



# Councilmember David Alvarez

### Volume: I Issue: XI

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### **Finding Better Border Solutions**

The San Ysidro Port of Entry (POE) is the busiest land border crossing in the world, with an average of almost 50,000 cars and 25,000 pedestrians crossing daily into the United States.

The border we share with Mexico is vital to the region's economic well-being, and to our national security. With massive increases in vehicle traffic projected for the San Ysidro POE, there is a clear need to improve and enhance the border.

In 2004, Congress authorized the San Ysidro Port Modernization Proj-

ect to help address the present shortfalls of the border crossing. Currently, only one of the three phases of the project has actually been constructed.

Mexico is completing their point of entry terminal this month, years ahead border expansion. This discrepancy in timing has required Mexico to jury-rig a temporary patchwork of local roads to redirect incoming traffic to their POE. This temporary path will decrease the number of lanes from ten to three and

of the expected completion of our

will require drivers to make a sharp turn immediately after crossing the U.S./Mexico Border.

In an effort to mitigate the worst long-term effects of this temporary solution and speed up the completion of this project, I traveled to Washington, D.C. with

a delegation of regional economic and political leaders to ask Congress to fully fund the remainder of the San Ysidro Port Modernization Project. The completion of this project will be central to the long-term economic success of our border region.

"The border is vital to our region's economic well-being."

## Dillon's Trail Clean-up



Since the 1980s, the area behind San Ysidro High School, known as Dillon's Trail, has been a health and safety issue. In 1987, the City found that residents of the area lacked sewer or electricity lines and the community contained a plethora of code violations. Initially, the area was used on a recreational basis. Later, the residents became permanent. Today, no one lives on any of the parcels, and the area has become a magnet for illegal dumping.

In response, Councilmember Alvarez has been working with the City and Urban Corps to remove the trash from Dillon's Trail over the last several months. On September 22, 2012, the City, Urban Corps and a number of property owners removed a total of 90.32 tons of waste; including 89.84 tons non-recyclable and .48 tons recycled, from the area. The trash and debris removed included 500 tires, old boats and cars. Unfortunately, even after the cleanup more still remains to be removed. In fact, another 1,400-1,500 tires are scheduled to be removed.

The City is developing a strategy to continue to work with property owners and Urban Corps to remove more trash and find ways to discourage illegal dumping on Dillon's Trail.

There's no water to waste. The leaky water main in front of Shell Station on East San Ysidro Blvd



To report a problem in your neighboorhood, call: 619.236.6688

### >>San Ysidro

Big Belly Solar



Councilmember Alvarez is excited to announce that fourteen new Big Belly Solar waste disposal units have been placed along the busiest sidewalks in San Ysidro. These units were installed to save costs in decreased staff time and to prevent trash units from overflowing onto the sidewalks of San Ysidro. Each new unit includes a recycling and trash receptacle.

These waste disposal units are not your ordinary trash can, they are equipped with an intelligent waste & recycling collection system. The units have built-in compactors to maximize each use prior to being emptied and include a sensor that electronically notifies City staff when the unit is nearing capacity. This technology will keep our streets cleaner and will decrease the cost of waste removal in San Ysidro by allowing these units to only be emptied when they are full.

# Most Interesting Person in District 8--Janett Gaytan

It's great when young individuals are motivated and actively work to improve their communities. Councilmember Alvarez's newest Most Interesting Constituent in District 8, Janett Gaytan, is a great example.

Janett is always eager and looking for new ways to make a difference in her community of San Ysidro. Whether assisting Customs and Border Protection with programs to deter youth from getting involved with drug smuggling, working



to establish strong community relationships with the Police Department, or building a neighborhood watch program on her block, her mark on the community is undeniable.

Councilmember Alvarez is excited to work with Janett on her current goal to revamp San Ysidro Park and bring lighting to the area.

### District 8>>>

# Our Schools Need Us

It has long been the belief of Councilmember Alvarez that the cornerstone of a successful city is a strong education system. To make both our neighborhoods and the City of San Diego a better place, we need to do more to support our local schools and the education our young people receive.

As the first person in his family to graduate from college, Councilmember Alvarez knows firsthand the value of education. That is why supporting education is a top priority for him.

Councilmember Alvarez has already taken steps to support learning in our local communities. Recently, the office helped fund "Classics 4 Kids," a program that teaches students about music history and music education. At the end of the program, the participating students enjoy a classical performance at the historic Balboa Theatre.

At a time when statewide financial uncertainty is hurting our schools, there is more that we can do, and must do, to help support education. Please consider getting involved at your local school.

### Happening Across D8

### 10/10/2012

**CPI Gala** 7:00 PM Holiday Inn San Diego on the Bay

#### 10/12/2012

**"Muertos" Papel Picado Workshop6:00 PM**2258 Island Avenue

#### 10/20/2012

**Cleanup & Storm Drain Stenciling Day** 9:00AM-12:00 PM Dairy Mart Road

### 10/20/2012

**"Muertos" Mask-Making Workshop** 10:00 AM 2258 Island Avenue

### 10/25/2012

**2nd Annual Noche de Mole Fundraiser** 6:30 PM 2258 Island Avenue

### 10/27/2012

Weekend Celebration with Vendors, Food, Music & Outdoor Altars 10:00 AM- 6:00 PM 2258 Island Avenue





Call Councilmember David Alvarez: 619.236.6688



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