



EL CERRITO COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Volume Sixteen: Number 1 January 2022



CELEBRATE AND HONOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. JANUARY 17, 2022

**El Cerrito Community Council Meeting
JANUARY 20, 2022, 7:00 - 9:00 PM**

NEW REGULATIONS ON HOW OUR WASTE IS HANDLED AND PROCESSED

State laws have changed and in the next few years San Diego will be implementing new regulations on how we handle food remains and other recyclables. Join the ECCC to hear the new regulations, how you can start getting ready now and deadlines and fines due to start in a few years.

VIA ZOOM AT

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81759375003?pwd=Szc0WctZUENyTVhPNW1xMVNUNlZtZz09>

**Meeting ID: 817 5937 5003#
Passcode: 127730**

**By Phone & One tap mobile
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose);
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SINGLE RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS AT RISK IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Neighbors For A Better San Diego (N4BSD) have presented information to the Planning Commission and the Land Use & Housing Committee in the last month against the current ordinance that allows multi and massive Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) to be built in single residential zones throughout the City, which was adopted in November 2020 by the City Council.

ADU's, often known as granny flats, as approved by the State and possibly every other community in the State, are usually one or two small living units allowed to be built in single residential backyards.

Unfortunately, the two San Diego groups have recommended approval of the current ordinance, which allows 30 foot tall, many multi-residential units to be built in back yards. This type of development will destroy not only the developed lot, but also the enjoyment of neighboring lots.

Gone will be established trees that scrub the air and produce oxygen, potable soil, gardens, chickens, composting, room for dogs to play and so many other backyard amenities too numerous to list, to be replaced by concrete, glass and asphalt creating heat islands, excess water in gutters and storm drains and increasing City warming with improvements to infrastructure.

If the City Council votes to keep the current ordinance, regular home buyers may not be able to buy single residential homes, as they will be easily outbid by developers, and residential neighborhoods in the City will be destroyed.

Those who want to live in a single residential neighborhood probably will be able to do so by moving out of the City to neighboring areas, where State ADU regulations are followed.

Please look for information from N4BSD and start making plans to attend the February City Council meeting and let your voices be heard.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SEAN ELO RIVERA'S ELECTION TO CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

On December 6, 2021, our District 9 City Councilmember, Sean Elo-Rivera was elected to the position of President of the City Council in an 8-1 vote. In addition to being our D9 Councilmember, Sean sees his new position as a critical role and one for which he has plans.

As president of the City Council, he will prepare the agenda and preside over council meetings. Some of Sean's priorities are housing and the many aspects of the City's homelessness situation.

REDISTRICTING NEW CITY AND COUNTY BOUNDARIES

The San Diego City Redistricting Commission has completed its business of creating new district boundaries for the nine Council Districts for the City of San Diego that have approximately equal population numbers and provide a vote for each citizen.

The Commission members listened to hours of comments and reviewed numerous maps submitted by residents advocating for boundaries that include many types of communities of interest at each meeting.

The 25 meetings held since Census figures were released in August usually started at 5:30 to allow many working residents to participate. One night the meeting went on until 1:30 a.m. the following morning. El Cerrito is still in D-9, which is somewhat similar to the D-9 of the last 10 years and includes Stockton, now District 8, Normal Heights, now District 3, Redwood Village & Rolando Park, now District 4 and SDSU campus in Mission Valley now District 7.

The Commission will follow-up during 2022 with final approvals of the new boundaries by the City Council, to be completed in time for the City Council elections next November. Information on the upcoming January 20, 2022, meeting, agenda & documents are available at <https://www.sandiego.gov/redistricting-commission/meetings>.

El Cerrito is currently represented by two County Supervisors, Nathan Fletcher, and Joel Anderson, but the new County District 4 (D4) boundaries have changed that, and we will all have Nathan Fletcher as our Supervisor. The new D4 is sort of an elongated sock shaped, starting in North Clairemont, then south to Old Town, Hillcrest and downtown, then east all the way to include La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Helix, Grossmont and Rancho San Diego.

The redistricting commission's final maps and reports are available on the County of San Diego Redistricting webpage <https://maulfoster.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=2238a5b85e6f410cadcf66e8098aee2a>

JANUARY IS A GREAT TIME TO EXPLORE THE NEIGHBORHOOD

It is great to be out and about and see neighbors enjoying themselves at dinner, shopping and walking the neighborhood.

SDSU students are on winter break for most of January, so it is a great time to get out to the restaurants and shopping in the neighborhood. There are many new eating and drinking locations and old favorites, all getting rave reviews.

Get back to our neighborhood to eat and support our local businesses.

With less traffic in the area, now is a great time if you have been thinking you would like to shop at Trader Joe's and try the restaurants in the complex on College Avenue. There is a parking garage behind the building, free for the time you will spend shopping and dining. The parking garage is a multi-level structure with elevators big enough for you and your cart plus another, so it really is an easy trip.

There are many businesses you really should try on the El Cerrito Corridor of El Cajon Blvd. We recommend all of the eateries: The Alcove, Smashburger, Pesto Italian Craft Kitchen, Tea Station, Crab Pub, RB Sushi, The Living Room, Scrimshaw Coffee, Crispy Donuts, Sang Dao and all of the rest. Hope we see you out and about in the neighborhood again soon!

PICK UP YOUR DOG'S POOP! NO EXCUSES!

Calling on certain dog walkers. It is so important to get out and walk our best friends, but we are hearing complaints from neighbors, parks and schools about dog poop not getting picked up! This is not good.

The Mann Middle School joint use field is one of the areas we have heard from as one of the areas you absolutely must be diligent about because students also play on the field and when one of them comes into contact with dog poop it can become a health problem for many.

Carry bags, watch your dog and where it poops and pick up after your dog. Plain and simple.

JOIN THE REGIONAL TASK FORCE TO COUNT THE HOMELESS POPULATION FOR WEALLCOUNT, JANUARY 27, 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 that helps the Regional Task Force to better understand the state of homelessness in our region in order to help individuals, veterans, and families leave the streets. Next year that day is Thursday, January 27, 2022. Volunteers meet starting at 5:30 am and head out for counting 6:00 - 9:00 am.

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.

We will post contact information for interested volunteers as soon as we get it so you can sign up. Get more information and Sign Up at <https://www.rtfhsd.org/about-coc/weallcount-pitc/>

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