



EL CERRITO COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume Sixteen: Number 2 February 2022



*Happy Presidents' Day
February 21, 2022*

**El Cerrito Community Council Meeting
FEBRUARY 17, 2022, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**SEAN ELO-RIVERA WILL JOIN US WITH
THE LATEST CITY COUNCIL NEWS**

&

**WE WILL HEAR ABOUT RANK CHOICE
VOTING FROM ED CHAPLIN OF
MORE CHOICE SAN DIEGO COALITION**

Sean Elo-Rivera D-9 City Councilmember and City Council President, will join us and bring us up to date on City Council and D-9 matters.

Ed Chaplin will give us an overview on how Rank Choice Voting works and what his group is doing to get an initiative on the 2022 ballot.

VIA ZOOM AT

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6192863890>

Meeting ID: 619 286 3890

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SINGLE RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS AT RISK

We are saddened to report that Neighbors For A Better San Diego (N4ABSD) and several concerned citizens were unable to convince the City Council to revise Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) to meet the State regulations without additional rules developed by the Development Services Department (DSD) that allow oversized, apartment units on our single residential lots, impacting single residential zones throughout the City. DSD reported that there are about 1,000 ADU's currently permitted and about 2,000 in the permitting process pipeline, though did not say how many of the permits are for regular ADU and junior ADU's and how many are for apartment type buildings.

N4ABSD met with the City Council representatives and were able to get a few changes and improvements including setback allowances and trees.

ADU's are also known as granny flats in most of California. State regulations allow one or two living units to be built in single residential backyards. There are many nice plans online for granny flats and junior ADU's, if you are interested in this type of addition.

SIGNING EVENT BY VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD VOICES

In addition to the San Diego ADU regulations, a series of recently passed laws, Senate Bill (SB) 9 and 10 included, allow developers to build multi-story, multi-unit buildings on single-residential home lots and deny citizens the ability to fight back. A coalition of thousands of California neighborhood leaders have joined together to fight to preserve the ability to speak out about what happens in our own neighborhoods.

A group of local volunteers is holding an Our Neighborhood Voices Signing Event on Saturday, February 26th, 12:00-2:00 pm, at Standley Park on Governor Drive in University City.

The petition is to put a referendum on the November 2022 ballot to create a constitutional amendment to overturn SB 9 and 10 and give land-use decision-making back to local cities.

EVERY SIGNATURE COUNTS - Our Neighborhood Voices has 180 days to collect approximately 1.4 million signatures to get this matter on the ballot for the November 2022 election.

N4ABSD supports Our Neighborhood Voices and its activities and encourages you to attend the Signing Event and add your signature. Better yet – bring some friends with you.

More Info on Our Neighborhood Voices is at:

<https://ourneighborhoodvoices.com/>

Map to Standley Park, Governor Dr. Signing Event

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Standley+Recreation+Center/@32.8511678,-117.2124658,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x80dc00dd3d8afb9f:0xcd0af138a2031389!8m2!3d32.8511678!4d-117.2102771>



ALL VISITORS AGE 65 & OLDER RECEIVE FREE ADMISSION TO THE SAFARI PARK DURING FEBRUARY

During the month of February, all visitors age 65 and older receive free admission to the **San Diego Safari Park**. Enjoy the sights on an Africa Tram, see the platypuses and other Aussie species at Walkabout Australia, wander through Tiger Trail, take a stroll around Mombasa Lagoon, and relax with refreshments on the patio at Kijamii Overlook. There's a world of sights to see—all at the Safari Park!

During February 2022, guests ages 65+ can present their valid photo ID at the entrance to receive a complimentary 1-Day Pass ticket—valid that day only—to enter the Safari Park free. This includes Africa Tram* and all regularly scheduled experiences* (*subject to availability).

Parking is not free and is paid upon arrival (parking is included with donor-level memberships). For members and guests who prefer to park a bit closer to the entrance on a level surface, Preferred Parking is offered on weekends and holidays for an additional fee – see <https://sdzsafaripark.org/plan-your-visit#>.

If you are 65+ and want to visit the Safari park every day during the month of February 2022, you can do it, present valid photo ID at the entrance to receive a new ticket each day. Learn more at <https://sdzsafaripark.org/seniors-free>

For details about Seniors Free, check out the Seasonal Events section at <https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/help-center#seasonal-events>

The Safari Park has a map that marks the stops for our ADA (American with Disabilities Act) shuttle. See <https://sdzsafaripark.org/guests-disabilities>. These maps are also available at the ticket booths and at Park Base. Restrooms and services—including many of the Safaris—are wheelchair accessible. [Wheelchairs and motorized scooters are available for rent on a first-come, first-served basis near the entrance at Safari Outfitters](#). Please refer to the Accessibility Guide for more information. The minimum age requirement to operate an Electric Conveyance Vehicle (ECV) is 16 years old.



