



# 2021 State of the City Address Fact Sheet

## Internal Operations

**"I've inherited a budget deficit that exceeds \$150 million and will require difficult decisions to preserve neighborhood services."**

- The Department of Finance publishes both quarterly monitoring reports and annual five-year financial outlook reports for the City, taking into account economic and budgetary driving factors. The City's [fiscal year 2021 first quarter budget monitoring report](#) projects a deficit of \$45 million. The most recent [five-year financial outlook](#) currently anticipates an additional \$124 million in revenue shortfalls for fiscal year 2022.

**"Due to the years-long neglect of our infrastructure, it will cost nearly \$6 billion just to meet our needs."**

- A [2020 analysis](#) by the Independent Budget Analyst (IBA) found, for the [2021-2025 Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook](#) (CIP Outlook), that there was a total of more than \$6 billion in capital needs and only \$3.8 billion in project available funding. On Thursday, January 14, 2021, the City's Engineering & Capital Projects Department will release a new Five-Year CIP Outlook that estimates \$5.7 billion in needs throughout the next five years (FY22-FY26) to meet the City's priorities.

**"All of this is underscored by the fact that the City's workforce morale has been battered because they are overworked, underpaid and underappreciated."**

- A two-part audit on the City's Strategic Human Capital Management, authored by the Office of the City Auditor, found that the City of San Diego fared "poorly" in overall compensation when compared with 24 benchmark cities and jurisdictions. The report suggests uncompetitive compensation has likely contributed to "several negative effects" on the City workforce, including employee dissatisfaction. ([Part 1](#), [Part 2](#))

**"We keep shattering the single-day records for cases and deaths."**

- The County of San Diego's Health and Human Services Agency provides regular updates on confirmed COVID-19 diagnoses and deaths. On Friday, January 8, 2021, the County recorded [a new daily record](#) of COVID-19 cases: 4,550. Additional data on COVID-19 [cases by illness onset date](#) and [deaths by date](#) is collected and made public by the County.

**"My first executive order was to protect our hospital system and save lives."**

- On December 30, 2020, Mayor Todd Gloria signed [Executive Order No. 2020-12](#), reaffirming compliance with all current public health orders issued by the County and State Public Health

Officers, limiting parking enforcement, and bringing alignment with previous Executive Orders issued since the start of the pandemic.

**“We are also working with the County to open vaccination centers – like the one we opened this week at Tailgate Park – to provide easy access for all when the vaccine becomes more widely available.”**

- On January 8, the [County announced](#) it would be opening a “Vaccination Super Station” at Tailgate Lot, an East Village parking area managed by the San Diego Padres. The Vaccination Super Station began operations on January 11 and will enable vaccinators to administer up to 5,000 doses of vaccine per day.

## Housing & Homelessness

**“San Diego was among the first cities in the country to convert our unused convention center into a place to provide sanctuary from the streets.”**

- [Operation Shelter to Home](#) launched on April 1, 2020, by moving individuals experiencing homelessness into the San Diego Convention Center to allow for proper physical distancing and prevent the spread of COVID-19. The centralized operation was designed to mitigate staffing and other challenges presented by the pandemic, while creating a safe space for some of the most vulnerable San Diegans.

**“Since it opened in April, we’ve been able to connect nearly 1,200 individuals and families with long-term housing.”**

- Between April 1, 2020 and December 29, 2020, 3,692 total people were provided much-needed shelter and services. Of those served, 1,128 individuals and 43 families moved into permanent or long-term housing by the end of 2020.

**“We’ve already started moving some folks into recently purchased hotels that have been converted into housing through Governor Newsom’s Project Homekey.”**

- [Project Homekey](#), a program developed by Governor Gavin Newsom and administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), made \$846 million available to local public agencies in the form of grant funding to create 6,029 new housing units statewide. On September 21, 2020, the [Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency \(BCSH\) announced](#) the award of the full amount requested in the San Diego Housing Commission’s application, which provided \$37 million for two projects totaling 332 units that can house up to 400 individuals. The Governor has proposed additional funding for this program in his recently announced fiscal year 2022 budget.

