

From: "Councilmember Joe LaCava" <cd1news@sandiego.gov>  
Subject: LaCava's Column: July is Heating Up

# LACAVA'S COLUMN

Your District 1 News Update



## Friends,

San Diego is getting hot and with increased temperature comes a heightened fire risk to our region. While District 1's canyons and open spaces are some of our greatest natural features, they can quickly become a host to a fire emergency. It is essential that residents both practice fire prevention in and around their homes as well as know what to do in the event of an active fire or call for evacuation.

I urge residents take the following steps to proactively prepare themselves and loved ones in the case of a fire or other emergency:

- Read and familiarize yourself with SDFD's "[Ready, Set, Go!](#)" wildfire fire action guide;
- Create a family disaster plan that includes meeting locations and communication plans;
- Download '[SD Emergency App](#)'; the official mobile app managed by the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services;
- Follow 'SDFD Newsworthy Events' ([@SDFD\\_Incidents](#)) on social media for updates on any active fire-rescue incident within the City of San Diego.

Discussing what to do in the case of an evacuation is not meant to scare you, rather it's meant to prepare you. Preparing for an evacuation is a necessary reality for those in wildfire prone areas, including a large portion of District 1. It is my hope that preemptively sharing information will better equip you and your family with the information to safely and efficiently evacuate, should that day come.

Finally, as we face what may be a record-breaking summer, I want to express my sincerest gratitude and respect to San Diego's firefighters. This past year they were not just firefighters and medical responders, they were our COVID-19 vaccination administrators. To all our firefighters, thank you for your tireless devotion to our resident's safety both during fire season and throughout the year.

**Yours truly,**



**Councilmember Joe LaCava**  
[joelacava@sandiego.gov](mailto:joelacava@sandiego.gov)

## District 1 News

### [Upcoming Water and Sewer Rate Town Halls – 7/31 and 8/18](#)

The City of San Diego is constantly working to upgrade and improve our water and sewage infrastructure, keep our neighborhoods clean and safe, and increase our eco-friendly water initiatives. For the first time in 10 years, to meet our needs, the City will consider an increase of sewer rates.

If approved by City Council at its September 21st meeting, the current proposals would increase single-family sewer rates up to 17%, water rates by 3%, and decrease multi-family sewer rates - all of which would go into effect in January 2022.

Understanding that this increase would impact each and every home in the City, my office is co-hosting two virtual town halls on **Saturday, July 31, at 10 a.m.** and **Wednesday, August 18, at 6 p.m.** to hear directly from you, listen to your comments, and understand your concerns. As my staff and I review details of this proposal, your questions and comments will guide me and City Council to make the best decision for residents, businesses, and our city.

Participants can register at <https://bitly.com/SDwaterrate>. I hope to see you there!

The graphic features a blue and white background with water splashes. At the top center is the logo for Joe LaCava, Council District 1, which includes the name 'JOE LACAVA' in blue and orange, and 'Council District 1' in smaller blue text. Below the logo, the text 'SEWER & WATER RATE INCREASE TOWN HALLS' is written in large, bold, blue capital letters. Underneath that, 'District 1' is written in a smaller, italicized blue font. The dates and times are listed as 'SAT. 7/31 10 A.M.' and 'WEDS. 8/18 6 P.M.', with the word 'AND' in blue between them. At the bottom, a dark blue rectangular button contains the text 'Register at bit.ly/SDwaterrate' in white.

### ***Traffic Signal Funded at Governor Dr. & Lakewood St.***

After a decade of advocacy, the much-anticipated traffic signal at Governor Drive and Lakewood Street in University City is officially fully funded and will begin construction in

December this year. This signal will greatly improve pedestrian and vehicular safety in the area.

Residents interested in following the status of this project can do so [here](#).

## ***Community Events Resume!***

Earlier this month the University City Community Foundation held their first monthly movie night in Marcy Park. We are working with the University City Community Association to resume evening concerts in Standley Park. Stay tune for details.

# **News from City Hall**

## ***What Was on the Docket? (6/22 - 7/20)***

To be as transparent as possible, I am introducing a new section to my monthly newsletter called "What Was on the Docket," - no fluff, just facts. Moving forward, each LaCava's Column will include a chart outlining recent, significant Council items, the final vote, and my vote.

Government should be accessible, understandable, and engaging for all. This summary may help everyone stay up-to-date with Council happenings regardless if they tune in on Tuesdays or not.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Final Vote</b>	<b>D1 Vote</b>
6/22/21	Approve the Citywide project list for Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Funds	Approved unanimously	Yes
6/22/21	Accept, appropriate, and expend a Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 2 Grant	Approved unanimously ( <i>D6 absent from vote</i> )	Yes
7/13/21	Extend contract with Rehrig Pacific Company for waste carts, recycling carts, cart parts, bins and related products and services to support expanded green and organic collection and recycling	Approved unanimously	Yes
7/13/21	Approve the Annual Reports for the Maintenance Assessment Districts (MADs) for Fiscal Year 2022	Approved unanimously	Yes
7/20/21	Approve the Balboa Park Conservancy's Naming Opportunities Program to Fundraise for the Balboa Park Botanical Building and Gardens Restoration Project	Approved unanimously	Yes
7/20/21	Authorize Proposition 218 Notice and Hearing to Consider Wastewater and Water Rate Adjustments	Approved ( <i>Wastewater Rates, 9-0</i> <i>Water Rates, 8-1</i> )	Yes

## **[Come Aboard and Join a Board or Commission on New City Website 'OnBoard'](#)**

Twenty years ago, I entered the public realm because I wanted to make a difference. If you, like me, are passionate about community activism, serving on a City board or commission is a great way to advise and inform policy.

