Dear Community,

Earlier this month, a City employee, who interacted in Council Chambers, tested positive for COVID-19. I was in Council Chambers for seven hours that day. Although my COVID test was negative, I did go through the quarantine process. We continued to work hard every day to deliver the best in constituent services for our residents. I also want to express my gratitude and thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for your outpouring of concern.

As a way to mitigate potential future exposure, City Council and Committee meetings are conducted remotely in a completely virtual environment. The public can still participate and provide testimony on agendized items or non-agenda public comment. Please click here for more information on how to participate in these meetings.

The City of
SAN DIEGO
The People's Councilmember
Monica Montgomery Steppe

MEDIA RELEASE

STATEMENT FROM COUNCILMEMBER
MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE

"Today, I was made aware that a City employee, who interacted in Council Chambers, tested positive for COVID-19. Due to the potential for exposure, I was tested this afternoon. I'm not experiencing any symptoms and will self-quarantine at home for two weeks, in an abundance of caution. Our prayers are with the affected employee and the others impacted."

###

Councilmember Monica Montgomery Steppe is an attorney and represents the Fourth Council District on the San Diego City Council, which includes the following communities: Alta Vista, Broadway Heights, Chollas View, Emerald Hills, Encanto, Greater Skyline Hills, Jamacha, Lincoln Park & Knox, Lomita Village, North Bay Park Terraces, Oak Park, O'Farrell, Paradise Hills, Redwood Village, Rolando Park, South Bay Terraces, Valencia Park and Webster. She is the Chair of the Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods, and is Vice Chair of the Committee on Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations.

Also this month, SANDAG released a six-month economic analysis of the COVID-19 Impacts on the San Diego Regional Economy. This report painted a bleak picture that our region will be in economic recovery for years.

As a policymaker, my office's pandemic response has been to proactively work to create economic stimulus opportunities with CARES Act funding, tackle food insecurity and create pathways for our residents to have employment opportunities. Thank you for attending the Valencia Business Park Virtual Open House. As we work to activate the Imperial Avenue corridor and develop this property, our economic justice movement continues.

Lastly, my office partnered with the County Registrar of Voters for a virtual townhall to provide the most accurate information on early and in-person voting. Please see page 4 for these important highlights as you develop your voting plan.

Remember, **we are stronger together**. Please do not hesitate to email our news desk at cd4news@sandiego.gov with your concerns. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Monica Montgomery Steppe, Councilmember
Fourth Council District

September 29 | Council Approved Ordinance to Establish Office of Race and Equity

San Diego City Council unanimously approved the ordinance, which amends the San Diego Municipal Code, to establish the new Office of Race and Equity (ORE). Councilmember Montgomery Steppe proposed the new office during the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Approval Hearing to address the City's documented disparities, in the access to resources and the deployment of services, in our underserved communities. With an ambitious mission, this new office will provide education and technical support to City staff, local law enforcement, and elected officials with the goal of eliminating systemic racism and other barriers to the fair and just distribution of resources. In addition, ORE will work to strengthen community partnerships with economic, racial, and social justice organizations. In a statement, the Councilmember said:

"I am thrilled that my council colleagues voted to genuinely and honestly address the systemic racism that is prevalent in our region," said Montgomery Steppe, chair of the Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods. **"As we continue to identify policies that are detrimental to people of color, we must ensure the distribution of resources is equitable, fair and fosters a safe and balanced quality of life for all communities."**

October 7 | Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee on Bridging the Digital Divide

Prior to this October 7 Committee meeting, the People's Councilmember created a PSA outlining her efforts, along with Council President Georgette Gómez and Councilmember Vivian Moreno, to bridge the digital divide with $500K designated during the budget process. There are 53,000 households in San Diego that lack internet and broadband services.

Digital Equity Efforts: some libraries are open and offering limited access to computers and wi-fi inside; outdoor digital patios have been created at a small but growing number of libraries where residents can use City laptops during open library hours. The furniture and laptops will be sanitized between uses, and the furniture will be distanced according to public health orders. In our community, Valencia Park/Malcolm X and the Skyline Hills Libraries are included in this pilot program; other libraries and some recreation centers – thanks in part to the San Diego Parks Foundation – produce wi-fi signals that extend beyond their physical walls, onto sidewalks and into parking lots. Residents with their own devices can access these signals at all hours for free; the City is gathering cost estimates on options to expand wi-fi access at more libraries, recreation centers, and other facilities, and purchase in-home internet hotspots that can be checked out just like a book; and, partner with the San Diego Unified School District in allowing all residents to access the internet at their local school.

October 27 | San Diego City Council Approved Coordinated Street Outreach Program to the Unsheltered Population

Council approved an operating agreement with People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) to expand a successful street outreach program into more neighborhoods. The Councilmember advocated for this $1.5 Million during the budget process. This program utilizes national best practices, along with a coordinated holistic outreach approach to our unsheltered population. The City's unsheltered population need the support of the multidisciplinary teams provided by this program, including the peer-support specialists, the outreach specialists trained in street-based case management, and clinical-level staff to address their needs, emphasizing transitions from homelessness directly to safe, stable housing opportunities. This program addresses gaps in the existing system and will deploy outreach resources in alignment with the goals of the City's Community Action Plan on Homelessness.

