



**APPLICATION SUMMARY SHEET**

**RECEIVED**

Project Name Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker		MAR 02 2011
BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION (50 WORDS OR LESS)  Venice Japanese Memorial Marker Committee will lead efforts to design, create, install and maintain a memorial marker to commemorate the forced relocation of Japanese Americans from the northwest corner of Lincoln and Venice Boulevards to Manzanar War Relocation Authority Camp where internees lived for the duration of World War II.		
PROJECT SITE NAME AND FULL ADDRESS NW CORNER OF N. VENICE BLVD. AND LINCOLN BLVD., VENICE		
PROJECT COMPLETION DATE OCTOBER 2011	# OF VENICE STAKEHOLDERS TO BENEFIT BY THIS PROJECT THOUSANDS	

ORGANIZATION OR STAKEHOLDER NAME VENICE JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL MARKER		COMMITTEE
QUALIFYING ADDRESS 720 ROSE AVE. VENICE, CA 90291		
DAY PHONE (310) 306-7372	EVENING PHONE SAME	CELL PHONE NA
E-MAIL ADDRESS emilywinters@verizon.net		FAX NA

PROJECT MANAGER PHYLLIS HAYASHIBARA		TITLE TEACHER
MAILING ADDRESS 3361 McLAUGHLIN AVE LOS ANGELES, CA 90066		
DAY PHONE 310-390-1576	EVENING PHONE (cell) 310-717-3393	CELL PHONE 310-717-3393
E-MAIL ADDRESS phyllishayashibara@earthlink.net		FAX NA

BY SIGNING BELOW, I agree to the terms of the 2011-12 Community Improvement Project funding guidelines. I also acknowledge that the information submitted in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. Submitting an application with misleading information may be cause for disqualification.

AMOUNT REQUESTED  
\$2,000.00

Emily Winters  
STAKEHOLDER SIGNATURE

2/28/2011  
DATE

REVIEW (For Office Use Only)

P. Hayashibara  
PROJECT MANAGER SIGNATURE

2-27-2011  
DATE

PROJECT # (For Office Use Only)  
F



**PROJECT DESCRIPTION SHEET**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Include how many stakeholders will be working on this project.) (Maximum 500 words)**

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, the Venice Peace and Freedom Party and the Beachhead, initiated efforts to commemorate Japanese Americans who were evacuated and interned following Japan's attack on the US naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee, "VJAMM," includes 15 participants and was formed in March, 2010, as an ad hoc committee comprised of former internees, Venice, Santa Monica, Culver City and Mar Vista residents, educators, historians, journalists and public art advocates whose goal is to erect a memorial at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards for the purpose of honoring Venice-area Americans of Japanese descent who were ordered in April, 1942, per the U. S. Government's Civil Exclusion Order No. 7, to abandon their homes, businesses, and possessions and then, although having committed no crime, were forced to relocate to Manzanar War Relocation Authority Camp.

The VJAMM Committee held a community meeting on September 11, 2010 at the Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple where 60 people were introduced to the project, discussed the location, and shared their personal testimonies. The Committee received input from the community as to what they would like the memorial marker to look like. A featured speaker, and VJAMM Committee member, 84 year-old Japanese American, Mar Vista resident Arnold Maeda shared his experience as a 15 year-old Manzanar internee. "If I am a passenger or I'm carrying a passenger, I always point out that spot [Lincoln and Venice Boulevards] and think about what happened." He now feels a sense of relief with the prospect of a permanent memorial marking that time of his life for future generations. "I guess memorializing it has made a difference and the bitterness melted a little bit," admitted Maeda. Other Manzanar internees were interviewed about their experiences and documented on film which will be posted on the VJAMM website to help raise funds for the memorial marker and public artwork, and educate the community about this injustice committed on Japanese Americans.

The Project includes the design, installation and maintenance of a memorial marker on the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards. The Memorial Marker will provide educational opportunities to local schools and civic organizations through tours of the site and instruction to students at Venice High School.

