

# EAST BAY ASIAN CONSORTIUM

ES BY  
GR BY

c/o Asian Resource Center 310 8th St. #100 Oakland, Ca. 94607

Telephone: 415/763-2970

Asian Community Library

Asian Community  
Mental Health Services

May 20, 1986

Asian Health Services

Asian Law Caucus

Planning Commission

Asian Multi-Services

City of Oakland

14th and Washington Streets

East Bay Asian Local  
Development Corporation

Oakland, CA 94612

Filipino Immigrant Services

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

International Institute E.B.

We are writing to you in regards to the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the Chinatown Redevelopment Project.

Korean Community  
Center E.B.

The East Bay Asian Consortium is composed of eleven nonprofit organizations who provide services to the Asian Community in the East Bay. Executive directors meet monthly to discuss issues of common concern, to develop joint programs, and to share information. The Consortium is a member of the Coalition for Chinatown Development and currently has three voting representatives on the Coalition.

Oakland Chinese  
Community Council

Yuk Yao Childrens Center

The Consortium agrees with the Coalition that a key issue of concern is the developer's proposed phasing of the project. We believe that it is imperative that the housing, retail, parking and cultural center components be built simultaneously with the EBMUD Building. Even though the developers claim that they have not yet developed the design components of the rest of Phase I in order for a simultaneous start with EBMUD construction, excavation for the community, housing and retail parking can occur simultaneously with EBMUD excavation while the design work for the rest of the project is fast tracked. Should this not be enforced it could be very easy for the developer to walk away once the EBMUD Administrative Building is completed.

Indeed, we are very disappointed that apparently very little funds have been put into the design for the rest of the project and the only portion well defined is the EBMUD

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CITY PLANNING COMMISSION  
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Administration Building. The Coalition has asked to meet with the developers numerous times to discuss such issues and to define the affordable housing component. It has been only recently, after the April 30th public meetings, that the developers and their architects are scheduling meetings with the full Coalition to discuss design issues in terms of public accessibility and not creating a walled face to Chinatown. We believe that it is very important that the developer immediately begin investing funds for further design work for the rest of Phase 1 (blocks two and three) so that development work can catch up to the EBMUD development. In addition, the developer and its design team should continue to meet with the Coalition on a regular basis.

In addition, we believe that the presence of a local architectural firm on the design team for the Chinatown Redevelopment project is very helpful for providing a sensitive orientation to the community environment. We hope that the developers will allow the local architectural firm to have a key voice in the design of the project.

We agree with the Coalition that EBMUD should be strongly encouraged to share its parking stalls with the general public, given that the Chinatown Community will have only a net gain of 37 stalls with the five hundred stalls that are part of the project.

Wind and shadow studies must be done and be part of the environmental impact report so that the community and the general public can respond comprehensively to the total impact of the project.

Finally, we believe that it is very important that the developer share its market study for the project with the general public. The Supplemental EIR/EIS shows changes from the RFQ guidelines due primarily to results of the developer's market study. It is difficult to assess such changes unless the market study and its results and recommendations are available to public review.

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We believe that the points we mention in this letter are important and we hope that you will give our letter full consideration when you make your decision on the Supplemental EIR.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Sincerely,

*Teresta L. Bantosh*

Asian Multi Services

*Ruthie R.*

Asian Health Services

*Syrette Jung Lee*

East Bay Asian Local Development Corp.

*Peggy Saica*

Asian Law Caucus

*Frank Choy*

Asian Community Mental Health Services

*Bong H. H.*

Korean Community Center of the East Bay

*Lillian Galedo*

Filipino Immigrant Services

*Dianne Yamanishi-Omi*

Asian Foundation for Community Development