



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO

FROM: Councilmember Lan Diep

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: May 22, 2019

Approved

Lan Diep

Date

5/22/19

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: **Fund the Vietnamese American Cultural Center**

Amount of City Funding Required: **\$100,000**

Fund Type (i.e. General Fund, C&C funds, etc.): **General Fund**

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

The Vietnamese American community accounts for about a tenth of San José's population. They have long desired to have a community center to call their own, acknowledging their contributions to this city. After many years of promises across many administrations, the George Shirakawa Community Center has been designated as the site of a temporary Vietnamese American Cultural Center (VACC). In its short few years as the designated cultural meeting spot of the Vietnamese community, it has hosted well-attended special events such as Lunar New Year, the Hung Kings celebration, and regularly serves as a place for homework assistance, story time, dance and martial arts practice, citizenship classes, and computer classes.

It is estimated that \$50 million is needed to build a new VACC at Kelly Park and fundraising efforts have been difficult. While the long term plan is yet-to-be-determined, in the short term, the VACC should be renovated at its current site and its operational costs should be covered.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve (\$4 million)

Name: Jon Cicirelli, Acting Director PRNS

Other (Program/Project/Fund):

Phone number: 408-794-7223

Department or Organization: PRNS

E-mail address: jon.cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov