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CONTACT:

Craig Gustafson at (619) 453-9880 or cgustafson@sandiego.gov

**NEWS RELEASE** 

## Faulconer, Sherman Tour Site of Major Water Main Break in Serra Mesa

City Crews Worked Throughout the Night to Restore Service

San Diego, CA – Today Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer and City Councilmember Scott Sherman toured the site of a major water main break in Serra Mesa and met with residents whose property was damaged.

"My top priority as Mayor is repairing our neighborhoods and this water main break highlights how important it is to remain focused on improving our infrastructure," Faulconer said. "I came out to the neighborhood today to let people know their Mayor and City are here to help. Staff will be reviewing claims as quickly as possible and we're bringing a customer-service approach to helping the affected residents."

An 18-inch cast iron pipe burst shortly after 4 p.m. Wednesday and City crews worked throughout the night to repair it. Service was fully restored to the community at 7:10 a.m. today.

"I want to thank all the hardworking City employees who worked around the clock to repair the water main and restore service quickly," Faulconer said. "They showed the City at its best."

The pipe, installed in 1950, was among the roughly 100 miles of remaining cast iron pipes that the City is in the process of replacing over the next decade. All pipes that are less than 16 inches in diameter are scheduled to be replaced by the end of 2017. Larger pipes are scheduled to be replaced by 2023 although City officials are working to expedite that schedule.

"Grateful to city workers who quickly and safely shut off the water main break," Sherman said. "This is a reminder that the City Council must continue to pursue cost-saving reforms to put much needed funds into our neighborhood infrastructure."

Damage from the water main break centered primarily on belongings and vehicles in the garage of an 8-unit condominium complex. A city contractor has been on-site since Wednesday night to perform repairs to the units in coordination with residents. In addition, a City claims representative has also been meeting with residents about their options.