

SUBJECT: Public Comment - Certification of HCNNC, BONC Special Meeting on Oct. 29, 2018, City Council File 12-1681-S4

DATE: October 29, 2018

Dear Board of Neighborhood Commissioners and City Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for the certification of Historic Cultural North Neighborhood Council (HCNNC) as the City's 99th neighborhood council, which includes Chinatown, El Pueblo, Solano Canyon, and Victor Heights. I've lived in Chinatown for four years, still have grandparents here, and am deeply invested in improving the quality of life for long-time community members, and preserving culture in my neighborhood.

HCNNC can better address the diverse needs of the four areas such as deeply affordable housing, pollution, parks and open space, and preserving culture. Long-time residents have experienced rising rent prices, displacement, and are at risk of becoming homeless and losing their social networks. A recent USC study revealed that Chinatown has the worst pollution in Los Angeles. Many Chinatown residents are low-income seniors, and are not as resilient to health problems attributed by air pollution. Los Angeles State Historic Park is an open space in Chinatown that can be better utilized by long-time community members if we address connectivity and transportation. HCNNC has a tremendous opportunity to improve the quality of life for long-time residents, and to preserve culture in all four areas.

A lot of time and resources have been invested into this process. An election was held, and the voters have spoken. It's time to move forward and make sure that everyone has the opportunity to participate in this new neighborhood council. Once the HCNNC is established, I would like to see more outreach and action on important issues in our neighborhoods such as deeply affordable housing, pollution, parks and open space, and preserving culture.

HCNNC needs to be officially recognized, so that we can move forward and focus on the issues in our communities.

Sincerely,
Timothy Mok