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**To:** [WebMail - CCD](#)  
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**Subject:** Public comment: Will there be an HRC meeting in March?  
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Will there be an HRC meeting in March?

For many years, the contributing and non-contributing resources in the Central Park and Hadley-Greenleaf districts have not been designated. As a result, properties in these two districts have been (illegally and unconstitutionally, in my opinion) treated by the city as historical for purposes of all the disadvantages (for example, months-long processes and additional fees to get permits for exterior work) and as not historical for purposes of all the benefits, such as the Mills Act. Ever since I bought my historic property 8 years ago, I have been dealing with these problems. I even consulted attorneys about filing suit over this violation. But city staff assured me at that time that they were working on the problem and that it would be fixed in the next few months. These few months have gone on for 8 years. Some of my neighbors have been waiting even longer and others went to significant expense to have their properties designated as landmarks just so they could get the benefits they should receive automatically as contributing resources in a historic district.

The last time the HRC met was last summer, when yet another delay was added by staff before the HRC could designate contributing and non-contributing resources in these two districts. Since then, every meeting has been cancelled by city staff.

Since city staff cancels meetings, the HRC is unable to monitor the progress of this project and move it along. Octavio, when I spoke with you, you were under the impression that the HRC can call its own meetings and set its own agenda. This is not true. I have spoken with current and past members of the HRC who have expressed frustration over the years that they are not able to add items to their own agendas or prevent cancellation of meetings. For many years, the HRC didn't even keep minutes because the city staff member appointed as secretary to the HRC was directed to prioritize all her other work above this duty. This year, the HRC began creating and improving minutes for meetings held up to 7 or 8 years ago.

In short, staff interference with the HRC's function is causing losses and injustices to owners of historic resources in Whittier. Please investigate this and direct that HRC meetings not be cancelled until the contributing and non-contributing resources in the Central Park and Hadley-Greenleaf districts have been designated. All the studies are done, or should be done by now. At the very least, a monthly

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update on the progress of staff and consultants' work toward this goal should be required. This has gone on way too long and with too little transparency.

Will there be an HRC meeting in March?

Will you direct city staff to make sure there is a meeting, even if the only agenda items are public comments and a progress report on the Hadley-Greenleaf and Central Park districts?