



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

MEDIA RELEASE

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Small Business Districts Benefit from City Council Policy Change

SAN DIEGO, CA (August 1, 2011) – Councilmember Todd Gloria today announced that San Diego's Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) would benefit from a policy change approved unanimously by the City Council.

The new policy provides direct payment of applicable assessment funds to BIDs on a monthly basis, providing much-needed financial stability and cash flow for the organizations that work to support neighborhood small businesses. The policy change was generated by Councilmember Gloria's memo to City Attorney Jan Goldsmith in January 2011.

"I believe this policy will greatly enhance BID operations as well as promote autonomy, responsibility and cooperation between our BIDs and the City. It will also eliminate unnecessary City staff work processing reimbursement requests," said Councilmember Gloria.

BIDs collect assessments from member businesses and previously could only access those funds on a reimbursement basis, even if they were for ongoing, approved expenses. Councilmember Gloria was troubled that some were waiting multiple months to receive reimbursements.

"The assessments that were collected to promote, support and strengthen business districts were being held up by unnecessary red tape, limiting the districts' abilities to perform their essential duties," said Councilmember Gloria. **"I am confident that the policy approved today maintains City oversight and accountability while further empowering BIDs to succeed."**

Councilmember Gloria represents six of the City's BIDs: Adams Avenue, City Heights, El Cajon Boulevard Central, El Cajon Boulevard Gateway, Hillcrest and North Park.

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