



Memorandum

Chuck Reed

TO: RULES & OPEN GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

FROM: Mayor Chuck Reed

**SUBJECT: HISTORICAL FREEDOM
SHRINE DISPLAY**

DATE: May 21, 2007

APPROVED:

DATE:

RECOMMENDATION

Direct City Staff to display a collection of thirty historically significant documents, known as the Freedom Shrine, at a location on the first floor of the City Hall Wing outside of Committee Room 120.

BACKGROUND

The Exchange Club of San José has donated a Freedom Shrine to be displayed at City Hall. They had previously given a Freedom Shrine which was displayed at the old City Hall location, outside of the public entrance to the City Council Chambers. The Freedom Shrine contains the replicas of thirty documents that hold historical significance to the founding and shaping of the United States. It offers an interesting perspective into how the country has been shaped by the past.

The National Exchange Club, often referred to as "America's Service Club," is a non-profit, community service organization that is dedicated to helping and strengthening communities around the country. The Exchange Club of San José was formed in 1949 to serve our neighborhoods and help residents with various needs. One of the main goals of the Exchange Club is to increase the pride that communities members have for their country.

The following documents will be contained in the exhibit: Mayflower Compact, Declaration of Independence, Benjamin Franklin's Epitaph, Patrick Henry's Instructions to George Roger Clark, Washington's Letter to Colonel Lewis Nicola, Treaty of Paris, Northwest Ordinance, Constitution of the United States, Washington's First Inaugural Address, Bill of Rights, Washington's Farewell Address, Jefferson's First Inaugural Address, Star Spangled Banner, Monroe Doctrine, Emancipation Proclamation, Gettysburg Address, Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, Lee's Letter Accepting the Presidency of Washington College, Thirteenth Amendment, Account of the Proceeding's of the Susan B. Anthony Trial, Theodore Roosevelt's Letter on Cuba, Wilson's First Inaugural Address, Nineteenth Amendment, Franklin Delano Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms" Speech, Selection of General Eisenhower as Supreme Commander of "Overlord," McAuliffe's Christmas Message "Nuts," German Instrument of Surrender, Instrument of Surrender in the Pacific, John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Address, Martin Luther King Jr.'s Speech "I Have A Dream."