



**CITY OF SUNNYVALE
REPORT
Planning Commission**

June 22, 2009

SUBJECT: **2009-0367: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale**
 [Applicant] **Chung Tai International Chan Buddhist Association** [owner]: Application for a property located at 750 East Arques Avenue (at San Geronimo Wy.) in an M-S/POA (Industrial and Service/place of Assembly) Zoning District.

Motion Use Permit to allow an existing place of assembly to continue operation beyond a four year conditional approval with modifications to enable increased capacity for monthly and special events.

REPORT IN BRIEF

Existing Site Conditions Community Religious Facility (Zen Center of Sunnyvale)

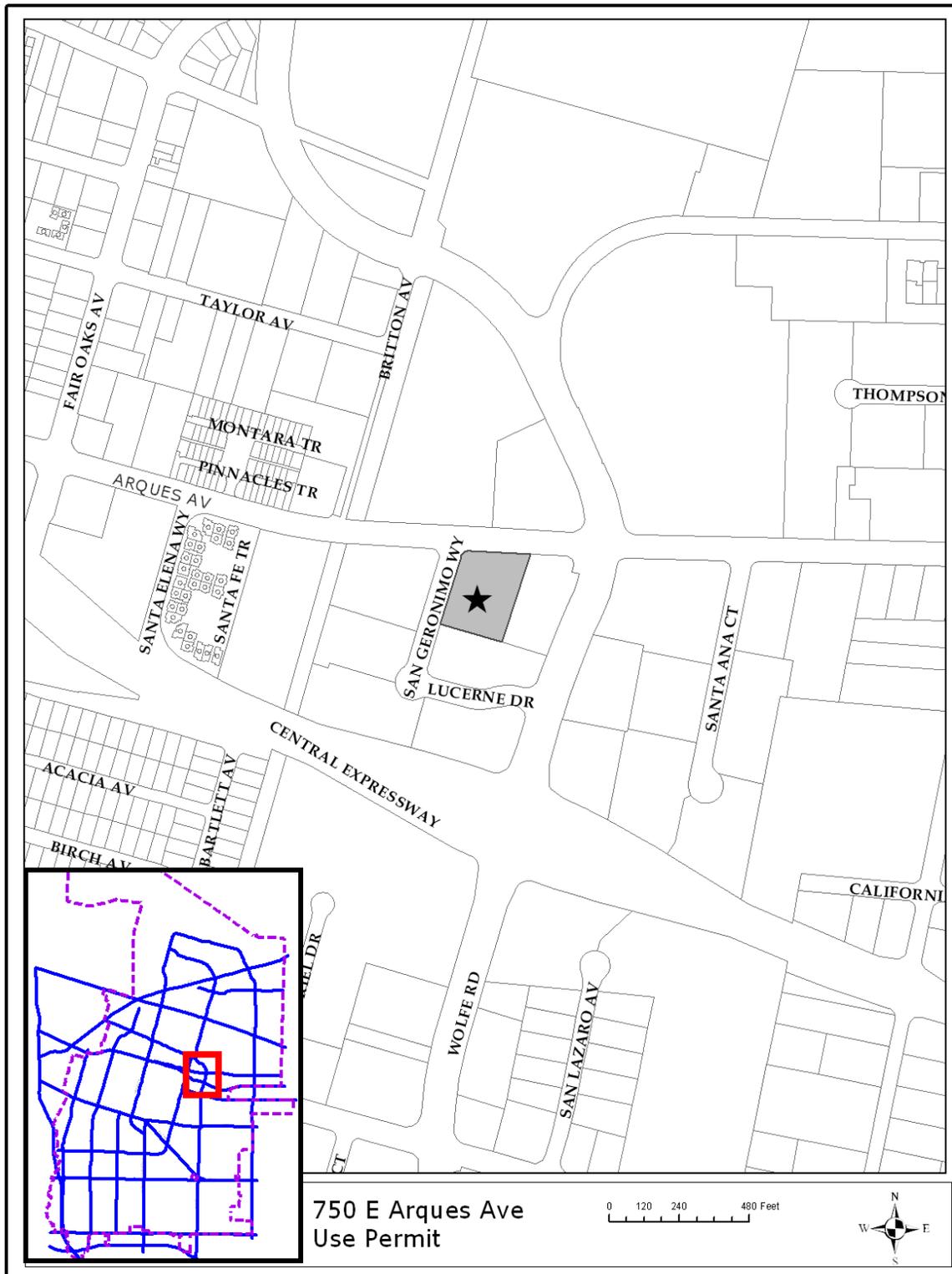
Surrounding Land Uses

North	Across Arques Avenue, high density residential and a municipal fire station.
South	Research & Development office.
East	Research & Development office and a community center.
West	Across San Geronimo Way, Research & Development offices and a church.

Issues Use, Parking

Environmental Status A Class 1 Categorical Exemption relieves this project from California Environmental Quality Act provisions and City Guidelines.

Staff Recommendation Approval with Conditions



PROJECT DATA TABLE

	EXISTING	PROPOSED	REQUIRED/ PERMITTED
General Plan	Industrial	Same	Industrial
Zoning District	MS	Same	MS
Lot Size (s.f.)	63,162	Same	22,500 min.
Gross Floor Area (s.f.)	19,487	Same	28,423 max.
Lot Coverage (%)	31%	Same	45% max.
Floor Area Ratio (FAR)	31%	Same	35% max. without PC review
No. of Buildings On-Site	1	Same	---
Building Height (ft.)	17.5	Same	75 max.
No. of Stories	1	Same	8 max.
Setbacks (Facing Property from E. Arques Ave)			
Front	29	Same	25 min.
Left Side	70	Same	0 min. one side (20 total min.)
Right Side	30	Same	15 min. (frontage)
Rear	64	Same	0 min.
Landscaping (sq. ft.)			
Total Landscaping	11,226*	Same	12,633 min.
% Based on Lot	17.7%*	Same	20% min.
Frontage Width (ft.)	30	Same	15 min.
Parking			
Total Spaces	90	Same	Per U.P. 2005- 0509
Standard Spaces	59	Same	59
Compact Spaces/ % of Total	25 / 27%	Same	31 / 35% max.
