



Office of Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry
San Diego City Council
District 1

For Immediate Release

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Stop the Obstruction - SDSU Negotiations are Over

San Diego — Today, I voted "no" to increase the City Attorney's outside legal contract by \$150,000. According to the City Attorney Office, the City "reasonably anticipates that the increased funding of \$150,000 will enable the City to complete the negotiation of the final PSA with SDSU in the near future, using the Law Firm's assistance." FYI, this outside law firm is being paid \$300 per hour.

To be clear, SDSU delivered its executed Purchase and Sale Agreement to the City two weeks ago on May 5, 2020. Negotiations are over.

The City is facing more than a \$300 million budget shortfall, and there is just no good rationale for this expenditure.

Voters approved SDSU West in 2018 for good reasons. It creates a regional river park, it revitalizes a vacant and blighted property, it creates a new jobs and economic development engine for our city, it gives thousands of San Diego young people access to an expanded university campus, and it helps fill the giant hole in the City's budget.

Further delay runs a real risk of torpedoing this project for all time.

It's time for the Council to thank Ms. Elliott and the outside attorneys for their advice and move forward to approve this sale, docket the item at City Council and give the voters the project they were promised.

And I've heard that if this transaction does not close, SDSU will NOT extend the lease on the Mission Valley site for their football program. They will find another place to play. That means the city will be stuck with operating costs of more than \$12 million a year for a blighted site in addition to the other lost opportunities.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry represents San Diego City Council District 1, which includes the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and University City.

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