



District Three Dialogue

July 2009 Volume 1, Issue 6

Councilmember Gloria serves on the following:

- Chair, Land Use and Housing Committee
- Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
- Budget and Finance Committee
- Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
- City-County Joint Homeless Taskforce
- Metropolitan Transit System Board
- San Diego Workforce Partnership
- San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau

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The Realities of the New Fiscal Year by Councilmember Gloria

July 1 marked the start of a new year. The new fiscal year signifies changes for the City of San Diego, for me and for Council District Three.

In solidarity with City employees and in recognition of San Diego's financial position, I agreed to a

6% cut to my compensation for Fiscal Year 2010. The City's FY 2010 balanced budget is due in large part to the concessions in compensation from our City employees. Library hours have not been cut and other city services are continuing because

the people dedicated to public service accepted 6% cuts to their pay and benefits. This is a tough sacrifice for us all.

Further, I took action to ensure my office budget reflected a similar forfeit and was made as efficient as possible. When I took office in December of 2008, it was clear to me that some very tough budget times lay ahead. Rather than wait until the budget was discussed and passed six months later, I made the decision to ask my staff to work for much less than their predecessors in the District Three Office—12% less, in fact. They made their sacrifice from Day One, more than six months earlier than other employees were asked to take a cut.

The savings in my office are significant—I took a 6% pay cut; my staff took a 12% pay cut below their predecessors; and I declined the \$9,600 car allowance. These cuts were not easy. Like employees throughout the City, my staff works incredibly hard to help me serve the public. We may be short on dollars in my office, but we are not short on dedicated employees who continue to do their jobs well and for less money.

I am proud we are doing our part to address the City's budget shortfalls, and look forward to working with my colleagues, our employees and all San Diegans to provide a permanent fix to our structural budget deficit.

Council Round Up: Progress on Infrastructure and Equality

City Council Approves \$5 Million for Street Surfacing

The City's crumbling infrastructure received a boost in June when the City Council supported a \$5,125,754.60 plan to slurry seal streets Citywide. These upgrades are part of a larger plan that will improve 60 miles of roadways in District Three by the end of next year.

City Council Supports Repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"

Councilmember Gloria was proud that San Diego once again stood up against discrimination and is thankful to his colleagues for their unanimous vote supporting the repeal of the federal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law at the City Council meeting on June 22.

The discriminatory policy took effect 15 years ago. Since then, more than 12,500 people have been discharged from military service because of their sexual orientation, including 265 discharged since President Barack Obama's inauguration. According to a Blue Ribbon Commission

Report, the cost to replace and train service members discharged under this law between 1994 and 2003 exceeded \$363.8 million. In spite of this, some lesbian, gay and bisexual service members are proudly serving our country in uniform. Some are still harassed and serve with the fear of losing their chosen careers.

The City of San Diego regularly takes positions on federal and state legislation. Prior to the City Council action, the City's Human Relations Commission and the Committee on Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations advocated for the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

A federal bill formally eliminating "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition, the California State Senate is considering a resolution sponsored by Senator Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego) calling for the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Public Safety Progress

Attacking Violent Crime in Mid-City

The San Diego Police Department recently stepped up efforts to address crime in Mid-City, resulting in 11 arrests and a demonstrable drop in violent crime in targeted areas. Council District Three neighborhoods are safer because SDPD Captain Lawrence McKinney and his division have taken criminals off our streets. Over a five day period in June, the commanding officers deployed a number of resources to target areas in Mid-City that have been hit hard recently by violent crime. This action resulted in:

- 4 felony arrests
- 7 misdemeanor arrests
- 6 misdemeanor citations
- 15 traffic citations
- 6 impounded vehicles
- 86 field interviews

The Police Department will continue to focus on these targeted locations to improve safety, which is key because crime rates generally increase during the warm summer months. The men and women of the San Diego Police Department put their lives on the line every day to protect our community. Councilmember Gloria appreciates their efforts, their creativity and their continued dedication to proactively addressing crime in our neighborhoods.

Normal Heights Community Action

Following the shooting death of an 18 year old near the corner of 40th St. and Meade Ave., Councilmember Gloria joined with community members and the victim's family to discuss potential changes to improve public safety in the neighborhood. The primary focus of the discussion was the vacant lot nearby. The lot was recently acquired by the City's Redevelopment Agency. Councilmember Gloria is working with the Agency to arrange for a contractor to clear and maintain the area until the new project is built.

Ensuring appropriate activities are available for youth is another critical part of preventing criminal activity. The Council District Three office regularly interfaces with local organizations like Inner-City Youth and Hire-A-Youth to help with outreach to community members.

Finally, Councilmember Gloria asks for the community's partnership in this endeavor. If

you see a streetlight out, please contact Council District Three by phone, 619-236-6633, or by email, toddgloria@sandiego.gov. Should you witness a crime in progress, always dial 911. Non-emergency police concerns should be reported to 619-531-2000.

Crackdown on Illegal Gaming

On June 25, the San Diego Police Department Vice Unit and the Department of Justice Gaming Unit announced their partnership to address illegal gaming establishments.

