



June 2, 2010

Steve Galasso, President  
Marco Li Mandri, Chairman  
Little Italy Association  
1668 Columbia Street  
San Diego CA, 92101

Dear Steve and Marco,

The Urban Land Institute San Diego/Tijuana District Council is pleased to announce that the Community of Little Italy was selected by our Smart Growth Award jury to receive a Smart Growth of the Decade award.

Little Italy has become one of the most vibrant pedestrian oriented neighborhoods in the San Diego region. Its eclectic blend of architecture and street life builds on a rich history of community and ethnic heritage while inviting a diverse pattern of growth and infill into an existing "in city" neighborhood. Little Italy is Smart growth at its best and provides an excellent example for other communities in San Diego. With India Street as its centerpiece, the Little Italy BID has skillfully promoted property owner contributions toward community improvements and maintenance. These activities set the stage for creative developers and architects who have contributed some of San Diego's most interesting and varied infill developments.

Featured among them, the Lind Project set a new standard for infill. Developer/architect teams collaborated in the development of a block that not only addressed the scale and character of the neighborhood but featured a series of smaller buildings by different designers artfully woven into the fabric of Little Italy. Over the past decade the social and architectural expressions of the Lind Project have been significant in evolving the creative spirit of Little Italy as a 21<sup>st</sup> century urban neighborhood.

Congratulations to you for all your smart growth accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Mary Lydon  
Executive Director