



THE VOICE OF DOWNTOWN

May 27, 2009

Mr. Stephen Cushman & Ms. Cheryl Kendrick
111 West Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Downtown San Diego Partnership's Support of Phase Three Convention Center Expansion

Dear Mr. Cushman and Ms. Kendrick,

On behalf of the Downtown San Diego Partnership, I am writing to express our strong and enthusiastic support for expansion of San Diego's Convention Center.

The San Diego Convention Center is one of our region's most powerful economic engines and a financial boon to downtown. Last year, almost one million guests went through the Convention Center doors, generating \$1.8 billion in economic impact and almost \$32 million in tax revenues.

As our Convention Center continues to attract visitors in record-breaking numbers, it is imperative that we stay one step ahead of competition from other locales by supporting the proposed Phase Three Expansion plans. Although complete details of a third expansion are still materializing, the Partnership fully supports any expansion plans that would assist in bringing more conventioners to our downtown.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding the Partnership's support of this vital project.

Sincerely,

Shirley Horton
President

Downtown San Diego Partnership

Cc: Mayor Jerry Sanders
Council Member Kevin Faulconer
Mayor's Citizen Task Force Committee