

# SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY



PUBLIC & COMMUNITY RELATIONS  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Airport Authority Board selects seven sites to advance to Phase 2 of Airport Site Selection Program**

*Selections based on public input & criteria set by 32-member Public Working Group;  
Airport site selection measure to go on county-wide ballot in 2006*

**SAN DIEGO -- October 2, 2003 --** The Board of the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority today unanimously approved a motion selecting seven potential airport site options to advance to Phase 2 of the Airport Site Selection Program. Phase 2 involves a more rigorous, detailed analysis and study of options to potentially augment or replace San Diego International Airport.

Under state law, the Authority is required to place an airport site measure on the ballot for a countywide vote in either 2004 or 2006. Today the Board chose 2006 as the year to hold the public vote. The Board's actions were taken at its monthly public meeting. The seven potential airport site options chosen for Phase 2 study are:

- Desert site in Imperial County
- March Air Reserve Base (ARB) in Riverside County
- Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar
- Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar - East
- Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Pendleton
- Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island
- San Diego International Airport

"The Authority is pleased to move this important regional issue forward and will continue to support an open process for determining a future airport site," said Joseph W. Craver, Chairman of the Board. "We recognize that some of the sites are military installations and are very cognizant and supportive of national defense needs and requirements. If any of these sites are, in fact, a viable option, we will work in concert with the military to ensure efficient and effective military operations." The Board has directed staff to include impacts on national security and explore joint use with military installations in the Phase 2 study.

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Over the last several months, a 32-member Public Working Group determined criteria used to arrive at a more manageable number of potential airport site options for the Board to consider for further Phase 2 study. Today's decision by the Board was based on the Public Working Group's established criteria, Authority staff recommendations and public input. The Airport Authority's Airport Site Selection Program is examining the possibility of replacing San Diego International Airport, or combining or connecting it with another existing or new airport.

The Authority Board is comprised of nine appointed members representing various sections of the County. The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority was established by state law to operate San Diego International Airport and address the region's long-term air transportation needs. San Diego International Airport served some 15 million passengers in 2002.

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