



THE BRY BULLETIN

November/December 2019

Legislative Happenings and Highlights

Response to the Mayor’s Five-Year Financial Outlook

San Diego residents have good reason to be concerned by the mayor’s five-year financial outlook because:

- ⇒ it projects four straight years of deficits.
- ⇒ it relies on one-time revenue resources to balance these budgets, leading us straight into a structural deficit.
- ⇒ this mayor inherited a balanced budget in 2013, yet will leave a structural deficit behind as his legacy.

After the City of San Diego’s response to the Hepatitis A health emergency, the Independent Budget Analyst (IBA) repeated that the level of spending for homeless services was not sustainable. In response, the mayor proposed the Navigation Center to efficiently direct homeless to appropriate services. It was subsequently disclosed that the Council was given incorrect information about the value of this real estate, and it became clear that it would never be the promised one-stop shop for homeless with co-located partners like SSI and the DMV. As a result, I voted against the contracts. I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again, “a laptop is a navigation center.” The center is yet to open its doors and it’s time to transfer precious resources to effective interventions.

This administration operates opaquely. This year alone brought some major and troubling revelations:

- after the mayor reported the remodeling of the 101 Ash Street property as “on-time and on budget,” it was shut down due to asbestos contamination. How did we find out? I walked past the shuttered doors with a Do Not Enter warning displayed.
- the mayor approved a “no-bid multi-million-dollar contract” for short term vacation rental (STVR) tracking services. We know this because an ethical employee reported it to the fraud hotline.
- a news article informed us that, after allocating funds to test a backlog of rape test kits, the kit testing policy had been changed. In response to this expose, it was changed back.
- the city auditor reported that San Diego taxpayers are subsidizing trash pick-up for up to 16,000 visitor accommodations, in part, because the mayor has refused to enforce our zoning ordinance.



These and other jaw-dropping examples have contributed to the financial straits that we find ourselves in, and I am painfully aware that the surprises will likely keep coming.



As your Budget Chair, I will lead the Budget Review Committee by continuing to demand transparency, honesty, and data. Once we know definitively what the City of San Diego spends and where it spends it, I’m prepared to make the tough, and perhaps even unpopular decisions, required to serve our citizens, become an employer of choice, and restore financial stability and accountability to our city.

Continued on page 3

Getting it Done in District One!

University City:

The project at La Jolla Village Drive and Regents was estimated to only take a few months to complete. In reality, it has taken over two years. My staff confirmed with Traffic Engineering staff that the project would be completed by mid-October. On October 16th, my University City representative drove to the area, saw the intersection was still under construction, took photos, and asked City staff for an updated date of completion. The next week, the construction had ceased and all related materials had been cleared from the intersection. We are already hearing from constituents that the traffic flow in the area has considerably improved at this intersection.



Del Mar Heights:



On November 14th, a slurry seal project began to implement seal repairs on a portion of Del Mar Heights Road, as well as most of Durango. These repairs will continue until April. In addition, Traffic Engineering Operations has almost completed their report on restriping existing traffic lanes on Del Mar Heights Road, and will be available next month.

The Torrey Pines Community Planning Board has voted to approve a recommendation for a traffic light on Del Mar Heights Road and Mercado. I want to thank the community for attending the meeting and providing your input.



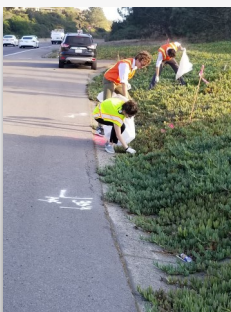
Carmel Valley:

Long-time community member, Dennis Glaser, was recognized posthumously at the October Carmel Valley Community Planning Board (CVCPB) meeting. Dennis served on the Planning Board's Design and Planning subcommittee for several years.

He is remembered for being diligent, prepared, and for faithfully attending every meeting. CVCPB Chair Frisco White presented a commendation from my Council Office to Dennis' wife, Linda Glaser.



La Jolla:



Now you see it. Now you don't. Now, you see it again. That describes the constant battle against litter along La Jolla Parkway when you're leaving the community, heading east toward I-5 and SR56. I continue to ask for, and receive litter abatement services both from the City of San Diego and from Caltrans for its portion of the road beyond the freeway signage. The City's Environmental Services Department sent a crew out in the past month, and my own fantastic staff cleaned a portion again this past week. Please contact my office if you notice litter accumulating along La Jolla Parkway. My staff and I are here to help!

Team BB In the community!

