

## COUNCILMEMBER KEVIN L. FAULCONER COUNCILMEMBER SCOTT SHERMAN CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Faulconer, Sherman Call for Action to Seat Port Commissioners

Councilmembers urge vote in 30 days to ensure San Diego has voice on critical issues affecting economy and waterfront

SAN DIEGO --- Today, outside a Port Commission meeting where two of San Diego's three Port seats remain empty, Councilmembers Kevin L. Faulconer and Scott Sherman announced a proposal for the City of San Diego to fill its vacancies. This call for action comes a day after the Mayor's veto of the City Council's bipartisan Port appointments was confirmed.

"The Port Commission is meeting and voting right now, making decisions about the future of San Diego's waterfront with two-thirds of San Diego's representation missing," said Faulconer, who represents San Diego's beach and bay communities.

This afternoon, Faulconer and Sherman requested Council President Todd Gloria schedule a vote on Port Commission appointments in 30 days. Monday, March 11, 2013, is the first opportunity for the City Council to appoint port commissioners after a Port "workshop" at the March 6 Rules and Economic Development Committee. Faulconer and Sherman also encouraged the council president to begin accepting nominations from Councilmembers immediately. The City Council can weigh these nominees according to the guidelines established at the March 6 workshop.

"The clock is ticking," said Sherman, who along with Faulconer voted to override the Mayor's veto. "These projects will move forward with or without San Diego. I call on my City Council colleagues to join us in taking action and ensuring that we fill these two vacancies as expeditiously and transparently as possible."

Port projects under discussion while the majority of San Diego's seats are vacant include the Convention Center expansion, North Embarcadero Visionary Plan construction, Port District's annual budget and capital improvement projects plan, and a climate mitigation and adaptation plan.

Joined by the San Diego Port Tenants Association, speakers highlighted the effects on the economy and waterfront if San Diego's full representation at the Port District continues to be delayed.

Added Faulconer: "While the City Council is talking about a plan for selecting Port Commission nominees, the actual Port Commission is discussing the Port Master Plan – the blueprint for our waterfront – right now. We need action."