



January 29, 2007

Dear Neighbor,

As part of our mission to provide higher education to all qualified students, San Diego State University is beginning the process to seek approval from the California State University Board of Trustees for a revised Campus Master Plan. I wanted to take this opportunity to summarize key elements of that plan and explain the process for its review.

For more than 100 years, San Diego State University has been a key contributor to San Diego's economy. As the largest importer of bright minds to San Diego, SDSU's graduates are a significant component of the local workforce.

Increasing access to quality higher education in the face of growing demand remains one of San Diego's biggest challenges. To date, SDSU has received a record 57,000 applications for 8,800 available spots for the Fall 2007 term - a 9% increase from the previous year.

The Campus Master Plan revision is SDSU's blueprint for responding to this demand. Its approval will ensure SDSU can continue to produce the graduates that San Diego needs to remain competitive. Currently, one in seven adults in San Diego who holds a college degree attended SDSU.

While the 2005 Campus Master Plan was unanimously approved by the CSU Board of Trustees, a recent decision by the California Supreme Court (*City of Marina vs. CSU Monterey Bay*) required that the approval for the plan be set aside. This decision has changed CSU policy related to funding for off-site infrastructure and transportation impacts resulting from university development. The *City of Marina* decision applies to the entire California State University system, including SDSU.

Because SDSU's Campus Master Plan revision remains a top priority, we have begun the process of revising the plan and producing a new Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR will identify significant environmental impacts, feasible mitigation measures, and SDSU's fair share obligations toward implementing these measures.

The 2007 Campus Master Plan revision will allow SDSU to accommodate and house more students on campus and meet the growing demand for higher education. It will increase SDSU's enrollment capacity from 25,000 full-time equivalent students to 35,000, allowing SDSU to continue to meet the workforce needs of our region. It also incorporates increased academic space, student housing and services, and faculty housing. The Campus Master Plan will ensure that SDSU's growth occurs in a smart, planned manner over the next 20 years.

The plan includes a number of much-needed facilities that will serve the needs of our students and faculty, including:

- On-campus student housing for an additional 1,400 students (on the south east portion of campus), which is a nearly 40% increase from the current number of beds on campus.
- Alvarado Campus, which will house future classroom and support facilities.
- Adobe Falls, the site for up to 370 affordable, high-quality homes for SDSU faculty and staff.
- Alvarado Hotel, which will contain up to 120 rooms and suites, providing high-quality nearby accommodations for visitors to the university.
- A new Student Union building will be constructed adjacent to the east side of Cox Arena, and will be coupled with a renovation and expansion of the existing Aztec Center.

We value our relationship with the San Diego community, and look forward to your comments and participation in the upcoming months. As we move forward with this process, we will be conducting a comprehensive outreach program to further explain our plans and receive input from residents and organizations in the San Diego region that are interested in SDSU's future.

We greatly appreciate your continued support for the university and our efforts to fulfill our mission to provide higher education to qualified students for generations to come.

All community members are invited to join us on Saturday, March 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for **Explore SDSU - Open House 2007** presented by *The San Diego Union-Tribune* and *Time Warner Cable*. Explore SDSU is a perfect opportunity to learn more about the outstanding work being done by SDSU's faculty, staff and students. If you haven't visited the campus lately, this will be a great chance to see many of the impressive changes. We will also have an information table on the Campus Master Plan at the event.

Enclosed you will find a postage-paid card to provide comments and suggestions on the Campus Master Plan revision. For more information, we invite you to review the project website at www.sdsu.edu/masterplan.

Sincerely,



Stephen L. Weber
President
San Diego State University