

| HRB Meeting of April 25, 2024 | | | | | | | |
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| First Name | Last Name | Meeting Date | Agenda Item Number | Position | I would like to speak on the item during public testimony. | Comments | Attachments |
| ITEM 2 | | | | | | | |
| William | Anderson | 4/25/2024 | 2 | In Support of Item | <p>April 12, 2024 San Diego Historical Resources Board Attn: Bernie Turgeon, Senior Planner 1222 First Avenue MS 501 San Diego, CA 92101 Re: Arnold and Choate's Addition – North Florence Heights Historic District (ACFH) to the National Register of Historic Places. Hearing 4-25-24 Dear San Diego Historical Resources Board: Please support formation of the Arnold and Choate's Addition – North Florence Heights Historic District (ACFH) to the National Register of Historic Places. Our house falls within the proposed district and is identified as a contributing structure. Our family has lived here since 1996. The original portion of the home was built in 1927. I am an urban planner and professor of urban economics at UCSD. I recognize the importance of preserving heritage as San Diego grows and urbanizes. As a former national President of the American Planning Association visiting communities around the country, and a renter in Boston's Beacon Hill when I was young, I saw how historic neighborhoods contribute to their respective city economies and signature image. I was a member and chair of the San Diego's Planning Commission from 1995 to 2003 and was Director of City Planning and Community Investment for the City from 2006-2011 when we prepared and adopted San Diego's "City of Villages" General Plan. This Plan received the national Daniel Burnham Award from the American Planning Association for excellence in comprehensive planning for a large jurisdiction. It encourages and facilitates urban infill development near transit and employment centers, but also values our historic resources and places as an organizing principle. The Historic Resources Element calls for preserving selected places as the city evolves without diminishing the capacity for future growth. The proposed ACFH District does that. Formation of the ACFH Historic District still maintains significant development capacity in our corridors within the Uptown Community. Accessory Dwelling Units are still permitted in Mission Hills in accordance with the City's ADU ordinances. The City has an approved Housing Element that certifies it has sufficient entitlement capacity for projected household growth at the required affordability levels, and it has continued to add capacity since the Housing Element's adoption. Many contributing buildings in the proposed ACFH Historic District are bungalow structures reflective of their era of development that likely won't be repeated in San Diego's future. Compatible additions would still be allowed within the district. The ACFH Historic District, therefore, would not diminish San Diego's overall capacity to accommodate future housing needs, but it would facilitate investment in preserving contributing buildings and places for future generations to remember and value. It's unfortunate that some housing advocates (and I consider myself one for over four decades) try to characterize attempts to recognize and enable investment in heritage as conflicting with housing policy objectives. I believe that is not the case when looking at the whole community and city. Playing on the advocacy acronyms bantered about, consider me a HIMBY – History is My Backyard. Thank you for your consideration, William Anderson, FAICP 911 Barr Avenue San Diego, CA 92103</p> | | |
| Ann | Kilrain | 4/25/2024 | 2 | In Support of Item | No | <p>I write to express my wholehearted support for the nomination of Arnold and Choate's Addition – North Florence Heights Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>ACNFH is a splendidly intact representation of the early 20th century development associated with the expansion of the electric streetcar service in the city of San Diego.</p> <p>It is an area where one can step back in history with a walk through the neighborhood and enjoy a multitude of early twentieth century residential architectural styles. One that uniquely includes a diverse and intact collection of single residences, multi-family residences, small scale commercial and institutional properties representing a special time and place in the history of San Diego. Please support the recognition and preservation of ACNFH.</p> | |

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| Janet | O'Dea | 4/25/2024 | 2 | In Support of Item | Yes | <p>Dear Historic Resources Board and Staff, I write to you today in support of your recommendation of the Arnold and Choate's Addition/North Florence Heights Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places, listed on your April 25 2024 agenda. I don't reside within the district but reside nearby. I have been a proponent of local historic designations and Historic Districts for decades. My individual efforts to advocate for historic preservation resulted from seeing the historic fabric of our community within the proposed historic district and in the greater San Diego threatened with demolition of our quality historic resources. These are resources of historical significance as well as humble bungalows and early businesses that by virtue of their existence tell a story of our unique American heritage. Through these preservation efforts my neighbors and I recognize our Mission Hills neighborhoods (made up of many subdivisions) as truly special. Designating the Arnold and Choate's Addition/North Florence historic district provides a better opportunity to preserve the unique link to the past for current and future generations. The proposed district is a rare example of an intact historic neighborhood comprised of excellent examples of period architecture, designed by some of Mission Hills' and San Diego's most significant architects and builders. These builders were revered in their time, forgotten for awhile but are being recognized today as masters of their craft. The submitted report found a significant percentage (76%) of the proposed properties to be contributors. This is an impressive number in this day and age, further emphasizing the critical need to designate, before more buildings are recklessly demolished without full consideration of each contributors connection to the neighborhood as a whole. Part of my effort is to also provide you with the link to a study of the proposed historic district street trees. The street trees add to the cultural heritage of the community with some stunted by utility wires and others growing through them. Each is in furtherance of the cultural heritage of the district which is to everyone's benefit. I urge you to support the efforts by the proponents of the Arnold and Choate's Addition/North Florence Heights Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places. Thank you for your consideration.</p> | https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IwT8puBkeTyHyGRjy1QFfAUmWS71I3iN/view?usp=sharing |
| Ricardo | Flores | 4/25/2024 | 2 | In Opposition to Item | No | <p>The City of San Diego is facing massive annual and long-term budget deficits it would be imprudent to allow 300-multimillion-dollar homes to have the opportunity to pay less property taxes. At the very least city staff should present the board with the amount of potential property taxes that would be lost in a 10 to 20 year period prior to just blatantly approving this item with no regard to the fiscal health of the same government that this board serves.</p> | |
| ITEM 4 | | | | | | | |
| Ricardo | Flores | 4/25/2024 | 4 | In Opposition to Item | No | <p>The City of San Diego is facing massive annual and long-term budget deficits therefore it would be imprudent to allow a multimillion-dollar home to have the opportunity to pay less property taxes. At the very least city staff should present the board with the amount of potential property taxes that would be lost over a 10 to 20 year period prior to just blatantly approving this item with no regard to the fiscal health of the same government that this board serves.</p> | |
| ITEM 5 | | | | | | | |
| Ricardo | Flores | 4/25/2024 | 5 | In Opposition to Item | No | <p>The City of San Diego is facing massive annual and long-term budget deficits therefore it would be imprudent to allow a multimillion-dollar home to have the opportunity to pay less property taxes. At the very least city staff should present the board with the amount of potential property taxes that would be lost over a 10 to 20 year period prior to just blatantly approving this item with no regard to the fiscal health of the same government that this board serves.</p> | |