



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Report to the Planning Commission

DATE ISSUED: July 29, 2025

REPORT NO. PC-25-037

HEARING DATE: July 31, 2025

SUBJECT: Dedication of the Planning Commission Hearing Room to Edric Doringo

### PURPOSE:

To honor the life, character, career, and enduring contributions of Edric Amador Doringo (1970-2020), former Deputy Director of the City of San Diego's Development Services Department (DSD), Engineering Division, by dedicating the Planning Commission Hearing Room in his name.

Proposed Action: The Development Services Department recommends that the Planning Commission Hearing Room be officially dedicated as the Edric Doringo Hearing Room, to be known as "The Edric".

Fiscal Considerations: Ceremonial item to honor a long-term City employee, no fiscal impacts.

### DISCUSSION

#### Life of Service and Dedication:

Mr. Edric Doringo was born on July 20, 1970, at Balboa Naval Hospital in San Diego. A proud alumnus of San Diego State University, Edric earned his Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1995, followed by a Master's degree in Structural Engineering in 1999.

Edric's public service began when he joined the City of San Diego in 1994 as a student engineer, a humble entry point that marked the beginning of a distinguished City career. Edric, a natural leader, climbed steadily through the ranks, from Assistant Engineer in 1997, Associate Engineer in 2000, and Senior Civil Engineer - and Deputy City Engineer- in 2014. After 22 years in the classified service, in 2016, Edric joined the Development Services Department management team, where he was promoted to the Engineering Division Program Manager. He was promoted again in 2018, where he became the leader of over 80 City staff in the Engineering Division as the Deputy Director.

In his role as Engineering Deputy Director, Edric was responsible for the direction of two Program Managers, 89 full-time engineers and four student engineers across ten distinct engineering-related sections including many civil engineers responsible for ensuring new development met the standards for drainage and grades, transportation, traffic, geology, mapping action, addressing, stormwater and engineering building review. He was beloved for his approach with the private sector and was often tasked by City leadership in other departments to assist with many external

public agency projects, such as MTS, NCTD, the County of San Diego, the Navy and Caltrans. His leadership played a vital role in modernizing internal permitting systems and regulatory processes, especially during the 5G telecom and utility infrastructure expansions. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Edric was instrumental in facilitating temporary outdoor business operation (TOBO) permits, enabling local businesses to adapt and survive through an unprecedented crisis.

His leadership was marked by a rare combination of deep technical knowledge and gentle, approachable wisdom. He was not only an exceptional civil engineer, he was a builder of systems, people, and trust. Beyond his technical expertise, Edric was revered for his warmth, humility, and emotional intelligence. He was a compassionate leader, a beloved colleague, and a bridge-builder who strengthened relationships throughout the department and City. His commitment to fairness, mentorship, and innovation left a permanent imprint on the City's culture and community, a testament to his lasting influence.

#### Recognition of Excellence:



In 2019, the Building Industry Association (BIA) presented Edric with its Award for Excellence, a new award never before given to a civil servant, recognizing his outstanding public service and his positive impact on the business and development community. Upon his passing, the BIA was so moved by Edric's contributions that they later named the award in his honor, creating the "Edric Doringo Service Award", to recognize future public servants who exemplify the same spirit of cooperation, professionalism, and dedication to public service that Edric embodied so naturally.

#### Service to the Planning Commission:

Through his personal contributions and via the people he managed and mentored, Edric provided great benefit to this body through the many projects, reviews, and initiatives he touched that came before this group. It is fitting that we dedicate the Planning Commission Hearing Room in Edric's name, so that those who gather there to make decisions that shape the future of San Diego are reminded of the quiet strength, wisdom, and kindness that he brought to all he encountered, staff, customers, friends and family alike. This dedication is more than symbolic; it is a way to honor Edric's legacy and exemplary service to the City of San Diego.

#### The Man Behind the Title:

Edric was so much more than his job title. He was a devoted husband to Elainie, and a loving father to Rodric, Dominic, Jacqueline, and Julianne, and brother to Berric Doringo (also a City of San Diego employee). Edric balanced his demanding career with deep personal passions and unwavering commitment to his family. He practiced Aikido and Jeet Kune Do, cooked incredible meals, tended to his garden, played guitar, and reveled in comic books, anime, and video games with the same intensity and joy he brought to engineering projects. He was also a man of faith, a regular Sunday churchgoer and longtime usher.

#### Remembered by All Who Knew Him:

Edric's impact was not limited to the projects he delivered. He was deeply respected by his team,

admired by colleagues across departments, and beloved by all who worked with him. He was known for his gentle demeanor, quick smile, and calm ability to navigate the most complex land development challenges. His knowledge was vast, but it was his humanity that made him unforgettable. Even in leadership, Edric never saw himself as above others. He treated his team with dignity, offering support, mentorship, and encouragement. He believed in people. And in turn, people believed in him.

Edric's unexpected and untimely passing at age 50 left a deep scar for all of those who knew him. As a way to honor him after his death, the City commissioned it's Poet Laureate in 2020 to create a poem for him in his honor. The poem is titled "A Man of All Seasons". The poem in its entirety (Attachment 1), written by Gerda Govine Ituarte, can be found placed directly under his portrait in the rear of the hearing room. Here is a fitting excerpt:

*"He leaves open the door  
where his essence thrives  
pleasant surprises wait to unfurl  
reach for tomorrow..."*

Conclusion:

It is with both pride and sadness that we remember Edric Amador Doringo, a brilliant engineer, a pillar of the Development Services Department, and a man whose legacy of kindness, wisdom, and unwavering service will live on. By naming the newly established Planning Commission Hearing Room in his honor as its first item before the Commission in the new facility, we do not simply preserve a memory; we carry forward a model of what public service can and should be. May this room and the hardworking people working within it inspire future generations of City staff, commissioners, and citizens to lead with purpose, with integrity, and most of all, with heart.

Respectfully submitted,



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Elyse W. Lowe

Director

Development Services Department

Attachment 1

Poem: A Man of All Seasons, Poet Laureate Gerda Govine Ituarte

## Attachment 1

In 2020, the City of San Diego Poet Laureate Gerda Govine Ituarte wrote this poem to celebrate Edric's amazing persona and cherish the memories he left for us.

### **A Man of All Seasons**

Kindness kiss our pain sadness  
his presence enriched supported us  
kept storms at bay

Helped us bloom and grow  
inside cool summer breezes  
left his mark could fly soar  
martial arts master

Music man guitarist  
comic book video game fan  
loved to cook travel  
charmer with integrity  
creativity embraced his being

Mentored others seeped in  
collaborative spirit  
his legacy green tress planted  
we can hold touch hug  
laughter will rise ring true  
usher in unexpected calm

See through lens of loss  
gifts that he left for us  
we will survive because  
of his unseen presence

We bring bouquets of  
jasmine gardenias honeysuckle  
infused with love, beauty respect  
lasting impressions one of a kind  
wisdom illuminated lessons taught

He leaves open the door  
where his essence thrives  
pleasant surprises wait to unfurl  
reach for tomorrow

Love in abundance  
family community relish memories  
that feeds welcome  
know what he would say to us now

Keep us moving forward  
he is within reach in our dreams  
woven into the fabric of our lives  
family man engineer  
whose reputation glows

Moved with purpose grace  
knew how to make impossible  
possible unknown known  
made it all look easy

Edric Amador Doringo  
**A Man of All Seasons**

September 25, 2020