Councilmember Marcus Bush National City



Issue #01 | JULY 2024

Dear National City residents,

My name is Marcus Bush; I was elected to our City Council in November 2020, and I'm excited to introduce the first of my newsletters. My goal is to provide you all with updates on the work that myself, our Mayor & Council colleagues, & City employees have been doing; updates on issues going on in the City; programs we offer; and upcoming community events. The information I share will also include my opinion & perspective on the issues, but I will always be truthful - and in the event that I make a factual error - will correct it as soon as possible.

While I won't be able to cover all items or issues going on in the City, I try to focus on the issues that are the most important to you which I hope informs and inspires you to join our Council meetings so that we can all hear and discuss your ideas for addressing these issues.

I would love to hear your thoughts, learn what issues matter to you the most, and see what different or new issues you would like me to focus on for the next newsletter.

Finally, a big-shout out to my Council Representative Daniel Gonzalez who worked very hard this past month on assisting me in putting this newsletter together. Without him, this wouldn't be possible... thank you Daniel!

I hope to hear from you all soon!

Sincerely,

Marcus Bush Councilmember, City of National City





Our Red Devil Football team made history this year by making it to 6-A division state championship game at El Camino College in Torrance, CA.

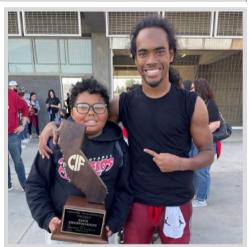
This season was especially remarkable because the team started off behind with an 0-4 record and was able to completely turn it around. This is a testament to the hard work of Head Coach Erving Hernandez, and supporting coaches:

- Brian Hay
- Brandon Burris
- Jarrod Duke
- Angel Cota
- Ricardo Mascardo IIII
- Jesse Aguilar
- Jared Bixler
- Duane Brown
- Christian Rodriguez
- Thomas Cunningham
- Roberto Porras
- Joseph Fonseca
- Beto Porras
- Xavier Brown
- Rodrick Dixie
- Steve Reed
- Adrian Arguello
- Dan Sweeney

Although the team lost the championship game, this is the highest SUHi's football team has ever made it, and the community came out to support at the game.



Thank you to Sycuan Casino for sponsoring four charter buses for the team, as well as their families, friends and community members (including myself and my sons) to be able to attend the game. Special thanks to both Mayor Ron Morrison and his Executive Assistant, Josie Flores-Clark, for reaching out to Sycuan Casino and requesting their assistance.







In our June Council meeting we presented a proclamation honoring the team and congratulating the graduating seniors:

- Ryan Guerra
- Carlos Delgado
- Izell Wright
- Xzavier Crews

- Jameek Jackson
- Adrian Guerrero
- Gilberto Sarabia
- Rodolph Guimay

Be the Change: The Need for Active Community Involvement

Boards play a crucial role in representing community interests. However, when vacancies occur, several critical issues arise:

- 1. **Underrepresentation and Diverse Perspectives**: Vacancies can lead to underrepresentation, affecting diverse viewpoints and community needs. Without a full board, decisions may not adequately reflect the community's interests.
- 2. **Transparency and Accountability Concerns**: Unfilled positions raise concerns about transparency and accountability. Citizens may question why vacancies persist and whether the board is fulfilling its responsibilities.
- 3. **Functional Disruption**: Vacancies disrupt the board's ability to function effectively. Timely appointments are essential to maintain continuity in decision-making and governance.

If you're passionate about your neighborhood and community, consider applying for one of the seven vacant board positions today. Your involvement matters!

TAKE ACTION

i. Go online and fill out the application on our website: <u>https://www.nationalcityca.gov/government/boards-commissions-committees</u>

NATIONAL CITY CALIFORNIA • 1887

Apply to serve on a City Board! Board!

