



In This Issue:

MWD Protests	1
Fire in Mission Bay	1
Budget Talks Begin	2
Around town	2
Events	3
Parking for Veterans	3
Photos	4

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Zapf Testifies Against Water Rate Increases

In March, Councilmember Lorie Zapf joined the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) and a group of civic and community leaders to testify against the proposed water rate increases suggested by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).

MWD is a consortium of cities and water authorities that provide water to nearly 19 million people throughout Southern California. The SDCWA receives 44% of our region's water supply from MWD.

Over the last decade, San Diego has diversified our water supply sources and is now purchasing dramatically less water from MWD. As their revenues de-

crease, by as much as 30% since 2007, MWD is choosing to raise water rates, instead of reigning in their spending and finding ways to save money. If the proposed rate increases are approved, water



rates will have increased by 101% since 2006.

"The City of San Diego has implemented many serious and difficult reforms over the years to reign in our out-of-control spending," said

Zapf. "MWD needs to stop increasing costs and asking ratepayers to foot the bill, and start doing what other government agencies have done during this recession: trim the fat. When San Diegans are doing everything they can to conserve water, our rates shouldn't be increasing."

The SDCWA has discovered MWD documents on the "Anti-San Diego Coalition", and claims that the MWD has implemented a pricing structure that discriminates against San Diego.

At the March meeting, MWD voted to postpone the decision on the water rate increases until April. At the April meeting, MWD voted to increase rates at 5% per year for 2013 and 2014.

Lifeguards Extinguish Marina Fire in Mission Bay

On the evening of March 19th, an electrical malfunction on a boat at the Mission Bay Yacht Club sparked a fire that caused an estimated \$1.3 million in damage. The fire totally destroyed three boats, and partially damaged three others, and severely damaged the dock.

The week before the fire, lifeguards were at the Public Safety & Neighborhood Services (PS&NS) committee reporting on the status of lifeguard equipment

and personnel. The committee learned that, of the City's two fireboats, one is nonoperational while awaiting a new engine, and the other is 21 years old and is due to be replaced.

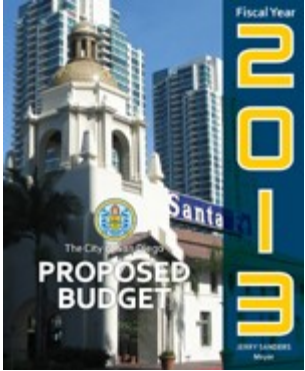
In February, Councilmember Zapf requested funding be allocated for a new fireboat. "This is exactly the kind of scenario that emphasizes the importance of having two fully functional fireboats," said Zapf. "I'd like to thank the lifeguards and firefighters who

kept this fire from becoming a worst-case-scenario."

PS&NS Chairwoman Marti Emerald has appointed Councilmembers Zapf and Alvarez to lead a Subcommittee on Lifeguard Operations to determine the equipment and staffing needs of the City's lifeguards.

"Our beaches and bays define us as a region, and maintaining safe waterways is vital to our economy. I am looking forward to ending the lifeguard brownouts."

Budget Talks Begin at City Hall



This month, Mayor Jerry Sanders released his proposed budget for FY 2013. According to the Mayor’s office, this is the first truly balanced budget that the Mayor has been able to release during his tenure.

The FY 2013 budget closes the structural deficit and has a projected 5-year cumulative surplus of \$119 million.

“It’s been a rough road get-

ting to this point,” said Zapf. “Tough decisions have been made by the Mayor and this Council, and we’ve had to fundamentally rethink the way we do business at City Hall. But, all of our hard work has paid off, and we can now begin restoring the vital City services that have been cut throughout the years.”

The proposed budget allocates \$194.2 million for capital improvement projects to help fund the

City’s deferred maintenance backlog. It will restore vital services including police and fire positions, library hours, and equipment for our lifeguards.

According to the City Charter, the Mayor must release the proposed budget before April 15th. The City Council will then hold budget hearings during the month of May to receive input from the public on the budget proposal.

Free Services Around Town

Resume and Job Search Assistance

On April 18th and 25th the Bayside Community Center is hosting resume workshops from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

These workshops are open to anyone who may be looking to create or revise their resume. They will teach participants how to search for jobs, create winning resumes, and allow opportunities to practice interview skills.

The workshops are free and open to job seekers of all ages. For more information, call (858) 278- 0771.

Free Tax Recycling Service

The City of San Diego is offering a free and secure way for residents to get rid of their old tax files this spring.