IS THIS PROJECT PART OF A LARGER PROJECT?  YES  NO

**COMMUNITY BENEFIT (Description of benefit to the entire community and justification for these benefits)**

The erection of the memorial marker will serve as a reminder of the injustice, which took place towards Japanese Americans and educate Venice Stakeholders, tourists and the general public about the historical significance of this corner. •

Elected officials and community organizations supporting this project include:  
Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl of the 11th District, and Linda Lucks, President of the Venice Neighborhood, Beyond Baroque, Free Venice Beachhead, Nikkei Student Union at UCLA, Social and Public Art Resource Center, Venice Arts Council, Venice Community Housing Corporation, Venice High School New Media Academy students, Venice Historical Society, Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, Venice Japanese Community Center, Venice Neighborhood Council, Venice Peace and Freedom Party, Venice Town Council, Venice-Culver Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, Beyond Baroque and the Venice Community Coalition.



VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT APPLICATION PACKET 2011



**BUDGET SHEET**

Applicants previously receiving Community Improvement Funds must complete Parts A & B (see instructions)  
Applicants previously unfunded should only complete Part A – No match is required

PART A - VENDOR AND MATERIALS/SERVICES INFORMATION	TOTAL COST	NOTES
Design plaque and pedestal		\$ 1,000
Manufacture plaque		\$ 5,000
Install plaque		\$ 900
Manufacture pedestal		\$ 4,000
Install pedestal		\$ 5,000
Anti-graffiti coating		\$ 1,000
<p><i>VNC will pay for this line item per Budget</i></p>		
TOTAL		\$16,900
PART B - APPLICANT MATCH - NAME OF SOURCE	AMOUNT OF MATCH	NOTES

PROJECT TOTAL (PARTS A & B) \$ 16,900



**PROJECT PLANNING SHEET**

**WORK PLAN** (Include a TIME-LINE for the project with beginning date and completion date of each phase)

Begin July 2011 and complete October 2011

July – August                      Design plaque and pedestal

August – September            Manufacture plaque

September – October          Prepare site, install pedestal, install plaque and apply protective coating

\* Weather permitting

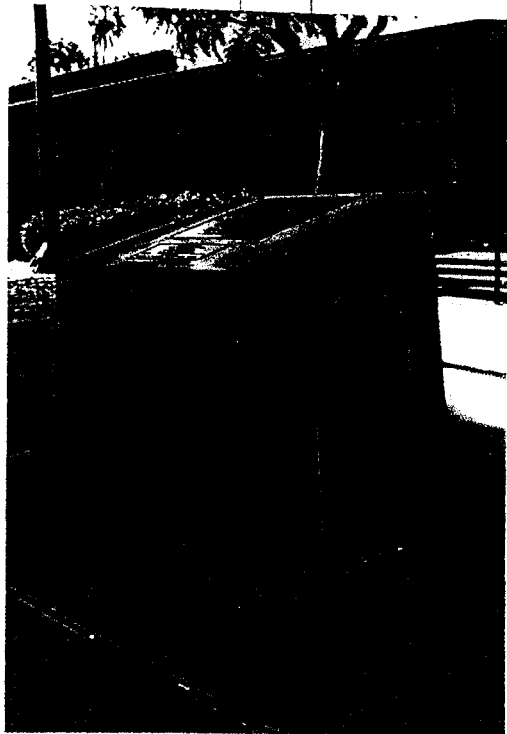
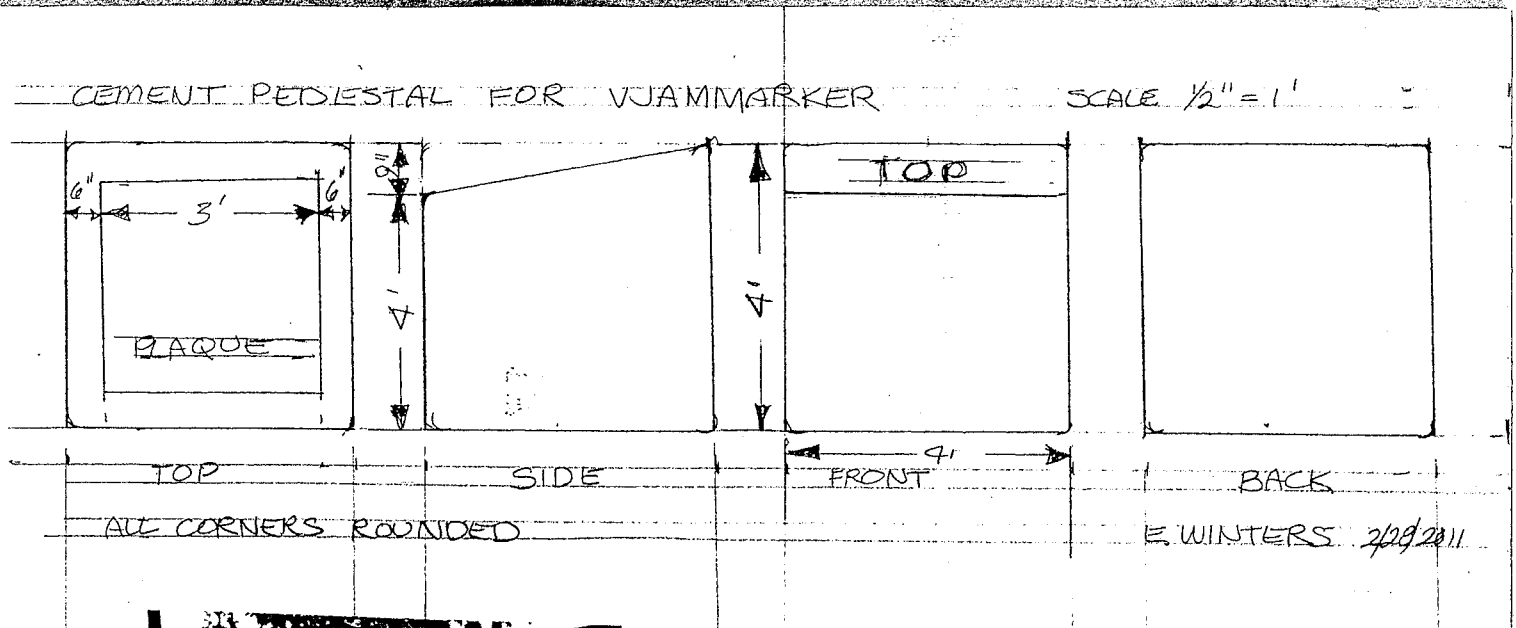
**MAINTENANCE PLAN** (If applicable)

