

DATE ISSUED: July 17, 2002

REPORT NO. 02-167

ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council
Docket of July 23, 2002

SUBJECT: Chargers Task Force

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

BACKGROUND

At the City Council meeting of June 18, 2002, Mayor Murphy proposed the establishment of a 15-member Citizens' Task Force on Chargers Issues to address issues that have arisen surrounding the San Diego Chargers and their long-term utilization of Qualcomm Stadium. The City Council approved the Task Force and each Councilmember agreed to provide to the Mayor the names of three people to be considered for selection as members of the Task Force.

DISCUSSION

The Task Force members have been selected, and they will be announced and their appointments confirmed at the July 23, 2002 meeting of the City Council. Upon establishment, the Task Force will be asked to complete the assignments outlined in the approved mission statement and to report back to the City Council with the results of its work no later than February 15, 2003, earlier if prepared. The mission of the Task Force includes several components, as follows:

- Determine whether the San Diego Chargers and the National Football League are important assets to the life and economy of San Diego, to include identification of what the Chargers have done for the City financially, specifically, the amount the City has paid for the ticket guarantee, the amount the Chargers have paid the City for the lease, the net revenue less maintenance and operating costs, and how this impacts the City budget;
- Determine all things that could be done to keep the Chargers in San Diego in a fiscally

- responsible way that the public will support;
- Recommend what the City should do, if anything, to keep the Chargers in San Diego in a fiscally responsible way that the public will support;
 - Explore the feasibility of County and/or regional financial participation in any solution; and,
 - Make any other recommendations that the Task Force deems appropriate.

A key aspect of a citizen's task force is the opportunity for broad public involvement. To facilitate public participation, the Task Force will conduct its meetings during evening hours and have the meetings video-taped for the City's cable access channel. The meetings will be subject to the Brown Act, and will be noticed accordingly including noticing on the Internet. To help the Task Force accomplish its goals, City staff will provide support to the members and at the meetings.

While Task Force members will be donating their time in support of this effort, it is anticipated that there will be expenses incurred in accomplishing the mission. Anticipated expenses include consultant expertise to prepare an NFL stadium overview as well as provide economic and financial analyses and conduct an analysis of the sports entertainment market in San Diego. Additionally, the Task Force may need to travel to another city to view a modern NFL stadium, and there will be expenses associated with conducting public meetings and preparing a final report. A preliminary budget estimate for all of these expenses is approximately \$180,000, for which the source of funds will be the Qualcomm Stadium Fund.

Following confirmation of the Task Force, City staff will be available to assist with its needs and help facilitate achievement of its goals.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deputy City Manager

HERRING/LKC