



District Three Dialogue

January 2010 Volume 2, Issue 1

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

Councilmember Gloria to Present the State of District Three on February 1

Councilmember Todd Gloria invites his neighbors to his first State of District Three presentation on Monday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the Old Globe's Conrad Prebys Theatre.

"Good public service requires constant communication and dialogue, and the State of the District is an important means for reflection on the past year and planning for the year ahead," said Councilmember Gloria.

Councilmember Gloria will share some of the notable progress and challenges that marked his first

year in office, and highlight the issues facing the community in 2010. The impact of the City's continuing budget situation on

community input, and I rely on continued public partnership to make even greater progress in 2010," said Councilmember Gloria.

**State of District Three
Monday, February 1
6:30 p.m.**

**Conrad Prebys Theatre at
the Old Globe in Balboa Park**

Free parking available throughout the park.

The councilmember's comments will be accompanied by a visual presentation, and light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the evening.

District Three's top priorities of public safety and infrastructure and the importance of public transit will be discussed.

"The accomplishments of 2009 were possible because of

All members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

RSVPs are requested by phone or email: 619-236-6633 or ToddGloria@sandiego.gov.

Councilmember Gloria Re-Named Chair of the Land Use and House Committee

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The San Diego City Council confirmed the reappointment of Councilmember Todd Gloria as Chair of the Land Use and Housing (LUH) Committee for 2010 on January 5.

"The LUH Committee will build on our prior work to develop policies that strengthen neighborhoods," said Councilmember Gloria. "In 2010, San Diegans will see significant progress made in green building requirements, payday lending governance and community garden establishment, as well as a continued focus on increased affordable housing options."

Councilmember Gloria will convene LUH meetings approximately once per month, with the first meeting scheduled for January 6, 2010. Meeting agendas and actions are available on the City's website, <http://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/officialdocs/legisdocs/cccm meetings.shtml>.

Councilmember Gloria will also continue to serve on the following City Council committees and outside agency boards in 2010:

Member, Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

Member, Public Safety and

Neighborhood Services Committee Member, Budget and Finance Committee

Member, Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Board of Directors Chair, MTS Taxicab Committee

Member, San Diego Workforce Partnership Board

Member, San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau Board

Alternate, SANDAG Board of Directors

Alternate, SANDAG Transportation Committee

Alternate, SANDAG Public Safety Committee

City Services Cut to Remedy the Budget Deficit: Now What?

As has been chronicled in the District Three Dialogue, the San Diego City Council deliberated over the resolution of a budget shortfall of \$179 million at the end of 2009. Cuts were approved in mid-December, and residents will likely be impacted.

"Essential services were not spared from the budget reductions, and neighbors will see differences in how the City operates," said Councilmember Gloria. "There was little fat left to cut from the budget; we cut bone."

The implementation plans for some of the major budget cuts, including the rolling brown outs of fire crews and the decrease of library hours, are still being finalized and will likely not take effect until the spring. Some service changes, however, have been made.

The mounted equestrian patrol, which consisted of eight horses and seven police officers, no longer exists. The police unit patrolled Balboa Park daily and also was used citywide during special events and in special circumstances like exceptional crowded beach conditions.

"There is no substitute for the mounted patrol, but other public safety mechanisms — police officers in cars and on foot, security personnel within institutions and park rangers — remain to keep Balboa Park safe," said Councilmember Gloria.

Councilmember Gloria and his staff will continually monitor service level impacts which have resulted from the latest budget reductions. As preparations for the ongoing challenges and recovery of the economy nears, he has also asked his colleagues to continue to pursue options such as Business Process Reengineering, contracting, pension reform and new revenues. Councilmember Gloria hopes that through a combination of these efforts, we could ease some of the burdens of prior years and continue in a responsible approach to bring structural fiscal stability to the City.

Councilmember Gloria will also closely work with the new Citizens Revenue Review and Economic Competitiveness Commission, chaired by Councilmember Gloria's appointee Bob Nelson. The body was established to identify solutions for San Diego's structural

budget deficit.

