

October 29, 2018

Wendy Chung

Via email wendypchung@gmail.com

Re: Public Comment - Support for HCNNC, BONC Special Meeting 10/2918, City Council File 12-1681-S4

Dear Board of Neighborhood Commissioners and Honorable City Council of the City of LA:

I am writing to express support for the formation of the Historic Cultural North Neighborhood Council. I am submitting this letter as a stakeholder of LA Chinatown. I have been a visitor since my youth, and recently have gotten more involved through research and local organizations.

I am the founding editor of WAPOW Magazine, a current member of Chinese American Citizens Alliance and a sitting boardmember for the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California. In 2016, I also completed an academic research report looking at local economic development. I found that Chinatown is a neighborhood with very low civic engagement--where many residents don't understand many public processes and don't know of City resources that exist.

The local neighborhood council should function to address that gap. From my experience, there was very little awareness of the neighborhood council and how it functions. As someone who has worked in public administration and civic engagement, I believe that subdividing the former Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council can help the Council be more focused in community outreach and addressing community issues, toward furthering better representation for the 6 districts that make up the HCNC--especially as the populations of these areas continue to grow, and require more resources and attention.

I support the formation of a new neighborhood council, and urge the City to conduct extensive outreach to ensure inclusive and active community involvement.

Wendy Chung