

Memorandum of Understanding

Background

There are currently seven neighborhoods in Downtown: Core/Columbia (including Core 2, a small area which is not part of the redevelopment area), Cortez, East Village, Gaslamp Quarter, Little Italy, Horton and Marina. There are also three Business Improvement Districts: San Diego Downtown Partnership, Gaslamp Quarter Association, Little Italy Association, and a fourth, East Village Association, undergoing organization. There are currently three neighborhood resident associations: East Village Community Action Network, Little Italy Residents Association, Cortez Hill Neighbors. It is anticipated that over time there may be several other neighborhoods that may emerge. For information, six neighborhoods belong to the Property Based Improvement District, PBID, which is run by Clean and Safe, administered by the Downtown Partnership. Little Italy has a Maintenance Assessment District, MAD, run by the Little Italy Association. The PBID and MAD provide services in addition to those provided by the City. In some cases the City pays for the PBID or MAD to do some tasks normally done by the City. Charges for PBID and MAD are added to property tax bills. The PBID and MAD are for the benefit of all property owners within their area.

The BIDs are for the benefit of the business's located within their boundaries. With a paid staff they are aware of what is proposed for their neighborhoods and make their concerns known to the decision makers.

The neighborhood associations are often concerned only with the happenings within their immediate vicinity. Lacking a paid staff they are often unaware of proposed changes and often react after the fact and too late to affect the outcome.

The San Diego Downtown Residents Group (DRG), since 1987, has tracked almost everything which is proposed for downtown. This includes CCDC, Port Commission, County, and City Council. The Group has argued before all the oversight bodies on issues of importance to all residents within downtown. The Group has conducted informal liaison with the neighborhood resident associations as they have been formed.

Formalizing this relationship would enable greater weight to be applied to many issues concerning downtown.

Action

Any neighborhood resident association which desires to formalize this relationship will acknowledge this by signing and returning this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). When signed and submitted to the DRG Board it will come into effect.

The DRG will then provide to each association items for their association and/or executive committee agenda:

- a. Neighborhood issues such as CUPs, NUPs, developments requesting waivers from community plans, etc.
- b. Downtown issues such as transit, education, waterfront development, etc.
- c. Results from issues previously submitted.
- d. Specifically invite members of the association to attend DRG General Membership Meetings.

The Neighborhood association will provide:

- a. A representative from their governing body or executive committee, who will be a member of the DRG, and represent that association on the DRG Board of Directors and provide a point of contact to ensure information flow in both directions.
- b. Provide the DRG with the results of any vote or recommendation on any of the issues provided to the association.
- c. Advise the DRG of any association concerns or issues, specifically including input, both overall and in priority order, to the infrastructure portion of the CCDC budget each February.

Submitted:

Neighborhood Association Name

Date Signed

Signature

Position

Email

Phone

Accepted: _____

Date

Secretary, SDDRG