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AGUIRRE INSPECTS TOP OF SUNROAD BUILDING FIRSTHAND

Last Updated: 07-12-07 at 6:12PM

City Attorney Mike Aguirre has gotten a first-hand look at something he wants to see gone. Today he toured the top of the controversial Sunroad Tower, which is about to be lowered.



The city and FAA think the 180-foot tower is a safety hazard to flights at Montgomery Field. After all the legal wrangling between Aguirre and Sunroad officials, the city attorney wanted to take an up close and personal look at what's been a big political thorn in his side for more than a year.

Aguirre spent about a half hour atop the building with Deputy City Attorney Carmen Brock and two of his investigators to get a first-hand look at the deconstruction process.

Officials with the state Department of Transportation's Aeronautics Division also joined Aguirre during the high rise tour. They are working close with all parties and the FAA as the demolition project tries to hit a mid-October due date.

The building was supposed to be ready for leasing this summer. According to Sunroad's estimates, reconstruction won't be finished at least until next April.

To keep tabs on the deconstruction portion of the project, the city hired surveyors from Rick Engineering and demolition experts from Roel Construction.

Sunroad is suing the city for \$40 million to recover the cost of lowering the building and any income it may lose because of delays and reduced floor space.

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