




**OFFICE OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT TODD GLORIA
CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: May 21, 2013
TO: Honorable Councilmembers
FROM: Council President Todd Gloria 
SUBJECT: Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation Board

I am pleased to nominate Suzanne Varco for one of the current vacancies on the Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation Board.

Ms. Varco is currently the managing partner at the law firm Opper and Varco, LLP, specializing in environmental law. As the managing partner, she is responsible for the firm's finances, evaluating staff performance, and establishing annual budgets. She has an outstanding record of community service which includes serving on the boards of the San Diego Women's Foundation, Lambda Alpha, and St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School. Overseeing the operations and management of the publicly leased Lyceum Theatre and acting as its steward are keys to her enthusiastic interest serving on the Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation Board.

I believe that Ms. Varco's professional experience, educational background, and leadership make her an ideal candidate who deserves your consideration as a member of the Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation Board.

Attachment

cc: Honorable Bob Filner, Mayor
Honorable Jan Goldsmith, City Attorney
Elizabeth Maland, City Clerk

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
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May 7, 2013

OPPER
&
VARCO
LLP
THE ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW GROUP

Mr. Todd Gloria
Council President
San Diego City Council
202 C Street, MS #10A
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation

Dear Mr. Gloria:

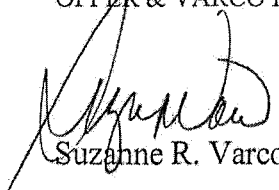
I wish to be considered for appointment to the Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation. I have been a practicing attorney in San Diego for over 20 years. My firm, Oppen & Varco, LLP, specializes in environmental law, representing both public and private clients. Civic San Diego (formerly CCDC) is a current client of the firm, and we have also acted as outside counsel to the City on various matters. I am the Managing Partner at the law firm, managing firm finances, evaluating staff and attorney performance, establishing annual budgets and ensuring that continuing education requirements by firm attorneys are timely met.

I am currently a board member for two other organizations, St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School (where I serve as the current Chairperson) and the local Chapter of Lambda Alpha International (where I serve as the Secretary-elect). I have previously served on various committees and boards, as noted on the attached organization listing.

I have included with this letter the completed Application Form – Boards and Commissions Appointment and a current resume. I hope this provides the information you need to evaluate my qualifications for this position.

Yours very truly,

OPPER & VARCO LLP


Suzanne R. Varco

SRV/ssr
Enclosures



CITY OF SAN DIEGO

APPLICATION FORM

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENT

(If you need more space to answer any of the questions, you may attach additional pages.)

~ New Applicant

~ Reappointment

1. Mr. Mrs. Ms. Suzanne R. Varco
First Middle Last

2. Please list all other names that you have used:

Suzanne S. Roy

3. Address: 346 Surrey Dr. Bonita CA 91902
Street City State Zip

Please list all the phone, fax, and cell / pager numbers at which you can be reached.

Hm. Phone: (619) 944-5858 Hm. Fax: () Hm. Cell: ()

Hm. E-mail Address svarco @envirolawyer.com

Wk. Phone: (619) 231-5858 Wk. Fax: (619) 231-5853 Wk. Cell: (619) 944-5858 ✓

Wk. E-mail Address: svarco @envirolawyer.com

If you have resided at your current address less than 10 years, please list all previous residences during the last 10 years.

If you have resided at your current address less than 10 years, please list all previous residences during the last 10 years.

1007 Oak Hill Dr. Chula Vista CA 91915
Street City State Zip

Street City State Zip

4. In which Council District and Neighborhood do you reside? N/A

5. Position Sought (Name of Board or Commission). Please list in order of preference.

A). Horton Plaza Theatre Foundation

B). _____

C). _____

6. Please list all organizations and societies that you have been a member of during the last 10 years.

Entity	Position	From / To
<u>Lambda Alpha</u>	<u>Board Member</u>	<u>2009 to Present</u>

(See attached list)

7. Please list all volunteer work that you have performed over the last 10 years that is relevant to this position:

<u>St. John's Episcopal School</u>	<u>Chula Vista, CA</u>	<u>Chair- Board of Trustees</u>
Organization	City / State	Type of Work

<u>Bonita Country Day School</u>	<u>Chula Vista, CA</u>	<u>President, PTO</u>
Organization	City / State	Type of Work

Organization	City / State	Type of Work
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8. Educational History:

High School/College/University/Other	City / State	Degree	Major
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<u>Whitman College</u>	<u>Walla Walla, WA</u>	<u>BA</u>	<u>English/Economics</u>
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<u>University of San Diego School of Law</u>	<u>San Diego, CA</u>	<u>JD</u>	<u>Law</u>
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9. Employment History (*current to last 10 years*). (see attached resume)

A. Employer	Type of Business	
Title/Position	Duties	
Address		
()		
Phone	From Date	To Date
Website of Current Employer		

B. Employer	Type of Business	
Title/Position	Duties	
Address		
()		
Phone	From Date	To Date
Website of Current Employer		

C. Employer	Type of Business	
Title/Position	Duties	
Address		
()		
Phone	From Date	To Date
Website of Current Employer		

10. Many positions require the appointment of people with special background, experience, or expertise. Please mark the categories for which you qualify.

