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San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) Housing Authority Designation and Identification of Agency Representatives for Labor Negotiations

Presentation to the SDHC Board of Commissioners
November 5, 2026

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San Diego Housing Commission

Introduction

- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SDHC and its recognized employee organization, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 221, expires June 30, 2027.
- SDHC and SEIU will be negotiating a successor MOU.
- The California Government Code requires the legislative body of a local agency to designate its representatives for labor negotiations in open session.

Staff Recommendations

That the SDHC Board of Commissioners (Board) take the following actions and recommend that the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego (Housing Authority) take the following actions:

1) Pursuant to California Government Code sections 3505 and 54957.6(a) and other applicable state and local laws and regulations, the SDHC Board designates and identifies the following individuals and recommends that the Housing Authority designate and identify the following individuals as SDHC's and the Housing Authority's labor representatives on the Management Team for negotiations with SDHC's recognized employee organization and authorizes these representatives to attend closed session meetings for the purpose of providing information to the SDHC Board and the Housing Authority related to meet and confer and receiving instruction from the SDHC Board and the Housing Authority, so that SDHC's labor representatives may participate in meet and confer on behalf of SDHC, taking Housing Authority-approved bargaining positions:

Staff Recommendations (Continued)

Lisa Jones, President and Chief Executive Officer, San Diego Housing Commission

Azucena Valladolid, Chief Operating Officer, San Diego Housing Commission

Amber Herrmann, Vice President of Human Resources, San Diego Housing Commission

Francis Barraza, Vice President of Policy, San Diego Housing Commission

Maria Christopher, Vice President of Special Programs, Housing Choice Vouchers, San Diego Housing Commission

Lisette Vargas, Director of Special Projects, San Diego Housing Commission

Charles B. Christensen, General Counsel, San Diego Housing Commission

Walter Spath, General Counsel, San Diego Housing Commission

Monna Radulovich, Special Counsel, San Diego Housing Commission

Staff Recommendations (Continued)

2) In accordance with California Government Code section 54954.5(f), the SDHC Board consents and recommends that the Housing Authority consent to the participation of an agent or designee for a specified designated representative if circumstances necessitate the absence of the specified designated representative; however, the name of the agent or designee must be announced at an open session meeting of the SDHC Board or the Housing Authority held prior to the closed session of the SDHC Board or the Housing Authority, respectively.

Staff Recommendations (Continued)

3) The SDHC Board authorizes and recommends that the Housing Authority authorize the following labor representatives to execute tentative agreements and memoranda of understanding reached in meet and confer, and to present all tentative agreements and memoranda of understanding reached in meet and confer to the SDHC Board and the Housing Authority for final determination and approval by the Housing Authority as to policy and the Housing Authority General Counsel as to form or correctness and further delegates authority to SDHC staff to implement all approved Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provisions and to execute any related documents. However, SDHC staff must notify the Housing Authority and the City Attorney's Office if there are any proposed amendments to approved agreements or other modifications required to fully implement the approved MOU provisions:

Staff Recommendations (Continued)

Lisa Jones, President and Chief Executive Officer, San Diego Housing Commission

Azucena Valladolid, Chief Operating Officer, San Diego Housing Commission

Amber Herrmann, Vice President of Human Resources, San Diego Housing Commission

Francis Barraza, Vice President of Policy, San Diego Housing Commission

Maria Christopher, Vice President of Special Programs, Housing Choice Vouchers, San Diego Housing Commission

Lisette Vargas, Director of Special Projects, San Diego Housing Commission

Charles B. Christensen, General Counsel, San Diego Housing Commission

Walter Spath, General Counsel, San Diego Housing Commission

Monna Radulovich, Special Counsel, San Diego Housing Commission

Staff Recommendations (Continued)

4) The SDHC Board designates and recommends that the Housing Authority designate the following individuals from the Office of the Independent Budget Analyst as representatives within the meaning of California Government Code section 54957.6(a) to attend closed session meetings of the SDHC Board and the Housing Authority and to serve in the capacity as observers at “meet and confer” sessions, but they are not designated as labor negotiators for SDHC or the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego:

   Charles Modica, Independent Budget Analyst

   Lisa Byrne, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Office of the Independent Budget Analyst

   Amy Li, Fiscal and Policy Analyst, Office of the Independent Budget Analyst

Staff Recommendations (Continued)

5) The SDHC Board designates and recommends that the Housing Authority designate the following individuals from the Office of the General Counsel of the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego as representatives within the meaning of California Government Code section 54957.6(a) to attend closed session meetings of the SDHC Board and the Housing Authority; to perform legal work, as required by applicable law, and to serve in the capacity as observers at "meet and confer" sessions, but they are not designated as members of SDHC's labor representatives:

Heather Ferbert, City Attorney, City Attorney's Office and General Counsel, Housing Authority

Jim McNeill, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office and Assistant General Counsel, Housing Authority

Kathy Steinman, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office and Assistant General Counsel, Housing Authority

Thomas Brady, Senior Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office and Senior Deputy General Counsel, Housing Authority

Joan Dawson, Senior Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office and Deputy General Counsel, Housing Authority

Miguel Merrell, Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney's Office and Deputy General Counsel, Housing Authority

Questions & Comments