The Commission will engage the public and private sectors in reviewing best practices and strategies designed to retain businesses in San Diego and attract businesses to San Diego and make recommendations towards providing efficient, effective and quality city services which improve the quality of life of all San Diego's communities while also maintaining a balanced budget with limited revenues. The Commission will present all of its findings and recommendations to the City Council and the Mayor for review and consideration within six to eight months. For more information about the Commission and to view its meeting schedule, please visit <http://www.sandiego.gov/crrec/index.shtml>.

"The Commission has a critical responsibility to delve deeply into the community's needs and wants and figuring out if and how the City can afford to meet them," said Councilmember Gloria. "I have great confidence in the Commission under the careful leadership of Mr. Nelson."

Additionally, as a member of the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee, Councilmember Gloria is committed to ensuring that the public's priorities are heard through public hearings and other means. He encourages you to continue to communicate with him and his Council colleagues.

His January 30th community coffee will include a presentation by San Diego City Firefighters to explain neighborhood impacts of the upcoming brown outs of fire crews. Details are in the box below.

Recycle your Christmas Tree!



On December 28, Councilmember Todd Gloria kicked off the City of San Diego's 36th Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program at the Miramar Landfill.

"Through January 23, 2010, we are hosting 16 drop off locations throughout the City for free Christmas tree recycling," said Councilmember Gloria.

The drop off site in Council District Three is the Golden Hill Recreation Center, 2600 Golf Course Drive, but residents

can take their tree to any official site or to the Greenery Section of the Miramar Landfill. The list of all drop off locations is available at www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/christmas.shtml.

"Last year, Christmas tree recycling kept approximately 1,241 tons of Christmas trees out of the Miramar Landfill. That's 146,000 individual Christmas trees. These trees lined up end to end would go all the way to Los Angeles and back," said Councilmember Gloria.

Christmas trees are one part of the green waste recycling program at the Miramar Landfill. Each year the greenery section processes more than 100,000 tons of wood, yard waste and commercial food scraps into mulch, compost and wood chips.

City residents can directly benefit from tree recycling by loading up to two cubic yards of compost and mulch for free from Miramar's greenery section. Compost is a great soil amendment for the garden, and mulch is terrific for erosion control.

Also, light strands can be recycled at the Miramar Recycling Center. Customers will be paid five cents per pound for light strands with the bulbs removed.

Diverting all recyclable materials is environmentally responsible and will further extend the life of the Miramar landfill.

Coffee with your Councilmember

Councilmember Gloria invites neighbors to meet casually at community coffees throughout District Three.

The first coffee of 2010 is listed below. Please come by at any time during the hours listed to take the opportunity to share your thoughts with the Councilmember.

San Diego firefighters will be present to share information about impacts of the upcoming fire apparatus closures.

**Saturday, January 30
11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Velo Cult, 2220 Fern Street
South Park**

Ground is Broken on City Heights Square



City Councilmember Todd Gloria was joined by Congresswoman Susan Davis, Mayor Jerry Sanders, Price Charities and San Diego Redevelopment Agency officials on January 8 to celebrate the groundbreaking of City Heights Square, a \$44 million mixed-use project in the heart of City Heights, on January 8. The City Heights Square Residential and Retail Project is the third redevelopment project to break ground within the City Heights Square master planned development.

City Heights is one of the most ethnically diverse communities in San Diego. The City Heights Square project occupies the majority of the block on University Avenue bound by 43rd Street and Fairmount and Polk Avenues. The project has four distinct and complementary components, including a Senior Housing Project (completed in August 2007), the La Maestra Family Clinic (to be completed summer 2010), a 5,348-square-foot pocket park funded by the Redevelopment Agency (being designed), and the City Heights Square Residential and Retail Project. Combined, these individual elements represent an investment of more than \$75 million dedicated to revitalize the City Heights urban core. These redevelopment projects also complement the award-winning City Heights Urban Village located across University Avenue bound by 43rd Street, Chamoune Avenue and Landis Street.

Construction of this project will be managed by City Heights Realty, LLC, a subsidiary of Price Charities. Plans for the development include 92 residential apartment units (14 affordable housing units), 20,500 square feet of retail space, 3,000 square feet of office space, two levels of underground parking and 54 covered surface level spaces. The San Diego Redevelopment Agency has an approved Disposition and Development Agreement (DDA) with City Heights Realty, LLC, for the development of the project. The Agency assisted in acquiring a portion of the development site, relocating the tenant (Jack in the Box) and demolishing the tenant's old restaurant building.

