



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Office of Councilman Anthony Young

### PRESS STATEMENT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Friday July 18, 2008

**PRESS CONTACT:** Jimmie Slack

(619) 236-7015 office

It is unfortunate that it has come to the fact that I, the Mayor and my fellow council members Ben Hueso and Donna Frye have called for the resignation of the President of the Southeastern Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), Carolyn Smith.

However when the very existence of SEDC is threatened by a continuing barrage of allegations of questionable practices and lack of appropriate Board of Director oversight, it is clear to me that management and the Board must take a course of action that is in the best interest of the community and the organization.

Ms. Smith has been a valuable asset to the community and redevelopment in Southeastern San Diego for over twenty years and I thank her for her efforts and determination to improve the quality of life of our community.

I will be asking the Mayor to begin the process of reviewing and recommending an appropriate course of action to provide SEDC with interim management oversight until a new executive director for SEDC is hired, such as an executive(s) loaned from the city, county, or private sector.

I will also be calling for a reconstitution of SEDC's Board by filling the positions of the SEDC board of director's members whose terms have expired. There are eight members whose terms have expired.

We firmly believe that SEDC is very valuable asset to Southeastern San Diego and I cannot emphasize strongly enough that SEDC will remain a viable, efficient and effective organization that will continue to provide affordable housing, commercial development, and infrastructure improvements to the communities of Southeastern San Diego.

###