Accessible Spaces	7	Same	4 min.
Bicycle Parking	2 Class I, and Class II (for 13 bikes)	Same	2 Class I, and Class II (for 13 bikes) min.



Starred items indicate deviations from Sunnyvale Municipal Code requirements.

* The landscaping deviation is an existing condition.

ANALYSIS

Description & Background of Proposed Project

The proposal is to consider the continued operation of the existing religious facility (Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale) at 750 E. Arques Avenue. Additionally, the applicant requests consideration for increased capacity for monthly and special events. The facility was originally approved with the condition to require consideration of permanent land use approval after four years. At the time of the original proposal in 2005, City staff had received numerous inquiries for place of assembly uses throughout the City's industrial zoning district. The condition of approval to require reconsideration was an effort to ensure that such uses were appropriately located and to monitor possible impacts to the surrounding industrial area. In 2006, staff undertook a more comprehensive study to consider a place of assembly uses in industrial zoning districts. The site and certain surrounding properties were approved with the new POA combining district.

Previous Actions on the Site: The following table summarizes previous planning applications related to the subject site.

File Number	Brief Description	Hearing/Decision	Date
2008-0493	Miscellaneous Plan Permit for solar panel array on the roof of the building.	Staff / Approved	5/14/2008
2005-0509	Use Permit for religious facility (4-year approval)	Planning Commission / Approved	8/8/1995

Environmental Review

A Categorical Exemption Class 1 (existing facilities) relieves this project from CEQA provisions. A Negative Declaration had been prepared with the approval of the use in conjunction with Use Permit 2005-0509. An initial study determined that the proposed project would not create any significant environmental impacts.

