



October 19, 2022

STATEMENT:

TO: Historic and Design Review Commission, City of San Antonio

RE: Item 2: E Market Street at Hemisfair Park
Historic District: Hemisfair
HDRC Case No.: 2022-510

The Conservation Society of San Antonio has grave concerns about the design of the new residential tower proposed at the north end of Civic Park, the most heavily trafficked corner for visitors to our city. The building in no way reflects the city's culture and will have a negative impact on views and the skyline. While the hotel on Alamo Street reflects the city's earliest skyscrapers in its design, the residential block of the proposed tower is clumsy and plain. The current design proposed at this prominent location misses an opportunity to be inviting and highlight the culture and uniqueness of San Antonio through its massing and use of materials.

The parking garage should be better incorporated with the tower. Moreover, the size of the garage, and its lack of setback from the sidewalk, will create an obtrusive presence for visitors and residents that obscures the entrance to the park.

The Conservation Society questions how the construction of these two new buildings will relate to the extensive rebuilding of Alamo Street at the same time.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF SAN ANTONIO

Kathy Rhoads, President