



City of San Diego
MARK KERSEY
CITY COUNCILMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

For Immediate Release

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Big Changes in Local Aerospace Industry
Council Declares Northrop Grumman Week in the City of San Diego

SAN DIEGO – June 3, 2013 – The San Diego City Council will honor the local contributions of Northrop Grumman this week. Northrop Grumman recently established the Unmanned Systems Center of Excellence in Rancho Bernardo, relocating 300 positions to San Diego from out of state. All Northrop Grumman unmanned systems research and development will now be conducted in the City of San Diego and San Diego County.

This announcement comes at a time when Southern California is being considered for designation as an Unmanned Autonomous Systems Test Site by the FAA, a move that would bring even greater job growth and more economic drivers to the San Diego region.

“The decision to transition all of our unmanned aircraft system programs, management and development efforts to one site has many benefits,” said Jim Zortman, sector vice president and San Diego site manager, Northrop Grumman. “It reinforces our company’s commitment to this viable market and enables our team to increase efficiencies, performance and innovation to address the needs of our domestic and international customers.”

Northrop Grumman currently employs 3,800 people in greater San Diego with an annual economic impact of \$607 million.

Councilman Mark Kersey, whose district includes the site, highlighted the importance of Northrop Grumman in his district and San Diego as a whole, saying, “It’s no secret that Northrop Grumman helps drive our local economy and bolster national defense. We also wanted to recognize how much they do in the community and to keep us safe at home. During the ’07 wildfires, Northrop Grumman’s unmanned aerial vehicle imagery was used to help CalFire determine which direction the fire was moving. That partnership saved property and lives.”

Beyond the business of supporting national defense, Northrop Grumman makes community involvement a priority. The company supports educational programs in science, technology, engineering and math to inspire students to pursue fields of study in those disciplines. It also supports programs that serve U.S. troops and veterans, provide health and human services and initiatives to improve the environment. More specifically, Northrop Grumman employees host an annual fundraising campaign to support the USO mission. Employee contributions have gone toward renovating and updating the USO downtown center in San Diego and bringing a grief camp for military kids to San Diego County.

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