

Statement on Application # 08-2885

First of all I thank Honorable Chair Paul Krekorian, Members Dennis Zine and Janice Hahn for kindly incorporating the matter of 08-2885 in conjunction with 09-0606 in today's agenda.

I would like to speak to-day on my behalf and for all those hundreds of constituents who had kindly nominated me to speak on their behalf. The powers of attorney are a part of the record.

*I pronounce our support for **Little Bangladesh** and **Koreatown** as included in the motion by Council-member Tom LaBonge.*

To speak very briefly on Little Bangladesh, on the 3rd street and around from Vermont to Serrano, we have 6 Ethnic Eateries, 10 Specialty and grocery stores/Markets, Hardware store, cultural center, Weekend school, place of worship, community doctors, lawyers, consultants on Tax, Travel, Insurance and other services are right there to cater to the need of thousands of Bangladeshi Americans who live in and around this neighborhood. Non-Bangladeshi owned store-owners are also sensitive to the Bangladeshi customers' need. As examples, all of them carry Bangladeshi Calling cards, and many say, "Kemon Acho?" meaning "how are you?".

I would ask the Committee to disregard the CIS report of KTW CNC dated 03-07-09 as it does not reflect the facts on the ground. The report was prepared when we were negotiating on the MOU with Korean counterpart Mr. Chang Lee and the President of Neighborhood Council promised and I quote "If there would be Koreatown, there would be Little Bangladesh".

Today's hearing is the outcome of a lot of public discourse, eventual formation of consensus among the communities, moderated by Honorable Councilmember Tom LaBonge and his capable staff members and most importantly the wisdom of leaders and good intention of both communities.

This Understanding between Korean and Bangladeshi Americans had transformed inter- community Detestation into adoration, hatred into love and agitation into peace. I would like to draw kind attention of the Committee to the audience, their intensity, their eagerness for a favorable decision.

I, therefore, humbly submit that the motion by Honorable Councilman Tom LaBonge may kindly be carried and recommended for adoption by the Honorable City Council.

Thank you all very kindly.


Majib Siddiquee

Dated: Los Angeles, 4-13-2010

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