



American Association of Law Libraries
MAXIMIZING THE POWER OF THE LAW LIBRARY COMMUNITY SINCE 1906

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City of San Diego
Office of the City Clerk
Elizabeth Maland, City Clerk
202 C St., 2nd Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear City Clerk Elizabeth Maland:

On behalf of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), I write to support the position of the Government Relations Committee of the San Diego Area Law Libraries (SANDALL) regarding the City's recent decision to stop publishing the San Diego Municipal Code supplemental updates for public distribution. Although we understand the City's need to rein in spending in these difficult economic times, this decision would have a serious negative impact on the public's ability to access this important public information.

SANDALL is a chapter of AALL, a nonprofit educational organization with over 5000 members nationwide. Our members serve the information needs of the legal community and the public at more than 1900 academic, firm, state, court and county law libraries. AALL's mission is to promote and enhance the value of law libraries, to foster law librarianship and to provide leadership and advocacy in the field of legal information and information policy.

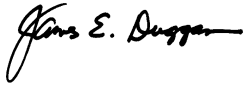
AALL supports SANDALL's request that the City maintain a complete digital archive of all versions of the Municipal Code, City Ordinances and History Tables from the Code's inception, and make it available to the public. We also agree that the City should preserve more than one permanent print copy of the Codes so that the public can more readily access the official print version.

AALL fully supports SANDALL's recommendations that the City provide full public access to the Codes, including:

- 1) Retaining archived digital copies of the Codes on its website;
- 2) Continuing to maintain the online History Tables with archived information;
- 3) Providing complete online access to all City Ordinances, not just from 1981;
- 4) Improving the online search function for more accurate data retrieval;
- 5) Making available to the public an updated Index and retaining an archival copy for future cross-reference; and
- 6) Regularly informing the public of Code updates, such as via email alerts as the Clerk's Office suggested, and providing those updates in a printable format.

We urge you to carefully consider these recommendations and agree to their implementation to ensure greater public access to these important legal resources. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



James E. Duggan
President
American Association of Law Libraries