

THE SPOTLight

News From Councilmember Sherri Lightner
City of San Diego, District One

October 8, 2012

Representing the communities of:

- Black Mountain Ranch
- Carmel Valley
- Del Mar Mesa
- La Jolla
- Pacific Highlands Ranch
- Rancho Peñasquitos
- Torrey Highlands
- Torrey Hills
- Torrey Pines
- University City

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City Council Targets Abandoned Properties

Sherri successfully fought to pass tough new measures to more effectively deal with abandoned properties that negatively impact neighborhoods throughout the city.

The Abandoned Properties Ordinance, which the City Council passed unanimously on Sept. 18, expands the definition of what constitutes an abandoned property and imposes more stringent maintenance requirements while making it easier for police and code inspectors to respond to nuisance properties.

The ordinance allows the city to be more aggressive in addressing vacant properties, especially those that have

become unsightly because of litter and debris or that have become centers for gang or other illegal activity. It also addresses vacant foreclosed properties, which blight neighborhoods and bring down property values.

Sherri pushed aggressively for the ordinance when she served as chair of the Land Use and Housing Committee because she sees abandoned properties as everyone's problem.

The ordinance also requires vacant property owners to file a statement of intent on their plans for the property, helping return these vacant properties to more productive uses faster.



The Abandoned Properties Ordinance closes loopholes and beefs up enforcement tools so the city can be more proactive in addressing these eyesores.

"This ordinance is about nipping in the bud the problems abandoned properties inflict on our neighborhoods and fast-tracking their rehabilitation," Sherri explained.

City Council Acts to Protect Local Military Economy

Under Sherri's leadership, the City Council approved a resolution affirming the City of San Diego's commitment to protect its local military operations from looming federal defense spending cuts.

The resolution, which Sherri sponsored, calls on elected officials, business leaders and the community to fight the threat of these budget reductions to our local military economy.

According to the San Diego Military Advisory Council

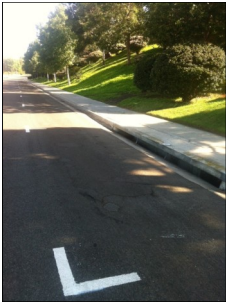
(SDMAC), if these federal budget cuts, known as sequestration, are enacted, it could result in the loss of 31,000 San Diego jobs.

The resolution is designed to reinforce the work of "Operation San Diego," which is a collaboration between four San Diego business groups, including the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, CONNECT and SDMAC to prevent the potential cuts.

"This is just one step of many that we need to take to protect one of our most important economic sectors – the military," Sherri said. "No one should doubt our resolve to protect these local jobs or that we are united in this cause."

Other municipalities are following San Diego's lead and are working to enact similar resolutions. For instance, the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation is asking its member cities to do the same.

A Solution to Oversized Vehicles on Carmel Vista Road



Sherri worked with police and traffic engineers to prevent RVs from parking on Carmel Vista Road.

In recent months, Sherri's office received numerous emails, phone calls, letters and petitions from residents living near Carmel Vista Road regarding the number of oversized vehicles parked on that street.

Adding to neighbor's concerns, this summer one of the RVs parked on Carmel Vista Road caught fire as a result of an electrical malfunction.

Sherri requested that the Police Department's Traffic and Park-

ing Enforcement officers attend a community meeting to get community input on solutions to the problem.

Sherri also worked with Traffic Engineers and the Police Department to come up with a solution that would prevent RVs from parking on Carmel Vista Road.

On September 27, new parking "T"s were installed along both sides of Carmel Vista Road, which make it illegal for

any vehicle longer than 24-feet to be parked on Carmel Vista Road at any time.

In addition, at Sherri's request, the city's Storm Water Department performed a thorough sweeping of Carmel Vista Road to ensure the street is clean now that the RVs are gone.

Sherri commended the community for their input and assistance throughout the process.

Genesee Avenue Resurfacing

In September, the city repaved Genesee Avenue in University City between Governor Drive and Executive Drive.

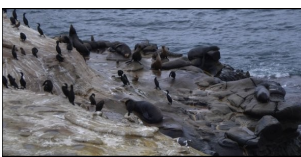
Sherri had advocated for the resurfacing to be a part of the more than 35 miles of resurfacing in District One that has been completed since she took office.

There's now smooth pavement on Genesee all the way from SR -52 to North Torrey Pines Road.

More work is on the way as a part of the largest street resurfacing project in San Diego's history. To find out which streets are set to be repaved next, click on this [link](#).



Working Toward a Solution for La Jolla Cove's Odor Issues



Sherri is working with the community to come up with an environmentally sound and sensible solution to address odors at the Cove.

Sherri's office has been working tirelessly with the community to find a solution to the odor problem at La Jolla Cove.

The smell is the result of bird waste building up on the bluff.

One promising suggestion is to use an environmentally friendly, biodegradable product, which has been used in other parts of the country, to clean the area.

Since the bluff is under the jurisdiction of the Coastal Commission, any solution would need to get clearance from this agency as well as the Regional Water Quality Board.

