



## **\$25 Million to go Toward Development of Affordable Housing Projects**

**February 17, 2017 | Kelsey Meksto**

<http://www.cw6sandiego.com/25-million-go-toward-development-affordable-housing-projects/>

SAN DIEGO (CNS) – The City of San Diego today announced the availability of \$25 million in funds to help in the development of affordable housing projects.

The Notice of Funding Availability was released by Civic San Diego. It will allow projects that meet certain affordability requirements and development objectives to apply for funds in order to facilitate the

development of affordable rental units for San Diegans.

The goal is to leverage the \$25 million at below market interest rates with other funding sources from public and/or private organizations, applying them to several projects that demonstrate affordability and mixed income levels, according to city officials.

“One of the biggest challenges facing our city is the lack of housing and, in particular, affordable housing,” Mayor Kevin Faulconer said in a statement. “We need more housing at prices people can afford and this is just one of many steps we’ll be taking to put more shovels in the ground and get more projects built.”

The \$25 million will be funded from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund in accordance with the City’s adopted Affordable Housing Master Plan. Qualified affordable housing developers meeting the NOFA qualifications and demonstrating the ability to design, build and manage affordable housing were encouraged to submit proposals.

“This is a great opportunity for us to collaborate with developers and communities to help meet a significant shortage of affordable homes for our residents in San Diego,” Reese Jarrett, president of Civic San Diego said.

“We are excited that the deployment of these funds will provide opportunities for families to obtain housing within the means of their income levels.”

The funds are part of the city’s overall approach to increasing affordable housing supply and providing permanent housing for homeless and veterans that was mentioned in Faulconer’s State of the City address in January.

“This is exciting news for the entire San Diego region,” Kris Michell, president and CEO of the **Downtown San Diego Partnership** said. “The high cost of housing is a huge impediment for businesses and young talent looking to relocate to San Diego.”



## **City Offers \$25 Million in Funding to Develop Affordable Housing**

**February 17, 2017 | Debbie Skylar**

<https://timesofsandiego.com/politics/2017/02/17/city-offers-25-million-in-funding-to-develop-affordable-housing/>

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## San Diego to Deploy World’s Largest City-Based ‘Internet of Things’ Platform Using Smart Streetlights February 22, 2017 | Office of Mayor Kevin Faulconer



<https://www.sandiego.gov/mayor/news/releases/san-diego-deploy-world%E2%80%99s-largest-city-based-%E2%80%99internet-things%E2%80%99-platform-using-smart>

San Diego – In the heart of the East Village, Mayor Kevin Faulconer announced that the City of San Diego is partnering with GE to upgrade streetlights to reduce energy costs by 60 percent as well as transform them into a connected digital network that can optimize parking and traffic, enhance public safety and track air quality.

The deployment of 3,200 smart sensors will be the largest city-based deployment of an “Internet of Things” platform in the world.

“Fostering innovation and improving infrastructure are important to enhancing the lives of all San Diegans,” Mayor Faulconer said. “This new technology will give the City and developers the opportunity to make our neighborhoods safer and smarter.”

The City will be installing smart nodes that can use real-time anonymous sensor data to do things such as direct drivers to open parking spaces, help first responders during emergencies, track carbon emissions and identify intersections that

can be improved for pedestrians and cyclists. The information can be used to support San Diego's "Vision Zero" strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries.

GE's digital engine for intelligent environments, called "Current," specializes in creating intelligent environments for commercial buildings and industrial facilities. GE has been working to extend similar digital capabilities across cities via their lighting infrastructure.

"We're honored to be part of this historic transformation," said Maryrose Sylvester, President & CEO of Current, powered by GE. "We have a proud history of helping San Diego proactively save energy through efficient lighting, and now we're expanding that same infrastructure beyond energy into a new realm of intelligence."

The 3,200 sensor nodes across the city are the latest step in creating a smart network. There is the potential to expand to another 3,000 points in the future.

The anonymous information from the sensors can be used by developers to create apps and software that can benefit the community.

"This technology is powerful. Downtown visitors will be able to find parking easily and in real time using a smart phone, and the environmental and transportation data will help Downtown meet the goals of the Climate Action Plan. This is a huge win for San Diego," said **Kris Michell, the President & CEO of the Downtown San Diego Partnership.**

Additionally, the City will be replacing 14,000 streetlights with more energy efficient versions, which will reduce energy costs by \$2.4 million annually. These streetlights include technology that allows for dimming and brightening in public venues manually or automatically, depending on natural light conditions.

