



## **Bird Rock Community Council**

### **Agendas for the May 7, 2024 Bird Rock Community Council Monthly Community and Quarterly MAD Meetings**

**6:00-7:30 PM**

**Bird Rock Elementary School Auditorium**

**(Enter from La Jolla Hermosa at the south end gate.)**

**Zoom access at**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89409113306?pwd=dER4VWFwMnEzUHYZMHhSeDhPNVcxUT09>

#### **A. BRCC COMMUNITY MEETING**

##### **1. Welcome, Board Member Introductions, Remarks**

Joe Terry – President

Joe Parker – Vice President

Jennifer Van Galder – Secretary

Barbara Dunbar – Treasurer, MAD

Representative and BR Newsletter Editor

Kristin Barret

Craig Bender – Merchants' Group

Representative

Janet Gentile

Marco Gentile

Eric Kleinbub

Lake Price– Web Administer

Janette Williams

##### **2. Brief Updates from the Representatives of Elected Officials**

Codi attended the meeting in person and both Emily and Mariah joined via Zoom. All three and Aurora, who was unable to attend the meeting, provided reports that are in the Appendix. Please contact them if you have any questions about their reports or issues they can help you with.

Here is their contact info.

- Codi Vierra, Field Representative, [Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov](mailto:Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov), 858-455-5550
- Emily Lynch, Community Representative, Office of Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava, [ERLynch@sandiego.gov](mailto:ERLynch@sandiego.gov)

- Mariah Kallhoff, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Tasha Boerner, (858) 481-7704, Email: [Mariah.Kallhoff@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Mariah.Kallhoff@asm.ca.gov)
- Aurora Livingston, District Representative for Senate District 38, Catherine Blakespear, [Aurora.Livingston@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Aurora.Livingston@sen.ca.gov)

### **3. Public Announcements (2 minutes each on non-agenda topics)**

Joe Parker made comments honoring Robert Mulcahy, who was a longtime resident of BR and a BRCC Board member. Here is some of the information Joe shared.

Robert Joseph Mulcahy  
January 22, 1942 – April 30, 2024

Former BRCC Board member and longtime Bird Rock neighbor, friend, motivator, surfer, runner, diplomat, and legend Robert Mulcahy passed peacefully on April 30, 2024, surrounded by family and his beloved wife, Linda J. Mulcahy.

Robert's life was carried out with valor and service. Robert joined the Marine Corps after earning his undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois at Chicago. After training at Quantico, VA, he was stationed at Camp Pendleton. Serving in the Marine Corps from 1967 to 1970, his actions on the battlefield earned him the Vietnam Service Medal, Purple Heart Medal, National Defense Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Transitioning to civilian life, Robert served as a City of San Diego Lifeguard, stationed at Mission Beach and La Jolla. His skill as a lifeguard saved numerous lives, exemplified by his daring cliff rescues. Robert loved his time surfing, marathon running, and competing in triathlons.

Robert's desire for a career led him to Cal Western Law School, where he graduated and joined the California Bar in 1973. His legal career spanning over four decades at the San Diego City Attorney's office culminated in retirement as a Deputy City Attorney. Honored with the Cesar Chavez award and recognized as one of the 'Top Lawyers in San Diego,' his commitment to justice and ethics was unwavering.

A devoted member of St. Brigid Parish, Robert embodied servitude, serving as an altar server, Eucharistic minister, and participant in Bible studies and Meals on Wheels. His dedication extended to the AA community, where he mentored and supported countless individuals.

A humble, intelligent, and kind soul, Robert's absence will be deeply felt. Yet, his spirit lives on, reunited with loved ones in the embrace of his heavenly father."

A memorial mass in Robert's honor was held at St. Brigid Parish. In Robert's memory, contributions to St. Brigid Parish are welcomed, echoing Robert's lifelong devotion to service and faith.

70-year-old surfer Robert Mulcahy



#### **4. La Jolla Bike Path Cleanup April 20**

Thanks to those who organized and/or participated in this community event. Due to the hard work of 19 volunteers, this event decreased the fire hazard and increased visibility along the bike path by collecting 2,500 pounds of brush. The La Jolla Parks and Beaches and the Kiwanis Club of La Jolla partnered to provide volunteers, financial responsibility and insurance for volunteers. During this summer, bike path cleanups will occur monthly. Please watch for emails from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org) with info about future bike path cleanups.

