

# Hokka Nichibei Kai

Japanese American Association of Northern California

1759 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA94115

Tel: 415-921-1782, e-mail: [hokka.nichibeikai@yahoo.com](mailto:hokka.nichibeikai@yahoo.com)

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

3/5/2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

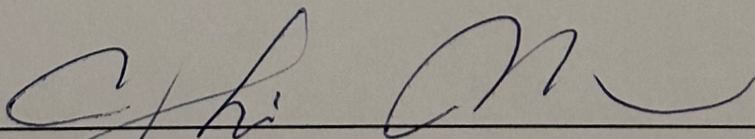
To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of Hokka Nichibei Kai, I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development. HOKKA NICHIBEI KAI is the oldest Japanese American Community organization and has continuously worked to better relations between Japanese Americans and the general public. We are working and helping with CHHESS to resolve problems for the primarily Japanese-speaking Japanese American community in a continuing program of Hokka Nichibei Kai.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, and Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops, and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

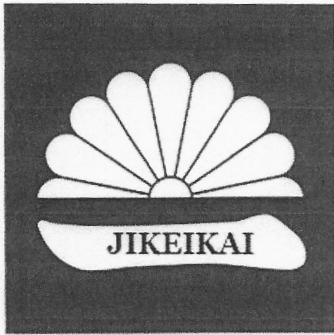
Sincerely,



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Yasuaki Miura  
President  
Hokka Nichibei Kai





## JAPANESE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

1765 Sutter Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

San Francisco, CA 94115

(415) 771-3440

[JBENS1300@gmail.com](mailto:JBENS1300@gmail.com)

<https://www.japanesecemetery.org>

March 2, 2023

San Francisco Board of Supervisors

1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl #244

San Francisco, CA 94102

VIA E-MAIL

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Japanese Benevolent Society of California I would like to express our strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy (CHHESS) Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD). Our organization was established in 1901, to provide emergency care to the Japanese and Japanese American people who are sick or suffered a mishap and cannot get any help from others, and to create and admistrate a suitable burial ground for deceased Japanese. We currently own and operate the Japanese Cemetery in Colma, California, and have an administrative office in the San Francisco Japantown community.

The CHHESS Report represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. Before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that the San Francisco Japantown ("Nihonmachi"), the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive, and survive, for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important thoughtful blueprint for a resilient future and we request and urge your support.

Sincerely,

DEAN HEDANI

President, Board of Directors

cc : Japantown Task Force



March 3, 2023

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of Kimochi, Inc., I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development. Kimochi, Inc. has been in the Japantown community for 52 years providing a continuum of care through our programs and services to all seniors in San Francisco and also the Bay Area at large.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Steve Ishii  
Executive Director

Kimochi, Inc.  
1715 Buchanan Street  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
Fax (415) 931-2299  
www.Kimochi-Inc.org

- Administration  
(415) 931-2294
- Social Services  
(415) 931-2275
- Club Nikkei  
(415) 931-2294
- Volunteer Services  
(415) 931-2294

Kimochi Home  
1531 Sutter Street  
San Francisco, CA 94109  
(415) 922-9972  
Fax (415) 922-6821

- Adult Day Program
- Residential Care
- Respite Care

Kimochi Senior Center  
1840 Sutter Street, #101  
Issei Memorial Hall  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
(415) 931-2287  
Fax (415) 931-2299

- Community Dining
- Home Delivered Meals
- Senior Center Activities
- Transportation

Kimochi Lounge  
1581 Webster Street, #202  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
(415) 563-5626  
Fax (415) 931-2299

- Information and Referral

Kimochi San Mateo  
453 N. San Mateo Drive  
San Mateo, CA 94401  
(650) 388-7130  
Fax (650) 340-0256

- Residential Care
- Home Delivered Meals



March 2, 2023

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of We Are One, I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

We Are One is a community-based organization that since 2020, with the emergence of Anti-AAPI hate, has striven to bring together the Asian American and Black community to share their cultural and spiritual resources to further mutual respect and understanding. We support the CHHESS plan since it recognizes and encourages the indispensable role that artistic and cultural expression plays in our respective communities. In particular, it recognizes Japantown as a unique place where such expressions can continue to be shared into the future.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Jeffery Matsuoka  
Secretary

Fiscal sponsor: Renaissance Parents of Success, 1075 Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA 94115

*JAPANESE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS FEDERATION  
San Francisco, California*

