



DISTRICT SEVEN COMMUNITIES

Allied Gardens

Alvarado Estates

Chollas Creek

Colina del Sol

College Area

Del Cerro

El Cerrito

Fox Canyon

Grantville

Islenair

MCAS Miramar

Oak Park

Rancho Encantada

Redwood Village

Rolando Park

Rolando

San Carlos

SDSU

Tierrasanta

The Emerald News

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Rooming House Ordinance Challenged

Time to revisit San Diego's Rooming House Ordinance. District 7 residents especially those in the College Area, tell me they are disappointed by a lack of enforcement. You might remember the City approved the Rooming House Ordinance in 2008 in response to complaints about "mini-dorms" packed with college students, which affect the quality of life in neighborhoods surrounding SDSU. Enforcement was delayed until last summer. Since then, it has become apparent that there is little will on the part of the Mayor to clarify enforcement standards needed to come down on offenders. The City Attorney is also balking, saying this ordinance may not even stand up in court. But, fear not! I will be meeting with Land Use & Housing Committee Chair, Lorie Zapf to docket a public discussion about the ordinance and its effectiveness. I will ask the committee to revise the ordinance as needed, and request that the Mayor codify the needed administrative regulations and that our City Attorney take the legal actions necessary to strengthen and enforce this important ordinance.

Midyear Budget Surplus

Good news on the City Budget. The Midyear Budget Report shows a surplus of \$16.5 million so far this fiscal year, which ends June 30th. It's the best financial news we've had in four years! However, before we start celebrating we must remember we are still waiting to see how the recent demise of redevelopment impacts the City's bank account. So, no big spending sprees. However, my colleagues on the Budget Committee and I want to restore some hours at our libraries and recreation centers Citywide. I also want to finish a long overdue station alerting system for our fire stations. We approved about \$5 million in extra services and projects at Committee and are asking the full Council to give their blessing. This is all part of my commitment to safety and quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Protections for San Diego's Historic Properties

I was pleased to vote for new protections for San Diego's endangered historic properties. The February 7th vote allows the City to fine property owners who break laws intended to protect historical resources, and are unwilling to take corrective action.

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Community Representatives



Marisa Berumen

Allied Gardens, Grantville,
and Tierrasanta
(619) 236-7754

mberumen@sandiego.gov



Cynthia Harris

El Cerrito and City Heights
(619) 533-5897

crharris@sandiego.gov



Chris Pearson

Redwood Village, Rolando
Park, Rolando,
and Oak Park
(619) 236-6677

cpearson@sandiego.gov



Tim Taylor

College Area and
Alvarado Estates
(619) 533-4774

taylor@sandiego.gov



Mary Ann Wallace

Del Cerro, Lake Murray, and
San Carlos
(619) 236-7042

mwallace@sandiego.gov

Committee Consultant



Drew Ector

Public Safety &
Neighborhood Services
(619) 236-7038

dector@sandiego.gov



Smoke Free Housing

The City's Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee (PS&NS) is working to address smoking impacts in multi-family properties consisting of 4 or more units.

As PS&NS Chair, I directed housing industry personnel and prevention groups to form the Non-Smoking Housing Task Force in 2009. The Task

Force presented a draft ordinance to the PS&NS Committee on February 15th to address secondhand smoke as a nuisance in multi-family properties.

My colleagues and I thanked the Task Force for their hard work on the draft ordinance and directed the City Attorney's office to provide a legal opinion within 90 days on the submitted draft language and to also review other municipal ordinances which ban smoking in multi-family properties. We look forward to the City Attorney's response and the next steps that might be taken to address this health issue.

The penalties extend to properties that are historically significant, but have not been officially designated as historic. The intent is to encourage property owners to put on the brakes, get proper permits and education before they cause irreparable harm to an important piece of San Diego's past. Of course, these penalties are a last resort. This will bring more transparency and effectiveness to the City's historic preservation programs.

New Streetlights Installed in Redwood Village

With the help of the Redwood Village Community Council and the College Area Business District, we identified the need for additional streetlights along Streamview Drive and El Cajon Boulevard. I was pleased to vote for the funding for this project last year, and am now excited to report that the installation of 46 new "induction" streetlights will be completed this month. This is one more project that helps fulfill my commitment to make our neighborhoods safer.

