to 3pm, the City Heights Community Development Corporation (CHCDC) and La Maestra will hold a health & wellness fair with dental screening, breast cancer screenings and more! Contact the CHCDC at (619)795-6618 to learn more.

### Saturday, March 9, 2013 – City Heights Urban Greening Project Open House

Help identify opportunities for urban forestry, improving stormwater runoff, increasing open space and parks and better bike/pedestrian access in City Heights. Join in on the discussion at the Metro Career Center, 3910 University Avenue from 10am to 1pm. Contact Jenny An at (619) 294-4477 (ext. 157) or at [jenny@ktua.com](mailto:jenny@ktua.com) for more details.

**Monday, March 11, 2013 - San Diego State's Zahn Center for Technology Innovation Celebrates Its One-Year Anniversary** from 4pm to 6pm at the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center, 1897 Aztec Walk. The Center, an incubator that supports innovators and aspiring entrepreneurs, will kick off the festivities at Entrepreneur Week at SDSU. For more: [zahn.center@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:zahn.center@mail.sdsu.edu).

### Saturday, March 16, 2013 - Kensington Concert Series: A Saint Patrick's Day Celebration!

This event will feature Irish music, with dancing and singing brought to you by The Silverwood Musical Ensemble at 2pm. Purchase tickets from Kensington Video at 4067 Adams Avenue, (619) 284-2477. Learn more at [www.kensingtonconcertseries.com](http://www.kensingtonconcertseries.com).

**Sunday, March 24, 2013 – The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Rolando Street Fair** will take place on Rolando Boulevard just south of El Cajon Boulevard from 10am to 6pm. This free event will feature over 100 vendor booths, and countless non-profit community organizations will participate with hand-made items for sale, delicious food and services to offer. There will also be a Kids' Corner with rides and activities! Visit [www.rolandocommunitycouncil.org](http://www.rolandocommunitycouncil.org) for more information.

# Marti In The District



On February 23<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember Emerald joined City Heights residents in the very first Kale Festival. Thanks to all the event organizers, including Beth Townsend, for their hard work. The event was a great success and we look forward to celebrating this event next year.



As the Chair of the City-County Reinvestment Task Force, Councilmember Emerald supports small business development and homeownership opportunities!



On February 8<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember Emerald toured Florence Griffith Joyner Elementary MicroSociety Magnet School, where students “learn best by doing.”



Councilmember Emerald toured the San Diego Blood Bank on February 6. The Blood Bank moved to their new primary location, in District 9, in 2011. Every day, nearly 400 units of blood need to be donated just to meet the demand of the 30 area hospitals which rely on the Blood Bank for their blood supply. For information on becoming a donor, visit [www.sandiegobloodbank](http://www.sandiegobloodbank)

## SPRING AND SUMMER INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE

San Diego City Councilmember Emerald’s office is currently accepting applications from motivated high school and college students looking to gain experience interning for an elected official for this spring or summer.

Interns perform a variety of functions, from administrative duties to researching community and policy issues, and have opportunities to sit in on Council and Committee meetings, participate in community events and much more. Students must be able to commit 10+ hours/week during regular business hours, and attend the occasional night/weekend event. We make it a priority to give our interns plenty of opportunity to be exposed to the full government/political experience.

Interested applicants should e-mail Cynthia Harris a cover letter, résumé and at least one letter of recommendation, along with a brief writing sample to [charris@sandiego.gov](mailto:charris@sandiego.gov). Please feel free to call (619) 533-5897 with any questions.