



City Councilmember Scott Sherman

District 7

Transcript of Councilmember Sherman's Speech at NFL Public Forum on October 28th

Thank you I just, thank you, I just want to thank you for being here and listening to us today. My name is Scott Sherman, I'm a City Councilman for District 7. I'm a native San Diegan and a lifelong Charger fan. I mean, if you cut me I basically bleed blue and gold, that's just the way it is.

I remember growing up as a child, driving to the vacant lot on our bikes as kids to watch the lights of the stadium and see the fireworks after the game. I remember as a teenager going down to Thrifties and getting an ice cream with a football and hanging out in front of the Longhorn café, hoping to get autographs as the players came in. I remember when Junior Seau, knocked down the pass to stop the Steelers from going ahead.

Right after that happened, the entire city coalesced, came down to Qualcomm stadium, drove around, honked their horns, waved their banners because they were proud to be San Diegans, they were proud of the Chargers accomplishments. That's a half a century of tradition the NFL and Chargers have had here in San Diego and we're very grateful for it.

Now I also wanted to explain something to the NFL and to the owners. There are 32 owners that are going make a decision here fairly soon on who, if anybody, will be allowed to go to LA. I know Mr. Fabiani just got up there and said a lot of things that he has been doing from the very beginning. His entire argument from the very get-go is to convince you all that this city can't get its act together and can't put a stadium deal together. I'm here today to tell you, that is the furthest thing from the truth.

We have Mr. Fabiani here talking about 14 years not being able to get anything done in the city of San Diego. Well you know what? The management of the NFL has changed, the management of the team has changed, City leaders have come and gone. There's been

one constant in that 14 years, and that's Mr. Fabiani's employment with the San Diego Chargers.

He has been nothing but negative the entire time, we have not had one constructive proposal come from Fabiani, the spokesperson for the Chargers since they got here. I met with him two years ago and said "Hey look, we want to put together a deal in Mission Valley that would be very beneficial to you, the taxpayers, and the city as a whole." I gave him the idea and he said, "You know what? That's what was proposed 10 years ago and we weren't opposed to that." The minute we come out with the idea, he starts trashing every single aspect of it and never gave us another idea on how to solve the problem.

I'm here to tell you, you know, I've been in politics now for three very short years. Four years ago I wasn't even considering running for office. At heart, I'm a business owner, small business man for 24 years. I've been through difficult situations. I understand what it is and what it takes to be successful. And at the end of the day, after all is said and done, the only thing a person has is their word and their handshake, and it has to mean something.

Give us somebody on the other side who has the same integrity, whose handshake actually means something and you will get a deal done in the city that will keep the NFL in the 8th largest city in the country.