

Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board

12463 Rancho Bernardo Road #523, San Diego, CA 92128

www.rbplanningboard.com

August 25, 2025

Honorable San Diego City Councilmembers
City of San Diego
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

SUBJECT: Request to Deny the Mayor's Proposal to Declare Parcels in Mission Bay Park as Surplus Land

Honorable City Councilmembers:

The Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board (Planning Board) recognizes the significance of Mission Bay Park, not only to the residents of San Diego, but to all those who come from throughout California, the US, and the world to enjoy the Park's unique natural resources and recreational opportunities. The revenues from America's largest aquatic park provide significant economic benefit to the City, including contributing the first \$20 million of revenue annually to the General Fund. Remaining funds are then distributed to Mission Bay Park, the Mission Bay Park Improvement Program, and regional parks throughout the City. As this proposal affects all San Diegans, the Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board felt it important to provide our input on this matter.

Despite the intent of Ordinance 8628, which states that all parcels included within the Park are "*to be held in perpetuity for the benefit and enjoyment of the people of the City of San Diego,*" the following three parcels: 936 Quivira Way (approximately 23 acres referred to as Marina Village), 1617 Quivira Way (approximately 0.806 acres referred to as Sportsmen's Seafood), and 2590 Ingraham Street (approximately 4.467 acres referred to as Dana Landing Marina) are being considered for declaration as "surplus land." This declaration would result in the permanent removal of these lands from Mission Bay Park and the loss of the all revenue they currently generate.

The map of the affected properties appears to indicate that all three include a combination of land and water areas; and according to an aerial photo, all three support almost completely occupied boat slips. It is unclear how the elimination of the water areas within each of these potential "surplus" properties would affect future recreational opportunities for the public. Additionally, the revenue these properties currently generate for the General Fund, the Mission Bay Park Improvement Program, and other regional parks would be lost, and once declared "surplus land," they can never be added back into the park boundaries.

A determination by the City that the short-term gains, should there be any, would outweigh the long-term benefits of retaining these properties within Mission Bay Park would set a dangerous precedent that could further impact Mission Bay Park and other parklands throughout the City. As a result, the Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board on August 25, 2025, approved the following motion by a vote of 7-0-0:

The Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board requests that the San Diego City Council DENY the proposal to declare the three properties in Mission Bay Park as surplus and reaffirm the importance of preserving the entirety of Mission Bay Park for all of the citizens of San Diego, as well as the millions of visitors who collectively contribute to San Diego's economy.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns and your continuing support for Mission Bay Park.

Sincerely,

Robin Kaufman

Robin Kaufman, Chair
Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board