

From: [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Perkinson, Jessica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Support for the SoMA Pilipinas CHHES Report:
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 11:22:05 AM

Add to file

Alisa Somera

Legislative Deputy Director
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
415.554.7711 direct | 415.554.5163 fax
alisa.somera@sfgov.org

(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a “virtual” meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.

Due to the current COVID-19 health emergency and the Shelter in Place Order, the Office of the Clerk of the Board is working remotely while providing complete access to the legislative process and our services.

Click [HERE](#) to complete a Board of Supervisors Customer Service Satisfaction form.

The [Legislative Research Center](#) provides 24-hour access to Board of Supervisors legislation, and archived matters since August 1998.

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 22, 2022 11:22 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors <bos-supervisors@sfgov.org>; BOS-Legislative Aides <bos-legislative\_aides@sfgov.org>  
**Cc:** Calvillo, Angela (BOS) <angela.calvillo@sfgov.org>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <alisa.somera@sfgov.org>; Ng, Wilson (BOS) <wilson.l.ng@sfgov.org>; De Asis, Edward (BOS) <edward.deasis@sfgov.org>; Mchugh, Eileen (BOS) <eileen.e.mchugh@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Support for the SoMA Pilipinas CHHES Report:

Hello,

Please see below for communication from the San Francisco Filipino American Chamber of Commerce regarding the CHHESS Strategy Report.

Sincerely,

**Joe Adkins**  
**Office of the Clerk of the Board**  
**San Francisco Board of Supervisors**  
**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244**  
**San Francisco, CA 94102**  
**Phone: (415) 554-5184 | Fax: (415) 554-5163**  
[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org) | [www.sfbos.org](http://www.sfbos.org)

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**From:** [jose@sffilamchamber.org](mailto:jose@sffilamchamber.org) <[jose@sffilamchamber.org](mailto:jose@sffilamchamber.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 22, 2022 10:36 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org)>  
**Cc:** [Raquel@somapilipinas.org](mailto:Raquel@somapilipinas.org); [David@somapilipinas.org](mailto:David@somapilipinas.org)  
**Subject:** Support for the SoMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report:

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July 22, 2022

Board of Supervisors  
City & County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B Goodlett Place  
City Hall Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
[Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org)

Re: SoMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report 2022

Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am Jose Pecho, Chairman of the Board for the San Francisco Filipino American Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber was created in 1976 to foster, promote and enhance the Filipino American business community here in the San Francisco Bay Area. As it was then and is now, we believe a collaborative and cooperative approach is vitally important in making our organization and our community a better one.

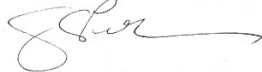
We are proud of our working relationship with SoMA Pilipinas and prouder still of their critical work

for our Filipino community's legacy in San Francisco. Their advocacy for equity, fairness, transparency, and economic and racial justice in the rapidly gentrifying South of Market neighborhood is vital and honors over 120+ years of our community's history in this great city.

With inspired and dedicated leadership from Raquel Redondiez, SoMA Pilipinas gives the diverse interests of our community the confidence and comfort of knowing SoMA Pilipinas is there to pull us all together on critical issues impacting our community.

The SF Filipino American Chamber of Commerce and I fully support the efforts of SoMA Pilipinas and respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to adopt the CHHESS Strategy Report!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jose Pecho', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jose Pecho, Chairman  
San Francisco Filipino American  
Chamber of Commerce

**From:** [Teresita Naval](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel Redondiez](#); [David Woo](#); [Teresita Naval](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for SOMA PILIPINAS CHHESS REPORT  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:10:34 PM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Teresita Naval, and I am here to support the SOMA PILIPINAS CHHESS REPORT. I have worked in the Galing Bata After School Program at Bessie Carmichael School for Nine years. I teach Filipino Enrichment program to Kinder-8th grader students that includes Filipino cultural dances, songs and, language. I worked closely with the students and families by connecting them to housing, food and community resources.

