



## University Heights Historical Society

October 11, 2025

City of San Diego Historical Resources Board  
Policy Subcommittee  
202 C Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Meeting of 10/13/25, Item 4: Preservation and Progress Package A, Part 3

To the Chair and Members of the Committee:

The University Heights Historical Society offers the following comments on the [Preservation and Progress Memo](#) dated 10/7/25 submitted by staff to the Policy Subcommittee for their meeting of 10/13/25.

### **§123.0203 Appeal From Historical Resources Board Decision**

We strongly oppose allowing the City Council to rehear Historical Resource Board decisions de novo—from scratch. This would override the determinations of trained preservation experts and insert political influence into what should remain a fact-based, professional process. Allowing non-experts to reverse expert findings undermines public trust, weakens the preservation system, and risks the loss of historic resources.

The Historical Resources Board should remain the final authority on historic designations. If an appeal process must exist, it should be narrowly focused on procedural errors—not a full rehearing. This ensures decisions are based on evidence and expertise, not politics or development pressure.

### **§143.1002 Application of Complete Communities Housing Solutions Regulations**

We oppose removing exemptions for the Ocean Beach Cottage Emerging District and the Asian Pacific Thematic District from the Complete Community Housing Regulations.

The City should safeguard existing and pending historic districts, ensuring exemptions remain in place, and provide clear guidance and support for district formation and preservation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristin Harms, President  
University Heights Historical Society