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Date: January 29, 2019
To: City of San Diego Audit Committee
From: Housing You Matters Coalition
Re: Performance Audit of Community Planning Groups

Community Planning Groups hold a powerful key in reviewing and making recommendations for development in their communities. This is a very important role which has ramifications on the health and well-being of our city. During these changing times and in the middle of a housing affordability and supply crisis, we need to make sure that our Community Planning Groups have the right mix of community representation and have the education they need to weigh in on the complex issues of land use decisions before them.

It is clear by the Performance Audit conducted on Community Planning Groups that there are major gaps in the education of the members of the CPGs and that processes are not being adhered to in a timely matter, if at all. Even though these groups are independent, self-operating and self-governing, it is the city's responsibility to make sure that CPGs follow the guidelines and are educated to meet the important work before them.

The Housing You Matters Coalition fully supports reform of our Community Planning Groups. We want to make sure that members are trained and educated on the work of how the land use decisions they make are connected to not only city policy, zoning and planning but to state policy and the overall prosperity of citizens from economic, equity and environmental perspectives.

Thank you for taking our recommendation into consideration.

Sincerely,

Lori Holt Pfeiler, Chair of the Advisory Board

Mary Lydon, Executive Director

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