



City Councilmember Scott Sherman

District 7

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Planning Commission Approves Councilmember Sherman's Charter School Permitting Reform

Proposed Measure will Help Reform Excessive Bureaucratic Burdens on Charter Schools in the City of San Diego

SAN DIEGO – Councilmember Sherman applauded the Planning Commission's approval of the ninth item of the 10th update to the land development code which included his proposed measure to reform the City of San Diego's Conditional Use Permit (CUP) that would ease permitting requirements on San Diego public charter schools.

Public charter schools serve over 21,000 students in 51 schools within the City of San Diego and the San Diego Unified School District. Public charter schools have become an important educational option for thousands of San Diego parents. Unfortunately, the City's burdensome CUP is enormously complex, time consuming, and expensive.

Sherman's plan would achieve the following:

- Revise municipal code to reduce the permitting requirements to help charter schools obtain facilities
- K-12 schools with less than 300 students will be permitted in residential multi-family, commercial regional, commercial office, and commercial community permitting zones
- These revisions would allow more money to go directly to education instead of navigating through the permitting process

Councilmember Sherman began working with public charter schools and affiliate organizations after being contacted by four charter schools in his district having trouble navigating the burdensome permitting process.

"Thousands of San Diego working families depend on charter schools throughout San Diego to educate their children. I applaud the Planning Commission for approving this important measure. I urge my Council Colleagues to join me in support when this item reaches Committee and the full Council," said Councilmember Sherman.

"The proposed changes will make it easier for charter schools to obtain quality facilities for their students and will allow more funding to be directed to student instruction by reducing the need for land use consultants to navigate the complex bureaucratic process," said Miles Durfee, Regional Director of the California Charters School Association.

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