



February 22, 2016

The Honorable Ara Najarian and Members of the City Council
City of Glendale
613 East Broadway
Glendale, CA 91206

Dear Mayor Najarian and Members of the City Council:

The Glendale Historical Society is grateful for the opportunity to address the proposal to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to find a qualified project for the Rockhaven Sanitarium property. Established in 1979, our non-profit organization has more than six hundred members and works to preserve and celebrate Glendale's rich history and remaining architectural heritage.

TGHS supported the Council's decision in 2014 to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to solicit interest from potential development partners, particularly those with experience in rehabilitating and adaptively reusing historic properties. We also support the renewed effort to find a suitable project for this historic site.

We recognize that financial constraints have made it unlikely that the City will restore the property and develop the grounds. Despite the heroic efforts of the Friends of Rockhaven and the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley, the buildings at Rockhaven have continued to deteriorate; further delays will only threaten their long-term viability. The property needs a good plan for rehabilitation and adaptive reuse, and it needs it now.

We were very pleased to learn that the Friends of Rockhaven have nominated Rockhaven for the National Register of Historic Places. This action is long overdue and we hope will help safeguard its historic character.

TGHS remains committed to ensuring that any plans for the property:

1. identify, retain, and preserve Rockhaven's historic structures, features, and landscaping in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of historic properties
2. result in the placement of Rockhaven on the Glendale Register of Historic Resources
3. honor the City's intention when it purchased Rockhaven by maintaining some right of public access, so that the community can finally enjoy this historic property.

We look forward to a restored and revitalized Rockhaven and to participating further in that process.

Sincerely,

Greg Grammer

Greg Grammer, President