

HRB Meeting of October 24, 2024

| First Name | Last Name | Meeting Date | Agenda Item Number | Position | I would like to speak on the item during public testimony. | Comments | Attachments |
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NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS - Added 10/23/2024

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| Danna | Givot | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | I respectfully request that the Historic Resources Board (HRB) please place the nomination of the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District (TPEHD) to the local historic register on the agenda for its November 2024 HRB meeting . I would like it to be considered before the end of the year so Contributing residents can apply for the Mills Act to maintain or restore their historic homes to the Secretary of Interior Standards. Please follow your documented HRB Guidelines under Criterion E to recognize National Register Historic Resources locally and your own internal 2/3/21 Memorandum from Gemma Tierney, which states, "no additional analysis of the property's significance is required to nominate and designate locally." There is no reason to delay this nomination given that the TPEHD is already recognized nationally and regulated by the Municipal Code as a historic district. To delay nomination of the TPEHD for two years while the City completes its "Preservation and Progress Initiative" is indefensible and unacceptable.Thank you for your consideration. | |
| Jennifer | Homer | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | Hello please place the nomination of Talmadge Park Historic District to the local register at the next HRB meeting in November. I would like it to be considered before the end of the year so that I can apply for the Mills act early next year so I can preserve and restore my historic home to the Secretary of Interior Standards. Thank you for youtime and consideration in this matter it is greatly appreciated. | |
| Diane | Kane | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | I strongly support The Talmadge Historical Society's request to place the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District on the HRB December agenda for automatic listing on the San Diego's register of historic places under Criterion E. I agree with the internal Memorandum from Gemma Tierney dated February 3, 2021, which states, "no additional analysis of the property's significance is required to nominate and designate locally." Additional bureaucratic/administrative review of properties listed at the State and Federal level is duplicative, unnecessary and a waste of governmental resources. Federal, State and Local programs are designed to collaborate/cooperate not obstruct one another. | |

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| Alan | Greenberg | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>We respect our homes integrity to the history of our neighborhood. The tax insentive would help us to maintain our almost 100 year old homes. So please place the nomination of Talmadge Park Estates Historic District to the local historic register at the next HRB meeting in November. We would like it to be considered before the end of the year so that Contributing residents can apply for the Mills Act to maintain or restore our historic homes to the Secretary of Interior Standards. Thanks</p> | |
| Ann | Kilrain | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>As a staunch supporter of this Board's and city of San Diego's efforts to preserve its unique historical assets I respectfully request that Talmadge Park Estates Historic District be discussed and considered for local historic recognition at the November HRB meeting. This district, already listed on the National Registry of Historic Places is eligible for local recognition under Criterion E. It is also a unique and precedent setting archetype in its on-going preservation efforts, resident support for compliance and creative ways to continue to preserve and protect these assets. Efforts undertaken by the district are truly exemplary, with such unique educational workshops as "wood window repair to avoid replacement with vinyl". These and the many other things the district does to educate and support its residents are the types of activities our city staff and HRB should and undoubtably would champion and provide themselves, given unlimited resources which realistically are not an option. While the district undertakes these efforts at its own expense and effort, the residents themselves are burdened with making these and other compliance improvements at their own expense. The very reason for the existence of Mills Act contracts.I respectfully urge you to allow Talmadge Park Estates Historic District the opportunity to discuss local designation at the November HRB meeting. Residents' financial assistance from the Mills Act is critically important to being able to preserve and maintain compliance with the attributes that initially made this district eligible. Please adhere to the documented HRB Guidelines under Criterion E to recognize National Register Historic Resources locally. Please follow the guidance memorialized in your internal Memorandum from Gemma Tierney dated February 3, 2021 that indicates "no additional analysis of the property's significance is required to nominate and designate locally." To do otherwise would be considered arbitrary and discriminatory. Please give Talmadge Park Estates Historic District the opportunity for a fair and objective discussion and review according HRB documented processes. While I recognize and applaud efforts underway for Preservation and Progress, it is untenable to not be willing to discuss this topic and keep HRB business moving forward. Not only untenable, but residents trying to the do the right thing for San Diego historic recognition and preservation will be deprived of their right to due process.Sincerely yours,Ann Kilrain</p> | |
| NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS - Added 10/24/2024 | | | | | | | |
| Roger | Anderson | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>I would like you to put the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District nomination to the local historic register at the next HRB meeting (Nov 2024). I have lived in Talmadge for the past 16 years and have made improvements - as have my neighbors - that keep the house appearance appropriate to the year of construction (1938 for me). My area of Talmadge is located with Hoover High to the South, Kensington to the West, and bordered North and East by canyons. This pocket is filled with homes built in the 1930 to 1950s and retains its historic appearance. Areas like this will never be built again in San Diego. Please leverage our National Register Historic Status to achieve local recognition of Talmadge as a historic district. Such recognition will facilitate Mills Act which in turn will help with the expense of maintaining historic characteristics of our homes. Thank you.</p> | |