At the 10th annual Tax Recycling event, you can drop off your tax documents at the Miramar Recycling Center where they will be shredded by the Environmental Services Department and then recycled.

The event is taking place from April 11-20. Residents are limited to one “Bankers Box”, 10” high x 15” wide x 25” deep.

Water-Wise Landscape and Garden-Friendly Plant Fairs

Staff from the City of San Diego’s Water Conservation Program and plant experts from local nurseries will be at area Home Depots to explain ways to have a garden that is both beautiful and water-efficient.

City and nursery landscape professionals will be on hand from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at:

Saturday, April 21 at 12185 Carmel Mountain Road

Saturday, May 5 at 5920 Fairmount Avenue

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Recycled Water is Coming to San Diego

In the never-ending struggle to supply our dry, arid region with water, San Diego has limited options. Traditionally, we have imported our water from other sources, but rising costs and competition from other regions are making that a less reliable option.

One option the City is currently studying is a Water Reuse Program, similar to a project that is already up and running in Anaheim. The Water Purification Demonstration Project will determine if reservoir augmentation is a good option for our City.

According to the Public Utilities Department, “reservoir augmentation is a multi-step process that includes using advanced water purification technology on highly treated wastewater, sending the purified water to a reservoir to blend with existing water supplies, and treating the blended water again to be distributed as drinking water.”

Councilmember Zapf and Council President Young toured the Advanced Water Purification Facility in March to see for themselves how safe this drinking water will be. This state-of-the-art process ensures that water is

safe, clean, and is purified to a level similar to distilled water.

Currently, no water from this project is being sent to our water supply, and we have a few more years of testing and certifications from the California Department of Public Health before anything changes.

The City is offering free tours of the Advanced Water Purification Facility. For more information or to schedule a tour, please call (619) 533-7572 or email purewatersd@sanidiego.gov.



Lorie and Council President Young on a tour of the City's new Water Purification Facility.

Upcoming Community Events

CCSA Hunger Walk

April 21 at 8 am
DeAnza Cove, Mission Bay Park
3000 E, Mission Bay Drive
www.ccsasandiego.org

Linda Vista Multi-Cultural Fair and Parade

April 21 10 am—5 pm
6900 Linda Vista Road
Free, family-friendly event
<http://www.lindavistafair.org>

Beach Soccer Jam

April 28-29
Fiesta Island
If you like to play soccer and you enjoy the beach, come to this free event. Teams are designated by age.
www.beachsoccerjam.com

28th Annual Little Italy Art Walk

April 28-29
Little Italy

An adventurous art walk that showcases visual and performing art.

For more information visit:
www.missionfederalartwalk.org

8th Annual San Diego Dragon Boat Festival

Saturday, May 5, 2012, 9 am-5pm
Tecolote Shores North
For more information visit:
www.sdalliance.org

LU&H Creates Parking Exemptions for Veterans

The City's Land Use & Housing Committee unanimously approved an ordinance that would exempt veterans with special license plates from paying parking meter fees in City limits.

In 2008, State Assembly Bill 190 created a program that would allow cities the opportunity to exempt certain distinguished veteran plates from parking fees. If the ordinance is approved by the full City Council, San Diego would be opting-in to

this program.

There are five license plates that would be exempt under this new ordinance: Pearl Harbor Survivor Plates, Legion of Valor Plates, Former American Prisoner of War (POW) Plates, Congressional Medal of Honor Plates, and Purple Heart Plates.

According to projections from city staff, the program could be run with

a negligible financial impact: an estimated \$3,000 per year out of a \$7.7 million dollar budget.



“San Diego is such a huge military town, and we should be doing everything we can to honor our veterans,” said Zapf. “This is one way we can honor our most distinguished veterans, with a minimal cost.”

Community Spotlight



Lorie with the City's Civic Organist, Carol Williams, at the District 6 Family Day event.



Lorie joined up with Meals on Wheels to deliver food to seniors throughout District 6.



Cub Scout Troop 299 came to City Hall to learn a little more about local government. We may have a future councilmember in our midst.

Connect with Lorie

Keep tabs on how Lorie is working for you— Be her friend on Facebook at [facebook.com/CouncilmemberZapf](https://www.facebook.com/CouncilmemberZapf) or follow her on Twitter at twitter.com/LorieZapfD6.

You can sign up to receive emails from Lorie and electronic copies of the District 6 Update newsletter on her City website: www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd6/.

If you no longer wish to receive emails from Council-

member Zapf, you can remove yourself from the distribution list by going to Lorie's website, entering your email and clicking "unsubscribe".



Sign up for email updates on Lorie's website.