



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, BUILDING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT  
JOSEPH HORWEDEL, AICP, DIRECTOR

**HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION  
DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING  
SYNOPSIS  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2007  
12:00 -1:00 P.M.**

**City Hall Tower  
200 East Santa Clara Street, Room T-550**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**ED JANKE, HLC Chair  
PATRICIA COLOMBE, HLC Vice Chair  
SCOTT CUNNINGHAM**

**HLC DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) MEETING GOAL:** Discuss project design conformance with City of San Jose Historic Design Guidelines, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties

**Wednesday, September 19, 2007, 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm**

**Projects for consideration:**

1. **Ryland Park Swimming Park pool rehabilitation.** The proposed public project consists of addition of a wheelchair access ramp and a platform to the exterior of the existing wading pool. The proposed ramp would ascend to the height of the existing pool walls and then descend into the pool. The platform would extend around fifty percent of the pool's perimeter. The project includes restoration of the existing historic pool wall, including the ceramic tilework.

A Draft Historic Report includes information that the 1927 park and wading pool were designed by prominent local architect Charles S. McKenzie, and that due to the loss of integrity, the site would appear to qualify as a Structure of Merit. The Report and Inventory listing are anticipated to come before the HLC in October. The applicant (City of San Jose Public Works Department) proposes to renovate the pool according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The project site is located in Ryland Park, a 3.1-acre City park located between North 1<sup>st</sup> and North San Pedro Streets and bounded on the south by a private road (Ryland Park Drive) and by a housing development to the north.

The draft of the historic evaluation is available on the Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services Department's web site:

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/Aquatics/ryland.asp>

*Public Works staff stated that the priority objective of the project is to re-open the pool for public use. Rehabilitation of the historic tiles is desired and might proceed as a parallel or subsequent effort but will not necessarily be included in the current project.*

*Primary DRC discussion points included:*

- *Proposed construction materials for the new decking/ramp, appropriateness of "Trex" manufactured lumber (one of the possible alternatives) vs. concrete or some other material that existed at the time of the pool's construction in the 1920s*
- *How the new construction will tie into the historic pool edge and potential impacts to the existing historic tiles (see sketch).*

- *Whether tiles should be removed/relocated vs. left in place in areas where the new ramps would cover the tiles The project team (Public Works staff and consultants) stated that this issue has not yet been decided, but that in either case the tiles would not be damaged or destroyed.*

*One member of the public spoke on behalf of the neighborhood adjacent to Ryland Park. She spoke in favor of the project in general and for preservation of the historic materials of the pool.*

2. **Botown Restaurant, 409 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.** The proposed project is a façade improvement package primarily consisting of new storefronts and entry doors, slate tile on exterior walls, metal roofing (preserving existing roofline), parapet roof screens, and pedestrian-level roof overhangs. The project site is listed on the City of San Jose Historic Resources Inventory as a Structure of Merit. The building was originally constructed in 1967 as part a chain of coffee shop restaurants.

*DRC expressed concern about the compatibility of the proposed metal roofing material and suggested that a tar-and-gravel roof or other more traditional material may be more appropriate for a building from this era of construction. The transition from the roof to the fascia and soffit could include downspout details to deal with water invasion and a change of materials rather than cladding the existing surfaces in metal roofing construction. Retention of the “stucco stone” veneer near the entry should be considered if it is original to the building. Staff to try to obtain older photos of the building to ascertain original roofing material and building materials at the main entrance (may have originally been an interior vestibule with a double door).*