SOMA PILIPINAS plays an important role in keeping Filipino Culture alive in our community. In the CHHESS Report, there are strategies to preserve our culture such as expanding programs on Filipino culture and history and, to expand programs for Filipino children and youth.

Because of programs like Galing Bata, students are able to speak our language despite being born in the states. Students are able to feel connected to our cultural traditions like how to respect our elders and, learn about history. Please adopt this resolution so that we can continue to inculcate and share our culture to future generations.

Thank you,  
Teresita Naval  
Program Team Leader  
FEC/Galing Bata

**From:** [Ebon Glenn](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel R. Redondiez](#); [David Woo](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Thursday, August 11, 2022 9:33:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [Letter Of Support SOMA.pdf](#)

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm Ebon Glenn Operations Director of the San Francisco African American Arts and Cultural District. Please see attached letter of Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS report. We are very excited to see our partnered Cultural District get to the finish line on such an important project that will live with their community for generations to come.

Best regards,

Ebon Glenn, SFAAACD

**From:** [Maddie Nicolas](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel R. Redondiez](#); [David@somapilipinas.org](mailto:David@somapilipinas.org)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 2:26:54 PM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Maddie Nicolas and I am a Filipino-American resident of the Bay Area.

I am in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report and urge you to adopt the resolution on Tuesday July 26th.

As a Fil-Am resident of the Bay Area, I have so much appreciation and gratitude for SOMA Pilipinas's work to preserve and amplify our culture and history in our district. I stand by all twenty-two of the CHHESS Report's proposed strategies, which will expand access to the arts, language, community-building, business, and placemaking for our community.

Thank you,  
Maddie

**From:** [Fay Darmawi](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel Redondiez](#); [David Woo](#); [Fay Darmawi](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 3:08:26 PM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Fay Darmawi and I am the Founder and Executive Director of the SF Urban Film Fest.

I am in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report and urge you to adopt the resolution on Tuesday July 26th.

On behalf of the SF Urban Film Fest, we support the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report because it represents many months of community conversations on the current and future needs of the Filipino and other working class communities in SOMA. We have been a part of those conversations and have produced a new documentary film called "[Sa Amin](#)", which means "our place in Tagalog, that tells the story of the deeply rooted families, social service, educational and cultural organizations in SOMA. The programs and initiatives outlined in the CHHESS will support the on-going flourishing of these organizations and community members in SOMA. For these reasons, please adopt the CHHESS report.

Thank you for all you do to make San Francisco a leader in equitable development that supports diversity and vibrancy.

Fay Darmawi  
Founder and Executive Director  
[SF Urban Film Fest](#)

Please contribute to the "[Sa Amin](#)" (Our Place) documentary film crowdfunding campaign [here](#).



Help keep our community film events free, please donate [here](#).

**From:** [Dr. Michael Gonzalez](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel Redondiez](#); [David@somapilipinas.org](mailto:David@somapilipinas.org)  
**Subject:** We urge you to adopt the CHHESS resolution  
**Date:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 3:20:44 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am Dr. Michael Gonzalez, Executive Director of The Hinabi Project. I am writing in behalf of our organization, a 501(c)(3) based in 814 Mission St. with an office and gallery in the San Francisco Filipino Cultural Center, in support of SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS initiative. We urge you to adopt the resolution on Tuesday July 26th.

The Hinabi Project is a cultural organization whose aim is to promote and continue the Philippine heritage art and craft of natural fiber textiles for sustainable fashion. Since 2015, we have provided San Francisco residents the opportunity to experience this tradition at the Asian Art Museum, The Mills Historic Building and other sites in the Bay Area.