As stated with the original Use Permit request, the Industrial Zoning District allows many types of industrial uses. Currently there are no uses within the area that operate with significant hazardous materials that would conflict with the proposed use. The proposed use could affect the use of hazardous materials by future potential businesses that are permitted as a matter of right in this zoning district. The City's Hazardous Materials Coordinator has reviewed the renewal request and has determined that conditions have not

changed that would further pose a risk to the subject site. As required for places of assembly, an emergency evacuation plan has been submitted by the applicant.

Use Permit

Detailed Description of Use: The proposal is for the continual use of the site for a community religious center. The community center includes community education on the Zen Buddhism practice (classes, workshops and library materials), meditation and lunch for participants. The facility operates similarly as it had been originally approved in 2005 with minor changes to the hours and number of practitioners. Most of the changes do not impact the capacity of the site in terms of parking; however, an increase for monthly and special events is noted and discussed further in the “Parking” section of the report. The center’s activities and proposed times of operation are detailed below.

Activity	Day of Week	Hours	Frequency	Number of Practitioners
General Operations	Monday – Sunday	10 a.m. – 10 p.m.	Year-round	4-7 monks and 5-10 volunteer staff. Daily visitors vary from 5-10.
Mediation & Buddhism classes	Tuesday – Sunday	10 a.m. – 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	8 – 15 classes per week (depending on demand)	20 to 70 per class, one class at a time (except Saturday where 2 classes overlap)
Library Resource	Tuesday – Sunday	10 a.m. – 10 p.m.	As requested when Zen Center open	Typically 0 to 10 at one time
Lunch	Monday – Saturday	Mon-Sat: 12 noon – 1 p.m.	3-4 times per week	10 - 20
Meditation Retreats	Sunday	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 st Sunday of the month	30 – 60
Buddhism Workshops	Sunday	9 a.m. – 12 noon or 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.	3 – 4 times a year	30 – 80
Sunday Zen Services	Sunday	Regular Service: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monthly service: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Special Event (twice yearly): 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Regular: held weekly, Annual: on Buddha’s birthday	Regular: 15-25, Monthly: 100-280, Annual: 150-380

Site Layout: The site is located on a corner property at the intersection of E. Arques Avenue and San Geronimo Way. The facility operates within a 19,487 s.f. building on a 1.45 acre lot. A parking lot is located along the south and east boundaries, with landscaping along the north and west side of the building. No changes to the site layout are proposed.

Architecture: The site underwent architectural modifications to the building in 2006, as approved with the original Use Permit. No additional modifications are proposed at this time.

Landscaping: No landscaping modifications are proposed with the permit renewal request. Sidewalks were added to the site in 2006 as required through the original Use Permit approval. Since no site modifications are proposed with the current proposal, additional landscaping is not required at this time.

Parking/Circulation: The site provides a total of 90 parking spaces. When the religious facility was approved, the required parking was based on the expected number of people to attend the site during daily operations. The current proposal does not include a request to increase to the number of patrons of the site during general day-to-day operations. A maximum of 90 practitioners were permitted with the original proposal. The original approval also enabled monthly Sunday events that could result in 100 practitioners and yearly events up to 150 practitioners to visit the site. These monthly and yearly events were enabled through the approval of a Parking Management Plan (PMP), which included a carpool program and parking agreement with a neighboring site.

The applicant has since requested an increase to the amount of practitioners for the monthly and yearly events as part of this proposal. The current request is to allow consideration of up to 280 practitioners on monthly events and 380 practitioners on yearly events. The applicant has submitted a revised PMP. The new plan includes a carpool plan which is overseen by a "carpooling office" on staff. In addition to the carpool plan, information is dispersed to members encouraging the use of nearby public transit options. The PMP notes shuttle services that will be contracted for special events and various pick-up locations at Caltrain and VTA light rail stations are provided. The provided PMP also includes information of carpooling that has already occurred for past events since the Zen Center has been open.

