

July 5, 2017

Don Liddell, Co-Chair
West Mesa Subcommittee of the Balboa Park Committee

**SUBJECT: WEST MESA SUBCOMMITTEE LETTER IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING A NOISE BUFFER
AND NOISE DECIBEL LIMIT ALONG SIXTH AVENUE IN BANKERS HILL/PARK WEST**

Dear Mr. Liddell:

Thank you for providing us with the Subcommittee's recommendation regarding measures to reduce noise from events along Balboa Park's West Mesa based on event policies in the Uptown Community Plan. The City appreciates the time and effort the Balboa Park Committee and the West Mesa Subcommittee volunteer to advise the City on issues regarding Balboa Park. The intent of the Uptown Community Plan event noise policies is to provide recommendations to reduce the effect of amplified noise to residential uses on Sixth Avenue.

The community plan event noise policies provide event organizers with guidance when planning for events along Balboa Park's western edge. The policies are not prescriptive, but rather they provide guidance that may be supplemental to the Special Events Planning Guide and Park Use Permitting Requirements. The plan's guidance may not be applicable in all circumstances, depending upon the unique nature of each event, and implementation of the guidelines are not required in order to obtain community group advisory support, a Special Event Permit, or Park Use Permit.

The Special Events Ordinance establishes the process and requirements for obtaining a Special Event Permit. The City's *Special Event Planning Guide* and the *Special Event Guidelines for Amplified Sound* provide guidance to event organizers to find an approach that best limits the effect of noise generated by event activities to the surrounding neighborhood. Below are links to the Ordinance and Guidelines:

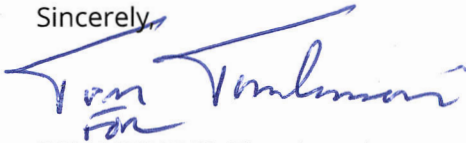
- The Special Events Ordinance is located on the following webpage:
<http://docs.sandiego.gov/municode/MuniCodeChapter02/Ch02Art02Division40.pdf>
- The Special Events Permit Application, Special Event Planning Guide, and Special Event Guidelines are located on the following webpage: www.sandiego.gov/specialevents-filming/events

The Park Use Rules and Regulations establish the process for obtaining a Park Use Permit, and rules for the use of City parks, and are located on the following page: <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/parks/rules>

The Special Events Ordinance and Citywide Special Events Permit process and guidelines as well as the Park Use Permit and Park Use Rules and Regulations implement the intent of the Uptown Community Plan event noise policies. It is City staff's position that additional measures or criteria are not needed to implement the Uptown Community Plan event noise policies.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tait Galloway at (619) 533-4550 or via email at tgalloway@sandiego.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Murphy", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

JEFF MURPHY, Planning Director
City of San Diego

JM/tg

cc: David Graham, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Herman Parker, Director, Park and Recreation Department
Carolyn Wormer, Director of Special Events & Filming Department
Tom Tomlinson, Assistant Director, Planning Department
Andrew Field, Assistant Director, Park and Recreation Department
Bruce Martinez, Deputy Director, Park and Recreation Department
Susan Lowery-Mendoza, District Manager, Park and Recreation Department
Mario R Llanos III, District Manager, Park and Recreation Department
Jeff Deerlin, Program Manager, Park and Recreation Department
Tait Galloway, Program Manager, Planning Department
Leo Wilson, Chair, Uptown Community Planning Group
Katherine Johnston, Chair, Balboa Park Committee