



City of San Diego

**MARK KERSEY**

CITY COUNCILMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

For Immediate Release

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## **Councilman Kersey Announces Infrastructure Finance Initiative**

*Rebuild San Diego ballot measure to secure sustained funding for neighborhood infrastructure*

SAN DIEGO (December 2, 2015) --- Councilman Mark Kersey announced today his proposal to secure a long-term financing plan for infrastructure improvements. The Rebuild San Diego ballot measure is expected to secure approximately \$4-5 billion for neighborhood infrastructure over the next 30 years.

“Infrastructure is a core responsibility of City government and this measure ensures we will have a long-term source of funding to rebuild San Diego’s neighborhoods now and for future generations,” said Councilman Mark Kersey, chair of the City’s Infrastructure Committee. “Once approved by voters, San Diegans will never again have to worry about politicians allowing our city to deteriorate by not dedicating enough resources to infrastructure improvements and maintenance.”

The Rebuild San Diego measure commits three revenue streams to capital and maintenance costs associated with neighborhood infrastructure, including streets, sidewalks, storm drains, park and recreation facilities, libraries, and police and fire stations.

Future sales tax growth and savings from voter-approved pension reform will be dedicated to rebuilding San Diego for the next 30 years. Additionally, it will preserve half of all new major general fund growth over the next 10 years for infrastructure, formalizing a commitment made by Mayor Faulconer in the last two budgets and current five year budget outlook. Kersey’s initiative would not require a tax increase.

“I applaud Councilmember Kersey for his continued work on this important issue,” said Mayor Kevin Faulconer. “I have made fixing our neighborhoods a top priority in my administration. We’re making great progress and there’s more to come. I look forward to the Council discussion on this proposed ballot measure.”

If approved by Council, the charter amendment will go to voters in June 2016. It will first be heard at the City’s Infrastructure Committee on Wednesday, December 9.

“The City Council and the Mayor are united in their commitment to make infrastructure investment a priority,” said Council President Sherri Lightner. “I appreciate the efforts made by Councilmember Kersey, who has worked tirelessly to find solutions to address multiple issues.”

Over the past three years under Councilman Kersey’s leadership, the Infrastructure Committee has approved several streamlining measures that reduce time and costs associated with infrastructure projects. These efficiencies are already saving taxpayers millions of dollars annually.

The committee also passed a neighborhood prioritization policy which includes community feedback into the City’s multi-year capital plan, the updated version of which will be heard at the January Infrastructure Committee meeting.

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