Investigators conducted multiple inspections at Internet cafes and small businesses with slot machines and computer gaming devices. Operation "Jackpot" resulted in the arrest of two suspects, the removal of 31 gaming devices and the seizure of more than \$11,000. There are many businesses in San Diego that have computers that are used for gambling. Individuals pay cash to get credit

on a player's card. If the player wins, the machine adds credit to the card which can be cashed in. Section 330a of the California Penal Code makes it illegal to possess these machines.

The San Diego Police Department is aggressively focusing on all illegal gambling establishments. If you have knowledge of illegal gambling within the City, please notify the SDPD Vice Unit by calling 619-531-2452.

Police Department Contact Information

Emergency 9-1-1
Non-Emergency 619-531-2000
City Heights, Normal Heights, Kensington,
Talmadge: SDPDMidcity@pd.sandiego.gov
Balboa Park, Golden Hill, South Park:
SDPDCentral@pd.sandiego.gov
North Park, Hillcrest, University Heights:
SDPDWestern@pd.sandiego.gov

Council District Three Park News

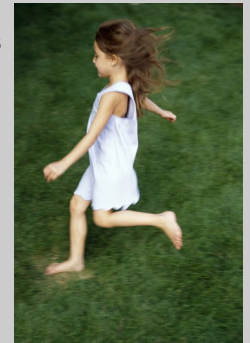
By Councilmember Gloria

I am pleased to report that the joint use field long overdue for Birney Elementary School is finally progressing and that needed improvements may soon come to the North Park Recreation Center and Community Park.

This summer, we will invite construction bids for the joint use field project at Birney Elementary, and the community should be able to break ground and see construction underway this winter. Construction is expected to take eight months, with another four months needed for the grass to be established enough for use.

Understanding that the school and neighbors have been given unmet timelines before, I am shepherding this project through the process to limit the potential for additional delays. I am glad I was able to creatively cull together the necessary money from appropriate sources, and look forward to joining with eager neighbors and the students, staff and faculty of Birney Elementary to cut the ribbon by the end of 2010 on what promises to be an exceptional addition to the community.

I am also spearheading efforts with School Board Member Richard Barrera and the North Park Community Association to create a safer and more welcoming environment at the North Park Community Park. With the opening of a new school on the site of the current North Park Elementary comes the opportunity for enhancements to the surrounding park, which has been troubled with maintenance and safety concerns. The ALBA School will begin operating this Fall, and I have asked that security for the surrounding area and improvements to the joint-use facilities be prioritized as conditions of operation. I will continue to work with the community for the best results for North Park.



Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You!

City Heights Streetlights

Through Councilmember Gloria's partnership with the City Redevelopment Agency, the Engineering and Capital Projects Department, the San Diego Police Department and Price Charities, 11 new streetlights have been added to City Heights in the following locations:

45th St. south of Polk Ave., east side
Menlo Ave. south of Polk Ave., east side
Menlo Ave. north of University Ave., west side
Highland Ave. north of Dwight St., west side
Highland Ave. north of Dwight St., east side
46th St. south of University Ave., west side
Landis St. at 46th St.
Landis St. east of Van Dyke Ave., south side
Polk Ave. west of Marlborough Ave., south side
Polk Ave. east of Van Dyke Ave., south side
Highland Ave. near Landis St., east side

These lights promote safety and urban vitality in this critical neighborhood. Eleven more locations are being evaluated as part of an agreement to install a total of 22 lights within a 10 block radius of the Urban Village in City Heights.

Infrastructure

- Sidewalks at the corner of Collier St. and Arizona St. and in front of a business on Park Blvd. were repaired, alleviating significant tripping hazards.
- An alley behind Hamilton St. was repaired to prevent sinking after recent rains.

Community Clean Ups

- Thanks to the people of City Heights and the City's Environmental Services Department, amazing work was accomplished on Saturday, June 6. Based on citizen requests and community involvement, the Cherokee Point area of City Heights was selected for a special clean up event. The successful clean up removed a total of 38.05 tons of waste (31.42 tons of non-recyclables and 6.63 tons of recyclables consisting of metals and appliances) from the neighborhood. Al Stasukevich and Cherokee Point Elementary School are to be commended for their assistance and support.
- The North Park Community Association and the volunteers who participated in the neighborhood clean up near the intersection of Texas Street and Howard Avenue on Saturday, June 13 are also worthy of recognition.

Neighborhood Improvements

- Dumped furniture and assorted trash were removed from alleys near the 4500 blocks of Cherokee Ave. and Hawley Blvd.
- Streetlights in the 4300 block of 40th St. and the 3600 block of Albatross St. were repaired.
- Streetlights were turned back on along Lila Drive in Talmadge.
- The Neighborhood Code Compliance Department found a building project in Talmadge to not conform with City standards.
- Neighbors were provided construction schedules after frustration arose because of the associated noise in Talmadge.

