



Stantec

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File:

Memo to: California Center for Chinese American Cultural and Trade

**From: Gordon Chong
Christopher Wilson**

Reference: Interim Development Program

Dear Members of the Advisory Board:

In an attempt to build on the vision developed by Steve Yee and others, Christopher and Gordon did a "Benchmarking Survey" to develop the next building block of information. We have identified the: 1) types of uses, and 2) quantity [square feet] of area which make up a variety of Cultural, Educational and Trade centers across the Nation. This information will form the basis for an interim "development program". While not intended to be exhaustive nor qualitative, we surveyed facilities in:

- Asian Cultural Clubs in New York, Boston
- New York Chinese Cultural Center
- Chinese Cultural Center, New Jersey
- Minnesota
- Birmingham
- Austin
- Oakland
- San Francisco Jewish Community Center

There are numerous other Chinese or Asian Cultural Centers but none with facilities which would inform our development program. Other locations surveyed include Washington D.C., Connecticut, Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Detroit, Atlanta, etc. We also searched for Chinese or Asian Cultural Centers within Universities as a means of defining typical uses, functions and square footage required. As you might imagine, the sizes of these facilities reflect their operational success, support and vary greatly. The development program which we are attaching takes our best guess at a possible development.

Our firm is specifically familiar with The Contemporary Jewish Museum and the Museum of the African Diaspora which are in San Francisco. Concepts, uses and program sizes have been incorporated into our development program for CCACT.

Again, this is a "Benchmark Survey" which will permit the Board to identify possible sites and development / operational concepts as well as permit the first attempt at some diagrammatic concept design. A more detailed "Feasibility Study" defining revenue, operating expenses, capital cost, anticipated attendance, etc. will follow.

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This Benchmark Survey builds on the original Yee Fow Cultural Museum/Educational Concept and adds to it the Trade elements discussed at our last Board meeting. Where possible, Christopher and Gordon added spaces and uses seen by us as potential good matches for revenue and land use based upon our experience. Again, it is by no means exhaustive but provides a beginning framework to identify workable sites.

As we reviewed each of the other National sites some uses which one might consider to be "Community Services" continued to surface. Therefore, we have identified an optional addition of Community Services but do not want to conflict with the Sacramento Community Services Center who serve the Asian Community. Based on your input we can stick with Cultural and Trade uses or we can be more inclusive of the community.

We look forward to our next meeting to obtain your input and comment. Specifically, are these the correct uses for the facility? Are there any other/better uses that can assist and make sense financially/culturally? Is this "about" the appropriate size...in total but not room by room.

Sincerely,

STANTEC ARCHITECTURE

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