




**OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER TODD GLORIA  
COUNCIL DISTRICT THREE**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

DATE: January 20, 2015

TO: Councilmember Mark Kersey, Chair, Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Councilmember Todd Gloria 

SUBJECT: Priorities for the Infrastructure Committee

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This memo is in response to your call for 2015 Infrastructure Committee priorities.

All District Three neighborhoods are over 100 years old, so continued long-term investment is necessary to address their needs. Our streets, sidewalks, streetlights, facilities, water and sewer pipes, and storm drains need to be evaluated and prioritized for focused investment.

**Invest For Success**

I have serious concerns with the lack of a comprehensive solution to the City's multi-billion dollar infrastructure problem. This is the most critical long-term challenge facing the City. After years of estimating the magnitude of deferred maintenance and infrastructure requirements, we must now develop a full-scale financing strategy and pursue new revenue sources.

The cost of deferred maintenance needs exceeds three billion dollars. Additional costs for complying with stormwater regulations and paying for new infrastructure only increase that amount. I would like to suggest that the committee take bold action to form an ad-hoc working group, with both labor and business leaders, to develop and support a ballot initiative to finance this priority.

**Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan**

Investment in infrastructure is vital to our City's productivity, competitiveness and economic well-being. Communities with effective transportation systems, reliable water and modernized sewers can better attract residents and businesses.

I urge the committee to monitor the implementation of the Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan. This strategic plan will address community needs and neighborhood investment. I believe this plan should guide the policy discussion as we strive to rebuild our neighborhoods.

**Transparency Builds Confidence**

Citizens have a right to know how their money is being used. It is critical to communicate the anticipated cost of a project, and the financial impact of delays. The City currently provides

project details on its website, but I would suggest the committee review or develop a communications strategy for the full timeline of projects to better inform community members and stakeholders. This will further build trust and confidence within the community that public dollars are going to projects with clear benefits.

**Neighborhood Issues of Importance**

As streets are repaved, I again recommend restriping of the right of way to facilitate other transportation options, like walking and biking.

My specific priorities include:

- Complete and adopt the Comprehensive Pedestrian Safety Study
- Complete and adopt the Pedestrian Master Plan
- Implement the Bike Master Plan
- Update Council Policy 200-07, Comprehensive Pedestrian Crossing Policy
- Update Council Policy 200-12, Sidewalk Maintenance Policy
- Update Council Policy 200-18, Mid-block Streetlight Policy
- Reconstruct the Golden Hill Recreation Center outdoor basketball court
- Fund the construction of Richmond Street missing sidewalk between Pennsylvania Avenue and Myrtle Avenue
- Fund Normal Heights Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park design for Phase 1
- Repave roads and parking lots in Balboa Park
- Provide façade improvements and restore the luster of the most needed facilities located inside Balboa Park
- Repair and replace plumbing at Balboa Park facilities
- Modernize kitchens facilities inside the Casa del Prado, War Memorial Building, and Balboa Park Club

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input. Our neighborhoods deserve better, and I know this committee will work to deliver direct results for needed improvements.

TG/ab