



News from

Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego — District Three

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: July 16, 2015

Contact: Katie Keach, 619-847-8274

San Diego to Study LGBTQ History

Local Sites of Historic LGBTQ Significance to be Studied with State Grant Funds

SAN DIEGO, CA (July 16, 2015) – Councilmember Todd Gloria and Lambda Archives today announced the City of San Diego will soon embark on an evaluation of local lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) significance thanks to a state grant.

The State of California Office of Historic Preservation selected the City of San Diego to receive a 2015-2016 Certified Local Government Grant in the amount of \$30,000 to complete a historic context statement associated with the city's LGBTQ community.

“This work will help us identify potential historic resources that should be preserved,” said Councilmember Gloria. **“I’m grateful to the state for recognizing this need, city staff for pursuing the funds, and Lambda Archives for advocating so strongly for this needed study.”**

The San Diego LGBTQ Historic Context Statement will provide a broad historical overview on the growth of gay and lesbian identities, communities, and politics in San Diego and focus on themes and geographic areas associated with known resources. The Context will be in a succinct format to provide guidance to staff and the public in identifying and evaluating potential historic resources relating to San Diego's LGBTQ history, but is not intended to be a definitive history of LGBTQ San Diego.

“I am happy and proud that the state is able to help fund this important work,” said State Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins. **“No story is complete without settings. This project will help us recognize and forever memorialize the places in San Diego that have played vital roles in the story of the city’s LGBTQ community.”**

The Context will assist city staff and the public in identifying resources significant to LGBTQ history in San Diego. The information collected may be used to guide land use decisions, conduct environmental reviews under CEQA, prioritize preservation goals, develop adaptive reuse and heritage tourism initiatives, educate the public, and increase the understanding of and appreciation for the built environment as a tangible reminder of the community's history, and guide future intensive surveys and designation of historic districts and significant individual sites.

“San Diego has a rich LGBTQ history, and efforts must be made to both better document and preserve it,” said Charles Kaminski, board member of Lambda Archives. **“I look forward to working with the greater San Diego community to ensure the Context examines all meaningful sites in our city.”**

- MORE -

The city will contract with a consultant with expertise in developing historic contexts consistent with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The consultant will complete background research; primary and secondary source research; conduct outreach; and complete a reconnaissance survey of known resources. In conducting outreach, the city's Historic Resources staff and the consultant will develop a social media and outreach strategy to identify individuals and organizations to contact regarding LGBTQ resources in San Diego and to solicit input from the public on important places to be included in the context. The consultant will conduct limited oral interviews with LGBTQ community leaders and individuals with knowledge about the historical resources significant to the community. The city's website will also allow members of the public to provide information on the location and significance of potential resources.

The City Council will be asked to formally accept the funds at its meeting on July 28, just as Pride Month draws to a close, and the work is expected to begin shortly thereafter. The \$30,000 state grant must be matched with \$20,000 of city resources, which includes staff time in administering the grant, participating in the development of the context, and editing.

###