#### **5. Updates on BRCC Projects and Activities**

If you have any questions or comments about the following projects, please email them to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org),

### **a. Bird Rock Perks App**

Thanks to the participating Bird Rock merchants and to the others who contributed to the successful launch of the BR PERKS app. The app provides discounts from Bird Rock merchants exclusively for BRCC members. Currently, 25 Bird Rock merchants are on the app. If you are a BRCC member or become one, look for an email from [no-reply@realperks.com](mailto:no-reply@realperks.com) for info on how to install the app on your smartphone. You can find more info about the app and how to become a BRCC member at <https://www.birdrockcc.org/>.

### **b. Blvd Lighting Project**

The lighting and signage projects for the Bird Rock commercial district will benefit residents, merchants and visitors by providing increased community aesthetics, greater public safety and an enhanced commercial identity for the Bird Rock commercial district.

Thanks to all who came to the successful tree lighting demo April 10 conducted by Urban Landcare. The demo provided an example of tree wrap lighting, which few if any liked, examples of up lighting that could meet the aesthetic objective and examples of down lighting that could meet the increased night safety objective. The BRCC will have a several day demo with attractive tree wrap lighting in early May. Watch for that demo on La Jolla Blvd soon and for emails from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org) with info about that demo and the lighting project.

Two ways to complement or supplement the tree lighting are to convince the businesses to keep on some interior lights, as suggested by the SDPD, and to have the commercial property owners install relatively inexpensive but attractive exterior building lights.

Please let us know what you think about the lighting project, including up lighting, down lighting and tree wrap lighting, by sending an email to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org) by June 3.

### **c. Bird Rock Signage/Monument Project**

In response to an email from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org), we received comments about the signage project options. They ranged from support for a specific option to support for abandoning the project. We have the following rough cost estimates for part of one option.

Cost per bookend rock, including lettering: \$8-10 K

There will be additional costs for the following:

- Union wage (if MAD funds used)
- City permitting process
- Pelicans

A much larger rock etc. in the median near the middle of the 5600 block would be more expensive than a bookend rock etc.

The City permitting process could take 12 months, some projects take much less time and some much more. Getting the right people to help make this a priority would help.

Please let us know what you think about the signage project by sending an email to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org) by June 3.

**d. Pedestrian Crossing Signal Project**

There is no update on this project

**e. I Love a Clean San Diego, Adopt-A-Beach Program**

The next beach cleanup is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 29 from 9 am to noon. Please watch for emails from [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org) with info about the June beach cleanup.

If you have questions or suggestions or are willing to help in any way, please send an email to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org).

**g. Highlight the History of Bird Rock Project**

There is nothing to report on this project.

**h. Happy Hours Project**

The next Bird Rock community happy hour will be Wednesday, May 15 from 5:30 to 7 pm at Beaumont's. It is open to the community and provides an opportunity to get updates & info and to meet other Bird Rockers.

**i. La Jolla Community Planning Association (LJCPA)**

Due to not having a quorum, the annual membership meeting did not occur in April. To join the LJCPA online, you can go to <https://lajollacpa.org/membership-application/>.

**j. E-blast Project**

If you have an e-blast to share with the Bird Rock Community, send it to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org).

**6. Other Topics**

Tips for Motorists Navigating Roundabouts

When you approach a roundabout:

- Slow down as you approach the intersection.
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists crossing the roadway.
- Watch for signs and pavement markings that guide you or prohibit certain movements.
- Enter the roundabout when there is a big enough gap in traffic.
- Drive in a counterclockwise direction. Do not stop or pass other vehicles.

- Use your turn signals when you change lanes or exit the roundabout.
- If you miss your exit, continue around until you return to your exit.

Taken from the Department of Motor Vehicles [California Driver Handbook](#)

Another source provides the following useful Q&A.

Does traffic approaching from one direction have priority over traffic approaching from another direction?

The only priority rule is that drivers inside the roundabout have the right-of-way over any driver entering the roundabout, regardless of approach direction. Every entrance has a yield sign for approaching vehicles.