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

February 20, 2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Japanese American Religious Federation (JARF), I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

JARF was founded in 1948 to foster interfaith relationships between Buddhist, Christian and Independent lineages in the Japanese American community in San Francisco. JARF's long-cherished dream to provide housing for elders and low-income families, in the Japanese American community, came to fruition in 1975 (JARF Housing Inc.) with the construction of Hinode Tower and Nihonmachi Terrace, affordable living and fair housing senior residences. JARF continues to engage in activities and programs which serve to benefit the San Francisco Japantown community.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

*Elaine Donlin*

Rev. Elaine Donlin  
Japanese American Religious Federation, President



San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

February 22, 2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Japantown Community Benefit District Board of Directors and staff I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

The Japantown Community Benefit District work includes improving public spaces through our Community Cleaning Ambassadors, keeping our district safe through our SafeCity Camera Program, and contributes to the economic development of Japantown and the City at large.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grace Horikiri', is written over a thin horizontal line.

Grace Horikiri  
Executive Director  
Japantown Community Benefit District





# CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO JAPAN CENTER GARAGE CORPORATION

**Board of Directors**

**Jan Masaoka**  
*President*

**Vas Kiniris**  
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*Attorney at Law*

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*Corporate Manager*

**Joelle Tan**  
*Administrative Assistant*

February 16, 2023

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

**RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS**

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of City of San Francisco Japan Center Garage Corporation (JCGC), I would like to express our strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Housing, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report (CHHESS), presented by the Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development. JCGC is a nonprofit public benefit corporation organized in 1998 for the express purpose of assisting the City and County of San Francisco to provide oversight and accountability of the Japan Center Garages.

The CHHESS Report represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country and San Francisco’s Japantown was over 40 blocks. After the unjust incarceration of Japanese American families, the footprint of Japantown was reduced to half and was further reduced when urban renewal took place in the 60’s and 70’s.

Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco “Nihonmachi” (Japantown), the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation which is home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future, and I urge for your utmost support.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

685B8EF313F94C9...

Jan Masaoka  
President



2012 Pine Street  
San Francisco, CA  
94115  
Tel: (415) 202-7900  
Fax: (415) 346-1948  
www.jcyc.org

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

February 23, 2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC), I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development. In our 52nd year of service and as the oldest post-World War II nonprofit in San Francisco Japantown, JCYC looks forward to continuing our mission of cultivating and enriching the lives of children and youth from diverse, multicultural communities throughout San Francisco and beyond. As a long-time supporter of this community and backer of the Japantown Task Force, we ardently believe that the development and preservation efforts made by CHHESS will ensure a bright future for Japantown.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and we urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Osaki", is written over a circular blue stamp or seal.

Jon Osaki  
Executive Director





February 21, 2023

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

**RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS**

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Japantown Merchants Association, we would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Housing, Economic, Sustainability and Strategy (CHHESS) Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

The Japantown Merchants Association is a not-for-profit organization organized to attract potential businesses and promote commerce in San Francisco's Japantown. We also host several cultural events throughout the year to educate and demonstrate the Japanese culture and heritage through public events held in the community.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 43 Japantowns in Northern California. Today, only three remain in the nation (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco's Japantown is preserved for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Hashimoto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard Hashimoto  
President

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall  
VIA E-MAIL

February 26, 2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Japantown Task Force, I would like to express unequivocal support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development. The mission of JTF is to preserve and develop Japantown, strengthen ethnic diversity, and create an atmosphere of safety, beauty, vitality, and prosperity.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff, and is the centerpiece of the Japantown Cultural District. Cultural District Manager Susie Kagami and I had an opportunity to brief all 11 members or their staff on the CHHESS document in November and December of 2022 in preparation for the report's introduction to the Board of Supervisors. We are grateful for the tremendous support we received during these briefings.

