

Chinatown Community Center Association

華埠社區中心協會

P.O. Box 37572

Honolulu, Hawaii 96837

May 9, 2016

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Honolulu City Council
City and County of Honolulu
Committee on Budget
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-3077

Re: Letter in Support of Bill 14, CD1

Dear Chair and Members of the Council Committee on Budget:

The Chinatown Community Center Association (CCCA) supports the proposed Bill 14 (2016), CD2, the City's FY 17 Executive Operating Budget, which proposes \$500,000 for the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) budget to conduct a **historic resource survey** to identify historic properties, scenic and cultural landmarks near transit stations and \$550,000 to develop two market kiosks on the Sun Yat Sen and College Walk malls as demonstration projects to revitalize Chinatown, with clarification of the **market kiosks projects** description.

The CCCA has representatives from a cross section of Chinatown organizations to include the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, United Chinese Society, Neighborhood 13, Lum Sai Ho Tong, Kwan Yin Temple, Izumo Taisha, Mun Lun School, and the Chinatown Cultural Plaza. We strongly support the funding of the historic resource survey to identify the historic, scenic and cultural landmarks in Chinatown, especially the mauka area surrounding upper River Street. Through the identification, we hope to ensure the preservation of these historical and cultural places for future generations to appreciate their rich multi-ethnic cultural heritage.

Chinatown is a vibrant place to visit, shop and live and will hopefully become a thriving mecca for residents and tourists alike. The name of the mall along River Street - Sun Yat Sen Mall — evokes pride and a link to an important historical figure in modern China. Dr. Sun Yat Sen was educated in Honolulu graduating from Iolani School and attending Oahu College (now Punahou). It was in Honolulu where he gained his support for China's revolution. Over 70% of the Chinese in Hawaii find their roots in Zhongshan City, where Dr. Sen was born in the See Dai Doo (now Nanlong) district.

For the above reasons, we support the amendments to Bill 14.

Sincerely,



WESLEY F. FONG, Esq,
President

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