

March 11, 2026

Mayor Todd Gloria and Members of the San Diego City Council
City of San Diego
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Subject: **Recommendation to Adopt Atkinson Hyperlegible Font for All City Communications**

Dear Mayor Gloria and Honorable Councilmembers:

The City of San Diego's Accessibility Advisory Board respectfully submits this recommendation for the City to adopt **Atkinson Hyperlegible Font**, a typeface designed specifically to enhance readability and comprehension for individuals with low vision. As San Diego continues its commitment to inclusion and equitable access, standardizing this font across City communications would represent a significant step forward in accessibility.

Atkinson Hyperlegible Font was developed in partnership with the Braille Institute to address common challenges faced by individuals with visual impairments, including letterform ambiguity and reduced character distinction. The typeface increases legibility through purposeful differentiation of commonly confused characters, generous spacing, and clear, open shapes. These design elements not only improve readability for the low-vision community but also benefit all residents by increasing clarity across printed and digital materials.

Adopting this typeface for City websites, public notices, printed documents, signage, forms, and other resident-facing communications would:

1. **Advance ADA and Website Content Accessibility Guidelines compliance**, supporting San Diego's responsibility to maintain accessible public information.
2. **Promote inclusive engagement** by reducing barriers for thousands of residents with visual impairments.
3. **Improve overall communication effectiveness**, as research consistently shows that clearer typography enhances comprehension for the general public, including older adults and non-native English speakers.
4. **Demonstrate San Diego's leadership** as a city committed to universal design and accessibility innovation.

We respectfully request that the Mayor and City Council consider directing the appropriate departments to evaluate and implement the use of Atkinson Hyperlegible as the City's standard font.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to making San Diego a city where every resident can fully access and participate in civic life. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to supporting continued progress in accessibility.

Sincerely,

City of San Diego Accessibility Advisory Board

Victor Roosen, Chair

Patricia Sieglén-Perry, Vice Chair

Mary Wolford, Member

Wayne Landon, Member

Jacqueline Jackson, Member

Elaine Mary Cooluris, Member

Diane Koczur, Member

Kate Pecora, Member

cc: Nicole Darling, Director, Communications Department