The applicant has a preliminary agreement for the use of an offsite parking lot 895 Kifer Road for monthly event parking. A final agreements shall be filed prior to increased occupancy of the site. The existing businesses at this location do not occupy the site on Sundays and 160 spaces can be made available for the Zen Center of Sunnyvale. The site is located within walking distance; however, shuttle service will be provided by the Zen Center. Per Condition of Approval #11, staff recommends that a final agreement or

easement with the property owner of 895 Kifer Road be recorded for the specified events dates. Also, since the expected monthly events are expected to increase to up to 280 people from the current 100 people that had previously been permitted, staff is recommending Condition of Approval #2A.2 which requires that after six months from the date of approval that the applicant file a status report, through a Miscellaneous Plan Permit application, of the monthly events that have taken place since approval. The status report shall detail information of the carpool program, as had been provided in the preliminary TPMP program. Upon review of the information, Planning Division staff will consult with the other City departments to determine whether renewal of the monthly events can be granted or if further conditions of approval shall be considered.

Due to the increased expected attendance of those twice yearly events specified with the subject application, Staff is requiring for these special events, where attendance may reach up to 380 people, that a separate individual event permit be required. Further coordination will be necessary with various City departments to ensure that traffic and parking concerns are met (See Condition of Approval #2B) for the site. The applicant has indicated that such events may be conducted at an off-site location and appropriate review of the selected site, if within the City, will need to be considered.

Compliance with Development Standards/Guidelines: The proposed use was approved on a temporary basis four years ago. The site was considered part of a transitional industrial area where place of assembly uses may be appropriate. Since that time, the rezoning effort affirmed this finding at this location. At the time, it was also determined that parking was adequate for a majority of the facility operations. Through approval of the Transportation Parking Management Plan, an increase to the capacity could be enabled for specific events. Recommended Conditions of Approval further requiring monitoring of this expansion.

Expected Impact on the Surroundings: The proposal allows for the permanent occupation of the site for a place of assembly use. Staff has found that no significant impacts have resulted under the current operation of the facility for the past four years. Increases to the monthly and special events are required to be continuously monitored and should not cause a significant impact

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impacts other than normal fees and taxes are expected.

Public Contact

Staff has received 58 letters of support which are included in Attachment F.

Notice of Negative Declaration and Public Hearing	Staff Report	Agenda
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published in the <i>Sun</i> newspaper • Posted on the site • 220 notices mailed to the property owners and residents within 1000 ft. of the project site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posted on the City of Sunnyvale's Website • Provided at the Reference Section of the City of Sunnyvale's Public Library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posted on the City's official notice bulletin board • City of Sunnyvale's Website

Conclusion

Findings and General Plan Goals: Staff was able to make the required Findings based on the justifications for the Use Permit. Recommended Findings and General Plan Goals are located in Attachment A.

Conditions of Approval: Recommended Conditions of Approval are located in Attachment B.

Alternatives

1. Approve the Use Permit with recommended Conditions in Attachment A.
2. Approve the Use Permit with modifications.
3. Deny the Use Permit.

Recommendation

Alternative 1.

Prepared by:

Ryan M. Kuchenig
Project Planner

Reviewed by:

Steve Lynch
Senior Planner

Reviewed by:

Trudi Ryan
Planning Officer

Attachments:

- A. Recommended Findings
- B. Recommended Conditions of Approval
- C. Site and Architectural Plans
- D. Letter from the Applicant
- E. Preliminary Parking Management Plan submitted by the Applicant
- F. Letters from Other Interested Parties

Recommended Findings - Use Permit

Goals and Policies that relate to this project are:

Land Use and Transportation Element.

Policy N1.14 *Support the provision of a full spectrum of public and quasi-public services (e.g., parks, day care, group living, recreation centers, religious institutions) that are appropriately located in residential, commercial, and industrial neighborhoods and ensure that they have beneficial effects on the surrounding area.*

1. The proposed use attains the objectives and purposes of the General Plan of the City of Sunnyvale as the project. *(Finding Met)*

The proposed use meets the objectives and purposes of the General Plan as the use is compatible to the M-S/POA Zoning District and nearby businesses. Upon review of the operation over the past four years, the community religious facility has been a good neighbor with no records of complaints filed with the City. Additional requirements for place of assembly uses that have been developed since the original use permit had been approved have been preliminarily met and ensured through conditions of approval. Conditions of Approval also further ensure that monthly and special events are continued to be monitored and reviewed accordingly to limit possible impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.

