

March 23, 2015

Thurston Coe, Chair
Old Town Community Planning Group
Whaley House Courtroom
2476 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, Ca 92110

Special Meeting: Old Town San Diego Community Planning Group

RE: Review changes to the Juan Street Replacement Project - Proposal to remove 18+ mature canopy/pepper trees along this corridor.

Date: Wednesday, March 25th

Where: "New" Caltrans Building on Taylor Street (at Juan St.) in the Gallegos Room 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Brief Summary:

The Old Town San Diego Community Planning Group (OTSDCPG) is the recognized planning group for the area where the majority of this project is located. On March 11, 2015, at the monthly meeting, the OTSDCPG voted to formally hold a Special Meeting with the recommended findings that the project will now have a significant effect on the environment/cultural resources based on the initial study and project revisions/conditions which we believe the report does not mitigate potentially significant cultural and historical impacts this project will have.

Old Town San Diego is a unique community of residential, businesses and cultural and historical sites. The Project as Originally Presented to the Community (in 2011) would have conserved most of the California pepper tree. Now, more than 18+ mature trees are identified to be removed. The City of San Diego has not provided proper notification during the initial presentation to now to the Old Town Community.

Currently, the area to be impacted is along Juan Street between Harney and Taylor, with most of the Pepper Trees located between Twiggs and Wallace, specifically along the edge of the State Historic Park and the 3-Par City Golf Course, where an historic adobe structure is located (Ruiz Adobe). The Pepper Trees scheduled to be removed are marked with a spray painted "X" in red or orange.

Please Plan on attending this important meeting at the "new" CALTRANS Building in the Gallegos Room on Wednesday, March 25th 3 to 5pm. We need to voice our concerns and provide input to City Project Planners, including mitigation and tree replacement proposals.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Fillet, Secretary
Thurston Coe, Chair
David Swarens, Elected Member