



COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE
Council District Six
City of San Diego

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: July 10, 2008
TO: Chip Owen, Chair, Southeastern Economic Development Corp.
FROM: Councilmember Donna Frye
SUBJECT: SEDC Compensation

I share the concerns and questions raised by Mayor Sanders and would appreciate receiving a copy of your response to his July 8 memo.

I also have received a copy of your July 8 memo to the SEDC board, responding to that day's Voice of San Diego story, "Without Oversight, SEDC Officials Award Themselves Bonuses."

While I appreciate your memo and attachments, they do not clearly and directly answer some basic questions I still have, in addition to those already put to you by the mayor.

1. Please provide the actual salary – as opposed to the salary range -- that each SEDC corporate officer and staffer is receiving this year and has received for the past four fiscal years.
2. In addition to those base salary figures, please provide an accounting of any additional payments made in that time frame to the president and other officers or employees. Please identify specific amounts paid to each individual, the category of "bonus" payment (overtime, acknowledgments, merit, in-lieu payments) and the justification for these payments.
3. Are any SEDC officers or executive staff members receiving salaries, consulting fees or any substantial payments (\$6,000 per year or more) from any private interests? If so, please identify the amount and source of such funds for each individual.

4. Please respond specifically to the assertion in the Voice of San Diego article that President Carolyn Y. Smith and Finance Director Dante Dayacap “shared \$77,276 in taxpayer-funded bonuses and additional compensation in fiscal year 2005-2006.”

5. Please respond to the assertion in the article that “Smith and SEDC attorney Royce Jones said the agency has a certain amount of money to spend on employees each year and that it never exceeds that total. The agency is not asked by the City Council to detail the amount paid to each employee each year in payments over and above each official's stated salary range, Smith said.” Is it your agency’s contention, that the City Council/Redevelopment Agency has not asked – and, by implication, need not ask -- for an accounting of bonuses being paid in excess of salaries?

SEDC is a public agency whose officers and staff are public employees paid with public funds. Therefore the public has a right to full transparency of your budget. And the City Council, as the public’s elected representatives, has not only a right but a duty to be fully informed and aware of the exact amount of money – as opposed to a salary range – that each SEDC officer and employee is being paid.

Thank you for your prompt response.