<input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attorney
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Arts
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance or Investment
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
<input type="checkbox"/> International Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Labor	<input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> Military Service
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Developer	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

11. YES ☒ NO ☐ Do you currently or have you ever served in any elected or appointed office or on any local, state, or federal government board, commission, or committee?

Entity	Position	Dates
Entity	Position	Dates
Entity	Position	Dates
Entity	Position	Dates

12. YES ☒ NO ☐ To the best of your knowledge, do you have a spouse, registered domestic partner, or other relative who is currently an employee or appointee of the City of San Diego? If yes, please explain.

13. YES ☒ NO

To the best of your knowledge, have you ever been affiliated (as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, owner, advisor, or consultant) with any institution, organization, or business entity that might present a potential conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest with your requested appointment? If yes, please explain.

14. YES ☒ NO

To the best of your knowledge, do you have financial holdings in or receive income from any source or own real property or personal property that might present a potential conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest with your requested appointment? If yes, please explain.

My law firm receives income from the City of San Diego and from Westfield for legal services we currently provide or have historically provided, none of which is related to the Horton Plaza Theatre Foundation.

15. YES ☒ NO

Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct or been the subject of a complaint to any court, administrative agency, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If yes, please explain.

16. YES ☒ NO

In the last 10 years, have you been a party to any civil litigation or administrative proceeding as either a plaintiff, defendant, petitioner, respondent? If yes, please explain.

17. YES ☒ NO

To the best of your knowledge, are you currently under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal law or ordinance? If yes, please explain.

18. YES ☒ NO

Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? If yes please explain.

19. Please attach your resume, 3 letters of reference from business and/or personal associates, and any additional information that you believe relevant to the position for which you are applying.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

My responses and attachments to this application are full, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I may be disqualified from consideration if I knowingly make false statements on this application or omit material information. As part of its screening process, the City may thoroughly investigate my background, including, but not limited to, my educational record, credit report, employment history, personal references, military records, and criminal records, and make any other inquiries it deems necessary in considering my application for appointment.

I understand that some information related to my application may be subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act, however, the City will retain the confidentiality of the information to the extent permitted under applicable law.

I authorize any business, institution, or organization to release any records sought by the City in connection with my application. I release the City, its officers, agents, and employees and all individuals, organizations, educational institutions, and employers from all liability in responding to or providing writings or other communications in connection with my application.

I may elect to withdraw from the appointment process at any time.



Applicant Signature

5/7/13
Date

Attachment

6. Please list all organizations and societies that you have been a member of during the last 10 years.

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>From/To</u>
Lambda Alpha	Board Member	2009-Present
Urban Land Institute	Member	2009-Present
National Brownfields Association	Member	2008-Present
San Diego Environmental Professionals	Past President	1992-Present
County of San Diego, Site Assessment And Mitigation Steering Committee	Past Chair	1997-Present
Association of Environmental Professionals	Member	2012-Present
San Diego Women's Foundation	Member	2012-Present
San Diego County Bar Association	Member	1992-Present
California Bar Association	Member	1992-Present

SUZANNE R. VARCO

225 Broadway, Suite 1900, San Diego, CA 92101, (619) 231-5858, svarco@envirolawyer.com

Opper & Varco LLP - San Diego, California

Managing partner, December 2000 to present (formerly Varco & Associates). Private law practice concentrating in the redevelopment of contaminated properties, hazardous waste cleanup, state environmental compliance counseling, environmental permitting, land use, business and real estate transaction environmental issues, and underground storage tank issues.

Peters & Varco LLP - San Diego, California

Partner, November 1996 to December 2000 (formerly Suzanne R. Varco & Associates). Private law practice concentrating in environmental compliance, regulation and litigation, appellate work, and general business litigation. Experience includes hazardous waste contamination compliance and litigation, UST Cleanup Fund reimbursement, CEQA Guideline preparation and litigation, environmental permitting, corporate law, general business litigation, and writs and appeals.

