



# 2024 Legislative Actions & Accomplishments

## Supervisor Joel Anderson District 2



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# A Letter from Joel

Dear Friends,

As your County Supervisor, it is important to show the progress we have made this past year through this 2024 Legislative Actions & Accomplishments Report. Constituents deserve to have a report card of all the things my office has done to advocate for you and the issues you care about most.

In 2024, together, we addressed items in every single one of the top priorities outlined for District 2. These priorities included Public Safety, Fire Safety, Homelessness, Attainable Housing, and Economic Development. In addition, we have held numerous town halls and community coffees throughout the Second District connecting residents to services they need most. We also empowered local nonprofits and businesses to do incredible work in our communities through County grants.

Making County government work for you will always be my top priority. Thank you for your support.

It is an honor to serve you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

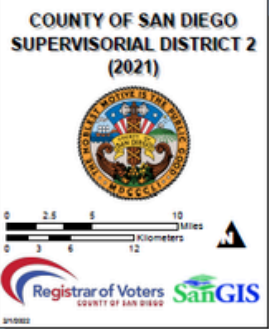
Joel Anderson



Supervisor Anderson represents District 2, which includes:

- 4 cities
- 39 unincorporated communities
- 10 Tribal Governments

Cities included:  
 El Cajon  
 Poway  
 Santee  
 San Diego (parts of)



# District 2

Tribal governments:

- Barona
- Campo
- Capitan Grande
- Ewiiapaayp
- Inaja-Cosmit
- Jamul Indian Village
- La Posta
- Manzanita
- Sycuan
- Viejas

San Diego Communities

- Allied Gardens
- Carmel Mountain Ranch
- Del Cerro
- Grantsville
- Kearny Mesa
- MCAS Miramar
- Miramar Ranch
- Rancho Bernardo
- Sabre Springs
- San Carlos
- San Pasqual Valley
- Scripps Ranch
- Serra Mesa
- Stonebridge
- Tierrasanta

County Communities

- 4S Ranch
- Alpine
- Barrett
- Blossom Valley
- Bostonia
- Boulevard
- Campo
- Crest
- Cuyamaca
- Dehesa
- Del Dios
- Descanso
- Dulzura
- Eucalyptus Hills
- Fernbrook
- Flinn Springs
- Granite Hills
- Guatay

- Harbison Canyon
- Jacumba
- Jamul
- Johnston
- Julian
- Lake Hodges
- Lake Morena
- Lakeside
- Morena Village
- Mount Laguna
- Pine Hills
- Pine Valley
- Potrero
- Ramona
- San Diego Country Estates
- San Pasqual
- Santa Fe Valley
- Tecate
- Tierra Del Sol
- Winter Gardens
- Wynola



# What Does The County Do?

The County government (County) makes important decisions that touch the lives of all San Diego County residents. Whether you live in one of the region's 18 cities or in an unincorporated community, the County provides a wide range of services.

## Health and Human Services

- Mental & Behavioral Health
- Homeless Solutions
- Public Health & Epidemiology
- In-Home Supportive Services
- Foster Care & Child Welfare



## Environmental Health

- Food & Community Event Permits
- Vector Control
- Land & Water Quality
- Restaurant Inspections



## Public Safety

- Disaster Response
- Law Enforcement
- Medical Examiner
- Fire Protection
- Animal Services



## Self-Sufficiency Services

- CalFresh
- CalWorks
- Medi-Cal
- Rental & Housing Assistance
- Veterans Services



In addition to its wider role serving the entire region, the County also provides municipal services to unincorporated communities that do not have a city government. The County is responsible for operating parks & libraries, maintaining roads, overseeing zoning and building, and providing law enforcement, fire, and paramedic services in these communities.



