



1. Attending the ribbon cutting welcoming Barons Market to North Park 2. Touring Scripps Hospital for an update on future plans for improved services in the community. 3. Addressing the horrible toll gun violence takes in our communities with the Brady Campaign 4. Joining Main Street Alliance and small business owners in Mission Hills to send a message that Hate Has No Business Here 5. Discussing the city's role in combatting human trafficking with the Junior League in Balboa Park 6. Along with Mayor Faulconer and other city leaders, encouraged property owners to join the Housing Our Heroes project to help homeless veterans.

Councilmember Christopher Ward serves on the following:

Vice-Chair, Infrastructure Committee

Member, Public Safety & Livable Neighborhoods Committee

Member, SANDAG Public Safety Committee

Member, Environment Committee

Member, Rules Committee

Liaison, Civic San Diego

Member, Regional Task Force on the Homeless San Diego



NEWS FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS WARD

Dear Neighbors:

On December 12th, I had the honor to officially take office as your District Three Councilmember. It's wonderful to join the history of strong representatives, and I want to sincerely thank all the people in District Three. I'm honored to come into office representing communities who have asked for high standards for their elected officials, and I'm ready to get to work to meet and exceed these expectations.

While our neighborhoods have immediate needs, we know that there are major challenges ahead. For far too many San Diegans right now buying a home or affording rent is completely out of reach. If we expect the passion for community to which we aspire, we have to start by making San Diego a place where we can afford to be long-term. The equitable and energetic communities we want require housing for all, and I know it's critical to giving everyone the chance to thrive. Working with you, I hope to identify and promote the opportunities available in our communities to appropriately accommodate housing for all.



And we need to acknowledge those who need housing the most, our rising homeless population. The progress we've tried to make in recent years has been frustratingly slow and we cannot afford to wait any longer for results. I'm excited to have been appointed to the Regional Task Force on the Homeless, and look forward to the opportunities this organization offers. Lives are on the line, and I know that we have the leaders in San Diego to finally make sure that we're working towards lasting solutions everyday and this year the number of those who are unsheltered in our community decreases, not increases.

With dramatically new dynamics at the federal level, San Diego will now face challenges unknown in our lifetimes to protect our values and our communities, our neighbors and our family members. It won't always be easy, but we've come together to build an inclusive, forward-looking city and I know we'll continue to do what it takes to protect our livelihoods, our environment, our forward momentum, and each other.

I hope you'll be in touch with me and my office soon, get to know our new staff, and keep us up to date on what's important to you. Please reach out to me by email at Christopher-Ward@sandiego.gov or by calling my office at (619) 236-6633.

I appreciate the trust you've placed in me to continue our District's long legacy of success. I take that responsibility seriously, and am thankful for the opportunity to serve.

DISTRICT 3

New Years Resolution for San Diego

The San Diego Union-Tribune invited local leaders to look ahead in the New Year and offer their resolutions for 2017. Councilmember Ward shared his vision for the upcoming year:

Chris Ward, City Council member, District 3

District Three got a lot done in 2016, including critical updates to our community plans that will set the stage for the coming decades as we work to lead the city in reaching our ambitious Climate Action Plan targets. In 2017, the real work begins to put in motion the improvements to our neighborhoods so that people can afford to thrive here in San Diego. That has to start with addressing our homeless crisis and matching the policies and programs with the necessary funding to meet this moral challenge.

I took an oath to represent all the residents of District Three, and I hope that in the year to come we can work more effectively with the county, state, and federal governments to make sure we're bringing all possible resources to bear. It's absolutely necessary that we work better together to effectively coordinate to maximize our impact, and ensure that we don't fall into the trap of demonizing or criminalizing our most vulnerable and challenged.

Despite the hard work of many throughout San Diego, we have seen a sharp spike in our homeless population, and in 2017 I hope our community will join me in working every day to make sure this year the number of those who are unsheltered in San Diego decreases, not increases.

Resources for Homeless Individuals

Councilmember Ward has already gotten to work with the Mayor and Housing Commission to encourage more participation in San Diego's Housing Our Heroes program, providing housing vouchers to homeless veterans and helping connect them with landlords to help them move off the streets. Homeless individuals, or those trying to assist those who are homeless to access services in the San Diego area may dial 211 for help or:

Call or visit the following agencies that can assist homeless Veterans with the registration for this Coordinated Assessment database:			
Father Joe's Villages (619) 446-2100 1501 Imperial Ave. San Diego, CA 92101	PATH (619) 810-8600 1250 6th Ave. San Diego, CA, 92101	Neil Good Day Center (619) 233-8500 299 17th St. San Diego, CA 92101	YWCA (619) 239-0355 1012 C Street San Diego, CA, 92101
Joan Kroc Center at Father Joe's Villages (619) 233-8500 1501 Imperial Ave. San Diego, CA 92101	Alpha Project for the Homeless (619) 232-4785 3737 5th Ave. San Diego, CA 92103	Volunteers of America (619) 561-9808 3530 Camino Del Rio North Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92108	Veterans Village of San Diego (619) 497-0142 3320 Kemper St. Suite 104 San Diego, CA 92110
ElderHelp (619) 284-9281 3860 Calle Fortunada, Suite 101 San Diego, CA 92123	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (619) 400-5000 7410 Mission Valley Rd. San Diego, CA 92108	Veterans Community Services (800) 974-9909 5605 El Cajon Blvd. San Diego, CA 92115	Courage to Call (Mental Health Systems) 211 – Option 4 9445 Farnham St. Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123
Community Resource Center (760) 753-8300 650 Second Street Encinitas, CA, 92024	Episcopal Community Services (619) 955-8217 2144 El Cajon Blvd San Diego, CA, 92104	Interfaith Shelter Network (619) 702-5399 3530 Camino Del Rio N #301 San Diego, CA, 92108	

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Connect with your D3 Team

Your District Three Staff



Molly Chase
Chief of Staff
Balboa Park
mbchase@sandiego.gov

Pam Ison
Chief of Policy
paison@sandiego.gov

Lucas O'Connor
Director of Communications
loconnor@sandiego.gov

Roberto Alcantar
Director of Community Outreach
Downtown
ralcantar@sandiego.gov

Brittany Bailey
Council Representative
Mission Hills, Middletown, Bankers Hill, Hillcrest, University Heights
bnbailey@sandiego.gov

Chloe Madison
Council Representative
Burlingame, North Park, Normal Heights
cmadison@sandiego.gov

Tyler Renner
Council Representative
South Park, Golden Hill, Old Town
trenner@sandiego.gov

Vanessa Bernal
Director of Office Administration
vbernal@sandiego.gov

Winter Services for the Homeless

Each January as the winter weather rolls through San Diego, the strain on our homeless neighbors . I'm honored to have been appointed to serve on San Diego's Regional Task Force on the Homeless—ready to build on the work done by the former Regional Continuum of Care Council marshal all available resources in the region to help meet the needs of homeless San Diegans and help get them into homes and back on track as quickly as possible.

Working directly with the San Diego Housing Commission, Councilmember Ward and his office joined other regional leaders to recruit donors and volunteers for the annual Project Homeless Connect, hosted at Golden Hall. The event provides direct access to services for homeless individuals, and helps providers better understand the needs of the community and calibrate their services to best meet those needs.

The whole District Three team was among more than 1,600 volunteers countywide is year's annual WeAllCount homeless census. It's how we gather the data that informs the policies that will help us tackle this ongoing crisis, and helps us receive all the state and federal funding our region should receive to expand our services.