Update on our Open Space/Canyons

San Diego is a City of canyons and I hope to save them. Late last year, I turned to our State Legislature for help in preserving our 10,000 acres of canyon land and open space. State Senator Christine Kehoe answered the call and has now introduced a bill that would preserve these great expanses of open space, create additional recreational opportunities, and clear a path to establish a regional Canyonlands Park. If approved, the bill would become effective in 2013, preserving our canyons for future generations. This action was one of my top State/Federal legislative priorities.

Thanks, Marti

Celebrating Community



(Below) Honoring the Buffalo Soldiers, Black Nurses Association and Tuskegee Airmen for their contributions to San Diego in celebration of Black History Month.



(Above) San Carlos Friends of the Library 2012 Essay Contest Winners were honored in the 15th annual student *Writing for Literacy Essay Contest*. Also pictured is Ann McDonald, who was installed on February 11th, as the new President of the Friends of the San Diego Public Library. Congratulations to all!



(Above) District 7 teamed up with the New Roots Community Garden in City Heights for a tour of the bountiful crops and a beautification project. Produce from the market may be purchased at the City Heights Farmers Market every Saturday.



(Below) Honoring the work of Rural Metro at City Council. I truly appreciate the number of hours they volunteer to teach San Diegans life-saving skills.



(Above) Councilmember Emerald, members of the Mid-City Latino Youth Council, Tierrasanta's Elevated Student Relations Committee, and Northgate Market Executive, Albert Ayala, held a press conference to bring awareness about ways parents can prevent underage drinking.



(Above) Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the joint-use fields at the Language Academy. Students and parents from the school, along with San Diego Unified School District Board Member Kevin Beiser, all participated in this College Community event... now let's get out there and play!



16th Annual Rolando Street Fair

**Sunday
March 25th
10 am– 6pm**

**Rolando
Blvd. south
of El Cajon
Blvd.**

**Great Food
Live Music
All Day**

**See you
there!**

March Community Events

Every Tuesday- Yoga classes for children ages 3 and up will take place at the **San Carlos Library** located at 7265 Jackson Drive. The benefits of yoga for children are astounding. The yoga exercises are practiced in a non-competitive environment, so all kids can play, and the breath and balance work prepare students for better learning.

March 4th-Temple Emanu-El Purim Carnival will take place Sunday, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Temple parking lot. Play fun games. Eat yummy food or win a cake in the cakewalk: there will be fun for everyone. All proceeds benefit the Temple Emanu-El Campership Fund.

March 5th– Registration opens for the Learn to Swim for Free at Colina del Sol pool. Registration will continue until all spots are filled. There will be four 3-week sessions held Monday, Wednesday and Friday, starting on March 19th, April 9th, April 30th, and May 21st, respectively. Classes welcome all swimmers-to-be ages 3-17. For more information, please call (619) 235-1147.

March 9th- 1st Annual Taste of San Carlos. Join the Green Elementary Foundation on **Friday, March 9th at 5:30 pm** at the Mission Trails Golf Course located at 7380 Golfcrest Place. This culinary event features local restaurants, as well as fine wine and craft beer vendors. Tickets are \$50 per couple or \$30 per individual. Tickets are available at www.tasteofSanCarlos.com.

March 9th - Colina del Sol Park Movie Night- “CARS 2”. Bring your family and blankets for a fun movie night with your neighbors beginning at **7:00 pm**. The park is located at 5319 Orange Avenue. Don't forget to bring snacks, blankets and chairs.

March 24th- Free Community Cleanup & Recycling Event (bulky items, electronics, recycling and tire collection. Open to all City of San Diego residents ONLY (No Business/Commercial Waste) The event will take place **from 8:00 am-1:00 pm** at Qualcomm Stadium. Fluorescent light bulbs and household batteries will also be accepted at this event. No hazardous waste or construction and demolition debris will be accepted. This includes items such as paint, chemicals, motor oil, painted wood, asphalt, etc.

March 31st- Free Health Fair for seniors and families presented in multiple languages will take place **Saturday, March 31st from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm** at Rosa Parks Elementary School located at 4510 Landis Street (close to the City Heights Farmers Market). Screenings include: glaucoma, eye exams, as well as FREE glasses, hearing, diabetic, blood pressure, body fat testing, and much more.