



# SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

STATEMENT:

June 13, 2019

TO: Mayor Ron Nirenberg, and Members  
San Antonio City Council

RE: Agenda Item 35 –200 Block of Perez Street

Perez Street provides a vital connection to San Antonio's early 19<sup>th</sup> century Spanish heritage and should not be renamed. Its name honors Lt. Col. Ignacio Perez; Ad-Interim Governor of Spanish Texas and founder of an influential ranching family in early San Antonio. This street also embodies a rare remnant of the Westside Laredito neighborhood, both in its landmarked historic structures at 215 and 219 Perez, and in its name.

The Society has long opposed renaming historic streets because this erodes public knowledge of our shared history. We joined with the Office of Historic Preservation in opposing this name change in 2012 and, again, this year. In 2012, University Health System withdrew its request to rename this street in Judge Robert B. Green's honor. Mark Webb, a senior vice president, explained to the *San Antonio Express-News* that, "we didn't realize the greater significance of the current name. So, out of respect, we decided to withdraw our request."

Whether University Health System remains intent on honoring Robert B. Green, in addition to the medical campus named for him, or is seeking improved wayfaring signage, a compromise solution that preserves the Perez Street name must be found. Utilizing Robert B. Green Way as a memorial street name provides an alternative to supplanting a very specific and visible tie to our city's Spanish roots.

Respectfully submitted,

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.

