



**City of San Diego | Hillcrest Focused Plan Amendment
Uptown Planners Subcommittee Meeting | July 15, 2021**

CHAT LOG

OVERVIEW

The July 15, 2021 Uptown Planners Subcommittee Meeting for the Hillcrest Focused Plan Amendment was held via Zoom. The meeting included a presentation and discussion on the Hillcrest LGBTQ+ Historic Context Statement. The Context Statement is a component of the Hillcrest FPA historic preservation strategy, which includes: the Hillcrest LGBTQ+ Historic Context Statement, a Multiple Property Listing of LGBTQ+ resources in Hillcrest, the Hillcrest Potential Historic District Intensive Survey Evaluation, and the Hillcrest LGBTQ+ History and Culture Interpretive Plan. The primary focus of this presentation will be the draft Hillcrest LGBTQ+ Historic Context Statement, which has been released for public review and feedback.

The meeting was conducted with the Zoom videoconference platform. Attendees typed comments and questions through the “chat” tool. Each chat submittal includes the time and the participant’s name, which are provided in this document.

CHAT LOG

- 00:40:15 Shannon Mulderig, Planning Department: The Draft Hillcrest LGBTQ+ Historic Context Statement is posted on the website listed under tonight's meeting: <https://www.planhillcrest.org/meetingsandupdates>
- 00:42:31 Charles Kaminski: Can you please show again the area that this historic context statement focuses on. Thank you.
- 00:43:25 Charles Kaminski: Where would religious organizations, if any fall into the area of the LGBTQ or Hillcrest Plan Amendment district fall into the Themes?
- 00:48:29 Charles Kaminski: Also on Facebook is the page: San Diego LGBTQ Historic Sites Project.
- 00:49:34 Charles Kaminski: Lambda Archives in the past held LGBTQ+ walks in Hillcrest. Due to COVID and other matters the walks are not currently be done.
- 00:50:22 Eddie Rey (he/him/his): Marcela- That is exactly why we are proposing the LGBTQ Legacy Walk. Through the walk we can honor the historic buildings that are no longer standing or located in other areas of San Diego.
- The LGBTQ Legacy Walk also uses technology to implement the requirements of California’s Fair Education Act that requires LGBTQ inclusion in

00:50:33 Marcela Laptop Pink's iPad: exactly Amy

00:50:55 Eddie Rey (he/him/his): education. Our project is working with Chicago's Legacy Project.

00:51:28 Marcela Laptop Pink's iPad: Amie*

00:54:14 Oscar T: I love that idea!

00:54:33 Charles Kaminski: I agree with Amie Hayes regarding the interpretation of the categories of designation given that "architecture" is not the driver.

00:55:12 Marcela Laptop Pink's iPad: i think a timeline either through mural art or interpretive signage would be wonderful.

00:57:16 Charles Kaminski: Re "a book" There was a plan to create a book that matched the San Diego History Center in Balboa Park LGBTQ+ exhibit that ends this July. Go see the exhibit. Unfortunately due to Covid and other circumstances the book is on hiatus. I welcome all who would support Lambda Archives and /or others in producing a history. It takes \$ and sweat as we all know. Thank you for your comments.

01:01:19 Mat Wahlstrom: Ask those interested to read the following to understand the larger context of those advocating plaques to replace places:
<https://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2016/jun/16/ticker-hillcrest-historical-district-plan-wiped/> and <https://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2016/jul/20/citylights-rules-are-bent-hillcrest/>

01:01:43 Charles Kaminski: The third location of the LGBTQ Center was on Fifth Avenue. This was the very first location in Hillcrest located in the current apartment complex behind the Brass Rail. It lasted almost a decade there thru the AIDs crisis, etc.

01:04:16 Amanda Nelson (she/her) - SDHF: The themes of social life; arts and culture; activism; media are great ways to create new places.

01:04:36 Mary McKenzie: I am sorry to be late to the meeting. One place that I would like to see "fixed" is the building on 5th and University where the Deli used to be. When it became Harvey Milk's, the cornucopia on top of the building was painted grey. I would like to see it back to its colorful self. And I believe that is a historical building.

01:07:59 Amanda Nelson (she/her) - SDHF: Thanks for clarifying Kelley.

01:08:02 Lu Rehling: Thanks, Kelley—But I'm still confused There are 3 areas with different boundaries: all of Hillcrest, Plan Hillcrest (which is a focused area within Hillcrest), and Hillcrest core.

01:14:44 Charles Kaminski: 3968 5th Avenue was the site of the Gizmo, a bar especially popular with lesbians in the Armed Forces in the late 50s and early 60s.

01:15:21 Marcela Laptop Pink's iPad: Kelly, when will the list of properties be available? Could there be some consideration to allow some ministerial preservation efforts based on objective criteria? I think most people get nervous about historic designation because of

the discretionary review. If there is a way that a ministerial or design review process (still ministerial) that can be put in place I think that will go a long way to getting property owners to be more excited.

- 01:16:22 Charles Kaminski: Re the Fenton project on ECB and Florida. There is a commemorative street furniture piece that acknowledges the two men and the meetings that occurred in their apartment that were the beginnings of the center for Social services (now the "Center")
- 01:17:15 Amanda Nelson (she/her) - SDHF: Agreed Matt. It's a mixture of plaques, buildings, art, murals, etc.
- 01:17:49 Ian: Again the Historic Industry using their overreach to use preservation district as a no growth cudgel. This is no Stonewall. This plan has to have a clean slate to succeed.
- 01:20:03 Ian: The LGBT community seems to have become the third rail of politics and has become very territorial. If one wants Hillcrest to be all inclusive this is not the direction to go.
- 01:22:01 Mat Wahlstrom: To clarify: the idea of Hillcrest Historic District did not start with 2016 UCP. The creation of a historic district for Hillcrest was originally proposed in 1981 and included in the 1988 Uptown Community Plan, and was outlined with greater clarity in the 2015 draft Plan.
- 01:22:15 Amanda Nelson (she/her) - SDHF: Agreed Brer, very exciting to see the many ways we can honor the history of Hillcrest.
- 01:23:04 Amanda Nelson (she/her) - SDHF: Excellent point Gail. More walkability.
- 01:23:31 Ian: We fought to hard over 8 years to prevent this 'district' from coming to fruition
- 01:25:06 Michael Donovan: And Dupont in DC froze development and so the vibrant community left them behind.
- 01:25:54 Ian: Roy, Group think never ends well when one is trying to codify a group's territorial position.
- 01:26:03 Lu Rehling: Good point, Roy. People come from all over San Diego and from outside San Diego, as well, to witness and experience Hillcrest. We need to take into account the needs and preferences of visitors (so important to our economic & cultural life) and be welcoming and identifiable as the Hillcrest that they came to experience.
- 01:27:38 Amanda Nelson (she/her) - SDHF: Happy Pride!