From the perspective of a historian and an anthropologist, I must express unequivocally, the importance of the CHHESS initiative for our community. I have worked at the City College since 2006 as adjunct faculty where I have taught countless young Filipino Americans about their history and how closely implicated San Francisco has been with Philippine history even as early as 1888. In that year, the great Filipino national hero Jose Rizal set foot in what is now the Financial District; 10 years later, from the Presidio, the US launched its occupation of the Philippines that would last for 45 years. It brought the Philippines into the ambit of US commerce and immigration. As a rising naval power, the US imported Abaca (a banana specie) rope or Manila Hemp for naval cordage, unequalled before nylon. When the Golden Gate bridge was being constructed, engineers discovered that Manila Hemp was a better safety net -- it saved 17 lives! Philippine history is an American story.

Since the 1900s, Filipinos have seen San Francisco as home, to make new lives in, to rekindle their heritage, and add character to the City. This heritage of history and language is what SOMA conceived to be the anchor of a new place, a place that grows organically from the experience of Filipino Americans in the City since the turn of the century. This why SOMA Pilipinas is important to me and to many of us.

Last June, with SOMA Pilipinas assistance, we moved to the SF Filipino Cultural Center to help SOMA Pilipinas develop cultural programming for the Center. We invite you to visit our



current textile exhibit there. While we focus on textiles, in reality, culture cannot be siloed into distinct separate categories. We are encouraged that SOMA Pilipinas sees its vision as a wholistic strategy for comprehensive community re-development.

To support that strategy, we applied for a SOMA community action grant to conduct free language instruction to future and current city employees to allow them language tools to increase their outreach to constituents who respond better in their language of origin. This project not only supports the LAO (Language Access Ordinance) it also provides employees the confidence in going about their business successfully.

We applaud SOMA Pilipinas for the cultural acuity reflected in the CHHES report – a strategy guide for the Cultural Heritage District. It is a strategy that needs traction with City for its success.

Dr. Michael Gonzalez  
[michaelg@thehinabiproject.org](mailto:michaelg@thehinabiproject.org)

Executive Director, The Hinabi Project  
[www.thehinabiproject.org](http://www.thehinabiproject.org)

SOMA Pilipinas Arts & Culture Board  
[www.somapilipinas.org/](http://www.somapilipinas.org/)

I acknowledge and pay my respects to the Ohlone peoples of California where we now live and work, and to the Hanunoo people of Mindoro where I grew up, who were displaced from their ancestral lands through acts of colonization and dispossession.

**From:** [Joseph Smooke](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel R. Redondiez](#); [David Woo](#); [Angelica Cabande](#); [Jeantelle Laberinto](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for SOMA Pilipinas CHHES Report!  
**Date:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 8:43:18 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I have been a member of the advisory board for the South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN) since 2011. It is in this role that I stand in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHES Report and urge you, the Board of Supervisors, to adopt the resolution on Tuesday July 26th.

During my time volunteering for SOMCAN, I have been involved in the formation of SOMA Pilipinas and have had the privilege of seeing it grow and evolve under the leadership of Raquel Redondiez in partnership and collaboration with all stakeholders in SOMA.

The CHHES for SOMA Pilipinas represents a major milestone in this effort to establish a thoughtful, impactful and inclusive vision for the present and future of the Filipino community in SOMA. I encourage the Board of Supervisors to recognize the multi-year effort that has led us to this point, and pass this CHHES report unanimously.

Thank you, every member of the Board of Supervisors, for your support of this important report and cultural district in the heart of the city.

Respectfully,

--joseph smooke  
SOMCAN

--

co-founder [People Power Media](#)  
[josephsmooke.photoshelter.com/archive](http://josephsmooke.photoshelter.com/archive)

**From:** [jose@sffilamchamber.org](mailto:jose@sffilamchamber.org)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel@somapilipinas.org](mailto:Raquel@somapilipinas.org); [David@somapilipinas.org](mailto:David@somapilipinas.org)  
**Subject:** Support for the SoMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report:  
**Date:** Friday, July 22, 2022 10:36:32 AM

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July 22, 2022

Board of Supervisors  
City & County of San Francisco  
1 Dr. Carlton B Goodlett Place  
City Hall Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689  
[Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org)

Re: SoMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report 2022

Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors:


I am Jose Pecho, Chairman of the Board for the San Francisco Filipino American Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber was created in 1976 to foster, promote and enhance the Filipino American business community here in the San Francisco Bay Area. As it was then and is now, we believe a collaborative and cooperative approach is vitally important in making our organization and our community a better one.

