



**OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTOPHER WARD
THIRD COUNCIL DISTRICT**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 15, 2018

TO: Mayor Kevin Faulconer
Council President Myrtle Cole

FROM: Councilmember Christopher Ward, Third Council District

SUBJECT: Item and Docket Request to Waive Council Policy 700-46 for
applicants within South Park or Valle Vista Historic District

On February 6, 2018 the City Council voted unanimously to deny the appeal of the formation of the South Park and Valle Vista Historic Districts (Items 330 and 331) and request the docketing of the action described in this memorandum.

I ask that Council Policy 700-46: *Mills Act Agreements for Preservation of Historic Property* be waived for applicants within the newly formed Historic Districts seeking to apply for the Mills Act Program by March 31st of this year.

Proponents of these districts worked diligently to complete the process in 2017 to apply for Mills Act Program benefits. They met the terms to qualify for the program under Council Policy 700-46, however an appeal initiated in late 2017 pushed the effective designation date into 2018 pending Council's consideration. Without waiver of this policy, applicants would have to wait until 2019 to begin receiving benefit. Because of ambiguity around the eligibility of applicants under Council Policy 700-46, I will be requesting further committee discussion for issues going forward. In the meantime, providing qualified homeowners the benefit in 2018 seems fair and possible with quick action to waive the Council Policy for this narrow occasion.

Specifically, the following provision of 700-46 Implementation Item 1 (B), underlined, should be waived:

Application Deadline: The City will recognize and accept into the Mills Act Program those properties included on the local San Diego Register of Historical

Resources. The deadline for requesting a Mills Act Agreement, through formal submittal of an application shall be March 31st of each year. The property for which the agreement is requested must have been designated a historical resource by the City of San Diego Historical Resources Board at a noticed public hearing by December 31st of the year prior to the year an agreement is requested.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Cc:
Mara W. Elliott, City Attorney
Corrine Neuffer, Deputy City Attorney
Alyssa Muto, Interim Director, Planning Department
Almis Udrys, Office of the Mayor
Marshall Anderson, Office of the Mayor