**“We need mental health clinicians to be the first points of contact, so our officers can focus on policing. I’m working closely with Chair Nathan Fletcher and the County Board of Supervisors to increase support and access for behavioral health services.”**

- On June 23, 2020, the County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to support Supervisor Fletcher's [proposal to create countywide Mobile Crisis Response Teams](#) (MCRTs). With funding identified, the County and agencies with dispatch functions are implementing the MCRTs Program across the region. The Sheriff’s Department, Chula Vista and National City are working to initiate the program, and a pilot program is currently active in North County. Mayor Gloria is working with the County on this potential pilot to identify opportunities for a clinician to be deployed to address

mental health crises. He has asked Fire-Rescue and Police Department management to collaborate with the County to determine how the MCRTs Program could be implemented in the City of San Diego.

**“The median home price in San Diego continues to rise to levels that are not remotely achievable for a family making the median income.”**

- According to [data from the US Census Bureau](#), which administers the American Community Survey (ACS), the median household income in San Diego was \$85,507 in 2019. The ACS also estimated [the median home price](#) to be \$658,400, and the median monthly rent to be \$1,806. The data also show that 53% of San Diegans who pay rent spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs.

## Transportation & Mobility

**“This year I'll be working with my colleagues at SANDAG to approve the 2021 Regional Plan known as the ‘5 Big Moves.’”**

- In response to the action plan approved in February 2019, SANDAG is developing “[San Diego Forward: The 2021 Regional Plan](#)” (2021 Regional Plan), which reflects a bold new transportation vision with the goal to transform the way people and goods move throughout the San Diego region. The plan includes “5 Big Moves”: complete corridors, transit leap, mobility hubs, flexible fleets, and Next Operating System (OS).

**“As we build this transportation network, we cannot ignore that our it will cost our City billions of dollars to close our infrastructure funding gap.”**

- A [2020 analysis](#) by the Independent Budget Analyst (IBA) found, for the [2021-2025 Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Planning Outlook](#) (CIP Outlook), that there was a total of more than \$6 billion in capital needs and only \$3.8 billion in project available funding. On Thursday, January 14, 2021, the City's Engineering & Capital Projects Department will release a new Five-Year CIP Outlook that estimates \$5.7 billion in needs throughout the next five years (FY22-FY26) to meet the City's priorities.

**“These streets will help us with our Vision Zero goal of having no traffic-related fatalities or severe injuries by 2025.”**

- [Vision Zero](#) is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries associated with transportation. The City's first Vision Zero initiative was adopted in 2015, and most recently the City has adopted its [Vision Zero Strategic Plan for 2020 – 2025](#), which outlines strategies and actions to continue progress towards zero.

**“We are going to transform Fifth Avenue in the Gaslamp Quarter and Normal Street in Hillcrest by closing portions of them to car traffic for San Diegans to enjoy.”**

- The [Gaslamp Promenade](#) is a project that will develop Fifth Avenue into eight distinctive plazas, from L Street to Broadway, fostering community by building a place for social connections, conversation, dining and entertainment.
- The [Normal Street Promenade](#) is a community-driven concept to turn underused public right-of-way on Normal Street into public gathering space. It brings to life the vision for a new community space along Normal Street.

## Race & Equity

**“And my administration will ensure accountability by working with the City Council to implement a new, independent police review commission that will address allegations of police misconduct.”**

- Nearly [75% of San Diego voters](#) supported Measure B, a charter amendment to create more community oversight on the actions of police officers, in November 2020. The measure will create a Commission on Police Practices that will have its own staff, independent attorney, and ability to conduct independent investigations into police officer misconduct.

