

District Three

DIALOGUE



City of San Diego

July 2010 Volume 2, Issue 7

Time to Hit the Road to Recovery

By Councilmember Todd Gloria

Public Meeting on Revenue and Economic Competitiveness

Thursday, July 15
6:00—8:00 p.m.

City Heights Weingart Library
3795 Fairmount Ave.

The ongoing dialogue between San Diegans and City leaders is crucial in shaping our decisions. Input from the Residents' Opinions on City Services Survey and the budget forums throughout the last year created a very clear set of priorities, reinforcing my marching orders to strengthen public safety and improve infrastructure.

You now have the opportunity to learn more about potential revenue options and provide input on how we can better attract and retain business at a community meeting I am hosting with the Citizens' Revenue Review and Economic Competitiveness Commission (CRRECC) on Thursday, July 15, 6:00—8:00 p.m. at the City Heights Weingart Branch Library, 3795 Fairmount Ave.

The City of San Diego's new fiscal year began July 1. Though this transpired without the same level of controversy that marked budget discussions of the previous two years, it's important that community

members understand current City service levels and what it will take to improve them.

The Fiscal Year 2011 budget continues the practice of closing eight fire engines every day. Engine closures, or brownouts, began on February 6 and are supposed to save the City \$11.5 million. The statistics on the impact of the engine closures do not necessarily tell of their true and comprehensive impact and certainly do not yield the public attention they deserve.

When I voted to approve the brownouts as part of the Mayor's mid-year \$179 million budget cuts, I did so with the belief that faster progress would be made to address the City's longstanding structural budget deficit, meaning the brownouts would be short-lived and other diminished services would be on their way to being restored.

At our June 30 meeting, the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee took an important stand for the community by formally requesting the Mayor restore staffing

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City Hall Hosts Inaugural LGBT Historical Exhibit

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders and Councilmember Todd Gloria will officially open the inaugural display, "A Celebration of San Diego LGBT History," with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the City Administration Building at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13.

Presented by Lambda Archives of San Diego and the Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast, the exhibit will run from July 12 through July 23 and will feature approximately 1,100 square feet of historical LGBT community treasures.

"I am proud that City Hall will honor the history of the LGBT community by hosting an exhibition by Lambda Archives of San Diego," said Councilmember Gloria. "By highlighting the extensive range of role models who were instrumental in strengthening our community and all of San Diego, Lambda Archives facilitates understanding, education and appreciation among all of our neighbors with this exhibit."

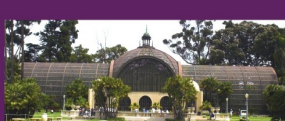
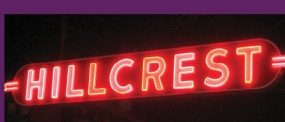
Councilmember Gloria made the arrangements to site "A Celebration of San Diego LGBT History" at the City Administration Building.

"It is long overdue that the LGBT community, like other San Diego communities, showcase our city's diversity, as well as educate those

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A Permanent Homeless Services Center: The Next (and Most Needed) Hallmark Project for San Diego

A permanent homeless services and housing center has been needed in San Diego for decades. Crossing this off the “to do” list is as crucial to the strengthening of downtown and the City as a whole as the recently approved new main library and the proposed new civic center.

The proposal for the homeless services facility in the World Trade Center building was developed by several partnering organizations who recognized the value of combining healthcare, mental health services, substance abuse care, and job

training with housing to successfully move San Diegans from the streets and onto more productive paths.

Following two months of outreach and discussion with stakeholders and community members, Councilmember Todd Gloria docketed the permanent facility for consideration by the Land Use and Housing Committee on July 14. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. on the 12th floor of the City Administration Building, 202 C St.

As always, Councilmember Gloria invites members of the public to attend the

meeting and provide input. You may also share your opinion prior to the meeting by emailing or calling the committee members.

Land Use and Housing Committee

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Standing Up for San Diego Neighborhoods

The City Council Chambers were packed on the afternoon of June 16 as the Land Use and Housing Committee (LUH), chaired by Councilmember Todd Gloria, considered two critical issues. In the end, local neighborhoods were the winners thanks to actions taken by the Committee.