## **7. Updates from Bird Rock Working Groups**

### **a. Neighborhood Watch**

If you have any questions about the Bird Rock Neighborhood Watch or want to volunteer, send an email to [info@birdrockcc.org](mailto:info@birdrockcc.org).

### **b. Ad hoc Bird Rock Coastal Committee (Don Schmidt, Mary Lynn Hyde)**

There is not a report this month.

### **c. Bird Rock Merchants District (Craig Bender and Ron Fineman)**

As noted above, the BR Perks app was officially launched. To download the RealPerks app, BRCC members should check the same email they used to renew their BRCC membership. We have 25 BR Merchants so far.

The merchants group is helping the BRCC to move the lighting and signage projects forward.

The next merchant group meeting will be in June, with the date and location TBD.

## **8. Next BRCC Community Meeting**

Please join us in person on Tuesday, June 4 at the Bird Rock Elementary School Auditorium. There will be limited Zoom access. Zoom details will be available at <https://www.birdrockcc.org>.

Due to popular demand, we will reduce the number of monthly BRCC Community Meetings to six per year, including the December holiday meeting.

## **9. Adjournment**

## **B. QUARTERLY BIRD ROCK MAD MEETING**

The Bird Rock MAD report, which Barbara Dunbar presented, will be included in the June – July Bird Rock Newsletter.

During the public comments, Craig Bender, the Merchants’ Group Representative, asked who was responsible for pruning and cleaning up the palm trees in Bird Rock and how often they pruned the palm trees. In addition, he asked about the marble-like berries that fall from the palm trees and create a fall hazard for people and poisoning hazard for dogs. Barbara Dunbar said the City is responsible for pruning the palm trees and has a fixed schedule for doing that. Barbara also said that, if you think there is a problem, you should submit a request for action via the City’s Get-It-Done web page or app. Craig suggested that the Bird rock MAD should help with palm tree maintenance issues and Barbara said that it could not do that. Emily Lynch offered to follow up on Get-It-Done requests if the person filing the request sent the Get-It-Done case number to her.

The next quarterly Bird Rock MAD Meeting will be immediately after the Tuesday, September 10, BRCC Community Meeting.

## **Appendix**

### **Written Updates from the Representatives of Elected Officials**

- 1. Aurora Livingston, District Representative for Senate District 38, Catherine Blakespear, [Aurora.Livingston@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Aurora.Livingston@sen.ca.gov)**

#### **Senator Blakespear Legislative Update Summary: May 2024**

##### **Overview**

- o The California State Legislature 2024 Session is currently going through the committee process
- o Bills are being killed, amended, approved, or passed to the next committee
- o Each house has until May 24<sup>th</sup> to get their bills through their original house. Then the bills switch houses and go through the whole process again

##### **Bills - Failed**

- o The Senator’s highest profile bill died – [SB 1196](#) would have modified the End of Life Option Act to expand options for adults to qualify for aid-in-dying medication if they have an incurable disease causing them great suffering
- o Senator Jones bill [SB 1011](#), which she co-authored, also died in the Public Safety Committee - modeled after San Diego’s Unsafe Camping Ordinance, it aimed to address encampments in public places

### **Bills - Success**

- o [SB 1053](#) passed the Senate Environmental Quality Committee – this bill stops the use of plastic bags that are sold at checkout stations to consumers and requires stores to provide recycled paper bags instead (or they can use their own reusable bags)
- o The Senator has 20 bills that are still alive covering various topics so she is very busy · LOSSAN
- o The Senator held her 4<sup>th</sup> [Subcommittee hearing](#) on the LOSSAN Rail Corridor which was focused on the recent repairs in San Clemente and what more needs to be done

### **Out in the Community**

- o On Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup>, Senator Blakespear attended the San Diego Wave soccer game and presented Naomi Girma, the Wave's star defender, with a joint resolution on the field before the game for being named US Soccer's Female Player of the Year for 2023.
- o On Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Senator and I will join People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) on an outreach walk-along in Pacific Beach to engage with folks with lived experience to better understand what is going on at the ground-level in our community and hear from people who these state and local policies on homelessness ultimately impact.

