



# El Cerrito Community Newsletter

Volume Twelve: Number 5 MAY, 2018



## CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY, MAY 28TH

### El Cerrito Community Council Meeting MAY 17, 2018 7:00PM PARISH HALL

#### HOMELESSNESS IN THE EL CERRITO COMMUNITY

Please join us for expert information and a discussion on homelessness in our neighborhood. We will have representatives from the Homeless Outreach Team (also know as "HOT"), the police and other groups at our May meeting who will provide us with information and helpful advice on the many characteristics of homelessness in the City and our community.

There are many aspects of homelessness in our area: people sheltering in canyons, alleys, sidewalks and sometimes in our yards; sleeping in cars; people going through trash and recyclable containers; people wandering aimlessly on the streets; abandoned shopping carts; the debris left behind.

We know a lot of us want to know what can be done. The feelings being expressed in our community run the full gamut from concern to aversion. These feelings are echoed throughout the San Diego County and the entire State. The question from all sides is "What Can We Do."

The representatives will help us know what rights we community members have, what rights homeless people have and what the police and organizations can and cannot do regarding homeless people in the community. We will also learn what the most current strategies are for the homeless topic and find out how ongoing programs are working.

This is a complex issue for which the City and County and many organizations specifically for the homeless are working hard to come up with solutions - and it continues to be an on-going process.

No matter what your feelings are, please attend and learn with the rest of us. If you are concerned that you may come across as too soft hearted or too cold hearted if you ask certain questions, we will have cards available for writing down questions to be asked.

We want all of us to know the best way to deal with the variety of issues that could come up and what you can do and expect from the police and other organizations dedicated to helping with the homeless issues, so please join us.



### YOU'RE INVITED TO A TOWN HALL MEETING WITH GEORGETTE GOMEZ, OUR DISTRICT 9 COUNCILPERSON, SATURDAY, MAY 19TH, 10:30 AM

Councilmember Georgette Gómez will host a Budget Town Hall with the City's Independent Budget Analyst, Andrea Tevlin. This town hall meeting is to provide you, as a resident of District Nine the opportunity to learn about the proposed City budget and provide feedback on the priorities for our District Nine.

Councilmember Gómez said, "The City's \$3.8 billion budget allocates our tax dollars and we need input from residents on their thoughts and priorities for the upcoming fiscal year."

Georgette is encouraging all members of the public to attend and voice their opinions on the budget priorities for District Nine. Councilmember Gómez and Analyst Tevlin will also be answering audience questions.

The location for this Town Hall Meeting is:

Church of the Brethren  
3850 Westgate Place  
San Diego, CA 92105.  
Doors will be open at 10:00 am.

This Town Hall meeting is part of the City's annual Budget process. The Mayor recently released the Proposed Budget to the public.

For the month of May, the City Council will be holding public budget hearings and may recommend changes to the Proposed Budget. If so, the Mayor will release a Revised Proposed Budget near the end of May.

In June, the Project Budget final draft will be reviewed and approved by the City Council, subject to a veto by the Mayor.

In July, The Appropriation Ordinance is presented to the City Council and adopted in July authorizing expenditure of the budget for the coming fiscal year.



## IT'S BIKE-TO-WORK DAY THURSDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>

When you register for Bike to Work Day (BTWD), you can stop by one of 100 pit stops throughout San Diego County on May 17 to pick up a free T-shirt, snacks, and encouragement.

Pit stops will be open from 6 to 9 a.m. Locations are listed on the Bike Month site. Info: [icommute@sandag.org](mailto:icommute@sandag.org).

For us, the Bike to Work Day Pit Stop is manned by the College Area Business District (CABD) right here in El Cerrito at **Scrimshaw Coffee** (5542 El Cajon Blvd) CABD will be there from 6am until 9:00am.

**Scrimshaw Coffee** will be offering samples of some of their coffees to help wake you up for your morning BTWD Commute!

**Spin & Go** – is offering an 8:00 am **BTWD SPIN CLASS** on the sidewalk in front of Scrimshaw Coffee for those who don't have a morning commute but still want to bike! Spin through a stationary BTWD ride for only \$20 per person for a 45 minute workout. Register for one of the 10 spaces available with [www.spinandgo.co/](http://www.spinandgo.co/)

Other BTWD stops in the area:

- **ofo Dockless Bicycles** – Offering ofo dockless bikes to start your BTWD Morning Commute!

- **Pedal Pushing Bicycle Shop** (6969 El Cajon Blvd) – Offering on-the-spot bicycle tune-ups.

- **SOAS Racing** (7220 El Cajon Blvd) – Offering a drawing for a special BTWD racing kit

- **San Diego Blenders** (6353 & 6663 El Cajon Blvd) – Offering samples of delicious smoothies.

Join in on the fun, all who pre-register get a FREE BTWD T-Shirt for [iCommute's](http://iCommute's) Bike to Work Day!

Register at [www.icommutesd.com/events/bike-month](http://www.icommutesd.com/events/bike-month)



### SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FOLLOWING ECCC EVENTS THE FOLLOWING MEETING PROGRAMS ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGES

**May 17th** – Homelessness in the community; Information and advice from experts.

**June 21st** – Home security, including new, interactive systems.

**FUTURE DATE** - we are working on getting SoccerCity to present its plans for Mission Valley for our consideration for the upcoming November elections.