COUNTY OF  
SAN DIEGO

# What's a Board Letter?



At the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Anderson passes legislation through “Board Letters.” Most Board Letters need at least three votes to pass. Once passed, these policy directives and initiatives are then implemented by the County’s Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

Since being elected in 2021, Supervisor Anderson has authored or co-authored more than 70 Board Letters. These actions have included everything from the purchase of a new fire helicopter that can fight fires at night to enacting a pilot shallow rent subsidy program for seniors.

**Scan QR Code  
to visit website  
with all BLs**



## Board Letters Made All of the Following Possible:

- \$16 million Fire Helicopter
- Reduced homelessness by 27% in East County
- Government Transparency
- Enhanced Wildfire Safety on Roads
- Expanding Housing Trust Fund
- Shallow Rent Subsidy Program for Seniors
- Shut Down All Illegal Pot Shops
- Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations
- Increased Recreational Access to Reservoirs
- Addressing Anticipated Shortages of Public Safety Officers
- Expanding Broadband Access
- AgPass Program
- Prioritizing Veteran Families
- Adding Unincorporated Seat on SANDAG
- Senior Shared Housing
- Unsafe Camping Ordinance
- Exploring Childcare Services for Public Safety Personnel
- and more!

**76** = *Number of Board Letters  
Authored or Co-Authored by  
Supervisor Anderson since  
taking office in 2021*

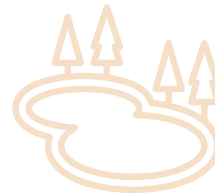


# Advocating for District 2 Community Needs in the County Budget



Each year the County Board of Supervisors passes a budget for the new Fiscal Year (FY) which begins on July 1. County budgets require months of planning, collaboration, and even compromise. This year, Supervisor Anderson was proud to advocate for and include the following District 2 projects and priorities in the County's FY 24-25 Budget:

- **Ramona Fire Station 80 - \$250,000**
- **Ramona Sheriff's Substation - \$5,000,000**
- **Stowe Trail - \$4,400,000**
- **Sycamore Canyon Trails - \$3,600,000**
- **Lindo Lake Improvements - \$4,000,000**
- **East County Archery Park - \$150,000**
- **Keeping Lake Hodges, Lake Sutherland, and El Capitan Reservoirs Open - \$59,000**





# Focusing on Infrastructure Better Roads!

District 2 constituents in the unincorporated areas deserve to have high quality infrastructure - that includes roads that are in good condition. After securing an increase of more than \$25 million in last year's County budget to improve our road conditions, Supervisor Anderson has continued to support additional resurfacing projects in every community.



This year, Supervisor Anderson advocated for roads that constituents specifically identified as needing attention. The County's Road Resurfacing Project allocates \$65.5 million to the resurfacing of over 101 centerline miles of county-maintained roads.



**Money Allocated in County Budget for road projects**



**\$65.5 Million  
County's Road  
Resurfacing Project**



Alpine Road - Dunbar Lane  
before resurfacing



After resurfacing



More District 2 roads before and after resurfacing





# Protecting Public Access for Public Recreation

Constituents Tom Lowery and Rob Magargal reached out to Supervisor Anderson in June 2024 regarding a concerning \$59,000 cut that was being proposed for the City of San Diego's Public Utilities Department (PUD) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 from the City Lakes Recreation Program.



This \$59,000 cut would have resulted in:

- El Capitan Reservoir closing an additional month
- Hodges Reservoir closing an additional month
- Sutherland Reservoir closing an additional day each week

Supervisor Anderson successfully advocated for Tom, Rob, and the more than 750 constituents who signed his petition and letter to secure the funding needed for this budget shortfall from County resources. Now, these lakes and reservoirs will stay open! Your active participation made sure that your voices were heard. This collective achievement demonstrates the power of our unified voice and reinforces Supervisor Anderson's commitment to protecting public access to public recreation.

Tom Lowery (left) and Rob Magargal (right)



## County Budget line item showing Supervisor Anderson's successful request:

- ◆ \$0.15 million for a pilot archery project at County Park.
- ◆ \$0.059 million to support Lake Hodges, Lake Sutherland and El Capitan reservoirs to remain open.
- ◆ Increase of \$0.3 million for community programs to strengthen language access in the region.



