

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION CITY OF SAN DIEGO				CERTIFICATE NUMBER (FOR AUDITOR'S USE ONLY)		
TO: CITY COUNCIL		FROM (ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT): Personnel Department		DATE: 03/18/2009		
SUBJECT: 2008 Salary Setting Commission's Recommendation						
PRIMARY CONTACT (NAME, PHONE): Hadi Dehghani, 619-236-6155				SECONDARY CONTACT (NAME, PHONE): Douglas Edwards, 619-236-6667		
COMPLETE FOR ACCOUNTING PURPOSES						
FUND						
DEPT.						
ORGANIZATION						
OBJECT ACCOUNT						
JOB ORDER						
C.I.P. NUMBER						
AMOUNT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FUND						
DEPT.						
ORGANIZATION						
OBJECT ACCOUNT						
JOB ORDER						
C.I.P. NUMBER						
AMOUNT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COST SUMMARY (IF APPLICABLE):						
ROUTING AND APPROVALS						
CONTRIBUTORS/REVIEWERS:		APPROVING AUTHORITY		APPROVAL SIGNATURE		DATE SIGNED
Liaison Office		ORIG DEPT.		Dehghani, Hadi		3/19/2009
		CFO				
		DEPUTY CHIEF				
		COO		Goldstone, Jay		3/19/2009
		CITY ATTORNEY		Swett, Stu		3/19/2009
		COUNCIL PRESIDENTS OFFICE		Halsey, Keely		3/19/2009
PREPARATION OF:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESOLUTIONS		<input type="checkbox"/> ORDINANCE(S)		<input type="checkbox"/> AGREEMENT(S) <input type="checkbox"/> DEED(S)
<p>Pursuant to Charter Section 41.1, the Salary Setting Commission meets every two years to make recommendations to the City Council on salaries for the Mayor and Councilmembers for the following two fiscal years. Charter Sections 12.1 and 24.1 provide that the City Council may adopt the salaries as recommended, or in some lesser amount, but may not increase the amount.</p> <p>The salary recommendation for Fiscal Year 2009 was for an approximate 32.65% increase for City Councilmembers (annual salary not to exceed \$100,000) and an approximate 29.40% increase for the Mayor (annual salary not to exceed \$130,000) to be effective July 1, 2008. However, the City Council voted not to increase salaries for City Councilmembers or the Mayor for Fiscal Year 2009.</p>						

000284

Based on the recommended salaries noted above, the salary recommendation for Fiscal Year 2010 is for an approximate 25% increase for City Councilmembers (annual salary not to exceed \$125,000) and an approximate 15.38% increase for the Mayor (annual salary not to exceed \$150,000) to be effective July 1, 2009.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

SPECIAL CONDITIONS (REFER TO A.R. 3.20 FOR INFORMATION ON COMPLETING THIS SECTION)

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S):

COMMUNITY AREA(S):

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

CITY CLERK INSTRUCTIONS:

000285

**COUNCIL ACTION
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET
CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

DATE: 03/18/2009

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Personnel Department

SUBJECT: 2008 Salary Setting Commission's Recommendation

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S):

CONTACT/PHONE NUMBER: Hadi Dehghani/619-236-6155

REQUESTED ACTION:

Please see attached February 15, 2008 memo titled "2008 Salary Setting Commission's Recommendation."

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF ITEM BACKGROUND:

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS:

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CONTRACTING INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

PREVIOUS COUNCIL and/or COMMITTEE ACTION:

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS:

KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND PROJECTED IMPACTS:

Dehghani, Hadi

Originating Department

Goldstone, Jay

Deputy Chief/Chief Operating Officer



000287

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

February 15, 2008

Subject: 2008 Salary Setting Commission's Recommendation

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

By this letter, The Salary Setting Commission hereby submits its salary recommendations for Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010. What follows is the Commission's official proposal for increases to be incorporated into the Salary Ordinances for Fiscal Years 2008-09 and 2009-10, pursuant to the requirements of Sections 12.1, 24.1, and 41.1 of the City Charter.

THE COMMISSION'S PROCESS

The Commission met on approximately five occasions between early November of 2007 and late January of 2008. We reviewed the comprehensive data compiled by or through the City of San Diego's Personnel Department staff. It included, but was not limited to, the types of data which have become standard over the years, such as: salary surveys for comparable positions in other cities; current and historic increases in the Consumer Price Index; and the salaries of other managerial and executive level City of San Diego employees. This time around it also included a consideration of the new Strong Mayor form of government, and the impact that has had on the duties and responsibilities of the Mayor and Council.

With the assistance of staff, the Commission wrote to hundreds of community and civic organizations, civic leaders, past and present City Councilmembers, and members of the electronic and print media, informing them the salary evaluation process was once again underway, and inviting participation and comment. Two logistical planning sessions were followed by three public meetings, all of which were held downtown at the Civic Center Plaza Building; anyone and everyone was welcome to attend and express their opinions. Ultimately, a total of only three individuals from the public participated.

For those who could not attend in person, written correspondence was also encouraged; but nothing new was received.