Now accepting applications

Board of Library Trustees Civil Service Commission Community & Police Relations Commission *Housing Advisory Committee* Park, Recreation & Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Planning Commission Public Art Committee Traffic Safety Committee

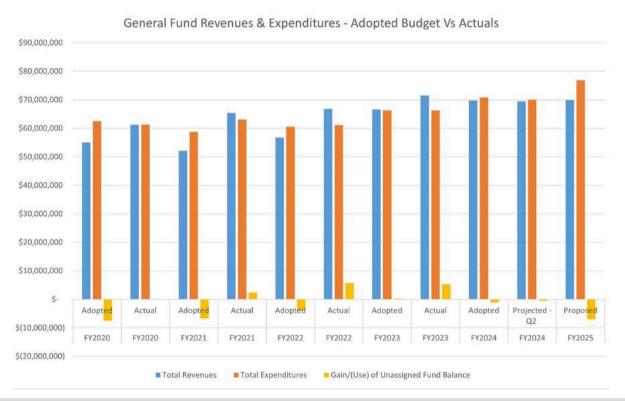
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CALIFORNIA NATIONAL CITY 1337 Visit Our Website to apply https://www.nationalcityca.gov/govern ment/boards-commissions-committees

APPLY NOW

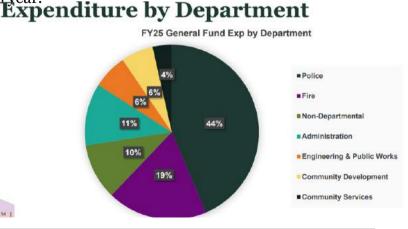
Understanding the Proposed Budget

At City Council, we passed a historic \$70 million City budget for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025) that dedicates some of the highest funding for public safety and continues to address some of our biggest problems, including homelessness, prostitution, new bathrooms at the Paradise Creek Education Park, and more.



Although the budget is balanced this year using \$4M of our \$22M surplus (called the "Unassigned Fund Balance in our budget book), we are NOT tapping into the millions we have in reserves. Our City Manager and Finance Department have taken a more conservative approach to estimating revenues & expenditures (as they should). As you can see in the chart below, we have historically budgeted and expected shortfalls. Still, when the actual revenues come in, we typically exceed what we expect and save on expenditures (look at the columns that say "actuals"), and it's reasonable for us to expect that the same trend will hold up this year. The columns that say "actuals"), and it's reasonable for us to expect the same trend to hold up this year.

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Understanding the Proposed Budget Con't.

There's still a risk of having structural budget deficits this year and next. Our city manager and council agree that we should be cautious heading into this budget cycle. Our city manager has worked with all of our city departments to identify savings and cuts to help ensure we have a balanced budget. We will take another look at our budget during the mid-year cycle in a couple of months when we get updated numbers and can better determine trends and will make cuts if necessary.

FY25 CIP Funding Recommendations

Project	Description	General Fund (001)	Facilities Maintenance Fund (001)	Gas Tax (SB1 RMRA) Fund (109)*	Sewer Service Fund (125)	TransNet (Prop "A") Fund (307)*	Information Systems Maintenance Fund (629)	Total
Street Resurfacing (109-409-500-598-6035) (307-409-500-598-6035)	Projects include a combination of roadway rehabilitation, grinding and overlay, slurry seals and restriping of finished pavement including bike facilities; other improvements include removal and replacement of damaged or lifted sidewalks and substandard pedestrian curb ramps for ADA compliance.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,570,000	\$ -	\$ 2,046,000	\$ -	\$ 3,616,000
Traffic Monitoring / Safety Enhancements (001-409-500-598-6573)	Provide various infrastructure improvements to National City's transportation network to enhance safety and access for all users; includes transportation planning, engineering, traffic data collection, analysis and reporting, traffic safety evaluations, and ADA compliance audits; funding serves as local match for larger regional, State and/or Federal transportation grant projects and contributes to National City's maintenance of effort for receipt of local Prop A TransNet funding and State Gas Tax Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) funding through Senate Bill 1.	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Total		\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,570,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,046,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 8,716,000