2. The proposed use ensures that the general appearance of proposed structures, or the uses to be made of the property to which the application refers, will not impair either the orderly development of, or the existing uses being made of, adjacent properties. *(Finding Met)*

The proposed use has demonstrated over the past four years that n impacts to the surrounding area have not been impaired. Conditions of Approval and the development of a Transportation Parking Management Plan will help ensure that monthly and special events are planned appropriately and will not cause a greater traffic impact to the industrial and nearby residential neighborhood.

Recommended Conditions of Approval - Use Permit

In addition to complying with all applicable City, County, State and Federal Statutes, Codes, Ordinances, Resolutions and Regulations, Permittee expressly accepts and agrees to comply with the following conditions of approval of this Permit:

Unless otherwise noted, all conditions shall be subject to the review of approval of the Director of Community Development.

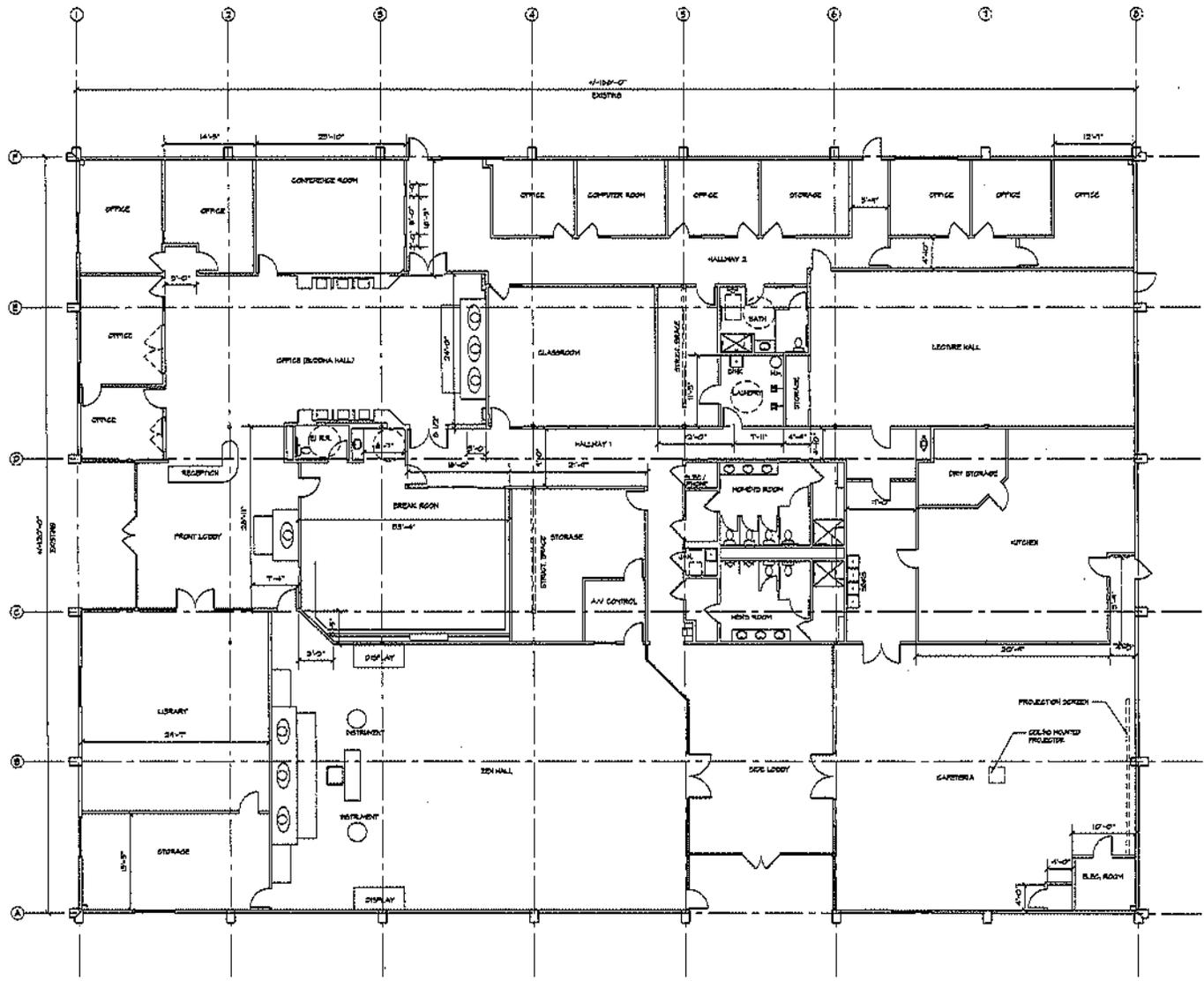
1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- A. Project shall be in conformance with the plans approved at the public hearing(s). Minor changes may be approved by the Director of Community Development, major changes may be approved at a public hearing.
- B. Any major site and architectural plan modifications shall be treated as an amendment of the original approval and shall be subject to approval at a public hearing except that minor changes of the approved plans may be approved by staff level by the Director of Community Development.
- C. The Use Permit for the use shall expire if the use is discontinued for a period of one year or more.
- D. The Use Permit shall be null and void two years from the date of approval by the final review authority at a public hearing if the approval is not exercised, unless a written request for an extension is received prior to expiration date and is approved by the Director of Community Development.
- E. Any expansion or modification of the approved use shall be approved by separate application at a public hearing by the Planning Commission.
- F. Out-of door loudspeakers are prohibited.
- G. The entire site shall be used for the Zen Center as defined in the report. Portions of the site may not be leased for other uses.
- H. Hours of operation are limited to 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily.
- I. A final shared parking agreement shall be recorded with the property located at 895 Kifer Road for use of parking on monthly events prior to increased occupancy of the site.
- J. Existing parking lot shall be repainted and old marking shall be removed (blackened or grinded) to eliminate existing marking.

