

November 17, 2010

Re: North Embarcadero PMPA

James Hirsch
Senior Redevelopment Planner
San Diego Unified Port District
Land Use Planning Department
P.O. Box 120488
San Diego, CA 92112-0488

Dear Mr. Hirsch:

The League of Women Voters of San Diego greatly values public participation, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide input about the North Embarcadero Port Master Plan Amendment Environmental Review Notice of Preparation (NOP). We hold the position that the San Diego Unified Port District should protect the natural environment as a primary responsibility, emphasize recreation for the general public, and be accountable and responsive to member cities and the public. In addition, we believe that recreation for the general public at free or minimal cost should have a high priority in decisions about the use of port land and waterways. Regarding the NOP, our League therefore requests the following:

- Maximum public access and views to the Bay.
- Evaluation of the environmental impact of removing the crescent pier and consolidating into two piers. This analysis should seriously consider public access, traffic, and the impact on waters of the Bay.
- Evaluation of the environmental impact of Navy Pier including a park.
- Incorporation of a new Bayfront shuttle in the Port Master Plan.
- Analysis of the environmental impact of recognizing G St. Mole as a Memorial Park.
- Inclusion of a public hostel in the Environmental Impact Report plan and making the waterfront accessible to persons of all income levels.
- Analysis of building parking structures that are one level underground for aesthetic reasons.
- Evaluation and serious consideration of moving cruise ships to the Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal.
- Evaluation of the 205' setback to maximize public and pedestrian access to the waterfront across Harbor Drive.
- Analysis of parks, plazas, and other open space along the North Embarcadero.
- Evaluation of the North Embarcadero to allow for pedestrian-oriented circulation, programmed events, and small sidewalk restaurants to activate waterfront space.
- Comprehensive traffic studies to evaluate moving traffic to Pacific Highway, to evaluate transit, and to maximize public access.
- Evaluation of the placement of Navy offices.
- Evaluation of the placement of public art along the North Embarcadero.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, I can be reached via e-mail at: sbaer@san.rr.com or phone at: 858-569-5183.

Sincerely,
Susan Baer, Ph.D.
Co-President, League of Women Voters of San Diego