



Background

[As one of the safest big cities in the nation](#), San Diego has seen a citywide rash of recent violence across its communities. As the Chair of the Committee on Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods, Councilmember Monica Montgomery is compelled to act to ensure San Diegans are safe on every block, in every neighborhood.

By partnering with community organizations and city leaders, **The Peace Movement: Let's Live, Let's Love** has been developed - as a proactive and holistic approach - to mitigate violence and ensure that all communities are safe.

Goals

The Peace Movement includes both short and long-term goals.

The short-term goal of the peace movement is to promote unity, healing and peace in San Diego communities as the San Diego Police Department works to solve crimes and reduce violence.

The long-term goal of the peace movement is to provide policy solutions that promote economic justice, foster improved community and police relationships and to improve the overall quality of life for all San Diegans.

Art Changes Lives

Councilmember Montgomery has partnered with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) and SD Hip Hop 5k/The Southeast Art Team to produce an art beautification project. Graffiti is one of the challenges to promoting peace. Tagging is one root cause of violence – “the literal writing on the wall.” In addition to the ten (10) practical steps that community members can take to promote peace, an art project - on designated SDG&E utility boxes – will promote healing themes.

Outreach

There will be ongoing outreach including townhalls, forgiveness and healing circles.

Please visit the District Four website for updates:
<https://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd4>

10 Practical Steps

1. **Make sure our streets and homes are well-lit**, and that we have graffiti-free blocks. Report outages and graffiti immediately using the [Get It Done App](#).
2. **Make sure that all the youth in our neighborhoods have positive ways to spend their spare time**, through organized recreation, tutoring programs, part-time work, and volunteer opportunities. Please regularly check the [community calendar](#) on the [District Four website](#) and the Park & Recreation Department's [website](#) for activities at recreation centers.
3. **Build trust between community and police** to establish a partnership, and focus on solving problems instead of reacting to crises. **Help to alleviate the fear** that some community members have when encountering the police while trying to seek help.
4. **Take advantage of "safety in numbers"** to hold rallies, marches, and other group activities to show you're determined to foster healthy and safe neighborhoods.
5. **Clean up the neighborhood!** Involve everyone - teens, children, senior citizens. Graffiti, litter, abandoned cars, illegal dumping, and run-down buildings illustrate that we don't care about where we live or each other. Join the D4 Green Team, I Love a Clean San Diego or other community groups doing the work. To join the D4 Green Team, please email cd4news@sandiego.gov.
6. **Work with schools and recreation officials** to establish drug-free zones and teach our youth to settle arguments with words, not weapons.
7. **Develop and share a phone list of local organizations** that can provide counseling, job training, guidance, and other services that can help neighbors.
8. **Join a forgiveness and healing circle**. Come together to listen, dialogue, keep an open mind and support each other.
9. **Be a good neighbor**. Let's do our part by being peacemakers, slow to anger and quick to listen.
10. **Be involved**. If we aren't part of the solution, we are part of the problem. Mentor, volunteer, organize a cleanup, [join a board or commission](#), and regularly use the Get It Done app to report neighborhood issues.

"It takes all of us working together."