



December 16, 2019

Honorable Geoff Kors  
Mayor, City of Palm Springs  
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Subject: PUBLIC HEARING ITEM 2B - AN APPLICATION BY THE PALM SPRINGS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION ("PSPF") REQUESTING CLASS 1 HISTORIC RESOURCE DESIGNATION OF "INSPIRATION POINT" (AKA "THE PROMONTORY") LOCATED AT THE WESTERN TERMINUS OF CHINO DRIVE, CASE HSPB #115.A.

Dear Mayor Kors,

We note that in its recommendations for the December 19, 2019 city council meeting, that staff provides you with two options for the subject historic designation: (1) to designate Inspiration Point, *including* the promontory platform, or (2) designate Inspiration Point, *excluding* the promontory platform (emphasis added). It is our strong opinion that including the promontory platform in the designation is most beneficial to the community and the city. This opinion is consistent with the Historic Site Preservation Board's recommendation.

Including the promontory platform does not prevent future development: it merely requires that any such proposed plans are reviewed by the HSPB to ensure that those plans do not negatively impact the historic resource. If at some future date a developer's proposed plan is rejected by the HSPB, the developer retains the right to appeal the HSPB's decision directly to the city council.

PSPF pro-actively undertook this nomination with the intention of protecting this historic resource for the entire community. In her recent *Desert Sun* newspaper article about Inspiration Point, PSPF board member Tracy Conrad remarks:

"On Thursday, Dec. 19, the Palm Springs City Council will consider historic designation for Inspiration Point. It is ostensibly so and is aptly named, serving as an enduring monument to Tom O'Donnell's generosity and the unrivaled industriousness of the poor, and rightly proud, minority residents of the desert during the Depression."

If you require any additional information, please contact PSPF board member Jan Harper at (760) 837-7117 or [info@pspreservationfoundation.org](mailto:info@pspreservationfoundation.org).

Sincerely,

Gary Johns  
President

Copy to:  
Palm Springs City Council members (Middleton, Woods, Garner, and Holstege)

1775 East Palm Canyon Drive, Suite 110-195, Palm Springs, CA 92264  
(760) 837-7117 • [info@pspreservationfoundation.org](mailto:info@pspreservationfoundation.org) • [www.pspreservationfoundation.org](http://www.pspreservationfoundation.org)