

San Diego Mayor   
**TODD**  
**GLORIA**

PROGRESS REPORT  
**2024**



# Housing

- **Issued permits for approximately 8,500 new homes**, according to preliminary data. This is a considerable increase over the roughly 4,300 homes the City was permitting per year until 2023, when the City permitted nearly 10,000 new homes.
- **Signed Housing Action Package 2.0 into law**, strengthening the Complete Communities program, facilitating the conversion of shopping malls and parking lots into housing, incentivizing student housing near college campuses and transit, and more.
- **Created and launched the Complete Communities Now program**, which incentivizes housing near transit by requiring City departments to review housing projects that fall under the Complete Communities program within 30 days. This comes on the heels of Affordable Housing Permit Now, a program launched in 2023 to accelerate permitting for 100% affordable housing projects.
- **Issued the fourth round of funding under the Bridge to Home program**, awarding \$24 million to develop affordable housing in San Diego. Bridge to Home invests City funds directly into affordable housing projects, helping with that final bit of financing to get projects across the finish line. All told, the City has invested \$90 million into 22 projects totaling nearly 2,000 affordable apartments in communities from Rancho Bernardo to San Ysidro.
- **Approved community plan updates** for Hillcrest and University City, which will increase housing capacity in these key neighborhoods and bolster the medical and biotech jobs in the University area and the entertainment district in Hillcrest. In 2025, we will complete community plan updates for the College Area and Clairemont. We will be deep into progress on a new plan for our Mid-City neighborhoods, and we will launch the update process for Rancho Bernardo and Otay Mesa. These community plan updates are expected to increase our City’s capacity for new housing by 120,000 homes – far outpacing what the City accomplished over the previous eight years.
- **Secured unanimous City Council approval for Blueprint SD**, which represents the first comprehensive update to the General Plan and helps identify areas for more homes and jobs with connections to convenient and affordable options to walk, bike and ride transit.
- **Launched improvements to rapid review, self-certification and professional certification programs**, streamlining the permitting process and accelerating turnaround times for eligible projects, including kitchen and bathroom remodels, rooftop solar panel installation, re-stuccoing homes, and replacing doors, windows, or siding.



\* Preliminary totals as of Jan. 10, 2024



# Public Safety



- **Deployed nearly 500 Smart Streetlights and Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology** after securing approval from City Council in 2023 to keep making our communities safer. This technology has already been used to solve more than 200 crimes, locate missing people, retrieve more than \$3 million in stolen property, recover illegal guns, and more.
- **Experienced a reduction in crime in nearly every category** - homicides down by 28.8%, sexual assaults down by 12.6%, robberies down by 10.7%, car thefts down by 19.8%.
- **Secured unanimous City Council approval of amendments to the Sidewalk Vending Ordinance** to clarify which vending activities are protected under the First Amendment and to better enforce health and safety rules by allowing the impounding of non-compliant equipment. These updates strengthen City regulations, make expectations clear, and help ensure San Diego's public spaces are safe, accessible, and welcoming for everyone.
- **Secured new multi-year contracts with public safety labor organizations** representing police officers, firefighters and lifeguards. The contracts ensure San Diegans benefit from a stable, well-supported workforce of police officers, firefighters, and lifeguards. By offering competitive pay and benefits, these agreements help attract and retain skilled professionals, enhancing emergency response, maintaining community trust, and keeping San Diego safe.
- **Appointed a new Fire Chief, Robert Logan, and a new Police Chief, Scott Wahl**, to ensure San Diego remains one of the safest big cities in America.
- **Signed the Ira Sharp Firearm Dealer Accountability Act** to strengthen our firearms procurement process.
- **Our firefighters, lifeguards and paramedics responded to 188,000 emergency calls last year** — a new record high.



