Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

August 25, 2014

The Honorable Cynthia Ming-mei Lee
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco
400 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Response to Civil Grand Jury Reporting Regarding The Port of San Francisco

Dear Judge Lee:

On behalf of the Recreation and Parks Department of the City and County of San Francisco, please accept this response to the above-referenced Civil Grand Jury report's findings and recommendations.

FINDINGS

Finding 9. The Port does not have an official policy governing the process for proposed development projects. Many projects are moved ahead with minimal community input, often in the form of a quick review by the CAC and Planning Department then forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.
The Pier 70 Master Plan was developed with significant community outreach to both the general public and affected neighborhood associations. The Plan represents a balance of community needs and the requirement of the developer to obtain a reasonable return on investment.

> **Response:** *We partially disagree with this finding.* We agree that Pier 70 Master Plan was developed with significant community outreach to both the general public and affected neighborhoods, but disagree with the statement that many projects move ahead quickly with minimal community input, often in the form of a quick review by the CAC and Planning Department then forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The Waterfront Land Use Plan, adopted and implemented by the Port Commission, calls for an extensive public review process prior to the leasing and development of port property.

Recommendation 9a. The Port should ensure ongoing community input be maintained until an acceptable compromise is reached on the final plans.

> **Response:** *This recommendation should be implemented in that community input should be maintained.* It is the responsibility of the appointed and elected decision makers to determine the project that best meets the public needs.

Recommendation 9b. The Jury neither supports nor opposes the development of Pier 70 but we strongly endorse the extensive public outreach and community input as part of the design

and development process of the Pier 70 Master Plan. We recommend that the Port follow this model as a template for all major developments on Port lands.

> **Response:** *This recommendation will not be implemented for all projects.* This three-year public outreach and community input process was needed to address the numerous conditions specific for the 68 acre site of Pier 70. While every development opportunity must undergo thorough public review, the input process for Pier 70 may be excessive for most projects.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this Civil Grand Jury report.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager
San Francisco Recreation and Park Department