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| Erika | Ramirez Lee | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>Please nominate the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District to the local historic register at the next HRB meeting in November. We live in one of the first homes built in Talmadge, a 1920s Mission Colonial-style home. We would like it to be considered before the end of the year so that we can apply for the Mills Act to restore our historic home to the Secretary of Interior Standards. We have waited years for this recognition, and I have researched what we need to do to maintain our historic home as a cultural and architectural gem of San Diego. Please do not put us on another long wait list, as our property on 4535 Max Drive has already been recognized as a historic home on the national registry. Thank you for your consideration, Mario and Erika Ramirez</p> | |
| David | Goldberg | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>I'm respectfully requesting that the nomination of the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District (TPEHD) be placed on the agenda of next month's HRB meeting so that it can be recognized locally as a historic district. The TPEHD qualifies for designation under local HRB Criterion E of as it "is listed or has been determined eligible by the National Park Service for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or is listed or has been determined eligible by the State Historical Preservation Office for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources." Moreover, City of San Diego internal memo from Gemma Tierney dated February 3, 2021 states, "no additional analysis of the property's significance is required to nominate and designate locally" when Criterion E requirements have been met. Community members who have worked in good faith to have the TPEHD designated need to be treated fairly and in accordance with rules regarding designation as they currently stand. Not only would a processing delay be unfair to the preservation community and general public, it would also be unfair to builders and those who want clarity whether or not a structure within a historic area is a historic resource. Additionally, the timely recognition of TPEHD will allow Contributors to the district to apply for the Mills Act tax relief early next year. Please keep in mind that the Mills Act is the only City of San Diego program that directly lowers the cost of home ownership. At a time when there is a serious affordable housing shortage, it beggars the imagination that Mills Act benefits would be delayed or kept out of reach of those who need them the most. Thank you for your consideration.</p> | |
| Laura | Henson | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>On Friday, October 18, 2024, Talmadge Park Estates Historic District (TPEHD) submitted our Nomination to the City of San Diego to be recognized locally as a historic district. We request that the City follow HRB Guidelines under Criterion E to recognize National Register Historic Resources locally. This follows the internal City Memorandum from Gemma Tierney dated February 3, 2021, which states, "no additional analysis of the property's significance is required to nominate and designate locally." As a result of our National Register status, property owners in the historic district are highly regulated by the City's Municipal Code. Talmadge is not a wealthy community. To meet the strict requirements of maintaining historic properties, many of our young families and first-time home buyers would benefit from Mills Act assistance, which would be available to owners of Contributing properties to the district. There was talk at some point that the City Attorney wanted a more "streamlined" process, yet documentation of this has never been presented despite requests by the Policy Subcommittee to do so in March of this year. Asking TPEHD to wait 2 years or 15 years to be recognized locally when we have met the HRB Guidelines that are currently in place is an unnecessary delay. You would think the City would embrace adding another district to its list especially when it would not be overly burdensome to the Staff to do so based on Criterion E and the Tierney memo. We are happy to work with the Heritage Preservation staff in any way we can to expedite this matter.</p> | <p>https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2024-10/talmadge-historical-society-combined.pdf</p> |

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| Keebler | Kutch | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | <p>I am requesting that the City of San Diego place the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District on the local historic register at the next HRB meeting in November. We want this matter to be considered before the end of the year so that the contributing residents can apply for the Mills Act to maintain or restore our historic homes to the Secretary of Interior Standards. Atmospheric rivers brought on by Climate Change have severely impacted our 85-plus-year-old homes. We need financial assistance from the Mills Act to maintain the wood windows and other historic features of our homes. We reequest that you don't change the rules and follow the HRB Guidelines Criterion E to place us on November's agenda. DO NOT place us behind the 12- to 15- year backlog of possible districts being developed by City staff. We are already recognized and regulated by the municipal code as a historic district, while proposed districts in the City's backlog are not regulated. The Mills Act makes housing more affordable for first-time homebuyers who have purchased a home in today's expensive housing market.</p> | |
| Jonathan | Amberg | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | <p>To Whom It May Concern:From the moment we purchased our home we knew we were in a special place. The neighbors all seemed to know a lot about the history of the District, many of them pulling photos of old advertisements and area maps, all because they love this area and have been interested as well. Our home was built in 1939 by Louise Severin, for example, for her Niece. The interior retains original oak flooring as well as lath and plaster walls, cove ceilings, a fireplace, and large arches. It is not a house...it's a home. Louise Severin was one of the first female Master Builders of the era, at a time when it has been said that she would send her husband to submit building plans...as the story goes. I have a neighbor that grew up on this street, telling stories of the block parties they had when WWII ended. There are families, there are elderly people, but what everyone seems to have in common is community. We have extensive walking tours of the community, we have artists and artisans who open their homes for exhibition, we have community events that are well attended, we meet each other on walking the curvy roads with much of the original charm of the streetlamps, scored concrete sidewalks, and original structures and landscaping. It is like time stopped in this area. My home sits on a raised foundation on the edge of a steep canyon. With a canyon home, the hillside must be appropriately planted to secure the soil and dry debris removed to keep fire danger minimized. My roof is Spanish tile, covering decorative rafter tails. Since rain gutters would obscure these features they have never been installed, the foundation must be addressed periodically. interior historic features will be maintained, including fireplace, flooring, gates and fences as well as lath and plaster walls, choosing materials and techniques that are period correct. Older structures are often in need of many other updates including electrical, plumbing, and sewer. I is costly to use contractors and materials appropriate for older homes. Given that the District and its contributing structures have already been historically designated and are bound to preservation guidelines of the Department of the Interior, the City of San Diego HRB should confer and confirm the State and National designations. Not only would this be consistent with those who have unanimously praised the methodology, but appears to be consistent with the City of San Diego HRB's guidelines. By appropriately and swiftly concurring with the designation and determination of the the State and National bodies, owners of contributing homes would be eligible for the Mills Act. My home would be preserved in a manner that reflects the intent of the Mills Act. I thank you in advance for your swift decisioning on this matter so I, and my fellow neighbors can be the best examples of community and preservation in this, America's Finest City. Sincerely, Jonathan</p> | |
| Debbie | Sanders | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | <p>As a property owner within the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District I'm asking that you place our request for local nomination and recognition on the November agenda. Many of our homes are in need of repair, refurbish or restoration and homeowners would benefit greatly from the opportunity to apply for the Mills Act. The ability to apply for the Mills Act will ensure that restoration adheres to the Secretary of Interior Standards. Since our district has met both State and Federal criteria, the local recognition should move forward in a timely manner so that homeowners can submit their individual Mills Act applications. Thank you for your consideration.</p> | |

