

COUNCILMAN MARK KERSEY

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE FIFTH DISTRICT



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Solar Agreement to Save City \$22M



The City will harness the power of San Diego's sunshine in order to save taxpayer money. The City Council approved a plan to install solar panels at 25 City sites saving at least \$22 million in energy costs over the next 20 years.

The solar installations will be made at recreation centers, libraries, parking lots and police and fire stations in neighborhoods across the City and cut energy costs by 45 percent at those facilities over the course of the agreement. In District Five, panels will be installed in the Rancho Bernardo Senior Center Parking Lot, also providing a shade structure for vehicles.

SunEdison will own, install, operate and maintain the solar photovoltaic systems for the duration of the 20-year lease agreement. The City in turn will purchase the solar energy and the 25 sites will generate about six megawatts of solar energy.

Construction is expected to begin in early 2016 with installations being completed by August.

Preparing for El Niño

After a very hot summer and early fall, it's hard to believe that we have a record-setting El Niño on the horizon for San Diego, but that is exactly what the National Weather Service is predicting. The City has started taking precautionary measures such as clearing clogged drainage channels and stocking up fire stations with sandbags for residents. Below are some tips to help you prepare your home and family for the expected wet winter:

1. Trash and yard waste can clog storm drains and may cause flooding throughout a neighborhood. Before rains arrive, take a few minutes to sweep up and pick up around your home, including any trash or other material you find along the curb and gutter.
2. Big winter storms can create problems for every community. Alert San Diego provides notifications when emergencies or disasters may strike close to home. Take a moment to sign up with Alert San Diego at <http://www.readysandiego.org/alertsandiego>. (Register your home, business and cell phone.)
3. Be prepared for power outages. Make sure flashlights and portable radios have fresh batteries and charge up your cell phone before the storm comes in.



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Small Business Program Improvements

Doing business with the City of San Diego just got a little easier thanks to recently approved changes to the Small Local Business Enterprise Program (SLBE). The SLBE program gives preference on City contracts to small businesses within San Diego. Program improvements approved by City Council in October will increase the City's small and local business preference for goods, services, and consultant contracts, potentially increasing awards with small business participation by over 100 percent.

The improvements include an increase in the current bid discount for goods and services contracts from 2 percent to 5 percent with a maximum cap from \$10,000 to \$50,000 for small, emerging local businesses and firms with voluntary subcontractor participation. The changes apply to all goods and services contract bids and proposals advertised by the City and will go into effect by December 2015.

Program requirements and eligibility are outlined online at www.sandiego.gov/eoc/programs/slbe.shtml.

Capital of Craft: San Diego Beer Week Nov. 6-15



San Diego Beer Week is here! The annual celebration of the City's world-renowned craft brew industry is November 6-15. I have the honor of tapping the first keg at the San Diego Brewers Guild kick-off event on Saturday, November 7 at 2 p.m. Events are taking place all over the region throughout the week. Here are a few highlights:

- Barrel Aged and Rare Beer Night at Pizza Port in Ocean Beach - Fri., Nov. 6 at 5 p.m.
- Learn to Homebrew at the Homebrew Resource Center - Sat., Nov. 7 at Noon
- Nomad Donuts and Beer Pairing at Thorn Street Brewery - Sun. Nov. 8 at Noon

All events are featured on the San Diego Beer Week website at www.sdbw.org.

I'd also encourage you to visit one of District Five's many craft breweries including:

- Abnormal Beer Company in Rancho Bernardo abnormalbeer.co
- Ballast Point in Scripps Ranch www.ballastpoint.com
- Oggi's Pizza and Brewing Company in Carmel Mountain Ranch cmr.oggis.com
- O'Sullivan Brothers Brewing Company in Scripps Ranch www.osullivan-brothers.com
- Second Chance Beer Company in Rancho Bernardo secondchancebeer.com

Happy hopping!

Northrup Grumman Awarded Major Contracts

Great news for Northrup Grumman, whose center for unmanned systems is headquartered in Rancho Bernardo. They were recently awarded a \$95 million contract from the U.S. Navy to produce software-programmable jammers that provide protection from improvised explosive devices (IEDs). According to the company, the majority of production work will be performed in San Diego.

The company was also awarded a record-breaking \$60 billion Air Force contract to develop long-range strike bombers that is expected to bring thousands of new jobs to the Southern California region.

Community Calendar

**“Emotional Disaster” Preparedness
Peñasquitos Emergency Response Council
Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m.**

Rancho Peñasquitos Library
13330 Salmon River Road
www.perc4pq.org

**The Heir Apparent at Scripps Ranch Theatre
November 13-December 13, 2015**

Legler Benbough Theatre
Alliant International University
9783 Avenue of Nations
www.scrippsranchtheatre.org

**Rancho Bernardo Thanksgiving Luncheon
Tuesday, November 24 at 11:30 a.m.**

Rancho Bernardo Inn's Aragon Ballroom
17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive
rbcommunityfoundation.org

December Nights at Balboa Park

December 4 & 5

www.balboapark.org/decembernights

**Scripps Ranch Symphony in the Park
Holiday Concert**

Sunday, December 6, 5-6:30 p.m.

Hoyt Park — Scripps Ranch

Corner of Aviary Drive and Canyon Lake Drive



Deer Canyon Elementary Named Blue Ribbon School



Congratulations to Deer Canyon Elementary School teachers, staff and students for being a national example of excellence! The school has been named a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School! Deer Canyon Elementary School in Rancho Peñasquitos was one of only two schools in the region named to the prestigious list this year. In 2014, Del Sur Elementary was also named a Blue Ribbon School. Schools are selected for overall academic excellence or progress in closing achievement gaps among student groups.

In November, Deer Canyon Principal Terry Worthington and staff will travel to Washington D.C. to meet the Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and attend a national awards ceremony.

Photo Gallery



**Grand opening of the City's
new Fire Station 45 in
Mission Valley**



**Presenting Teacher of the
Year Paul Messerle with a
proclamation on Halloween**



**Celebrating Petco's
50 year anniversary**



**Opening the new
Target store in the
community of Del Sur**

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Black Mountain Open Space Clean Up



Join I Love a Clean San Diego and the 4S Ranch/Del Sur Community Foundation for a cleanup and beautification of the Black Mountain Open Space Area. Visit CleanSD.org to sign up.

Saturday, December 5

9 a.m.-Noon

4S Ranch Community Park

Holiday Mail for Heroes

The holidays are one of the most challenging times of year for our deployed military and their families. You can help make it a little bit easier by joining the American Red Cross "Holiday Mail for Heroes" effort. The Red Cross is collecting and distributing cards that send notes of encouragement, gratitude and



cheer. It only takes a moment to make or sign a card of appreciation and support to members of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families.

Completed cards can be sent to or delivered to the San Diego Red Cross Chapter (3950 Calle Fortunada, San Diego, CA 92123) no later than December 5, 2015.

The majority of cards will be delivered to local deployed Marine and Navy units and their families as well as the Veterans Hospital and the Chula Vista Veterans Home.

A couple of tips:

- Ensure all cards are signed
- Use generic salutations such as "Dear Service Member", "Dear Veteran", or "Dear Military Family."

For more information on the program visit www.redcross.org/holidaymail.

Connect with me:  [San Diego City Councilman Mark Kersey](https://www.facebook.com/MarkKersey)  [@markkersey](https://twitter.com/markkersey)



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