



**OFFICE OF MAYOR DICK MURPHY**

**City of San Diego**

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Honorable Members of the City Council  
**From:** Mayor Dick Murphy  
**Subject:** **Citizens' Task Force on Chargers Issues**  
**Date:** June 7, 2002

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During the past months, several issues surrounding the San Diego Chargers and their long-term utilization of Qualcomm Stadium have arisen. To address these issues, I will be asking the members of the City Council to approve the establishment of a **Citizens' Task Force on Chargers Issues**.

As I have said before, I believe San Diegans would be disappointed if the Chargers were to leave San Diego. On the other hand, I do not think the public wants to use public funds to build a new stadium. The challenge is to find a way to keep the Chargers in San Diego in a fiscally responsible way the public will support.

On June 18, 2002, I will ask the City Council to approve the implementation of a task force to complete the assignments outlined in the following mission statement:

1. Determine whether the San Diego Chargers and the National Football League are important assets to the life and economy of San Diego.
2. Determine all things that could be done to keep the Chargers in San Diego in a fiscally responsible way that the public will support.
3. Recommend what the City should do, if anything, to keep the Chargers in San Diego in a fiscally responsible way that the public will support.
4. Make any other recommendations that the Task Force deems appropriate.

The **Citizens' Task Force on Chargers Issues** will be comprised of 15 members. In order for each Councilmember to have a representative on this task force, he/she will be asked to nominate no more or no less than three people to my Deputy Chief of Staff, Paola Avila, by Friday, June 28, 2002. I will select one individual from the list of each Councilmember who nominates three individuals in a timely manner. All appointments will be subject to confirmation by the Mayor and City Council. I will appoint the balance of the Task Force, including the chair.

The Task Force will have public meetings, subject to the Brown Act, with numerous opportunities for citizen input. In fact, I would encourage both the San Diego Chargers and the public to make proposals and presentations to the Task Force.

The Task Force will be asked to report back to the City Council by October 15, 2002. While I expect that the Mayor and City Council will consider any and all recommendations made by the Task Force, we will not be bound by them.

Moreover, I feel the following points need to be made on this matter:

1. I support the public's right to vote on this issue. This means that I will ask the City Council to place on the ballot any proposal recommended by the Task Force and adopted by the Council that requires the commitment of significant city resources.
2. The creation of this Task Force should not be interpreted as a waiver of the City's rights under the City's existing contract.