



Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley District 7

2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704

PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

CONSENT CALENDAR

March 27, 2007

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington
Subject: Discretionary budget allocation to the Tibetan Cultural Center

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council adopt a Resolution to approve the expenditure of \$5,000 to the Tibetan Cultural Center capital campaign with funds from Councilmember Worthington's discretionary budget (D-13).

BACKGROUND:

We are proposing for the City Council to approve a \$5,000 contribution to the efforts by the Tibetan Association of Northern California (TANC) and members of the Bay Area Tibetan community to build a Tibetan Community Center in Northern California. Currently, an interim location exists in Berkeley, and there is significant interest in keeping the Community Center located in Berkeley. The proposed Tibetan Community Center will be open to all members of the public and will celebrate Tibetan culture through arts and cultural programming, educational programs, and direct services to the community.

Since a wave of Tibetans came to the San Francisco Bay Area in the early 1990s, it has been a dream of the community to establish a center that would both help preserve and develop Tibetan cultural and artistic traditions, provide social services to members of the community, and act as a gateway to Tibet for the Bay Area Community.

With approximately 1500 Tibetans currently living in the Bay Area and more coming every year, the time is right to make the dream of a community center into a reality.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

\$5,000 from Councilmember Worthington's discretionary budget (D-13)

CONTACT PERSON:

Councilmember Kriss Worthington 981-7170.

RESOLUTION NO
AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR A GRANT TO
PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Councilmember Worthington has surplus funds in his office expenditure account (budget code 010-0272-410); and

WHEREAS, a California non-profit tax exempt corporation, the Tibetan Association of Northern California, seeks funds in the amount of \$5,000 towards providing the following public services: a) establish a Tibetan Community Center in the Bay Area, b) provide cultural and educational programming around the regional Tibetan community, and c) offer opportunities for the general public and members of the Berkeley community to share in these cultural experiences; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would fulfill the following municipal public purposes: a) the City of Berkeley is home to a significant population of Tibetan immigrants, most of whom have been exiled from their home country; b) the Tibetan Community Center, likely to be located in the City of Berkeley, will be open to all members of the community; c) the aim of the Tibetan Community Center will be to provide cultural and educational programming regarding the Tibetan community in the Bay Area, including opportunities to facilitate dialogue surrounding the Tibetan community locally and abroad.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract with the Tibetan Association of Northern California in the not to exceed amount of \$5,000 to fund the establishment of a Tibetan Community for the Bay Area.