



October 25, 2007

Dear Meeting Planners,

As you well know, San Diego County has been impacted by a series of wildfires, primarily in the county's outlying communities. For up to the minute information on impacted areas and conditions resulting from the wildfires, we are encouraging everyone to visit our [San Diego Wildfire Update](#) page.

The important news that I would like to share with you and your associates is that the city's downtown core, hotels, restaurants, San Diego Zoo, Port and waterfront, along with the airport, are open for business and not directly impacted by fires in the region. In addition, various tourism attractions and hotels located in central San Diego and along the coastal region are not threatened by the fires and are fully operational. A few attractions have closed for a day or two, but with the improving weather conditions and fire situation, all major attractions should be open by this Friday.

As you have also heard, numerous hotels have taken in local residents during the evacuation. The hotel community has been superb and has done a phenomenal job of balancing the needs of the evacuees along with their existing and future business commitments. As of today, a number of communities are reopening, allowing many residents to return to their homes. This development is relieving the unanticipated demand on the local lodging sector in San Diego and our hotel community is looking forward to welcoming visitors and meetings to our destination.

As San Diegans, we are particularly proud of our community's response to the wildfires. I trust you are aware that emergency management and response provided by local government leaders and relief agencies has been exemplary, ensuring that the city's infrastructure and communications systems are fully intact.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you require any additional information (dpeckinpaugh@sdcvb.org).

We look forward to seeing you in San Diego!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Peckinpaugh".

David Peckinpaugh, CMP
President & CEO