FY25 CIP Funding Recommendations

Project	Description	General Fund (001)		Facilities Maintenance Fund (001)		Gas Tax (SB1 RMRA) Fund (109)*		Sewer Service Fund (125)		TransNet (Prop "A") Fund (307)*		Information Systems Maintenance Fund (629)		Total
Drainage Improvements (001-409-500-598-7049)	Replace corrugated metal storm drain pipes and provide other high priority drainage improvements Citywide and in flood-prone areas.	\$	1,000,000	\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$ 1,000,000
Facilities Upgrades (001-409-500-598-1500)	Complete high priority major maintenance and upgrades to City facilities to support safety, operations and public services. Projects prioritized through needs assessments and inspections of City facilities.	\$	64 -	\$	1,000,000	\$		\$	14	\$	2	\$	~	\$ 1,000,000
Paradise Creek Educational Park Restrooms (001-409-500-598-6202)	Install new restrooms at Paradise Creek Educational Park as part of the Paradise Creek Wetlands Expansion project.	\$	500,000	\$:÷	\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$		\$ 500,000
Public Safety Cameras (629-409-500-598-8040)	Install new cameras and associated infrastructure for public safety.	\$	-	\$	12	\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$	100,000	\$ 100,000
Sewer Replacement / Upsizing (125-409-500-598-2024)	Repair and/or replace deteriorated sewer lines and/or upsizing to increase capacity and efficiency of the sewer collection system Citywide. Projects prioritized through video camera inspections of existing sewer systems, capacity analysis and review of sewer master plan.	\$	-	\$		\$		\$	2,000,000	\$	2	\$		\$ 2,000,000

Flag raising

On June 12, 2024, Paradise Valley Hospital in National City celebrated The Philippines Independence Day with a ceremonial flag-raising event. This significant occasion was highlighted by the presence of Vice Mayor Yamane, who delivered a heartfelt speech emphasizing the importance of Filipino heritage and the contributions of the Filipino community to the city. The event served as a reminder of the deep cultural ties and shared history National between Citv and the Philippines, bringing together community members in a festive and reflective celebration.



Introduction – Daniel Gonzalez

I'm excited to introduce the hiring of Daniel Gonzalez as my Council Representative, my first dedicated full-time staffer! When our Council increased the individual council budgets to \$100,000 last year, that provided sufficient funding to bring on staff, and nearly a year was spent working out a hiring process and an updated policy to guide our use of the funds.

Growing up in the rural communities of Calexico and the Imperial Valley, Daniel moved to San Diego County to pursue a music career and to further his education. Daniel attended California State University San Marcos for business administration in 2018. During that time Daniel established his own business called, "Studio 414", A business-to-business marketing agency that offered social media management services. Daniel started as an office administrator in the section eight department for the City of National City in late 2021.

In addition to the monthly newsletters, Daniel will manage my schedule, assist with constituent emails & calls, attend meetings and policy analysis, and staff me on outside committees, including Metropolitan Transit System & Air Pollution Control District, promote city events, and overall communication.



South County Lighthouse: Our Newest Community Haven

A huge City milestone in addressing the homeless crisis was reached last month with the opening of the first homeless shelter in National City.

The emergency shelter - called the South County Lighthouse is located at the former South Bay Community Church on Euclid directly next door to my home. It is a shelter that is using ZERO dollars in public funds and fully operated by the San Diego Rescue Mission—a local. faith-based nonprofit that has been working to serve the homeless community since 1954. The Lighthouse will offer prepared meals, showers, laundry, job training, case management, and a temporary place to sleep for 30 days for families and even their pets. At the end of the 30 days, clients will have the option to move to the longer-term recovery facility in Downtown San Diego where they will focus on job training, healing from health issues, and finding housing. The permanent Lighthouse is open and accepting issues. up to 75 people from now until the end of the year when they hope to expand to full capacity at 160 residents.



Councilmember Bush Cheers Lighthouse Opening

While there are a lot of concerns If you do experience or see issues from neighborhood residents that with homeless around this shelter, the shelter will attract more please call my cell at 619-510homeless to the area and bring 5590.

crime or other problems. SD Rescue Mission CEO, Donnie Dee, has committed to having security and is restricting clients from entering in and out while in the program. In addition, our City staff including police, will be working closely with the Rescue Mission to ensure protocols and rules are followed. This shelter is right in my backyard and I have ensured my neighbors and community residents that I am personally keeping a close eye on the streets and will contact staff directly the moment there are

Admission Inquiries dnc@sdrescue.org 619-819-1844 Address for admission: 120 Elm Street, San Diego, CA 92101

Port / Waterfront **Issues**

The Port of San Diego is a public agency formed by the State in 1962 and was created to govern land & water uses on waterfront property around the San Diego Bay, including the cities of San Diego, Coronado, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, and National City.