### **Budget Update**

- o [AB 106](#) - There was early action taken on the budget in mid-April – the Governor and legislative leaders agreed to reduce the shortfall by approximately \$17.4 billion. It contains a mix of:
  - \$3.6 billion in reductions (primarily to one-time funding)
  - \$5.2 billion in revenue and borrowing
  - \$5.2 billion in delays
  - \$3.4 billion in shifts from the general fund to other state funds
- o The Governor's office will release a [May Revision](#) on or before May 14<sup>th</sup>

### **District Events**

Our office is planning some exciting district events during summer recess in July and August so I will keep you updated as we confirm details

### **Constituent Services**

Please reach out to our office if you need any assistance with state agencies or if you have comments or questions about any of the bills currently in the legislature.

[Aurora.livingston@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Aurora.livingston@sen.ca.gov) | 760-642-0809

2. **Emily Lynch, Community Representative, Office of Council President Pro Tem Joe LaCava,**  
[ERLynch@sandiego.gov](mailto:ERLynch@sandiego.gov)

**Bird Rock Community Council**



May 2024

## **Police Chief**

In a special Committee of the Whole meeting, Assistant Police Chief Wahl's appointment to Police Chief was approved 8-1. The Council will hear this appointment on May 13<sup>th</sup>, which will be the last step in Assistant Chief Wahl's appointment process.

Assistant Chief Wahl has been with SDPD for 26 years. He also served as the Northern Division Captain, so he is very familiar with District 1 and our coastal communities.

## **Budget**

Mayor Gloria has released his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2025 ([Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Budget | City of San Diego Official Website](#)) You may know that the City of San Diego is facing a series of tough decisions this budget season, and we welcome your feedback on how to balance those competing needs. Budget Review Committee meetings have begun and will continue each business day through May 7.

If you have any questions about the budget process, we encourage you to visit the IBA's website at [sandiego.gov/iba](http://sandiego.gov/iba). I am always here as a resource as well!

## **SDPD Northern Division Spring & Summer Outlook**

On April 27, 2024, an additional seven officers were added to the Northern Division Summer Day Beach Enforcement Teams which will bring Beach Team personnel to a total of 17 officers and 2 Sergeants patrolling coastal beaches, bays, and parklands for the duration of the summer.

Public safety planning is being finalized for joint summer operations between SDPD, Lifeguards, Park Rangers, and the SD Fire Department to include major holiday operations for Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and Labor Day. Expect upwards of 100 officers a day spread throughout the coast on the major holiday weekends this summer.

- 3. Mariah Kallhoff, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Tasha Boerner, (858) 481-7704, Email: [Mariah.Kallhoff@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Mariah.Kallhoff@asm.ca.gov)**

**Field Representative Talking Points  
Assemblymember Tasha Boerner – AD 77  
May 2024**

**Asm. Boerner's Bills Introduced in the 2024 Session:**

1. [AB-1992](#): Blue Carbon Projects in Coastal Developments
  - This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission to add blue carbon demonstration projects to the suite of factors it considers for potential mitigation when approving coastal development permits, where feasible.
  - Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations
  
2. [AB-2007](#): Unicorn Homes Transitional Housing for Homeless LGBTQ+ Youth Program · This bill, upon appropriation by the Legislature, would establish a three-year pilot project expansion of the Unicorn Homes Transitional Housing for Homeless LGBTQ+ Youth Program in up to five selected counties. LGBTQ+ centers within each county would administer the program to house eligible youth in LGBTQ+ affirming host homes.
  - Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations
  
3. [AB-2043](#): Medi-Cal Transportation Reimbursement
  - This bill would require Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCP) to ensure that the fiscal burden of nonemergency medical transportation (NEMT) or nonmedical transportation (NMT) is not unfairly placed on public paratransit service operators.
  - Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations
  
4. [AB-2234](#): E-Bike Safety Training
  - This bill would authorize the County of San Diego to establish a pilot program banning e bikes for anyone under the age of 12.
  - Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations
  
5. [AB-2259](#): Bike Smart Handbook
  - This bill would direct the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) to develop and distribute, on or before September 1, 2025, the Bike Smart Handbook, a bicyclist and e-bike safety handbook based on evidence-based practices and emerging trends.
  - Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations
  