Sherri has scheduled a meeting with all the stakeholders — the community, the Coastal Commission, the Regional Water Quality Board, makers of the cleaning products, and the City's

Park and Recreation Department — to get their support for moving forward.

"Working together, I know we can come up with an environmentally sound and sensible solution that passes legal muster," Sherri said. "We are making real progress on this issue."

Sherri Around Town



Sherri at the edUCAté Oktoberfest with the principals of University City's schools: Kimberly Moore (Doyle Elementary), Heidi Lyon (Standley Middle School), Chris Juarez (Curie Elementary), and Cecilia Fernandez (Spreckels Elementary). The event benefits UC's schools.

Sherri attended the inaugural induction ceremony into the University City High School Hall of Fame on September 14. The first inductees included a former NFL football player, a NASA scientist, a professional basketball player and several musicians.



Sherri joined Councilmember Todd Gloria to testify at the State Assembly Select Committee on Trade, Tourism and Job Creation regarding the impact looming federal defense cuts could have on the local military economy.

Sherri proclaimed September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in the City of San Diego to honor those struggling with ovarian cancer and in support of local efforts to improve awareness, research and treatment.



Update: Torrey Pines Corridor Project

The Torrey Pines Corridor Project continues to make steady progress.

The full project, which is estimated to cost \$26 million, would beautify and improve this important stretch of road by building retaining walls, improving sidewalks and adding fencing, landscaping and bike lanes.

While finding funds for such a large-scale project is difficult in these tough economic times, Sherri continues to look for additional sources of funding to complete this important project.

The City is moving forward with much-needed sidewalk improvements on the north side of the road to create a safe sidewalk all

the way from the Village to La Jolla Shores and the construction of a new sidewalk from Calle Juela to Roseland Drive on the south side of the road. The cost for these two improvements is \$1 million.

Design and survey work is already under way and construction on the sidewalk improvements is scheduled for 2013.

“Sidewalk improvements on the north side and a new sidewalk from Calle Juela to Roseland Drive on the south side are funded and moving forward now.”

Local Business Spotlight: The Clarity Foundation

Every month Sherri likes to highlight a new or unique business in District 1.

Here's this month's selection:

Who: Clarity Foundation

Where: 4365 Executive Drive, Suite 1500, San Diego, 92121

What it does: The Clarity Foundation is a group of scientists,

physicians and volunteers who are working to improve ovarian cancer treatment.

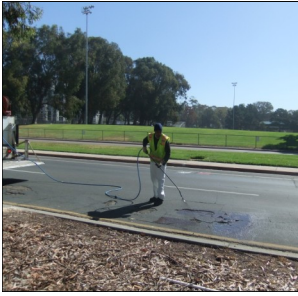
After her own battle with ovarian cancer, Dr. Laura Shawver established The Clarity Foundation to explore the genetic signature of ovarian cancers and improve treatment options for patients.

The upside: The Clarity Foundation provides doctors access to molecular profiling for their patients as well as access to novel therapeutics in a clinical trial setting. It also offers financial support for the profiling work if a patient is unable to pay for it or it is not covered by her insurance.



Dr. Laura Shawver established The Clarity Foundation after her own battle with ovarian cancer to help better understand and better treat the disease.

Working for You in the Community



Need assistance in getting a pothole fixed? Call Sherri's office at (619) 236-6611. We are here to help.

Helping constituents get potholes filled, streetlights fixed and other neighborhood repairs completed is one of Sherri's top priorities. Here is a sampling of projects her office worked on this past month:

Potholes

- 8000 Block of El Paseo Grande
- 851 Forward St.

Cleanups and Repair

- Crosswalk and lane striping repainted at Almahurst Row and N. Torrey

Pines Road

- Asphalt repairs at 8511 Avenida de las Ondas
- Trees and vegetation trimmed on La Jolla Shores Drive from Poole Street to Horizon Way
- Graffiti removed from the curb along the 5700 block of Soledad Mountain Road
- Asphalt repairs at Maynard Street and Via Papel
- Alley graded between High Avenue and Cabrillo Avenue south of Pearl Street
- Red curb repainted on Kline Street at Girard Avenue

- Asphalt repairs at the corner of Linda Rosa Avenue and La Jolla Corona Drive

Streetlights and Traffic Signals

- Improved traffic signal timing for left turn on Del Mar Heights Road at Hartfield Avenue
- Repaired traffic signal on westbound Peppergrass Creek Gate at Village Center Loop Road
- Repaired street light on La Jolla Parkway off-ramp to La Jolla Scenic Drive

Sherri is on the Web at

sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd1/

Follow Sherri:



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Twitter: www.twitter.com/#!/SherriLightner



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Your Community Representatives

If you have a concern or question about an issue in your neighborhood, please contact our constituent services representative, Janie Hoover, or your community representative. We're here to help!

Torrey Hills/Black Mountain Ranch/Torrey Highlands/Constituent Services (street repairs, water leaks, traffic issues, code compliance, etc.)

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Torrey Pines

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Carmel Valley / Pacific Highlands Ranch / Del Mar Mesa/Rancho

Peñasquitos

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