Maintenance will be contributed by volunteers from community groups:  
Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee  
Venice Arts Council/Endangered Art Fund  
Venice Historical Society  
Venice Community Coalition

Ongoing fundraisers for materials

PROJECT RENDERING SHEET (If applicable)

Attach conceptual images of the project to this sheet or design and print your own sheet. Include text explanations.



Memorial Marker Example  
Located on Overland south of Culver Blvd.  
Culver City

Proposed Site for the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker





**ORGANIZATION SHEET (If applicable)**

(Only complete this form if the applicant is an organization. If so, do not complete Page 7)

ORGANIZATION NAME VENICE JAPANESE MEMORIAL MARKER COMM.

ORGANIZATION ADDRESS 720 ROSE AVE, VENICE, CA 90291 % VCHC

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE (Include the experience that your organization has in the execution of similar projects)

SEE ATTACHED

TOTAL MEMBERS <u>15</u>	The proposal must include the names and SIGNATURES of 3 members of the organization (preferably Board members)	YEAR ESTABLISHED <u>MARCH 2010</u>
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BY SIGNING BELOW, I declare in good faith that I am a member of the organization named above. I realize the Venice Neighborhood Council may contact me to verify my membership and participation in this organization.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	SIGNATURE
NIKKI GILBERT	1125 NOWITA PL (90291)	310 391-7452	<i>Nikki Gilbert</i>
PHYLLIS HAYASHIBARA	3361 McLAUGHLIN AVE LOS ANGELES, CA 90066	310-390-1576	<i>P. Hayashibara</i>
ARNOLD MAEDA	12306 STANWOOD DR, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066	310-398-5157	<i>Arnold Maeda</i>
JAMES SMITH	533 RIALTO AVE VENICE CA 90291	310-399-8685	<i>James Smith</i>
EMILY WINTERS	739 PALMS BL. VENICE, CA	310 306-7372	<i>Emily Winters</i>
Suzanne Thompson	PO BOX 993 Venice, CA 90294	310-570-5419	<i>Suzanne Thompson</i>