The Office of the Port of San Diego

The Port is led by a 7-member provide economic benefits to the in public dollars in retaliating Board, and each City appoints neighborhood. San Diego which appoints three).

least amount of benefits and helps some of the worst impacts, such transportation as traffic and air pollution. The National City like FRANC (Free process in October of last year. air pollution from the trucks and Ride Around National City). industrial operations has led to some of the County's highest Because neighborhood.

Sandy Naranjo was appointed as thousands Commissioner our Port in December 2020 and was the greatest advocate not just for National City, but for clean air and health across the entire Port including in communities like Barrio Logan. Here, she updated the Port's lease language to protect environmental health and

She fund help projects

of

was against her and undermining our one representative (except for instrumental in pushing the Port City's goals. For several months to adopt the Maritime Clean Air if not years - Port commissioners Strategy that sets goals on and staff bullied and coerced our National City generates more reducing pollution in National City leadership Commissioners, revenue per capita than any of City and increases the Maritime Staff, among others ever since the the other cities and yet we get the Industrial Impact Fund that illegal and improper censure that green violated the Brown Act and in Commissioner Naranio's due

I've been fighting against the Port Commissioner not for Commissioner Naranjo rates of asthma and cancer in Naranjo's bold leadership and personally, but rather because of Westside/Old Town National City effectiveness in representing the disrespect against our City's National City, the Port spent representation and the decades of years and at least hundreds of *injustices against our community*.



Port / Waterfront Issues Con't.

In May, on a 3-2 vote supported by Mayor Ron Morrison, Vice Mayor Ditas Yamane, and Councilmember Jose Rodriguez, our Council acquiesced to Port demands and removed Sandy Naranjo, despite her only having a few months left to serve in our

While Ι respect term. outside people or agencies.

residents of National City fight fair share from the Port. for our community.



mv That's why Ι support. Read and research the Commissioner. actions the Port has taken, efforts

The Port has extracted and taken to reform, and take action by advantage of National City and attending meetings and sharing our waterfront for too long, and your concerns and ideas on how I think it's time that all of us as we in National City can get our

support Thank you to Sandy Naranjo for colleagues and the decisions that Assemblymember David Alvarez's her hard work and sacrifice for the majority of our Council takes, Port Reform Bill AB2783 and National City while she served as myself and Councilmember Luz efforts by San Diego Local Agency our Port Commissioner. Because Molina (District representative Formation Commission (LAFCO) of her, National City is on track to for District 1 which includes the to begin official oversight of the getting our fair share from the Port and OTNC neighborhood) Port. Our issues with the Port are Port .I'm looking forward to even strongly oppose us as a City long and complicated, but I ask more changes and reforms that caving into bullying tactics from all of you for your help and will happen with our next Port



Port of San Diego

Appointment of New member Port Commissioner

Congratulations Dr. to Gil Ungab _ our new Port *Commissioner* representing National City and our first-ever Filipino representative on the Port!

Commissioner Ungab is the son of Filipino immigrants, was born and raised in National City, and has a family with deep ties to the community. His late sister Florence Ungab, was the first Miss National City of Filipino ancestry and became the first Filipina to serve elected office in San Diego County when she was elected to the National School Board in 1976. His other sister Stella Ungab retired from our National City Police Department and his late brother, Fideles Ungab, served as а Councilmember. Ι went to Granger Junior High with Fideles' son Ryan Ungab where we took PE class and played sports in 2003.

Commissioner Ungab is a retired cardiologist who graduated from medical school at UC San Diego in 1994. He ran his own practice, Ungab Medical Practice, in the community from 2003 through 2022 and was a former medical director at Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center. He served as a

on research and development committees Boston Scientific, St Jude, and Ungab as our commissioner, I Biotronik. Dr. Ungab is also a was even more satisfied with our businessman and entrepreneur Council's decision when I later who co-founded Lucia Health found out from a source at the Guidelines, that applies artificial Port that their leadership wanted intelligence to advance treatment and expected us to appoint on stroke prevention.

During the appointment process, the candidates who we think will Commissioner Ungab received community support, with several residents and former colleagues Commissioner Ungab has been of Gil coming to speak in his sworn in and has already hit the favor. Myself, along with Mayor ground running with his first Ron Morrison Councilmember Luz Molina were coming to the Council meeting in proud to nominate him, while August to provide updates. We Vice Mayor Ditas Yamane and look forward to the great he work Councilmember Jose Rodriguez he'll do in representing us and nominated former Mayor, Nick making sure National City gets Inzunza. Once it was clear that more of its fair share from the Dr. Ungab had the majority of Port! Council support, both Ditas and Jose joined the rest of Council in the final vote to approve him for the Port Commission.



at As excited as I was to have Dr.

