

DEMOCRATIC WOMAN'S CLUB OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

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SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

Thursday, June 2, 2016

Honorable City Council and Mayor Kevin Faulconer
City of San Diego c/o: Ms. Elizabeth Maland, San Diego City Clerk
202 C Street, Second Floor
San Diego, California 92101

RE: Submission of Ballot Proposals for the November 8, 2016 Ballot – Public Health and Social Welfare

Dear Honorable Council and Mayor,

The DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF SAN DIEGO, through its below designated representatives, submits a ballot proposal for the November 8, 2016 ballot. The proposal, in summary, addresses the palpable and evident lack of a primary focus on the public health and social welfare of our City's residents and visitors. City government seems focused on the things of tourism and economic development rather than human needs.

The San Diego City Charter currently provides that “, Section 26.1: Public Services Required: It shall be the obligation and responsibility of The City of San Diego to provide public works services, water services, building inspection services, public health services, park and recreation services, library services, and such other services and programs as may be desired, under such terms and conditions as may be authorized by the Council by ordinance.” [Emphasis added, ARTICLE V, EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE]. The Charter further provides, “...that suitable provision may be made for the aid and support of the poor.” [Emphasis added, ARTICLE VII FINANCE, Section 93: Loans and Advances].

The founding City Charter contained specific provisions, requirements, and a Citizen's oversight Commission to insure that our City fulfills these very primary responsibilities to its residents and visitors. The voters amended the City Charter to remove former sections Section 61: Social Service Department and Section 60: Department of Public Health, based on representations that these services could be better performed by other units of government. It left to Council's imitative the formation and maintenance of a specific City of San Diego Citizen's oversight commission. Today, in the 21st Century, these promises have not been met and conditions are worsening.

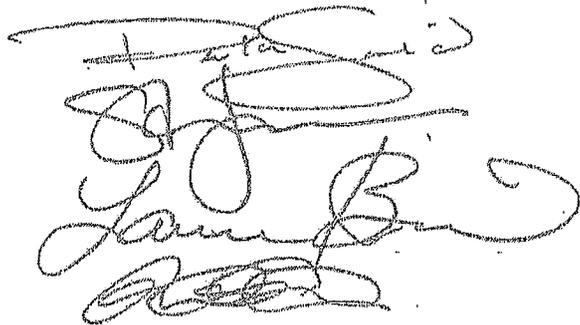
Our City is challenged by ever increasing Homelessness; Drug and Alcohol abuse; communicable diseases, including but not limited to AIDS, Zika, West Niles, and others; Affordable Housing unavailability; Aging issues; new Americans and Refugees integration issues, and other social conditions which lead to poverty, crime and disease. These human condition issues are accelerating with onslaught of Climate Change and over population.

City government has Commissions that focus on Art and Culture, Conventions and Tourism, Parks & Recreation, Planning, Trees, Stadiums, and other special focus commissions; but none focused on the basic human conditions of our people. We are calling for the return to a people focused government.

We respectfully request that the Council place on the ballot reinstatement of Section 61: Social Service Department and Section 60: Department of Public Health. We believe that these sections can be appropriately updated for our current form of government; number of Council Districts; and current social challenges. We accept those reasonable technical amendments, by the committee and Council. We believe that these two sections can be combined and incorporate some of the splintered and disassociated efforts, to increase efficiency and effectiveness of service coordination and delivery, increased charitable or philanthropic giving, and residential advocacy and oversight

We request the opportunity to be noticed and heard concerning this ballot proposal. Thank you for providing the public with this opportunity to participate in formation of its government,

Respectfully

The image shows four handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is the most legible, appearing to read 'Ramla Sahid'. Below it are three more signatures, which are more stylized and difficult to read, but correspond to the names listed in the typed text below: Stephanie Johnson, Lauren Bier, and Andrea Carter.

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF SAN DIEGO
Ramla Sahid, Ballot Proposal Chairwoman
Stephanie Johnson
Lauren Bier
Andrea Carter

Copy: DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF SAN DIEGO members and officers
Mr. Steven Hadley, Council Committee Consultant, Email: shadley@sandiego.gov (619)
533-5906