**A MESSAGE FROM
SDSU PRESIDENT, ADELA DE LA TORRE
CELEBRATE SDSU'S 125th ANNIVERSARY**

Dear SDSU Alumni, friends and supporters,

Since March 13, 1897, San Diego State University has embodied its teaching, research and outreach mission, and its public good pledge to change lives and communities for the better. To honor the history of our great institution and the many contributions of our students, faculty, staff, alumni and supporters, the university is hosting a 20-month anniversary celebration commemorating the March 13, 1897 founding of the institution and the first day of classes on November 1, 1898.

Please join us on **Monday, March 14, 2022**, to kick off this momentous occasion with two events as we recognize SDSU's vibrant history and promising future.

Schedule of Events

Community Open House - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Montezuma Hall, Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union

The Open House will highlight "SDSU Over the Decades" through immersive vignettes showcasing rare SDSU artifacts, multimedia and much more! Guests will also have an opportunity to enjoy unique experiences with notable alumni.

Birthday Celebration - 12 to 1 p.m.
Goldberg Courtyard, Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union

The festive event will feature a short program, music and complimentary treats.

Kindly RSVP by Monday, February 28th at:
<https://securelb.imodules.com/s/997/sc/community.aspx?sid=997&qid=48&pgid=9309&cid=19214>

Guests who have difficulty standing in line at the Africa Tram may request an "Easy Access Pass" at the Tram Host podium, across from the Africa Tram ticket booth. The attendant on duty will provide a return time for the group based on the length of the line. Guests may continue exploring and return at their assigned boarding time or are also welcome to wait inside a designated seating area. Three additional members of the guest's party may accompany a guest with a disability into the waiting area. If there are more than three guests in a party, one may request to be seated while waiting for additional members to reach the front of the line.

For guests who are deaf or hard of hearing, the Safari Park has a helpful packet available to download that includes our Africa Tram Species Guide, and written scripts of our Frequent Flyers and Cheetah Run experiences. [Click here to download information packet.](#) These packets are also available at our ticket booths and at Park Base. If one needs an ASL interpreter, please download the Accessibility Guide at the following link:

https://sdzsafaripark.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/SDZ_SP_ADA_Accessibility_Guide_11162021.pdf

Guests are welcome to bring their trained service animal into the Safari Park. Pets and animals "in training" are not allowed in the Park. There are some places within the Park that are sensitive/restricted to service animals. This map is also available at our entrance turnstiles. Kennels are available for those who choose to leave their trained service animal during any part of their stay on Park grounds.



MUSEUM MONTH IS LIVE THIS YEAR!

You can visit your favorite Museums in person again this year and for half prices during the month of February. The Half Price Museum Month Passes are available for free at more than 75 public libraries countywide and all Macy's store locations in San Diego County. This program offers half-price museum admission at more than 45 museums in the San Diego area, including the USS Midway Museum, during the month of February. Each pass is good for 4 people and allows entrance to all of the participating museums at the following link: <https://sandiegomuseumcouncil.org/specials/museum-month/>.

JOIN THE REGIONAL TASK FORCE TO COUNT THE HOMELESS POPULATION FOR WEALLCOUNT, NOW FEBRUARY 24, 2022

The Regional Task Force on the Homeless conducts an annual count and survey of homeless individuals throughout San Diego County called *WeAllCount* for a one-day snapshot of where the homeless population are living in San Diego.

San Diego County's annual Point-in-Time Count campaign was postponed due to Covid-19 and is now scheduled for Thursday, February 24, 2022. Volunteers meet starting at 5:30 am and head out for counting 6:00 - 9:00 am. Volunteer signup will officially close 3 days prior to February 24, 2022 (PITC) or until they have reached full capacity. You can register [here](#).

This effort has involved 1,600 volunteers countywide in the past, but this year more volunteers are being requested for a thorough count. This is a great way to serve the community as it gives a voice to the homeless and helps direct critical funding for housing and services.

Volunteers will be assigned to a team to help count and interview homeless persons to produce an estimate of the total number of individuals living unsheltered and in shelters in San Diego County.

Data from the *WeAllCount* is used to help inform decision making at both regional and national levels and helps our community to create solutions for homelessness.

Get more information at: <https://www.rtfhsd.org/about-coc/weallcount-pitc/>



SeaWorld San Diego is bringing the excitement of Mardi Gras to Southern California!

This New Orleans-style carnival event comes complete with live music, colorful costumes, and Mardi Gras-infused Creole and Cajun food favorites like hearty jambalaya, those ever-popular beignets, and much more. Don't miss your chance to feel that French Quarter vibe, dance in the streets, and indulge in all the flavor and fun that only Mardi Gras can bring. "Laissez le bon temps rouler!"

Saturdays and Sundays, through February 27th and is included with park admission.

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