



News from

Council President Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ■ District Three

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Katie Keach, 619-235-5268

North Park Makes History: Landmark Secures Historic Designation

SAN DIEGO, CA (May 17, 2013)—San Diego City Council President Todd Gloria, State Assembly Majority Leader Toni Atkins, and Steve Hon, President of the North Park Historical Society, today announced the historic designation of the North Park Water Tower by the California State Historical Resources Commission.

“Historic resources like the Water Tower are worthy of recognition and preservation,” said Council President Gloria, who provided a letter of support for the designation. **“I am grateful that the North Park Historical Society pursued this effort so the Water Tower will remain a landmark in San Diego’s Mid-City communities.”**

The Water Tower, sometimes known as the University Heights Water Storage and Pumping Station, is located in the northwestern section of the North Park community and occupies 7.67 acres of city-owned land. While its 127-foot-tall, 1.2 million gallon capacity elevated steel water storage tank dominates the designated parcels, the site also contains a 4.9 million gallon water storage reservoir, operating pump house, three concrete water valve vaults, and a caretaker’s house. The State Historical Resources Commission determined the “sites possess sufficient historic value for their contributions to what is still a vital link in the City of San Diego’s current water storage, treatment, and distribution system.”

“Today, residents of North Park and University Heights orient themselves by looking up and seeing where they are in relation to the water tower, but I doubt many of them know the history and significance of the tower,” said Assembly Majority Leader Atkins, who participated in the announcement. **“The historic designation by the State of California and the expected inclusion of the water tower in the National Historic Register will help current residents know the rich history of this area and will ensure it will not be lost to future generations.”**

The State designation provides certain protections so the site can be preserved. The National Register of Historic Places is now reviewing the Water Tower for potential designation, which should be completed by the end of this summer.

“The Water Tower is an iconic landmark for our communities,” said State Senator Marty Block. **“It symbolizes a distinctive period of great expansion and embodies high artistic values and master work. I am thankful the State Historical Resources Commission recognizes this important neighborhood asset and look forward to seeing the Water Tower soon on the National Register of Historic Places.”**

The roof-top soccer fields on the site and the sports concession building were not part of the historic designation.

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