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February 16, 2026

Robert Baca

Joint Development Director

Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development

City and County of San Francisco

1 South Van Ness Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Baca:

On behalf of the Community Youth Center of San Francisco (CYC), I am pleased to recognize the lasting impact of New Asia Restaurant and its owner, Mr. Hon So, on Chinatown and San Francisco's cultural life.

For decades, New Asia Restaurant was a cornerstone of Chinatown, hosting hundreds of guests for weddings, banquets, fundraisers, and celebrations. As one of the last large banquet venues, it played a vital role in sustaining community traditions and civic life.

As a San Francisco Legacy Business, New Asia Restaurant was recognized for its longstanding service, cultural significance, and deep ties to residents, workers, and community institutions. Its dim sum service and banquet operations were more than commercial enterprises; they were communal rituals that anchored neighborhood identity. At a time when rising costs and shifting economic pressures led to the closure of many historic banquet spaces, New Asia remained a steadfast venue where families and organizations could gather at scale.

Mr. So's leadership reflected true civic commitment. He provided jobs and ensured community groups—especially those serving seniors, youth, and immigrants—had a welcoming space for important events. His efforts helped sustain Chinatown's banquet traditions.

CYC is grateful to honor New Asia Restaurant and Mr. So for their decades of service to Chinatown and San Francisco. Their contributions are an enduring part of the neighborhood's living history.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Wan', is written over a horizontal line.

Sarah Wan

Executive Director