

# THE COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED

Dedicated to the Preservation of Spanish Colonial Architecture in Balboa Park



February 21, 2012

E. Shearer-Nguyen  
Environmental Planner  
City of San Diego Development Services Center  
122 First Avenue, MS 501  
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: Balboa Park Plaza de Panama Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Project No. 233958/SCH No. 2011031074

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Dear Ms. Shearer-Nguyen,

The Committee of One Hundred has worked since 1967 to preserve Balboa Park's historic buildings, gardens and public spaces.

We enthusiastically support the goals of reclaiming the public spaces of Balboa Park's Plaza de Panama, west El Prado, Plaza de California, and the Esplanade.

But we don't need a new "bypass bridge" to achieve those goals. There is a much better alternative to achieve these goals without changes to the Cabrillo Bridge, the canyons, or the historic views of our "Dream City." San Diego should close the Cabrillo Bridge to traffic.

Returning the Cabrillo Bridge to pedestrians will remove all need for a new "bypass bridge." Traffic turnarounds for passenger drop-off and regular tram service across the Cabrillo Bridge will make it easier than ever to get to theaters, museums, and events from the west. A well-designed, well-managed tram system is critical to the success of the plan to remove traffic and parking lots from the public spaces that we hope to reclaim. Reliable and convenient trams will make public transportation and peripheral parking convenient for employees, volunteers, and visitors.

Construction of the proposed "bypass bridge" is not only unnecessary but out of place in this National Historic Landmark District.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Kelly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Kelly, President  
619-981-4521  
michael.kelly@c100.org