



FROM THE OFFICE OF *SUPERVISOR MONICA MONTGOMERY STEPPE*

DISTRICT 4

IMPACT REPORT

2024

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we approach the close of 2024, I am truly grateful for the progress we've made together. Serving as your County Supervisor is both a privilege and a responsibility I take deeply to heart.

I'm excited to share with you our 2024 Impact Report, which highlights the policies and targeted actions we've achieved in the top priorities of District Four: **Economic Opportunity for All, Safe and Healthy Communities, Tackling Housing and Homelessness, and Reimagining Public Safety.** From creating pathways for local small businesses to thrive, to tackling food insecurity and expanding transitional housing for our most vulnerable residents, we've worked to ensure that no one is left behind. We've also made meaningful investments in public safety, focusing on community-centered solutions that promote long-term well-being and fairness.

None of this would be possible without your engagement, feedback, and trust. Whether through your participation in community meetings, thoughtful emails, or work on the ground in our neighborhoods, you've helped shape these efforts in so many ways.

As we reflect on our progress, I am excited to continue this important work in the year ahead.

Thank you for the honor of serving you.

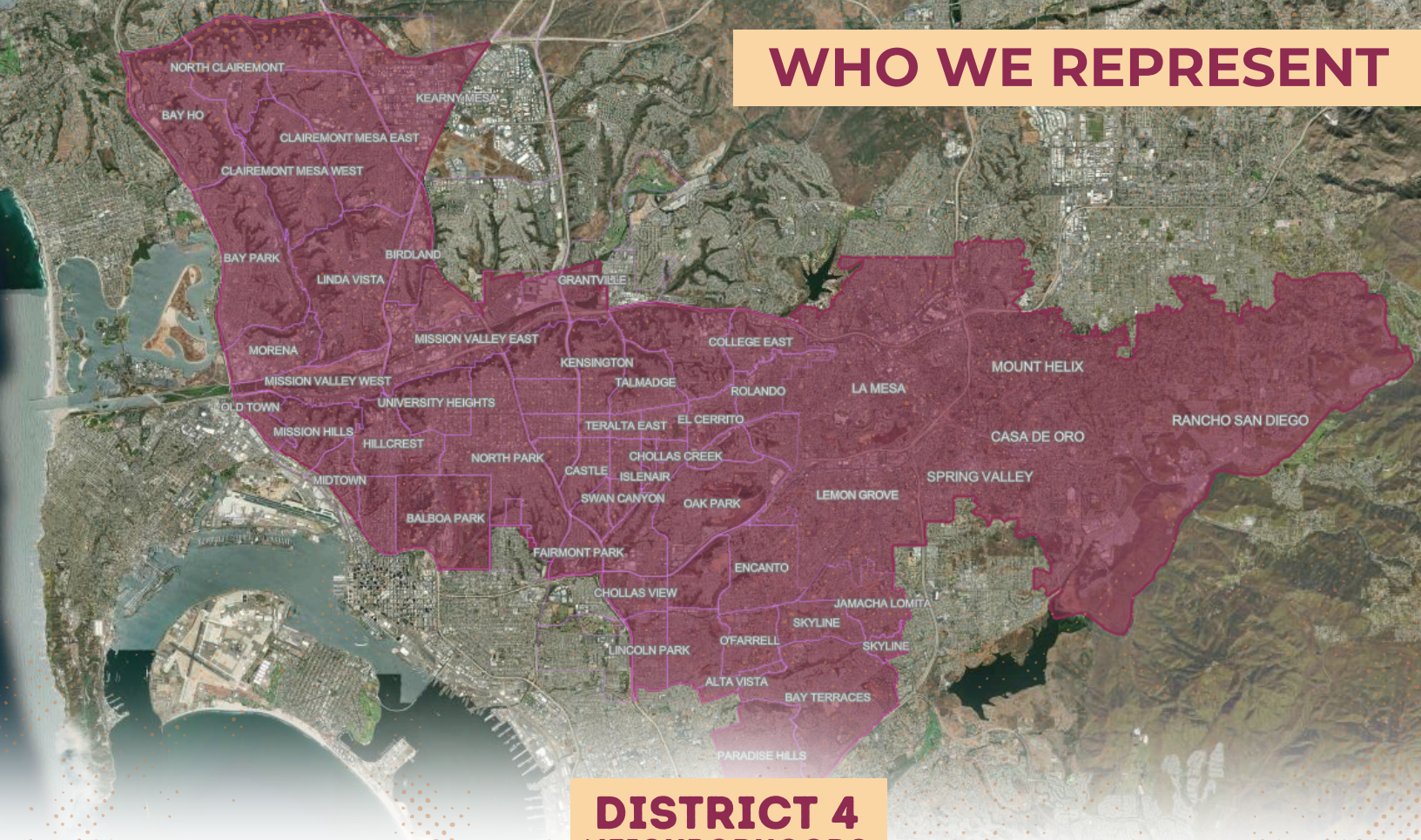
In solidarity,



Monica Montgomery Steppe



WHO WE REPRESENT



DISTRICT 4 NEIGHBORHOODS

UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES: SPRING VALLEY, CASA DE ORO, MT. HELIX, RANCHO SAN DIEGO

INCORPORATED CITIES: LEMON GROVE, LA MESA, SAN DIEGO

NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO: CLAIREMONT MESA, HILLCREST, BALBOA PARK, NORTH PARK BANKERS HILL, OLD TOWN, MISSION HILLS, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OAK PARK, RIDGEVIEW/WEBSTER, BROADWAY HEIGHTS, VALENCIA PARK, EMERALD HILLS, ENCANTO, O'FARRELL, BAY TERRACES, PARADISE HILLS, SKYLINE, JAMACHA, LOMITA, LINCOLN PARK, CHOLLAS VIEW, KEARNY MESA, LINDA VISTA, MISSION VALLEY, BIRDLAND, CITY HEIGHTS, NORMAL HEIGHTS, ROLANDO PARK, ROLANDO VILLAGE, REDWOOD VILLAGE KENSINGTON- TALMADGE, COLLEGE AREA

ZIP CODES:

