



March 26, 2026

STATEMENT:

The Conservation Society of San Antonio supports returning César E. Chávez Boulevard to its historic name: Durango. Since its founding in 1924, the Conservation Society has had concerns about changing San Antonio’s historic street names, which are part of the charm and individuality of our city. In 2003, the Society’s board passed a resolution to oppose changing historic street names within the original 36 square miles of San Antonio. Consequently, we opposed the renaming of Durango Boulevard in 2011. We strongly recommend restoring the name of Durango to this historic street. The naming of new roads, schools, or public facilities after important contributors to San Antonio provides an appropriate way to honor them without sacrificing the existing signposts to our history.

The Durango Street name is an important part of San Antonio’s history. It was first used in a newly developed area west of San Pedro Creek c. 1881. Durango was one of several streets in the area named for towns in Mexico, including Matamoras, San Luis, and Monterey. Later, in planning for HemisFair ’68, a boulevard was created along the alignment of Durango Street west of the San Antonio River, and Victoria and Martinez Street east of the River. This street connecting I-35/I-10 to I-37 on either side of downtown was named Durango Boulevard. Notably, the City planning commission upheld the “considerable historic connotations” of the Durango name over a requested change to HemisFair Boulevard in 1967.

THE CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF SAN ANTONIO

Lewis Vetter, President