



## ANGELA HUNT

DALLAS CITY COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 14

April 13, 2007

Dear Mayor Miller:

When I received my weekly City Council briefing packet this evening, I was surprised to find a letter from you to Phillip Jones, president and CEO of the Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau, removing me from the DCVB board. Your explanation for removing me was that I disagree with your efforts to prevent the public from voting on whether to move the proposed toll road out of the Downtown Trinity Park, given the enormous cost escalations and dramatic changes to this project over the last decade.

Your letter came as a surprise for two reasons. First, because you made no mention of your intentions to me beforehand, despite our being together all day during Wednesday's City Council meeting and for several hours in a meeting this afternoon. I find your lack of direct communication troubling.

Second, I was surprised that you have chosen the same tactic that you sanctimoniously criticized your predecessor for: denying committee appointments as a means of stifling open debate and dissenting opinions.

To jog your memory, I include an excerpt from the *Dallas Morning News* from August 28, 1999, in which then-mayor Ron Kirk reportedly reneged on plans to appoint you to a regional transportation commission after the two of you disagreed over the new sports arena:

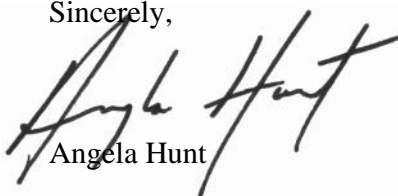
Ms. Miller said the mayor's decision to appoint Dr. Thornton-Reese [to the board instead of her] sends a clear message that he will do everything in his power to squelch open debate and dissenting opinions.

"The mayor should be placing the enormous needs of the city before his personal and petty vendetta," she said. "...[T]he mayor decided to be punitive and petty and personal because he got his feathers ruffled because I disagreed with him."

Another time, Mayor Kirk denied you a council committee chairmanship, which you also interpreted as political payback. In a July 31, 1999 *Dallas Morning News* article, I was impressed by Councilmember Donna Blumer's display of solidarity with you when she resigned as vice chair of the council's Health, Youth and Human Services Committee to show her opposition to Mayor Kirk's decision to exclude you from any leadership positions. I would remind you of her words: "The mayor doesn't pick his team," she said. "The voters pick his team."

It is unfortunate that you have chosen to emulate the behavior of a mayor that you routinely criticized for excluding and marginalizing those who disagreed with him. It is, however, very telling.

Sincerely,



Angela Hunt

LAURA MILLER

MAYOR



CITY OF DALLAS

April 13, 2007

Phillip Jones, President & CEO  
Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau  
325 North St. Paul – Suite 700  
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Phillip,

This is to inform you that I will be making a change to the Dallas Convention and Visitors Board as it pertains to city council representatives. Currently, Pauline Medrano and Angela Hunt are both serving on behalf of the City of Dallas. The mayor makes the appointments.

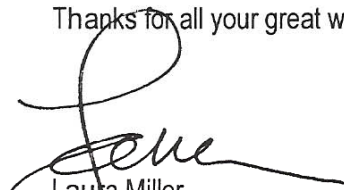
Since the Trinity River Project is a cornerstone of the work currently being done by the DCVB, and since the DCVB has shown unwavering support for the Project, it seems completely at odds with the organization to have a board member who not only opposes the Project, but will be collecting voter signatures starting this month to try and dismantle the Project in an upcoming election.

Many people, including me, have tried to dissuade her from her petition effort. We have all been unsuccessful.

Effective immediately, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Elba Garcia will be replacing Ms. Hunt on your board and serving out Ms. Hunt's term.

Pauline Medrano will be replacing Ms. Hunt as Vice-Chair of the DCVB until the new officers are appointed in the fall.

Thanks for all your great work.



Laura Miller  
Mayor

Cc: Angela Hunt, City Councilmember  
Dallas City Council  
DCVB Board of Directors  
Trinity River Commons  
Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce  
Mary Suhm, City Manager  
Deborah Watkins, City Secretary