



The Emerald News

Office of
Councilmember
Marti Emerald



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District 9

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- Hollywood Park
- Islenair
- Kensington
- Mountain View
- Mt Hope
- Ridgeview
- Rolando
- Southcrest
- Talmadge
- Teralta-East & West
- Willie Henderson

Dear Friends:

2014 was an incredibly busy year in our fledgling District Nine (D-9). You told us what you wanted and our staff and our community partners are delivering.

You asked for new parks and we are building them. Mountain View has a new and improved Tot Lot coming this year. Southcrest Trails invites families and cyclists to its new and improved network of trails and facilities. We have beautiful public gathering places on 43rd Street and the entrance to Manzanita Canyon. Construction of Charles Lewis III Memorial Park on Home Avenue is well underway. We've broken ground on a new Skate Plaza and Mini-Park on Central Avenue. We brought in State dollars needed to design and build City Heights' long-awaited Skate Park near Cherokee Pt. Elementary School. Wightman Park is also now fully funded, designed and undergoing engineering and environmental review. We will officially break ground on both of these parks in 2015.

You asked for better lit and safer streets. Your D-9 staff has delivered. Thanks to collaboration with Price Charities, Civic San Diego, and our City of San Diego engineers, streets in Southcrest and City Heights are brighter at night. In 2014, I attended a long awaited lighting ceremony for nearly 50 new streetlights in the Mountain View and Southcrest neighborhoods. The Willie Henderson Sports Complex is now illuminated with state of the art LED lights, offering safe and inviting fields for youth and club sports. New street lights give residents on 44th Street peace of mind, and we now have dollars needed to install nearly 140 additional street lights in Colina Park. Additionally, I was proud to allocate funding for upgraded acorn lights in the Islenair neighborhood as part of their undergrounding process. And we have just gathered money needed to update public lighting systems in Kensington and Talmadge, where historic circuitry has become unreliable.

Pardon our dust as the City of San Diego embarks on its most aggressive facelift in the city's history. D-9 is at the center of this impressive campaign for safer streets, more dependable utilities, and options for the traveling public, including miles of new bike lanes and pedestrian friendly streets.

As Chair of the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee (PSLN), I advocated to put more police officers on the streets. That is why I also pushed for an independent compensation survey, which is now resulting in a more committed effort by the City to offer more competitive wages and benefits to keep our officers from jumping ship to other jurisdictions that pay better. The study will be essential in assisting the city in meeting the retention and recruitment challenges faced by our police department. I look forward to working with Mayor Faulconer and Chief Zimmerman to find a solution as soon as possible. (Continued)

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(continued from page 1) Your D-9 Team has also worked diligently to build new fire stations. Mission Valley's first fire station is now being built across the street from Qualcomm Stadium. In March 2014, my council colleagues and I voted to move forward with a \$120 million infrastructure bond to fund fire stations. This includes Fire Station 17 in City Heights, serving all mid-city neighborhoods including Talmadge and Kensington. In addition, \$2 million from this infrastructure bond will go towards the design and land acquisition of a future fire station in the vicinity of Home Avenue. This infrastructure bond will help fulfill the needs outlined in the Citygate report. Meantime, we're paying for more academies to staff our fire stations.

Never a dull moment in D-9, our district is only two years old, yet more has happened in our communities during this brief span of time than many can remember. And we have much more to do. Get those wish lists in because we're not sitting on our laurels. In fact, our success just makes us want to do more for the people of District Nine. Thank you for all your help, cooperation, and patience!

- Marti

HAPPY
NEW YEAR



Happy New Year from your D9 staff!

Safer Streets



Working with community members and city staff, Councilmember Emerald's office was able to install many of these ramps to help make District 9 neighborhoods safer in 2014.

The community was instrumental in working to improve pedestrian safety at several intersections in our district. We need to do all we can to make sure our kids are safe.

Supporting Our Police Officers



Family and friends gathered to honor Officer Henwood's legacy by naming the park, located across from the Mid City sub-station where he was stationed, after him. A monument was erected in his honor to remind us all of his spirit and willingness to serve. Officer Henwood's dedication to protecting the residents of City Heights and San Diego will never be forgotten.



Councilmember Emerald supported the process to purchase the bikes for police officers to help patrol neighborhoods. The community held a celebration and unveiling on May 29, 2014 at the same place where the idea originated: in Lisa Gruber's driveway.

Building New Fire Stations

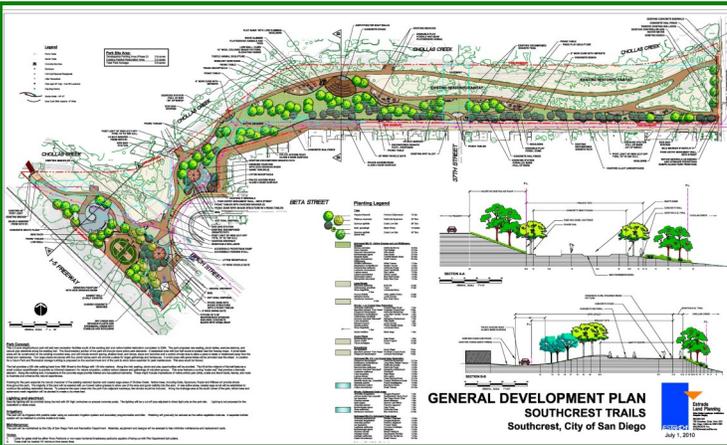


On May 20, 2014, Councilmember Emerald had the honor of proclaiming it "Emergency Medical Services Week" in the City of San Diego and presented a resolution to Fire Chief Mainar.



Councilmember Emerald and her colleagues recently approved a \$120 million infrastructure bond to fund fire stations, sidewalks, city streets, and libraries around the city.

New Parks in District 9



On Tuesday, May 20th, Councilmember Emerald along with Mayor Faulconer and representatives from city staff, the police department, and the community gathered at the site to announce that \$1 million will be allocated in the 2015 budget for the design and construction of Wightman Park. Funding for three additional parks in District 9 has been allocated and our office looks forward to working with the community on the design. We are excited for the safe and clean environments these parks will provide for kids and families in District 9!