The Commission first studied the facts, figures, comparisons and trends in some depth, and then explored a very broad range of approaches and rationales. The goal was to develop appropriate salary recommendations for the Mayor and Councilmember *positions*, given all of the usual considerations, priorities and criteria. This included:

- Adequacy of current salary, in view of San Diego's cost of living
- The importance of establishing salaries high enough to attract qualified candidates
- The existing benefits package accompanying the positions
- Comparable data, including the Consumer Price Index and rates of inflation
- Comparable data, including Mayor and Councilmember salaries in various/comparable California, Western, and other cities
- The current salaries of other City management type personnel, including but not limited to the Police Chief, the Fire Chief, and the Mayor's own Chief Operating Officer, among others



Salary Setting Commission

1200 Third Avenue, Suite 300 • San Diego, CA 92101

Tel (619) 236-6400

City of San Diego Salary Setting Commission
 Mayor and City Council Salary Recommendation
 February 15, 2008
 Page 2 of 3

- Historical salary data for the Mayor and Councilmembers, including the number of Salary Setting Commission recommendations which have been rejected, and
- The heavy responsibilities and extreme importance of the positions

During the review process, each Commissioner evaluated the data independently. The information was then revisited together, as a group, which was when widely varying perspectives emerged. Two Commission Members personally supported raises which would essentially mirror the increase in the Consumer Price Index (only); two other Members attempted to pass a resolution recommending that the current salaries jump by more than 100%.

In response to these public debates, the residents who came to comment expressed additional concerns, criticisms and suggestions, all of which were also considered and discussed.

At the conclusion of all that, the Commission, as a group, was eventually able to pass a compromise set of recommendations, however one Commissioner made it clear he was voting for the recommendations despite the fact that they were *too low*; while another Commissioner voted "nay" because they were *too high*.

RECOMMENDATION:

Since 1998 the cost of living in San Diego has increased approximately 35%; Mayor and Council salaries have not kept pace. The Salary Setting Commission attempted, at a minimum, to both account for that substantial increase and, in addition, to try and bring salaries for the Mayor and Council *roughly* in line with salaries in other comparable cities. We also wanted to see them move somewhat closer to the dramatically higher salaries enjoyed by various City Department Heads, such as the Police and Fire Chiefs, the City Attorney, etc.

The Commission believes that the Mayor and Council positions have become increasingly more demanding as the spending power of their pay checks has declined. And a majority of Commissioners have long been troubled by the fact that the salaries of the Mayor and Council have not only fallen far behind the salaries of other important, but comparatively less critical, public and elected positions in San Diego, they even lag behind the salaries of some of the support staffers who assist the Mayor and Council.

With that backdrop in mind, and despite the broad range of philosophies, the Commission approved the following salary recommendations:

<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	<u>CITY COUNCIL</u>	<u>MAYOR</u>
Current	\$75,386	\$100,464
7-1-08 (32.65%/29.40% increase)	\$100,000	\$130,000
7-1-09 (25.00%/15.38% increase)	\$125,000	\$150,000

Despite what it understands and anticipates will be strong political pressure to do otherwise, the Salary Setting

000289

City of San Diego Salary Setting Commission
Mayor and City Council Salary Recommendation
February 15, 2008
Page 3 of 3

Commission strongly encourages the City Council to adopt, without adjustment, each of its recommendations, so that San Diego can effectively attract and retain qualified candidates in the future. The citizens of this city will benefit from a pay scale that allows interested, capable, hard-working people who do *not* possess independent wealth to run for public office. The failure of the Mayor and Council to accept the Commission's recommendations, *yet again* would do a disservice to all San Diegans.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to be heard on these recommendations and would be happy to respond to any questions the Council may have at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Pedersdotter', written over a horizontal line.

Deb C. Pedersdotter, President
Salary Setting Commission

DCP/ebs

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- _____

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE _____

WHEREAS, section 41.1 of the *Charter of the City of San Diego* established the Salary Setting Commission and set forth therein the requirement that said Commission shall recommend to the Council the enactment of an ordinance establishing salaries for the Mayor and Council as provided by the Charter; and

WHEREAS, section 12.1 pertaining to Council member salaries and section 24.1 pertaining to the Mayor's salary require that said Commission's recommendation be presented on or before February 15 of every even year, said salaries to be effective the following July 1 for a two-year period; and

WHEREAS, during *Fiscal Year 2008*, the Commission conducted extensive research and held a series of public hearings to determine and ascertain facts sufficient to establish salary levels for recommendation to the Mayor and Council for adoption by ordinance as required by the Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, pursuant to the mandate of the Charter, presented its recommendations in a letter dated February 15, 2008, (attached hereto as Attachment A) to the Mayor and Council; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recommended increases in annual compensation for the Mayor and City Council members as follows:

<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	<u>CITY COUNCIL</u>	<u>MAYOR</u>
Current	\$ 75,386	\$100,464
7-1-08 (32.65%/29.40% Increase)	\$100,000	\$130,000
7-1-09 (25.00%/15.38% Increase)	\$125,000	\$150,000

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that the City Attorney is and he is hereby directed, pursuant to section 41.1 of the Charter, to incorporate the following amounts in the annual salary ordinance for Fiscal Year 2010 to be effective July 1, 2009, having rejected the Commission's recommendations for any salary increase for Fiscal Year 2009:

Mayor \$ _____

Councilmember \$ _____

APPROVED: JAN I. GOLDSMITH

By Stuart H. Swett
Stuart H. Swett
Senior Deputy City Attorney

SHS:jab
03/19/2009
Or.Dept:Pers
R-2009-978

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of _____.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By _____
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor