



81 Days of Progress

INTERIM MAYOR TODD GLORIA

City of San Diego

WEEKLY UPDATE: OCTOBER 17, 2013

Last week we secured unanimous approval of the Convention Center phase 3 expansion by the Coastal Commission.

This week, in keeping with our continued focus on developing stronger relationships with Mexico, I asked a team of City leaders to meet with their counterparts in Tijuana. Yesterday, a delegation including the Director of Bi-national Affairs, the Director of Legislative Affairs, the Planning Director, and representatives from the Public Utilities Department, Office of Homeland Security, and Environmental Services Department, traveled to Tijuana. Yesterday's meeting primarily focused on introductions and department overviews, with key discussion on storm water issues on both sides of the border as well as discussion of future opportunities on emergency preparedness and long term projects such as the San Ysidro port of entry expansion. Tijuana Mayor Bustamante and I are committed to ensuring that the relationship between our governments is as collaborative as possible. Our next roundtable will be in February, here in San Diego.

Of course, there is plenty of work happening on this side of the border, too. When I developed my staff, I refocused the community outreach team's efforts. Now, they're actually reaching out to the community, attending neighborhood meetings, and finding out how best our City can be of service to our citizens. In the past six weeks, representatives from my office have participated in 52 meetings and many more events, touching each of the nine City Council districts and working closely with the council district staffs to address concerns.

I've always prioritized being accessible to the people I represent. From attending meetings and events in different neighborhoods, to using social media, to spreading information via hard copy and email newsletters, I know I make better decisions when I'm informed of the views of San Diegans. As a councilmember and as Council President, I have regularly held casual coffee and cocktails events in District Three to provide brief updates and take questions. Tonight, Hess Brewing in North Park is kindly allowing me to hold a Microbrews with the Mayor event. Members of the public are welcome from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

A major topic that I'm depending on public input is our infrastructure needs. As I've mentioned, this winter, working with Councilmember Mark Kersey, I plan on bringing forward a bond to continue the City's investment into our deferred capital needs. Councilmember Kersey and the Infrastructure Committee he chairs are also developing a five year infrastructure funding plan. A key part in that development is knowing what San Diegans need and want. Next week, we'll kick off a series of public meetings being held throughout the City. That meeting will be October 22, 6-8 p.m. at the Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room.

I also want to highlight a few items of interest that the Land Use and Housing Committee will consider next Wednesday, October 23. They will have a discussion on the regulation of food trucks. City staff will get input from committee members, San Diegans, food truck operators, and other stakeholders that they can use as they develop potential amendments for the City Council's consideration. They'll also consider a proposal from me and Councilmember Emerald for the formation of a utility undergrounding advisory group, as well as the Uptown Interim Height Limit. All three of these issues greatly impact our neighborhoods, and I encourage San Diegans and the media to participate.

Later today I will celebrate a fun sporting event here in San Diego. So I invite you to Viejas Arena at SDSU around 1:00 p.m. for a light Mayoral moment.

#