September 29, 2005

RE: Update on SDSU’s Campus Master Plan

Dear Community Member:

As you may know, San Diego State University’s Campus Master Plan was approved on September 21 by the California State University Board of Trustees. I recognize that there are many in the Del Cerro community who have expressed concerns about SDSU’s Campus Master Plan – particularly our proposal to build affordable faculty housing on land SDSU has long owned at Adobe Falls. I assure you that your concerns have been heard and San Diego State intends to work cooperatively with its neighbors to address these issues within our legal and fiscal constraints.

Approval of the Master Plan will allow San Diego State to grow in a smart, planned manner over the next twenty years to serve our growing region and state. The decision by the CSU Board of Trustees follows a yearlong review, including participation by various parties on campus and in the community. As a result of the input received in these meetings and through responses to the draft EIR, SDSU has committed to the following actions:

- **Alternate access to Adobe Falls** – a mitigation measure was added to the final EIR which requires a detailed feasibility study of alternate access routes to the property as part of the project-specific environmental review. This mitigation measure provides that if an economically and legally feasible alternative is identified that has no further environmental impact, it will be required as part of the project.

- **Traffic calming elements near schools** – the final EIR requires that a traffic calming study be conducted to recommend measures to help ensure safe traffic flow on community streets.

- **Adobe Falls Community Advisory Committee** – to facilitate communication between SDSU and the community, an Adobe Falls Community Advisory Committee will be formed. This committee, which will include members from the Del Cerro community, will work closely with the university to provide input on the project and/or the required studies as it moves forward to project-specific review.

- **Working with SANDAG to identify funding for traffic improvements** – SDSU will work with SANDAG and other appropriate agencies to identify long-term solutions to community traffic problems and funding to implement them. Working with San Diego City Councilman Jim Madaffer’s office, we agreed to
form an I-8/College Avenue Interchange Task Force that will focus on identifying long-term solutions to existing and future traffic conditions in the area. Councilman Jim Madaffer has appointed several Del Cerro residents to this task force, which is expected to begin meeting in October.

Other affirmations SDSU has made with the community include enhancements to the biological habitat in the Adobe Falls area, a commitment that no undergraduate students will be permitted to live at Adobe Falls (except for family members), a declaration of our intent to develop the “upper village” at Adobe Falls first, and a commitment to study pedestrian access to campus from Adobe Falls.

Your input, and that of community leaders, has resulted in a better Master Plan. I thank you for that.

SDSU’s Campus Master Plan is a long-range plan, and Trustee approval is just one step. Specific to Adobe Falls, the process includes feasibility and market studies, which will not be conducted until well into 2006. The Adobe Falls project also will be required to undergo further environmental and public review, and additional approval is required by the CSU Trustees for construction to proceed. The community will have many opportunities to provide input as we move forward with required environmental review.

I am particularly grateful to State Senator Christine Kehoe for her leadership in helping facilitate discussions over the past few weeks with the Del Cerro community. I am also heartened to know that many of you – in expressing your concerns about traffic at Adobe Falls – have pledged your support of SDSU’s educational mission and growth so we can continue to serve the region. Increasing access to quality higher education is the most important challenge faced by San Diego State. I welcome your cooperation as we strive to meet this challenge in a way that also responds to the concerns of our neighbors.

For more information on SDSU’s Campus Master Plan, or to register your comments, please visit the project Web site at www.sdsu.edu/masterplan.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Weber
President