Inzunza. At the end of the day, National City needs to prioritize had best serve our City's interests and overwhelming not who the Port wants.

and Port meeting last month! He'll be



Portrait of Dr. Gil Ungab



Albuquerque was one of the first (if not THE first) City in the US to repeal their lowridertargeted cruising ban.

A Vehicle For Change

This past month, I, along with our police and members of the United Lowrider Coalition, traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the 4th Annual National Cruising Community Policing Conference.

The annual conference takes place alongside the Albuquerque Lowrider Supershow and offers workshops, economic development tours, and opportunities to network with other cities, including their police departments, school systems, lowrider clubs, and city officials who are starting up their own programs or trying to grow them. Each year, the conference has been spearheaded and funded by Albuquerque City Councilor Klarissa Pena's Office, the Albuquerque Police Department, and the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Albuquerque was one of the first (if not THE first) Cities in the US to repeal their lowrider-targeted cruising ban. When we first attended in 2022, they provided a blueprint and model for myself, the lowrider community, and our city leaders to repeal National City's no-cruising ordinance in 2023.



Lowrider Bike Club

ALE Now that the cruising ban has been repealed, United the Lowrider Coalition (led bv President Jovita Arellano, Vice President Marisa Rosales, and Secretary Deanna Garcia) has been focusing their attention on youth mentorship and outreach through their Youth Leadership Lowrider Bike Club. The program connects at-risk youth with positive role models who provide guidance, support, and encouragement through building a low-rider bike.



to school, just ahead of his birthday and his high school graduation.

Z NBC San Diego/Jun 2

Celebrating Edgar, His Legacy and Impact

"Edgar was a very enthusiastic, athletic, young man who loved life," - Brenda Burciaga

Article was sourced by NBC 7 SAN DIEGO Quezada, J. (2024, June 2). National City family honors teen bicyclist fatally hit by car on way to school. NBC 7 San Diego.

While we have a lot of positive things happening in the City, our community was also struck with tragedy. Edgar de Haro was a senior at Sweetwater High School and was killed when he was hit by a car while on his way to school, just weeks shy of graduating. This incident highlights the importance of making our streets safe and protecting people wwalking and cyclingfrom cars. Parents should never have to bury their children, and I can't imagine the incredible pain Edgar's Mom & Dad are going through. My heart goes out to Edgar's parents, family members, and friends.



Councilmemebr Marcus Bush guest speaking at a APCD meeting



ouncilmember Bush giving a tour of the cit council chambers and city hall.





Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center

Kimball Park

Register now! www.Joinnatcity.com

- CALIFORNIA --NATIONAL CITY

AGES 12+

Gentle Yoga

DUF

MLK 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM <u>Monthly Fees</u>

<u>Package 1</u> *Mon - Fri (R \$45 / NR \$65)

<u>Package 2</u> Mon, Wed & Fri (R \$30 / NR \$ 50)

Package 3 *Tue & Thu (R \$20 / NR \$40) * classes on Tues and Thurs are held at Kimball Park* All Level Yoga KIMBALL PARK 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Monthly Fees Tues & Thur (R \$20 / NR \$40)

<u>Please bring your own Yoga Mat</u> R = Resident fee NR = non-resident fee

MLK Community Center 140 E. 12th Street 619-336-4290/ communityservices@nationalcityca.gov



Mommy & Me

(2.5 - 5 years) Friday and Saturday 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM

Monthly Fees

Package 1 1 class a week (R \$10 / NR \$30) Package 2 2 classes a week (R \$18 / NR \$ 38)

AGES 12+

<u>All Level Yoga</u>

Saturdays 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Monthly Fees

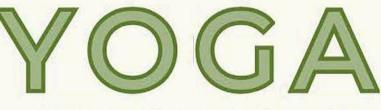
1 class a week (R \$15 / NR \$35)

Please bring your own Yoga Mat R= Resident fee | NR = non-resident fee

Manuel Portillo Casa de Salud 1408 Harding Ave National City, CA 91950 619-336-4290 | communityservices@nationalcityca.gov







