

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 296122

ADOPTED ON FEB 25 2002

WHEREAS, in November 1998, the voters of San Diego overwhelmingly approved Proposition C, authorizing the City of San Diego to enter into a public-private partnership with the San Diego Padres to construct the Downtown Ballpark Redevelopment Project; and

WHEREAS, lawsuit after meritless lawsuit has delayed the construction of the Downtown Ballpark Redevelopment Project by two years; and

WHEREAS, since November 1998, the City Attorney's Office has won sixteen lawsuits involving opponents of the Downtown Ballpark Redevelopment Project; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego closed escrow on Friday, February 15, 2002 on the long awaited bond sale which completes financing of the City's share of the Downtown Ballpark Redevelopment Project; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego and the San Diego Padres will open the new Downtown Ballpark on opening day of the 2004 San Diego Padres baseball season; and

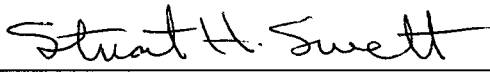
WHEREAS, Assistant City Attorney Leslie J. Girard has worked hundreds of tireless hours, on this specific project during the last year, to facilitate negotiations with the San Diego Padres, to restructure the Ballpark Project Financing Plan and issue bonds for the project; and

WHEREAS, because of Les Girard's 21 years of City of San Diego work experience as a Deputy/Assistant City Attorney, he has helped to facilitate the future completion of the largest public-private redevelopment project in the City of San Diego's history; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council commends Les Girard for being one of the "Best and Brightest" legal eagles in the nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby declare February 25, 2002, to be "**LESLIE J. GIRARD DAY**" in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
Stuart H. Swett
Senior Deputy City Attorney

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Or.Dept:Mayor
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