PROPOSED TEXT FOR VJAMM PLAQUE

On April 25, 1942, hundreds of American men, women, and children of Japanese ancestry in the Venice area complied with Civilian Exclusion Order No. 7 and reported to this location at Venice and Lincoln Boulevards with only what they could carry. Buses transported them to the temporary Assembly Center at Santa Anita Racetrack or directly to the Manzanar War Relocation Authority camp in Inyo County where most internees lived for the duration of World War II. Executive Order 9066 had empowered the U. S. military to declare areas of Washington, Oregon, and California militarily sensitive, and evacuate from those areas Americans of Japanese ancestry, "aliens and non-aliens" alike, for no reason other than that they shared the ethnicity of the country that attacked the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7, 1941, plunging the U. S. into war with Japan. The evacuation and internment of citizens of the United States without any regard to due process or the writ of habeas corpus violated their rights under the United States Constitution. May this memorial marker remind us to be vigilant about exercising our Constitutional rights, so that that the powers of the government shall never again be used against any other minority group based solely on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or national origin in the perpetration of another injustice in the name of national security.



The VJAMM Committee has been meeting regularly since March 2010, and its members include Don Geagan (Veterans for Peace), Nikki Gilbert (Venice High School Alumni Association), Phyllis Hayashibara (Japanese American/Venice High School Teacher), Fred Hoshiyama (Japanese American/internee), Barbara Lonsdale (Venice Historical Society), Arnold Maeda (Japanese American/internee), Marc Salvatierra (Venice Historical Society), Sam Shimoguchi (Japanese American), Jim Smith (Beachhead Newspaper), Alice Stek (Peace and Freedom Party), Suzanne Thompson (Venice Arts Council), Yosh Tomita (Japanese American), and Emily Winters (Venice Arts Council).

**Phyllis Hayashibara** teaches World History and U. S. History at Venice High School. In April 2009, Scott Pine, one of her New Media Academy U. S. History students brought in the April 2009 edition of the Free Venice Beachhead for a current events discussion. This issue featured the April 25, 1942 photograph of Japanese Americans lined up on Venice Boulevard, west of Lincoln, and a request that readers email Councilmember Bill Rosendahl to support the building of a memorial marker on the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln so that such a violation of U. S. Constitutional rights would be remembered and never repeated again to any other group of people in the United States. Councilmember Rosendahl responded immediately to the students' emails, invited the students to make a presentation before the Los Angeles City Council, and on May 29, 2009, sent a chartered bus to transport us to Los Angeles City Hall for the presentation, a visit to the Councilmember's offices, and a tour of City Hall. Councilmember Rosendahl entered a motion before the City Council in April 2010, and the Council subsequently passed the request to support the memorial marker by unanimous vote.

**Arnold Maeda**, Mar Vista resident and former internee, has shared his life experiences at Manzanar with members of the VJAMM Committee and at community meetings, and gives interviews to the press.

**Jim Smith**, 30 year Venice resident and member of the Beachhead Collective, initially brought attention to the issue through articles in the Beachhead newspaper.

**Emily Winters**, artists, a graduate of the Chicago Art Institute majoring in figure drawing and painting, moved to Venice in 1963. She raised two daughters while working in commercial art as a billboard painter for record companies and then outdoor advertising. Winters was the first woman painter hired by Foster and Kleiser. She was a union activist in Local 831, elected to the executive board and served as shop steward, television graphic art and animation, and later taught at Rustic Canyon and Santa Monica College Art and Entertainment Technology School. Winters co-founded and chairs the Venice Arts Council. She served on the Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council as 5th District representative.

**Suzanne Thompson** chairs, the Endangered Art Fund and Co-founded, the Venice Arts Council, and is a twenty-five year resident of Venice. She is past President of the Venice Neighborhood Council, a producer of the Venice People's Centennial

Celebration's "Divas of Venice", "From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks" radio and film documentaries, fundraiser and event planner.

The Venice Arts Council (VAC) was formed in 2004 by artists and members of arts organizations and serves as a forum for community input on public art, promotes projects that include resident artists and their work, and gives collaborative support to local Venice arts organizations.

In 2005, VAC produced The Venice People's Centennial celebrations consisting of 15 events including art exhibitions, live performances and opening and closing receptions. Other events VAC sponsored were the Mayor's Day of Service at Venice High School where VAC repainted two murals with the Mayor and student volunteers. VAC co-sponsored with SPARC, and the Center for Political Graphics, a Day of the Dead event and SPARC's annual Pastorela, a traditional Mexican holiday play about good and evil.

