

Robert Ragsac
Resident of San José
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Hello, my name is Robert Ragsac. I grew up in Japantown, San Jose, in the area of what used to be known as "Pinoytown", in the 1930s. The Filipino community was located in the blocks between Heinlerville Chinatown and the expanding Japantown before its residents were removed during WWII. I am a board member of the Filipino American National Museum (FANHS) in Stockton, California's "Little Manila Town", devoting my time to local history research and involvement with the local Filipino American community. I organized the first known formal walking tour of Pinoytown for local college students, as well as presentations on the FilAm history in San Jose to community members.

There is a FilAm community gathering spot that still remains in Japantown called the "Filipino Community Center" on N 6th Street. As a San Jose resident for over 80 years who has knowledge about the Filipino American community and their history, I ask that this Commission keep our community together when lines are redrawn.

Thank you.