



# The Emerald News

Office of  
Council President Pro Tem  
Marti Emerald



Volume 7, Issue 7

July 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

## Dear Friends:

Thank you for taking the time to read the July issue of The Emerald News! As many of you may know, July is the start of the new fiscal year for our city. With the combination of a growing economy and the hard work contributed by city staff and my colleagues on the City Council, we successfully passed a balanced and responsible budget that will improve that quality of life for residents in District 9 and throughout San Diego.

Increasing support for our Police Department and improving the retention of our police officers was my top priority for this budget. I previously requested an independent compensation to study to compare salaries and benefits between several jurisdictions in our region. The study proved that our department was falling behind in compensating our officers. However, I'm proud to share that our city budget, starting July 1, increases our Police Department's budget for salaries and equipment and will help our department retain and recruit quality officer to best protect and serve our communities.

Starting in July, hourly city employees, including all lifeguards, park and recreation staff, and library staff will qualify for up to three days of annual earned sick leave. Previous to this month, over 1,300 city employees, including recreation leaders, seasonal lifeguards, and library staff, were not eligible for annual leave. While I believe that this is a step in the right direction, we can and should do more. Therefore I will be working to increase the number of days from three to five days of earned sick leave.

Please take the time to continue to read this issue to hear about other exciting news happening in our district this month. And as always, do not hesitate to contact my office if there is any way we can assist you.



Pictured above: Marti checking out the new SDPD patrol boat with Captain Hanten and Officer Hesselgesser.

*- 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@sandiego.gov](mailto:jcrivera@sandiego.gov).

## Community Representatives

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## Public Safety

My office recently donated seventeen Automated External Defibrillators (AED) to the San Diego Police Department. Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the leading cause of death in our country. With each passing minute in SCA, a person loses about a 10 percent chance of survival. AED use significantly improves the chance of survival for victims. Police officers often arrive on scene prior to fire/EMS. Their use of CPR/AEDs can help build the bridge to survival for the patient and make resuscitation more viable for emergency medical responders. As the Chair of the City's Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee, I am committed to saving lives. This donation of seventeen AED's will do just that. By equipping our officers with this life-saving device, we will increase survival rates for sudden cardiac arrest victims.



I recently joined Council President Sherri Lightner and our lifeguards in welcoming "Marine 3" to our lifeguard firefighting fleet. It is a state of the art boat with two water cannons (called monitors in boat jargon) capable of pumping 1600 gallons of water per minute, each. The boat also has cameras and screens in the cabin that make navigation possible at night or in fog. It can also be used for rescues or as a dive platform for rescuers. It has the ability to suction water from a sinking boat at the rate of 1,025 gallons per minute. It is a valuable resource for a city that looks to the ocean and bays for its identity, as well as its recreation.

# Improving Our Community: Chollas Triangle

My colleagues and I recently voted to update the Mid City Community plan to be able to bring new development and a neighborhood park to the Chollas Triangle Area (see map below).

The project amends the Mid-City Communities Plan to provide new land uses on 43 acres within Chollas Triangle area. The amendment redesignates 24.46 acres of Commercial/Mixed Use and 3.56 acres of Industrial land within the area to Neighborhood Village. The amendment includes a new community plan section specific to Chollas Triangle and the realignment of Lea Street as a two-lane collector, and the removal of Chollas Parkway from the circulation network to allow for the future vacation of the 11.4-acre roadway. The 11.4 acres would be designated to provide 4.99 acres as Neighborhood Park, 5.5 acres as Open Space; and 0.91 acres as Neighborhood Village.



## Pedestrian Safety



I recently held a press conference with Mayor Kevin Faulconer, San Diego City Councilman Mark Kersey, and Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman in City Heights to show our support for Circulate San Diego's "Vision Zero" mission. "Vision Zero" has the goal of increasing safety for pedestrians and bicyclists and will work towards eliminating pedestrian fatalities in the future.

We are using the following app to rate the walkability in each city in San Diego County, which we call our Regional Walk Scorecard. Download the app and let us know what the walkability is like in your area:

Instructions to download and use the app on to your iPhone: <http://bit.ly/1Bxvfse>

Instructions to download and use the app to your Android phone: <http://bit.ly/1fuz6MV>

## District 9—The Place To Be!



I had a great time promoting biking and walking at the Cycle Southcrest event. I even had a chance to introduce the newest member of the family, Molly (a St. Bernard I recently adopted from one of our county animal shelters) to the district!



United Way set up a book "store" and gave away free books at the Jeremy Henwood Memorial park in June to help ensure that all families have reading material over summer break! What a great event!



Molly and I joined police officers, community members and youth at Colina del Sol Park to support the 1st Annual Unity Games!



I had a great time meeting with taxicab drivers in City Heights at the UTWSD headquarters! I provided an update on the city's new policy which removed the cap on taxicab permits. I also answered some of their questions regarding the MTS administrative process.