



**FY 2020-2021  
Annual Report**

**Old Town San Diego Chamber of Commerce**

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[www.oldtownsandiego.org](http://www.oldtownsandiego.org) · @VisitOldTownSD



## A Message from the President of the Board of Directors

My Fellow Members:

The Old Town San Diego Chamber of Commerce in the Historic Old Town District was designed with the mission to: Develop and promote commercial opportunities for our businesses while enhancing a positive experience for the entire Old Town community. Established in 1945, we are one of the oldest continuously operating Chambers of Commerce in America.

Fiscal year 2020-2021 certainly presented a lot of challenges to the local business community. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a serious disruption in how and when our businesses can operate. I want to offer my sincere appreciation to all the employees, customers, and vendors who continued to support Old Town and adapt to new ways of doing business.

While many of Old Town's beloved annual events had to be modified or canceled, the Board of Directors and Chamber staff created a new program, Summer Nights, to draw visitors to dine and shop in Old Town. The program emphasized outdoor experiences, and according to our review, it was a resounding success!

The Chamber is entering fiscal year 2021-2022 with a focus on fundraising and enhancing the Old Town community. Our first priority as Chamber Board members must be to consider every possible way to successfully lift our community. We must strive to assist in this effort working closely with our elected officials and all stakeholders/community partners. Large and small businesses alike deserve as much help as we can possibly provide!

Please share your ideas about how we can work together for our community. Call me at (858) 967-4055 or email me at [fgrand@grandenterprisesllc.com](mailto:fgrand@grandenterprisesllc.com). You can also follow the Old Town Chamber of Commerce on our website [www.oldtownsandiego.org](http://www.oldtownsandiego.org) or on Instagram: @VisitOldTownSD.

Fred Grand, President  
Grand Enterprises, LLC



## Chamber Committees

### Board of Directors

The Old Town Chamber of Board of Directors meets every 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8:30am at the Mormon Battalion. During the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, meetings were held virtually via Zoom.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors:

- Provides direction and vision for the Old Town Chamber of Commerce
- Manages 1 part-time employee
- Oversees the financial and reporting requirements of various contracts
- Provides a forum for members to share ideas and concerns
- Manages the OTSD Business Improvement and OTSD Parking Districts

FY 2020-2021 Board of Directors

- Fred Grand, *President*, Grand Enterprises
- Chuck Ross, *Vice-President*, Fiesta de Reyes
- Linda Acuna, *Secretary*, Church of the Immaculate Conception & Serra Gifts
- Jason Farran, *Treasurer*, JF Web Design
- Patty Ducey-Brooks, Presidio Communications
- Steve Blasingham, Casa de Freds
- Ramzi Murad, A Mart
- Diane Powers, Bazaar Del Mundo
- Robert Barros, Visual Media Group
- David Thornton, Old Town Trolley Tours
- Gustavo Rios, Trattoria Don Pietro
- Amar Harrag, Tahona Bar

### Organization Committee

The Organization Committee is composed of the officers of the Board of Directors and oversees the daily functions of the Old Town San Diego Chamber of Commerce. The Old Town San Diego Chamber of Commerce is the management corporation that administers the Old Town Business Improvement District and the Old Town Community Parking District. The Old Town Chamber oversees the maintenance of the City parking lot located between Twiggs and Harney Street.



### **Promotions Committee**

Continues to review and work on the Old Town Marketing Plan to best utilize existing funding, particularly in consideration of the growth and popularity of digital media. Prepares Promotions Committee Budget each year.

### **Design Committee**

Continuation of quarterly sidewalk steam cleaning on San Diego Avenue and Harney Street. Additionally, Day Porter service is done weekly during May through September and monthly the rest of the year to keep the trash barrels and gutters clean. Prepares Design Committee Budget each year.

### **Clean and Safe Committee**

The Committee is continuing to address the issue of homeless individuals and their conduct, coordinating with the San Diego Police Department in advising businesses on how to deal with the homeless, identifying and notifying businesses of graffiti.

### **Old Town Community Parking District**

The Old Town Community Parking District is managed by the Old Town Chamber of Commerce. In order to keep parking free, the Chamber of Commerce has an agreement with the City to have direct control and maintain the City parking lot located between Juan Street, Twiggs Street and Harney Street. The maintenance costs include utilities, landscaping and daily cleanup. We have partnered up with the Mormon Battalion and they have volunteered their time to help us maintain the parking lot clean.