

# MOTION


On April 27, 2017, our City celebrated the dedication of the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument (VJAMM). This special monument marks the spot where some 1,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from the City of Los Angeles' Westside assembled before their forced relocation to Manzanar War Relocation Center in the wake of anti-Japanese sentiment during World War II.

VJAMM's dedication was the culmination of a grassroots effort that began a decade ago with students from the New Media Academy at Venice High School, who were inspired by an article in the Venice Beachhead, and made a presentation before the Los Angeles City Council. Their teacher, Phyllis Hayashibara, took up the cause and formed the VJAMM Committee, with already involved artists and activists in the Venice community.

As 2019 commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Manzanar Pilgrimage, VJAMM is a prescient reminder for us, as a people, to be vigilant about defending our rights—including those of our friends and neighbors. Let us remember their sacrifice by heeding the words etched on this monument "that the powers of government shall never again perpetrate an injustice against any group based solely on ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, race or religion."

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection of Lincoln and Venice Boulevards be named as "Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument (VJAMM) Square" in recognition of this important monument, and that the Department of Transportation, in consultation with Council District 11, be directed to fabricate, install, and maintain four permanent ceremonial signs at the location reading: "Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument (VJAMM)."

PRESENTED BY:

  
MIKE BONIN  
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL



JAN 15 2020

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