FULL REPRESENTATION- 91941, 91942, 91945, 92103, 92104 92108, 92115, 92116, 92117, 92139

PARTIAL REPRESENTATION- 91977, 91978, 92019, 92020, 92101, 92110, 92123

**ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL**

**SAFE & HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES**

**HOUSING
& HOMELESSNESS**

**REIMAGINING
PUBLIC SAFETY**

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

We're creating pathways to economic success by supporting local businesses, addressing historic inequities, and ensuring fairness in employment practices. By focusing on economic justice, we aim to build a more inclusive and prosperous future for all.

ENSURING FAIR PAY FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES



San Diego's high cost of living demands updated approaches to employee compensation. Working with Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, we proposed using the MIT Living Wage Calculator to better reflect family structures and essential expenses like housing, transportation, childcare, and healthcare. This updated methodology provides a critical tool for future compensation negotiations.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS

Participation of local small businesses in County contracts declined from 11.3% in FY 2021-22 to 8.3% in FY 2022-23. To reverse this trend, I proposed initiatives to expand small business opportunities, including technical assistance and bond programs. We also increased the local business preference from 5% to 15% and set a goal for 25% of County spending to go toward local businesses, keeping more resources in our community.



We are committed to creating thriving neighborhoods by addressing community needs like illegal dumping and graffiti, improving access to healthy food, fostering green spaces, and advancing equitable environmental policies.

ADDRESSING FOOD JUSTICE

Food insecurity affects **1 in 4 San Diego residents**. In partnership with Supervisor Nora Vargas, we developed a **comprehensive action plan** to improve access to healthy, locally grown food. This initiative gathered input from farmers, service providers, and community leaders, leading to recommendations like expanding community gardens and promoting medically supportive food as a permanent Medi-Cal benefit.