6. [AB-2564](#): Senior and Disabled Citizens Property Tax Postponement Fund
  - This bill would secure a permanent funding source for the Senior Citizens and Disabled Citizens Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Program, supplementing the collections of existing PTP accounts.
  - Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations
  
7. [AB 2666](#) – Refunding Excess IOU Profits
  - This bill would direct the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to require an electrical or gas corporation, if the CPUC determines that an electrical or gas corporation has received revenues from its ratepayers that are in excess of its authorized rate of return for a prior year, to refund any excess revenues from a prior year to its ratepayers.
  - Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations

8. [AB-2683](#) – Cal Advocates: Advocating for Lower Rates

- This bill would require the California Public Advocate’s Office to advocate for lower rates in rate proceedings
- Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations

9. [AB-2715](#): Ralph M. Brown Act: Closed Sessions

- This bill would allow matters of cybersecurity to be discussed by a legislative body of a local agency during closed session, provided that any action taken on those matters is done in open session
- Status: Asm. Committee on Local Government

10. [AB-2756](#): Preventive Postpartum Pelvic Floor & Core Conditioning Exercises · This bill would authorize a three-year pilot program in the county of San Diego for preventive pelvic floor and core conditioning group exercises within the six to twelve week postpartum window to help birthing people rebuild their pelvic floor after pregnancy.

- Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations

11. [AB-2956](#): Medi-Cal Continuous Eligibility

- This bill would adopt a 12-month continuous eligibility for adults and preserve federal flexibilities for Medi-Cal to prevent procedural disenrollments.
- Status: Asm. Committee on Appropriations

**2024 Legislative Deadlines:**

Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>: Last day for policy committees to hear and report non-fiscal bills to the Floor

Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>: Last day for policy committees to meet prior to May 28<sup>th</sup>

Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>: Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report bills to the Floor

Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup>: **Floor Session only**

Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup>: Last day for each house (Assembly/Senate) to pass bills introduced in that house

Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>: **Budget Bill must be passed by midnight PST**

Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>: **Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment

Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>: Legislature reconvenes

Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>: Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills

Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>: **Floor Session only**

Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>: Last day to amend bills on the Floor

Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup>: Last day for each house to pass bills // **Final Recess** upon adjournment

Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>: Last day for the **Governor to sign or veto bills** passed by the Legislature.

**4. Codi Vierra, Field Representative, [Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov](mailto:Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov), 858-455-5550**

Update from the Office of Congressman Scott Peters  
Bird Rock Community Council, 05/07/2024

## Updates from Washington, D.C.

- In early April, Rep. Peters and other members of the San Diego Congressional Delegation announced \$39 million in Shelter and Services Program (SSP) funding for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and partners in the greater San Diego region that support migrant communities seeking shelter, food, and other critical resources. The County of San Diego and the Catholic Charities each received \$19.5 million dollars in SSP funding to assist with migrant arrivals. Prior to this in February, delegation members urged Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas to release available funding for SSP under Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) Continuing Resolutions (CR).
  - **“People who seek asylum and refuge in the U.S. should be treated with respect and dignity,”** said Rep. Scott Peters. **“This funding will allow San Diego nonprofits to continue to provide desperately needed humanitarian aid to individuals and families as they await an immigration court hearing and transportation to another part of the country. I thank the Biden administration and urge Congress to pass the bipartisan border security agreement, which would provide an additional \$1.4 billion in SSP funds, speed up the judicial process, and give resources to Customs and Border Protection to better manage the border.”**
- In mid-April, Rep. Peters and U.S. Senator Alex Padilla introduced legislation to help alleviate the western water crisis, stemming from the long-term drought conditions affecting the Colorado River and its reservoirs. **The Drought Relief Obtained Using Government Help Today (DROUGHT) Act**, would allow federal government loans to take on a greater share of the cost of water infrastructure projects. This bill will support San Diego’s landmark water-recycling project, Pure Water, which will supply half of San Diego’s drinking water by 2035. Currently, projects receiving assistance from the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program (WIFIA) cannot accept assistance from the federal government for over 80% of the projects’ costs. In practice, this limit has created undue burdens on state and local governments, even when they are able to repay the loan regardless of the federal share of initial funding. The DROUGHT Act will raise the limit from 80% to 90% for projects in areas experiencing extreme drought or historically disadvantaged communities. The bill would also require that projects in those areas be prioritized for funding as they represent the greatest need. This bill does not affect the obligation of borrowers to repay their loans, the timeline for repayment, nor interest rates of applicable loans. The DROUGHT Act builds on Representative Peters’ OPRA II Act, which would also support San Diego’s Pure Water project.
  - **“San Diegans know that we cannot take our water for granted — that’s why the City and County are investing in long-term solutions like Pure Water,”** said Rep. Peters. **“My bill will make sure the federal government is also investing in the most basic needs of the millions of people in the West who are subject to drought. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress and our local partners to pass this bill into law.”**