After surviving restrictive immigration policies in the early 20th century, racial discrimination in pre-war property ownership, the wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans that removed hundreds of families from the neighborhood, the disastrous implementation of urban redevelopment in the 1970s that evicted local residents and businesses, through recent redistricting efforts that would have divided the neighborhood, San Francisco Japantown has demonstrated incredible resilience. The CHHESS is a critically important blueprint for Japantown's future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,



Emily M. Murase, PhD  
Executive Director

NJAHS



National Japanese American Historical Society

1684 Post Street  
San Francisco, CA 94115-3604  
PHONE (415) 921-5007  
FAX (415) 921-5087  
EMAIL [njahs@njahs.org](mailto:njahs@njahs.org)  
WEB [www.njahs.org](http://www.njahs.org)

February 24, 2023

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall  
VIA E-MAIL

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc. I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc. (NJAHHS) is a non-profit cultural and historical organization that is located on the Post Street commercial corridor of Japantown. For over 30 years, NJAHHS has been dedicated to the collection, preservation, authentic interpretation, and sharing of historical information of the Japanese American experience for the diverse broader national and global community. It serves the Japantown neighborhood through historical archives, a gift shop and arts gallery. Our walking tours suggest that before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is critical that we all ensure that San Francisco's "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities, social services, education, commerce and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

As a board member of JTF and a member on the Land Use and Transportation committee, I have worked for several years on helping to shape the CCHES to what it is today and engage the community on what it means for its future. We all know that the CHHESS represents hours of close work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff and for that we are most grateful.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rosalyn Tonai".

Rosalyn Tonai  
Executive Director, NJAHHS

encls.





1581 Webster Street, #240  
San Francisco, CA 94115  
415-771-9861

Grace Horikiri  
Executive Director

Pat Fong  
Chief Financial Officer

**Board of Directors**

Richard Jue, Chair  
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Reuben Houston  
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Tai Iwamasa  
Tiffany Krumsee  
Nathan Lau  
Lilly Lee  
Annie Li  
Lorraine Malare  
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Denise Naganuma  
Melissa Nihei  
Cheri Quan  
Ryan Quan  
Carmen San  
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Hendrick Tran  
Lee Yanase  
Leslie Yip  
Kelly Yuka Walton  
Shirley Wing  
Marcus Wong  
Wayne Yoshida

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

February 22, 2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Nihonmachi Street Fair (NSF) Board of Directors and Planning Committee, I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development.

The Nihonmachi Street Fair, now in its 49th year of producing an annual community event in Japantown that celebrates our diverse AAPI communities. Japantown has always been the stage for many organizations like ours to promote and celebrate our communities' cultures and traditions.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Grace Horikiri  
Executive Director  
Nihonmachi Street Fair, Inc.



Japanese American  
Citizens League  
San Francisco Chapter

San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall  
VIA E-MAIL

February 26, 2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the San Francisco Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development. Founded in 1929, the Japanese American Citizens League is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The San Francisco Chapter has a storied history as one of the earliest to be formed and has been the home chapter to many national JAACL leaders.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. A number of SFJAACL members have been involved in various stages of the report, including the numerous community meetings, to provide direct input. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops and restaurants, as well as culturally-sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Judy Hamaguchi  
President

**Japanese American Citizens League San Francisco Chapter Board of Directors**  
Judy Hamaguchi, President; David Takashima, Vice President; Emily Murase, PhD, Secretary;  
John Hayashi, Treasurer; Board Members: Joyce Nakamura, Elena Nielsen, Merry Nishimura

1765 Sutter Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94115  
[info@sfjacl.org](mailto:info@sfjacl.org), [www.sfjacl.org](http://www.sfjacl.org)



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

San Francisco Board of Supervisors

San Francisco City Hall

VIA E-MAIL

March 3, 2023

RE: Support for Japantown CHHESS

To the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the Buchanan YMCA of San Francisco, I would like to express strong support for the Japantown Cultural History, Economic Sustainability Strategy Report presented by the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development. At the YMCA of San Francisco, we strive to build healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities for all generations – where you can be, belong and become. Buchanan YMCA has had rich history in this community since 1936 and as we work together to reimagine and reinvigorate Japantown this work is critical.

The CHHESS represents many hours of dedicated collaborative work between the Japantown Community and MOHCD Cultural District staff. As you may know, before World War II, there were over 80 Japanese communities across the country. Today, only three remain (San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles). It is up to all of us to ensure that San Francisco "Nihonmachi," the oldest and largest remaining Japantown in the nation and home to Japanese cultural activities and education, shops, and restaurants, as well as culturally sensitive social services and senior housing, continues to thrive for generations to come.

The Japantown CHHESS is an important blueprint for a resilient future, and I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Medina

Executive Director, Buchanan YMCA

**BUCHANAN YMCA**

1530 Buchanan Street, San Francisco, CA  
94115 415 931 9622 • [ymcasf.org/buchanan](http://ymcasf.org/buchanan)