Regents Road Bridge

The Committee supported Councilmember Sherri Lightner's efforts on behalf of the University City neighbors she represents to end plans to build a bridge over Rose Canyon. The Regents Road Bridge was proposed many years ago to add another connection between two areas of University City.

“Since its inception, the bridge project divided this community,” said Councilmember Gloria.

Concerns of access went up against concerns of the environment during the hearing, which spanned four hours over the course of two LUH meetings. Committee members determined the preservation of open space in Rose Canyon outweighed the addition of the Regents Road Bridge.

Superstore Ordinance

Councilmember Gloria's personal efforts to protect small local businesses were also fruitful during the June 16 LUH meeting. His proposed ordinance, which would require any new superstore or large retailer switching to a superstore format to submit an economic impact study as part of the discretionary review process, was sent to the City Attorney and Independent Budget Analyst for analysis and review. The ordinance would also require the City Council to make a finding when approving any superstore that there would not be a material adverse impact on the City.

Councilmember Gloria's purpose in bringing forward this proposal is to provide protection to neighborhood businesses that may be impacted by the opening of superstores nearby.

“The City of San Diego bears responsibility for land use decisions that impact the retail business environment. This proposal is intended to give the City Council additional information to help evaluate whether a superstore would be consistent with the overall goals and objectives of the City's General Plan,” said Councilmember Gloria.

Following feedback from the IBA and City Attorney, the LUH Committee will consider the ordinance.

City Heights FaceLift: Another Great Success

Councilmember Gloria and the Todd Squad helped renovate this City Heights home on June 5. The Fuller Center for Housing and the other work crews deserve tremendous thanks for making the renovation so successful.

Before:



After:



76% of Voters Approve Councilmember Gloria's Prop C

Proposition C, the Veterans Hiring Initiative, was approved by 76% of San Diego voters on June 8, giving it the most convincing victory of the day.

Councilmember Todd Gloria championed Prop C and was grateful to secure its placement on the ballot through the unanimous support of his City Council colleagues.

Prop C provides a necessary update to the San Diego City Charter's Veterans Hiring Policy so it applies to members of the military serving in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The preference policy

currently only applies to veterans who served when a draft was in effect,



Councilmember Gloria shares the importance of Prop C's passage with KUSI's John Soderman on election night.

rendering it essentially void for nearly 40 years.

The U.S. Department of Labor reports the unemployment rate for veterans 21%, double the rate for non-veterans. The San Diego region is home to approximately 27,000 veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, increasing the importance of approving Prop C and getting veterans back to work.

Prop C was endorsed by the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, the United Veterans Council, San Diego City Firefighters, the San Diego Police Officers Association, and many other organizations.

Equal Benefits Ordinance Approved by Council Committee

On June 30, the San Diego City Council's Committee on Rules, Open Government and Intergovernmental Relations unanimously recommended approval of an Equal Benefits Ordinance (EBO) proposed by Todd Gloria. The measure will next be considered by the full City Council.

"I am grateful that my colleagues have once again demonstrated their support for equality," said Councilmember Gloria.

Councilmember Gloria presented the proposal with Marc Solomon of Equality California to the Rules Committee.

The purpose of an EBO is equal treatment. To comply with such a law, a City contractor that offers health insurance and other benefits to employees' spouses must offer equivalent coverage to employees' domestic partners. An EBO would not require City contractors to begin offering benefits not previously offered

If a contractor does not offer benefits to married employees, it is not required to offer benefits to employees in domestic partnerships.

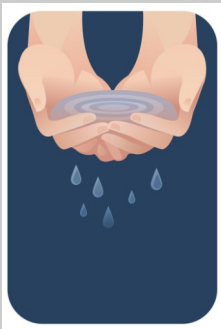
The EBO would bring the City's contracting

policies in line with non-discrimination laws, prohibiting City contractors from discriminating against employees based on sexual orientation and marital status.

The State of California and several cities have similar ordinances in place.

Many members of the public were present to support the measure at the Committee hearing at the City Administration Building. There was no opposition to the EBO.

For more information about the EBO, please read Councilmember Gloria's proposed language, available in the News Releases section of his website www.sandiego.gov/cd3.