The City expects the project to achieve an estimated 60 percent reduction in energy. In addition to reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions, the streetlights will also reduce light pollution. Adaptive controls reduce environmental impacts by providing the ability to further dim the lights on fixtures remotely, based on need or situation, and lumen maintenance capabilities, therefore saving additional energy and the life of the fixture.

The Adaptive Control System is an advanced SDG&E approved "meter" that captures real time interval data, monitoring and notifications for maintenance purposes and also provides GPS coordinates at each fixture. Over the life of each fixture the system automatically ramps up power as needed to meet specified lighting standards.

Installation of the new lights will begin citywide this summer and the project is expected to be completed by fall 2018.

## The San Diego Union-Tribune

### **You'll Soon be Able to Use a Phone App to Find Parking in San Diego**

**February 22, 2017 | Gary Robbins**

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/sd-me-parking-app-20170222-story.html>

Motorists will soon be able to find opening parking spaces in San Diego by using an app on their smartphones.

The city and its partners announced Wednesday that, starting in July, they will equip streetlights with sensors that are able to spot open spaces, and relay that information.

The 3,200 sensors also can be programmed for other tasks, such as monitoring environmental conditions and finding ways to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists to move through through traffic intersections.

"This new technology will give the City and developers the opportunity to make our neighborhoods safer and smarter," Mayor Kevin Faulconer said during a news conference in East Village, which was the site of a pilot program for the sensors.

The sensors are part of a larger project in which the city is working with GE to replace 14,000 streetlights with ones that are more energy efficient, potentially reducing San Diego's energy costs by about \$2.4 million a year. The new streetlights can be brightened or dimmed in public places, depending on the city's needs.

Some of the \$2.4 million in expected savings will be used to install the sensors, which will collect real-time anonymized data. The sensors can hear sound. But GE officials say the sensors cannot be used to listen to people's conversations.

**Kris Michell, president of the Downtown San Diego Partnership**, said, "This technology is powerful. Downtown visitors will be able to find parking easily and in real time using a smart phone, and the environmental and transportation data will help Downtown meet the goals of the Climate Action Plan. This is a huge win for San Diego."



## **Mayor Announces High-Tech Makeover of 3,200 Streetlights in San Diego**

**February 22, 2017 | Cassia Pollock**

<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/Mayor-Announces-High-Tech-Makeover-of-3200-Streetlights-in-San-Diego-414540673.html>

The streetlights in San Diego are about to get a high-tech makeover, with the deployment of 3,200 smart sensors, announced Mayor Kevin Faulconer. At a conference held in East Village at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Mayor Faulconer explained the city is partnering with GE to work on a project unique to San Diego. The smart streetlights will reduce energy costs by 60 percent in the city.

It will be one of the largest 'Internet of Things' platforms in the world, according to the city. With the sensors, the streetlights will transform into a connected digital network that can maximize efficiency for parking and traffic, as well as support public safety and track air quality.

"This technology is powerful. Downtown visitors will be able to find parking easily and in real time using a smart phone, and the environmental and transportation data will help Downtown to meet the goals of the Climate Action Plan. This is a huge win for San Diego," said **Kris Michell, the President and CEO of the Downtown San Diego Partnership**, in a statement.

The smart streetlights will reduce energy costs by 60 percent in the city. With the sensors, the streetlights will transform into a connected digital network that can maximize efficiency for parking and traffic, as well as support public safety and track air quality.

City officials say the sensors can use real-time anonymous sensor data to direct drivers to open parking spaces, help first responders in emergencies, track carbon emissions and identify intersections that can be made safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

Moreover, the City will replace 14,000 streetlights with more energy efficient versions, according to the city. The improved version allows for dimming and brightening in public venues manually or automatically, with regards to natural light conditions.

"We're honored to be part of this historic transformation," said Maryrose Sylvester, President and CEO of Current, powered by GE, in a statement. "We have a proud history of helping San Diego proactively save energy through efficient lighting, and now we're expanding that same infrastructure beyond energy into a new realm of intelligence."

The project is expected to be completed by fall 2018, but installation of the new lights will begin this summer across the city. Although the city will start with 3,200 sensor nodes, there is potential to expand to another 3,000 points later.



