

From: [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Support Letter for Pacific Islander Cultural District Legislation
Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 9:28:55 AM

Good morning Clerk Team,

Please add this to File No. 221031.

Thank you!

Natalie Gee 朱凱勤, Chief of Staff

Supervisor Shamann Walton, District 10

President, Board of Supervisors

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl, San Francisco | Room 282

Direct: 415.554.7672 | **Office:** 415.554.7670

District 10 Community Events Calendar: <https://bit.ly/d10communityevents>

From: Ronald Colthirst <colt_ronald@yahoo.com>

Date: Monday, November 14, 2022 at 8:10 AM

To: Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>

Cc: Gee, Natalie (BOS) <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>, Patsy Tito <scdc_sf@pacbell.net>, tino.felise@sdcscsf.org <tino.felise@sdcscsf.org>

Subject: Support Letter for Pacific Islander Cultural District Legislation

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November 14, 2022

Honorable Shamann Walton

President

SF Board of Supervisors, District 10

San Francisco City Hall

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244

San Francisco, CA 94102

via email

Dear Board President Walton,

This letter is my strong personal expression of solidarity and support of your legislation enacting the establishment of a San Francisco Pacific Islander Cultural District located in San Francisco's Visitacion Valley neighborhood.

I write this letter as a San Francisco native and longtime resident of the city of my birth. The legislative proposal for a San Francisco Pacific Islander Cultural District is significant due to

the long history of contributions from San Francisco's Pacific Islander community as well as the longstanding systemic barriers faced by the community.

The presence of Pacific Islanders in San Francisco date back at least one hundred years with an important reason for their immigration to the United States and San Francisco was the need and demand for the labor of Pacific Island workers, especially during World War II and the post-World War II eras. The labor of Pacific Island workers, as well as from other workers, contributed to the building of the economic base of the modern San Francisco Bay Area economy.

Despite the significant contributions of San Francisco's Pacific Islander community, the Pacific Islander community has had to confront a concentration of systemic inequities since their immigration to the United States and San Francisco. These systemic inequities have had very real consequences on the well-being of the Pacific Islander communities. These socio-economic inequities can be found across a wide spectrum of life. Pacific Islanders have and are facing inequities in education, employment, personal and community health, environmental justice and quality affordable housing, to name a few important areas of concern.

Again, I strongly support the passage of your Pacific Islander Cultural District legislation. The establishment of San Francisco's Pacific Islander Cultural District means the official cultural recognition of a community with a long history of contributions to San Francisco while at the same time resisting the systemic societal inequities that are concentrated in the Pacific Islander community. The proposed Pacific Islander Cultural District will proudly take its place with the other San Francisco Cultural Districts serving as an important platform for the Pacific Islander community to continue to advance its cultural, economic and social justice contributions to San Francisco.

Please keep me apprised on the progress of your Pacific Islander Cultural District legislation.

In appreciation,
Ronald Colthirst

cc: Samoan Community Development Center