

News from Council President Todd Gloria

City of San Diego

NEWS RELEASE

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City Council Approves City Budget

Funding for Homeless Programs, More Library Hours Included

SAN DIEGO (June 9, 2014) – Council President Todd Gloria today announced the City Council's approval of the Fiscal Year 2015 budget with a General Fund of \$1.202 billion. The budget was approved by a vote of 8-1.

"The City Council played an active role in the development of the budget approved today, and it reflects the priorities of San Diegans and addresses the greatest needs in all of our neighborhoods," said Council President Todd Gloria. "I appreciate Mayor Faulconer's inclusion of funding for many critical services."

Council President Gloria was especially pleased with three specific inclusions in the approved budget.

- The City's limited funding for homelessness services will be directed to results-oriented programs that will make progress toward his goal of ending homelessness Downtown by 2016.
- Hours were extended at all public libraries.
- A Sustainability Program Manager position was added to implement the Climate Action Plan. This position will also be charged with developing a comprehensive plan which ties together the community's goals, strategies, implementation plans and metrics for improving San Diego's overall sustainability.

The budget commits a majority of new revenue growth to infrastructure and/or deferred capital needs, reflecting an ongoing priority of Council President Gloria and his colleagues. This funding includes condition assessments, maintenance and repair, deferred capital debt service, facilities maintenance staff, and storm water, street light and sidewalk improvements.

"Investing in our streets, sidewalks, and public facilities makes good financial sense and improves the quality of life in all San Diego communities," said Council President Gloria. "The FY 2015 budget is notable for its increased funding for core services while remaining fiscally responsible."

The FY 2015 budget also includes significant public safety funding including additional police academy recruits, 17 new police civilian positions, continuation of a police officer retention program, body-worn cameras for sworn officers, a new temporary Skyline fire station, two additional fire-rescue academies, a new fire-rescue Fast Response Squad pilot program, more brush management, new lifeguard positions for the Boating Safety Unit, and funding to renovate the lifeguard headquarters.

Also of note, new park and recreation facilities are scheduled to open in FY 2015, and more code enforcement staff will be added. The approved budget provides funding for Civic San Diego to develop reuse opportunities for the old main library and assess the feasibility of a public-private investment fund for transit-oriented developments in Encanto and City Heights.