



MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER
CITY OF SAN DIEGO



MAYOR JORGE ASTIAZARÁN
CITY OF TIJUANA

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NEWS RELEASE

San Diego & Tijuana Mayors Forge Shared Vision for Creating Opportunities

SAN DIEGO – Flanked by a delegation of business leaders and government officials from San Diego to Tijuana, Mayors Kevin L. Faulconer and Jorge Astiazarán today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that builds on the foundation of the *San Diego-Tijuana Sister Cities Agreement*.

Mayor Faulconer said, “Though San Diego and Tijuana are two separate cities from separate nations, we are inextricably linked by our shared history, culture and challenges. There is so much that we can achieve when our two cities collaborate and unite. So to ensure good fortune for our future, Mayor Astiazarán and I are committing to collaboration through a Memo of Understanding.”

Mayor Astiazarán said, “Now more than ever, our two noble cities are witnessing a historic moment in time. Never before has there been a convergence of respective San Diego and Tijuana mayoral terms. By signing today’s Memorandum of Understanding, Mayor Kevin Faulconer and I make a serious pledge to maintain and expand this spirited bilateral synergy. We are indeed very fortunate to head two of the most dynamic cities in the world into a new marked era of key cross border collaboration and partnership.

The MOU or letter of agreement between the City of Tijuana and City of San Diego is the first agreement between the two cities since the implementation of the *North American Free Trade Agreement* (NAFTA) in 1994. As work on the San Ysidro Point of Entry, Otay Mesa southbound commercial truck crossing and other border and regional economic development projects continue, it is critical that the City of San Diego and Tijuana collaborate at a high level. To help facilitate this much-needed collaboration, Mayors Faulconer and Astiazarán have committed to host biannual meetings with respective department directors.

The first meeting will occur at end of January 2015 and each subsequent meeting will follow every six months. During these meetings our directors and designees will discuss, municipal and regional planning, economic development, police services, fire services, water and sewage systems, libraries, parks, technology, waste disposal and recycling, environmental protection and emergency management.

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