



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: April 8, 2003
TO: Board of Supervisors
SUBJECT: OPERATION YELLOW RIBBON (District: All)

SUMMARY:

Overview

Generations of military men and women have deployed from San Diego to a future certain of nothing but service to Country. During times of conflict, loved ones on the American homefront often symbolize the safe return of U.S. servicemen and women by tying yellow ribbons around trees, mailboxes and other structures. Some 55,000 Marines and sailors from Diego County now are taking part in military action in Iraq. They are the heart of the 105,000 Navy and Marine personnel who call San Diego home. They are our co-workers, mothers, fathers, sons and daughters.

As we anticipate the swift return of American troops, we look forward to the days when thousands will sail around Point Loma, past the County Administration Center, into the safe harbor of San Diego Bay. Today's action would continue the thoughtful tradition of the yellow ribbon by installing a large yellow ribbon on the exterior of the County Administration Center tower.

Recommendation(s)

CHAIRMAN COX AND VICE CHAIRWOMAN JACOB:

Approve the installation of a large yellow ribbon on the exterior of the County Administration Center tower as a demonstration of the County of San Diego's support for military families and our hopes for the safe and swift return of the members of the United States Armed Forces from service in Iraq.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with the proposal.

BACKGROUND:

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Yellow ribbons have been displayed by the families of American Armed forces serving in the Persian Gulf in 1991, as well as across the nation in support of the Americans held hostage in Iran in 1981. A version of the yellow ribbon can be traced through films, music and song as far back as the 1920s and has become a symbol through which American families can express their determination to be reunited.

Some 55,000 Marines and sailors from Diego County now are taking part in military action in Iraq. They are the heart of the 105,000 Navy and Marine personnel who call San Diego home. They are also our co-workers, mothers, fathers, sons and daughters.

As we anticipate swift return of American troops, we look forward to the days when thousand will sail around Point Loma, past the County Administration Building, into the safe harbor of San Diego Bay. Today's action would continue the thoughtful tradition of the yellow ribbon by installing a large yellow ribbon on the exterior of the County Administration Center Tower.

Respectfully submitted,

GREG COX
Chairman

DIANNE JACOB
Vice Chairwoman