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| Terrence | Hancock | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>Dear Board Members. My family and I live in the Talmadge Historic District. I am writing to request that the HRB put on its next agenda the question of whether to approve the nomination of the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District (TPEHD) to be recognized by the City of San Diego as an historic district. On Friday, October 18, 2024, the TPEHD submitted its Nomination to the City of San Diego to be recognized locally as a historic district. This Local designation would allow our Contributing homes to apply for property tax relief from the Mills Act. This is important and there is no rational reason for delay! This Recognition would allow Contributors to receive tax benefits under the Mills Act that would allow them to repair or renovate their homes in a way that conforms with their historic status. Thank you, Terry Hancock and Ellen Pirie</p> | |
| Lott | Hill | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>Dear Members of the Historical Resources Board, I am writing on behalf of my spouse of 22 years who tragically and suddenly passed away two months ago, my 5 year old son, and myself. When my spouse and I were fortunate enough to purchase a single family home and move into Talmadge in 2021 we knew we'd found our dream home. It's not opulent or huge and as it was built in 1938 by Dennstedt and Co, it's got old windows and doors and needs much updating to make it environmentally sound and sustainable for the next 100 years, but we've loved it since the moment we laid eyes on it. We planned to raise our son here together, now I will be raising him here alone. I know this is a very personal story, but I'm not the only person in the Talmadge Park Estates Historical District that loves their home and is struggling to keep it sound and weather tight for the children and families we love here. On behalf of my family and my neighbors who are working hard to maintain our homes - and thus maintaining out-of-pocket a significant representation of the history of San Diego architecture and the unique pre- and post-war construction that has not been demolished here as it has elsewhere in our fine city and beyond, I implore you to please place the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District on our local historic register at the November 2024 HRB meeting. We ask that you take this action by the end of the year so that contributing residents like myself and so many of my hard working neighbors can apply for the Mills Act to maintain and / or restore our homes to the standards of the Secretary of the Interior. Financial assistance from the Mills act will enable me to replace the original wood windows in my home and will actually make it easier for first-time home buyers like we were in the highly competitive market of 2021 to afford a small home like ours in today's expensive housing market. I know you have many important decisions to make as a Board and sincerely appreciate your consideration of this request. Your decision to put the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District will have a direct and positive impact on citizens like myself who love San Diego, take pride in our neighborhoods, and who contribute directly to the historical preservation of our great city. With appreciation of your time and attention, Lott Hill 4616 Estrella Avenue San Diego, CA 92115</p> | |
| Leslie | Bruce | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | <p>Please allow the Talmadge Park Estates Historic District to be placed on the HRB's November agenda for approval under HRB Guidelines Criterion E. These homeowners have worked diligently for years to preserve this historically significant area and deserve a prompt hearing. The City's backlog in approving the City's historical resources is woefully long with no acceleration in sight. After all, the Talmadge District is already recognized and regulated by the Municipal Code as a historic district. Enabling Contributing residents to apply for the Mills Act will make housing more affordable.</p> | |

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| Angelica | Ramirez Lee | 10/24/2024 | Non-Agenda Comment | | | I grew up in Talmadge in a historic home. My family worked hard to restore this home and keep the tradition alive in San Diego. Let's get the Mills Act now! | |
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