



Operations | Community Engagement Division
T. 415.641.2600 | 2323 Cesar Chavez St. San Francisco, CA 94124

January 31, 2024

RE: Support for the Vicha Ratanapakdee Mosaic Staircase

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express our department's strong support for the Vicha Ratanapakdee Mosaic Staircase project. We believe will artistically enhance the beauty of the stairway that rises from Vicha Ratanapakdee Way from Terra Vista Avenue to O'Farrell Street, located in the Anza Vista neighborhood.

The Vicha Ratanapakdee mosaic staircase aims to visually immortalize and honor the life of Uncle Vicha in the form of symbols and patterns over three sets of stairs.

Vicha Ratanapakdee, an 84-year-old immigrant from Thailand, was a beloved member of the Anza Vista community in District 2. Tragically, on January 28, 2021, he was violently attacked on one of his daily walks, leading to his death. Supervisor Stefani led a legislative effort at the Board of Supervisors to rename a stairway in Anza Vista in his honor.

The flow and story being told through the art of mosaic tiles will start with focusing on Uncle Vicha's origin story through the struggles, happiness, and contributions found within the support of family and community. Completing the stairway with how his life continues to be a beacon and a cornerstone for the Stop Asian Hate movement with imagery that encapsulates the love for Uncle Vicha by having something dark and tragic—a life being taken, lead to something beautiful—a loving, compassionate art piece made of mosaic tiles for community to enjoy for many years.

At Public Works we are supportive of beautifying the city with public art. This project not only fulfills that purpose of beautifying the stairway, but it also commemorates the life of a San Francisco resident whose legacy and story will be told through this artwork for generations to come.

Yours sincerely,

Ramses Alvarez

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ramses Alvarez".

Manager, Community Engagement