VAC produced and sponsored two community public art workshops in 2006 with participation from Councilman Bill Rosendahl, John S. Brady, West Area Representative, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, Office of the Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council, Beyond Baroque, 826LA, Electric Lodge, epOxybOx, Free Venice Beachhead, Inside Out Community Arts, Social Public Art Resource Center "SPARC", Ulan Bator Foundation, Venice Arts, Venice Chamber of Commerce, Venice Community Coalition, Venice Community Housing Corporation, Venice Progressives and Aldis and Maria Browne on behalf of the Venice Trust.

On May 2, 2006, the Venice Arts Council voted to approve the establishment of the Endangered Art Fund (EAF) dedicated to preservation of public art works in Venice. Preliminary funds were used to repair and remove tagging on the Endangered Species and Jaya murals. Specific projects are supervised in coordination with stakeholder input by the Venice Arts Council and the individual organizations having expertise in the concerned areas. EAF identified endangered public art works, and with previous support from organizations such as the Abbot Kinney Festival Association, the Fund raised over \$50,000 to restore two iconic and historic murals in Venice. This mural restoration project was completed in 2008. EAF advocates for the preservation of the Venice Art Walls (formerly the Graffiti Walls on Venice Beach). See video footage of our work at: <http://www.veniceartscouncil.org/drupal/node/11>.



**PERMISSION FOR USE OF PROPERTY SHEET (If applicable)**

Use this form to show the approval of the use of the project site from the property owner, school principal, city agency, etc. Attach as many as necessary.

PROJECT NAME	VENICE JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL MARKER
APPLICANT	VENICE JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL MARKER COMMITTEE

ENTITY OR NAME OF PERSON WHO CONTROLS USE OF THE PROPERTY	BILL ROSENDAHL	TITLE	LA COUNCILMAN DIST. 11
FACILITY/BUSINESS NAME	LA CITY COUNCIL	PHONE	(213) 473-7011
SITE ADDRESS	N. VENICE BLVD AT THE NW CORNER OF LINCOLN BLVD. VENICE		

DESCRIPTION OF USE AND PERMISSION NEEDED FOR THIS SITE

BUREAU OF STREET SERVICES  
LA PLANNING DEPT. OFFICE OF HISTORIC RESOURCES  
DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF COUNCIL DISTRICT 11

BY SIGNING BELOW, I declare in good faith that I own or am responsible for the named property. I understand that the applicant is seeking funding through the Venice Neighborhood Council. I grant the applicant permission to use the property for the implementation of the above named project. I understand that the project will begin after July 1, 2011.

COUNCILMAN BILL ROSENDAHL  
SIGNATURE  
PLEASE SEE ATTACHED

JULY 2010  
DATE



**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SHEET (must be completed by all applicants)**

Use this sheet to establish the involvement of Venice stakeholders in this project. This sheet may also be used to document pledges of volunteer hours.

PROJECT NAME	APPLICANT	VENICE JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL MARKER	VENICE JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL MARKER COMMITTEE		
NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE	DATE SIGNED	NATURE OF INVOLVEMENT	HOURS PLEDGED
JAMES SMITH	533 RIALTO AVE, VEN	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/22/11	VJAMM Comm.	10hr
IGNACIO TUEBLET	1027 EIKEN GROVE AVE #B	<i>[Signature]</i>	3/22/11	VJAMM Que	10
PHYLIS HAYASHI	1424/1361 WILKINSON AVE	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/22/11	VJAMM Committee	100
ARVOLD MAEDA	18306 STANWOOD DR.	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/22/11	VJAMM Committee	50
Don Dor	945 Venetian Ave	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/22/11	VJAMM	100
Suzanne Thompson	PO Box 553 Venice 90294	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/22/11	VJAMM Committee	500
EMILY WINTERS	739 DAVIS BL VENICE	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/22/11	VJAMM Committee	600
NIRKI GILBERT	1125 NOVITA PL. (90291)	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/27/11	VJAMM COMMITTEE	100
HAEL ABBAMS	533 RIALTO AVE 90291	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/28/11	Peace & Freedom Venice Chapter	
Greta Cobas	501 N. Venice #9	<i>[Signature]</i>	2-27-11	Beachhead	
Mary Geterin	8128 Penmar Ave #6	<i>[Signature]</i>	2-27-11	Beachhead	
MIKE SUHD	737 Palms Bl	<i>[Signature]</i>	2-28-11	VCHC/Resident	
Steve Clare	745 Palms Blvd	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/28/11	VCHC/Resident	10
Suzann Williams	743 Palms Blvd	<i>[Signature]</i>	3/1/11	STARLETROLLER	10

Attach letters of support from the community behind this page. Letters that state something unique about the project or from people who will be directly affected by the project will have a greater impact.

