

ITEM 1 -- PROPOSED RINCONCITO HISTORIC DISTRICT		
Name	Commenter's address	Comment
J. Gilberto Quezada	5810 Windyhill Dr.	May 30, 2020 To The San Antonio Historic and Design Review Commission: My name is J. Gilberto Quezada and I wholeheartedly support the creation of the first historic district in the West Side of San Antonio; namely, the Rinconcito de Esperanza. The recognition of this historic district is long overdue. The approval of the Rinconcito de Esperanza as the first historic district in the West Side will give the City of San Antonio a true taste of Mexican American history and culture. And, most importantly, the City of San Antonio will be showcasing the community's rich cultural, social, and historical heritage and legacy and more. The creation of the first historic district in the West Side will be a daily celebration of its history that shape the character of the Mexican American community today. We all need to be proud to play a part in keeping alive our remarkable local heritage and making history available to all. Moreover, it will offer a unique experience for locals and visitors as a top weekend destination. The significance of approving the creation of the first historic district in the West Side will highlight an authentic commitment to preserving the Mexican American story as an integral chapter of San Antonio's history. Cordially yours, J. Gilberto Quezada
JoseAngel Siller	413 Tampico	My family has been in the Avenida Guadalupe neighborhood for almost 100 years now; since the 1920's. And I support establishing El Rinconcito de Esperanza as a historic area of my neighborhood. Both my father's and mother's side of the family owned businesses at the intersection of Guadalupe and Frio streets.
Donna Guerra	524 W. Elsmere Pl	Efforts to establish a historic district are long overdue in the historic near West side of San Antonio. The erasure of tangible and intangible cultural heritage evidence is accelerated now, with demolitions and preying upon the elderly and low-income, resulting in displacement. The area involved in this new historic district is a rich microcosm that is already positioned and is already displaying the rich history of the West side. It is the perfect candidate for this district as it committed to expanding upon the great work already being done to serve this mission. Please decide in favor of historic district designation -- it would be a great loss not to take advantage of this golden opportunity!
Teri Castillo	521 Torreon	Hello Commissioners I would like to express my support for the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center's request for approval for historic designation. The Westside is a treasure trove of rich history and we are excited to have El Museo Del Westside as our first historic district!
Beatrice S. Moreno	422 East Mistletoe Ave	I was born in 1944; and grew up at 113 San Martin St., on what was then considered the "original" Westside of San Antonio, TX. The City of San Antonio began expanding outward. On city maps now, the westside includes area boundaries outside of Loop 410 and Loop 1604. Neighborhoods just outside of downtown are the true "historical" civic and cultural neighborhoods which are worth preserving and conserving for the future of this truly historical city! I am in favor of and support the area being named (in this request), which includes 816 Colorado, 812 Colorado and 1024 El Paso/Rinconcito de Esperanza to be designated a historical district. Thank you for your consideration.

<p>Norma Elia Cantu</p>	<p>2420 McCullough #307</p>	<p>The work of the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center in the neighborhood and in the community at large speaks for itself. This proposal merits approval on various levels. It will provide visibility and assure a presence at this historic site for events and gatherings focusing on the culture and traditions of San Antonio. I urge you to approve this designation.</p>
<p>Michelle Tremillo</p>	<p>1104 San Fernando</p>	<p>As a resident of the Alazan Apache Courts since 2009 I have had the privilege of experiencing the unique culture and pride that embodies the West side of San Antonio. As President for the Alazan Apache Resident Council I have been able to collaborate with the Esperanza on many events that have been vital for our community. In addition to the help that Esperanza has provided for the entire community, Esperanza has personally helped my family connect with our Mexican American Culture. Their Second Saturday Convivio provides a special place where we celebrated our culture with workshops such as Papel picado, sugar skull making, Dia de los Muertos altars as well as conversations with residents of the west side that grew up here in the 50's and 60's. It is an amazing and culturally important opportunity to gather so many generations together to preserve our history. The Esperanza is the epitome of history and culture and must be honored accordingly!</p>
<p>The Conservation Society of San Antonio</p>	<p>107 King William</p>	<p>The Conservation Society of San Antonio supports historic district designation for Rinconcito de Esperanza. This complex of structures, dating from the turn of the century to the 1930's, embodies a variety of architectural styles and vernacular forms that were once common to this working-class neighborhood. The Esperanza Peace and Justice Center has done such an excellent job preserving the historic residential and commercial buildings within this block that they received a Built Environment Award from the Society in 2014. Since that time, Esperanza has worked to preserve the living heritage of the Westside with the Mujer Artes building done in traditional adobe and the Museo del Westside, incorporating the historic Ruben's Ice House, a project that received a Conservation Society educational grant. The Esperanza Peace and Justice Center has worked with us on many occasions in efforts to save important San Antonio landmarks. Their building complex, which illustrates both the physical and cultural history of this important San Antonio community, also deserves designation and protection.</p>
<p>Raúl Martínez, Ph.D.</p>	<p>944 Ruiz Street</p>	<p>This area of San Antonio has been known as the center of Mexican American culture where the Mexican American citizens felt safe and comfortable and where the culture's needs were met within the area. Panaderías, movie theaters, and all kinds of shops filled the needs of the Mexican Americans. This area is the original west side. The book "When Mexicans could Play Ball: Basketball, Race and Identity in San Antonio, 1928-1945" richly describes the area and its meaning for the Mexican American population. I strongly support the area being designated a historical area. Thanks.</p>
<p>David Mercado Gonzales</p>	<p>531 Park Meadow</p>	<p>The rincocito de esperanza historic district would provide valuable recognition for a unique community. Rooted in a barrió with other historic sites, it will stand as a beacon of hope for the historic preservation of the Westside.</p>

