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cc: SS
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BOB FILNER
MAYOR

July 17, 2013

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CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
SAN DIEGO COAST DISTRICT

Sherilyn Sarb
Deputy Director
California Coastal Commission
7575 Metropolitan Drive, Suite 103
San Diego, CA 92108-4421

**Re: San Diego Convention Center Expansion, Expansion Hotel
and Port Master Plan Amendment**

Dear Ms. Sarb:

I am writing to express my support for the San Diego Convention Center expansion, the expansion hotel, and the Port Master Plan Amendment. As I said in my State of the City address on January 15th, the Convention Center is the key to the expansion of tourism in our region. That is why I pledged to make the expansion project a reality.

Tourism is San Diego's third largest economic driver employing 13 percent of our workforce. The proposed Convention Center expansion will create nearly 7,000 *new*, permanent jobs, more than 3,000 construction jobs, and nearly \$700 million in new economic impacts. In addition, the expansion has been designed to substantially increase the quantity, quality and accessibility of public realm space with extraordinary views of San Diego's Bayfront from the innovative roof-top park.

It is for these reasons, that I ask you to confirm your consideration of the expansion project at your October meeting.

Sincerely,

BOB FILNER
Mayor

cc: Deborah Lee, District Manager
Diana Lilly, Coastal Planner
Lesley Nishihira, San Diego Unified Port District
Shahriar Afshar, San Diego Unified Port District

BF/lb