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This [Memorandum](#), dated August 23, 2007 from the Mayor's Office, promising systemic reform to prevent a repeat of the Sunroad scandal, makes interesting reading. When it is read together with the Mayor's [announcement](#), dated August 24, 2007, appointing Bill Anderson as Land Use Chief, a clear pattern emerges - concentration of power.

The Mayor's [announcement](#) about Anderson says: "*he has overseen four divisions – [Community Planning](#), [Redevelopment](#), [Economic Development](#), and [Urban Form](#), plus San Diego's [Public Facilities Financing Group](#)." It goes on: "*his duties **will expand** to include supervision of the City's [Development Services](#) and [Real Estate Assets Departments](#)." Now the developers will only have to lobby one powerful person.**

Mr. Anderson is in charge of seven Divisions right now. The Mayor's [Memorandum](#) shows a clear preference for keeping it that way. It envisages rolling Planning and Development Services into one giant department. It says: "*the merger of these two departments is looked at as part of their collective BPR's (Business Process Re-engineering)*".

But that flies in the face of the rationale given for moving Airports from READ:

"The Airports Department will now report to the Assistant Chief Operating Officer. The Airports Department was moved under the Real Estate Assets Department (READ) because of the number of leases managed by the Airport. While READ is separate and apart from DSD and Planning, this move did not take into account the inherent and/or potential conflict of interest created since all four Departments (Airports, READ, Planning and DSD) report to the same Deputy Chief Operating Officer, and information could be controlled at the Deputy Chief level and never elevated to the Chief Operating Officer or the Mayor."

Is there an "*inherent and/or potential conflict of interest*" when multiple departments "*report to the same Deputy Chief Operating Officer*"? If so, the Mayor's Remedial [Memorandum](#) is little more than double-speak - the Mayor is speaking out of both sides of his mouth. His remedial analysis fails to mention the most corrosive influence of all: politics. That's what caused the Sunroad scandal, not a systemic failure. The critical decisions were made right there in the Mayor's office, under the watchful eye of his political commissars, [Fred Sainz](#), [Kris Michell](#) and Julie Dubick. That's why Froman quit.

Do City employees really have a Royal Prerogative? 08/27/07

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Whoever answers the [MEA call](#) to: "*create an accurate and complete record of taxpayer costs, taxpayer savings if any; cost and service delivery matters in the office of the City Attorney under its current administration*", will need to take into account this [latest "taxpayer savings"](#) wrought by the current City Attorney. Here is [the judges order](#).

Judge Huff "*dismissed numerous claims contained in the POA lawsuit alleging the City and certain officials, including City Attorney Michael*

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