MOTION

During World War II suspicion of Americans of Japanese ancestry on the west coast, coupled with long held prejudices and discriminatory practices in California in particular, led citizens' organizations such as the Native Sons of the Golden West to mount a media campaign to encourage the federal government to rid the state of "enemy aliens and non-aliens" alike.


On April 25, 1942 hundreds of Japanese and Japanese Americans living in the Venice community were ordered to report to the corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards for placement on buses headed to temporary assembly centers. Once on the buses, these members of our community were transported by the United States military to temporary assembly centers, such as the Santa Anita Racetrack in Arcadia and the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona.

Japanese Americans resided for months at these temporary assembly centers while the War Relocation Authority completed construction of ten internment camps in the interior of the United States.

Given the historic nature of these events, various organizations in the Venice community are proposing that a commemorative marker be installed at the corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards in Council District 11 in order to serve as a constant reminder of the denial of U.S. Constitutional rights to a minority group that simply shared the ethnicity of the nation that attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Street Services, with the assistance of the Planning Department (Office of Historic Resources), the Department of Transportation and the Office of Council District 11 be directed to report with recommendations for the installation of a commemorative marker at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards to commemorate the start of the internment of hundreds of Japanese and Japanese Americans living in the Venice community on April 25, 1942

PRESENTED BY:

  
BILL ROSENDAHL  
Councilmember, 11<sup>th</sup> District

*10:00 pm*

SECONDED BY:





Established 1926

9.1

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VENICE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

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*"Rowing Not Drifting"*

July 30, 2010

Bill Rosendahl,

The Venice High School Alumni Association requests your support on the Japanese American Memorial Marker project at the corner of Venice Blvd. and Lincoln Blvd.

This year Venice High School celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Many Japanese American families have graduated from VHS and continue to live in the Venice community. This project will ensure that future generations will continue to share and remember our history.

The committee needs your assistance. Enclosed are copies of previous letters of support and articles, there have been presentations at council meetings and your support would be greatly appreciated.

Best Regards,

Laura Ferré  
VHS Alumni President  
310-210-1396



# VENICE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

9.2

P.O. Box 12844, Venice, California 90295 • (310) 967-5170 • Email: info@veniceofamerica.org

August 4, 2010

Councilman Bill Rosendahl  
Los Angeles City Council District 11  
1645 Corinth Avenue  
West Los Angeles, CA 90025

RE: Japanese American Memorial Marker

Dear Councilman Rosendahl,

The Venice Historical Society is in support of a commemorative, memorial marker at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards.

The Japanese American community has been an integral part of Venice History since Venice-of-America was founded in 1905. This marker will serve as a reminder that we shall never forget this historic event bestowed on the Japanese Americans just because of their ancestry.

This memorial will remind us of the important part these people played in Venice's history. The Japanese Americans were business owners, residents, land owners and employees of Venice. The marker will show that these citizens have not been forgotten. We will remember them as people who helped build Venice-of-America.

Sincerely,

Jill Prestup  
President of The Venice Historical Society



9.3



Social and Public Art Resource Center  
685 Venice Boulevard  
Venice, CA 90291  
Web site: [www.sparcmurals.org](http://www.sparcmurals.org)

From the Desk of Debra J.T. Padilla  
Executive Director  
310/822-9560 x13 310/827-8717 fax  
Email: [debra@sparcmurals.org](mailto:debra@sparcmurals.org)