We are proud of our working relationship with SoMA Pilipinas and prouder still of their critical work for our Filipino community's legacy in San Francisco. Their advocacy for equity, fairness, transparency, and economic and racial justice in the rapidly gentrifying South of Market neighborhood is vital and honors over 120+ years of our community's history in this great city.

With inspired and dedicated leadership from Raquel Redondiez, SoMA Pilipinas gives the diverse interests of our community the confidence and comfort of knowing SoMA Pilipinas is there to pull us all together on critical issues impacting our community.

The SF Filipino American Chamber of Commerce and I fully support the efforts of SoMA Pilipinas and respectfully ask the Board of Supervisors to adopt the CHHESS Strategy Report!

Sincerely,



Jose Pecho, Chairman  
San Francisco Filipino American  
Chamber of Commerce

**From:** [Carolyn Sideco](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel@somapilipinas.org](mailto:Raquel@somapilipinas.org); [David@somapilipinas.org](mailto:David@somapilipinas.org)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Monday, July 25, 2022 10:21:01 AM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Carolyn Sideco. I am a current board member of the Filipino-American Development Foundation.

I am in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report and urge you to adopt the resolution on Tuesday July 26th.

I am a resident of District 4; San Francisco has been my home since my family's migration from the Philippines in 1970. SOMA Pilipinas has been a vital community resource, continuing a lineage of engaged community influence and engagement.

Thank you,  
Carolyn A. Sideco

President, Board of Directors  
Filipino-American Development Foundation (FADF)

**From:** [Lily Wong](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel@somapilipinas.org](mailto:Raquel@somapilipinas.org); [David@somapilipinas.org](mailto:David@somapilipinas.org)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Monday, July 25, 2022 11:30:22 AM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

My name is Lily and I am the Director of the Sunset Chinese Cultural District (SCCD).

I am writing on behalf of the SCCD in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report and urge you to adopt the resolution on Tuesday, July 26th.

The SCCD is proud to be a part of 9 cultural districts citywide that uplift our community's unique culture. Over the past several decades, San Francisco has changed drastically and the cultural heritage that makes the City special is being threatened. While development does not inherently lead to displacement, development without community voice does. Cultural Districts are a unique opportunity for the City to work in partnership with the unique qualities that different neighborhoods provide. It provides a transparent process and community-created strategies that the City can do to ensure our communities are not lost in the future decades.

Our sister cultural district at SOMA Pilipinas has dedicated two years to conducting bilingual and bicultural outreach to the SOMA community to create 22 strategies that they believe will best empower them to stay and thrive in San Francisco. I urge you to stand with SOMA by voting in favor of adopting this resolution.

Thank you.

Lily Wong 黃麗瑜  
Director of Community Engagement 社區聯繫總監  
Sunset Chinese Cultural District Director 日落區中華文化區總監

Wah Mei School 華美學校 | [wahmei.org](http://wahmei.org)  
1400 Judah Street, San Francisco, CA 94122  
Office: (415) 665-4212  
Direct: (707) 653-5813  
Pronouns: She/Her

**Please note! I will be out of the office on vacation from July 30 through August 9, returning on August 10.**



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If there is no struggle, there is no progress...Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.

-Fredrick Douglass

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**From:** [Mary Roque](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Monday, July 25, 2022 2:54:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [Ltr to Support SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report.pdf](#)

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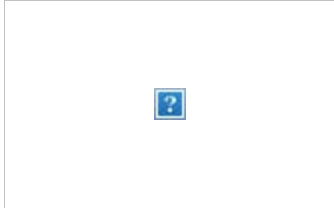
This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Mary Roque, and attached below is my letter in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report.

