



The Emerald News

Office of
Council President Pro Tem
Marti Emerald



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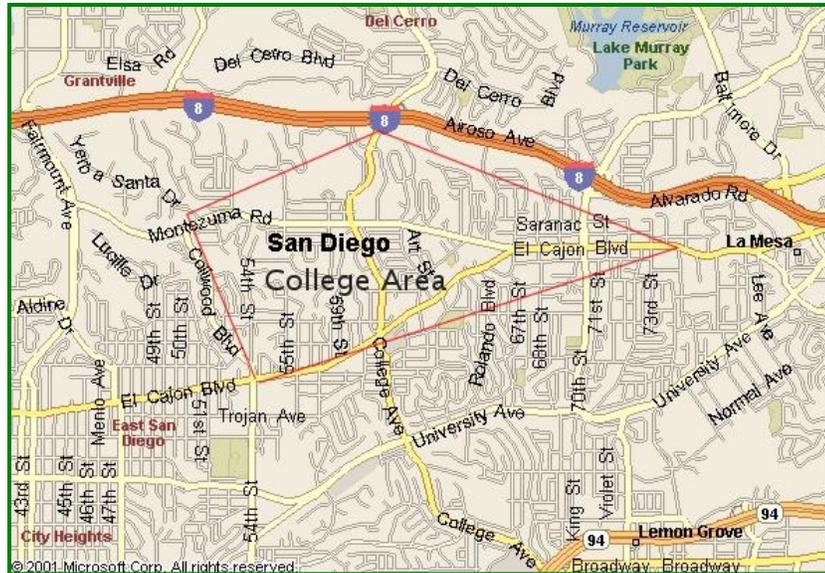
October 2015

District 9

Communities

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

City Council Addresses Mini-Dorm Issues



The San Diego City Council unanimously passed an amendment to the Rooming House Ordinance (RHO). The RHO is primarily used to regulate mini-dorms around San Diego State University. Community members have been sharing concerns with mini-dorms since 1987. The original RHO, passed in 2008, grew out of widespread community protests over the negative impact of rapidly increasing high occupancy high turnover (HTHO) nuisance rental housing especially in the College Area.

This amendment combines two definitions of a rooming house in the San Diego Municipal Code into one. The purpose of the ordinance is to provide Code Enforcement with the tools necessary to regulate the commercial overuse of dwelling units in residential neighborhoods. The intent of this ordinance is not to limit shared housing for individuals and families trying to afford to live in San Diego but is really intended to address the overcrowded housing issues related to students in the College Area. I would like to thank the leadership of the College Area Community Council, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and City staff for all of their work on this process.

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INTERNSHIPS

San Diego City Council President Pro Tem Emerald's office is currently accepting applications from motivated high school and college students looking to gain experience interning for an elected official. Interested applicants should e-mail Julio Rivera a cover letter, résumé and at least one letter of recommendation to jcrivera@sandiego.gov.

Community Representatives

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Update on Park Projects in D9

Charles Lewis Memorial Park

While the contractor continued to struggle on this project, they are now at the final steps of completing the construction punch list items. The wait is now for the 90 day establishment period of the sod that was completed last week, placing the park opening in December of 2015.

Central Avenue Park/ Skate Park

Due to poor performance, the original contractor (APR) was removed from the project in June 2015 and the surety bond company was directed to secure a replacement contractor to complete the work. The new contractor (Hazard Construction) will resume construction on 9/21/15 with a target park opening date of Summer 2016. This does not jeopardize the April 30, 2016 construction billing deadline for the state grant.

Wightman Neighborhood Park

The project is currently advertising for a construction contractor with a bid opening scheduled for 9/28/15. Pending successful bids, construction should then start in November of 2015 for a Winter 2016 park opening.



BOO! Parade 2015

I am honored to have been selected by the community to serve as the Grand Marshall in this year's Boo! Parade and invite you to join us in celebrating this fun event. The Boulevard BOO! Parade is returning to the College Area on Saturday, October 24, 2015. This FUN, FREE, FAMILY event is bigger and spookier than ever! Expect more music, zombies, floats, and surprises! More of what makes the Boulevard BOO! Parade San Diego's ONLY Halloween Parade!

The fun doesn't stop after the parade. Stop over to the College Avenue Baptist Church (4747 College Avenue) host of the AfterBOO! Carnival where you can enjoy carnival rides, live music, eats & treats and so much more with all of your neighbors and friends!

A huge thank you to the College Area Business District for organizing this great community event!



Getting Things Done

After a Rolando Community Council meeting Rolando resident Elena Mulvaney brought a leaking fire hydrant to the attention of my staff. The hydrant has been fixed and the street repaired! Thank you to the Water Department for their quick response to fix the leak and thank you to Streets Division for repairing the street after the fire hydrant had been fixed. Good team work. Well done by all!



Around District 9



I recently joined the RAJA=HOPE celebration hosted by the Somali Bantu Association of America (SBAOA) in partnership with the Colina Del Sol Recreation Center. The celebration helped introduce the community to the music, dance, and cuisine of the Somali Bantu while raising money and awareness for the programs SBAOA offers. It was an honor to be able to present a check in support of their efforts in our community!



The long awaited Azalea Park Neighborhood Identity Sign for the median on Poplar Street is moving forward! I am proud to share that my office has provided the funding necessary to begin construction. After 12 years, City Staff has committed to complete this sign no matter what funding shortages we might encounter. Vicki Leon, Azalea Park resident and artist, has been selected to create the artistic mosaics that will go on the four sides of the column that holds the sign.