

Council should adopt plan proposed by NTC reuse panel

Your editorial of April 29 recommended that the City Council "discard the NTC panel's proposal and adopt a land-use plan that accommodates Lindbergh Field's legitimate expansion needs." I find it hard to believe that you would advocate "discarding" three years' worth of work by the 25-member citizens Reuse Planning Committee, who volunteered their time and expertise to serve the city in determining appropriate uses for NTC.

The committee's plan preserves the integrity of an integrated regional public safety institute; proposals offered by the city manager/port report did not. The adopted plan saves the least tern colony; the city manager/port proposal did not. The adopted plan allows for a water-quality lab and a marine-science program on the site; the city manager/port proposal did not. The adopted plan retains most of the Camp Nimitz buildings while the other required demolishing most of them.

The adopted plan allows for expansion of Lindbergh's west terminal to accommodate eight additional gates. The port needs to develop a master plan based on its "legitimate expansion needs." This would include looking at the area soon to be vacated by General Dynamics along Pacific Highway. The City Council should follow the lead of the Reuse Committee, whose proposal clearly indicates that both the public safety institute and airport expansion are possible.

SOU-I
5-14-90

BYRON WEAR
Member, City Council, 2nd District
San Diego