

THE BRY BULLETIN

February/March 2020

Council President Pro Tem
Barbara Bry
District 1

Advocating for Transparency with City Contracts

Transparency in who local government does business with is essential to earning the trust of our residents. This month, the Rules Committee approved an ordinance under Charter Section 225 that now requires City contract recipients to disclose all identities receiving more than 10 percent of the contract amount, or own more than 10 percent of the contracted company. I am elated that after 18 years, we will finally honor the voters' wishes for more transparency in City contracts.

This measure was first passed in 1992, but a moratorium was quickly issued preventing it from taking effect. The proposition resurfaced again in 2017 when the San Diego County Grand Jury filed a report entitled "Stop Kicking the Can Down the Road: San Diego's 1992 Transparency Law Must Be Enforced." Finally, during the 2018 election, this proposition, renamed "Measure J," was passed by voters yet again.

I have been a strong advocate for this ordinance and wrote the ballot argument. This addition to Charter Section 225 will enable City leadership and the public to know when they are dealing with bad characters, avoid conflict of interest, ensure equal opportunity contracting, and to do what the voters intended in 1992.





City Hall Deep Dive

Legislative Happenings & Highlights

Using Data to Promote Equity

This month, the Environment Committee met and reviewed the City's first ever Climate Equity Index Report. The City's Department of Sustainability worked closely with the University of San Diego's Energy Policy Initiative Center to create this critical tool to help identify communities of concern and guide policy and investment decisions to improve access to opportunity in these areas.

The Sustainability Department also engaged community based organizations and formed an Equity Stakeholder Working Group to help develop thirty-five indicators to measure equity across the city. It concludes by recommending five actions the City can pursue to ensure it is addressing equity while implementing our Climate Action Plan. This report (perhaps the most comprehensive one I've reviewed as a Councilmember) is a prime example of how data should be utilized in future planning for our City.



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Council Approved the Joint Use Agreements for Standley Field, Spreckles Field, and the Standley Aquatic Center with San Diego Unified School District

The City Council approved the Joint Use Agreements for Standley Field, Spreckles Field, and the Standley Aquatic Center with San Diego Unified School District. This is a great opportunity that benefits the entire UC community as well as the broader region.

South UC Developer Impact Fee (DIF) funds of \$90,000 were approved for improvement on the City-owned portion Aquatic Complex lands. If the Joint Use Agreement that includes the South UC DIF funds had not been approved, the project would be suspended indefinitely. I was proud to support this project that UC families will enjoy for years to come.

Marcy Park remains a priority. The City Council approved \$35,000 in Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for Marcy Park as a part of the Mid-Year CIP report and adjustments. The design phase was fully funded, and I am working to appropriate funds for construction. I prioritized the first phase of construction for Marcy Park improvements as one of my top two budget priorities for the entire UC community. You can see all my priorities in my FY2021 Budget Priorities Memorandum at https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/budget_priorities_final_executed.pdf

Further, I continue to support combining the North and South UC DIF funds. Combining the funds will be addressed throughout the community plan update process which is currently taking place. University City is one community, and there should only be one DIF fund to serve UC.

If you have questions about the various projects, please contact my UC Community Representative, Justine Murray, at 619-236-6611 or jrmurray@sandiego.gov.





Getting it Done in District One!

Carmel Valley



Stop signs have now been installed on four different corners in Pacific Highlands Ranch, specifically on the corners of Solterra Vista. My office is also following up on the sign installations for an all-way stop on Sagebrush Bendway and Lopelia Meadows.

Further, we are working with requests from the PHR East HOA to have Morado Trail, at the intersection with Carmel Valley Road, converted into an emergency access location.

We received confirmation that rectangular flashing beacons will be installed on the corner of Townsgate Drive and Carmel Valley Rec Center in the next few months which will help provide a safe path for crossing pedestrians.

