



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM ANTHONY YOUNG**



WEEKLY UPDATE JANUARY 24, 2006

As you know, public safety is a top priority for me. In the past few weeks there was an unexpected increase in violence associated with gangs in several communities throughout the city and county including communities in Districts 3, 4 and 8. I want to thank Mayor Sanders, Police Chief Lansdowne, and Captain Caesar Solis for taking proactive steps in increasing police and gang unit presence in our Districts to address this problem immediately.

It is unfortunate we need these kinds of police efforts, however it is very necessary. We also need proactive efforts from other areas to address gang prevention and diversion. In February 2006, the Council will be considering my proposal to establish a Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention. The Commission's will be charged with developing a strategic, coordinated, and collaborative efforts between the City, service providers, schools, criminal justice system agencies, and the community to address gang prevention, intervention, diversion, and suppression. Your support for this Commission is appreciated. We can not let San Diego become like Los Angeles. It is my understanding that Los Angeles currently has over 65,000 documented gang members and recently created a separate city department to address this problem. We can learn from the mistakes Los Angeles made by not viewing gang prevention and intervention as a top priority years ago and is now dealing with the consequences.

On Saturday, January 28, 2006 at 12:45 p.m. there will be an Overcoming Gangs Rally held at Shadow Chapel, Greenwood Memorial Park 4300 Imperial Avenue.

I want to commend and thank Pastor James Ward and the many community leaders, parents, and youth who are working tirelessly to address gang issues in our community. The organizations sponsoring this rally are Inner City Youth, Black Men United, Gladiators School of Boxing and Martial Arts, Project New Village, Nation of Islam, Spears Academy, Black Contractors Association, Palavra Tree, and Southeastern Little League.

Parent Voices for Education will be hosting an educational forum at 6:30 p.m Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at the Harold J. Ballard Center (2375 Congress Street. The topic of the forum is “What Does It Take To Educate A Child Well.”
Participants will include Dr. Carl Cohn, Superintendent of San Diego City Schools, Geno Flores, Deputy Superintendent and Dr. Joseph Johnson, Director of the National Center for Urban Schools Transformation, San Diego State University. Please contact paveparents@sbcglobal.net for additional information.

Under the auspices of my 21st Century Community Initiative, I will be hosting a community clean-up in the 4th District community of Mountain View on Saturday January 28, 2006. I commend and thank Margaret Roberts and the Willie Henderson Recreation Council for their outstanding volunteer efforts to assist in planning and implementing this community clean-up. This Initiative consists of ongoing efforts in various communities that are designed to assist residents in keeping their neighborhoods and communities clean. Community clean-ups are scheduled for parts of Paradise Hills and Oak Park in February and March. If you need additional information please contact my office at (619) 236-6644.

The San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture supports festivals, parades, annual community arts, and other innovative experiences that benefit San Diego residents and visitors. Applications and guidelines for fiscal year 2006/07 are now available. The deadline for applications is Friday, March 3, 2006. Please visit our website at www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture or call Felicia Shaw at (619)533-3063 for additional information.

I will be making my State of the 4th District address on Friday, February 24, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Educational Cultural Complex and include a reception held after the State of the District address. I look forward to you joining me.

Again, my thanks go out to you for supporting me in my efforts to make this City and the 4th District a better place to live, work, and raise a family

Thank you for reading my E-mail Message for The Week. If you would like to receive this E-mail on a regular basis, please e-mail me at anthonyyoung@sandiego.gov.