

**NEWS RELEASE** 

## Assemblymember Gloria Secures \$9 Million for Revitalization of Building 178 in Liberty Station

New Major Performing Arts Center Coming to Liberty Station Thanks to State Investment

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAN DIEGO, CA – With California Governor Gavin Newsom's signature on the 2019-2020 state budget, <u>California State Assemblymember Todd Gloria</u> (D-San Diego) announced today that \$9 million is officially on its way to develop a new state-of-the-art performing arts center in Liberty Station. Building 178, an old Navy building that has been empty for over 20 years, is set to undergo the transformation thanks to the State's investment and the philanthropic efforts of the Naval Training Center (NTC) Foundation.

At a press conference held today, Assemblymember Gloria was joined by San Diego City Councilmember Dr. Jennifer Campbell, who represents the area, and the NTC Foundation to announce the State's official investment and unveil the future plans for the site.

"What is currently an old, dilapidated building that has sat vacant for decades is now set to become a new, state-of-the-art, major performing arts center for the San Diego region," said Assemblymember Todd Gloria. "San Diego's vibrant arts and culture is what makes our city feel like home. I am proud to have worked with Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, my legislative colleagues, as well as the NTC Foundation to secure this important investment in Liberty Station and our local arts community."

Building 178 is located within the ARTS DISTRICT of Liberty Station. It is a three story, 41,000 square-foot facility that has been shuttered since 1997. It is on the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural Spanish colonial revival architecture and contributions to San Diego's Navy history.

The revitalization of Building 178 is the next step in the continued redevelopment of Liberty Station. Since the City of San Diego created its civic plans to transform the once closed military base into a regional asset, 17 of 26 buildings have been renovated. Building 178 is next.

"This year we celebrate our 13th year of converting old military buildings into vibrant arts-and-culture venues for a variety of uses," said Lisa Johnson, president and CEO of the NTC Foundation. "Thanks to Assemblymember Todd Gloria, Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, Governor Gavin Newsom, and an army of supporter, the transformation continues." The \$9 million allocation from the State is one-time grant funding and marks the largest grant received to-date by the NTC Foundation. The funds will be dispersed through the California Arts Council. Each year, more than 800,000 people from the San Diego-Tijuana region and around the world visit ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station.