University City



I had fun helping to install new Neighborhood Watch signs in University City. I provided \$10,000 from my D1 CPPS funds that were dispersed to the Northern Division of the Police Department to purchase the signs. I want to thank Community Relations Officer Bognuda, who worked with my office to proactively obtain the funding for the signs. In addition to installing new signs, the funds were used to replace cracked and faded signs. Special thanks to Barbara Gellman, Neighborhood Watch Captain Don Danner and the community who were great allies throughout the process.

Del Mar Heights



A constituent called about the closure of Crest Canyon Trail. Approximately one-third of the trail has been closed for some time. However, previously there was access to Oribia Drive as a way to enter and exit the trail. Now there is a fence in this spot with "No Trespassing" signs. My office contacted the city's project manager for more details. Although there is no current timeline, city staff is trying to create a specific web page for this project on the the Public Works site. I will share a link to the website once it is up. Thank you for being my eyes and ears in the community.

La Jolla



Within two days of being notified, city crews constructed a new fence at the Forward Street ocean overlook. Thank you Streets Division for the prompt response to the community! In spite of the sheer drop down the cliff to the rocky beach below, some people were attempting to sit on the ledge. One person even had to be rescued. Hopefully, the new fences will encourage safer viewing habits. Thank you to Don Schmidt, and other community members who brought this to my attention.

The Parks & Recreation Department recently announced that it will now use Cheetah® Pro, a non-selective, post-emergence herbicide, instead of Round-up to control weeds at Kellogg Park and beach areas. After hearing from residents, I asked Parks and Recreation to change what the city uses in our parks and beach areas.

A local bus route may soon connect La Jolla to the new mid-coast trolley and beach communities to the south. The Metropolitan Transit System released its Mid-Coast Feeder Bus Plan this week, including the new local route #34. If MTS gives its final approval, the route will open when the trolley begins service in the spring of 2021. All new bus routes are re-evaluated at the end of one year, so ride, ride, ride!

BB in the Community



This month marks the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters! I was proud to present the organization with a proclamation on behalf of the City of San Diego to recognize their efforts over the past century.



My staff and I took a team photo after my State of the District Address. They deserve a great deal of credit for making the event a success. Thank you to everyone who attended.



Thank you UC Natural Reserve System and the Audubon Society for allowing me to explore the normally off-limits Kendall-Frost Marsh Reserve and for hosting the 15th Annual Love Your Wetlands Day!

Do you and your office have any habits or traditions?

To honor my Philadelphia roots, my staff and I have Philly cheesesteak days.

What is something that you have enjoyed recently?

I went to the SDSU basketball game when Kawhi Leonard's number was retired. The energy and excitement in the arena that night was amazing! We are all Aztecs!

Do you ever give your daughters advice?

I'm their mom, it's in the job description to give them advice. I couldn't be prouder of the amazing women that they have become.

A Brief Break with Barbara





Odds and Ends

Burn Institute Offers Free Smoke Alarm Installations for Seniors

The Burn Institute's Senior Smoke Alarm program helps save lives by providing and installing free smoke alarms to eligible seniors in San Diego and Imperial Counties. One of the best ways seniors can improve their chances of escaping a residential fire is by making sure their home is equipped with an operating smoke alarm. The Burn Institute is working towards ensuring that every senior's home has just that.

This program will install smoke alarms in every bedroom, in each hallway and on every floor of the home. Trained and screened community partners and volunteers assist the Burn Institute year-round in installing the free alarms.

To register for this lifesaving program or see if you are eligible, call the Burn Institute at 858-541-2277, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or email smokealarm@burninstitute.org.



New CalTrans Digital Tool Allows Customers to Submit Maintenance Requests and Track Progress Online



Residents wishing to submit a maintenance request under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) can now use an online tool to submit a customer service request.

This resource will allow customers to describe their concern and place a location pin on a map. From there, CalTrans will assign the appropriate supervisor to inspect the concern, schedule the work, and update the person who filed the request via email.

This resource can be accessed at:
<https://csr.dot.ca.gov/>