



City of San Diego
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For Immediate Release

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Committee to Take on Sidewalks Citywide
Special Night Meeting Called for Public Input

SAN DIEGO, California, July 31, 2013 – Tonight the San Diego Committee on Infrastructure will hold a special night meeting to facilitate public participation on several major topics. The agenda includes items on a citywide sidewalk assessment and the City’s first-ever asset management policy.

The sidewalk assessment will both rate the condition of San Diego sidewalks and identify where sidewalks are missing. A comprehensive study was done for City streets but never before have the City’s 5,000 miles of sidewalks been evaluated. This long-awaited measure was approved in the FY14 budget by the full Council. It is a critical step toward creating safe routes to school, making San Diego a more walkable city, and delivering on the City’s promise to improve ADA accessibility.

The Committee will also consider adopting an asset management policy on Wednesday night. **“Asset management is how we ensure that the money we invest in infrastructure is not wasted in the long term,”** said Councilman Mark Kersey, Chair of the Infrastructure Committee. **“It’s like changing the oil in your car. Regular maintenance investment extends the life of our assets and saves us money in the long run. If you don’t maintain it, you have to replace it.”**

In January, Councilman Kersey released a 2013 work plan for the Infrastructure Committee. The Committee has already fulfilled its plan to formalize the community input process, adopted new streamlining measures, and begun gathering feedback that will ultimately yield a prioritized five-year rolling infrastructure plan. The next step is tomorrow’s work on asset management and defining the problem through objective, comprehensive data.

As part of its commitment to rebuilding San Diego, the Council this year has funded about \$10 million worth of assessments of the City’s sidewalks, facilities, water, wastewater, and park and recreation inventory; bonded for \$35 million of new infrastructure; and begun holding trainings and input opportunities throughout the City. The local Code for America brigade has also created a website (now in beta phase) for residents to submit their infrastructure priorities: <http://infrastructure.opensandiego.org>.

The Infrastructure Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, July 31 at 6 p.m. in the Council Committee Room on the 12th floor of 202 C Street. Citizens who can’t attend in person are encouraged to watch live on City TV or online, and submit feedback to infrastructure@sandiego.gov.

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