



CITIZENS COORDINATE FOR CENTURY 3

1805 Newton Avenue
San Diego, CA 92113

Phone 858.277.0900

E-mail: c3sandiego@sbcglobal.net

www.c3sandiego.org

DIRECTORS

September 2, 2014

Diego Velasco
President

Brad Richter
Civic San Diego

David Abrams

401 B Street, 4th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Bruce Appleyard

Kathleen Ferrier

RE: **Sixth Avenue Bridge Promenade Project**

Dana Hook

Drew Hubbell

Douglas Kot

Roger Lewis

Cary Lowe

Betsy Morris

Deanna Spehn

Mike Stepner

Jean Walcher

Dear Mr. Richter,

The C-3 board is pleased to add our voice to several groups and stakeholders in support of the Sixth Avenue Bridge Promenade project. As one of the oldest citizen-based organizations in the city, C-3 continues to play a leading role in promoting the highest standards of environmental quality, physical design, economic benefit, and social progress for our city and region. We do this through research, education and coordinated citizen action.

Since its founding in 1961, Citizens Coordinate for Century 3 (C-3) has been an active proponent for public open space and parks as well as for alternative transportation including bicycling and walking. Members of the C-3 Parks & Open Space Committee participated in several workshops held by CCDC, starting in 2010, during the development of the Downtown Public Open Space Implementation Plan. *This is a project which can be implemented in a relatively short period of time and which would yield a high public benefit* at a relatively low cost if compared to other proposed open space improvements in the Downtown Public Open Space Implementation Plan.

The bridge and intersection improvements will bring a number of public benefits to residents and workers in Centre City, to residents of Bankers Hill and Uptown, and to visitors to Balboa Park. It will offer an *enjoyable, safe pedestrian route* to and from downtown. The proposed plantings on the south of the freeway exit will provide a degree of *air quality improvements* to balance the pollutants from auto traffic. And the consistent row of trees, terminating in a corner “plaza” at the southwest tip of Balboa Park turns an under-used, unnecessary strip of pavement into *a processional gateway experience into Balboa Park*, one of our region’s most significant parks and a civic jewel of our city.

The Sixth Avenue Bridge Promenade project is consistent with SANDAG's study of bike routes between Downtown and Uptown along the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Avenue corridors and with Complete Streets policies and principles. ***The Project meets goals of the Downtown Community Plan***, and is a component of the Downtown Complete Streets Mobility Plan.

In summary, the project is a prime example of alternative ways for connecting high-density urban areas with the open spaces that make urban living desirable and sustainable.

This project is supported by all of the downtown citizens groups. We are pleased to see this project come before the Civic San Diego board and SANDAG and encourage you to make the Sixth Avenue Bridge Promenade a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diego Velasco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "V".

Diego Velasco
2014 C-3 President