Sincerely,  
Mary

--



**Mary Roque | Administrative Assistant & Data Collection Specialist**  
Pronouns: She, Her, Hers ([What's this?](#))  
Bayanihan Equity Center | 1010 Mission Street, Suite C | SF, CA 94103  
Tel: (415) 255-2347 | Fax: (415) 255-2358 | [www.sfbec.org](http://www.sfbec.org)  
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** [Emily Murase](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Susie Kagami](#); [raquel@somapilipinas.org](mailto:raquel@somapilipinas.org); [david@somapilipinas.org](mailto:david@somapilipinas.org); [Glynis Nakahara](#); [Lucy Fisher](#); [Gary Barbaree](#); [Alice Kawahatsu](#); [Mark Moriguchi](#); [Lori Yamauchi](#)  
**Subject:** [Japantown Task Force] Urge Board of Supervisors to ADOPT SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS tomorrow, 7/26  
**Date:** Monday, July 25, 2022 2:57:54 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

President Shamann Walton  
Members of the Board of Supervisors,

As the Executive Director of the Japantown Task Force, I am very proud to support the SOMA Pilipinas Cultural Heritage, Housing, and Economic Sustainability Strategy (CHHESS) report which will be considered by the full board for adoption at tomorrow's meeting. As you know, the Cultural Districts program was championed by Supervisor Hillary Ronen and the Japantown Cultural District was the first designated Cultural District. Since then, the Cultural Districts have worked together on several initiatives and Japantown has benefited greatly, in particular, from a strong collaboration with SOMA Pilipinas to preserve and promote the cultural assets that make our City among Time Magazine's "World's Greatest Places of 2022" as recently announced.

I urge full board adoption of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS and thank you for your valuable consideration.

Respectfully,

*Emily*

**Emily M. Murase, PhD**  
ムラセ エミリー  
**Executive Director**  
**Japantown Task Force, Inc.**  
[1765 Sutter Street, 3rd Floor](#)  
[San Francisco, CA 94115](#)  
[www.japantowntaskforce.org](http://www.japantowntaskforce.org)



415.346.1239 (Office)  
415.297.3975 (Cell)

CC: Japantown Task Force Executive Board  
Japantown Task Force Cultural Heritage Sustainability Co-Chairs

**From:** [Theresa Imperial](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel Redondiez](#); [David Woo](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Monday, July 25, 2022 5:20:37 PM  
**Attachments:** [LOS SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report.pdf](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

Attached is BiSHoP's letter of support for SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report.

Thank you.

*Theresa Imperial  
Bill Sorro Housing Program  
Co-Director*

*Main Line: 415-513-5177  
Direct Line: 415-279-9614  
Fax number: 415-757-0437  
Bill Sorro Housing Program  
1110 Howard St. (@7th St.)  
San Francisco, CA 94103*

*\*\*\* This office is a scent-free space; please wear mask if coming to the office and please stay at home if feeling ill. Thank you! \*\*\**

[www.bishopsf.org](http://www.bishopsf.org)



**From:** [Ben Demers](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel Redondiez](#); [David Woo](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 11:43:31 AM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Ben Demers, and I am with the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District, based in Western SoMa. I am writing today in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report, and urge you to adopt the resolution on Tuesday, July 26th.

Our Cultural District sees the strategies laid out by SOMA Pilipinas in this report as exemplary of community-oriented planning. We have watched their team—in partnership with MOHCD, the Planning Department, OEWD, and the Arts Commission—shape this document through sustained engagement with their community, and through a demonstrated understanding of how the city can better support Filipino San Franciscans. We feel confident that the report will advance cultural preservation and anti-displacement efforts in the South of the Market neighborhood.

I'll also add that passage of this report will help pave the way for other Cultural Districts to complete and submit their own CHHESS reports. This is a legislatively required aspect of each District's work, and is a central way that we set long term goals and then make those goals visible. So in addition to being a huge step forward for SOMA Pilipinas, passage with the Board helps support the work of other Districts and of the overall program.

