

State Historical Resources Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-01

Resolution of Recognition

Chicano Park Steering Committee

WHEREAS, in 1970 the Chicano Park Steering Committee was formed by a group of activists in Barrio Logan, San Diego, for the purpose of creating a community park where Chicano culture could be expressed through art, following a neighborhood occupation of a site under the approach ramps of the San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge on April 22, 1970, resulting in a settlement that required the city to build a park on the land bounded by Logan and National Avenues beneath the approach ramps; and,

WHEREAS, from 1974 onward, the Chicano Park Steering Committee oversaw the creation of gardens, sculpture, public spaces and its prominent assemblage of murals, created by artists including both recognized masters of 20th century Chicano muralism and neighborhood children, transforming the park into a vibrant community gathering spot, recognized by the city of San Diego and the San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture as a site of great historical and artistic significance; and,

WHEREAS, after seventeen years of diligent lobbying, the Chicano Park Steering Committee successfully convinced the Port of San Diego in 1987 to provide the community of Logan Heights waterfront access once again, after a forty year hiatus through the settlement of Chicano Park on the Bay today recognized as Cesar Chavez Park, located at foot of Cesar Chavez Parkway; and,

WHEREAS, since April 22, 1970, the Chicano Park Steering Committee has continued its stewardship of Chicano Park, including the addition of landscaping, event space and the central *Kiosko* pavilion, and the ongoing creation and maintenance of the monumental murals, including a \$1.6 million federal Transportation Enhancement Act grant to restore the original murals, primarily by their original artists, completed in 2012; and,

WHEREAS, in 2013 the Chicano Park Monumental Murals were listed in the National Register of Historic Places and received a Governor's Award for Historic Preservation for the 2012 restoration project, recognizing the ongoing efforts of the Chicano Park Steering Committee and the artists responsible for the murals' creation and restoration; and,

WHEREAS, that in addition to their ongoing stewardship, the Chicano Park Steering Committee continue organizing events, performances, celebrations, and activities at Chicano Park in order to ensure that it remains a vital and welcoming place for the Barrio Logan community and a place of celebration for the city of San Diego; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that official recognition on behalf of the State Historical Resources Commission is given to the Chicano Park Steering Committee for its continuing activism, stewardship and dedication to the ideal of Chicano Park and its ongoing role in modern San Diego; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of the State Historical Resources Commission and a suitable copy presented to the Chicano Park Steering Committee.

April 29, 2015

STATE HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Julianne Polanco
Chairperson

Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary

