

District Three

DIALOGUE



City of San Diego

March 2012 Volume 4, Issue 2

More than \$34,000 Coming to District Three Projects

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

From savings generated in my office budget, I am pleased to report that I contributed over \$34,000 in CPPS funds for three projects in Council District Three.

The funding will allow the Park and Recreation Department to provide hourly staffing for the restoration of 30 additional hours of operation per month at the Balboa Park Activity Center through June 30, 2012. The Activity Center, which had been closed on Sundays, is now open seven days per week.

Further, a new marquee will be purchased and installed at the Adams Avenue Recreation Center, and the basketball and volleyball courts at the Golden Hill Recreation Center will be repaired and resurfaced. The marquee and court improvements will be complete by the end of June.

Finding ways to support local efforts is rewarding for the whole community. I previously allocated CPPS funds to further benefit City facilities and services:

- \$8,694 to help sustain restored hours at the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library and Performance Annex and the Mid-City Gymnasium. Along with grants of \$42,430 from the Price Family Charitable Fund, this contribution allows the library to be open on Sundays through June 2012 and the gym to be open for Sundays in the summer of 2011.
- \$1,000 to help purchase and install sod and seed at Grape Street Park. These funds were matched by funds raised by the Dog Owners of Grape Street.
- \$2,400 toward the purchase of manual beach wheelchairs to increase disabled access to City beaches.
- \$10,000 for renovations to Fire Station 14 in North Park.

Coming Soon to a Yard Near You: Chickens, Goats, and Bees

The San Diego City Council approved changes to local urban agriculture regulations on January 31, making it possible for more San Diegans to access locally-produced food. Councilmember Todd Gloria championed many of the changes, which grew out of discussions during the Council's previous passage of an ordinance easing community garden rules.

"At a community coffee in 2009, a couple of North Park neighbors told me about the challenges they faced because they wanted to raise a couple chickens in their small yard for their eggs. I am incredibly proud that the common-sense measures we passed will allow more San Diegans to keep small numbers of animals on their property and strengthen their connection to their food," said Councilmember Todd Gloria.

Farmers' Markets:

- Daily Farmers' Market Stands which sell produce (no value-added merchandise) could be permitted in all commercial zones. They could be no larger than 5-feet deep and 16-feet wide.

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NORTH PARK

CITY HEIGHTS

NORMAL HEIGHTS

GOLDEN HILL

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

SOUTH PARK

HILLCREST

KENSINGTON

LA JOLLA

MISSION VALLEY

BOULEVARD

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City Budget: A Progress Report

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

On February 23, I was proud to stand with Mayor Jerry Sanders and Council President Tony Young to announce good news about the City's budget. A combination of reforms and higher than anticipated revenues has addressed our longstanding structural budget deficit.

It is the result of hard work. It is the result of sacrifice. And it was a collaborative effort. The Mayor has championed fiscal reforms since he was elected. As the City Council's Budget Chairman, I am incredibly proud of the work we've done to develop and implement policy changes that helped right our financial ship. Many of the actions taken by the Council were not popular and changed the way we conducted business: we competed out City services, renegotiated contracts, and adjusted fees to recover our costs.

Historic Buildings Now Better Protected

Councilmember Todd Gloria applauded the City Council on February 7 for approving new penalties for damaging historic structures without permits, which will help protect local buildings of importance.

"San Diego is fortunate to be home to many buildings of great historic significance, and the ordinance approved today will help ensure they remain part of our community character," said Councilmember Gloria, who represents many historic neighborhoods and historic buildings in District Three.

The ordinance, which was approved by a vote of 6-2, makes two changes to the Municipal Code related to civil penalties for code violations impacting historic resources:

- Enabling the Director of the Neighborhood Code Compliance Department to assess penalties for unpermitted work to historical resources (non-designated), as well as designated historic resources; and
- Directing that such penalties be deposited into the Historic Preservation Fund.

The ordinance originated from an idea discussed by the City Council's Land Use and Housing Committee in September 2009, chaired at that time by Councilmember Gloria.

Councilmember Gloria has distinguished himself as a leader for historic preservation on the San Diego City Council. Since being elected to office, he has championed policy issues to protect historic resources, been a consistent vote for historic preservation, and has worked to direct resources to Balboa Park, one of our City's greatest historic treasures. He was awarded the *People in Preservation* Public Policy Leadership Award from Save Our Heritage Organisation in May 2010.

At the end of the day, fiscal restraint is what got us here.

We must very clearly recognize the role of City employees in helping us reach this point.

They helped create a managed competition process that is fair, thoughtful, and is already generating savings – with them performing amazing work. They have agreed to or accepted 6% compensation reductions (as did I). They have been at the table developing a historic retiree healthcare deal that will save taxpayers over \$700 million and serves as a model for retiree health reform across the nation.



They did these things and continue to work hard because they share my love of this City and my dedication to public service and San Diegans.

This collaborative style – the Mayor, the Council, and the City employees – must serve as an example of how we can address any challenge that comes to San Diego. Shame and blame may grab headlines, but collaboration, hard work and sacrifice get the job done.

While the Mayor's announcement that services are recommended to be restored to some departments, there are still many needs like aggressively addressing our infrastructure backlog and reviving redevelopment and economic development that require our attention.

Our Independent Budget Analyst conducted a separate review of the Mayor's mid-year report, and beginning on February 29, I'm leading the Council through the development of this year's budget priorities. Our work is not over, but this difficult period in our City's history is.

On February 28, more positive budget news came from City Hall: the City's Audited Financial Statements are current and received the highest positive rating from auditors Macias Gini & O'Connell, LLP. Our financials serve as the disclosure and framework for bond offerings. This will provide the City access to the bond market to allow it to continue with road and infrastructure repairs.

As long as I'm around, fiscal restraint and the need for additional efficiencies are forever in fashion at City Hall—all so that we can continue to deliver the good news that San Diegans deserve.

For more information about the budget process, please visit the webpage for the City Council Budget and Finance Committee: www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/committees/budgetandfinance/.

Caring for the Homeless

Construction Begins on the Services Center; Storage Facility Remains Open

Progress is being made on the long awaited and much needed permanent homeless services center since construction began on January 26.

Councilmember Todd Gloria participated in the construction kickoff event for Connections Housing, which will be located at the former World Trade Center Building, 1250 Sixth Avenue. The ongoing renovations will convert the aging building's interior office space into an integrated service and residential center aiming to end homelessness in San Diego. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of 2012.

Connections Housing is a collaboration between Affirmed Housing Group, Family Health Centers of San Diego, People Assisting the Homeless (PATH), and PATH Ventures and is based on a successful one-stop shop model of providing care to our neighbors most in need.

To address another issue related to homelessness, Councilmember Gloria recently announced a \$45,000 contribution to keep the homeless storage facility open through June 30, 2012. In an effort coordinated by Councilmember Gloria, City Councilmembers allocated enough Community Projects, Programs and Services funds to keep what is known as the Water Man Check-in Center open through the end of the fiscal year.



Councilmember Gloria celebrates the start of construction at the City's first permanent homeless services center.

"The Check-in Center keeps the possessions of our homeless neighbors safe, while helping keep San Diego's streets clean," said Councilmember Gloria, who allocated \$10,000 to the cause. "I am proud of my colleagues on the City Council for stepping in to help save this critical service."

The storage facility, located at 917 Ninth Avenue, houses secure bins that homeless individuals use to keep their property. Since its opening early in 2011, the Check-in Center has been credited for improved conditions on San Diego's streets and applauded by homeless people and advocates for helping solve this longstanding challenge.

The San Diego Housing Commission started accepting monetary donations from the public so the Check-in Center's future can be ensured beyond June. Donations may be sent to: The San Diego Housing Commission – Check-in Center, Attn: Finance Department, 1122 Broadway, Ste. 300, 5th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.

Historical Resources Annual Report Highlights Recent Successes

The City of San Diego Historical Resources Annual Report was recently produced. Covering October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011, the report includes some notable accomplishments, including

- North Park Dryden Historic District was identified as the single accomplishment that has done the most to further preservation in our community this year;
- Work continues on proposed historic districts in South Park, Inspiration Heights and Mission Hills;
- A comprehensive Citywide historic survey identified as most critical preservation planning issue;
- 52 individually significant properties were designated during 2010 – 2011, an increase over previous years.

Read the full report on the District Three website, www.sandiego.gov/cd3.

Court Confirms Prop 8 is Unconstitutional



Todd at the Prop 8 march through Hillcrest

On February 7, the Ninth Circuit Court issued its decision that California's voter-approved ban of same-sex marriage is unconstitutional.

"I am tremendously grateful for the Court's ruling today," said Councilmember Todd Gloria. "This is a great day for all people seeking full equality under the law that every American deserves. The battle is far from over, but I know this civil right will be realized and appreciate the Court's clear determination in this case."

Councilmember Gloria participated in the march through Hillcrest that evening in response to the ruling. The march concluded the Joyce Beers Community Center on Vermont Street, where the neighborhood planning group considered a proposal to install a permanent Pride flag in Hillcrest.

Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You

Strengthening Public Safety

- Striping changes were made to Robinson Ave. at Tenth Ave. and the k-rail was removed.
- The traffic lane merge on Park Blvd. south of University Ave. was moved north of Robinson to correct a pattern of dangerous conditions for drivers and bicyclists.
- Streetlights were repaired in the 500 block of Ivy St., on Canterbury Dr., on Sussex, on Arch St. and in the alley behind the 3900 block of Kansas St.
- Police officers have provided additional parking enforcement and towing near Adams Ave. and Utah St. in response to request from neighbors.
- Police have identified suspects of perpetual vandalism to an Adams Ave. business.
- Obtrusive brush was cleared for motorists at Fairmount Ave. and Montezuma Rd.
- The Police Department investigated a resident's complaints of an allegedly illegal business on Fourth Ave.

Investing in Infrastructure

- The lateral sewer line for a residence on the 2800 block of Hawthorn St. was replaced.
- Striping on the newly paved segments of Pershing Dr. and Sixth Ave. was expedited after the District Three office expressed safety concerns on these well-traveled roads.
- An alley behind the 4500 block of Campus Ave. was repaired.
- A water pipe in an alley was repaired in University Heights.

- Street work was completed to eliminate ponding water on Canterbury Dr.
- Parrot St. is scheduled to be slurry sealed by April.
- Gopher damage on the 1500 block of Gregory St. was repaired.
- Cherokee Point's field will be renovated and hydroseeded this Spring.

Protecting Community Character

- Two 36" box trees were planted in the 1500 block of Fern St. to replace some taken out because their root systems were damaging nearby infrastructure. Councilmember Gloria fought to make sure the replacements were more established than the usual 15" standard trees.
- Owners of abandoned vehicles on the 3100 block of Gregory St. and the 3100 block of Redwood St. were cited.
- A structure being built in a side yard in Normal Heights was determined to be appropriate and not encroaching on a neighboring property.
- A troublesome property in the 3900 block of Iowa St. must be cleaned up soon or will be cited by Neighborhood Code Compliance.
- A broken down, abandoned vehicle on Westminster Terrace was abated; abandoned cars were towed from Kenmore Terrace and 30th St.; and a large recreational vehicle was cited for violating the 72 hour parking limits and moved from Utah St.
- Construction equipment and debris were cleared from the area near Madison Ave. and Rhode Island.
- Information on the process of naming canyons was shared with a City Heights neighbor.
- Illegally dumped mattresses were removed from 38th and Beech Streets.
- The bathroom door was repaired at the City Heights/Weingart Library.
- Water Department billing disputes were resolved for neighbors in City Heights and North Park.

City Hall Honors Black History Month



The lobby of the City Administration Building was home to an impressive display commemorating Black History Month throughout February.

Councilmember Todd Gloria hosted a ceremony on February 24 with representatives from organizations featured in the exhibit: Tuskegee Airmen, the Buffalo Soldiers and the San Diego Black Nurses Association. They were joined by Mayor Jerry Sanders, Council President Tony Young and Councilmember Marti Emerald.

Among the participants in the ceremony was Nelson Robinson, an original member of the Tuskegee Airmen, who lives in San Diego. He educated attendees about the origins and operations of the group.

"City Hall is a great place to honor Black History Month," said Councilmember Gloria, whose office organized the exhibit and the reception. "Reflecting on our shared history, remembering past struggles and celebrating achievements will help ensuring continued progress for all San Diegans."

New Businesses Open in District Three

Councilmember Todd Gloria recently helped welcome three new businesses to District Three. Cox Communications opened a Cox Solutions Store in the Uptown Shopping Center in January and contributed funds to the LGBT Community Center as part of the festivities, pictured below right. Smashburger chose Hillcrest's Fifth Avenue for its newest location, which opened in February and is pictured right. Proving that Hillcrest isn't the only neighborhood with a thriving business district, Wang's opened on University Avenue in North Park with a formal ribbon cutting on January 27, pictured below.



Texas Street Pedestrian Improvements Underway

As part of the transportation mitigation requirements for the Civita development in Mission Valley, Quarry Falls LLC is installing a retaining wall, new sidewalk, historic-style single acorn pedestrian lights, some low-maintenance and low-water landscaping and other improvements on the west side of Texas Street between Camino del Rio South and Madison Ave.

Many public meetings and workshops were held by the North Park Planning Committee during 2010 and 2011, where North Park and University Heights neighbors weighed in on the various options and selected the improvements currently being implemented. For details about the discussions, check out the meeting minutes at www.northparkplanning.org.

"I am glad that the community's voice was heard and that the preferred acorn lighting will be installed," said Councilmember Todd Gloria. "The Texas Street corridor is a main entryway into our Mid-City neighborhoods, and these improvements will improve pedestrian access into and out of the community."

Construction on the project has begun and is scheduled to be complete by July. For the next several months, daytime lane closures will occur on the southbound side of Texas St. between

Camino del Rio South and Madison Ave. to accommodate the work.

All work is taking place in the public right of way. No private property will be impacted by these improvements.

The construction cost for these improvements are part of the Civita development mitigation

DID YOU KNOW?

The City of San Diego has an incentive program for residential rainwater harvesting: <http://www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/resrainwaterharvesting.shtml>.

Save water and money!

Scholarship Contest for North Park High School Seniors

The Klicka Foundation is offer a \$2,000 scholarship for graduating high school seniors living in 92104.

Mr. Emil Klicka developed the North Park Theatre in 1929, and helped bring the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation to San Diego in 1933. Jessie Weegar Klicka, Emil's wife, was a pioneer of the backcountry of San Diego County. The Klicka Foundation was created through Mr. Klicka's will following his passing in 1959 to honor his wife, who passed away two years earlier.

The award winning book, North Park: A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946 by Donald P. Covington, has more information on the Klickas.

Scholarship applicants must

- currently reside in North Park (in the 92104 zip code)
- have applied to a four-year institution of higher learning
- possess a minimum 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale

Water Conservation Garden of the Month: Commonwealth Ave.



After eight years of hauling manure, planting coffee grounds and diverting rain and greywater, the landscape of Candace Vanderhoff and Young Lee is looking good.

Vanderhoff and Lee have a shower and laundry greywater system, seven rain tanks totaling 1,360 gallons, using this to irrigate over 20 fruit trees, berries, herbs, succulents and natives on their half-acre South Park property. They are also restoring their canyon space back to an oak forest. With two adults, a dog, and this beautiful landscape, their water bill is only \$50 per month.

Congratulations to Candice and Young on demonstrating that creativity can equal conservation!

Submit your yard via email to toddgloria@sandiego.gov.

- demonstrate community dedication as defined in the additional guidelines online at the address below.

The application and further information are available on the North Park Historical Society's website, www.northparkhistory.org/projects/klicka.

Questions about the scholarship program may be directed to Louise Russell, Scholarship Chairperson, at 619-299.3736 or louiserussell@sbcglobal.net.

The deadline for applications is March 25, 2012.

San Diego Native Plant Garden Tour is April 28-29

Prepare to be inspired as you discover 25 of the region's best native gardens. This two-day self-guided tour gives you exclusive access to unique home gardens, private nature parks, art gardens, restoration landscapes, and public botanical gardens.

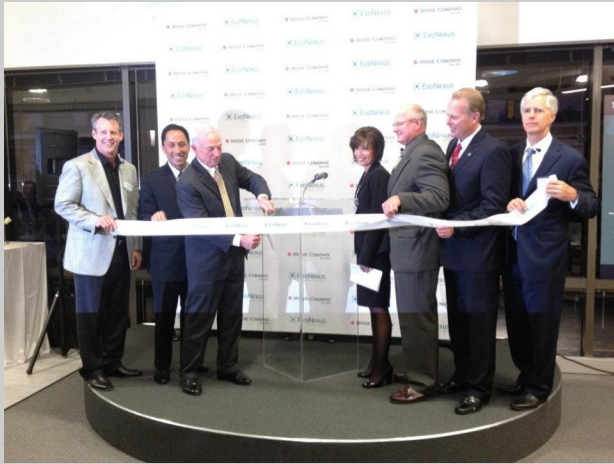
The California Native Plant Society's San Diego Native Garden Tour will help you to explore the diverse possibilities of native plant gardening in the many microclimates of the County.

The inaugural tour is the first regional native gardening event ever for San Diego and will feature 25 gardens across the County and includes gardens of many styles, but all are at least 80% native California plants. The host organization is the CNPS, a statewide native plant conservation and education non-profit. Some companies partnering with the California Native Plant Society on this event are Las Pilitas Nursery, Moosa Creek Nursery, the Chula Vista Nature Center, Hunter Industries, various landscaping companies and others.

