

SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

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February 22, 2008

Mr. Lance Murphy
4530 Santa Monica Ave
San Diego, CA 92107-2906

Dear Mr. Murphy,

For more than 75 years, San Diego International Airport has served the air transportation needs of San Diego County and played an integral role in the region's economy. Our airport has a nearly \$10 billion annual impact on San Diego County's economy. Visitors arriving by air contribute an estimated \$2.6 billion in direct spending to the local economy, and 115,000 jobs – or 1 of every 16 in the region – are tied to airport operations. The airport's impact continues to grow with new airlines servicing San Diego passengers, including AirTran Airways, ExpressJet, Virgin America and Zoom Airlines, with its new nonstop flights to London. In 2007 we reached an all-time high for passenger volume of 18.3 million, from 17.4 million passengers in 2006, a 5% increase in passenger volume. Passenger volume last year also represents a 28% increase from passenger levels just 10 years ago (1997) of 14.3 million.

San Diego County residents are passionate about the airport and so is the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. For the Airport Authority, 2008 marks the year when we replace the 50-year airport controversy with an action plan. We're happy to report that the action has already begun. In the last four months we have held nine community meetings throughout the county to talk to residents about our plans and hear their thoughts about the future of San Diego International Airport. We also launched a new Web site (www.sanplan.com) dedicated to the Airport Master Plan, complete with renderings of proposed airport improvements. These and other efforts to proactively reach out to the public have enabled the Airport Authority to collect valuable public input regarding the future of our airport.

We are committed to making proactive decisions that will set the stage for the long-term future of our great airport. We must begin investing in the airport now to meet short-term needs; otherwise, the region will pay an enormous price not too far down the road. These short-term improvements are the first step in a comprehensive long-range visioning and planning process, already under way, that will ensure we are meeting the needs of all San Diego County travelers for decades to come. We will accelerate this process in 2008 in concert with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), the Port, the City of San Diego and other critical partner agencies. Throughout this process, we will be enlisting your help and input to make the airport the best it can be.

Why do we need changes now while the long-range planning continues? Our airport's passenger volume is expected to grow from 18.3 million today to 23 million by 2015. If we fail to take these increases into account and be ready for them, we will soon begin to see the consequences of our lack of action.



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These are consequences we often find at other airports and that we can't afford to see happen here: longer ticket lines, longer security lines, limited flight selection and higher ticket prices. The airport's service level will deteriorate, and it will start directly affecting the economic health of the region. We can't let this happen.

But how do we move from analysis to action? That is where the Master Plan comes in. The Airport Authority has a three-phase Airport Master Plan addressing the airport's immediate needs (5 years), its mid-term requirements (7-10 years), and the region's long-term aviation needs (20 years plus).

Phase 1 of the Master Plan addresses the airport's immediate needs, calling for 10 new jet gates at Terminal 2, a dual-level roadway that splits arriving and departing passengers to improve traffic circulation, increased parking and additional space for planes to park overnight. Phase 1 improvements are essential to ensure that our airport can continue to serve San Diego County passengers adequately. These changes need to be made in the next three to four years. ~~They are short-term improvements that will help us maximize operations today while we create, with the community's input, a viable long-term plan for San Diego County's aviation needs. We understand the issues raised by several of our agency and community partners with respect to a proposed parking structure. We commit to a thorough review of the matter over the coming months with regard to fiscal and traffic implications.~~

Phase 2 of the Airport Master Plan will look at maximizing services and facilities on the north side of the airfield, as far as practicable. The most critical elements of this phase will involve ground traffic and ground access to the airport. Dialogues with the public, including residents, city and county officials, SANDAG, civic and business leaders and organizations, will be instrumental in guiding our efforts. Discussion items will include concepts such as an intermodal transit center, consolidated rental car facility, direct access to the airport from I-5 and more. Phase 2 will also involve a regional transit plan that seeks new ways to access the airport, including remote check-in facilities along major freeway corridors, direct bus service from Old Town and other improvements. We encourage all residents to get involved in the discussion surrounding Phase 2 and how we can further improve our current airfield.

Finally, **Phase 3** of the Airport Master Plan focuses on supplementing Lindbergh Field's limited aviation capacity by coordinating aviation resources with other airports in the county and throughout the Southern California and Tijuana border region. We are not alone. Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties all share the same limited capacity constraints. A long-term solution will likely be a regional plan involving other Southern California airports and modes of transportation, including high speed rail. We intend for San Diego to be a leader in this regional discussion.

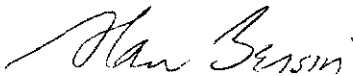
In order to make the Airport Master Plan a success, we need the help and commitment of the San Diego County community. We urge you to begin thinking about how we can improve and expand our air transportation network, now and into the future, in a way that finds common ground and avoids insistence on "all or nothing" solutions. That approach has kept us from doing anything in a concerted way for far too long. Your input will be essential to ensuring we move forward with an airport that meets the needs of San Diego County residents and continues to support and bolster our region's economy.

But we must start with Phase 1 as we continue to grapple with the specifics of our community's vision for Phase 2. The improvements set out in this phase will preserve what we cherish – the ease and convenience of a downtown airport, and the quickness with which we get to the airport and get on our planes. Our community must make these Phase 1

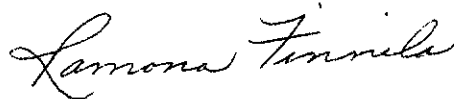
improvements to set the stage for the long-term changes needed to accommodate San Diego County's growth and provide for our aviation future. You can learn more about what's in store and share your input at www.sanplan.com. Let's get started!

Best regards,

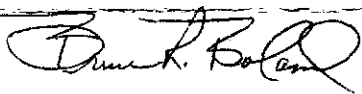
The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority Board



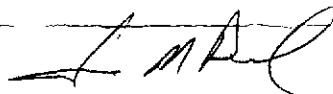
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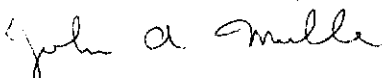
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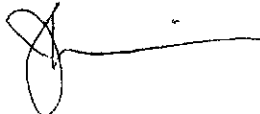
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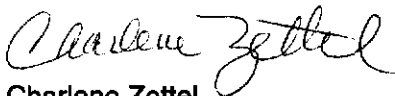
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