October 28 | Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee: IBA's Comprehensive Analysis of the San Diego Police Department's Budget

Following the controversial June 8 budget vote, the Councilmember issued a memo requesting that the Independent Budget Analyst conduct a comprehensive analysis of the San Diego Police Department's (SDPD) budget. This informational item was docketed for discussion during the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee meeting.

The analysis revealed that since 2008, SDPD's budget accounts for 32% - 35% of general fund spending. This deep-dive into SDPD's budget will aid as we look to the mid-year budget review for reprogramming opportunities.

Through Councilmember's June 30 historic motion, Council will have the authority to scrutinize and approve parts of SDPD's budget to ensure spending is directed to core services and public safety. In keeping with her promise, following that controversial budget vote that had a record-setting 400 callers and over 4,000 comments, **nearly $29 million was held back for mid-year reprogramming opportunities** as the Councilmember continues to identify ways to address structural racism that is prevalent in our city's systems.

- **Councilmember Montgomery Steppe has office hours on Fridays**, by appointment. Please email smsanchez@sandiego.gov to schedule an appointment!

- **10/31 Art Walk & Pop-up Gallery**: Support our very own Southeast Art Team, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Pick up mural map at 342 Euclid, Ste. 406

- **11/1 Día de los Muertos Community Altar**: **Please see flyer -->**

- **Food Security**: Now through December 30, Lunch and Snacks are provided at designated Recreation Centers M - Fri. See flyer below.

- **Election Day is MTS Free RIDE DAY**- November 3: MTS busses and trolleys are providing free rides to the polls.

- **Oak Park Library Survey**: Oak Park Library wants to hear you! Please complete survey today: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CLDRPB2

- **The Planning Department translation services** will be provided. **Community Planning Groups** are encouraged to note, on their meeting agendas, that translation services for meetings are available. Online requests can be found on the **Planning Department's homepage under "Most Requested Links" on the right side**: www.sandiego.gov/planning.

- **ACCF Funding Applications NOW through November 12 Deadline:** In response to the **disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on** communities of color, one-time emergency general operating support is available to arts and culture organizations serving Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities. Preference will be given to eligible organizations that intentionally serve BIPOC. **What do you need to know? Access all application materials here:** https://www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture/funding/cares

- **Encanto Bike Giveaway:** As part of the City's Better by Bike campaign, there will be a bike giveaway for kids, their parents/older siblings in Encanto at the Jacobs Center. While supplies last, for every student that wins a bike, their parent/older sibling is eligible to receive a bike. Forty (40) students will win a bike. **To enter your student's name, please click** linktr.ee/cd4monica, **and complete the form by November 10.** Winners will be contacted on November 12 & 13.

- **TOYS FOR TOT REGISTRATION, NOW through November 3:** Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department is offering Toys for Tots registration in a safe, responsible and physically distanced format. Children may only be registered at one of the 27 sites, including several in our district. Face coverings are required during registration and distribution. See flyer here for details.

- **Connect2Compete**: Connect2Compete is helping to bridge the digital divide for qualified families by offering the first two months free and resources for discounted equipment available through their association with Computers2kids. **Families must sign up by December 31, 2020**. For more information, please visit Cox.com/Connect2Compete.

Día de los Muertos Community Altar

Location: 2335 Reo Drive, San Diego CA 92139

Date: November 1st

Time: 12pm-3pm

Join us to honor and celebrate our loved ones on this special day. Bring items you would like to add to our community altar.

*Must wear a mask and practice social distancing.

The Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with Feeding San Diego to offer the free meals program. Grants from the San Diego Parks Foundation and Albertsons Companies' Nourishing Neighbors program support the program. Lunch and snack are provided during service.

FREE Meals for children 18 & Under — children are not required to be present to pick up meals

Visit www.feedingsandiego.com/get-help or call 211 for additional distribution sites

* There will be no meal service on November 11, 26 , 27 or December 24, 25, and 31 *

Best Beverage Catering delivers meals Monday-Friday at 12 sites. Menu rotates weekly.

