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Re: Request to Continue Item 1 on September 22, 2016 Wetlands Advisory Board
Agenda Regarding Proposed Town and Country Project

Dear Wetlands Advisory Board Members,

Along with co-counsel Gideon Kracov, this office represents UNITE HERE Local 30 in the above-referenced matter. We write to respectfully request that you continue Workshop/Action Item 1 at the upcoming Wetlands Advisory Board meeting scheduled for September 22, 2016.

The Town and Country Project ("Project") is a major redevelopment project that includes the demolition of several buildings and the construction of 840 residential units, many which are directly adjacent to sensitive wetlands habitat. The 39-acre project site straddles the impacted San Diego River, which provides habitat for several endangered and sensitive wildlife and plant species.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") for the Project has been released for public comment. Local 30 has contracted with biological resources and other environmental experts who are currently analyzing this project. While they have preliminarily identified a

number of serious flaws in the DEIR and Project design, they have not had adequate time to review the DEIR for the Project. Further, the City of San Diego issued the DEIR without providing access to critical underlying documents, in violation of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"). These missing documents have affected our experts' ability to adequately analyze the impacts of the project. After raising this issue with the San Diego Development Services Department, the Department postponed the DEIR comment deadline from October 3, 2016 to October 17, 2016.

Although we have not had suitable access to proper documentation, our experts have preliminarily identified a number of serious flaws with the analysis in the DEIR and the Project design related to the wetlands and biological resources on the project site, including but not limited to:

- extensive and unmitigated construction of high-density residential units within the River Influence Area;
- inadequate surveys on fish species and federally endangered plant species;
- failure to properly mitigate for risk of avian collision;
- failure to properly mitigate for impacts from increases in human commensal wildlife species associated with the introduction of residential units;
- failure to analyze or mitigate for increases in domesticated predatory species associated with the introduction of residential units;
- inconsistent characterizations throughout the DEIR regarding the area that will be restored and enhanced;
- failure to identify the number of bedrooms that would be included in the 840 residential units and inconsistent descriptions of the expected population (thereby making it impossible to accurately analyze the pressure that would be placed on the adjacent wetlands areas)

We believe that the Wetlands Advisory Board would benefit from a full presentation of the issues, and that it would be premature to take action before the public can properly analyze the project and present its views to the Board. **We therefore request that the Board continue this item until the DEIR comment period has expired.**

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at tlopresti@altshulerberzon.com or (619) 850-4027.

Sincerely,



Tony LoPresti

TL/dal