

August 12, 2011

Mr. Robert H. Gleason, Chair  
Mr. Jim Panknin, Board Member  
San Diego County Regional Airport Authority  
P.O. Box 82776  
San Diego, CA 92138-2776

Dear Chairman Gleason and Board Member Panknin

Thank you for your letter of July 13, 2011, outlining the proposed changes in the composition of the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (SDCRAA) Advisory Committee. It is understanding that the proposed changes were approved at the Executive Committee meeting of July 25, 2011 and by the Authority Board at its August 4, 2011 meeting.

While the Peninsula Community Planning Board recognizes the desire of SDCRAA to bring the composition of the Advisory Committee into closer alignment with SDCRAA's enabling legislation, we regret that, at this time, the Peninsula community will no longer have representation on the Advisory Committee. We feel strongly that the participation of the Peninsula community in the Advisory Committee is essential to provide effective communication between our community and the SDCRAA Board, particularly given that our elected representative, the District 2 council member of the San Diego City Council, is not a member of the Authority Board.

We note that the changes in the Advisory Committee composition allow for two community members. We feel that consideration should be given to filling the community member positions on the Advisory Committee with representatives of the communities most directly affected by airport operations, the communities on the east and west ends of the airport. One community member position could be shared by the Peninsula and Ocean Beach communities, while the other could be shared by the Little Italy, Bankers Hill and Golden Hill communities.

It is our longstanding position that the Peninsula Community Planning Board wants to work with the Authority Board and SDCRAA staff to strengthen ties between the Airport and our community, and to work together to reduce the impacts of the airport, its operations and construction projects on community residents. Allowing the Peninsula community participation in the Advisory Committee would send a strong message to the community that SDCRAA is sensitive to community concerns and will consider the needs of the community in its actions.

Sincerely,

Suhail Khalil, Chair  
Peninsula Community Planning Board