



Save Our Heritage Organisation
Protecting San Diego's architectural and cultural heritage since 1969

Monday, October 14, 2019

Mayor & City Council for National City
1243 National City Boulevard
National City, CA 91950

Re: Historical Designation of 30 properties at various locations

Honorable Mayor and City Council members,

Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) supports and encourages the National City Council to designate all 30 historical resources that went before the Planning Commission, 29 of which are identified within the Planning Commission's resolution 2019-19 as historically significant. SOHO also recommends that the 50 additional properties, recently identified by the NCHS as potentially significant, be considered for historical designation at the earliest opportunity.

The 2010 historic property surveys were updated under consultation with the NCHS, which includes an extensive review of each property, and only 30 were intact enough to be brought forward to the Planning Commission. Historical designation is a well-known community-wide benefit, in that it promotes the local economy as well as National City's own sense of place and historical development, in addition to various other benefits. All properties recommended for designation meet Criterion 3, embodying distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction. Further, various other properties also meet additional criteria and two important properties have already been lost, 1932 and 1929 Harding Street! The Council needs to act on these remaining historical resources today, as designation does not require the owner's consent and provides an important community-wide benefit.

SOHO additionally recommends that the 50 other properties, identified by the NCHS as potentially significant during this update process, be considered for historical designation at your earliest opportunity to prevent unnecessary loss of National City's irreplaceable heritage. The Council should direct staff to contact the property owners and prepare a resolution, initiating these additional important designations.

SOHO recommends the Council designate all 30 historical resources today before any further are lost as well as initiate review of the 50 more recently identified resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Bruce Coons
Executive Director
Save Our Heritage Organisation