



# Save Our Heritage Organisation

Protecting San Diego's architectural and cultural heritage since 1969

Thursday, August 1, 2019

Balboa Park Committee, City of San Diego  
Balboa Park Club  
2150 Pan American Road  
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: August 1 Agenda Item 502, South Palisades Plaza Project

Committee members and Park and Recreation Staff,

For the 1935 California Pacific International Exposition, the newly completed Pan-American Plaza in Balboa Park's Palisades was a landscaped pedestrian plaza encircled by park buildings. Eventually, the plaza was overrun with parked cars. Both the Balboa Park Master Plan (adopted in 1989) and the Central Mesa Precise Plan (adopted in 1992) call for the Pan-American Plaza to be restored, which is part of the National Register Historical District.

SOHO strongly supports the City's proposal to restore the South Palisades Plaza, which is consistent with the Committee of One Hundred's larger restoration goal for this entire Plaza. Further, SOHO supports the city's goals to 1) Reduce/eliminate vehicular traffic and parking from the south Palisades parking lot; 2) Improve tram service and accessibility; 3) Reclaim parking lot for park uses per the Precise Plan; and 4) Provide a public space during park construction projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Bruce Coons  
Executive Director  
Save Our Heritage Organisation