Proposed Budget Ballot Initiative Would Safeguard Local Funds

2009 may be remembered for the extreme impacts caused by the global economic recession. San Diego experienced additional losses when the State of California withheld local funds to help resolve its own budget deficit. A proposed ballot initiative aims at rectifying tax allocations. Councilmember Todd Gloria issued the following statement about the initiative to safeguard local funds from borrowing by the State of California.

"San Diegans pay taxes with an understanding of how they will be spent, including portions staying in our City for essential services. The State of California's repeated raids and redirection of our funds lack transparency and are simply unfair to taxpayers.

"San Diegans require certain services, and the State's hoarding of funds has proven to negatively impact our region. Even after borrowing \$5 billion from San Diego and other cities, the State still eliminated transit funding for the next five years, causing the tremendous erosion of essential transit service here.

"To protect transit service, to ensure continuity of public safety services and to strengthen trust with taxpayers, local funds must be protected."

For more information about the proposed ballot initiative, please visit http://docs.sandiego.gov/councilcomm_agendas_attach/2010/Budget_100106-1b.pdf.

Upcoming Events

Monday, February 1, 6:30 p.m.
State of District Three
The Old Globe's Conrad Prebys Theatre
Balboa Park

Tuesday, January 12, 5:30 p.m.
Hillcrest Business Association
Joyce Beers Center, 1230 Cleveland Ave.
Councilmember Gloria will honor outgoing board members at the monthly meeting.

Wednesday, January 13, 6:00 p.m.
State of the City Address
Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Ave.

Thursday, January 14, 7:30 a.m.
Sustainability Workshops
World Beat Center, Park Blvd. in Balboa Park
The Balboa Park Cultural Partnership designed morning and afternoon workshops to educate businesses and the public about ways to make Balboa Park and local communities more environmentally sustainable.

Friday, January 15, 7:00 a.m.
25th Annual YMCA Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast
Town and Country Resort in Mission Valley
Info: <http://jackierobinson.ymca.org>

Thursday, January 21, 5:15 p.m.
Normal Street Median Completion Celebration
Corner of Normal St. and Blaine Ave.

Friday, January 22, 7:30 a.m.
LGBT Coalition Breakfast
with Assembly Speaker-Elect John Perez
The LGBT Center, 3909 Centre Street

Saturday, January 30, 5:30 p.m.
Chinese New Year Celebration
Jasmine Restaurant, 4609 Convoys St.

Tracking Todd



Above, Councilmember Gloria uses an excavator to transfer recycled Christmas trees into a grinder at the Miramar Landfill to turn them into mulch. (See page 2 for more information.)



Above, Councilmember Gloria joins the owners of Murphy's Market for a tour of the new, much-needed grocery store in City Heights. The store has provided 25 new jobs to the neighborhood.



Above, Councilmember Gloria waves to supporters as the Grand Marshal of the North Park Toyland Parade.



Above, Councilmember Gloria and a firefighter grab turkeys and potatoes to hand out to City Heights neighbors for the San Diego City Firefighters' annual holiday food giveaway at Fire Station 17.

Balboa Park Gardens Receive \$1.25 Million Gift

The future of Balboa Park's Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden and the Japanese Friendship Garden was secured thanks to a major gift from the estate of Thomas and Lilyan Frank. The \$1.25 million donation was equally split between endowments for both gardens. The funds will help cover the maintenance and improvement costs for both areas in perpetuity. Councilmember Todd Gloria had the honor of thanking the Frank family at the gift announcement on December 17. The three-acre rose garden, located on Park Boulevard across from the Natural History Museum, is one of the most popular gardens in Balboa Park and includes about 2,500 roses of almost 200 varieties. The Japanese Friendship Garden is located near the Organ Pavilion and originated as a teahouse during the 1915 Panama-California Exposition.



Above: Councilmember Gloria thanks the Frank family for its incredible generosity toward Balboa Park.