




THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

**TODD GLORIA**  
MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 2, 2023

TO: Honorable Council President Sean Elo-Rivera  
Honorable Councilmembers

FROM: Mayor Todd Gloria 

SUBJECT: Appointments and Reappointments to the Airports Advisory Committee

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I am appointing Dr. Donald Chick to the Airports Advisory Committee. I am also reappointing David Reed Gordon, Ron Lee, and Thomas Reid to the Committee.

Dr. Chick is the President and Chief Executive Officer of New Synergist Consulting (NSC), which provides various leadership and management workshops to organizations. He is a former Business Director and Senior Civilian of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Southwest. Prior to joining NAVFAC Southwest, held engineering, technical, and management positions at the General Motors Corporation and the Naval Aviation Depot (FRC), North Island. Dr. Chick earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Cleveland State University, a Master's of Business Administration from Pepperdine University, and a Doctorate in Organizational Change from Pepperdine. He is being appointed to a four-year term ending February 28, 2026, in the Tierrasanta Representative Seat.

Mr. Gordon is a flight instructor, aircraft owner, and registered professional mechanical engineer. He served as an officer in the U.S. Navy Submarine Service during the Cold War and spent twenty years working as an engineer at two companies in San Diego -- Solar Turbines and Interocean Systems, Inc. He's been involved and volunteered with various community and professional organizations over the last thirty years including serving as committee chair of the Montgomery Airport Advisory Committee; director and board member of Plus One Flyers, Inc -- the largest flying club in the world. Mr. Gordon holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

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Honorable Sean Elo-Rivera, Council President  
Honorable Councilmembers

He is being reappointed to a four-year term ending February 28, 2027, in the Member with Special Expertise Representative Seat.

Mr. Lee is a business owner and professional skydiver. He is the CEO for Skydiving Innovations – a skydiving entertainment company he and his wife started in 1986. Mr. Lee is an FAA Part 107-certificated commercial drone pilot with myriad authorizations for drone flight operations in controlled airspace. He is a civilian professional demonstration skydiver with a U.S. Parachute Association PRO (Professional Demonstration Skydiver) rating and over 7,000 skydives. He holds the world record for the most parachute jumps ever made onto an aircraft carrier. He is being reappointed to a four-year term ending February 28, 2026, in the Member with Special Expertise Seat.

Mr. Reid has been a Plus One Flying Club member for over 30 years, serving on their Board of Directors for most of that time, and was President from 1999–2003. He holds flying credentials with a commercial license with an instrument rating. He recently retired from a 35-year career in mortgage banking as a loan officer, corporate consultant, and real estate investor. He is a graduate of San Diego State University. He is being reappointed to a four-year term ending February 28, 2025, in the Clairemont Mesa Representative Seat.

I want to thank them for their willingness to serve, and continue serving, in this capacity.

MTG:cwd

cc: Honorable Mara Elliott, City Attorney  
Diana Fuentes, Interim City Clerk  
Charles Modica, Independent Budget Analyst