

RESOLUTION 2014-167

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING INTEGRATED PLANNING PHASE I VISION STATEMENT, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, AND ASSESSMENT REPORT AND DIRECTING STAFF TO APPLY THE INTEGRATED PLANNING VISION TO PHASE IA OF THE INTEGRATED PLANNING EFFORT

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified Port District (District) is a public corporation created by the Legislature in 1962 pursuant to Harbors and Navigation Code Appendix I (Port Act); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Port Act, the District holds certain tidelands and submerged lands of the San Diego Bay in trust for the people of California and is responsible for the conservation, planning, and development of those lands; and

WHEREAS, Section 19 of the Port Act requires that the District adopt a Port Master Plan (Master Plan) for improvements to and the use of the public trust lands held by the District; and

WHEREAS, the District has engaged in an Integrated Planning process, which is a multi-faceted and comprehensive approach to the District's future and includes various potential components, including, but not limited to, a fiscal growth and sustainability framework, environmental initiatives, leasing policies, and land and water use planning in the form of an update to the Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Phase I of Integrated Planning was officially initiated in September 2013, and included conducting a "50-year Visioning Process," which involved a high-level assessment of District-wide assets and extensive public engagement, resulting in a Vision Statement, Guiding Principles, and Assessment Report (Integrated Planning Vision) for the entire Integrated Planning Process; and

WHEREAS, during Phase I, the District with the consultant team conducted: (a) over 100 individual and group interviews with appointed and elected officials, special interest groups and community members; (b) four separate stakeholder and community workshops; (c) three open house events; (d) three Board workshops (December 12, 2013, March 19, 2014, June 24, 2014); and (e) on-line, web-based survey with over 3,000 responses engaging all who have an interest in the San Diego Bay, waterfront area, and District tidelands; and

WHEREAS, there have been nearly 7,000 views on the District's Integrated Planning project website (www.portforall.org) this year and more than 650 contacts have registered for email notices regarding Integrated Planning; these people have received status updates and invitations to meetings or events; and

WHEREAS, over 180 individual comments, including several letters from interested stakeholder groups, were received providing recommendations and suggestions on the draft Vision Statement and Guiding Principles; and

WHEREAS, based on expert, stakeholder, public and Board input, the District has created the Integrated Planning Vision, which is intended to guide, but not bind, the District in the various components of Integrated Planning and may be subject to change as the Integrated Planning effort continues; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to accept the Integrated Planning Vision and direct staff to apply the Integrated Planning Vision to the next phase of Integrated Planning, which will consist of, among other things, identification and assessment of preliminary concept plans for each planning district, as well as an overview of the regulatory and economic impacts of potential land and water uses from the concept plans (collectively Phase IA); and

WHEREAS, such Board acceptance is not an approval of the Integrated Planning Vision and will not limit the District's consideration of any alternatives for the updated Master Plan or its content; and

WHEREAS, while the Integrated Planning Vision will inform the Integrated Planning effort, including the updated Master Plan, the acceptance of the Integrated Planning Vision will not result in any direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, as follows:

1. The Board finds the facts recited above are true and further finds that this Board has jurisdiction to consider, approve and adopt the subject of this Resolution.

2. The Board finds and determines that the applicable provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the Port District Guidelines have been duly observed in conjunction with said hearing and the considerations of this matter and all of the previous proceedings related thereto.

3. The Board finds and determines that the acceptance of the Integrated Planning Vision will inform the Integrated Planning Process, including an updated Master Plan, but will not result in any direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

4. The Board finds and determines that the acceptance of the Integrated Planning Vision is not binding and may change as the Integrated Planning efforts evolve.

5. The Board finds and determines that a "project description" of the proposed Master Plan update (or other Integrated Planning items) has not yet been prepared and would be speculative at this time to conduct CEQA review; however, the District is committed to preparing CEQA review to analyze the potential environmental effects of the draft Master Plan update and other Integrated Planning projects with independent utility.

6. The Board finds and determines that acceptance of the Integrated Planning Vision shall not limit the District's consideration of any alternatives or mitigation measures in connection with Integrated Planning, including without limitation, the draft Master Plan update, and the District strictly reserves its discretion to adopt any mitigation measures, alternatives, including the "No Project" alternative, or a Statement of Overriding Consideration, if applicable.

7. Based on the entire record, including the proceedings, the Board finds and determines that the acceptance of the Integrated Planning Vision and direction to District staff does not constitute "approval" of a project under CEQA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, as follows:

That, on behalf of the San Diego Unified Port District, the Integrated Planning Phase I Vision Statement, Guiding Principles, and Assessment Report (Integrated Planning Vision) are hereby accepted and District staff is hereby directed to apply said Integrated Planning Vision to Phase IA of Integrated Planning.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:
GENERAL COUNSEL


By: Assistant/Deputy

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, this 12th day of August 2014, by the following vote:

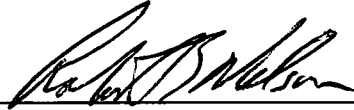
AYES: Bonelli, Castellanos, Moore, Nelson, and Valderrama.

NAYS: None.

EXCUSED: Malcolm, Merrifield.

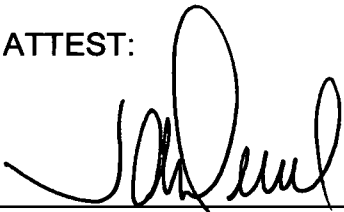
ABSENT: None.

ABSTAIN: None.



Robert E. Nelson, Chairman
Board of Port Commissioners

ATTEST:



Timothy A. Deuel
District Clerk

(Seal)