



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD

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For Immediate Release

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COUNCILMEMBER EMERALD AND HER COUNCIL COLLEAGUES **APPROVE THE FY14 CITY BUDGET**

Yesterday, Councilmember Emerald was joined by her Council colleagues in approving the City budget that brings resources back to our neighborhoods. Council District 9 was a huge winner with the following projects being funded: the Central Avenue Mini Park/Skate Plaza and Charles Lewis III Memorial Park.

Additionally, our communities received funding for bus passes for our youth, street lights in City Heights, Southcrest, Mt. Hope, and Mountain View, and additional hours for our branch libraries.

As Chair of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, Councilmember Emerald is encouraged to see resources provided for our first responders. For months Councilmember Emerald has been leading the Council in demanding action to retain San Diego's trained police officers in the face of rising crime rates. With this budget, our Mayor has finally taken long overdue steps to address retention and attrition by negotiating a 5-year contract with our police officers and beefing up the size of our police academies. The budget also approves an additional \$1 million to support increasing costs in diesel fuel for our fire department.

As well, the Mayor made a commitment to fully fund the Computer Aided Dispatch system Councilmember Emerald has been fighting so hard to attain for the City. "Replacing this outdated system will allow the Police Department to take advantage of newer emergency response technologies to efficiently dispatch 9-1-1 calls and all San Diegans will benefit," said Emerald.

"Providing safe neighborhoods and delivering resources to our Council District 9 communities are my top priorities," said Emerald.

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