Quality of Life

- Alcohol consumption and partying at Ward Canyon Park and neighborhood violence concerns stemming from a Normal Heights residence were addressed through coordination between Councilmember Gloria's office and the Police Department.

Coffee with your Councilmember

Councilmember Gloria invites neighbors to meet casually at community coffees throughout District Three. The next two coffees are listed below. Please come by at any time during the hours listed to take the opportunity to share your thoughts with the Councilmember.

Saturday, July 11	Saturday, August 1
10:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.	10:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Lei Lounge	Alchemy Restaurant
4622 Park Blvd.	1503 30th Street in South Park

News You Can Use

Introducing the MTS Compass Card



The new Compass Card offers new flexible transit pass choices. You may purchase a monthly pass, which is good from the first day to the last day of the month, or a 30-Day Pass, which is good for 30 consecutive days from the day of purchase. Cards may be obtained at transit stores, ticket vending machines and by dialing 511 or visiting www.511sd.com. Compass Cards will soon be available at Vons grocery stores, where monthly paper transit passes are currently available. For more information, please call 511 and say "compass" or visit www.511sd.com/compass.

Energy Assistance



Trade in your old incandescent light bulbs for new, energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs and receive 2-for-1 same day admission to the Birch Aquarium thanks to the City of San Diego and SDG&E. Bring your old bulbs to the Birch Aquarium, 2300 Expedition Way in La Jolla, between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on July 18 or August 15 to take advantage of this offer.

SDG&E has a number of other programs which can assist customers during these difficult economic times, including discounts on utility costs and free weatherization for qualifying customers. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.sdge.com/residential/assistance/>.

Turn on the lights...
Report Broken Streetlights!
619-236-6633



Tracking Todd

Honoring Big Kitchen Proprietor Judy Forman

Big Kitchen Café has been a popular spot in South Park since its doors opened in 1980. For the past 29 years, Judy "The Beauty" Forman has operated Big Kitchen with a focus not just on food, but on humor, art, music, theater, friendship and community development. In recognition of the tremendous impact Judy has had on Greater Golden Hill and on the City of San Diego, Councilmember Todd Gloria and his City Council colleagues proclaimed June 29 as Judy "The Beauty" Forman Day. The Councilmember presented the popular restaurateur with a certificate of the proclamation at Big Kitchen's 29th anniversary celebration. (See photo right.)



Supporting Balboa Park

The magic and charm of Balboa Park were recognized at the Balboa Park Central Annual Meeting on June 17. Councilmember Gloria praised the group for its advocacy of the park and its care for the House of Hospitality and pledged to continue the work of State Senator Christine Kehoe and former Councilmember Toni Atkins as a steward of the park. He also highlighted the initiative to improve energy efficiency there and the ongoing planning for the 2015 Centennial Celebration of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition.



Hire-A-Youth Summer Kick-off

On June 3, Councilmember Gloria helped kick off the 2009 Summer Hire-A-Youth program at the Jackie Robinson YMCA. Councilmember Gloria participated in Hire-A-Youth, though he joked that was longer ago than some people might think. The Councilmember was joined by Mayor Jerry Sanders, County Supervisors Greg Cox and Ron Roberts, leaders of the San Diego Workforce Partnership, and many non-profit representatives. Participants are low-income youth who work for local companies and organizations for the summer and learn valuable skills. To learn more, please visit www.sandiegowork.com. (See photo above.)

Happy Anniversary to the City Heights Farmers Market

Councilmember Gloria and countless neighbors celebrated the first anniversary of the City Heights Farmers Market on Saturday, June 6. The market, which is open on Saturdays on Wightman St. between 43rd St. and Fairmount Ave. "The Farmers Market is a tremendous asset," said Councilmember Gloria. "By introducing locally-grown produce options and by bringing neighbors together in a new venue, the market serves a purpose beyond its primary mission of food sales."

Upcoming Events

Uptown Parking Forum

Thursday, July 2

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

First Unitarian Universalist Church, Bard Hall, 4190 Front Street

Hosted by Uptown Partnership. Contribute your three minutes of questions, comments or complaints about parking in Uptown. If you cannot attend, email your comments to info@uptownpartnership.org. For more information, visit www.uptownpartnership.org.

Spirit of Stonewall Awards

Monday, July 13, 6:30 p.m.

Hilton Bayfront Hotel, 1 Park Boulevard

National Stand Down for Homeless Veterans

Friday, July 17 — Sunday, July 19

San Diego High School, Upper Athletic Field, 1405 Park Blvd.

SHOW US YOUR PRIDE!

Proclamation of LGBT Pride Week

Tuesday, July 14

10:00 a.m.

City Council Chambers, 202 C Street, 12th Floor

Pride Parade

Saturday, July 18

10:00 a.m.

Parade route heads west on University Ave. from Normal St. and progresses south on Sixth Ave. to Balboa Park.

Want to join Councilmember Gloria and the Todd Squad in the parade? For details, email toddgloria@sandiego.gov for details.

Pride Festival

Saturday, July 18-Sunday, July 19

West side of Balboa Park near Laurel St.