# Community Coffee Town Halls



One of Supervisor Anderson's favorite parts of his job is being able to connect with his constituents at his Community Coffee Town Halls. Supervisor Anderson knows the best way to meet with the community is face to face, hearing from them directly about their thoughts concerns, and County needs. In 2024, the Supervisor hosted four Community Coffee Town Hall meetings in El Cajon, Scripps Ranch, Lakeside, and Tierrasanta and Serra Mesa. At these lively events, constituents are able to be connected directly to the Supervisor's staff for assistance with any County-related issues.

Over five-hundred people attended these meetings with even more tuning into the livestreams provided.



For more information on upcoming Community Coffee Town Halls scan the QR code below:



Supervisor Anderson speaking with constituents at his Scripps Ranch town hall







# Exploring Childcare Services for our Deputies & Public Safety Personnel

In February 2024, Supervisor Anderson brought forward Board action with San Diego County Sheriff Kelly Martinez to explore the feasibility of childcare services for the Sheriff’s Department and Public Safety personnel.



**A lack of childcare services continues to contribute to personnel shortages**

Working long shifts and sometimes overnight, it can be nearly impossible and incredibly expensive to find suitable childcare for those working in the public safety field. This benefit could help retain and attract both sworn and professional personnel which will enhance public safety throughout the County.



Sheriff Kelly Martinez (left) with Supervisor Joel Anderson (right)

“ We need to look at everything on the table to retain and attract the best folks in law enforcement. **-Supervisor Joel Anderson** ”

Agenda Item 12:  
Exploring the Feasibility of Childcare Services for Sheriff’s Department and Public Safety Personnel from Supervisor Joel Anderson & Sheriff Kelly Martinez  
February 6, 2024

VOTE: 5-0



# Enhancing Wildfire Safety of Homes While Providing Financial Relief with the Cost of Insurance



Many constituents have reached out to Supervisor Anderson with concerns regarding fire insurance. As the only Supervisor who lives in an unincorporated community, he knows first-hand the challenges homeowners face as we have seen our costs and premiums skyrocket. Working with his colleague Supervisor Jim Desmond (District 5) and County Fire, are helping make a positive impact at the County level. The Insurance Institute for Business & Home and Safety (IBHS) has established a program in CA that offers a discount on the cost of insurance to homeowners who apply to participate in this program and meet the fire safety requirements.

**Those who may benefit most from this program include:**

- **New residential construction permit holders**
- **Participants in the California Wildfire Mitigation Program (Home Hardening Grant)**
- **Homes built after the 2008 building code update, which incorporated fire-resistant materials**

**Scan QR Code to learn more about the Wildfire Prepared Home Program**



The Wildfire Prepared Home Program is a DIY (do-it-yourself) model where homeowners must independently complete the necessary mitigation steps at their residence. This can be an overwhelming process. That is why this board action partners with County Fire team to provide a dedicated San Diego County Fire Protection District (SDCFPD) staff member to assist in this process. The staff member will assist homeowners in the SDCFPD by offering guidance on SDCFPD regulations, helping with applications, and performing inspections to ensure compliance.

## IMPORTANT

**This program may not be suitable for everyone, but for those who qualify, it is a step in the right direction.**

**While the County does not have direct control over insurance rates, we can make a meaningful difference by empowering residents to reduce wildfire risks and protect their homes.**





# Exploring & Implementing Transformative Technology



## Artificial Intelligence (AI)

This year, Supervisor Anderson, alongside Chairwoman Nora Vargas spearheaded the creation of a subcommittee to explore and implement transformative technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) for improving County services.

The subcommittee will focus on assessing the County's current technology infrastructure, evaluating AI's impact, and making recommendations on how to effectively integrate these technologies into County operations.

