Budget Edition - Let’s Talk $  
May 2, 2022

Friends,

On April 15, Mayor Todd Gloria released his proposed Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Budget, “Ready to Rebuild,” (Proposed Budget) which emphasizes investing in our human capital, repairing aging infrastructure, and improving core services.

Over the next several weeks, the public, our City’s Independent Budget Analyst (IBA), and City Council have the opportunity to review, improve, and build upon the Mayor’s Proposed Budget.

Beginning next week, City Council is holding public hearings to consider each department’s proposed expenditures for the FY23, July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. These hearings are open to the public and you can participate in-person at the 12th Floor Council Chambers at City Hall, by phone at 1-669-254 5252, or via Zoom.

My office has been listening to you over the past year. Where the Proposed Budget falls short of the city services and expenditures that you need, I will seek funding in the upcoming budget hearings. These include, in part:

- Additional lifeguard positions to protect you on our beaches and bays;
- Additional code enforcement to uphold our existing and new regulations (like the recently approved Short Term Rental Occupancy and Sidewalk Vendor Ordinances);

Office Hours

Please stop by your community rep's Zoom "office hours" happening each week!

- **Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, and Torrey Hills**  
  11 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Wednesdays (link [here](#))  
  Ricky Flahive: rflahive@sandiego.gov

- **Del Mar Heights**  
  11 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Thursdays (link [here](#))  
  Krissy Chan: chank@sandiego.gov

- **La Jolla**  
  By Request  
  Steve Hadley: srhadley@sandiego.gov

- **University City**  
  10 - 11 a.m. on Fridays (link [here](#))  
  Kaitlyn Willoughby: kwilloughby@sandiego.gov
• Increase library allocations for much needed books, electronic resources, system-wide databases, and other educational tools;
• Achieving our Climate Action Plan goals;
• Increased funding for Arts and Culture.

We are working to deliver a Budget that works best for District 1 and the City. I urge you to continue speaking up and sharing your priorities, not only during the formal budget hearings, but also at my District 1 Budget Town Halls on May 2 and May 21 (register here.)

Yours truly,
Councilmember Joe LaCava
City of San Diego District 1
joelacava@sandiego.gov

THE PUBLIC’S ROLE

Your input is essential in crafting a representative budget that meets the needs of District 1 and the city.

My office is offering two unique opportunities to get involved: please register and join me either tonight, May 2, at 6 p.m. on Zoom, or Saturday, May 21, at 10 a.m. in person at the Nobel Recreation Center. This is your opportunity to ask questions on the process and directly share your priorities to my staff and I on City services and infrastructure.

I look forward to hearing from you and throughout the budget process as we shape next year’s priorities.
Departmental Hearings

From Wednesday, May 4 through Thursday, May 10, Council is convening twice a day as the Budget Review Committee to hear individual department budget presentations and engage in public discussion. Residents are invited (and encouraged) to share their comments and priorities during any or all the individual department hearings, or during the evening public hearing on May 4 at 6 p.m. Agendas are available here.

View the hearings on CityTV, and share your opinions in-person at City Hall, over the phone at 1-669-254 5252, or via Zoom.

Additional Public Hearings

San Diegans also have the opportunity to express their priorities at two evening meetings on Wednesday, May 4 and Monday, May 16, both at 6 p.m.

Unlike the department meetings, participants at these two evening meetings may address any aspect of the Proposed Budget and will not be limited to a specific department or issue.

View the hearings on CityTV, and share your opinions in-person at City Hall, over the phone at 1-669-254 5252, or via Zoom.

CITY COUNCIL'S ROLE

Initial and Final Budget Priority Memos

Each member of the City Council shares a Budget Priorities Memorandum (Memo) in January, prior to the release of the Proposed Budget. Following individual department budget hearings and the
Mayor’s “May Revise,” councilmembers will update their budget priorities and submit by May 27. These memos serve as a key instrument in conveying Council funding priorities and building consensus on changes to the Mayor’s “May Revise” budget.

This year, my January budget memo prioritized investing in City staff to deliver high-quality City services.

This includes:
- City staff recruitment and retention;
- Climate action planning and implementation with an emphasis on environmental justice;
- Effective solutions in preventing and addressing homelessness;
- Enhancing citywide community outreach;
- Delivering sustainable neighborhood infrastructure.


Potential Amendments and Adoption

City Council must adopt the budget no later than June 13. This final action by the Council will be discussed and voted on in a public meeting. The public will have one last opportunity to advocate for their priorities and councilmembers may propose last minute amendments to be incorporated in the adopted budget.

In my vote and amendments, I will lead from my values to approve a budget that is fair and reflective of the needs of District 1 and all San Diego.

THE MAYOR'S ROLE

Proposed Budget

As part of the annual budget cycle, the Mayor releases their proposed budget by April 15 each year. The FY23, $4.89 billion “Ready to Rebuild” budget reflects the City’s transition out of the pandemic and our commitment to investing in long-ignored but critical projects and programs.

See here for a full copy of the Mayor’s FY23 Proposed Budget.

May Revise and Veto Power

By May 17, the Mayor will release a revised version of the budget, called the “May Revise,” based on the most current financial information and economic assumptions available after the development of the FY23 Proposed Budget. The IBA will then provide analysis on the May Revise and Council will discuss, amend, and ultimately adopt.

Following City Council’s adoption, the Mayor has from June 15 until June 21 to exert veto power. If needed, council will have five business days to override any veto.

THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST'S ROLE
The IBA provides objective and unbiased analysis and recommendation to the City Council and public regarding financial and policy impacts to the City of San Diego.

**Review of the Mayor's Budget**

The IBA reviews the Proposed Budget and publishes a detailed analysis within two weeks of the release of the Proposed Budget. The IBA conducts another review once the Mayor releases the “May Revised” budget. The IBA releases this final report including a summary of City Council modifications to the Proposed Budget and May Revision on June 8, 2022.

See [here](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/LaCava-s-Column--Budget-Edition.html?soid=1138770972671&aid=HKLJw7wusnE) for a full copy of the IBA's reviews of the Proposed Budget.

**Resources**

- A Citizen’s Guide to the Budget Process
- Key Budget Dates
- FY23 District 1 Budget Priorities Memo
- FY23 Proposed Budget
- IBA Review of FY23 Proposed Budget

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