



SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

September 19, 2018

STATEMENT:

TO: Michael Guarino, Chair, and Members
Historic and Design Review Commission, City of San Antonio

RE: Agenda Item 39 – Proposed Greenlawn Estates Historic District
HDRC Case No. 2018-407

The San Antonio Conservation Society supports historic designation of the proposed Greenlawn Estates Historic District. This pre-World War II neighborhood is unique in its retention of large lots. It is also significant for the integrity of its eclectic houses, which were built in a variety of architectural styles that span the decades.

In 1927, San Antonio homebuilder Otto Klaus developed the block of Greenlawn Drive located on the west side of IH-10, between the frontage road and Vance Jackson, promoting it as a suburban oasis. Greenlawn was one of the first subdivisions to offer city improvements and utilities outside the city limits.

The essence of Klaus' plan remains extant within this block, which features large lots with wide setbacks and swaths of green space, despite experiencing over forty years of subsequent development. Historic designation of this district will ensure that the neighborhood can continue to preserve its unique and defining characteristics.

Thank you for the consideration of our comments.

SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Susan Beavin, President

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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.