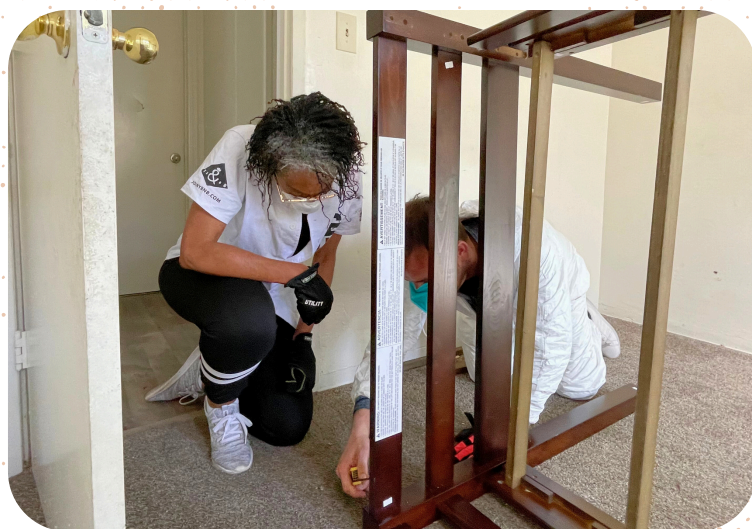
BREAKING BARRIERS TO HEALTHCARE ACCESS

To address disparities in healthcare, we advanced policies to **improve Medi-Cal enrollment and delivery of critical services**, such as housing navigation and recuperative care. By targeting the root causes of health inequities, we are improving outcomes for underserved communities.

RESPONDING TO
NATURAL DISASTERS

One of our most significant responsibilities as local governments is to protect the health and safety of our community members. The devastation of the January 22nd floods caused over **1,200 people** to seek emergency lodging due to damage to their homes.

In response to the community's needs, my office led the initiative to direct **\$33 million** to storm recovery efforts, including temporary lodging, transportation, food support, social and mental health services, and funding for the City of San Diego to assist those with trying to rebuild their lives.



TACKLING
HOUSING &
HOMELESSNESS

Housing and homelessness prevention remain urgent priorities. We are focused on reimagining land use, investing in inclusive communities, and providing targeted support to vulnerable populations.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE
HOMEOWNERS

In response to the January 22nd floods that displaced over 1,200 residents, I proposed extended protections against **predatory lending practices** during emergency declarations, safeguarding homeowners during times of rebuilding.

EXPANDING
HOMELESSNESS
OUTREACH AND SERVICES

This year, the Board passed my proposal to create a **Homelessness Outreach and Services Pilot Program for the City of Lemon Grove**. This initiative expanded the County's outreach activities, delivering critical services in partnership with community organizations to help unsheltered residents find resources, stability, and **a pathway to housing**.



TACKLING HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

(continued)

INNOVATIVE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SOLUTIONS

In our homelessness crisis, we must double down on innovative housing solutions for our unsheltered community members. In July, the Board approved my proposal to construct up to **70 sleeping cabins in Lemon Grove** with ARPA funds. This \$11.1 million project is a major step forward in addressing homelessness, covering the cost of construction, installation, and maintenance of the sleeping cabins, as well as essential spaces such as offices, storage, and restrooms for its participants. The support services will include case management, housing navigation, 24-hour security services, hygiene facilities, meals, transportation, and behavioral health support.



REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY

Safety goes beyond crime reduction—it's about building strong, healthy communities. By focusing on prevention, transparency, and accountability, we are reshaping public safety to meet the needs of our residents.



MTS FARE EVASION DIVERSION PROGRAM

As Chair of the MTS Public Safety Committee, I championed a program that balances fairness with reduced criminalization by **preserving on-the-spot payment options**, which will divert overcriminalization of marginalized communities.

AUDITING COUNTY- FUNDED CONTRACTS

Following concerns about Equus Workforce Solutions' performance during flood recovery, I proposed **an audit of their County contract** to ensure transparency and accountability in the use of public funds.