Report Water Waste

Call the Water Waster line, 619-515-3500, press 5 or 619-533-7485 or contact the District Three Office at ToddGloria@sandiego.gov or 619-236-6633.

Please provide the location, a description of the wasteful activity, and the date and time you observed the problem.

It would be helpful to include your contact information in case any follow up is needed, but you may also let us know if you would like your report to be anonymous.



Above: Councilmember Gloria explains the importance of the Equal Benefits Ordinance before the Rules Committee

Community Connection: The Todd Squad is Working for You!

Public Safety

- Urban Corps and District Three again worked together to eliminate graffiti from a utility box on Pennsylvania Ave. and from Brookes Ave.
- Graffiti was also removed from two properties in the 2900 block of El Cajon Blvd.
- Street lights were replaced in the 4000 block of Alabama St.
- A traffic study is underway for 32nd St. between the 2900 and 3100 blocks.
- The San Diego Police Department cited several vehicles during a speed enforcement operation on Georgia St.
- An inappropriate parking citation was rescinded for a Normal Heights resident.

Infrastructure Improvements

- Trail improvements were made in Florida Canyon along Pershing Dr. to repair washed-out sections.
- The Street Division is evaluating the 4400 block of Arizona St. for possible re-engineering.
- A pothole was filled near 38th St. and Polk Ave.
- The traffic signals on University Ave. between Florida St. and Bancroft St. were re-timed.
- The Azalea medians/neighborhood improvement project is out to bid.

- Property damage resulting from City infrastructure work in University Heights and Kensington was addressed.
- A waterline was hooked up on Canterbury Dr. in Kensington thanks to the District Three office, ending delays experienced by the homeowner.
- Bicycle and car lane striping was corrected near the intersection of Washington St. and Cleveland Ave.

Community Character

- Building code inspection was performed in the 4400 block of Texas St.
- Broken glass and rubbish left at Ward Canyon Park was removed.
- A successful clean up in City Heights removed 14.35 tons of waste from the neighborhood.
- A damaged tree on Adams Ave. near 35th St. will be removed and replaced with a new one.
- Unmarked dumpsters were removed from the public right of way on Sixth Ave. near Robinson Ave.
- The Burlingame Annual Dumpster Day on June 19 was a great success. Councilmember Gloria was glad to be able to arrange for landfill tipping passes for the community.
- Illegal street vending responses were coordinated between a City Heights neighbor and SDPD.

Road to Recovery

(Continued from page 1)

of all fire engines and bring back four relief lifeguard positions.

I know the Mayor has no magic wand to create the additional funds necessary to make these changes, but I know just as surely that the City Council has a responsibility to set policy based on the community's priorities.

I have suggested rational, well-researched revenue options to the Mayor, which I still hope he will seriously consider as means to realize the elimination of the structural budget deficit. I have always been clear that revenue **MUST** be part of this equation along with appropriate service efficiencies and the implementation of fair managed competition with solid oversight.

As I remain focused on righting our financial ship responsibly, I will also stay honest with you about the City's budget and about the levels of service we are providing. I encourage you to provide your feedback so my colleagues and I carry your will forward for the strong San Diego we all deserve.

Please attend the CRRECC forum on July 15 and bring your neighbors along.

Coffee with your Councilmember



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

Please come by at any time during the hours listed to take the opportunity to share your thoughts with the Councilmember.

Saturday, July 10
11:00—12:30 p.m.
Lestat's Coffee House
3343 Adams Ave.

Saturday, August 14
11:00—12:30 p.m.
Grant's Marketplace
2953 Beech St.

Other Upcoming Events

Grand Opening of La Maestra
Friday, July 16
12:00 p.m.
4060 Fairmount Ave.

San Diego LGBT Pride Parade
Saturday, July 17
11:00 a.m.
From University Ave. at Normal St. to
Sixth Ave. and Upas St.

For a more complete event listing, visit
www.sandiego.gov/cd3/news.

Pernicano's Parking Lot Re-Opens After 25 Years

After 25 years, the gates around the Pernicano's parking lot in Hillcrest are down, a feat some community members are referring to as the Miracle on Sixth Avenue. On June 18, San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria and the people of Hillcrest honored the Pernicano family with a celebration of reopening the parking lot and reactivating the block between University and Robinson Avenues.