# Homelessness

- **Continued to expand shelter options** by creating new partnerships and expanding the City’s successful Safe Sleeping program. Since 2021, the City has more than doubled the number of options people have to get off the street, into care and on a path to housing.
- **Connected 1,673 people to long-term housing** through City-funded outreach, shelter and family reunification programs in 2024. Since 2021, these programs have served more than 25,000 people and successfully placed nearly 4,700 into housing.
- **Partnered with the San Diego Housing Commission in leveraging the state’s Homekey program** to convert an extended-stay hotel into 160 new homes for people experiencing homelessness. San Diego’s Homekey portfolio now includes six projects with more than 600 homes for a relatively modest local investment.
- **Streamlined the development of behavioral health facilities** to increase the capacity of mental health and substance abuse providers’ ability to deliver treatment.
- **Created the San Diegans Together Tackling Homelessness fund**, which has raised more than \$1.3 million to date.
- **Successfully advocated for the inclusion of \$1 billion in Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Funding** for California cities in the State of California’s final Fiscal Year 2025 budget.
- **Secured unanimous Coastal Commission approval to use the H-Barracks site as a Safe Parking lot**, making it easier for unsheltered San Diegans to come off the streets and get connected to services and housing.
- **Used State grant funding to launch programs to address unsafe homeless encampments along the I-15 corridor and along the San Diego River** and connect people living in those areas to services and housing. These two programs, which follow a successful similar program downtown, will continue in 2025. In all, these programs have connected 101 people to housing.
- **Sponsored successful legislation, Senate Bill 1361**, to streamline homeless services contracts approved by city and county governments to ensure they’re not unnecessarily delayed by the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.





# Infrastructure and Transportation



- **Repaired 538 miles of roadway in 2024**, bringing total repairs to more than 1,695 miles since 2021, or more than 25% of the City’s total road network. This past fiscal year (FY24) was a record-setting year for road repairs, setting the bar for the most slurry seal resurfacing miles completed in at least a decade.
- **Secured \$204 million in grant funding in 2024 for 82 community infrastructure projects.** Over the course of its first term, the Gloria Administration has secured 293 grant awards, resulting in more than \$1 billion in various federal, state and local investments.
- **Published first-ever Pavement Management Plan** outlining a strategic, data-driven approach for cost-effective pavement repairs across San Diego’s extensive 6,600 lane-mile road network.
- **Secured emergency permit waivers for stormwater infrastructure maintenance** to allow an unprecedented 18 miles of stormwater channels to be cleared following the January 2024 storms.
- **Secured \$37 million in low-interest loans and grants for the South Mission Beach Storm Drain and Green Infrastructure Project** to upgrade undersized and outdated storm drain infrastructure to mitigate flooding and green infrastructure to improve water quality and habitat in Mission Bay.
- **Opened or improved 18 parks across San Diego** in 2024. In the past four years we have opened 33 new parks and upgraded 66 more.
- **Completed 1,046 new or replacement sidewalk projects**, a dramatic increase over recent years due largely to the City’s new Safe Sidewalks Program. Since 2021, the City has completed 2,086 sidewalk projects.
- **Implemented new Street Preservation Ordinance measures** to require more timely and complete repairs and recover increased repaving costs when utilities damage roadways to install pipelines, cables or other subsurface infrastructure.
- **Secured contracts to support new Citywide Dam Safety program**, specifically a 10-year contract, for up to \$100 million, to comprehensively address the City’s 11 dams and water tanks after decades of neglect.





