

THE KERSEY REPORT

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REBUILDING SAN DIEGO

As Chair of the Council's newly-created Infrastructure Committee, I have called for a completely new approach to infrastructure in San Diego: the City's first long-term infrastructure strategy, including a report card on the condition of the City's assets, a neighborhood-based prioritization process, and ultimately the creation of a five-year infrastructure plan. The City currently has a five-year budget outlook but nothing equivalent for infrastructure investment. American Society of Civil Engineers puts out a report card for regional infrastructure, but the City lacks a similar tool.

Asset management became a hot topic in February, in the wake of three major water main bursts in less than a week. One of the pipes that ruptured was 102 years old—it was installed



while William Howard Taft was President. The Infrastructure Committee voted to create a citywide asset management policy that will work to prevent such lapses in the future, in our water system and all other asset groups. The Committee also voted to create a community input policy, to ensure residents have a say in how the City prioritizes projects.

As we begin to emerge from our fiscal woes, we have to address cracked sidewalks, pot-hole filled roads, broken storm drains, and city facilities that are falling apart in our neighborhoods. We will be creating strategies to deliver projects faster, going into the communities to hear your priorities, and developing a five-year plan to fix our long-neglected infrastructure needs.

CONGRATULATIONS R.S.V.P. GRADUATES!



Rancho Bernardo residents Michael Pekala, Frederick Scharar, Dale Douglas, and Donald Leitman were among the most recent graduating class from San Diego Police Department's Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (R.S.V.P.) program. After undergoing training, R.S.V.P. volunteers assist the Police Department with traffic control, crime prevention education, vacation house checks, welfare visits, and other duties. Congratulations, gentlemen, and thank you for your service!

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES: ENTERPRISE ZONES

Last month I testified at a California Department of Housing and Community Development hearing regarding proposed changes to the Enterprise Zone Program, one of our few incentives in our business expansion, attraction, and retention efforts.

Enterprise Zones are areas in which businesses can claim certain state income tax savings and other advantages. The program was created in California to stimulate business investments in areas that are economi-



Councilman Kersey speaks to the press outside the EZ hearing

cally disadvantaged and to spur job growth in areas of high unemployment.

I support making the program more efficient and ensuring that it works as it was intended, but reforms shouldn't be driven by budget concerns, as was the case during a round of cuts by the state two years ago. I oppose changes to the program that would limit, rather than expand, the ability of local companies to participate.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & UPDATES

Rancho Bernardo Community Foundation's Annual "Hats Off to Volunteers"

April 20 at Webb Park
www.sdfoundation.org

Rancho Penasquitos Town Council's Annual "Fiesta de los Peñasquitos"

May 5 on Black Mountain Road, in front of the Vons shopping center
www.rpcouncil.com

District Five Signature Event

The first in a series of events Councilman Mark Kersey will be hosting this year.

When: Tuesday, April 24, 6 PM-8 PM

Where: Carmel Mt. Ranch Library,
12095 World Trade Drive

Topic: Infrastructure

RSVP: (619) 236-6655 or
markkersey@sandiego.gov

Meet Mark

Office hours are available by appointment to all District Five constituents. For availability and to set an appointment, please contact Michelle Porras at:

619-236-6655

San Diego Workforce Partnership's "CONNECT2Careers"

Connects young adults 16-21 with companies and career pathways in San Diego's most in-demand industries. Workshops are held the first half of March. Applications due March 30.
www.workforce.org

City of San Diego's Annual "Green Students Youth Forum"

March 23 at SDG&E Innovation Center
High school students are invited to learn about the most pressing environmental issues for our region. Registration is required.
www.sdyouthforum.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS & UPDATES

Transit Update: Sabre Springs/Peñasquitos Transit Station Closed During Construction

In March, construction will begin on the new Sabre Springs/Peñasquitos Transit Station, located on Sabre Springs Parkway near Ted Williams Parkway. The new station will include a multi-level parking structure and enhanced transit center for the new I-15 Bus Rapid Transit project. Construction is expected to be completed in early 2014.

The Transit Center will be closed while construction is underway. Parking and MTS Express Bus service will be relocated to nearby



park & ride lots. Access to the 1-15 Express Lanes via the station's direct access ramp will remain open throughout construction.

Additionally, construction is already underway on the Rancho Bernardo and Miramar College Transit Stations. For more information, visit www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: FIRE STATIONS IN DISTRICT FIVE

Last month I visited the fire stations in Scripps Ranch, Rancho Penasquitos, Santa Luz, Carmel Mountain Ranch, and Rancho Bernardo. Fire Chief Javier Mainar and I inspected the facilities and talked with the crews about the strengths and challenges of the Fire-Rescue Department's operations in the north-eastern portion of the City.

District Five fire stations are equipped to respond to many types of emergencies, but the majority of calls are medical/rescue. With this reality in mind, one way the department could more efficiently expand its operations in the area could be through Fast Response Squads, which are mobile units set up to handle medical calls without the expense of building a new fire station.



As a member of the Council's Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee, I will be calling for the implementation of a Fast Response Squad Pilot Program, to allow us to evaluate this innovative service delivery model and its impact on response times. As stewards of taxpayer dollars and public trust, we have to think creatively and use resources efficiently.

We also have to be prepared for the next disaster. Our firefighters should have the equipment they need to combat deadly wildfires. We know that facilities may be an issue as well. The 2011 Citygate report identifies the need for ten new fire stations. As Chair of the Infrastructure Committee, we will be working on how to invest in critical public safety infrastructure while being fiscally responsible.



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For more updates, follow me on Facebook & Twitter!



Join Mark for a Twitter Meet-Up!

Live on Friday, March 29 at 12:30 PM, Councilman Mark Kersey will answer your questions about infrastructure, economic development, and more.

ASK

Submit your questions via Twitter before or during the event, and be sure to include the hashtag #AskD5.

FOLLOW

Follow @markkersey to get important updates and a reminder about the event the day before.

ATTEND

Go to twitter.com/markkersey on Friday, March 29 at 12:30 PM to see live questions and answers from Councilman Kersey.



#AskD5

