



- **Good Morning and congratulations to all the members of the Seventieth City Council.**
- **I want to thank Bishop George Dallas McKinney for swearing me in today. It means a lot to have you here Bishop.**
- **I want to thank my sister and brother for their love, support and prayers that got me through three grueling campaigns. And, I can't forget my dog Summer who gave me the kisses I needed to get through the long days.**
- **I want to thank all of my supporters for walking precincts with me - my union brothers and sisters as well as my community supporters.**
- **I am honored to have my good friends Frank Jordan, Alyce Pipkin-Allen, Jane Potter, and Ken Seaton-Msemaji as my special guests today. Their continued support and encouragement are needed and appreciated.**
- **I am blessed to have the hardest working staff who go above and beyond to get things done for the people in our district:**





- **My chief of staff - Jimmie Slack, Ruth Torres, Pam Ison, Monica Montgomery, Luis Natividad, Perri Storey, and my two interns Elizabeth Lopez-Sandoval and Mathew Gordon. I have a great team!**
- **Most importantly, I want to thank the residents of the Fourth Council District for electing me to be your representative – the first African American female to serve on the San Diego City Council.**
- **I grew up in Arizona. My parents instilled in me a love for serving and helping others. They both worked hard and were God-loving parents.**
- **They taught me to have a good work ethic. And I always say if I could be half the woman my mother was, my life would be complete.**
- **My teachers also instilled in me that I could do anything and be anything that I wanted to be.**
- **I was recruited to be a Police Officer with the Tucson Police Department, then moved on to San Diego and was hired with the SDCCD Police Department; left there and was an Academic Advisor at National University while earning my degrees.**





- **And then, I worked for some of the most amazing elected officials like former City Councilmembers Christine Kehoe and Toni Atkins just to name a few.**
- **When I was first elected in 2013, there were overwhelming needs in our communities.**
- **As I walked our neighborhoods knocking on doors and talking to residents – I saw these needs and I heard the concerns of their hearts. I heard the pleas for CHANGE!**
- **My priorities became evident--public safety, infrastructure improvements, neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and quality jobs.**
- **Since I took office eighteen months ago, we rolled up our sleeves and went to work.**
- **I've connected Fourth District residents to quality jobs through my weekly job board. I've heard from people hired for positions on my job board.**
- **We've renovated the Tubman-Chavez Community Center and we have district office hours every Friday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**
- **I've met with hundreds of residents since we started having office hours earlier this year.**





- **We've hosted neighborhood revitalization days—coordinating the work of several city departments--to clean up our neighborhoods. We've removed debris, mattresses, graffiti, and we're just getting started!**
- **We celebrated the undergrounding of 3.5 miles of overhead utilities in Lincoln Park. No more unsightly overhead lines.**
- **We broke ground on a \$1.8 million investment on Holly Drive. I went by there last Friday and it was amazing to walk down sidewalks on Holly Drive! I started shaking hands with the construction workers and I left there in tears. I cry over 'sexy sidewalks.'**
- **Every nine days, City crews are saturating the Fourth District to repair potholes. More than 3,000 potholes have been repaired since I took office.**
- **Our streets are being paved – over 21 miles of street improvements alone since I took office.**
- **Working with a key community partner, the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation under the leadership of President & CEO Reginald Jones,**





we are in the midst of construction of a much-needed drug store in our district south of the 94 - Walgreen's.

- **I am working to get other retailers to follow Walgreens' lead and locate in the Fourth Council District so that we can spend our hard-earned dollars in our own communities. I have met with representatives from Chic-Fil-A and Golden Corral.**
- **My office also funded the monument to rename Skyview Neighborhood Park to the Officer Christopher Wilson Memorial Park to honor this fallen hero in our community.**
- **We will have an interim Fire Station located at Skyline Drive and Sychar Road soon – which we should see movement in January - and, the Encanto Rapid Response Team will continue to improve the emergency response times in our District.**
- **We unveiled the winning design for our new 15,000-square-foot Skyline Hills Library. And the winning team – Barnhardt-Reese Construction, Inc. and NTD Architecture. Shovels will be in the ground soon.**





- **I was proud to help address the issue of quality affordable housing with the workforce housing offset legislation that I offered.**
- **And last but not least, I was proud to fight and work with labor unions to provide every worker and every family an opportunity to earn decent, livable wages and live a better quality of life.**
- **We have accomplished a lot in a short amount of time. This is a good start but there is still a lot of work to do.**
- **I will spend the next four years in continued service to my communities, working to make the voice of our neighborhoods heard at City Hall. As I said during my campaign, I'm putting neighborhoods first and getting things done!**
- **We want clean neighborhoods with nice places to shop. We want improved emergency response times. We want potholes filled in a timely manner.**
- **We want sidewalks, libraries, fire stations, street lights, more park and recreation and library hours and programming.**





- **We must continue to focus on restoring and rebuilding the infrastructure in this City. It will take us working together as a team - that means the civic leaders and elected officials - to identify a new way to address the estimated \$2 billion hurdle.**
- **I envision a new day when we no longer have to talk about dilapidated buildings, cracked streets and missing sidewalks - like the ones I've been advocating for on Market Street.**
- **You shouldn't have to walk in the street or on dirt to get to a beautiful building like the Malcolm X Library. This must change!**
- **There are many infrastructure projects that I could list as ongoing priorities that I am determined to make progress on, but I will highlight just a few:**
 - ✓ **The design and construction of Fire Station 51 in the Skyline neighborhood.**
 - ✓ **The construction of the new Skyline Hills Branch Library.**
 - ✓ **Improvements to enhance safety for the SR-94 at Euclid Avenue interchange.**





- ✓ **The Martin Luther King Jr. Promenade project which will provide for the construction of pedestrian improvements.**
 - ✓ **The completion of the Streamview Drive Capital Improvement Project that will provide for safety improvements on Streamview Drive from 54th Street to College Avenue.**
 - ✓ **The long-awaited joint-use field at Rolando Elementary School.**
 - ✓ **New streetlights on Peter Pan Drive, Radio Drive, Pittsburgh Avenue, University Avenue and Bonillo Drive.**
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- **I can go on and on... As I said earlier, the needs in my district are overwhelming.**
 - **In addition to our infrastructure problem, we need to provide more police officers and fire fighters along with the critical equipment they need to do the job.**
 - **I understand the importance of supporting the police department's efforts to employ and train the appropriate number of police officers.**





- **When I initially became a police officer, it was because of a recruitment effort that focused on creating diversity in the Tucson Police Department.**
- **We want more Police Officers, Rangers and Fire Fighters, additional Code Compliance Officers, improved housing options, and last – but certainly not least - more job opportunities for our residents.**
- **Our neighborhoods and communities must be safe to have a thriving Fourth District that attracts people to live, work and visit; and also attracts businesses to invest, grow, and prosper.**
- **We will also work to make great strides to foster economic development initiatives.**
- **I want our youth to have every opportunity to succeed. I want them to have access to the tools and resources they'll need to become great.**
- **It all boils down to this: the water we drink, the libraries we visit, the streets we drive on, the parks where we take our kids and pets to play are all important aspects of quality of life issues and critical infrastructure that**





mean so much to thriving communities. This is what we all want!

- **I look forward to working with this Council and the residents of the Fourth District to make a difference in our overall quality of life and to make our City the best it can be.**
- **Integrity and hard work do pay off - So now, we go to work! Thank you.**