Agenda Item 13:  
Establishing An Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Transformative Technologies and Artificial Intelligence from Chairwoman Nora Vargas & Supervisor Joel Anderson  
June 4, 2024

VOTE: 5-0



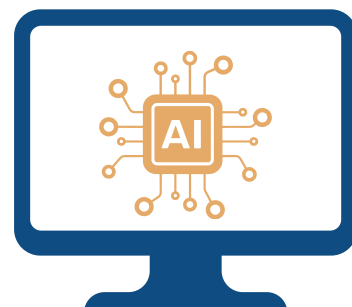
Subcommittee responsibilities include:

- Develop appropriate recommendations and actions on AI-related policies
- Review new technology procurements and data initiatives that involve AI systems
- Review governance for proactively managing and monitoring new AI advancements
- Evaluate the County's current technology and telecommunication needs and how they are provided

“

I'm especially excited to explore the ways we can utilize AI at the County to better serve our constituents.

-Supervisor Joel Anderson”





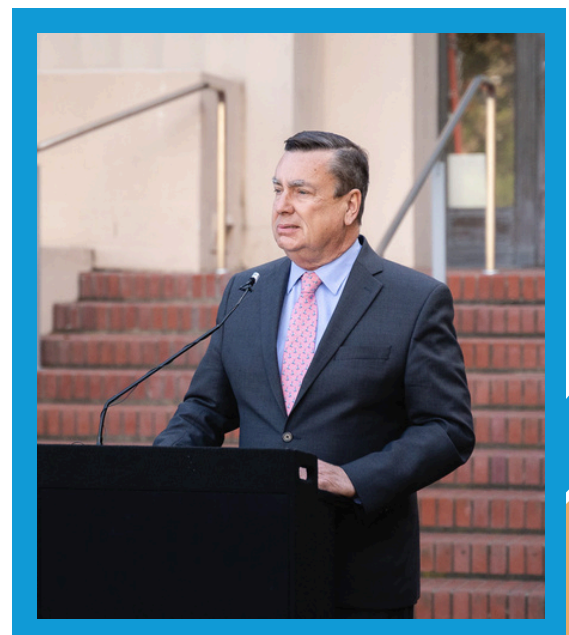
# MENA Category: A New Identifier on County Forms

After unanimously approving Supervisor Anderson’s Board action, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors became the first jurisdiction in California to approve the creation of a “Middle Eastern or North African” (MENA) category on official documents. This change will ensure that MENA communities are properly represented, addressing the current gap where they are often incorrectly classified as Caucasian or White.

The County’s MENA policy is a step toward aligning with federal efforts, including the planned use of the MENA category in the 2030 Census. This will help us better understand and meet the needs of all District 2 residents. By taking this proactive measure, the County demonstrates its commitment to the 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, enhancing our ability to effectively serve our diverse communities and represent every constituent.



Agenda Item 26  
Adoption of a New Population Category  
for San Diegans of Middle Eastern and  
North African Descent from  
Supervisor Joel Anderson  
April 30, 2024  
Vote: 5-0



# Addressing Our Region's Housing Shortage



Families across the County have experienced hardships as they struggle to buy a home or find a reasonably priced apartment. High prices, low inventory, and little new construction leaves many residents without adequate and affordable housing. Supervisor Anderson was concerned by the lack of action and worked with his colleagues on the Board and County Staff to do more.

At Supervisor Anderson's direction, County Staff reviewed all applicable regulations and determined that projects consistent with the County's General Plan can be built without needing to adhere to additional and ultra strict environmental regulations known as "Vehicle Miles Traveled" (VMT) that have prevented development across the state.

Now, projects can get built much faster, allowing for development to move forward.



