



Save Our Heritage Organisation  
*Saving San Diego's Past for the Future*

Thursday, April 19, 2018

City of San Diego Historical Resources Board  
Chair David McCullough  
202 C Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: April agenda Item 5, Old Town Community Plan update

Chair McCullough and Board Members,

Item 5: Old Town Community Plan Update - Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) supports the historical resource survey done as part of the Program Environmental Impact Report for the Old Town Community Plan update (No. 561630), which identified 21 potentially historic resources, including motor courts. SOHO also concurs with the findings and analysis related to the historical, cultural and tribal resources, that the impacts on these resources would be significant and unavoidable, even after mitigation.

Motor courts, which used to be prevalent and are now rare, are part of the greater promotion of tourism in Old Town and within San Diego. Located non-contiguously, but illustrating an important pattern of infill development, motor courts should also be included as a multiple property listing (MPL) to illustrate this collective infill pattern (similar to the Bungalow Court MPL in other areas) that is associated with the Automobile, Early Tourism and Preservation in Old Town theme. Additionally, SOHO strongly supports the individual designation of intact Motor Courts (or auto camps) within this plan area under Criteria A and/or C, as noted within the Historic Context and Survey Report, such as 2360-72 San Diego Avenue.

The PIER states, and SOHO concurs, that due to a high cultural sensitivity in Old Town, there is strong potential for significant and unavoidable adverse impacts to historical, cultural and tribal resources. SOHO agrees with the analysis in Table S-1 (page S-8) that impacts on historic and tribal cultural resources would be significant and unavoidable, even after mitigation. This is of particular concern in the Old Town community because the historical and cultural setting is the basis for economic and commercial activity.

SOHO concurs with the findings and analysis related to the historical, cultural and tribal resources within the PEIR and supports the historic survey. However, SOHO strongly urges a multiple property listing (MPL) for auto courts be included.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Bruce Coons  
Executive Director  
Save Our Heritage Organisation

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