



**City of San Diego | Hillcrest Focused Plan Amendment
Uptown Planners Subcommittee Meeting | April 21, 2022**

CHAT LOG

OVERVIEW

The April 21, 2022 Uptown Planners Subcommittee Meeting for the Hillcrest Focused Plan Amendment focused on the Historic Preservation Strategy and included a presentation and discussion on Historic Districts, District findings, Historic Design Requirements, and the LGBTQ+ Interpretive Plan. The meeting was conducted with the Zoom videoconference platform. Attendees typed comments and questions through the “chat” tool. Each chat submittal includes the time and the participant’s name, which are provided in this document.

CHAT LOG

- 01:10:02 bennicholls: Notes~ 1. It does seem as good thought was put into the design guidelines. I would like to see specific details. 2. Why wasn’t a larger area considered? There are LGBT sites throughout all of Hillcrest. Though it seems more thought was put into the proposed district why were some properties included and others not? I’d like more details on that. Most of the sites shown as positive examples are outside the proposed district.
- 01:10:35 bennicholls: Thanks. Ben
- 01:14:25 Patty Ducey-Brooks: I agree with Ben Nichols' comments.
- 01:16:39 Ian: One cannot have the draconian regulations and design guidelines of a Historic District and plan a new Neighborhood. The investment that needs to happen will not occur as it has not in the last fifty years in the Hillcrest core. This is a thinly veiled attempt by the Historic Resources Dept to gain more control and feed the Preservation Industry. The survey that needs to take place is one where Developers are questioned if they would make investments with the cudgel of a draconian possibility of a Historic District.
- 01:19:09 Patty Ducey-Brooks: Historic buildings create character and diversity and attract people and enhance the quality of the neighborhoods. We should incorporate residential as well as commercial districts in the historic district.
- 01:19:39 Shannon Mulderig, Planning Department: Hello everyone, given we have a meeting end time of 8 p.m. and want to leave some time for staff to answer questions, if you keep your comments to about 2 minutes that would be appreciated.

01:19:56 Ian: Without the destination factor of a cohesive District like the Pearl District in Portland the mish mosh of current structures will continue to see for rent signs with run down structures that are still charging triple net rents.

01:21:54 bennicholls: I am really not sure that there is any correlation between the proposed district and the LGBT community. It seems to exclude much of the LGBT community's history.

01:22:44 Scott Sandel, Parks Planner: Chuck thank you

01:22:51 Nevo Magnezi: I agree with Ian. I live in the planning group area, in central Hillcrest. I do not live in a museum. Rather, a dynamically changing neighborhood that is, in my opinion, changing for the better. We can honor our history without freezing ourself in time.

01:22:54 Amdahl Design @KyleAmdahl.com: Thank you CHUCK!

01:23:18 Patty Ducey-Brooks: I concur with Chuck!

01:23:56 Ian: If Hillcrest wants to remain a blighted Bohemian neighborhood where the only historic characteristic are the Heritage Coral trees along fifth then save the city and the public a lot of time just let it remain in stasis as it has for the last Fifty years

01:27:08 sharon gehl: I like the idea of an interpretive plan for Hillcrest. I like Eddie Reynoso's proposal for plaques on the major streets with narrative and photos that cover the whole history of LGBTQ movement in the US.

01:28:22 Helen Rowe Allen Dr/Ms/Esq: I know Hillcrest, visited, appreciated it from the 50s et.seq. Jimmy Wong's Golden Dragon signage was considered oversized and a visual blight, imagine.

01:29:46 sharon gehl: Chuck Kaminski why don't you write a book on the LGBTQ history of Hillcrest? Work with the Lambda Archives. The legalistic LGBTQ history the City did for this is boring.

01:32:54 Ian: Chuck, no one can destroy the LGBT history. It remains in memories not stucco. I appreciate your passion for the perils of the community. But to say that a group with history owns the fate of a neighborhood is ripe with exclusivity, with the irony being that is the exact opposite that the LGBT represents.

01:33:34 Patty Ducey-Brooks: I applaud the comments of Bruce Coons.

01:35:46 Ian: I would expect nothing less from Coons. He represents his industry well.

01:36:21 Amdahl Design @KyleAmdahl.com: Thank you for clarity Kelly

01:40:10 bennicholls: Is the City open to providing changes to Spaces as Places. Some people are finding those new rules are not helpful and too restrictive.

01:41:26 Ian: The findings of the Historic Resources Dept fall flat. I cannot believe that elected officials would buy the interpretation of the Historic criteria presented by the HR. The

survey is nothing more than a subjective process that was implemented by guess who, the HR Dept.. Coronado, Riverside are turning away from Historic Districts for good reason.

- 01:41:59 Ian: Well said Brer.
- 01:45:38 Patty Ducey-Brooks: Good questions, Mary, McKenzie.
- 01:47:18 bennicholls: I found something I 100% agree with Matt on. Thanks for your support for the Transgender community.
- 01:47:40 Mat Wahlstrom: <https://sandiego.nextrequest.com/requests/16-1609>
- 01:49:45 Ian: As usual, well articulated, Brer. I was part of the 8 year and remember the H.D. proposal was dropped in the 2016 Community Plan Update and was not reconsidered until the HR Dept. got wind of the specific plan in place and found a chance to ram it back in.
- 01:49:52 Mat Wahlstrom:
<https://web.archive.org/web/20161111152041/http://lgbtweekly.com/2016/11/10/has-the-proposed-hillcrest-lgbt-historic-district-ended-before-even-starting/>
- 01:50:53 sharon gehl: Thanks Brer, your input is very helpful!
- 01:51:11 bennicholls: Thanks for the plug Gail!
- 01:51:29 Chuck Kaminski: Projects in pipeline?
- 01:52:03 Gail Friedt: You're welcome....go the Facebook page of Hillcrest Business Association for more info.
- 01:52:16 Mary McKenzie: Yes, good job. After Pride, Hillcrest Town Council is hosting a clean up. More to follow.
- 01:52:37 Gail Friedt: Mary - that's great news.