Columbia Neighborhood Center
a partnership for education, health and recreation

785 Morse Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94085

RECEIVED
CITY OF SUNNYVALE
HOUSING DIVISION

March 1, 2005

Katrina Ardina
Community Development Department
456 W. Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Dear Ms. Ardina,

We are members of the Columbia Neighborhood Center Community Advisory Committee. Our committee is made up of parents, students, business people, school staff and residents of this community. We would like to express our support for the expansion of the Columbia Neighborhood Center (CNC).

The CNC provides many important services to our community such as health care, health insurance assistance, counseling, adult education, recreation activities, youth mentoring, after school programs and community events. The neighborhood that the CNC serves includes many families that need extra support. Approximately 40% of the students in our schools qualify for free or reduced-cost lunches. About one-third of our residents don't have health insurance for all family members. As a result the need and demand for the services provided by the CNC are always growing.

After 8 years of serving the community, the CNC is outgrowing its existing space. The CNC could provide services more efficiently if the building was expanded. The CNC would be able to house new services such as adult education classes, health education, employment assistance, and legal services. The facility expansion would also result in more rooms in which services could be provided, a resource area for community members to find information about local programs, more work areas for volunteers, and a larger and friendlier waiting area for families with children.

We thank you for including the CNC expansion as an area of need in Sunnyvale's Consolidated Plan for the next five years. We ask that you include the expansion of the CNC in your plans for seeking funding from Community Development Block Grants and other sources that may support the needs identified in the City's Consolidated Plan.

Sincerely,

Members of the 2005 Community Advisory Committee:

Carol Beetler
Madhu Balachander
Cathy Gomez
Alyssa Hardwick
Christina Lazo
Charles Leath
Patrick Meyering
Sachihiko (Mike) Michitaka
Mark Richardson
Erin Yim

Cc: Linda Kim