## Updates from San Diego

- **Congressman Peters recently had a very productive District Work Period in San Diego, including the following:**
  - o Several meetings with constituents and local nonprofits/advocacy organizations.
  - o Site visits with several life sciences and tech companies.
  - o Participated in a Diversity & Social Mobility in STEM Roundtable with students and administrators at CSU San Marcos.
  - o Celebrated the opening of the Cabrillo Trail at the Cabrillo National Monument, which will allow many more San Diegans and tourists alike to enjoy the beauty and history of the site. The new trail helps keep visitors off narrow roads with car traffic and gives many more people an opportunity to see the incredible tide pools.
  - o Celebrated groundbreaking at Freedom Park at Navy Pier along the Embarcadero next to the USS Midway. Currently, the land next to the Midway is occupied by a surface parking lot and an eye sore of an unused building that blocks views of the water. Once complete, Freedom Park will be the largest park honoring military veterans on the West Coast. This project has been decades in the making, and Rep. Peters personally worked on it during his time on the City Council, as Chairman of the Port Commission, and now in Congress, where he secured \$2 million to get it off the ground.
  - o Participated in a roundtable discussion at University City High School with students, school officials, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Pacific Southwest Regional Administrator, focusing on the EPA's \$12.4 million grant awarded to the San Diego Unified School District for the purchase of 30 clean energy school buses, funded by the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law supported by the Congressman, and related topics.
  - o Rep. Peters was joined by local leaders, the San Diego Housing Commission, and The San Diego LGBT Community Center to celebrate \$1.5 million in federal funding that Rep. Peters recently secured for a shelter for LGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness. The funding will support SDHC's conversion of unused office space into a 44-bed shelter that will be operated by The Center in partnership with San Diego Youth Services and the YMCA of San Diego County. Scheduled to open later this year or early next year, it will be the first permanent LGBTQ+-affirming youth shelter in San Diego.
  - o Rep. Peters joined other members of San Diego's congressional delegation and other local leaders for the San Diego Chamber of Commerce Luncheon. Discussion topics included inflation, immigration reform, rising costs of healthcare, childcare, housing, and infrastructure.
  - o Celebrated National Small Business Week by visiting and highlighting small businesses in the district and presenting a proclamation to the local Small Business Administration leadership.
- **Congressional Art Competition**

- o The Congressional Art submission deadline closed on April 19<sup>th</sup>. We received numerous submissions. The artwork was judged by our panel of community judges.
- o The winning artwork will be proudly displayed in our nation's Capitol for one year. The San Diego History Center will also host a reception with all the submitted artwork, tentatively on May 28<sup>th</sup>, and will create an exhibit of the students' work to be displayed throughout the summer.

o More details can be found at <https://scottpeters.house.gov/art-competition>. • **Congressional App Competition**

- o The Congressional App Challenge officially launched last week on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Students are now eligible to register and may start submitting their full applications. Applications will close on **October 24, 2024**, at 9:00 AM Pacific Time. A winner will be announced in early December 2024. Every spring, winning individuals or teams are invited to Capitol Hill where they demo their apps to their Representatives at a celebration called #HouseOfCode. It's the most prestigious demo day in student STEM — the new national science fair. At #HouseOfCode students get to see their apps displayed in the U.S. Capitol Building, meet their Representatives, and connect with other coders from around the country!
- o More information is available at <https://scottpeters.house.gov/app-challenge>. For questions, please call our office at (858) 455-5550 or email [Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov](mailto:Codi.Vierra@mail.house.gov).