<p>Xavier Sanchez</p>	<p>3011 W Houston St.</p>	<p>I write in support of approval for designation of Rinconcito de Esperanza Historic District. I am a life long resident of San Antonio's Westside. I have lived in this area for 67 years. Many of our working class homes and business areas have been lost. Through the efforts of the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, a small piece of our history and culture have been preserved. In order to protect this area it is important to designate the Rinconcito de Esperanza a historic district. By doing this we will also preserve what is left of a working class community. It will help us and future generations understand, appreciate, and honor the history, culture and structures of the Westside.</p>
<p>Isabel and Enrique Sanchez</p>	<p>1710 Vera Cruz,</p>	<p>To the Members of the Historic Design and Review Commission: We are a Westside couple who have been married for seventy years. We have lived in the historic near Westside for all of our lives, except for two years, 1949-1951, when we lived in Chicago. We have raised our six children in the near Westside and five of them still live in this neighborhood. We are also blessed to have nine grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren, and a great-great-grandchild due this Summer! We are very much in support of the proposed Historic District at 812-816 South Colorado. We are so excited that if this proposal is approved, it will be the first historic district in the Westside. We know that the near Westside is a wonderful neighborhood, with many generous, humble, and hard-working people. We hope that the history and character of this area will be preserved as a legacy for generations to come. Con respeto y esperanza, from Isabel e Enrique Sánchez.</p>
<p>Leticia Sanchez Retamozo</p>	<p>1710 Vera Cruz</p>	<p>The Historic Westside Resident Association (HWRA) fully supports the Esperanza Peace & Justice Center's application for Historic District designation of the Rinconcito de Esperanza. The properties and structures are located in the Historic Westside and within HWRA's boundaries. The HWRA was established in May 2017 and set forth as one of its goals to preserve the history of this area of San Antonio, TX. The Rinconcito de Esperanza has promoted this goal and has enriched the community through its mission. The members of the HWRA take great pride in their community and in the many contributions made by the individuals who built and developed it. The HWRA wants the City of San Antonio to recognize the historic role that this neighborhood has played in the city. The designation of the Rinconcito de Esperanza as a Historic District will help to affirm this. We thank you for your consideration of the Esperanza Peace & Justice Center's application and hope that you will approve the request to designate it a Historic District.</p>
<p>Rachel Delgado</p>	<p>4537 Monterey St.</p>	<p>The area is one of the last remaining sites that represent the poor and working class communities. It is a visible reminder of San Antonio's past. I totally support historic recognition for it. I also hope it inspires pride of our humble structures in the Westside.</p>

<p>Richard Joseph Aguilar</p>	<p>14919 Enchanted Castle</p>	<p>My family's roots trace to the 1300's in this region and 1890's in tang west side of San Antonio. Our city is known for her historic designations. However, the west side of downtown lacks such support from city leadership. Over the years I have toured friends from Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Boston to my birth place in the Alazan Courts on Torreón Street and they were impressed with rich stories of the Mexican Revolution, Eleanor Roosevelt, Civil Rights, and cultural center of el West Side. In these days of division, you who are 2020 hegemony are called to do the right thing. Honor the City you serve. Call up our common legacy. Give dignity to a significant corner of a neighborhood. Be a source of unity, pay homage to our past, and bring vision to future of San Antonio. Thank you for your consideration. Your work is appreciated and we hope to recognize the West Side for its telling of our story in San Antonio.</p>
<p>Elvira E. Leal</p>	<p>5537 W. Commerce St.</p>	<p>I support the application for a historic designation of the Rinconcito de Esperanza Historic District.</p>
<p>Antonia Castaneda</p>	<p>2420 McCullough Ave, Apt. 302</p>	<p>On behalf of the Westside Preservation Alliance, I write in unqualified support of the application of the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center for designation of the Rinconcito de Esperanza. Anchored by the Casa de Cuentos and the forthcoming Museo del Westside, which will occupy the former Ruben's Icehouse, most of the structures at the Rinconcito date from the turn of the 20th century to the 1930s and are distinguished by working class Mexican American/Mexican aesthetics as well as by the family's economic means. Approval of this application will create the Rincocito de Esperanza as the first historic district in the Westside and express the importance of preserving working class Mexican American/Mexican aesthetics, history, and culture.</p>
<p>Patti Radle</p>	<p>1202 Tampico St</p>	<p>Dear members of the HDRC: I am writing to express my support for the application of the Esperanza Peace and Justice Center for Historic Designation of their property on Colorado St. known to many of us as El Rinconcito. It is the EPJC that has lead many of the efforts to obtain historic designation for various Westside properties because of their passionate commitment to fight the disappearance of the culture and historic memory of our Westside community. The property for which they are applying is one small, but very significant, part of the neighborhood where my family has lived for over 50 years. There is more property to be considered in the future through our neighborhood association. However, COVID-19 caused a postponement of that effort. Therefore, I want to express my trust in EPJC in being a dutiful and creative preservationist of the property for which their application pertains. I hope you will support their application. Hoping this reaches you in peace.</p>