



# e-Connection

Southeastern Economic Development Corporation E-Newsletter

## President's Message

*The time has come for me to turn the leadership of SEDC over to Jerry Groomes and to move on. This is a bittersweet moment for me because the past 27 months have been so personally rewarding. During this time there have been many challenges, but thanks to the incredible spirit of the people living in southeastern San Diego and the hard work of SEDC's staff, I am pleased to say SEDC's future is secure.*

*I also want to thank the many community members who supported and believed in my mission to put SEDC back on track. You let me be part of your community and for that I am and will always be eternally grateful. It is an honor to know each and every one of you and I wish all of you only the best. I will not be leaving the community entirely because there is so much more to do and I want to be part of making your dreams come true. So, I will not say goodbye. Instead, let me just say "hasta luego" because I will see you again...and soon.*

*Now, please join me in welcoming Mr. Jerry Groomes back to SEDC.*

*Brian L. Trotier, Acting President and CEO*

## Vista Grande Apartments Rehab by Wakeland



Wakeland Rehab Vista Grande

### Vista Grande Apartments sees rehab and creation of local jobs

SEDC is currently involved in funding the rehabilitation of Vista Grande Apartments, a 49 unit development located in the Southeastern San Diego Community Planning Area. The developer, Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation, is performing extensive upgrades to the severely dilapidated units and has demolished one structure to make way for a new community center with a computer lab, kitchen, leasing office, and laundry facilities. Already, the installation of new windows and heaters has been

completed and roofing work has begun.

Wakeland has worked with the property manager, ConAm, and general contractor, Portrait Homes, to ensure that the project utilizes the local workforce. To this end, a job fair was held on site for residents, resulting in three hires of residents both from Vista Grande and the immediate neighborhood. Wakeland hired the consulting firm, Multi-Cultural Contractors Group, to assist in the hiring of District 4 subcontractors. Security at the property during the construction process is provided by a local (District 4) minority owned security firm and foundation/flatwork/masonry, roofing, landscaping and painting will also be completed by District 4 subcontractors. Upon completion of the rehab, Vista Grande will provide housing for those earning below 50% of the area median income.

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### Acting President/CEO:

Brian L. Trotier

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## 43rd Street Realignment



43rd St Realignment Ceremony

This project will realign 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, National Avenue, Logan Avenue, and San Pasqual Street. Additionally, the roadway improvements, the aged infrastructure (e.g. sewer, water, storm drains, etc). Will be completely replaced. The Storm Water Department has partnered with Engineering & Capital Projects Department to incorporate a water quality component that includes curbside filtration planters along the realigned intersection and a bio filtration basin at the corner of Logan Avenue and 43<sup>rd</sup> Street. This component will reduce pollutants discharged into the Chollas Creek and will assist the City in meeting storm water discharge quality requirements established by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board. Ground Breaking took place November 29<sup>th</sup> 2010.

For more information, contact us at:

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Sincerely,

Southeastern Economic  
Development Corporation

## Proclamation from Supervisor Cox to Brian Trotier for Graffiti Tracker Program



Proclamation Brian Trotier Day

Brian Trotier Day in the County of San Diego

Supervisor Greg Cox proclaimed January 5, 2011 as "Brian Trotier Day" in the County of San Diego in recognition of his commitment and service to the southeastern San Diego community. During his final "Coffee with SEDC", Supervisor Cox presented Brian with the special proclamation.

In October 2008, the Board of Directors hired Brian as the Acting President/CEO of the Southeastern Economic Development Corporation and what was initially intended to be a 5-month assignment turned into 27-months. Board chair Cruz Gonzalez had this to say "Brian has done an incredible job as the Acting President of SEDC over the past two years. He accepted what was to be a short-term limited assignment and worked closely with the Board to lead the corporation through

some very challenging times. His level of professionalism and dedication to the organization and the community has been extraordinary. Personally, and as the Chair of the Board it has been my pleasure and an honor to work with Brian."

Brian has often said that his time at SEDC has been one of the most rewarding experiences of his life.

## Guest Correspondence

(Bay Terrace Community Clean-Up by Muriel King)



Bay Terrace Clean-Up by Muriel King

The clean-up went forward despite the rain and cancellations. Sixty students showed most from Morris, Bell, SCPA, and Sweetwater. We replaced a decomposed split-railed fence, picked up trash, cleared some weeds, planted 30 Trailing Lantana plants along the south blvd area of Woodman, and other plants at the hillsides to help stabilize them. In addition, we cleaned the street median (police arrived to let us know we needed safety vests). Because we could not finish all that we had planned due to the rain, we went back to Woodman with 20 students--all from Morse. Eight of those students stayed from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It was wonderful to see them work and enjoy what they were

doing. One of the students, Derita, got so excited when she discovered a set of buried logs along a hillside property that apparently had been set up as stairs. She and another young man, Taven worked at that for at least an hour, uncovering the logs that now accent the area giving it an exotic feel...we plan on enhancing the area even more by trimming the Yucca plants (the dead ugly frond) and doing some more planting at that hillside, as well as the other hillside properties (we have already gotten permission from the homeowners--for whatever reason have not maintained the properties)...Anyway I could go on & on ...my only concern is that we need help with tools (for now we have borrowed from *Rebuilding San Diego Together*), snacks, some professional manpower, etc. (Connie Beck, a landscape designer who teaches at Cuyamaca College donated her time, but I could not get the Black Contractor's Association to volunteer their time, so I had to get 2 corner guys form Home Depot, at my own expense to help put up the split-rail fence...okay I will end at this point, I think you may get my point). Again, thanks so much for your interest. Sincerely, Muriel King

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