

## **NEWS ADVISORY**

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## **Councilmember Alvarez Comments on San Diego Bay Cleanup Settlement**

SAN DIEGO (January 13, 2015) – The City Council today approved insurance carriers covering the City's \$15 million share of costs of cleanup of polluted sediments in San Bay on tidelands near the shipyards.

The cleanup of polluted sediments, consisting largely of dredging and disposal work, was ordered by the Regional Water Quality Control Board in 2012 and should be completed by March 2016. The \$75 million program will remediate a century of sediment pollution that has affected the food chain, beginning with small marine organisms and aquatic-dependent wildlife in the bay, and leading to human health concerns.

Councilmember David Alvarez was chosen to lead the mediation process along with the City Attorney's office. "It was an honor to be the liaison to this settlement for the City Council," said Councilmember Alvarez. "I'm proud to stand up with our City Attorney to resist the unfair tactics by the other cleanup participants without delaying the actual cleanup."

"I witnessed the painstaking efforts by our City Attorney's office to best protect taxpayers and get insurance to pay their fair share," concluded Alvarez. "This cleanup has been a long time coming. The Bay is in my backyard, it's where we play and fish, and now we're taking steps to give that back to the people."

Alvarez is the Councilmember for the Eighth Council District of the City of San Diego and is Chair of the City Council's Committee on the Environment.