



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

NEWS RELEASE

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Councilmember Gloria Announces Major Improvements for North Park Community Park

San Diego Unified School District to Fund Needed Renovations at Joint Use Park

SAN DIEGO, CA (February 26, 2010) – San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria today announced significant upgrades to North Park Community Park, thanks to the investment of the San Diego Unified School District.

Councilmember Gloria's close work with San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) Board President Richard Barrera helped make SDUSD's investment of \$630,000 into the joint use area at North Park Community Park possible.

“District Three is park deficient, so ensuring access to more park and open space for the residents is one of my top priorities,” said Councilmember Gloria. **“Because our park space is so limited, we can't afford to give up on our largest community park. Accordingly, my office has been working for several months now to develop solutions along with the police department, the City's Department of Park and Recreation, homeless outreach organizations like Alpha Project, and the North Park Community Association.”**

North Park Community Park is the largest community park in Council District Three and has been impacted by ongoing problems with graffiti, litter, homelessness and crime. As a result, many residents of North Park choose not to visit with their families.

All of the recommended improvements emerged out of a series of community outreach meetings co-sponsored by the City, SDUSD, and the NPCA. Desired improvements will not only beautify the park, but will enhance public safety. Some of the projects on the wish list include a new basketball court, replacement of 30' light poles at the joint use playground, a new playground surface, replacement of damaged sidewalks surrounding the school and the park, a new fence surrounding the joint use field, and security improvements.

The initial investment by the school district is only part of Councilmember Gloria's long-term effort to revitalize the Community Park. The City and SDUSD are working together to install and monitor security cameras in the park, which will prove to be both an important law enforcement tool and a major deterrent to crime. The membership of the NPCA also continues to volunteer at the school and the park. The City's Department of Park and Recreation will also continue to invest in the park, most notably by resurfacing the joint use field.

“By continuing to work together, I am confident that the City, SDUSD, and the community will succeed in our efforts to ensure that ALBA and the Community Park are safe and enjoyable places for both students and neighbors,” said SDUSD President Barrera. **“I offer my sincere thanks to my colleagues on the school board, Councilmember Gloria, the San Diego Police Department, and Omar Passons and the NPCA.”**

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