Wittman, Mitchell & Skola - San Diego, California

Associate Attorney, January 1996 to October 1996. Appellate work, environmental compliance and litigation, general business litigation, and transactional work. Represented and advised clients on specific issues relating to hazardous waste contamination compliance and litigation, UST Cleanup Fund reimbursement, CEQA compliance, environmental permitting, as well as general civil litigation, construction defect litigation, and appellate work.

Lorenz Alhadeff Cannon & Rose - San Diego, California

Associate Attorney, May 1991 to January 1996. Practice included environmental litigation, general business litigation, and appellate work. Specific case work included hazardous waste litigation, environmental insurance, California Fish & Game and Clean Water Act violations, CEQA litigation, hazardous activity strict liability, water rights and drainage liability, securities litigation, general business litigation, writs, and appeals.

Environmental Law Clinic - University of San Diego School of Law - San Diego, California

Student Attorney, August 1990 to May 1991. 1992 Outstanding Environmental Clinic Intern Award. Cases handled involved public trust violations, Clean Water Act violations, NEPA permitting procedures, and land use planning.

EDUCATION

University of San Diego School of Law, San Diego, California, J.D., 1992

Advocacy Experience and Awards: National Moot Court Team; State Moot Court Team; Moot Court Board; First Place, Constitutional Law Competition; First Place, Law and Motions Competition; Best Oral Advocate, Tort Competition; Best Appellate Brief, Lawyering Skills I; Oral Advocacy Specialist.

Specialized Courses: Environmental Clinic, Environmental Law, Environmental Torts, Water Law, Advanced Trial Advocacy, Negotiations, Tax, and Corporations.

Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington, B.A. 1987

English major, Economics minor

Honors: Honors at Entrance, Dean's List, Distinction in oral examinations in English.

Specialized Courses: Environmental Studies, Geology and Paleontology.

PUBLISHED OPINIONS

Citizens for Responsible Equitable Env't'l Dev. v. City of San Diego, 184 Cal. App. 4th 1032 (2010).
San Diego Housing Commission v. Industrial Indemnity, 68 Cal.App.4th 526 (1998).
Hardin Oldsmobile v. New Motor Vehicle Board, 52 Cal. App. 4th 585 (1997).
Miller v. Superior Court, 50 Cal.App.4th 1665 (1996).

SPEAKING AND PUBLICATIONS

Assoc. of Environmental Professionals, *CEQA Basics Workshop*, San Diego, California, October 2011, October 2012.
Environmental Protection Agency, *Western Brownfields Workshop*, Missoula, Montana, September 2010.
San Diego Environmental Professionals, Environmental Legislative Update, San Diego, California, February 2006, February 2007, February 2008, February 2009, February 2010.
Industrial Environmental Assoc., *Plating Shop Compliance Update*, San Diego, California, October 2008.
Industrial Environmental Assoc., *Plating Shop Workshop*, San Diego, California, November 2007.
American Bar Association Section on Environment, Energy & Resources, *Emerging Environmental Litigation Option*, San Diego, California, October 2006.
Lorman Education Services, *Affordable Housing in San Diego*, San Diego, California, August 2003, February 2005, and February 2006.
Lorman Education Services, *Local Government and the Law*, San Diego, California, May 2003.
Lorman Education Services, *Eminent Domain in California*, San Diego, California, October 2002, November 2004, and November 2005.
Co-author, "Environmental Aspects of Property Redevelopment," San Diego County Site Assessment and Mitigation 2000 SAM Manual, San Diego County Department of Environmental Health, 2000.
University of California, San Diego Extension, Guest Lecturer, *State and Federal Hazardous Waste Laws*, San Diego, California, May 1998.
Continuing Education of the Bar Seminar, *Hazardous Waste and Real Property Transactions*, San Diego and Santa Barbara, California, February 1998.
"Common Law Environmental Claims in California," *Hazardous Waste and Real Property Transactions Program Handbook*, CEB, February 1998.
Women's Environmental Council, *Fishing with the Net: Environmental Resources on the Internet*, San Diego, California, July 1997.
Women's Environmental Council, *Effective Negotiating*, San Diego and Orange County, California, July 1997.

ADMISSIONS

State Bar of California
U.S. District Court, Central District
U.S. District Court, Eastern District

U.S. District Court, Southern District
U.S. District Court, Northern District
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of California, Environmental Law Section
San Diego County Bar Association, Environmental and Land Use Law Sections
Past-Chair, County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health, Site Assessment and Mitigation Division Steering Committee
Past President, San Diego Environmental Professionals (formerly Association of Hazardous Materials Professionals)
Urban Land Institute
Lambda Alpha International
National Brownfields Association