

Sample Letter to Elected Official/Please add or substitute your own stories and words too.

[Date]

Dear Elected Official,

RE: Historic Designation and Mills Act

Dear []:

Protecting the historic preservation process and laws that are in place now in the city of San Diego are of great importance to me and to my family, and I ask for your support.

The historic designation of properties in my community is essential to my quality of life. San Diego has only has one preservation incentive (the Mills Act) and this fact is inexcusable and disappointing to me as a taxpayer and active voting citizen.

The facts support the great economic and tourism benefits that historic preservation brings to San Diego.

The facts support that environmentally there is no better, no greener solution than preserving the already built environment.

The facts support that a greater quality of life is provided and enhanced for all by preservation of historic resources.

These facts and many more, all support the fact that there is no economic downside to historic preservation only increased revenues to our city. The perceived tax breaks that the Mills Act brings to a homeowner are actually an investment in the community, not a cost. This investment creates high paying jobs for the skilled craftsman and laborer, it has been proven that preserved buildings result in more not less tax revenue to the city by the resulting increase in value of adjacent properties.

The proposed restrictions to these already limited incentives for preservation of our historic resources, I adamantly oppose. They will only lead to rampant and inappropriate development that would cost the taxpayer many times over, and would create an unsustainable, environmentally corrosive, poorly planned city.

I ask you to maintain and expand these essential tools to protect and to preserve San Diego's heritage for today and for generations to come.

Sincerely,

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