

May Report

SMART STREETLIGHTS

- The San Diego Police Department is proposing to turn on the Smart Streetlights to help investigate and solve crimes through a new and more transparent public process.
 - In 2022, the City passed San Diego Privacy Ordinance to enforce rules that govern the use of camera surveillance.
 - The City also created a Privacy Advisory Board to address the concerns of San Diegans and ensure public oversight and input are directly involved in the process.
 - Starting March 6, SDPD conducted a series of community meetings to inform the public and gather feedback on the proposal to use Smart Streetlights and Automated License Plate Recognition technologies.
- The Privacy Board met on April 27th. They did not provide a recommendation and will likely bring it back to their next general meeting.
- After the Privacy Advisory Board the proposal will go to the Public Safety Committee and then the full council.

BUDGET REPORT

- On April 14, 2023 Mayor Todd Gloria released his “Getting It Done” [Fiscal Year 2024 proposed budget](#). The \$5.12 billion spending plan focuses on delivering on the major investments included in the last two budgets, while adding strategic new expenditures to address **homelessness, repave streets and enhance public safety**.
- The budget is called “Getting It Done” for its emphasis on execution; Mayor Gloria said the goal is to sustain all funding from the prior budget year, maintaining service levels while adding expenditures needed to make progress in key priority areas.

UPCOMING

- On [May 10th](#) there is a special Council meeting at 6pm in Council Chambers for public comment on the proposed budget.

HOMELESSNESS – BUDGET

The total budget of \$81.7 million for homelessness services includes considerable state and federal funding (the largest source of which is the State of California’s Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention program, which provides \$30.8 million of the total budget)

Shelter

- The FY24 Proposed Budget expands general fund support for homelessness adding \$24.5 million to maintain and operate the nearly 70% in additional shelter bed capacity the City has achieved to date under Mayor Gloria’s leadership.
- The FY24 budget also includes:
 - \$5 million funding for a Safe Sleeping program

- \$2.3 million for rental assistance for San Diegans who are at risk of losing their housing
- \$1.4 million in funding to support new positions and vehicles to remove waste from the public right-of-way in areas most heavily affected by encampments.

PUBLIC SAFETY – BUDGET

The FY24 Proposed Budget fully funds the City’s Police and Fire-Rescue departments for the third straight year, with strategic investments that will help first responders be more effective in their life-saving operations.

San Diego Police Department

- The FY24 Proposed Budget adds
 - \$2.2 million to fund 10 Police Investigative Service Officers and 11 other civilian positions to support administrative functions more cost-efficiently for the Police Department.
 - It also provides \$4 million for the smart streetlights program which will be placed throughout the city to help solve crime and investigate collisions involving fatal and serious injuries.
- Funds regarding opioid manufactures include:
 - \$4.4 million for homelessness, medical services, and law enforcement.
 - \$2.7 million for harm-reduction and safe-haven shelters
 - \$762,000 for the PLEADS restorative justice system
 - \$775,000 for new vehicles for the Resource Access Program that helps high-needs 911 callers who struggle with chronic mental health or substance.
 - \$196,000 for equipment to help law enforcement detect fentanyl

San Diego Fire Rescue Department

Critical new positions are being added to the Fire-Rescue Department...

- 4 positions that will be focused on fire safety inspections and the hazardous materials management
- 2 new lifeguard positions for La Jolla Shores beach, with one of those positions for the winter months for year-round coverage.
- The budget also funds the Lifeguard Division’s biannual Advanced Lifeguard Academy, a 10-week lifeguard academy that provides advanced training in law enforcement, cliff rescue and water rescue and other advanced disciplines.

INFRASTRUCTURE - BUDGET

- The Fiscal Year 2023 “Ready to Rebuild” budget marked the City’s largest-ever investment in infrastructure and significantly expanded the capacity of the City’s workforce to deliver critical capital projects that benefit San Diego communities.
- This year’s budget is focused on delivering on the promise of crucial investments and additional investments in road repair, stormwater and facilities like parks.
- **The proposed budget allocates nearly \$140 million to street repair/resurfacing – the most the City has invested in any given year. The funding is expected to enable the City to resurface 157 miles of streets, including both full overlay and slurry seal.**

- The budget adds \$21.5 million to the Infrastructure Fund to continue making necessary improvements to city facilities, parks and stormwater infrastructure.
- The budget includes \$38.6 million in Capital Improvement Program funding for parks and playgrounds, as well as the development of new green spaces throughout the city.

EQUITY FRAMEWORK

- The budget is the first developed under a Budget Equity Framework designed to ensure department-level budget requests and proposals were evaluated with an equity lens to identify disparities and begin the process of eliminating them, so that ultimately, no neighborhood will be left behind.
- While the FY24 budget is balanced for a single year, its development considers future years and accounts for the likelihood of a revenue dip in the next few years that could necessitate cuts.
- The spending plan was developed to avoid creating new programs that will later need to be cut, and adds \$6.8 million to General Fund reserves, bringing the City's total reserves to a responsible level.

Mayor Gloria formally presented his budget on April 24th, which is now followed by several weeks of department-level public hearings leading up to the release of a revised budget on May 18 that incorporates City Council and community feedback. Final consideration by the City Council will take place in mid-June, with adoption of an appropriation ordinance due no later than June 30.

Sincerely,

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