

SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

STATEMENT:

June 5, 2018

TO: Dr. Francine Romero, Chair, and Members

Zoning Commission, City of San Antonio

RE: Agenda Item 2 – Properties located within World Heritage Buffer Zone

Zoning Case No. Z2017005 - Council Districts 3 & 5

The San Antonio Conservation Society has been involved with the conservation of San Antonio's historic missions for more than 90 years, and played a central role in the creation of the National Historical Park and in the inscription of the San Antonio Missions as a World Heritage site.

We support the proposed zoning changes in accord with the Land Use Amendments and believe their adoption will enhance the World Heritage Site and its buffer zone. These zoning changes will secure a template for robust and harmonious development throughout the World Heritage Buffer Zone area that will serve both residents and visitors alike.

It is appropriate and desirable to seek increased opportunities for green corridors and linear parkways to enhance the already successful Mission Reach of the River Walk. It is also important to protect the Missions from inappropriate high density development as required by World Heritage status. In addition, the zoning changes encourage non-industrial uses that will support the growing residential communities throughout the World Heritage area, as well as tourism.

The Society owns and operates the Yturri-Edmunds house in the Roosevelt neighborhood and we support the zoning change in that area from high-density to low-density residential, the existing scale of our historic site. In the South Central and Stinson Airport Community Plan areas the zoning changes wisely encourage a variety of residential and commercial developments that will enhance the visitor experience while encouraging local economic growth.

For all of these reasons, we urge the adoption of these zoning changes in the World Heritage Buffer Zone area.

Respectfully,

SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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The Purpose of this Society is to preserve and to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs, relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty, and all that is admirably distinctive to our State; and by such physical and cultural preservation to keep the history of Texas legible and intact to educate the public, especially the youth of today and tomorrow, with knowledge of our inherited regional values.

