

Letter of Support – Draft

With the growth of the Asian American community in Austin, we have identified some important needs of our Asian American seniors that have been included in the report of Asian American Quality of Life study. One of the urgent needs is to bring our seniors out of living in isolation and to ameliorate their alienation because of the language and cultural barriers the seniors face in their new home country.

The Asian American Cultural Center has expressed a willingness to be a community partner to address such needs by building our seniors a community that provides residential services for them. We are certain that our seniors will find better quality of life in the comfort among people who share their language and cultural background. Imagine that, together, the seniors can play traditional games such as mahjong or chess, sipping tea and exchanging stories from the old countries and eating familiar home-cooked foods that nurture both their body and spirit. In this vision, the seniors will also benefit from being in an environment where there is an early childhood development center such that the seniors can interact with young children like their grandchildren. This intergenerational co-location will bring joy to both the seniors and the young.

To realize this very much needed facility, we would like to strongly support their requests to this particular development in the areas of

1. Zoning from LO to GR-MU to accommodate the services of mixed use buildings.
2. Compatibility of Height variance from 60' to 80' to allow for more open space for cultural amenity of oriental and meditation gardens.
3. FAR variance from 1:1 to 1:1.5 to accommodate the density to meet the various income levels.

The mission of the Asian American Quality of Life Commission is to be vigilant about improving the living condition of the members of our community. The establishment of senior housing is essential to providing a better quality of life to our seniors and to nurture both their physical and mental health. We appreciate your hard work and effort to assist the Asian American Cultural Center to ensure the success of this project. Should you have any question, please feel free to contact us at.....