



**CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER  
DISTRICT ONE**

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Mayor Jerry Sanders  
Jay Goldstone, Chief Operating Officer

From: Councilmember Sherri Lightner 

Date: April 21, 2009

Re: 2009 CAFR and MTDB Authority

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I am writing to follow up on my previously expressed concerns regarding information that was not disclosed in the FY09 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Specifically, I am concerned about the lack of disclosure involving the City of San Diego/MTDB Authority.

The 2008 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) states on page 64:

“The City of San Diego/Metropolitan Transit Development Board Authority (MTDB Authority) is a financing authority which was established in 1988 and acquires and constructs mass transit guide ways, public transit systems, and related transportation facilities primarily benefiting the residents of the City of San Diego. The City appoints two Council members to the governing board and the MTDB appoints one. The MTDB Authority primarily provides services to the primary government. The MTDB Authority is reported as a governmental fund. Financial statements can be requested from the Office of the City Comptroller, 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101.”

I am a member of the MTS board and its executive committee. I was surprised to learn that the City of San Diego/MTDB Authority is responsible for the financial oversight of a bond payment initiated in 1988. I was also surprised to learn that the City may have failed to meet its responsibility to appoint two councilmembers and to make sure that the board meets annually.

The FY09 CAFR did not gain my support because this information was excluded.

Please identify the two councilmembers that serve on this Authority, any authorizing Council actions, and the Authority’s minutes and financial statements for the last calendar year. In the alternative, please describe the Authority’s current financial and management situation. I would appreciate receiving this information by May 1, 2009.

If no councilmembers have been appointed, I am further requesting that you make those appointments as soon as possible, and that you direct the Authority to meet annually and to fulfill all of its legal obligations.

It is important both for the public's trust, and for the City's financial health, that the City meet all of its financial requirements, and all of its financial information disclosure requirements.

If my staff or I can be of further assistance, please contact us. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Cc: Councilmembers  
Andrea Tevlin, Independent Budget Analyst