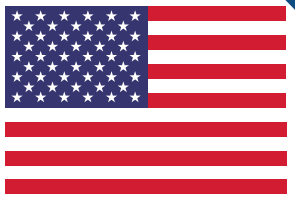
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*If we want our children and grandchildren to be able to live in our communities, reasonably priced homes must be built for them.*

**-Supervisor Joel Anderson**

”

# Amending the San Diego County Code to help our Veterans



Fraternal order and veterans organizations serve an important role in San Diego County. Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Posts are vital parts of the military and veteran community. These organizations focus on community and charity.

VFWs serve the families of deployed service members, host adopt-a-veteran programs, provide freedom grants to serve veterans and/or military members in need of support or services, and provide local student scholarships and student drug awareness. These programs are often supported through events which include entertainment or dancing.

Supervisor Anderson was proud to bring forward an ordinance amendment that exempts VFWs and fraternal organizations from entertainment and public dance licenses in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County to make it easier for these organizations to continue serving our veterans.



Agenda Item 1  
An Ordinance Amending Section 21.2111 of Chapter 21 and Adding Section 21.2214 to Chapter 22 of Title 2, Division 1 of the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances Relating To Entertainment Establishments and Public Dances from Supervisor Joel Anderson  
October 22, 2024  
Vote: 5-0





# Thinking Local, First.

In Fiscal Year 2022-23, the County of San Diego spent nearly \$2 Billion on contracts acquiring various equipment, services, etc.

While several existing County policies already included local and small businesses, Veteran Owned Businesses, in addition to Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises, Supervisor Anderson wanted to make sure that the County was doing everything they could to provide local businesses even more opportunities.

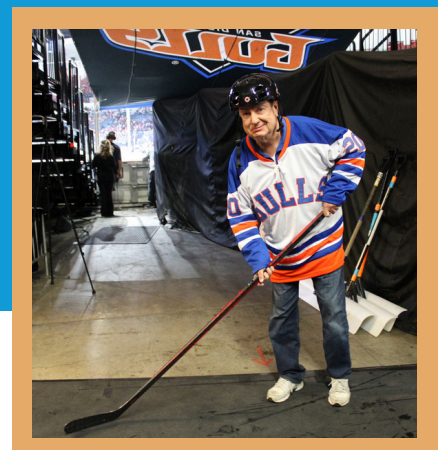
Supervisor Anderson, partnering with Chairwoman Nora Vargas, passed a Board Letter that focused on expanding outreach, education, and communication to local businesses to enhance their participation in County contracts and purchases.



Agenda Item 12  
Expanding Opportunities for Local  
Businesses to Participate in County  
Contracts from Chairwoman Nora Vargas  
and Supervisor Joel Anderson  
April 30, 2024



Vote: 5-0





# Leapfrog Your Peers

## Legislative & Executive Internships with Supervisor Anderson

Supervisor Joel Anderson has brought his award-winning internship program from when he served in the California State Senate to his office at the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

### The Internship Experience

Learn real, transferrable skills that can be applied to any industry!

This unique internship opportunity allows an individual to get involved in the public policy process, develop job skills, and get a head-start on their career. In Supervisor Anderson's office, you will work in a professional environment, build your resume, and network with elected officials and influential leaders throughout the County. In addition, this opportunity may fulfill community service requirements.

Currently internship opportunities are available at the El Cajon District Office (ECDO) & County Administration Center (CAC) in downtown San Diego.

Learn more and apply at  
[supervisorjoelanderson.com/intern](http://supervisorjoelanderson.com/intern)





# Stay Connected



# Follow Supervisor Anderson



Supervisor Anderson believes it's essential to keep constituents updated on important events, alerts, and other critical information through his various social media channels and his Newsletter. If you don't already, follow him on any one of the social mediums below:

**@JoelAndersonCA**

*Scan QR Code to  
Sign Up for Supervisor  
Anderson's Newsletter!*



**Facebook**



**Instagram**



**X (formerly known as Twitter)**



Like



Follow

# Hashtag





**Joel Anderson**  
**Supervisor, District 2**

**[SupervisorJoelAnderson.com](http://SupervisorJoelAnderson.com)**  
**619-219-2470**

