

City of San Diego
Mayor Jerry Sanders
City Administration Building
11th Floor, 202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Mayor:

Speaking as a single member of the Board of Directors, the serious concerns being raised throughout the community regarding the Southeastern Economic Development Corporation, SEDC, are troubling to many members of the Board. Since my appointment to the Board less than 18 months ago, I have joined with two other members – Messer's Richard Geisler and D. Cruz Gonzalez, to raise questions and attempt to perform oversight responsibilities. The culture of SEDC over the years has been to manipulate, cajole, ignore and intimidate the board into utter and complete silence. Materials for review are provided late and board members have customarily been thwarted in their opportunities to raise questions. Using Corporate Council and Special Agency Council, the President of SEDC controlled questions and the flow of information so that board members could not obtain sufficient answers to assist in making good judgments. Messer's Geisler, Gonzales and I have tried to delve into the inner workings of SEDC in a responsible manner and we continue to accept the duties you have given us in these difficult times. There are two board positions that have or will expire shortly. Assuming your intention to appoint diligent and honest people from the community who want to see SEDC transformed into a responsible corporation, in good partnership with the city, and run on a policy basis by an active Board of Directors, I urge you to reinforce and retain those who have attempted to perform their duties as you have assigned. Others on the board who have refused to exercise their duties should be removed.

It would be a mistake and a tragedy to dismiss the only board members who have tried to stand up to the unacceptable culture of misinformation and intimidation that characterizes SEDC

As for the immediate concerns before this board regarding controversies revolving around the President of SEDC, it is my request that the Office of Mayor, perhaps in consultation with the City Attorney, immediately assign specific legal counsel to the board for the purpose of navigating the stormy situation with which we are faced

If you wish to discuss my thoughts on the composition of the SEDC Board of Directors any further, please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,


Derryl Williams

Board Member

CC

A. Young
B. Hueso
D. Frye
S. Peters
K. Faulconer
T. Atkins
B. Maienschein
J. Madaffer