



AIA San Antonio

August 14, 2009

POSITION PAPER

Adoption of the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan

The San Antonio Chapter of The American Institute of Architects (AIA San Antonio) finds the City of San Antonio's recently completed **Strategic Historic Preservation Plan** to be of high quality, with good and appropriate recommendations, and worthy of approval by City Council without exceptions. Members of AIA San Antonio intend to work with the City Historic Preservation Office on implementation of the recommendations.

Historic preservation is a key component in the economic vitality of all great cities, yet surprisingly, this city has never had a comprehensive, citywide plan for historic preservation. As there has been a need for this plan for many years, this plan includes solid and reasonable recommendations to improve City functions, creates good and attractive incentives for preservation, and enhances overall character of the City, especially our neighborhoods. If approved and carried forward, this **Strategic Historic Preservation Plan** will keep San Antonio a unique destination for heritage tourism, increase the City's appeal to current and future business owners, and will help maintain characteristics that define the best of San Antonio's built environment and improve the quality life for all citizens. This is something that cannot sit on the shelf as so many other studies and plans have done. It must be implemented, and as always, AIA San Antonio stands ready to assist the City, and serve as a resource.

AIA San Antonio recommends the following:

AIA San Antonio recommends that City Council approve the Strategic Historic Preservation Plan and ask the relevant City agencies to implement the recommendations with deliberate speed.