# Economic Development

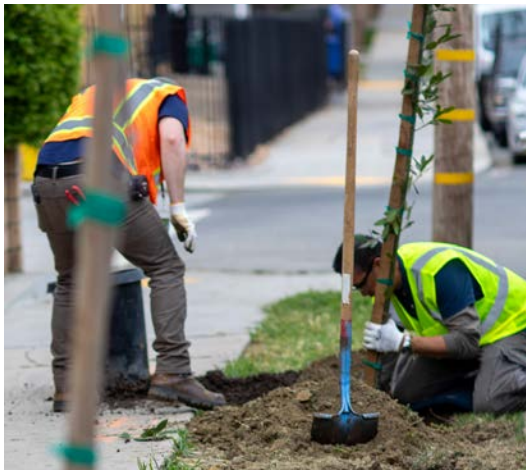


- **Reopened the Botanical Building** after a historic renovation of the iconic structure in Balboa Park.
- **Entered into a 25-year lease agreement with the WorldBeat Center in Balboa Park.** This long-overdue agreement allows the Center to continue providing cultural programs and classes, art exhibits, a public garden and more.
- **Adopted the Creative City Cultural Plan.** This 10-year plan is set to shape the future of arts, culture, and creativity across San Diego's diverse communities. After a year of public engagement, with nearly 1,800 participants and 70 events, we've crafted a vision to sustain and grow our vibrant creative ecosystems.
- **As the World Design Capital 2024,** our region hosted 366 days of design excellence, creativity and innovation, solidifying our place as a global hub for design, arts, culture and innovation. Our region hosted seven signature events, 600+ activations across San Diego and Tijuana, and 350+ border community initiatives, attracting about 350,000 attendees and garnering 1.2 billion global media impressions, creating a lasting economic, social, cultural, civic and environmental impact.
- **Brought giant pandas back to the San Diego Zoo,** a historic milestone in the City's partnership with the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance and China to advance conservation efforts.
- **Played a key role, in partnership with San Diego's congressional delegation and the U.S Department of Transportation,** to secure a direct, nonstop flight via Alaska Airlines to Washington D.C. Reagan National Airport.
- **Successfully persuaded the San Diego County Water Authority to reduce proposed water rate increases** from 24.5% to 14% for water customers in 2025.





# Climate Action and Sustainability



- **Implemented the Single Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance**, banning distribution of certain disposable plastic and polystyrene foam products.
- **Launched a project to plant more than 800 trees in pollution-burdened neighborhoods** as part of Trees for Communities project. The species planted will maximize ecosystem benefits for a diverse urban forest.
- **Hosted City’s largest ever Arbor Day** event with thousands of volunteers planting hundreds of trees across the city.
- **Secured federal Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant funding** to establish a home energy retrofit assistance program for low-income households, prioritizing those impacted by the January 2024 flooding.
- **Established innovative EV charging partnership** to install EV charging at hundreds of City facilities with no upfront cost to the City of San Diego.
- **Secured unanimous City Council approval for De Anza Natural**, a new plan to revitalize the corner of Northeast Mission Bay known as De Anza Cove, which will include recreational enhancements, expanded wetland habitat, and low-cost visitor accommodations.
- **Created new Climate Advisory Board and Resiliency Advisory Board** to tackle climate risks facing San Diego and protect the natural environment.
- **Secured City Council approval of a new Environmental Justice Element as part of the City’s General Plan**, aiming to address pollution, health risks and access to public facilities.
- **Launched new Climate Action Plan implementation dashboard** to transparently share progress and manage implementation among the many participating departments.





## Community Engagement

- **Recruited, vetted, nominated and confirmed the appointments of 164 members of the City’s Boards and Commissions.** Also revived the long-dormant Senior Affairs Advisory Board and Community Reinvestment Review Advisory Committee.
- **The Mayor and his community engagement team participated in 628 community meetings and events** citywide. Since taking office, the Mayor and/or his community engagement team have attended nearly 3,000 community meetings and events citywide.
- **The Mayor’s community engagement team addressed 17,897 constituent inquires.** Over the past four years, the community engagement team has responded to 79,248 constituent inquiries.



## Supporting Workers

- **Adopted a new Citywide Project Labor Agreement** to ensure that City projects are completed on time and in budget, have a reliable source of highly skilled workers and encourage local participation to benefit working citizens and the economy.
- **Through the Employ & Empower program, hired the 1,000th paid intern,** surpassing the goal set by the Mayor in 2022. To date, the program has employed 1,300 students, with 78% coming from historically underserved communities and 17% transitioning to full-time employment with the City.
- **Signed an executive order to boost employment opportunities with the City of San Diego** for active-duty service members transitioning into civilian life, as well as veterans and military spouses.