CAMACHO REC CENTER

MONDAY - FRIDAY

Register now! www.joinnatcity.com

AGES 12+

<u>Gentle Yoga</u> 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Monthly Fees

.<u>Package 1</u> Mon - Fri *(R \$45 / NR \$65)* .<u>Package 2</u> Mon, Wed & Fri *(R \$30 / NR \$50)* .<u>Package 3</u> Tue & Thu *(R \$20 / NR \$40)*





<u>All Level Yoga</u> 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Monthly Fees

.<u>Package 1</u> Mon - Fri *(R \$45 / NR \$65)*

.<u>Package 2</u> Mon, Wed & Fri *(R \$30 / NR \$50)* .<u>Package 3</u> Tue & Thu *(R \$20 / NR \$40)*

Please bring your own Yoga Mat

R = Resident fee | NR = non-resident fee

Camacho Recreation Center 1810 E. 22nd St National City, CA 91950 619-336-4290 | communityservices@nationalcityca.gov







CAMACHO RECREATION CENTER 1810 E. 22ND ST

MON & WED

AGES 4 - 8 & 9 - 11 5:45 PM - 7:15 PM

AGES 12 - 17 7:15 PM - 8:45 PM

Residents: 6 wks: \$100 8 wks: \$150 10 wks: \$200

Non-Residents: 6 wks: \$150 8 wks: \$200 10 wks: \$250

REGISTER @ WWW.JOINNATCITY.COM

Phone: 619-336-4290 E-mail: communityservices@nationalcityca.gov

More Information:







Homebuyer Education National City Virtual Classes



Scan the QR code or visit <u>link.credit.org/NCFirst</u> to reserve your spot today!



Our HUD-approved classes provide the information, resources, and tools you'll need to purchase your first home. Graduation may qualify you for programs like down payment and closing cost assistance.

What We Discuss:



Cost: \$15/per person

We also offer the eHome Homebuyer Education course, which is offered online in English and Spanish. Available 24/7; take the course from the comfort of your home at your own pace. When you enroll in the course, be sure to enter your legal name. After you complete the video course, you will receive instructions to contact us for your pre-purchase counseling session and receive your certificate. Get started at <u>www.ehomeamerica.org/creditorg</u> Cost: \$150/household

Can't make it to this event? Visit<u>credit.org/homebuyerclass</u> for more classes.

Questions? Email Us: education@credit.org Call Us: 800.449.9818

Credit.org is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service 0005v01032024

nfcc



Elige un dia de los siguientes viernes: 2 de agosto, 6 de septiembre, 4 de octubre, 1 de noviembre Hora: 1:00pm-2:00pm Lugar: Centro Comunitario MLK 140 E 12th Street National City, CA 91950 619-336-4290



Regístrese ahora llamando al 619-336-6761



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THE FEELING FIT CLUB IS A FREE FITNESS PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS, JOIN US AND STAY HEALTHY, INDEPENDENT AND ACTIVE!

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THURSDAYS 9:00AM- 9:50AM JUNE 6TH - AUGUST 29TH

MLK JR. COMMUNITY CENTER 140 E 12TH STREET NATIONAL CITY, CA 91950.

> TO REGISTER, VISIT: WWW.JOINNATCITY.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 619-336-4290 COMMUNITYSERVICES@NATIONALCITYCA.GOV



Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10 am - 12 pm



~

MLK Jr. Community Cntr. 140 E. 12th Street National City, CA 91950



JOIN US FOR

Exercise Classes Resources Fun Activities Including Crochet, Karaoke and More

ADULTS 50+

Check out our monthly calendar for activity details.

For more information 619-336-4290

communityservices@nationalcityca.gov



Martes, Miércoles y Jueves 10 am - 12 pm

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Centro Comunitario MLK Jr. 140 E. 12th Street National City, CA 91950



<u>ÚNASE A</u> NOSOTROS PARA

Clases de Ejercicio

Recursos

Actividades Divertidas

Incluyendo Crochet, Karaoke y Más

ADULTOS MAYORES DE 50 AÑOS

Consulte nuestro calendario mensual para conocer los detalles de las actividades.

Para más información 619-336-4290

communityservices@nationalcityca.gov