**Board of Directors:**

- Rob Alt  
President, Compliance Consulting
- Judi W. Baca  
Founder-Artistic Director of SPARC  
Professor UCLA César Chávez Center /MAC
- Dolo Bouding  
Professor Emerita - CSU Dominguez Hills
- Mary Ann Dault  
Artist & Professor
- Zejala Flores, Esq.  
Attorney
- LucyAnn Galambos, Ph.D.  
Educator and Consultant
- Jeanne Giovenone  
Professor Emerita -UCLA
- Doris Levy  
Teacher -UCLA/University Elementary School
- Haydee Little-Lopez  
Land Use Planning Asst.-L.A. City Planning Department
- Kathleen Mulcahy  
Business Consultant and Coach
- Bernardo Mujica  
Great Wall Artist
- Tom Pratt  
Vice President, Thomson & Pratt
- James Prigoff  
Photographer & Author
- Paul Riddle  
Community/Economic Development
- Paul Smith  
Neighborhood and Animal Activist
- Wayne Williams  
Vice President-Business Diversity Outreach  
Prudential Financial
- Executives:**
- Doana Daltch, Co-Founder  
Film Director
- Armando Deros, Esq./ President  
Attorney & Charitable Art Collector
- Chadler Schelinger, Co-Founder  
Educator & Artist
- Advisory Board:**
- Erica Doss, Ph.D.  
Art Historian-University of Notre Dame
- Tim Drescher  
Professor-San Francisco State University
- Edgar Heap of Birds  
Public Artist & Professor Oklahoma University
- Pete Galindo  
Founder/The Federal Arts Project
- Bazzone Lary  
Performance Artist-Fine Arts Dept. @ OTIS
- John Blipede  
Director-Los Angeles Poverty Department
- Amelia Mesa-Balboa, Ph.D.  
Artist & Director-Visual & Public Art Institute, CSUMB
- Monica Palacios  
Writer & Performer
- Johanna Porellig  
Muralist
- Francesa Pohl Ph.D.  
Associate Dean-Pomona College Art Department
- Holly Barnes-Sanchez Ph.D.  
Art Historian-University of New Mexico
- Meryl Udeen  
Public Artist
- Nickard Wyatt  
Muralist
- Staff:**
- Debra J.T. Padilla, Executive Director
- Prithviraj Gokool, Bookkeeper
- Pauline Alshewar, UCLA-DIML System Administrator
- Pilar Casilla, Archivist
- Pedro M. Sanchez, Operations Manager
- Carlita Rojas, Project Manager
- Suzanne Morris, Project Assistant
- Wendita Lopez, SPARC Housekeeper

June 9, 2010

Councilman Bill Rosendahl  
Los Angeles City Council District 11  
1645 Corinth Avenue, Room 201  
West Los Angeles, CA 90025

Dear Councilman Rosendahl,

On behalf of the Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC) thank you for all that you do to keep organizations like ours vibrant and sustainable.

I write this letter of support for the establishment of a memorial marker at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards, to mark the assembly point of Japanese Americans in the Venice community on April 25, 1942, in response to Civilian Exclusion Order No. 7, for removal and internment in Manzanar War Relocation Authority camp for the duration of World War II.

SPARC is an organization that for 34 years has created sites of public memory. SPARC's guiding principal is best stated by our Founder/Artistic Director Professor Judy Baca that is *"The purpose of any monument is to bring the past into the present to inspire the future."*

SPARC wholeheartedly supports the efforts being led by Venice High School teacher Phyllis Hayashibara, (who SPARC has had a long standing educational partnership with) and her quest to establish a very important site of public memory.

Kindly,

Debra J.T. Padilla  
Executive Director





9.4

VENICE-CULVER CHAPTER  
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
12448 BRADDOCK DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066

December 7, 2009

Councilman Bill Rosendahl  
Los Angeles City Council District 11  
200 North Spring Street, Room 415  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
[Councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org](mailto:Councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org)

Dear Councilman Rosendahl:

The Venice Culver Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) supports the efforts of the Free Venice Beachhead and the students of Venice High School in the campaign to recognize the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards with a commemorative marker. On April 25, 1942, hundreds of Americans of Japanese ancestry living in the Venice area reported to that northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevard to board buses that would transport them to temporary assembly centers. Executive Order 90066 had empowered the U.S. military to declare areas of Washington, Oregon and California militarily sensitive and denied Americans of Japanese ancestry their Constitutional rights.

