COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

#CD4 Monthly Newsletter

JULY 2023 EDITION



Since 2000, the Fourth Council District has carried the tradition of inducting outstanding high school seniors into the Walls of Excellence: a prestigious monument created to honor students who demonstrate exemplary academic performance and community service. Each year, three seniors are nominated from Gompers Preparatory Academy, Lincoln, Morse, and the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts High School into the Walls of Excellence, located at the intersection of Willie James Jones Avenue and Imperial Avenue. On June 24th, We were proud to continue this legacy and celebrate this year's Inductees at the 23rd Walls of Excellence ceremony.

Congratulations to all the seniors who received this distinguished honor!

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Alta Vista | Broadway Heights | Chollas View | Emerald Hills | Encanto | Greater Skyline Hills | Jamacha Lincoln Park | Lomita Village | Mountain View | North Bay Terraces | Oak Park | O'Farrell | Paradise Hills Ridgeview | South Bay Terraces | Valencia Park | Webster

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INSIDE CITY HALL

PILLARS OF GOVERNANCE

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY

JUNE 12 | CITY COUNCIL

SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

JUNE 7 | RULES COMMITTEE

UPDATES TO THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO YOUTH COMMISSION

On June 7, the Rules Committee heard an update on the recently revived Youth Commission. Current City of San Diego Youth Commission members proposed changes to the age limit of service, which would increase from 22 to 25 years of age. The Rules Committee also voted to restructure the Commission to being under the Mayor's discretion in hopes this Commission staffed under the capacity of the Office of Child and Youth Success.

JUNE 7 | PUBLIC SAFETY

UPDATE ON THE COMMISSION ON POLICE PRACTICES

On June 7, the Public Safety Committee heard an update from the Commission on Police Practices (CPP) regarding the current caseload and the next steps for the newly appointed Commissioners. Contrary to belief, the Interim Commission continues reviewing cases while the appointed members recently continue the background check process. The Commission is currently in the process of hiring an independent investigator, which was approved and funded in the FY23 budget. While newly appointed members are onboarding, we sincerely thank the Interim Commissioners for their service.

APPROVAL OF THE CITY'S FY 2024 BUDGET On June 12, City Council passed the final budget ordinance for the City's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. This 5.17 billion dollar budget is the first budget where every City department reviewed its budget with an equity lens. While equity will not happen overnight, we look forward to implementing departmental changes that effectively address disparities. Council President pro Tem issued the following statement in response to the passage of the budget ordinance: "I am proud to have voted for a balanced budget that contained so many common sense investments that will continue moving our City in an equitable direction. From the Eviction prevention program to improvements in our parks and roads, this budget amplified the voice of our residents while balancing each District's needs."

JUNE 13 | CITY COUNCIL

UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING OR ENCAMPMENTS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

On June 13, City Council voted on the Unauthorized Camping Ordinance, which bans camping along trolley tracks and within 2 blocks of public parks, schools, waterways, and shelters. This ordinance would allow citation and/or arrest of those violating the ordinance, regardless of shelter availability. Council President pro Tem voted "no" on this ordinance, though it ultimately passed with a 5-4 vote. The City must strike a balance between the health and safety of residents without criminalizing vulnerable populations. The ordinance would take effect on July 29, 2023.

JUNE 21 | ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

CITYWIDE STREETLIGHT MAINTENANCE & REPAIR UPDATE

On June 21, the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee heard an update on the status of the Citywide streetlight repairs. According to Street Division, which maintains over 60,000+ streetlights in San Diego, there are roughly 6,000 annually reported outages. In response to the growing backlog of streetlight outages, the Department has introduced new equipment and hired a contractor to assist in completing a portion of the backlogged work. The process changed from an "oldest case first" to a prioritization model developed by the Performance and Analytics Department, including crime rate analysis, proximity to schools, road use, and other safety criteria. You can report streetlight outages in your area at <u>www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done.</u>

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COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



On June 10th, I had the honor of joining the Pillars of Dignity and Justice Awards ceremony to celebrate the work and sacrifice of Public Defenders in San Diego County. Too often, we hear about the underfunded and overwhelmed Public Defender offices tasked with providing folks their fundamental rights. Public

Defenders are imperative to the criminal legal system, and their fight for civil rights is worth celebrating. Congratulations to the awardees, and thank you to all the Public Defenders for their service!

Expanding our urban canopies in San Diego is critical in our fight against climate change. I was proud to partner with San Diego Gas & Electric and the City of San Diego Urban Forestry Department to plant over 290 trees in Bay Terraces, including 35 different tree species!

Special thank you to community members Muriel King and the Paradise Gardeners for their advocacy in long-term environmental benefits that add beauty to our community.





This year, the City of San Diego recognized Juneteenth for the first time as an official City holiday. I was so happy to join the Cooper Family Foundation's annual Juneteenth celebration, honoring our ancestors and the hard fight for freedom from bondage. In many ways, we are still fighting for freedom from systems that oppress our communities—but Juneteenth is a time to reflect on how we must harness the strength to continue that fight for freedom and equality. Thank you to the Cooper Family for continuing the legacy of celebrating American history in the City of San Diego!

SOUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM • DISTRICT 4 MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE

Monthly Newsletter

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS Chair, Budget and Government Efficiency Committee

Vice Chair, Rules Committee Vice Chair, Public Safety Committee Vice Chair, Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Member, Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS APPOINTMENTS Co-Chair, City-County Reinvestment Task Force Board Representative, San Diego MTS - Board of Directors

Alternate Representative, San Diego MTS -Executive Committee

Chair, San Diego MTS - Public Security Committee

First Representative and Alternate Chair, San Diego Consortium Policy Board Member, California Reparations Task Force



DISTRICT 4



OFFICE HOURS

FRIDAYS 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

30 MIN VIDEO/TELECONFERENCE



CONFIRM APPOINTMENT

PREPARE



MEET THE STAFF

Henry Foster | Chief of Staff | HLFoster@sandiego.gov

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Tiffany Harrison | Legislative Assistant | THarrison@sandiego.gov *Emerald Hills*

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