The tour features on-site lectures by local native landscape designers, expert docents who will be on hand to interpret each garden, gourmet food, plant sales and other helpful resources. San Diego is a world biodiversity hotspot containing a treasure trove of garden-worthy plants. Gardens showcased on this tour reflect historical styles as well as aesthetics unique to our regional ecosystem, and are designed by landscape architects, landscape designers, master gardeners, and garden enthusiasts.

Similar garden tours in other communities have attracted 1,000-2,000 attendees.

For more information, please visit www.cnpssd.org/tour.



Business Incubator Program Expands in San Diego

San Diegans pursuing start up businesses to develop mobile applications and Internet software have a new home downtown.

EvoNexus, which is part of CommNexus, is the nation's only free, community-backed business incubator. EvoNexus Downtown San Diego is home to high-growth, software startups developing mobile apps and Internet services targeting e-commerce, location-based services, social engagement and cloud computing. The companies moved in January 30, 2012.

"I am excited to allocate \$10,000 of District Three's Community Projects, Programs and Services funds to EvoNexus, which brings a new model of job creation and ingenuity to San Diego," said Councilmember Todd Gloria, who participated in the center's opening on February 16. "After launching successful companies and creating 250 jobs from its UTC incubator, we know EvoNexus works and is helping put San Diegans back to work."

The downtown site is an expansion for EvoNexus, which has run an incubator in the University Towne Centre area of north San Diego since October 2009. The incubator has worked with 14 companies, including six that have "graduated" after raising venture capital funding and moving into spaces of their own. Companies at the EvoNexus UTC incubator have raised more than \$55 million in venture funding since incubation.

Both incubators are hosted by the Irvine Company.

Urban Agriculture

Continued from page 1.

- Weekly Farmers' Markets could be permitted as a limited use in all commercial zones (except commercial parking zone) and IL-3-1 Industrial Zone.
- Retail Farms could be permitted in all of the Commercial Regional, Commercial Office and Community Commercial Zones, as well as IL-3-1 Industrial Zone.

Chickens:

- Roosters prohibited.
- Up to 5 chickens allowed with no setback requirements from the onsite house. The coop must be located outside the required setbacks.
- Up to 15 chickens allowed with no setback from onsite house. The coop must be outside required setbacks, or at least 15 feet from property line, whichever is greater.
- Up to 25 chickens may be kept on premises, as long as the coop and outdoor enclosure are a minimum of 50 feet from any residential structure.
- The coop must be predator proof, watertight, ventilated, easily accessed and cleaned, with a minimum of 6 square feet per chicken.

Miniature Goats:

- Can be kept at single family homes and lots developed with single family homes.
- Miniature goats only. Must be de-horned. Males must be neutered.
- Shed must be located outside required setback, predator proof, watertight, ventilated, easily accessed and cleaned, with a minimum of 5 square feet per goat.
- Enclosure must have minimum 5-foot high fence, minimum pen area of 400 square feet, excluding shed.
- Goat products allowed for personal consumption only.

Bee Keeping:

- Allowed Citywide.
- For up to 2 hives: Must be located no closer than 30 feet from offsite residence and 50 feet from right of way.
- More than 2 hives: Must be located 600 feet from offsite residence and 100 feet from right of way.
- No more than 2 hives allowed per lot.
- Must have 6-foot screen unless located 8 feet above grade.
- Required compliance with recognized best practices for bee keeping.

Community Gardens:

- Allowed to sell produce in residential zones one day per week.
- Allowed with Neighborhood Use Permit in the IL-21 industrial zone.

Most of the changes are expected to go into effect in mid-March. City staff work on this was made possible partially by funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through the County of San Diego and the San Diego Association of Governments.

Tracking Todd



Councilmember Gloria's 2012 is off to a great start. Clockwise from top left, he chats with neighbors at Rebecca's Coffeehouse in South Park; celebrates Burlingame's centennial; joins Pearl Harbor survivors for the 20th anniversary of the Veterans Museum and Memorial Center on Park Boulevard; and is honored by City Library Director Deborah Barrow as READ San Diego's Literacy Advocate of the Year for his work to support our public libraries.

Councilmember Gloria serves on the following:

- Chair, Budget and Finance Committee
- Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
- Land Use and Housing Committee
- Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
- Metropolitan Transit System Board
- San Diego Association of Governments
- San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau
- San Diego River Conservancy

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