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Brian Maienschein Biography

In January 2009, Brian Maienschein was selected as the first commissioner of the Plan to End Chronic Homelessness (PTECH) by United Way of San Diego County. PTECH was created by over 100 community volunteers and was endorsed by the San Diego City Council, as well as 16 cities within the County, to address the needs of the chronically homeless.

Maienschein was elected to the San Diego City Council in November 2000 with 63 percent of the votes, the most ever received by a non-incumbent, and was re-elected without opposition in 2004 to represent the San Diego City Council's Fifth District. In the course of both elections, he received the highest number of votes ever cast for a City Council candidate.

During his tenure, Maienschein preserved over 11,000 acres in the San Pasqual Valley from development. He secured the opening of State Route 56 and made numerous infrastructure improvements throughout his district. Maienschein is often most noted for his outstanding response to the two wildfires that swept through his district, the Cedar Fire in 2003 and the Witch Creek Fire in 2007. Maienschein and his staff walked the burned out neighborhood streets themselves to create a list of the homes that had been destroyed and immediately communicated this news out to his constituents. In the aftermath of both fires, he set up a one-stop shop for disaster victims to lead the rebuilding efforts. The fire recovery plan he created is now viewed as a national model for disaster response.

Prior to his election, Maienschein served as executive director of Youth Court, an innovative program that has forged a partnership between law enforcement, schools and community groups to help first-time juvenile offenders back on track. For his work with the program, Maienschein received the District Attorney's Crime Victims Rights Award. As a Councilmember, he expanded the program throughout San Diego. Thousands of San Diego students have now successfully taken part in the program.

In recognition of his hard work on behalf of our community, Maienschein received the 2003 Legislator of the Year Award by the American Planning Association and was awarded the Soroptimist Environmental Award. He has also been named one of the Top 50 People to Watch in San Diego by *San Diego Magazine* and was the recipient of the Top 40 under 40 Leadership Award by *San Diego Metropolitan Magazine*.

Maienschein is currently teaching a course on Election Law at the University of San Diego Law School.

A graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara and California Western School of Law, Maienschein's proudest accomplishments are his two daughters, Taylin and Brenna.

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