STRENGTHENING OVERSIGHT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

In 2022, the California State Auditor released a report identifying many deficiencies in how the County's **Citizens Law Enforcement Review Board** has investigated jail deaths. The report made clear recommendations that **the County must do more** to ensure that CLERB can carry out its intended task as an independent law enforcement oversight board. In December, we fought to expand civilian oversight of in-custody deaths and implemented **new accountability measures**, including expanded jurisdiction, enhanced reporting requirements, improved investigatory timelines, and clarified investigatory powers.



DELIVERING BUDGET WINS



Safe and Healthy Communities



Reimagining Public Safety



Housing and Homelessness



Economic Opportunity for All

- ✓ **\$22.8M** for the new Casa De Oro Library
- ✓ **\$7.5M** for the new Calavo Park
- ✓ **\$6.2M** into homeless outreach and housing assistance to people living unsheltered along the San Diego River
- ✓ **\$900K** for a new safe parking site
- ✓ **\$30M** to facilitate affordable housing projects
- ✓ **\$500** monthly payment to families (Family Income Empowerment Program)
- ✓ **\$1.1M** for SD Nights, a free in-person and virtual program for youth during after school hours
- ✓ **\$500K** for Gun Violence Prevention Program
- ✓ **\$2M** to plant 4,000 new trees to lower greenhouse gases

- ✓ **\$5.9M** for District Four road maintenance and resurfacing
- ✓ **\$5 million** to address mental health treatment needs for middle school students
- ✓ **\$2M** for homeless encampment cleanup in parks and other County-owned areas
- ✓ **\$500K** to expand the Social Equity Program to address the disproportionate harm caused by the War on Drugs on communities of color
- ✓ **\$500K** to implement the Uplift Boys & Men of Color initiative
- ✓ **\$500K** for the ¡Mas Fresco! Plus Program to address nutrition insecurity

GRANT FUNDING

The District Four office successfully allocated a total of **\$4,498,436** in FY 23-24 Neighborhood Reinvestment Program and Community Enhancement Grant funding.

