

THE KERSEY REPORT

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Citywide Sidewalk Assessments Begin

This month marks the start of citywide assessments of our public sidewalks. Over the coming months you may see engineering students walking through your neighborhood with GPS devices. They'll be documenting the current condition of San Diego's 5,000 miles of sidewalks—an effort that has never been done before. The assessments will also help to identify potential locations for new sidewalks.

The City and property owners share responsibility for sidewalk repairs. It is the City's responsibility to eliminate tripping hazards, and permanent repairs of sidewalks are the responsibility of abutting property owners, in accordance with the California Streets & Highways Code. The infrastructure committee, which I chair, is also examining current City policies related to sidewalks which haven't been revised in some 40 years. The goal is to make the policy more clear cut so property owners have a better understanding of their responsibility. There is a City program called the 50-50 program which helps homeowners by chipping in 50 percent of the cost of repairs. You can learn more about the program online at <http://www.sandiego.gov/street-div/services/roadways/sidewalk.shtml>.

Ultimately, through these measures we hope to make San Diego a more walkable community, with priority on creating safe routes to schools, enhancing ADA accessibility and improving business frontages.

San Diego Magazine Features Councilman Kersey

The January issue of San Diego Magazine highlighted "10 Big Ideas for San Diego" in 2014. Among them was Councilman Mark Kersey's initiative to rebuild San Diego. The Councilman braved brand new, smoking hot asphalt to get this cool photo of City crews re-paving 4th Avenue in downtown San Diego. It's one of many major streets that got some TLC in 2013.

In 2014, the Councilman is spearheading the effort to create a long term plan to get a handle on the backlog of repairs needed city-wide.

You can read the entire list of big ideas on the San Diego Magazine website at

<http://www.sandiegomagazine.com/San-Diego-Magazine/January-2014/10-Big-Ideas-for-San-Diego/>.

Photo courtesy of Robert Benson and San Diego Magazine.



My Priorities in 2014

2014 will be a big year for **rebuilding San Diego**. The progress we made in 2013 laid the groundwork for what will be significant accomplishments this year. We'll finish the City's first long-term infrastructure investment plan; complete the first-ever comprehensive sidewalk assessment while overhauling our sidewalk repair policies; and achieve City Council approval of a \$120 million infrastructure investment surge that will begin to reverse decades of neglect in our streets and other city assets.



Part of rebuilding our City is ensuring that we are **prepared for disasters**. With the Red Cross, we launched an initiative to create a community of preparedness called Prepare SD. Over the next four years we'll help at least 1 million San Diegans get a kit, make a plan and train for emergencies.

I'll continue to **help San Diego's small and medium sized businesses thrive**, by expanding our work with the Brookings Institute's Global Cities Exchange to increase trade opportunities for our companies and encourage local manufacturing that brings good jobs. We'll also find ways to **cut red-tape and streamline** the way we operate so the City helps, not hinders the small businesses that represent over 90 percent of our local companies.

Earlier this year, I secured funding for sport field lighting at Rancho Bernardo Community Park. We expect that project to be completed in the first part of 2014.

In District Five, we made major progress by getting large stretches of Camino del Norte, Rancho Bernardo Road and Scripps Ranch Blvd. repaved. In 2014, I'll work hard to improve major routes, fix our local roads, and repair potholes in a timely manner. In fact, we've already received word that stretches of a number of District Five **roads will be resurfaced in 2014** including Bernardo Trails Dr., Black Mountain Road, Carmel Mountain Road, Pomerado Road and Scripps Ranch Blvd.

Finally, for more than a decade a number of issues have led to recreation being stopped on the Lake Hodges reservoir. In 2014, we expect to re-launch **windsurfing on Lake Hodges** and put an end to the recreation moratorium.

I want to discuss all of these issues with you in my upcoming **Twitter Q&A on Thursday, January 16 at 1 p.m.** Submit your questions via email to markkersey@sandiego.gov or via Twitter @markkersey using the hashtag #AskD5.

We are a community that embodies volunteerism and a "can do" attitude. Thank you for working with me to improve our neighborhoods, the Fifth District and the City. It's an honor to serve you and together, we'll see great accomplishments in 2014.

Happy New Year,
Mark

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

State of the City Address
Wednesday, January 15, 6 p.m.
Balboa Theatre

San Diego Restaurant Week
January 19-24

www.sandiegorestaurantweek.com

Check out District Five participants
AVANT and Veranda Fireside Lounge and
Restaurant.

Art Exhibit: Nature Awakening
Through January 31

Mission Trails Regional Park
Visitor Center Art Gallery
One Father Junipero Serra Trail, 92119
mtrp.org/exhibits.asp?idno=201932

Free E-Waste Recycling

Saturday, January 18, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Del Norte High School

16601 Nighthawk Lane

Free electronic waste recycling event hosted by
Del Norte High School's Eco-Future Club.

Accepted items include computers, VCRs, DVD
players, monitors, printers and stereos.

Emergency Preparedness Fair

Saturday, January 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Hilltop Park

9711 Oviedo Way 92129

Fire extinguisher training, child fingerprinting,
pet microchipping and more.

www.perc4pq.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/flyer1.jpg

We Care Bears Drive at Fire Station #33

Over the past few months, you've heard me mention the We Care Bears project created by 11-year-old Jessica Carscadden. Last month, we honored Jessica with a proclamation declaring December 17th "Jessica Carscadden Day" in San Diego. Now we are partnering with this young do-gooder to support her cause. Fire Station #33 in Rancho Bernardo will be collecting "gently loved" stuffed animals through the month of January. All of the donations are given to San Diego Police, Fire-Rescue and other first responders to be handed out to scared or injured kids. I hope every District Five family will help support Jessica by making a donation. Plus, it's an opportunity to make room for the new toys received over the holidays!

Fire Station #33 is located at [16966 Bernardo Center Drive San Diego, CA 92128](http://www.sandiego.gov/94166-Bernardo-Center-Drive-San-Diego-CA-92128).



D5 Residents Better Prepared to Save Lives



Nearly 200 people participated in the Rancho Bernardo Town Council's annual CPR/AED training on November 23. Their ages ranging from two to 82. When you think about emergency preparation, people often think about big events like fires and earthquakes but more often emergencies come in the form of heart attacks, choking or drowning.

I am glad to know that so many people from our community are now trained in case something like this occurs in one of our public spaces.



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My Photo Stream



Serving lunch at the Seniors Community Center



Celebrating the holidays in Rancho Bernardo



Honoring outgoing Tijuana Mayor Carlos Bustamante



Hanging out with KSON's John and Tammy in PQ