

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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February 11, 2011

Cathy Winterrowd
Principal Planner/CLG Liason
The City of San Diego
202 C Street, MS 5A
San Diego, CA 92101-3865

Dear Ms. Winterrowd:

RE: Balboa Park Plaza de Panama, Circulation & Parking Structure Project.

Thank you for your recent submission of information in regard to the Balboa Park Plaza de Panama, Circulation & Parking Structure Project. Please note that absent any regulatory role, the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) does not review and comment on issues and criteria being developed for adoption by local jurisdictions, agencies, or entities.

OHP supports local efforts to develop criteria and encourages compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties (SOIS) for all projects involving historic and cultural properties. The office also has the ability to consult on general issues in regard to the application of the Standards and other state and federal regulations including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

While OHP supports and commends your efforts in regard to conforming to the SOIS on the National Register listed Balboa Park Landmark and National Historic Landmark District Project, we respectfully decline to provide specific comments on the design criteria at this time. However, we would strongly discourage any major construction projects that would have significant adverse impacts on the Landmarks or remove any historic fabric from contributing elements such as the Cabrillo Bridge. We urge you to adopt criteria that will enhance the contributing elements and remain balanced with the original setting and character of the Landmarks.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Milford Wayne Donaldson".

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
California State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: Elaine Jackson-Retondo, Ph.D., National Park Service
Alana Coons, Save Our Heritage Organization