

March Report

HOMELESSNESS

Recent

- Mayor Gloria opened a new 36 bed women's shelter at the Old Central Library in Downtown.
 - The shelter is being operated by the National Alliance for Mental Illness of San Diego and Imperial Counties (NAMI) under contract with the City's Homeless Strategies and Solutions Department. NAMI will also provide case management, access to social services and housing navigation services.
- City Council recently approved \$2.45 million in state funding for the [Encampment Resolution Grant](#)
 - As part of the grant application process, the City of San Diego identified an area, including the blocks surrounding the Old Downtown Central Library with a heavy concentration of encampments: Broadway to F St., and 7th to 10th Ave. in East Village
 - This grant will focus efforts on placing clients into long-term permanent supportive housing (PSH) through the Coordinated Entry System. If long-term housing is not available for a particular client, this grant will help subsidize shorter-term bridge housing, such as independent living facilities, skilled nursing facilities, placements with family and CalAIM-supported housing. When referrals to PSH are identified, the program will use hotel rooms as temporary housing placements to help support individuals' independent living skills.

CARE Court

- State agencies are hosting the first working group meeting on the Community Assistance, Recovery & Empowerment (CARE) Court.
 - The program, established from legislation signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom last fall, provides a new tool for local governments to help those that suffer from psychotic episodes gain access to behavioral health services and housing through a court-ordered care plan for up to 24 months. San Diego County will be one of the first to implement the plan.
 - The working group will coordinate and collaborate among stakeholders throughout the county implementation process. Hafsa Kaka, Director of the City's Homelessness Strategies and Solutions Department, is a member of the working group and will ensure the City's perspective is included.
 - You can sign up to receive CARE Court updates from the state by emailing CAREAct@chhs.ca.gov
 - In 2022, Mayor Gloria was among the foremost champions of Gov. Gavin Newsom's CARE Court initiative, which will connect people struggling with untreated mental illness with a court-supervised care plan that provides

the help and support they need. San Diego County will be among the first in the state to implement the program.

Sacramento Trip

- Last week, the Mayor visited Sacramento to participate in a press conference to announce the reintroduction of conservatorship reform legislation, SB43, an effort that narrowly fell short last legislative session, with state Sen. Susan Eggman. This year, he'll advocate from the position of chair of the bipartisan California Big City Mayors Coalition, which represents the state's 13 largest cities that are home to roughly 11 million Californians.

Ongoing

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- Addressing homelessness is the Mayor's top priority.
- During the State of the City Address, the Mayor detailed his comprehensive strategy to address homelessness by investing in robust street outreach, increased shelter capacity and more permanent supportive housing, as well as advocacy at the state and federal levels to reform and strengthen mental-health and substance-abuse interventions.
- Since April 2021, the City has made an additional 658 shelter beds available to get folks off the street – a 61-percent increase.
- In 2022, partnering with the County, the San Diego Housing Commission and several homelessness service providers, the City opened five new shelters that prioritize vulnerable populations like seniors and people who struggle with mental illness and addiction.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- One of the key indicators for street repair/resurfacing is the Overall Condition Index. In Mayor Gloria's FY23 Budget, our current fiscal year, there was an allocation to update the OCI for streets citywide. We anticipate having new OCI scores in the fall.
- Mayor Gloria made some announcements as it relates to progress on infrastructure like road, sidewalk and streetlight repairs. This briefing can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBb0UWppsvY>

Potholes

- Given the Mayor's direction to [increase staffing to address potholes citywide](#) after the rain storms this year, our city crews have filled thousands of pothole requests.
 - Since the heavy rains of January and early February, our Transportation crews have filled approximately **17,000** potholes.
- Even with all that work, our pothole backlog reached as high as **2,200**.

- We reduced that backlog to about 300 last week. But, because San Diegans are doing exactly what we ask of them – submit reports on “Get It Done” – **we're back up to about 550**, and with this week's storms, we expect that to grow.
- We are continuing to deploy extra workers on pothole duty – 30 teams on weekdays, 11 on Saturdays and 7 on Sundays.
- As a reminder, the Get It Done website and app is meant for pothole repair requests only, not slurry seal or overlay.

Road Repair

- By the end of this fiscal year, we are on pace to repair more than **260 miles** of streets across the city.
- This includes **63 miles** of overlay, which is where we grind down old pavement and lay down new pavement.
- In all, there are more than **200 street segments** planned for overlay, ranging from less than 1/10th of a mile to about 2-and-a-half miles.
- In addition, we have plans to complete **200 miles** of slurry seal, which is more of a kind of maintenance that extends the life of our streets, during this fiscal year.

Street Preservation Ordinance

- The amended street preservation ordinance would require utilities and City contractors to quickly repair and better restore the streets that they trench and dig up. In 2024, with these updates in place, we anticipate our Street Preservation Ordinance will alone be responsible for **25 miles** of repaired roadway.

Street Condition Assessment

- The overall condition index that identifies the quality of our roads has not been updated since 2015.
- We have secured a contractor that will begin collecting fresh data from all **2,800 miles** of City streets beginning March 1 and complete their work sometime this fall.
- The overall condition index for streets can be found at <https://streets.sandiego.gov/>

Streetlights

- Right now, our backlog of non-functioning streetlights is **5,900 and growing**.
- We have reached an agreement with our City employee labor groups on a one-year plan to use **private electricians** to help reduce our streetlight repair backlog. We are anticipating that this will result in roughly **800 additional streetlights** being repaired over one year.
- While this does not address the entirety of the backlog, we are continuing to look at ways to combat the backlog given the limited number of City electricians. Career opportunities, including electricians, can be found [here](#).

Sidewalks

- By this summer, we will begin repairs on an estimated **175,000 square feet** of sidewalk in **1,450 locations** in communities across the city.

BUDGET

- FY24 budget season is upon us, we encourage you to engage with your Council Office and our office to let us know your budget priorities.
- In addition, you are encouraged to attend the budget meetings at City Council to advocate for your community's priorities.
- I will update you once specific dates are released, for now these are the preliminary dates
 - April/May 2023 - City Council First Public Input Budget Hearing
 - May 2023 - City Council Budget Review Committee Hearings
 - May 2023 - City Council Second Public Input Budget Hearing
 - June 2023 - City Council Budget Hearing and Final Modifications

MAYOR'S OFFICE BUSINESS

- If you are not yet already, I encourage you to subscribe to the [Mayor's Office General Newsletter and Mayor's Office Homeless Newsletter](#) for weekly updates on Mayor's office initiatives.
- If you would like to provide me with your email, I am happy to manually subscribe for you

Sincerely,

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