ALLOCATIONS BY CATEGORY

ARTS/CULTURE \$1,063,352

YOUTH \$981,604

**CDC/COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT** \$811,541

HEALTH/WELLNESS \$633,616

FOOD SUPPORT \$242,280

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT \$237,285

SENIORS \$145,000

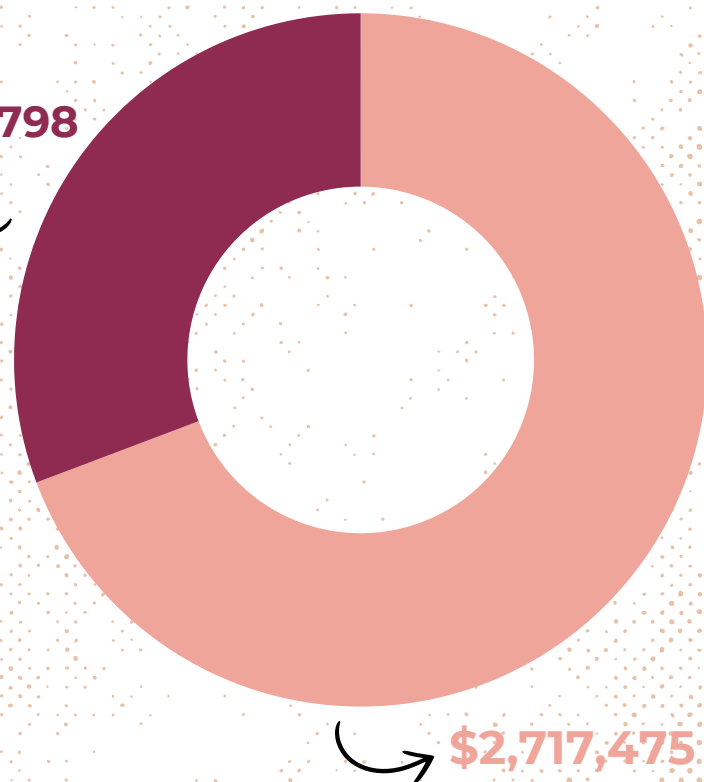
HOUSING/HOMELESSNESS \$137,100

LGBTQ SUPPORT \$104,916

DISABILITIES \$76,742

VETERANS \$65,000

Neighborhood Reinvestment Program
Community Engagement Program



BOARDS & COMMISSIONS RECAP

100+
applications

50
interviews conducted

36
appointed and
reappointed individuals

NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALAVO PARK GROUNDBREAKING

This year, we secured a huge win for Spring Valley and broke ground on the long-anticipated Calavo Park! I fought hard to secure \$7.5M to ensure this park was not delayed, despite construction costs. This **\$16.45M total investment** is a direct result of community advocacy, and my team and I made sure every voice was heard in the process. From adding lighting, a skate park, and sports courts, to over 200 new trees, this park will provide safe, vibrant spaces for our kids and families to gather.



SPRING VALLEY DUMPSTER DAY

Our communities faced unprecedented damage from the January 22nd floods. I was proud to partner with EDCO, Riley Recycling, and all of our volunteers to provide **7 dumpster bins** for constituents to bring bulky, flood damaged items. Each bin was filled and certainly reflected the needs in our unincorporated areas.

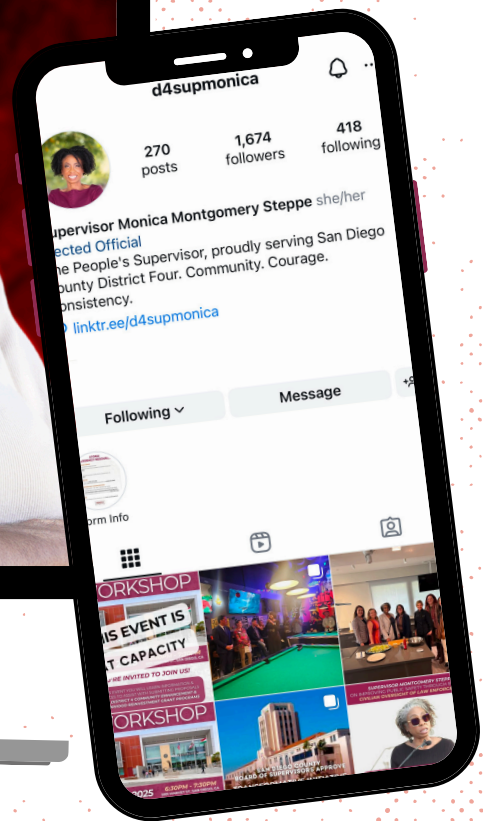
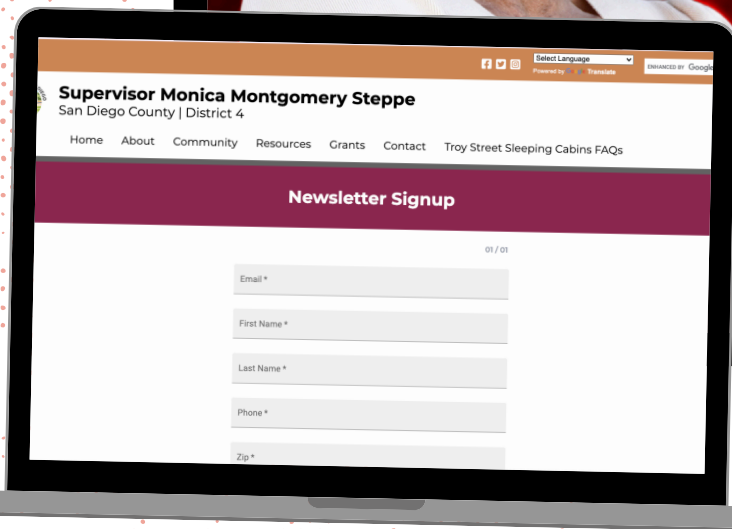


JUNETEENTH FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

Freedom is not a finished project, but an ongoing endeavor that requires collective effort and commitment. It was my honor to **raise the Juneteenth flag at the County Administration Center** and recognize organizations and individuals across a variety of industries who are **key players** in ensuring we continue the ongoing project toward freedom and justice.



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