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January 13, 2026

Chair Kent Lee
Land Use and Housing Committee
City of San Diego
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

SUBJECT: Letter in Support of Preservation and Progress Package A

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Land Use and Housing Committee:

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, I am writing in support of Preservation and Progress Package A, a critical first step in reforming the City's Heritage Preservation Program to reduce barriers to new homes in San Diego.

Historic preservation regulations serve an important function, but too often create an unintended barrier to the development of new homes. In practice, these policies can prioritize maintaining the status quo at the cost of future growth. In a city with such an extreme housing shortage, San Diego leaders must take steps to ensure that well-intended historical regulations do not serve as additional barriers to making San Diego an affordable place to live. Neighborhood character can be preserved while allowing the new homes that affordability requires.

Circulate applauds Preservation and Progress Package A—a positive first step towards these goals. Circulate urges the Committee to advance these reforms and continue to prioritize affordability and building new homes as it considers Package B and related reforms.

Sincerely,

Aria Grossman
Policy Manager
Circulate San Diego