

YOUR VOICE

Get behind Town & Country Center settlement

Re: "Town & Country Center should be part of any Palm Springs/Grit Development settlement" June 29 Valley Voice/Your Turn column by Gary Johns

Kudos to Gary Johns and the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation for proposing a sensible, timely solution to the "conundrum" that has kept this Class 1 Historic Site in limbo and disrepair for years.

Now is the time for our City Council to step up and demand this property, which is so crucial to the heart of our downtown, be included in any settlement. Let's all get behind this opportunity!

Keith Ktncaid, Palm Springs

Let's see this fairy tale ending

Like in the famous Disney movie, we continue to watch not Aurora, but our own Sleeping Beauty – the Town & Country Center (T&CC), awaiting her Prince Phillip. I think Gary Johns' June 30 "Your Turn" column provides the map Prince Phillip is seeking.

Johns and the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation have long been the undaunted, stalwart guardians of this amazing cultural asset. They have now produced a solution to end this long slumber.

The T&CC certainly should be included in the 1090 negotiations undertaken by our city. The city should strive to obtain the property as suggested, then sell our Sleeping Beauty to a sensitive developer with expertise in successful adaptive reuse.

This is the solution we have been waiting for longer than I can remember.

Johns' assertion that our sitting City Council members are indeed the ones to lead us to that end has my head nodding in agreement. Palm Springs has the

most committed historic preservation city leadership I've witnessed in over 30 years of historic preservation endeavor.

Now, let's see it again in action.

Vanquish the delays and lead Phillip to Aurora's bedside, allowing his kiss to awaken her and the entire "kingdom."

Rick Seeley, Palm Springs

Town & Country Center fans

We feel strongly that the Town & Country Center is a valuable architectural asset to Palm Springs.

We are in favor of an adaptive reuse of the building, to make it both a hip and historical magnet for shops and restaurants and hopefully, an entertainment facility.

Looking at the success of Tahquitz Plaza, we know this can be done and done in Palm Springs style.

Joan and Gary Gand, Palm Springs

Preserve this treasure

I'm in support of including the Town & Country Center in the 1090 settlement claim being offered the city by the owner Grit Development of the Town & Country Center.

This is the perfect way to preserve a national treasure.

Cindra Stolk, Palm Springs

We need this 'original'

I have been a homeowner in Palm Springs for over 20 years and I am in full support for including the Town & Country Center in the city's settlement with Grit Development.

I feel that with so much new construction development in our city, which I am also in support of, it is our obligation to the history of our city to preserve the original mid-century designs that still exist and which make our city such a unique architectural desti-

nation, including the original Town & Country Center.

Alex Roldan, Palm Springs

Town & Country Center a modernist's mecca

Palm Springs is a wonderful mecca of modernism visited by thousands of travelers, photographers, students and architecture buffs.

The historic Town & Country Center is always on lists of "to see" architecture whenever visiting Palm Springs. It is a rare example of buildings designed by Los Angeles architects A. Quincy Jones and Paul R. Williams, along with local luminaries Albert Frey, Donald Wexler, Richard Harrison and John Porter Clark.

I hope to see a settlement negotiation that preserves and properly restores this important mid-century modern gem that has been sadly neglected over the years.

Adriene Blondo, Chair Emeritus, Los Angeles Conservancy Modern Committee

Respect, treasure this landmark

I strongly urge that the Town & Country Center be included in the 1090 settlement with Grit Development.

This important landmark, a Class I Historical structure, is worthy of the greatest respect and preservation.

Ellen P. Donaldson, Palm Springs

Listen up, City Hall

In the ongoing California Section 1090 negotiations between the city of Palm Springs and Grit Development, I am struck by the deafening silence concerning the Town & Country Center. Isn't that the property the city wants?

It seems like the city is being offered the desert equivalent of swampland by Grit Development. Let's make sure we

get something of real value out of the recent corruption scandal. Let's not allow Grit Development to wiggle out of a problem they created.

Kip Serafin, Palm Springs

Count me in

I would like to add my voice to those advocating for the inclusion of the Town & Country Center in the current negotiations with Grit Development.

The T&CC is a sadly neglected, architectural gem located directly in the center of Palm Springs, which has been already recognized by the city for its architectural and historical importance. In addition, with the completion of the Cultural Center on the horizon, the re-vivification of the T&CC will provide a connector from Palm Canyon Drive to Indian Canyon Drive at a crucial location.

T&CC is of greater value to the City than the proposed "Boulders" and "Crescendo" properties, and would be a terrific addition to the list.

Eltzabeth Hamilton, Palm Springs

City should restore Town & Country Center itself

The Town & Country Center should definitely be, in my humble opinion, part of the current negotiation with Grit Development as part of the city's 1090 proposed settlement.

The importance of the Center is humongous for the city and is what makes history become History. All one had to do is reflect for a moment on what happened to our city in the last 15-20 years and how much preservation has made people flock to our city.

The city needs to handle the T&C Center restoration and repurposing, NOT Grit.

Jacques Caussin, co-founder Modernism Week, Palm Springs