"I am thankful to the Pernicano family for opening their property for public use," said Councilmember Gloria. "The parking spaces will be well-used, and the positive activity will bring life back to this block."

The Pernicano property, including the parking lot and neighboring restaurants Pernicano's and Casa di Baffi's Steakhouse, has been fenced off for decades, much to the chagrin of the surrounding community, especially those who recall the site in its heyday from the 1960s through the 1980s.

Working with Hillcrest neighbors and organizations including the Uptown Partnership, Hillcrest Business Association and Hillcrest Town Council, Councilmember Gloria has championed the addition of much-needed parking and the strengthening of community character. When the Pernicano family suggested a willingness to reopen the parking lot, both needs were met.



Above: Members of the community and the media flocked to the opening of the Pernicano's lot.

"Having closed the restaurants on Fifth and Sixth Avenues years ago, the Pernicanos felt it was time to give back to the Hillcrest community by opening this public parking lot," said Stanley Paul Cook, spokesperson for the Pernicano family.

The community celebration featured comments from Cook, Anne Rast from Uptown Partnership, Amy Capano representing the Hillcrest Business Association, and Patrick Ryan of Sunset Parking. All in attendance expressed gratitude to the Pernicano

family for sharing this asset with the neighborhood.

The lot was repaved and restriped to allow for 36 parking spaces. An automated payment system was added, and the lot will be professionally managed by Sunset Parking under its *Parking Company of America – San Diego* brand. The lot is open and reasonably priced, with rates ranging from \$2 for the first hour to \$5 for up to nine hours.

Food Bank Enrolling for Senior Program

The San Diego Food Bank is inviting thousands of low-income seniors aged 60 and over who meet federal income guidelines to enroll on its Senior Food Program.

The Food Bank's Senior Food Program distributes boxes of USDA-provided food once a month to seniors at 50 sites throughout San Diego County.

Food boxes weigh 32 pounds and include canned meats, peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, rice, pasta, evaporated and powdered milk, fruit juice, cereal, and cheese.

For more information or to apply for the program, call the San Diego Food Bank toll free on 1-866-350-FOOD (3663).

Applicants for the Senior Food Program must meet the following federal income guidelines:

Household Size	Maximum Monthly Income	Maximum Annual Income
1	\$1,174	\$14,079
2	\$1,579	\$18,941
3	\$1,984	\$23,803
Extra household member add:	\$406	\$4,862

For more information, visit www.sandiegofoodbank.org/programs/seniorfood.

LGBT History Display Opens at City Hall

(Continued from page 1.)

who visit City Hall," said City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez, who initiated the idea and approached Councilmember Gloria for his support of locating the exhibit in City Hall.

Lambda Archives President Frank Nobiletti said, "I hope all of San Diego will enjoy this exhibit. Over the last 40 years, so many lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender San Diegans made remarkable contributions to our city, while at the same time working for equality. I am glad we can acknowledge their achievements."

Co-sponsors of "A Celebration of San Diego LGBT History" are the Blanchford Cooper Foundation, City of San Diego Human Relations Commission, Gay and Lesbian Fund for San Diego, Greater San Diego Business Association, Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast, Human Dignity Foundation, Human Rights Campaign, Imperial Court de San Diego, San Diego Pride, San Diego LGBT Center, and the Victory Fund.

Tracking Todd



Councilmember Gloria proudly provided Community Development Block Grant funds to GRID Alternatives on June 4 to help bring the power of solar electricity and energy efficiency to low-income homeowners.



June 15 was proclaimed to be Philippine Independence Day by the San Diego City Council. Councilmember Gloria is pictured above with community members and his colleague, Tony Young.



Councilmember Gloria speaks at the 10th Anniversary of Stepping Stone's residential facility, left.



To the right, Councilmember Gloria took to the streets of North Park to personally discuss the proposed Mid-City Rapid Bus project with neighbors.

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
- Metropolitan Transit System Board
- San Diego Association of Governments
- San Diego Workforce Partnership
- San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau

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