



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, Aug. 5, 2024

## Traffic Alert for Balboa Park Area Starting Thursday, Aug. 8

RESIDENTS AND VISITORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PLAN AHEAD AND TAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego is alerting residents and visitors of the potential for increased traffic around Balboa Park starting this Thursday, Aug. 8, as the San Diego Zoo opens the Panda Ridge exhibit to the public.

Increased traffic on Park Boulevard and around Balboa Park is expected between Aug. 8 and Aug. 11 this week, and then during weekends through the remainder of August.

People visiting the San Diego Zoo can take advantage of a free shuttle that will pick up and drop off at the Inspiration Point parking lot, where parking is free. The San Diego Zoo has options to help visitors plan their trip in advance on the <u>Plan Your Visit webpage</u>.

To avoid gridlock, residents and visitors are encouraged to consider public transportation. MTS offers convenient ways to get to and from Balboa Park and to commute through the area during busy traffic times. Bus lanes along Park Boulevard allow buses to travel more easily, and Rapid 215 and Route 7 provide direct access to the San Diego Zoo. Additionally, youth under 18 can ride for free with the Youth Opportunity Pass.

Dedicated bike lanes and high-visibility crosswalks on Park Boulevard provide a safe, convenient option for pedestrians and people on bicycles or mobility devices.

Visitors using rideshare options are encouraged to use the main Zoo Entrance as the address for pick up and drop off. For more information on transportation options through Balboa Park, visit the <u>City's</u> website.