

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SAN DIEGO AREA
7575 METROPOLITAN DRIVE, SUITE 103
SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-4421
(619) 767-2370



September 28, 2018

Fae Desmond
Comic-Con International
PO Box 128458
San Diego, CA 92112

Re: Coastal Development Permit Requirement for Comic-Con International: San Diego

Dear Ms. Desmond:

This letter serves to inform you that Comic-Con International: San Diego no longer qualifies as exempt under Coastal Act permitting requirements due to the extent and duration of impacts to public access caused by the event. Specifically, the most recent Comic-Con included the closure of a portion of Harbor Drive, a major coastal access route; the closure of the public sidewalk fronting the Convention Center to non-badge holders; the use of Embarcadero Marina Park South and the public promenade for line queuing; and prohibition of public parking at Embarcadero Marina Park South.

At our August 3, 2018 coordination meeting, Commission and Port staff agreed that Comic-Con International should obtain a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) from the Port of San Diego for future Comic-Cons in order to assess the potential impacts to public access and include mitigation measures, such as a comprehensive public access plan, to avoid or minimize impacts to public access to and along San Diego Bay. We recommend that Comic-Con International coordinate with relevant stakeholders, including the City of San Diego, Convention Center, Port of San Diego and San Diego District Coastal Commission, well in advance of the 2019 Comic-Con. If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "ML" or "Melody".

Melody Lasiter
Coastal Program Analyst

CC (via email):

Karl Schwing, California Coastal Commission
Deborah Lee, California Coastal Commission
Kanani Leslie, California Coastal Commission
Dana Sclar, Port of San Diego
Wileen Manaois, Port of San Diego
Carolyn Wormser, City of San Diego
DeeAnne Snyder, San Diego Convention Center Corporation