

SAN DIEGO COUNTY
REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

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June 5, 2007

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
City of San Diego
202 C Street, 11th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

The Honorable Scott Peters
Council President
City of San Diego
202 C Street, MS #10 A
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mayor Sanders and Council President Peters:

I am writing to inform you of an inquiry made today by City Attorney Mike Aguirre in regard to an agreement between the City of San Diego and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (Authority). This inquiry concerns the Authority's decision to "loan" an executive member of the Authority's management team with expertise in airport management and development, federal and state regulatory controls, and land use compatibility planning to the City.

The Airport Authority Board and management staff continue to identify ways to better integrate aviation-related planning with planning performed by other local agencies. The decision to cooperate via a "loaned executive" assists in these efforts by temporarily sharing the expertise of a senior Authority staff member with the City. This employee, Ted Sexton, is on loan to assist City staff during the review of the management and facility development options of City-owned airports. He has extensive knowledge and experience with airports and how they operate.

The following is a list of some of the major functions that Mr. Sexton will perform under the terms of our March 31, 2007 agreement:

- Assist in the development of airport land use compatibility plans for City-owned airports and San Diego International Airport (SDIA)
- Coordinate with City staff to assist on effective and beneficial resolutions of issues related to the management and development of City airports
- Contribute to the final preparation of the City's General Plan as it relates to airports, airport land use plans, and other aviation issues
- Work with City finance staff to provide assistance in reviewing Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grants, grant sponsorships, and compliance with grant assurances



SAN DIEGO
INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT

The Honorable Jerry Sanders
The Honorable Scott Peters
June 5, 2007
Page 2

- Work with City staff to identify issues relating to the FAA and Caltrans to facilitate increased communication and problem-solving between these and other agencies
- Assist the City and the Authority in identifying options to further the completion of airport land use compatibility plans for SDIA and Brown and Montgomery Field Airports

The Authority continues to pay Mr. Sexton's salary as his work facilitates the Authority's role as the Airport Land Use Commission for the San Diego region and assists in the development of a regional airport system.

In light of the City Attorney's inquiry, I want to assure you that this action complies with all Authority, state, and FAA policies and guidelines. As you are aware, no action by the Authority Board was required for this agreement and, therefore, there is no applicability of the Ralph M. Brown Act in this matter.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information concerning this issue.

Sincerely,



Thella F. Bowens
President/CEO
San Diego County Regional Airport Authority

TFB/mk