



Targeting Waste • Promoting Efficiency

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SAN DIEGO COUNTY TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION AIRPORT RELOCATION PRINCIPLES

Introduction

The San Diego County Taxpayers Association has found that the most effective means to address complex public expenditure proposals is to define a series of principles that articulate what it believes is in the best interest of the taxpayers and the region. These principles serve as bench marks that when applied to ballot measures result in a means to objectively assess whether the Association is willing to endorse the issue. It also provides the Association with a mechanism by which it may constructively influence public policy and proposals before they reach the ballot.

Principle #1

The Regional Airport Authority should seek to maximize the effective use of all existing airport and related infrastructure resources of the region including, but not limited to, San Diego International Airport (SDIA).

Principle #2

The Airport Authority must take all reasonable steps that result in the optimization of SDIA well into the future.

Principle #3

The Airport Authority shall use its best efforts to assure the voting public that a complete assessment of all off-site infrastructure requirements external to the airport footprint are identified, their costs are fully disclosed, and that all cost estimates are prepared by qualified professionals for each of the sites appearing on the ballot.

Principle #4

It is the responsibility of the Airport Authority to recommend a plan to pay for all airport and off-site costs. Should the Authority place a candidate site on the November 2006 ballot for voter approval, it shall be accompanied on the same ballot by a straw vote of the public to approve or disapprove of the proposed method of financing the site infrastructure requirements. Any language on the ballot should state the sources of funding for the entire airport project and off-site infrastructure (i.e. transportation).

Principle #5

If the Airport Authority presents joint use of a military facility or use of military property for a newly constructed airport, voters should be provided the military's assessment of the viability of joint use at a military base or use of military property. Therefore, the ballot language shall include the most current official Department of Defense statement regarding joint use at NAS North Island, MCAS Miramar or other military facility and shall include the most current official Department of Defense statement regarding use of military property for a newly constructed airport. "Educational" materials shall include a summary prepared by the appropriate Department of Defense representative of the impact of joint use of a military facility or use of military property on existing military operations. Furthermore, any technical analysis of joint use or use of military property must include meaningful input and participation by the military.

Principle #6

An independent net economic assessment shall be presented to the voters regarding the change from the highest and best permitted use for the proposed site to use as an airport. For example, if the proposed site were a military base, what would be the net regional economic effect of the loss of a base or reduced military operations in exchange for converting the base to a civilian airport or joint use?

The San Diego County Taxpayers Association Board of Directors adopted this document on February 17, 2006.