Thank you,

**Ben Demers**

*Government Affairs Coordinator*

LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District

413.386.4063

Pronouns: he/him/his

**From:** [Brianna Barrientos](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [raquel@somapilipinas.org](mailto:raquel@somapilipinas.org); [David Woo](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 11:44:30 AM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Brianna Barrientos and I am a second generation Filipino American college student and resident in the SoMa district. Speaking honestly, I grew up in a town with a significantly low Asian population which made it easier for me to feel small, to feel isolated in a place lacking Filipino representation, a place I was supposed to call my home. In light of this, moving to San Francisco for my education has really shown me that community and solidarity matters especially at such a transitional stage of my life.

I want to express how necessary it is for the investment in community cultural wealth so that individuals of all walks of life can feel supported and recognized in a society that displaces us. One fundamental goal I hope to see fulfilled is to increase funding for language access and cultural programming in the Filipino Cultural Heritage District. In particular, implementing strategies for cultural preservation to expand access to Filipino Arts Education is essential to all generations who hope to learn, teach, promote, and sustain Filipino cultural elements and histories.

I advocate for the collaboration with community-based organizations, artists, seniors, educators and institutions to design programs catered to teaching Filipino languages, history, and culture. Having the city's support to integrate these components would not only be impactful for the Filipino community, but we could potentially open more conversations to address the economic disparities Filipinos face on a daily basis, such as housing insecurities, institutionalized racism, and immigrant displacement. I personally know that being able to process and understand these deep rooted concepts is exactly what I needed when I was younger.

That being said, I fully support the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS report and hope to see these programs prioritized and implemented with urgency in the near future.

Thank you,  
Brianna Barrientos



**From:** [Jamie Mancini](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel@somapilipinas.org](mailto:Raquel@somapilipinas.org); [David@somapilipinas.org](mailto:David@somapilipinas.org); [Jamie Mancini](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:04:25 PM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Jamie Mancini and I am a Filipino- American native San Franciscan.

I am in support of the SOMA Pilipinas CHHESS Report and urge you to adopt the resolution on Tuesday July 26th.

*SOMA Pilipinas is a crucial integral part of San Francisco, and a result of years of organizing and people power. Gentrification has killed off many of the roots that sustain the cultural diversity and creative ideas that have drawn so many to this city. SOMA Pilipinas is keeping the history, accomplishments and continual vibrancy of the Filipino community not only present, but thriving. Remembering the darkest days when redevelopment sought to dismantle the very heart and soul of the city: we must not forget the injustices of our past, but honor the faith, hope, sacrifices, and love that shepherded our community during those darkest of times.*

Thank you,  
Jamie Mancini

**From:** [Teresita Naval](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors, \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Raquel Redondiez](#); [David Woo](#); [Teresita Naval](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for SOMA PILIPINAS CHHESS REPORT  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:10:34 PM

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Dear President Walton and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Teresita Naval, and I am here to support the SOMA PILIPINAS CHHESS REPORT. I have worked in the Galing Bata After School Program at Bessie Carmichael School for Nine years. I teach Filipino Enrichment program to Kinder-8th grader students that includes Filipino cultural dances, songs and, language. I worked closely with the students and families by connecting them to housing, food and community resources.

SOMA PILIPINAS plays an important role in keeping Filipino Culture alive in our community. In the CHHESS Report, there are strategies to preserve our culture such as expanding programs on Filipino culture and history and, to expand programs for Filipino children and youth.

Because of programs like Galing Bata, students are able to speak our language despite being born in the states. Students are able to feel connected to our cultural traditions like how to respect our elders and, learn about history. Please adopt this resolution so that we can continue to inculcate and share our culture to future generations.

Thank you,  
Teresita Naval  
Program Team Leader  
FEC/Galing Bata