



PRESERVATION ACTION COUNCIL OF SAN JOSE

Dedicated to Preserving San Jose's Architectural Heritage

October 20, 2009

Hon. Sam Liccardo
Hon. Shirley Lewis
General Plan Update Task Force
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dear Sam and Shirley:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for consideration during your discussion of Historic Preservation at the October 26, 2009 Task Force meeting.

We are keenly interested in how future development will affect San Jose's historic resources. The decisions of the Task Force about Historic Preservation are critical to retaining the history and character of our city.

We strongly support the recommendations from the Historic Landmarks Commission as incorporated in the Proposed General Plan Update Goals, Policies, and Implementation Actions. Their proposed language will strengthen the city's protection and treatment of our historic structures. It is important that the General Plan contain a strong statement about the importance of Historic Preservation to our community and the integral part it plays in making this a livable city.

We also urge you to review the Two-Acre Rule and its potential negative impact on historic structures. Allowing this rule to prevail in Historic Districts or Conservation Areas could severely impact the integrity and character of these special places.

As you know, there are many components that make up a great city. We believe Historic Preservation is one of those components and hope you will treat this issue sensitively and with the respect it deserves.

Sincerely,



Brian K. Grayson
Interim Executive Director