Recreation Center	Address	Site Phone	Service Time	End Date
Cesar Chavez	455 Sycamore Road, 92173	619.424.0464	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Encanto	6508 Wunderlin Avenue, 92114	619.527.3411	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Golden Hill	2600 Golf Course Drive, 92102	619.235.1138	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Martin Luther King Jr.	6401 Skyline Drive, 92114	619.527.3415	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Montgomery Waller	3020 Coronado Ave, 92154	619.424.0466	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Mountain View	641 South Boundary St, 92113	619.527.3417	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Paradise Hills	6610 Potomac St, 92139	619.527.3419	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
San Ysidro	179 Diza Road, 92173	619.424.0472	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Silver Wing	3737 Arey Drive, 92154	619.424.0465	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
South Bay	1885 Coronado Ave, 92154	619.424.0470	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020
Southcrest	4149 Newton Ave, 92113	619.527.3413	12:30-1:30	12/30/2020
Willie Henderson	1035 S. 45th Street, 92113	619.527.8407	12:00-1:00	12/30/2020

City of San Diego — PARKS FIT SAN DIEGO — Parks and Recreation

EAT SMART   **PLAY HARD**

Top Notch Catering delivers meals Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 4 sites. Each child receives lunch and snack for 2 days (Monday—receive meals for Mon/Tue; Wednesday—receive meals for Wed/Thur; Friday—receive meals for Fri/Sat). Menu rotates periodically.

Recreation Center	Address	Site Phone	Service Time	End Date
City Heights	4380 Landis Street, 92105	619.641.6105	11:30-12:30	12/30/2020
Colina Del Sol	5319 Orange Ave, 92115	619.235.1144	11:00-12:00	12/30/2020
North Park	4044 Idaho St, 92104	619.235.1152	11:30-12:30	12/30/2020
Skyline Hills	8285 Skyline Dr, 92114	619.527.3486	11:00-12:00	12/30/2020

Your Vote Counts.

EARLY AND IN-PERSON VOTING: Our office partnered with the County Registrar of Voters for a virtual townhall to share important voting information with our residents. Here are a few highlights:

1. Due to the pandemic, many assigned polling places have changed, particularly locations that were at private residences. Your new polling location was sent with your ballot.

2. If you still plan to mail your ballot, it must be postmarked by November 3rd. Please know your mail collection times. **Be sure to sign and date your ballot**. There are also 126 ballot drop-off locations in the county, including Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library in our district.

3. Early voting is happening now at the Registrar's Office, 5600 Overland Ave, San Diego, CA 92123. If you plan to vote in-person, please take your mail ballot with you to the polling location to swap for a poll ballot.

4. At your assigned polling place (or the Registrar's Office), early voting is Saturday, October 31 through Monday, November 2, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Plan to vote early to avoid long lines. It is anticipated that lines will grow longer each day approaching Election Day.

5. ELECTION DAY: Hours are 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Please read the Voter Bill of Rights (https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-bill-rights). If you believe you've been denied any of your rights, please call (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

Councilmember Montgomery Steppe Joins the Call Urging San Diegans to Take the Pledge for a Civil, Respectful & Safe Election

The City of
SAN DIEGO
The People's Councilmember
Monica Montgomery Steppe

For Immediate Release | October 30, 2020
Contact: Perri Storey, (619) 236-7010

**Councilmember Montgomery Steppe Joins the
Non-Partisan Call for a Civil Election**
*Chair of the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee
Urges San Diegans to Pledge Civility 2020*

SAN DIEGO, CA - Today, Councilmember Monica Montgomery Steppe took the pledge for a civil, respectful and safe election and joined in the call to urge San Diegans to also take the pledge. This effort, spearheaded by Reverend Shane Harris and the People's Alliance for Justice, is aimed at proactively tackling voter suppression issues prior to assigned polling locations opening for early voting on Saturday, October 31, 2020.

"As voters, we have the right to participate freely in the election process without experiencing any form of harassment, intimidation, suppression or violation of our bill of rights," said Montgomery Steppe, chair of the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee. **"I am asking San Diegans to take the civility pledge and commit to a civil, respectful and safe election."**

Mail ballots were sent the week of October 5. If mailed, ballots must be postmarked by November 3. Mail ballots may also be dropped off at one of the 126 locations in the county. Ballots must be signed and dated. In-person voters should bring their mail ballot to their assigned polling location to be surrendered for a poll ballot. Polls will be open four days, October 31 through November 3. For more information, please visit www.sdvote.com.

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Councilmember Monica Montgomery Steppe *is an attorney and represents the* Fourth Council District *on the San Diego City Council, which includes the following communities: Alta Vista, Broadway Heights, Chollas View, Emerald Hills, Encanto, Greater Skyline Hills, Jamacha, Lincoln Park & Knox, Lomita Village, North Bay Park Terraces, Oak Park, O'Farrell, Paradise Hills, Redwood Village, Rolando Park, South Bay Terraces, Valencia Park and Webster. She is the Chair of the* Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods, *and is Vice Chair of the Committee on Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations.*

VOTE VOTE VOTE

PLEDGE CIVILITY 2020

Join the nonpartisan call for a civil election

A nonpartisan call for a civil, respectful and safe election. People are scared and nervous from all sides of the political table and it is up to all of us to demonstrate civility and respect in this election.

Make the civil pledge now, ask us questions about where you can vote and file a civil rights complaint at:
www.peoplesallianceforjustice.net/pledgecivility

Need help finding your polling location or have a civil complaint that occured while voting? Call our "vote civil" hotline at
858-432-3779