

Community Planners Committee

City Planning & Community Investment • City of San Diego
202 C Street, 4th Floor • San Diego, CA 92101
CommunityPlannersCommittee@sandiego.gov • (619) 235-5200

Jun 24, 2008

Honorable Jerry Sanders
Mayor of the City of San Diego,
City of San Diego
202 C Street,
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Community Planners Committee Concerns: Re: City Planning Commission Diversity.

Dear Honorable Mayor Sanders:

At its duly noticed meeting on May 27, 2008 meeting, the Community Planners Committee discussed the concerns that community planning chairs/ representatives had relating to the current composition of the City's Planning Commission. The discussion centered on the issue of whether the current membership of the City's Planning Commission was truly balanced and reflective of the diversity of the stakeholders in the City of San Diego, rather than over-representative of one particular interest group – those affiliated, either directly or indirectly, with the building/ development industry.

A particular concern of the Community Planners Committee is the current lack of independent, citizen representation on the City's Planning Commission by individuals with community planning committee background and experience, with no perceived affiliation with a particular interest group.

After fully discussing the matter, the Community Planners Committee passed a motion by a vote of 20 – 7 – 1(non-voting chair) to make the following recommendations to you as Mayor:

- (1.) The Community Planners Committee is concerned that the current composition of the City Planning Commission is not fully reflect of the full diversity of interests in the City of San Diego; and is particularly concerned that there is no current independent representation from individuals with community planning group involvement and experience;
- (2.) The Community Planners Committee recommends that future appointments to the Planning Commission be of individuals who will achieve a better diversity and balance:

(3.) Given that the City's Planning Commission often is unable to conduct business because of insufficient attendance to establish a quorum, the Community Planners Committee recommends that its chairs/ representatives be utilized as alternatives to serve as substitute commissioners at Planning Commission meetings where sufficient appointed commissioners are unable to attend.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of the recommendations contained in this letter.

Sincerely,

Leo Wilson
Chair
Community Planners Committee