

Contact: Rebecca Kelley <u>RKelley@sandiego.gov</u> C: (619) 384-5269 Date: January 18, 2018

PUBLIC SAFETY CHAIRMAN RELEASES HOMELESSNESS SURVEY FINDINGS Survey Respondents Strongly Opposed to Raising Taxes Specifically for Homelessness

San Diego, CA: From November 16, 2017 to December 1, 2017 Councilmember Chris Cate's office released a "Homelessness in San Diego Survey" to the community to better understand how District 6 residents perceive this issue, which homelessness programs they support, and how they prefer resources be allocated. The survey was posted on the neighborhood social networking application, NextDoor, and distributed to the District 6 office email list.

"Since I took office in December 2014, homelessness in our region has increased by nearly 24 percent. It is undeniable; San Diego's homeless problem is at a crisis level and requires our continued time, attention, and resources. This is a citywide issue, and action and results are needed not in just one neighborhood, but across all neighborhoods in San Diego. Homelessness looks different in each of our communities, which is why I believe District 6 must continue to be part of the solution," stated Councilmember Chris Cate, Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Chair.

There were 1,084 completed survey responses from District 6 zip codes submitted via the aforementioned platforms, accounting for nearly two-thirds of total respondents. A total 1,666 surveys were submitted Citywide. Of those who completed the survey from District 6, 55% identified as female and 45% as male. Over two-thirds of District 6 respondents were between the ages of 45 and 65 or older. 35% of respondents identified as Democrat, 25% identified as Republican, and nearly 30% identified as other.

"I sincerely thank all the individuals who took the time to complete this survey and provide me with their honest feedback on the critical issue of homelessness. Though I am pleased with the recent actions the City has taken, I am in strong agreement with these sentiments. However, reaching these goals will not come without sacrifice. This upcoming budget year will prove to be difficult as the City prepares to face at least \$64 million in deficits over the next three years. We must respond to this financial challenge by exercising strong fiscal discipline and appropriately prioritizing critical citywide issues, particularly homelessness."

View the 2017 Homelessness in San Diego Survey Final Report: http://bit.ly/2DnVbgF