The City's 46 different boards and commissions play an important role in advising policy decisions on a wide variety of topics including arts, finance, public parks, policing, and more.

Residents interested in lending their expertise to one of these groups can learn more, search for vacancies, and apply at <https://onboard.sandiego.gov/>.

## **[Community Projects Programs and Services \(CPPS\) Funding Application Open Until 7/30](#)**

CPPS funding is awarded to non-profit organizations and public agencies for a community, social, environmental, cultural, or recreational need that serves a lawful public purpose and is not part of the organizations' regular operational costs. In years past, the District 1 office has funded Neighborhood Watch materials, website designs, Kellogg Park gate locking, classroom equipment, and a safety report, among other diverse requests.

Organizations still have time to apply by filing an application and required documents which can be found under Request for Qualifications (RFQ) at [www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cpps](http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cpps). As part of the application, organizations should select which Council District they would like to specifically request funding from. Councilmembers will review all qualified applicants and select organizations receiving funds by the end of August.

## **Opportunities Around the Town**

### ***Spend your Saturday at the Kendall-Frost Marsh with new 'Wander the Wetlands' Program***

The Kendall-Frost Marsh is a sight to behold, but don't take my word for it - go see for yourself!

Beginning July 24, residents can visit the reserve on the 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month from 9 – 11 a.m. to learn about the unique ecosystem, wildlife, and restoration efforts first-hand thanks to the University of California, San Diego, San Diego Audubon Society, and numerous volunteers.

I invite you to visit this local resource and understand why it's essential we protect and preserve wetlands like these not just for the sake of the wildlife it supports, but also to address sea level rise and our quality of life.



## District 1 Gets it Done

Even though Council took a pause for legislative recess, Team LaCava never stopped meeting with residents and working to improve your day-to-day District 1 lives. Here are three constituent 'wins' across the district this past month.

- **Eastgate Mall Cleanup (University City)** – After a constituent reported significant trash and debris along Eastgate Mall (just north of Miramar Road,) Kaitlyn Willoughby, my UC rep, worked with staff to arrange for the area to be cleared by the end of that week.
- **Fixed Dead-End Wooden Barrier at Carmel Valley Road (Carmel Valley)** - As my staff and I were doing a community clean-up along Carmel Valley Road, Kathleen Ferrier, my policy director, reported a heavily damaged wood barrier via the Get It Done app. City crews responded soon thereafter, rebuilt the barrier, and hauled away the debris.
- **New Crosswalk at La Jolla Shores Dr & Calle de Oro (La Jolla)** - Thank you, staff for installing this new, long-awaited pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection of La Jolla Shores Drive and Calle de Oro. Special shoutout to the La Jolla Traffic and Transportation Board and La Jolla Shores Association for being champions of this project, and Steve Hadley, my La Jolla rep, for assisting them in their efforts along the way. *Fun fact: did you know this crosswalk design is called a 'continental crosswalk' and it is now the predominant type now in use by the City?*



Community services is a core purpose of your District 1 team. If you would like to report an issue in your community – do not hesitate to reach out to your community representative via email or phone or stop by their weekly office hours!

## Community Representative Office Hours

If you haven't had a chance to say hello yet, stop by your community representative's Zoom "office hours" happening each week!

- Brian Elliott ([belliott@sandiego.gov](mailto:belliott@sandiego.gov)) will be hosting **Del Mar Heights office hours** from **10 – 11 a.m. on Wednesdays** ([link here](#))
- Kaitlyn Willoughby ([kwilloughby@sandiego.gov](mailto:kwilloughby@sandiego.gov)) will be hosting **University City office hours** from **10 - 11 a.m. on Fridays** ([link here](#))
- Ricky Flahive ([rflahive@sandiego.gov](mailto:rflahive@sandiego.gov)) will be hosting **Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, and Torrey Hills office hours** from **11 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Wednesdays** ([link here](#))
- Steve Hadley ([srhadley@sandiego.gov](mailto:srhadley@sandiego.gov)) will be hosting **La Jolla office hours** upon request

## Stay Connected with District 1

To stay up to date on all district news and updates, make sure to follow me on Twitter, ([@JoeLaCavaD1](#)) Facebook, ([@JoeLaCavaD1](#)) and Instagram ([@joelacava\\_d1](#)) and invite your neighbors to sign up [here](#) to receive email updates like this one!

[Unsubscribe to Email News Letter](#)