



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2016

FROM: COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WARD: 2
DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: PLANNING CASE P16-0342 – REQUEST BY YOUNG OAK KIM CENTER AT
UCR TO RECOGNIZE PACHAPPA CAMP, SITE OF THE FIRST ORGANIZED
KOREAN AMERICAN SETTLEMENT, LOCATED AT 3096 COTTAGE STREET,
AS A CITY POINT OF CULTURAL INTEREST

ISSUE:

Adopt a Resolution to recognize “Pachappa Camp: Site of the First Organized Korean American Settlement” located at 3096 Cottage Street as a City Point of Cultural Interest.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Determine that Planning Case P16-0342 (City Point of Cultural Interest Recognition) is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment;
2. Approve Planning Case P16-0342 based on the Cultural Heritage Board facts for findings outlined in the attached staff report (Attachment 1); and
3. Adopt the attached Resolution (Attachment 5) recognizing Pachappa Camp located at 3096 Cottage Street as a City Point of Cultural Interest.

STAFF/CULTURAL HERITAGE BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

On June 15, 2016, the Cultural Heritage Board (CHB) considered and recommended City Council approve Planning Case P16-0342 to recognize Pachappa Camp located at 3096 Cottage Street as City Point of Cultural Interest #1, by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 noes and 0 abstentions (Attachment 2).

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

On July 26, 2016, City Council adopted Ordinance 7344 which added Chapter 20.21 and associated sections to the Riverside Municipal Code (RMC) to provide recognition of Points of Cultural Interest.

BACKGROUND:

In 2015, the Young Oak Kim (YOK) Center at the University of California, Riverside (UCR) approached staff with an interest in designating “Pachappa Camp, the Site of the First Organized Korean American Settlement.” As there is no known physical improvements still remaining, designation was not possible under Title 20 at the time. However, with the recently above referenced amendments to Title 20, the YOK Center has the means to recognize the site. The YOK Center is headed by Dr. Edward Chang and is an educational facility focusing on Korean American Studies.

The YOK Center continued to conduct ongoing research related to Pachappa Camp after CHB as part of a larger research project and provided additional information brought to light by these efforts to further strengthen the recognition application (Attachment 3).

Staff received public comment after CHB both in opposition to, and in support of, the recognition application (Attachment 4). Staff reviewed all concerns, documents, and letters received through public comment and maintained communication with both the applicant and one member of the public in opposition, including separate meetings with each, throughout this process.

DISCUSSION:

3096 Cottage Street is a portion of the Pachappa Camp site, also known as Dosan’s Republic, from 1905-1918. The settlement consisted of a community of Korean Americans, including women and children, who lived, worked, and participated in community and cultural activities such as weddings, baptisms, births, English classes, church services, and many other cultural and living functions.

The location was founded and nurtured by Korean patriot Dosan Ahn Chang Ho, known for his role in the Korean independence movement, while acting as Minister of Labor of the Korean Provisional Government in exile. Although continuously on the move in his work in labor and political activism, the applicant states that Ahn lived in Riverside for much of 1904-1907 and 1911-1913, while his family lived continuously from 1905-1913 at Pachappa Camp to where he repeatedly returned from his travels. As presented in the application, while Koreans lived and worked in other locations, namely San Francisco and Hawaii, prior to Riverside, Pachappa Camp is special in that it was not only a labor camp, but a geographically contiguous community of Korean men, women, and children that was distinguished by, and sustained through, the establishment of educational and religious institutions, social practices, and cultural traditions.

Pachappa Camp meets all three criteria for recognition under RMC 20.50.010 (BB).

Section 20.50.010 (BB) is as follows:

- A. Criteria. Point of Historical Interest means a site, of local significance, meeting one or more of the following criteria:
 1. Has anthropological, cultural, military, political, architectural, economic, scientific or technical, religious, experimental, or other value;
 2. The original physical feature(s) no longer exist to an appreciable extent; and
 3. Is found to not qualify as a Recognized Cultural Resource or an Eligible Cultural Resource.

- B. Not Cultural Resources. Points of Cultural Interest are recognized, not designated, and do not qualify as a Cultural Resource by virtue of their recognition.
- C. Intent. The purpose of Points of Cultural Interest is to recognize otherwise-intangible historic facts about a place in the City. Points of Cultural Interest are strictly informational in nature.
- D. Relationship with other laws. Points of Cultural Interest are specifically and expressly intended to not have any significance under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) or the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. Section 15000 et seq.), the National Environmental Protection Act, or any other environmental law, statute, or regulation.

The site reflects Riverside’s cultural, social, and economic history relating to the citrus industry, immigration, and the ethnic diversity of the city (Criterion 1). By 1952, all of the improvements associated with Pachappa Camp were no longer existing (Criterion 2). Therefore, “Pachappa Camp: Site of the First Organized Korean American Settlement” is eligible for recognition as a City Point of Cultural Interest.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact resulting from the Point of Cultural Interest recognition.

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| Prepared by: | Rafael Guzman, Community & Economic Development Director |
| Certified as to availability of funds: | Scott G. Miller, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer |
| Approved by: | Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager |
| Approved as to form: | Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney |

Attachments:

1. Cultural Heritage Board Staff Report – June 15, 2016
2. Cultural Heritage Board Minutes – June 15, 2016
3. Additional Information and Correction to Application after CHB
4. Public Comment Received after CHB
5. Resolution
6. Presentation