



May 7, 2009

Mr. Rodney Fong
President
San Francisco Port Commission
Pier 1, The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dear President Fong:

A significant component of my economic revitalization strategy for San Francisco is to aggressively pursue major public and private development projects that will have direct and immediate job creation and economic benefits, and that will be catalysts for additional investment in the City.

There are currently three proposed waterfront development projects at the Port – the Exploratorium at Piers 15/17, the new cruise ship terminal at Piers 27/29, and the mixed-use redevelopment project at Seawall Lot (SWL) 337 – that are of the type, scope and size to be considerable economic engines to stimulate growth and job creation in the City.

I commend the Port Commission for their actions to date to advance the Exploratorium and new Cruise Terminal projects. It is encouraging to see these projects moving forward in this challenging economic climate, and I intend to do everything in my power to expedite these landmark developments. Not only will they boost the City's economy and profile, they will renovate deteriorating piers, activate an important stretch of our waterfront, and preserve valuable historic resources.

At your next meeting, the Port Commission will be considering the selection of the development team, led by Wilson Meany Sullivan and the San Francisco Giants, to begin the planning and development of SWL 337, a critically important 16-acre site adjacent to Mission Bay and its growing health and biotech markets. I urge the commission to move forward with the project and authorize the City to begin substantive negotiations with the development team.

As with all sizeable redevelopment projects, I recognize that a significant amount of additional planning and community dialogue needs to take place, but by taking decisive action now, the Commission will allow the developer to begin spending tens of millions of dollars on planning and entitlement work and showcase the private sector's confidence in the future of our waterfront and City.

In order to further assist the Port in advancing these critical projects, I am directing my Department of Economic and Workforce Development to form and lead a multi-agency team, including the Port, to ensure that all three of these large-scale, job-generating projects move expeditiously through our land

use process. Other City agencies I am asking to be involved include the Planning Department, the Department of Public Works, the Municipal Transportation Agency, and the Department of Building Inspection. Given the continued uncertain economic conditions, the City needs to work in lockstep to guarantee the timely success of these projects.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Port on these critically important projects.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom
Mayor

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Gavin Newsom', is written over the printed name and extends across the middle of the page.

Cc: Hon. Stephanie Shakofsky, Vice President, Port Commission
Hon. Kimberly Brandon, Port Commission
Hon. Michael Hardeman, Port Commission
Hon. Ann Lazarus, Port Commission
Monique Moyer, Port Executive Director
Michael Cohen, MOEWD