## Cliff Notes on the News | February 25, 2017 | Cliff Albert

Downtown San Diego Partnership President and CEO **Kris Michell** joins Cliff Albert to discuss the installation of 3,200 “smart sensors” in and around Downtown San Diego to save energy and help provide data on traffic, parking availability, and other real-time information.



## Downtown Partnership Installation Dinner is Thursday at the Marriott Marquis February 28, 2016 | Allen Denton & Sandra Maas



<http://www.kusi.com/clip/13139285/the-annual-installation-dinner-is-this-thursday-at-the-marriott-marquis>

This Thursday, the **Downtown San Diego Partnership** is putting on their annual Installation Dinner, where our very own Brandi Williams is the emcee. Kris Michell, the CEO of the Downtown San Diego Partnership, joined KUSI with more about the dinner and the projects happening around San Diego.



## San Diego's Coordinated Effort Aims to Combat Homelessness March 1, 2017 | Stacie Spector

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/commentary/sd-utbg-homeless-center-spector-20170301-story.html>

Homelessness is being discussed in neighborhoods across the county. Reducing the number of homeless individuals requires publicly tackling some of the most personal issues that exist in public policy. Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, the City Council, county supervisors, San Diego Housing Commission, members of the Regional Task Force for the Homeless and many other regional partners all know that success in addressing this challenge is only possible through coordination, communication and innovation.

Working alongside City Council members we are helping to maximize resources across our region's homeless care initiatives and developing a long term regional ecosystem that can be sustained over time. And working with the Regional Task Force, we are participating in the development of a cross-jurisdictional regional plan to move a larger number of homeless individuals into permanent, supportive housing.

The long-term vision is to provide our region with a solid process for the delivery of support services and housing for individuals who are homeless. This "ecosystem" will benefit from the work that has been done by the Regional Task Force which has created the technological infrastructure, coordinated entry system, centralized data collection and analysis. While integrating and leveraging this coordinated system, there is need for comprehensive Support Service Assessment Center(s) that function as a primary entry points for triage, assessment and on-site services, as well as providing permanent housing and bridge housing.

Community input drives innovation, therefore the city is asking the region's homeless service providers for their ideas and input. Earlier this month the city issued a public Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) as an initial step toward the development of a Support Service Assessment Center. Services providers who qualify under this process will be eligible to submit proposal for a Request for Proposal (RFP) the city will develop later this year. The city has \$12.5 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funds available to leverage with other private and public resources to fund the establishment of the center.

National research and lessons learned by other cities provide some terrific insights with evidence showing that when clients who are homeless have a direct relationship with a provider there is an increased likelihood for successful engagement and advancement on a path to housing and stability.

We look forward to many creative ideas from providers. We expect the assessment center will elevate the coordinated process with the inclusion of permanent supportive housing, triage beds, access to vital records, on-site medical and dental care, work force and life skills, and more. Depending on the services needed by the individual, some will be eligible for housing at the assessment center and others will work with program staff on coordinated referrals for appropriate housing and services.

Proponents recognize a new facility will not solve the region's housing needs all by itself. But it will provide a starting point for homeless individuals entering the regional support network. They will be assessed based on their individual needs and then directed to the best program, provider or housing option for them.

We are confident such a facility — as part of an overall ecosystem — will facilitate reducing the number of people who are homeless. They will connect our most vulnerable to the support, services and housing necessary to end the cycle of homelessness. A well-functioning ecosystem would need not be dependent on any elected official or specific government administration. It's the underpinnings, the blueprint, for moving more folks into permanent supportive housing in the most cost-effective manner.

Looking ahead, the city, in coordination with our partners, is projecting the amount of permanent supportive housing being built over the next several years, assessing what additional housing will be needed, working toward adding more housing and examining policy issues that will help ensure fewer people face homelessness going forward.

Simultaneously we are pursuing short-term collaborative strategies to reduce the number of unsheltered. These include enhancing and expanding the **Family Reunification Program**; establishing a 24/7 hotline for shelter bed availability; adding temporary immediate beds for our most vulnerable people; increasing the number of beds available for low-level misdemeanor offenders in the San Diego Misdemeanants At-Risk Track (SMART) program; and working with the County to expand mental health outreach, and the San Diego Housing Commission to increase landlord engagement to provide more housing options and establishing prevention and diversion programs.

The bottom line is we are moving forward on several fronts to tackle the homeless crisis head-on. This problem didn't start overnight and it won't be solved overnight, but working together we can make a difference in the lives of the women, children and men living on our streets. Thank you for your patience and support in helping our neighbors.



