



The Emerald News

Office of
Council President Pro Tem
Marti Emerald



Volume 7, Issue 2

February 2015

District 9 Communities

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

Dear Friends:

I am honored to have been appointed to serve as Chair of the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhood Services Committee for the 6th consecutive year.

My plan is to have a very active agenda for the year ahead. In addition to strengthening public safety, overseeing parks and recreation centers, addressing the needs of our libraries, and improving the Community Development Block Grant program, we will tackle issues related to homelessness, veterans affairs, senior citizen services and consumer protection. Here are a few of my priorities this year:

Police: I look forward to rebuilding our Police Department and implementing the Police Five Year Plan Update. Continue funding police academies and retain our current officers to address the city's shortage of sworn police officers. Advocate for replacement of aging facilities so that our officers can work in an environment that is safe and workable.

Fire-Rescue/Lifeguards: I will continue to push for a Firehouse Bond to build fire stations built as recommended in the Citygate report and aggressively target city-owned property to build fire stations.

Emergency Preparedness: Working with neighborhood groups from around the city, we can train an additional 100 residents in hands-only CPR and use of AED's through the Neighborhood Beat program.

Safe, Livable Neighborhoods: Assess the need to provide smoke-free housing to decrease second-hand smoke and work with the City's Communication Director to implement a one-stop shop phone number to respond more effectively to residents.

These are just some my priorities as the Chair of the PS&LN Committee for the coming year. I look forward to seeing you at a future meeting to hear your ideas on how we can continue to protect the public and build stronger, healthier communities in 2015.

- Marti

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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@sanidiego.gov. Please feel free to call (619) 236-6725 with any questions.

Community Representatives

Rudy Vargas

Azalea Park, Castle,
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Canyon, Teralta—East/
West, Colina Park
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View Estates, College
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Improving Our Infrastructure



Many of you have shared your concerns regarding the current conditions of our city roads. I am happy to share with you that my colleagues and I took another step towards improving the condition of our streets by recently voting 8-0 to fund the repair and resurfacing of 70 miles of city streets - many of which are streets in District 9! This is a \$9 million endeavor, using Prop 42 and 43 funds to complete the work.

Please feel free to contact my office for a list of streets included in the 70 miles of repair.

College Area Community Planning Board

Six seats on the CACPB are up for election at the March 11 meeting. Those elected serve concurrently as Executive Board members of the College Area Community Council (CACC). The seats are for 3-year terms.

Any community member who is a registered member of CACC/CACPB, and has attended at least two CACPB/CACC meetings between February 2014 and February 2015, is eligible to run. CACC members must reside, own property in, or own a business in the College Area. All CACC members are eligible to vote in the March 11 election, provided they registered as a CACC member by February 11, 2015.

Board members are required to attend monthly joint meetings of the CACC/CACPB held on the second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, at the College-Rolando Library. Additionally each board member is expected to serve on at least one committee. Some committees meet monthly, others meet as needed. There are a total of 20 board members, 18 elected (with staggered 3-year terms), one appointed by San Diego State University, and one appointed by SDSU Associated Students.

If you are interested, please contact [Rhea Kuhlman](#). Nomination forms must be received by **February 11** so you can be included on the ballot. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor on the night of the elections, provided the nominee meets the eligibility criteria.

Public Safety

Thanks to the advocacy of many community members and hard work from our Development Services Department, SDPD, and City Attorney's office, the dispensary at 4292 University Ave. was finally shut down. Numerous constituents reached out to our office in hopes of shutting this dispensary down because of its specific location in the middle City Heights.

The tenant, City Heights Organics, was operating a marijuana dispensary in a zone that does not allow for its operation. In addition, tenant improvements were constructed without the proper permits, inspections and approvals. Non-permitted walls were erected and electrical work had been installed.

We understand there are other dispensaries in our district that are still operating illegally, many of which have already been referred to the City Attorney's Office. My office is asking that complaints regarding marijuana dispensaries be referred to the Code Enforcement Division of the City at (619) 236-5500.



City Heights—Get Involved!

Community Walk

Our San Diego Police Department's Community Liaison Officer, David Felkins has been organizing community walks throughout City Heights. During these walks, the community has an opportunity to discuss crime, crime prevention or concerns in the community with Lt. Martha Sainz. The group that shows up has a predetermined geographical area which they walk for a couple hours. During their walk not only do they identify issues in the area, they carry trash pickers and trash bash and clean litter they see along the way.

The next community is Saturday February 21st, 2015 at 9 am. They will be starting and ending at 4001 El Cajon Blvd.

For questions, or to request a community walk in your neighborhood, please contact Officer David Felkins at 619-516-3003 or via email : felkins@pd.sandiego.gov.

Help Plan Your Community's Future

Be part of planning your community's future. The City Heights Area Planning Committee is holding elections and they need your ideas to improve the quality of life in City Heights.

To be a candidate, you must attend at least one meeting in the period from March, 2014 to February 2015. The last chance is Feb 2. Application materials and more information will be available during the next meeting which is held in the third floor conference room at the Metro Center, 3910 University Ave. You can park free in the structure behind the office tower.

