

SAN DIEGO
COUNTY
REGIONAL
AIRPORT
AUTHORITY

July 23, 2015

Board Members
Robert H. Gleason
Board Chair

David Alvarez
C. April Bolling
Greg Cox
Jim Desmond
Lloyd B. Hubbs
Jim Janney
Paul Robinson
Mary Sessom

City of San Diego
Charter Review Committee
Attn: Chair Lightner
City Administration Building (CAB)
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Ex-Officio Board Members
Laurie Berman
Col. John Farnam
Eraina Ortega

President / CEO
Thella F. Bowens

Re: City Charter Amendment

Dear Committee Chair Lightner:

Since 2003, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority ("Authority") has been a contracting public agency participating in the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System ("SDCERS"). By the terms of its 2008 Participation and Administration Agreement with SDCERS, the SDCERS Board of Administration ("SDCERS Board") serves as the trustee and administrator of the Authority's retirement plan and trust.

While the Authority is a participant in the SDCERS retirement system, the Authority's employees and retirees have no representation on the SDCERS Board. This is because the current provisions of the San Diego City Charter (Article IX, Section 144) restrict eligibility to serve on the SDCERS Board to *only* City employees and retirees. Over the years, the number of Authority employees and retirees in the retirement system has grown and will continue to grow in the future as its retirement plan remains open to new members. The Authority believes it is both appropriate and fair to amend the City Charter to permit Authority employees and retirees to be eligible to be elected to serve on the SDCERS Board.

As the Committee works to review and update the City Charter, the Authority would like to voice its support for an amendment to Article IX, Section 144. Specifically, the Authority fully supports the proposed amendment submitted by SDCERS Chief Executive Officer Mark Hovey to Scott Chadwick and subsequently endorsed by resolution at the SDCERS Board meeting on July 10, 2015.

The proposed language to amend the City Charter would allow for future representation on the SDCERS Board for Authority members who have a vested interest in the health and stability of the retirement plan. It would not only strengthen fiduciary oversight, but would

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RE: City Charter
Amendment

also fix an unintentional exclusion of active and retired members of contracting public agencies from representation on SDCERS Board.

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Updating the language would allow any active or retired member of a contracting public organization, of which the Authority is one, to run for election to one of the designated general member seats. I request that the Committee adopt the requested revisions on behalf of the Authority.

Sincerely,



Thella F. Bowens
President/CEO

KG/ch

cc: Chris Cate (Vice Chair), Mark Kersey and Marti Emerald