



Senator Donna Campbell, M.D.

September 6, 2018

The Honorable Ron Nirenberg
PO Box 839966
San Antonio, Texas 78283

Dear Mayor Nirenberg,

Thousands of Texans have contacted my office expressing their feedback over the new Alamo Master Plan, which was approved by the Alamo Management Committee earlier this week. Chief among these concerns is the overwhelming desire to see the Spirit of Sacrifice, also known as the Alamo Cenotaph, restored and preserved in its current location.

For 80 years, the Spirit of Sacrifice has stood across from the mission, providing visitors a solemn reminder of the high price paid for freedom and serving as a memorial to the brave fighters who took their last breaths for Texas Independence. These heroes should remain the focal point of any visitor's pilgrimage to the Alamo, and relocating the Cenotaph almost two football fields away is a disservice to the memory of those who died there.

The Alamo is one of our state's greatest treasures and to this day it still represents the origins of what it means to be a Texan. It belongs to all of us, and it unites all of us. In putting together the Alamo Master Plan, public input was sought and the majority of that input has asked for special consideration to be given to the Cenotaph and that it not be relocated.

Additionally, many questions about the expense and feasibility of removing and relocating such a massive and beautiful monument without damaging it have not been addressed. I urge the committee and the city council to slow down, prioritize accountability to the taxpaying citizens, and reconsider the delicate history that is being reimagined here at an undetermined cost.

I am happy to discuss the matter further with you and appreciate your time.

Sincerely,

Senator Donna Campbell, M.D.
Chair - Veteran Affairs and Border Security