

From: "Councilmember Joe LaCava" <cd1news@sandiego.gov>
Subject: **Hello From Your New District 1 Councilmember!**

LACAVA'S COLUMN

Your District 1 News Update



Friends,

Thank you to District 1 for giving me the honor and responsibility to represent you on City Council. I do not take this role lightly; I am here to serve you and will not lose sight of that commitment.

I look forward to working side by side with my colleagues, the Mayor, and City Attorney.

As we take office, we continue to be confronted by a virus that has placed an unimaginable burden on our friends and neighbors, ravaged our city's economy, and threatened our city's progress. Successful navigation of these still uncertain pandemic waters depends on all of us working together

This council must lead from our values and our strengths. To thrive as a whole, we must allow each councilmember to succeed and to serve their district and our city to their fullest ability.

I have two priorities:

- 1- Work with and be responsive to my district.
- 2- Get. Things. Done.

Goals:

Take care of our small businesses

I will work to re-define how we live, work, and play in our city, beginning with District 1. We can be the model for the nation in embracing our new reality.

Protect our core services

Given our budget difficulties, I will work with city leaders and advocates in scouring the budget for savings, securing state and federal relief, and ensuring our budget is equitable.

Support public safety and Measure B implementation

I recognize that public safety is complex. Racial equity and economic justice must be

achieved for all residents to feel safe. To do this we must implement Measure B as well as ensure we are sending the right professionals to a call for help.

Achieve our Climate Action Plan and climate equity goals, prepare for future climate impacts to our city, and meet our state's environmental mandates

On these we must not be hesitant, our city's health and economic vitality depend on it.

As we set our workplan, let us work together to ensure that every San Diegan in every community has the opportunity to enjoy what our great city has to offer.

I close with the simple words of Hal Harvey, "Respect science. Respect nature. Respect each other."

I am ready. My team is ready. Let's get to work!

Yours truly,



Councilmember Joe LaCava
joelacava@sandiego.gov

Meet Your District 1 Staff!

I am proud to introduce to you the passionate and highly-qualified team that will work beside me to provide the best possible service to District 1.



Ms. Venessa Jackson, Executive Assistant and Scheduler - vjackson@sandiego.gov

After working in banking and finance for 32 years and 12 years for former Councilmembers Todd Gloria and Barbara Bry, Venessa is excited to continue serving and working with the District 1 team. She enjoys working for the City because she loves serving people. Venessa was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and has lived in San Diego for 53 years.

When she is not working hard for the constituents of San Diego, she enjoys serving her church and community where she is very active, or decorating homes, which is another one of her passions. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her granddaughters, shopping, and also working with young children and senior citizens. Venessa will serve as the Councilmember's executive assistant, office manager and scheduler.



Vicky Joes, Chief of Staff – vcjoes@sandiego.gov

Victoria (“Vicky”) has an extensive background in the San Diego public policy arena. Her roles have included grants and policy manager for the San Diego Port, principal and director of housing policy at LeSar Development Consultants, policy advisor for the San Diego mayor’s office, and chief of staff and policy director for Councilmember Bry.

Vicky is experienced in developing and implementing policy, convening and leading cross-sectional planning efforts, and providing high-level strategic planning and analysis in areas including housing, homelessness, grants, public safety, and workforce development. Vicky received her master’s degree in public administration from San Diego State University and her bachelor’s degree in psychology from St. Joseph’s University.



Kathleen Ferrier, Policy Director - kferrier@sandiego.gov

Kathleen is an urban planner who has lived and worked in San Diego for 20 years. She joins Councilmember Joe LaCava after serving 2.5 years as policy director for Councilmember Chris Ward (District 3), and a decade with mission-driven non-profit organizations including advocacy director for Circulate San Diego, and communications and policy director for the national Vision Zero Network.

Kathleen is experienced in working with community members and colleagues to develop and implement policy, particularly for issues such as transportation, housing, infrastructure, and community health and design. She lives in North Park with her two children, Max and Charlotte, and her dog Willa.



Moriah Gaynor, Communications Director - mgaynor@sandiego.gov

Prior to entering the public realm in 2019, Moriah worked as an editorial assistant, project manager, and public relations professional across various industries. Since then, she has served District 1 as a community representative for Del Mar Heights, communications associate, and interim communications director on behalf of Councilmember Bry.

Moriah graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor’s degree in public relations and a graduate certificate in web design and online communications, and she is in the process of pursuing her master’s degree in public health at SDSU. Moriah currently lives in Hillcrest and spends her free time exploring Balboa Park and training for her next 5k.



Steve Hadley, Community Outreach Director - srhadley@sandiego.gov

Steve has worked with 19 different communities in Council Districts 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 since 2000. He has also served as a council chief of staff, deputy director of open government, director of community outreach in the mayor's office, the committee consultant for the council's charter review and rules committees, and, most recently, community outreach director.

He will now help coordinate Councilmember LaCava's constituent and community services work and serve as a community liaison. Steve has a bachelor's and master's degree, both from Loma Linda University, and a Juris Doctor from California Western School of Law. He spends his free time at the beach, hiking and cycling our parks and urban core.



Brian Elliott, Policy Advisor - bellott@sandiego.gov

Brian Elliott joins Councilmember Joe LaCava after serving as a policy advisor for City of San Diego Councilmember Chris Ward (District 3). In this role, Brian's areas of focus included energy & sustainability, homelessness, and the economic development of Downtown San Diego.

Brian has previously worked for U.S. Representative Scott Peters (CA-52) where he covered energy, environmental, homelessness, defense, and biotech matters in the district. Brian completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Portland and received his master's degree in environmental policy from the University of Pennsylvania. His wife, Sheila Rao, and he are residents of Downtown San Diego and find every possible opportunity to run trails.



Ricky Flahive, Community Representative - rflahive@sandiego.gov

Prior to serving in Councilmember LaCava's office, Richard ("Ricky") represented District 1 as a community representative for Councilmember Bry, interned with Congresswoman Susan Davis, and worked for Strong Workforce Programs at San Diego City College as their job and internship engagement technician.

Ricky graduated from the University of California, San Diego with a double major in political science and sociology, and a minor in theater. In his free time, Ricky enjoys reading, discovering new music, doing Improv, practicing guitar, and acting in various small theater projects throughout San Diego.



Kaitlyn Willoughby, Community Representative - kwilloughby@sandiego.gov

Kaitlyn will be a community representative for Councilmember LaCava. She honed her constituent services skills as a regional deputy field director for Mayor-elect Todd Gloria and an intern for the Office of Congresswoman Susie Lee. Kaitlyn is active with the Young Democrats of America and the Center For Peace And Security Studies.

Kaitlyn is currently an undergraduate student at the University of California, San Diego pursuing her Bachelor of Science in political science: data analytics and with a double minor in law and society and economics.

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