

Dear Mayor Todd Gloria and Council-members,

October 1, 2025 will be remembered as a **sad, elitist, and shameful day in San Diego's history** if the plan to charge for parking at Balboa Park from 8 AM to 8 PM is not stopped.

Balboa Park is the crown jewel of our city. For generations, it has stood as a place of free and open access to art, culture, gardens, and recreation. To place a financial barrier on families, seniors, students, and working people who wish to enjoy this public treasure is more than a mistake; it is **disgusting, shameful, and elitist**.

Society will look back on this decision and see **your names attached to it**. It will not be remembered as an innovative budget solution, but as a moment when leaders failed their people. A moment when our city government chose revenue over accessibility, elitism over equity, and exclusion over inclusion.

Think of the generations of children who will grow up without experiencing the park in the same way so many of us did free, open, and welcoming. That legacy will be on your conscience.

If the City of San Diego cannot manage its budget with the millions of tax dollars already collected, the solution is not to punish residents and visitors by taxing access to our most cherished public space. Do better.

I urge you to reconsider, reverse this policy, and keep Balboa Park accessible to all!

Sincerely and Respectfully,