The commemorative marker will serve as a reminder of the denial of the basic civil liberties of habeas corpus and due process. The political atmosphere of 1941 California was one of prejudice and discrimination against Americans of Japanese ancestry fueled by a media campaign to encourage the Federal government to rid the state of "enemy aliens and non-aliens" alike. With the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States turned its back on Americans simply because they shared the ethnicity of a nation that attacked the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

The Venice Culver JACL urges you to support the commemorative marker. We are part of a national organization whose ongoing mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The commemorative marker will remind everyone of the proper balance between issues of national security and our civil liberties.

Sincerely,

Sharon Kumagai  
Venice Culver JACL Chapter President



# Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple<sup>9.5a</sup>

BUKKYOKAI • FUJINKAI • ADULT BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION (ABA) • YOUNG ADULT BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION (YABA)  
DHARMA SCHOOL • SANGHA TEENS • JUNIOR YOUNG BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION (JR. YBA)

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12371 Braddock Drive, Culver City, CA 90230-5869 • Tel. (310) 391-4351 / Fax. (310) 398-1491  
Website / Email: [www.vhbt.org](http://www.vhbt.org)

Rev. John K. Iwohara  
Minister

December 2, 2009

Councilman Bill Rosendahl  
Los Angeles City Council District 11  
200 North Spring Street, Room 415  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
[Councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org](mailto:Councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org)

Dear Councilman Rosendahl:

The Board of the Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple would like to go on record as in support of the recent efforts to erect a commemorative marker at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards. There, on April 25, 1942 hundreds of Japanese Americans in the Venice community reported, as ordered by the U. S. military with whatever they could carry, for transport to temporary assembly centers. These assembly centers included the Santa Anita Racetrack in Arcadia and the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona, where Japanese American families resided for months while the War Relocation Authority completed construction of ten concentration camps in the interior of the U. S.

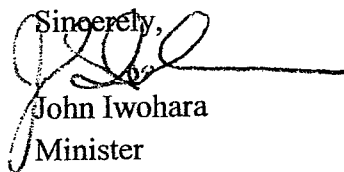
The commemorative marker will serve as a reminder of the denial of U. S. Constitutional rights such as habeas corpus and due process to a minority group that simply shared the ethnicity of the nation that attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Suspicion of Americans of Japanese ancestry on the west coast, coupled with longheld prejudices and discriminatory practices in California in particular, led citizens' organizations like the Native Sons of the Golden West to mount a media campaign to encourage the federal government to rid the state of "enemy aliens and non-aliens" alike. General John L. De Witt cited the very absence of any acts of espionage or sabotage as "disturbing and confirming indication that such action will be taken."

We urge you to support this commemorative marker, so that all who pass by it may be reminded of the fragility of our democratic heritage and legacy, that they might be inspired to know and

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exercise their rights, and acknowledge the damage that prejudice and discrimination inflicts on the fabric of American society.

Sincerely,



John Iwohara  
Minister



Dianne Kujubu Belli  
President



# VENICE JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

12448 BRADDOCK DRIVE • LOS ANGELES, CA 90066 • (310) 822-8885

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September 15, 2009

Councilman Bill Rosendahl  
Los Angeles City Council District 11  
1645 Corinth Avenue, Room 201  
West Los Angeles, CA 90025

Dear Councilman Rosendahl:

On behalf of the Venice Japanese Community Center (VJCC), I would like to formally document our support of your motion to erect a commemorative marker at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards. Our understanding is that this marker will commemorate a location where Japanese-Americans were assembled to be transported to War Relocation Authority camps for internment under Executive Order 9066 during World War II. More importantly, we hope that this commemorative marker will serve as a constant reminder that we should not take our Constitutional rights for granted, but rather actively foster their preservation.

As you are aware, the Venice Japanese Community Center's mission is to "*preserve, share and promote the Japanese and Japanese-American culture and heritage, and provide for the needs and interests of the Japanese-American community through education and instruction.*". The Venice Japanese Community Center (VJCC) has served the Venice area community for more than 75 years. Founded in 1921, to aid and support the small but growing Japanese farming community, the VJCC has become a permanent gathering place for its members. After World War II, this site served as a relocation center for the Japanese Americans returning from internment camps. Now it is a focal point for Japanese and Japanese American culture.

Sincerely,

Jack Kurihara  
VJCC President