San Diego Regional Chamber

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July 27, 2015

Mr. Steve Kinsey, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Freemont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Support for East Harbor Island Subarea Port Master Plan Amendment and Sunroad Harbor Island Hotel Project

Dear Chair Kinsey and Members of the Commission:

On behalf of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), I am writing to express my strong support for the Sunroad Harbor Island Hotel Project and approval of the San Diego Unified Port District's East Harbor Island Subarea Port Master Plan Amendment (amendment). With approximately 2,500 members representing nearly 400,000 employees, the Chamber is dedicated to growing commerce in the San Diego region and maintaining our legacy as a premiere tourist destination. The Chamber is acutely aware of the benefit of the proposed amendment for our local economy and business community.

The amendment and the Sunroad Harbor Island Hotel project will add another vibrant tourist destination on East Harbor Island by enhancing the visitor serving opportunities. Public access will be improved for visitors and locals as the existing shoreline promenade is extended along the entire perimeter East Harbor Island. The promenade extension, coupled with the addition of public parking and public amenities on the hotel sites, will activate a portion of the waterfront that has long been underutilized by residents and visitors. The hotel projects contemplated by the amendment will also create economic benefits for the region through the creation of short term construction jobs and long term hospitality jobs.

I thank you for your consideration and respectfully request the California Coastal Commission approve the Port Master Plan Amendment for the East Harbor Island Subarea. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stefanie Benvenuto at (619) 544-1378 or sbenvenuto@sdchamber.org.

Sincerely,

Jerry Sanders
President & CEO
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

CC: Commissioners

California Coastal Commission
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