## Downtown Partnership Hosts Annual Installation Dinner

March 2, 2017 | Brandi Williams



Brandi Williams is performing double duty tonight as emcee for the **Downtown Partnership's 2017 Installation Dinner** and as KUSI's on-scene reporter. The festivities, including a special guest appearance by Mayor Kevin Faulconer, are taking place at the beautiful Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina.



## At the Center of Downtown's Growing Tech Ecosystem

March 3, 2017 | Kris Michell

<http://sandiegodowntownnews.com/at-the-center-of-downtowns-growing-tech-ecosystem/>

You have an idea that you want to turn into a company? Pitching to investors but with little success? Not sure what to do?

These are the questions that weigh on entrepreneurs trying to transform a preliminary concept into a successful business, and are the questions that can be answered when the resources and tools are nearby. That is where the **Downtown San Diego Partnership** is stepping up to make a difference.

Let's grow and foster a startup community where knowledge can be easily shared, right here in downtown.

To strengthen Downtown's growing tech ecosystem, the Partnership is partnering with UC San Diego Extension. Launched last summer, the **Collaboratory for Downtown Innovation**, or CDI, offers a variety of programs to help local entrepreneurs develop the networks critical for future growth. Classes are taught right here at the partnership's offices.

In collaboration with UC San Diego Office of Innovation and Commercialization, CDI recently launched the first program of its kind — a free, six-week Entrepreneur Certificate Program. The program is focused on early-stage founders who

have already decided to start their business and are now focused on execution but need further support to take the next step.

The Entrepreneur Certificate Program helps participants discover what they need to be successful by providing practical knowledge. This allows them to focus on critical business needs.

This is an exciting opportunity for early-stage entrepreneurs looking to take off.

Students have access to some of the biggest names in the startup space. The program is facilitated by Greg Horowitz, co-founder and managing director of T2 Venture Creation. Horowitz has spent more than 25 years working in startups and venture capital, and has been a founder, investor and board member in many leading organizations.

As the inaugural class comes to end, there are so many inspiring stories. Take Melissa, the wife of a disabled veteran, who started an online stationary business before her husband was injured.

After relaunching her website, she is now using the class to help regrow her customer base. Or Ryan, a retiring U.S. Navy officer looking to start his next chapter by starting a business.

There are many exciting things happening in the Downtown startup space, and the Downtown Partnership is proud of, and committed to, its work in this area.

The innovation economy is critical to Downtown's continued growth and success, and we look forward to continuing to work with our partners to make Downtown a center of innovation.

## The San Diego Union-Tribune

**If the Truth be Known**

**March 4, 2017 | Diane Bell**



<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/columnists/diane-bell/sd-me-bell-20170304-story.html>

Politically correct, it was not! Zingers were tossed out like confetti by Mayor Kevin Faulconer as he roasted just about everyone and everything except the roast chicken served at the **Downtown San Diego Partnership's** third annual "KEVtalk" dinner.

All San Diego City Council members were fair game as were SANDAG expenses and its offering of "alternative facts," Trump-ed up fake news, the county government and county supervisors "who ensured our seniors have pay security by voting themselves a raise."

Ex-Supervisor Dave Roberts was needed for claiming disability, surely exacerbated, Faulconer said, by shaking too many hands.

Contrary to President Trump, Faulconer stressed, “There’s only one more wall we want to see — a wall around Cory Briggs (the quick-triggered attorney who challenged the convention center expansion).

Faulconer even took a swipe at his own political party: “It’s hard to be a Republican these days. ‘Kev’ gets lonely.”

But the mayor’s greatest pent-up rancor was reserved for the Chargers and team owner Dean Spanos. He claimed more people were at his own inauguration than at the Chargers welcome rally in L.A. — “Tens and tens of people.”

As the stadium issue festered, Faulconer confessed he was forced for three years to talk about football but can now turn his attention to fútbol (soccer): “Spanos is L.A.’s problem now.”



The mayor also blasted the poorly conceived L.A. Chargers’ lightning bolt logo. Then he playfully added its ragged bolts to standing logos for SDG&E, Ace Parking, Cox, the City of San Diego and even the Sierra Club’s symbolic pine tree.

But the Downtown San Diego Partnership had the last laugh. A not-very-mayoral-looking “Kev” bobblehead was at the center of every table depicting Faulconer in a hard hat and yellow work vest: his pothole-filling garb.