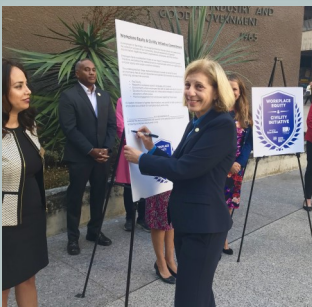
I met with 10 News about how we can produce more housing for working families and how the state can help by picking up the cost of infrastructure fees which add up to \$100,000 per unit.



My office took advantage of Free Ride Day to encourage residents to bike, walk, and use public transit whenever possible.



The Workplace Equity and Civility Initiative seeks to eliminate sexual harassment, gender discrimination and pay inequity. I signed the code, and I am encouraging all San Diego employers to do the same.



A Brief Break with Barbara

1. What is a new movie that you want to see?

I want to find time to see *The Irishman*, the new movie from Martin Scorsese. My husband and I could make it a fun date night. Who says that you can't have date nights after being married for almost two decades?

2. What do you remember most about your first job?

My first job was tutoring at an elementary school in Philadelphia when I was in high school. I still remember how adorable the kids were and how eager they were to learn.

3. Who in your family would you describe as a "character"?



That would definitely be my husband, Neil Senturia. I'm really proud that he won first place awards in 2 categories —for both serious and humorous columns— from the San Diego Press Club. Someone who can excel at both humor and serious issues is a complete character.

Continued from page 1

Moving One Step Closer to Finalizing the SDSU Deal

Over a year ago, San Diego voters overwhelmingly approved Measure G to allow SDSU to purchase the Mission Valley Stadium site. The City Council took an important step forward by unanimously directing the City Attorney to prepare a purchase and sales agreement (PSA), for the Council to receive an update in mid-December and that the draft PSA be docketed at the first meeting possible in January.

My goal is to close this transaction as soon as possible to remove this liability and the \$30,000 a day in costs from the city. We can't afford not to move this project along in a timely manner.

I want to thank Councilmember Sherman. Although we were on opposite sides of Measure G, we have been united in our call for a transparent, fair and timely process. It has been crucial that these proceedings take place in a public setting. After more than 100 closed-door meetings with costly consultants, Councilmember Sherman and I demanded that negotiations take place in a public setting.

Getting to this juncture has not always been linear. In June 2017, less than six months after taking office, I took a stand against a SoccerCity



land grab and dared to ask what San Diego might look like in 50 years if we took the time to thoughtfully shepherd a project that expands the River Par, is economically beneficial, socially responsible, and affirms our city's identity as an international hub for innovation. We have moved one step closer to this vision.

A Few Changes to my Fantastic Team

I wanted to introduce a few new members (and some not so new, but new to a position) of my dedicated and hardworking team.



My former Policy Director, **Vicky Joes**, is my new Chief of Staff. Vicky received her master's in public administration from SDSU and her bachelor's in psychology from St. Joseph's University. She has been at the helm for several weeks and has been a tremendous help to me and the team.



My former Policy Advisory, **Ray Khan**, is now my Policy Director. Ray is an attorney and has worked with several law firms throughout the City handling transactional matters, as well as participating in policy efforts at the local and federal. He is very knowledgeable on all things policy and is a great asset to the office.



Steve Hadley will remain Director of Outreach and will now be the Community Representative for La Jolla and will serve as Deputy Chief of Staff. Steve has worked with 18 different communities in Council Districts One, Two, Four, Five and Six since 2000. He has a great deal of institutional knowledge and will serve the community well.



My former La Jolla Council Representative, **Mauricio Medina**, is now my Budget Committee Consultant. Born and raised in San Diego, Mauricio is a graduate of La Jolla High School and holds a bachelor's degree in political science, with an emphasis in international relations, and a minor in English from UC Santa Barbara. He has been with us from the beginning and is a valued member of the team.



Ricky Flahive joined the team a few months ago and is the Council Representative for the Pacific Highlands Ranch and Carmel Valley communities. Ricky grew up in the South Bay, and graduated from UC San Diego where he double majored in Political Science and Sociology, and minored in Theater. Ricky is responsive to constituents and works to answer questions and address issues in the community.



The newest member of my staff is **Moriah Gaynor**. She is the Communications Associate/Council Representative for the Del Mar Heights, Torrey Hills and Del Mar Mesa communities. Moriah graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in public relations and a graduate certificate in web design and online communications. She is a fast learner and is a great addition to our close-knit team.