Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry Council District 1

THE BRY BULLETIN

July 2019

Fiscal Year 2020 Approved Budget

The City of San Diego's \$4.3 billion fiscal year 2020 budget is balanced and includes many of my District 1 funding priorities. I am thrilled that the Council, empowered by a broad coalition of community members, added four full-time Lifeguard III positions. This addition allows for increased staffing for two positions, specifically assigned seven days per week, to the Boating Safety Unit and to Children's Pool/La Jolla Cove.



Other key additions:

- \$300,000 to the Library Department for library programs, materials and technology updates.
- \$300,000 to fully fund the contract for the Fire-Rescue Wellness Program.
- Two code enforcement officers.



- Restoration of park rangers.
- \$1.1 million increase in tree trimming.
- One full-time arborist.
- Funding for the Climate Action Resiliency Study.
- \$100,000 for North Kellogg comfort station repairs.

Thank you to everyone who called and emailed my office, attended our District 1 Budget Town Hall, and to those who testified before the Budget Review Committee and City Council. Your voice is essential in determining our budget priorities, both for the district and citywide.

To read through the approved 2020 budget, please go to https://www.sandiego.gov/finance/annual

The Budget Process:

While we started the new fiscal year on July 1, the City budget process is an ongoing process—and public input is critical year-round.

The Independent Budget Analyst (IBA) annually issues a "Budget Development/ Monitoring Key Dates Report." The District 1 Budget Committee Consultant treats this as the City's "Budget Bible," containing all dates and items pertaining to the budget for the fiscal year.

Important future dates include:

Monday, September 30, 2019: Release of FY 2019 Year-End Performance Report.

Wednesday, October 16, 2019: Budget and Government Efficiency Committee reviews FY 2019 Year-End Performance Report.

Monday, October 28, 2019: City Council reviews FY 2019 Year-End Performance Report

Please continue to communicate your priorities by calling my office at 619-236-6611.





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What's on My Mind

This year's budget restored and increased service levels for our parks, code enforcement, and infrastructure. I am carefully watching several items:

- ⇒ The renovations of 101 Ash Street (a building purchased prior to my election) and our lack of an overall Real Estate plan. Without a plan, we will continue to bounce from reactive decision to reactive decision without a thorough examination of the long term costs and impacts. A real estate plan provides us with a vision of our facilities gaps and needs for San Diego five, ten, and 20 years down the road.
- ⇒ Homeless spending which includes the Navigation Center, CleanSD and police overtime, bridge shelters, and the storage facility. The IBA has consistently noted that the resources for these services are unsustainable and that the City must identify ongoing resources.

At the end of July, the San Diego Housing Commission will present Council with a gaps analysis of our homeless services. This will allow us to align spending with successful outcomes.



⇒ Proposition B. In 2012, I voted for Proposition B which put all new employees except for police into a 401-k-defined contribution pension plan. At that time, the City was in dire financial straits because prior City officials underfunded the City employee pension plan and didn't disclose the underfunding to investors when issuing bonds.

Since then, courts have found that the City erred by placing the measure on the ballot without going through the legally required meet-and-confer process with City unions. The courts have ordered the City to "make whole" employees hired since the passage of Proposition B, exposing taxpayers to significant costs in the short term, and even greater costs if the litigation drags on.

On June 10, 2019, I voted to minimize losses for taxpayers and to accept the decisions of state and federal courts. Going forward, we will need to make the tough decisions to address both the "make whole" remedy ordered by the courts and to ensure that a pension plan for new employees is fair to workers and protects taxpayers.

Continued litigation will not change this outcome and is certain to increase exposure for taxpayers and the City. At this time, it's essential that the City fully disclose the financial impacts of the court order and all ongoing litigation to prospective investors, so the errors of the past aren't repeated in the future.

Team BB in the community!

I spoke to graduates and reminded them of the many careers that they will have and repeated my mantra that no is just a waystation to yes.



I toured the Senior Lounge and learned about the senior care coaching clinic that makes meaningful information on senior care more accessible.



I joined San Diego lifeguards for their start of summer meeting. I'm proud to have fought for more full-time lifeguard positions in this year's budget.



A Brief Break with Barbara

1. What is a good book/article that you have read lately?

I read an inspiring article in the Union Tribune titled, "UC San Die-

go engineering students restore motion to 5year-old's arms". I'm so proud of our UCSD engineers who are putting their brainpower and intellect into solving serious, real life problems.





2. What is one of your favorite family traditions? A newer family tradition is celebrating Mother's Day with a beach picnic. I love spending the afternoon with my amazing family at one of our beautiful beaches.

3. Have you seen any good plays lately?

I recently saw *The Luckiest* at the La Jolla Playhouse. It's about how a terminally ill woman handles her illness and how her family and friends rally around her so she can live life on her own terms.

Local Nonprofit Helps San Diegans with Autism Get Jobs

Did you know that approximately 600 students with autism graduate from San Diego high schools every year? Sadly, the unemployment rate for those with autism is 85%.

One local organization, the National Foundation for Autism Research (NFAR), is creating employment opportunities through training for San Diegans with autism. NFAR Tech, is an intensive training program designed to teach those with autism to be software QA testers. NFAR has been working with local companies like Qualcomm, Solar Turbines, and Qualitest to create internship and job opportunities for these talented NFAR Tech graduates.

This summer, a new program, NFAR Works, is expanding the successful NFAR Tech training model to other areas where skilled talent is in high-demand, such as data entry, document management, product fulfillment, shipping and receiving and light manufacturing.

If your company has a need for skilled talent in these areas and is interested in including people with autism on your team, or if you know someone with autism looking for work, NFAR can help. Call Chelsea Asaro at (858) 679-8800 for more information.



Getting it Done in District One!

Del Mar Heights and Carmel Valley:

My staff members, Justine Murray and Steve Hadley, attended the MTS community forum in Carmel

Valley to hear from more than 50 residents about what transit should look like in the future for San Diego. The attendees, who came from Carmel Valley and surrounding communities, all stressed the need for fast, direct, and frequent transit options in northwest San Diego. Residents also discussed the need for better connections to the future Mid-coast Trolley extension, the current Sorrento Valley Coaster, service along Del Mar Heights Road, and service to and from the local schools.



La Jolla:

The City of San Diego will begin construction on a project that will provide various improvements to EB Scripps Park. The scope of work calls for the removal and replacement of the existing comfort station in line with the community approved conceptual plans, landscaping, and ADA improvements. The new, approximately 2,000-square-foot comfort station will be located in the same general location as the existing station. Construction will start this summer and is anticipated to be completed in the summer of 2021. Normal construction days and hours will be Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There may be days and times when the construction activities are required to go beyond these times to allow work to progress efficiently. The City's contractor will deliver an informational door hanger with project details to properties adjacent to the project before work begins.

University City:

I'm pleased to announce the allocation of \$9,777 to the Marcy Park Capital Improvement Project.



Marcy Park has not been updated since the early 1980s and is in need of modern infrastructure including ADA access and upgraded playground equipment. The beautiful open green space at the entrance of the park will remain as is. UC residents have already done a lot to beautify the park by working to manage brush, paint equipment and plant trees. I

want to thank UCCF and the surrounding community for consistently advocating for this much-needed improvement.