**“As such, I have begun building the new Office of Race and Equity at City Hall, working alongside Councilmember Monica Montgomery Steppe with input from social justice leaders.”**

- In 2020, Councilmember Montgomery Steppe proposed the creation of an [Office of Race & Equity](#). The City of San Diego's fiscal year 2021 budget includes \$6.8 million and three full-time positions to establish the office. This week, the City contracted with [The Hawkins Company](#) to recruit a director for the Office of Race & Equity.

## Sustainability

**“These investments will help improve environmental health while supporting the City’s Climate Action Plan.”**

- The City's [Climate Action Plan](#) sets targets for greenhouse gas emissions reductions at municipal facilities; 15% reduction by 2020 and an additional 25% reduction by 2035 (from a 2010 business-as-usual baseline).
- The [2020 Climate Action Plan report](#) shows that the City has reduced 25% of our greenhouse gas emissions compared to the 2010 baseline, which is halfway to our goal of cutting emissions in half by 2035.
- Additional information on the City's current energy usage:
  - The City purchases energy to heat, cool and power approximately 7.6 million square feet of floor area. Energy consumed by City facilities comprises about 2% of total energy consumed in the City of San Diego.
  - While the Public Utilities Department (PUD) is the largest energy user of all City departments when accounting for water supply and treatment operations, PUD has a dynamic renewable energy and efficiency program that makes the City of San Diego one of the largest producers of clean energy in our region.

**“It will create thousands of good-paying jobs and will provide a third of our drinking water when it is completed.”**

- [Pure Water San Diego](#) is the City's phased, multi-year program that will provide one-third of San Diego's water supply locally by the end of 2035. The Pure Water Program will use proven water purification technology to clean recycled water to produce safe, high-quality drinking water, and it will create nearly [500 permanent jobs](#) and thousands of temporary construction jobs in San Diego.

- [Phase 1](#) of the Pure Water Program includes several new construction projects - currently underway - that will clean recycled water to produce 30 million gallons per day of high-quality purified water, reducing the City of San Diego's dependence on imported water.

**“Thanks to our congressional delegation, we secured \$300 million to address the sewage.”**

- On January 29, 2020, the United States-Mexico-Canada Implementation Act became a [law](#) that guides the implementation of the trilateral trade agreement. Section 821 of the legislation directs the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to address polluted transboundary flows in the Tijuana River Watershed and provided an appropriation of \$300 million for associated infrastructure projects. The EPA is currently conducting a binational technical expert consultation process to ensure infrastructure options are informed by the best available technical and scientific information.

**“We are advocating for a new port-of-entry known as Otay Mesa East.”**

- The Otay Mesa Land Port of Entry is the busiest commercial port in California. The [State Route 11 \(SR 11\)/Otay Mesa East Port of Entry \(POE\) Project](#) is a joint venture between the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and Caltrans, in collaboration with state and federal partners in the U.S. and Mexico, to modernize and expand the binational border crossing, enhance regional mobility, and support economic growth. SANDAG recently received \$42.5 million for the project through the California Transportation Commission to help construct the project currently slated to be operational in 2024.

## Regional & Economic Development

**“That’s why my ‘Back to Work SD’ plan lays out a roadmap to boost our economy and make sure our children don’t fall behind.”**

- In May 2020, then-Assemblymember Gloria created a “Back to Work SD” task force to design an economic recovery blueprint for San Diego. The coalition includes elected officials, community members, and industry leaders working to rebuild and move forward.

**“My ‘Shop Local SD’ campaign will soon launch a new online portal to connect you with local small businesses that need customers.”**

- To help local businesses recover from the pandemic and give residents a tool to support their communities, the City is building a “Buy Local Online Portal” to encourage residents to search for local retail, dining, household needs, and other goods and services based on the type of business, product offering, location, and business size. The portal, which is set to go live in the coming months, will serve as a foundation on which to build future economic activity and sustainable reinvestment in local businesses.