

LINCOLN HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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LINCOLN HEIGHTS EST. 1870

CERTIFIED COUNCIL
2002

3516 N. BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES, CA 90031

LINCOLNHEIGHTSNC.ORG

October 7, 2021

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

CF 21-0576

The Board Approves This Community Impact Statement Yea (x), Nay (x), Abstain (x) on October 7, 2021

Honorable City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: CF 21-0576 EL PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES HISTORICAL MONUMENT / 1871 ANTI-CHINESE MASSACRE MEMORIAL.

Dear Honorable City Council members:

On August 19, 2021 in a Brown Act compliant meeting, Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council considered the following resolution re: Motion CF 21-0576 - El Pueblo de Los Angeles / proposed memorial or monument commemorating the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre. The stakeholders and elected officials have come to the following conclusions listed below:

WHEREAS, On May 25, 2021, El Pueblo de Los Angeles submitted documents to the City of LA for consideration: *Report from El Pueblo de Los Angeles, dated May 17, 2021, relative to creating a memorial to the 1871 Anti- Chinese Massacre.*

WHEREAS, The residents and their elected representatives of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council approve of a memorial or monument that acknowledges the victims of the mob violence and lynching that killed 19 innocent people. However, this memorial being proposed by El Pueblo, a city entity, is logistically and conceptually problematic.

WHEREAS, The residents and their elected representatives of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council do not approve the memorial or monument if the residents of Chinatown are not given a seat at the table. The Memorial should be conceptualized and created by the Chinatown residents and artisans, and not a random person from the DCA pool. The actual historic sites of the 16 lynchings and 3 men shot should be geographically accurate as far as memorial placement is concerned and not annexed solely to El Pueblo for the city's convenience.

BOARD MEMBERS: BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES: William Rodriguez Morrison, Nancy Stella Soto, vacant

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES: Benny Madera, Dydia DeLyser, vacant

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE: Diana Tran

AREA REPRESENTATIVES: Richard W. Larsen, Annalee Harr, Melanie Bellomo Shifflett, Vicente Gonzalez-Reyes Jr., Armida Marrufo, Victor Azanedo, Diego Zapata, vacant, Gil Arevalo, Richard Ortiz, Steve Lucero, Lena Ruiz, Selena Ortega

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WHEREAS, The elected representatives of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council are aware that a small bronze plaque on the sidewalk already exists and it is not a suitable memorial to commemorate the worst lynching in US history that decimated 10% of the Chinese population of El Pueblo/ Old Chinatown in 1871.

NOW, THEREFORE, The residents and their elected representatives of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council respectfully request that the City of LA include not only the Friends of the Chinese American Museum but also the People of Chinatown, and the Chinese- American community in Los Angeles in the conceptualization of the proposed memorial or monument.

Sincerely,

Sara Clendening, President
Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

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MAYOR

EL PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES HISTORICAL MONUMENT

ARTURO CHAVEZ
General Manager

125 PASEO DE LA PLAZA, SUITE 300
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

TEL: (213) 485-6855
TDD: (213) 473-5535
FAX: (213) 485-8238

May 17, 2021

Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Los Angeles City Council
200 N Spring St.
City Hall Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Mayor Garcetti and Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument ("El Pueblo") oversees the historic and cultural heart of Los Angeles, the birthplace of the city and a premiere destination point for both residents and visitors. Centered around the city's original plaza, the district showcases the city's famed historical landmarks, monuments, memorials and sites which together reflect the diverse communities that contributed to the founding and growth of Los Angeles. In accordance with our mission statement, El Pueblo "promotes, safeguards, and preserves the City's birthplace, and culturally diverse heritage through the effective management of its commercial and historical resources and events."

Part of also preserving El Pueblo's cultural legacy is the reckoning and grappling with the traumatic histories that took place in and around the historic heart of the City and the communities that are to this day impacted by events that took place here. The 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre and the violent murder of nineteen innocent lives continues to serve as a painful reminder of the history of racially-motivated hate crimes and the unjust targeting of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI).

On Thursday, April 22, 2021, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Board of Commissioners ("Commission"), the Commission discussed the creation of a memorial related to the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre and the recommendations of the Mayor's Civic Memory Working Group's report titled "Past Due." Christopher Hawthorne, Chief Design Officer, Mayor's Office, former Los Angeles Councilmember Michael Woo, and Gay Yuen, President of the of the Friends of the Chinese American Museum, also provided their input on the importance of a future memorial. At this meeting, the Commission instructed

the El Pueblo Department to draft a motion to be considered at a future Commission meeting to support the creation of a monument or memorial to the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre and for it to be located at El Pueblo.

On Thursday, May 13, 2021, the Commission unanimously approved a motion to support the creation of the memorial related to the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre at El Pueblo. The Commission also instructed the Department to prepare and transmit a letter to the Mayor, City Council, and other related departments indicating the Commission's support of the memorial and urging the Mayor and City Council to immediately begin discussions with related City departments to bring the memorial to fruition.

As recently stated by Mayor Eric Garcetti in the Civic Memory Working Group's report, the 1871 massacre, "that bloody event, a stain on Los Angeles from 150 years ago, and our failure to commemorate its victims as fully as we might, is a reminder of the work still ahead of us." Both the staff of El Pueblo and the Commission are committed to the creation of a memorial or monument that respectfully honors the memory of the lost lives of 1871 and addresses the continued unjust targeting of AAPI communities. We are committed to working together with the City Council, Mayor's Office, related City Departments, as well as the Chinese American Museum and all community stakeholders and representatives.

Thank you for your continued support of El Pueblo.



Arturo Chavez
General Manager
El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument

cc: Danielle Brazell, General Manager, Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)
Michael Shull, General Manager, Department of Recreation & Parks (RAP)