



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER
DISTRICT ONE**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 7, 2010 DTID: SL1004-002
TO: Jay Goldstone, Chief Operating Officer
FROM: Councilmember Sherri S. Lightner
SUBJECT: Brownouts at Fire Stations 40 and 35

This afternoon, San Diego Fire-Rescue Chief Javier Mainar reported to the Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee that he had serious concerns about the effect of brownouts on Station 40, which serves Rancho Peñasquitos, and Station 35, which serves University City. He reported that the Fire-Rescue Department and the Mayor's office would be meeting during the next two weeks to discuss possible restoration of full service to these stations, while still maintaining the desired level of budget reductions within the department.

Even before the current brownout plan was instituted, I had the same concerns as Chief Mainar. In my January 19th memo to you, I reported that Station 40's pre-brownout average response time was the worst out of all double-houses in the City, and Station 35's average response time was one of the worst, and I asked that both of these stations be exempted from brownouts. Information presented today shows that even before the brownouts were implemented, Stations 40 and 35 had response times that were worse than the new, post-brownout response times for nearly every browned-out station. Chief Mainar's presentation today is another reminder that the City's brownout plan should be revised to restore these two stations to full service.

The poor response times at Station 40 and Station 35 result from the large geographic areas they cover and the high volume of incidents to which they respond. These factors also make their exemption from the City's brownout plan a matter of public safety.

Please let me know if there is any way I can assist as you decide on possible revisions to the brownout plan. On behalf of the residents of Rancho Peñasquitos and University City; the businesses and institutions on the Torrey Pines Mesa and in Sorrento Valley; the students, faculty, and staff of UCSD; and all the residents of District One, I thank you.

cc: Honorable Mayor Jerry Sanders
Javier Mainar, Chief, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department