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CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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NEWS RELEASE

Faulconer, Councilmembers Take High-Tech Vehicles Used to Assess Street Conditions Out for a Spin

Street Repair is Mayor's Top Infrastructure Priority, Continually Tracking Street Conditions is a Key Step for Fixing Roads

San Diego, CA – On a pockmarked street in Linda Vista, Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, City Council President Sherri Lightner and Councilmember Scott Sherman today demonstrated the innovative technology the City is employing to make street repair more efficient and effective.

“We're using innovative solutions to find the worst streets and move them to the top of the repair list,” Mayor Faulconer said. “I’ve made street repair the City’s highest infrastructure priority and pledge to repair 1,000 miles of streets over the next five years. This technology allows us to assess every street throughout the city to help prioritize which roads get fixed first.”

The City’s contractor, Cartegraph Systems Inc., uses vehicles outfitted with line scan cameras to generate condition data that helps determine the cost of maintaining the City’s road network. Cartegraph will assess all 2,774 miles of streets – 2,659 miles of asphalt and 115 miles of concrete roads – in the city over the next year.

The last citywide assessment occurred in 2011 and the City Auditor’s Office has recommended the street network be surveyed at least once every four years.

During his State of the City speech, Mayor Faulconer said he would bring forward a series of reforms to repair the City’s repair system. The proposed changes – to be released next month – will ensure the highest quality repairs are made as quickly as possible.

“We all know how important having nice streets is for our residents and local businesses,” Council President Lightner said. “This tool will allow us to assess the conditions of our streets and prioritize where we need to focus our efforts on repairs. It’s a great step in the direction of addressing our infrastructure issues.”

The assessment data collected by the vehicles helps create an overall street condition index, which is the main factor in selecting and prioritizing streets for maintenance and overlay. The data also allows the City to project the funding levels needed to address deferred maintenance.

“Using cutting edge technology to create a new citywide condition assessment of our roads is a new and innovative approach to fixing old problems,” Councilmember Sherman said. “This new approach will help us better serve and reinvest in communities throughout San Diego.”

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