

651 South Saint John Avenue  
Pasadena, California 91105 2913  
Telephone 626 441 6333  
Facsimile 626 441 2917

P A S A D E N A   H E R I T A G E

CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PASADENA

09 SEP 17 A9:29

RECEIVED

September 15, 2009

Mayor Bill Bogaard and Members of the City Council  
City of Pasadena  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, California 91109

RE: Las Encinas Hospital

Dear Mayor Bogaard and City Council Members:

On behalf of Pasadena Heritage, I am writing in support of the proposed amendment to the Las Encinas Hospital Master Development Plan. Over the past few years, Pasadena Heritage has paid numerous visits to the campus in order to provide input on the plans, and Signature Healthcare and their architects have been very responsive to our concerns regarding the preservation of historic buildings on the campus.

Although earlier versions of the plan called for the demolition of several historic buildings, the plan now retains all but one of the identified historic structures. We are especially pleased that the original portion of the Barn will be saved and rehabilitated. Important historic garden areas have also been identified and preserved as part of the current plan.

Pasadena Heritage is also pleased that mitigation measures include nominating the site to the National Register of Historic Places. Not only will National Register status officially recognize Las Encinas as an historic site, it will provide the opportunity for financial incentives to assist with the project. We support the Planning Commission's recommendation of revising this mitigation measure to require that the nomination be submitted prior to the issuance of building permits for phase one or within two years of approval of the 2007 Master Development Plan, whichever comes first.

At the recent hearings on Las Encinas held by the Historic Preservation, Design and Planning Commissions, Pasadena Heritage urged each Commission to require as a condition of approval that the project team include a historic preservation architect for the work on all historic structures. This condition will ensure that plans are appropriately drawn and all work is carried out in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. This request is recommended by all three Commissions, and we urge the City Council to adopt this condition.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests, which would help to ensure the continued protection of the historic buildings on the Las Encinas campus.

Sincerely,



Susan N. Mossman, Executive Director

09/21/2009  
6.B. 7:30 P.M.

