



# NEWS RELEASE

## COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **COUNCILMEMBER EMERALD IMPROVES PUBLIC SAFETY**

On March 11, 2013 Councilmember Emerald and her Council colleagues unanimously approved funding for a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. The CAD system is used for dispatching emergency 9-1-1 calls and is of critical importance to emergency response times. In an emergency, seconds can make every difference, including that of a life or death situation. The current software was originally written in the mid-1970s and the existing CAD system was installed in 1991. Yesterday's action approved \$6.9 million in one-time revenue toward the long overdue CAD system replacement.

The new CAD system will improve response times and modernize the tools available for the efficient dispatching of 9-1-1 calls. By committing the necessary funding to upgrade the CAD system, we increase public safety for all San Diegans and give our first responders the tools necessary to serve our residents. It is estimated that the CAD system replacement will take three to five years, depending on the scope of work.

As Chair of the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, I have always been committed to the goal of providing safe neighborhoods and my leadership and vote here is another example of that commitment.

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