### North Side of El Cajon Boulevard Needs Newsletter Delivery Route Volunteers

We have a few newsletter delivery routes available for volunteers. Each route will have approximately 40 homes to delivery to and will take about 20 minutes once a month. Our block captains tell us it really is pretty fun to get out and walk in the neighborhood delivering the newsletters and greeting neighbors and we agree. These delivery routes can easily fit this into a morning walk and give you a little variety to your routine.

We also have a delivery route for businesses on El Boulevard which might be just the route for you.

Let us know - [elcerritocommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:elcerritocommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

• **KEEP CRAWFORD SPORTS FIELDS SAFE –**

If you notice activity at or around the new Crawford sports fields that does not seem right, lights on past 7:00 too many nights, people hanging around on the fields after organized games and events are over, etc., please contact Mark at [markesolo@hotmail.com](mailto:markesolo@hotmail.com). He is helping the El Cerrito neighborhood track bad activity to help the schools keep control over their property and the neighborhood be better for all of us.

• **OPT OUT -**

Just a reminder that if you would like to get your newsletter online only and opt out of a hard copy delivered to your door we are collecting information at [elcerritocommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:elcerritocommunitycouncil@gmail.com) or fill out an Opt-out form at a meeting. Please note that you may still receive the newsletter for a few months while we get the Opt Outs processed.

**ADVERTISE IN THE ECCC NEWSLETTER**

The ECCC Newsletter is accepting advertising! Great news for businesses wanting to get the word out about your products and services to 2,000+ of your neighbors. The cost for advertising in our newsletter is very reasonable at \$60 per month (one month free if you pay for six months in advance).

To make arrangements, please contact us at [elcerritocommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:elcerritocommunitycouncil@gmail.com). We require camera ready art in a jpeg format. If you are unsure about what you have, please contact us. We look forward to helping you broaden your exposure and expanding your business.

**MAY IS BARBEQUE MONTH!  
HAVE FUN – AND BE SAFE WITH FIRE**

**GRILL SAFETY - Never leave the fire unattended.**

Place your grill as far from the house and other structures as possible. This will help avoid any potential damage caused by the heat. Always check your grill before you start it. Never just fire it up. First check the connection between the propane tank and fuel line and make sure there's nothing flammable on the burners. Keep the flames under control. Have a water-filled squirt bottle on hand to spray the flames threatening to get out of control or close the lid of the barbeque to cut the oxygen and put the fire out. Before disposing of coals, pour water over them until the fire is out.

**FIRE PITS - Never leave the fire unattended.**

Having an outdoor party and gathering around the fire pit is great. Keep it fun with these safety measures. When setting up a fire pit, make sure it is at least 10 feet away from any structure or combustible surface. Before you light the fire be sure to check the weather forecast. If it is windy, do not fire up the pit.

**CAMP AND BEACH FIRES - Never leave the fire unattended.**

We all enjoy evenings gathering around a camp or beach fire with friends. Let's keep it safe. Protect everyone from danger with these necessary safety measures. Build a camp or beach fire only in the designated places, away from dry shrubs and grass, dry leaves or low branches that can catch fire. It is best

to use existing fire pits. Keep an eye on the fire and don't let it get out of control. Always have something you can use to douse out a fire within reach. Always put out the fire when you are leaving by pouring water over it and spreading some dirt on top. Never leave the fire unattended. Someone should always be watching the fire.



**THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!**

As part an effort to make the City departments more efficient and accessible for all San Diego residents, the *Get It Done San Diego* app is here. This app that lets you report problems and request improvements in the neighborhood with your phone.

With *Get It Done*, we can now take and upload photos related to over 20 nonemergency problems with roads, street lights, traffic signals and more. The *Get It Done* app uses GPS information embedded within photos to automatically update the address and location of problems. After uploading the photo, one simply has to identify a few details about the problem and click Submit.

The app allows the City to process information faster because it links the user to City crews. Your report creates a work order through a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software system. The system connects all reports about the same problem into one group and creates a single report so that every individual is notified about the progress of an issue.

Visit <https://www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done>. Download from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).



**EXPLORE THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

SDSU students are on summer break until August, so now is the time to try the restaurants and shops in the area. There are many eating and drinking locations getting rave reviews.

With less traffic and congestion, it's a great time to start shopping the new Trader Joe's location and try restaurants on College Avenue. Much of the parking is free, located in a parking garage with elevators big enough for you and your cart. It really is an easy trip. Make your first few visits now and you will barely notice the extra traffic when the students are back.

We recommend all of the eateries in the El Cerrito Corridor of El Cajon Blvd: Smashburger, Pesto Italian Craft Kitchen, Bistro Sixty, Tea Station, Crab Pub, RB Sushi, The Living Room, Scrimshaw Coffee, Crispy Donuts, Sang Dao, Minato 3 Ramen & Sushi. Hope we see you out and about indulging soon!



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**NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**  
**Thursday, May 17, 2018**  
7:00pm to 8:30pm

**ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN  
OUR EL CERRITO COMMUNITY**

**The ECCC Monthly Meeting  
Is Every 3rd Thursday  
Blessed Sacrament Parish Church**

**4540 El Cerrito Drive  
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**PLEASE HELP US KEEP PRINTING THE NEWSLETTER THROUGH YOUR DONATIONS**

I/we donate \$ to the printing of the El Cerrito Community Council Newsletter.

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