- K. All exterior recycling and solid waste shall be confined to approved receptacles and enclosures

2. TRANSPORTATION PARKING MANAGEMENT PLAN (TPMP)

- A. Limit regular on-site attendance of practitioners, volunteers or staff to 90 people at one time, with the following exceptions:
 - 1. During one Sunday a month, the attendance may be up to 280 practitioners if an approved Transportation and Parking Management Plan is developed and approved by the Director of Community Development.
 - 2. After initial six months on monthly events, the applicant shall submit a Miscellaneous Plan Permit indicating the results of the carpool program that has occurred thus far. At that time, staff will consider whether renewal of the monthly events can be granted on a permanent or temporary basis and/or if additional conditions of approval shall be required.
- B. For twice yearly events that may bring an attendance of up to 380 practitioners, a "Community Event" permit shall be filed with the City for further coordination with City departments.
- C. The number of practitioners on the site at any given time shall not exceed 90 with the exception of the 12 days per year that require implementation of the Transportation and Parking Management Plan.
- D. The major assembly halls (Zen Hall, Lecture Hall, and Fellowship Hall/Cafeteria), shall not be used concurrently. The Hall, Main Hall and Open Office area may not be used as places of assembly, but only as transitional spaces to move into one of the major assembly halls.
- E. The final TPMP shall include information related to parking available at 895 Kifer Road that is available for monthly events as stated in Condition of Approval #1L.



1. ALL DIMENSIONS SHOWN ARE IN FEET.



① EXISTING FLOOR PLAN

CHUNG TAI ZEN CENTER
 OF SUNNYVALE
 750 E. ARGUE AVENUE
 SUNNYVALE, CA 94085
 APN: 205-92-007

REVISIONS

ATTACHMENT
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1/8" = 1'-0"

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

Address of Property: 750 E. Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, California

Project Summary

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale, a non-profit organization, is a Buddhist Zen Center teaching meditation and Buddhism to Sunnyvale residents and the greater Bay Area communities. The Zen Center contributes to the City of Sunnyvale's values and vision contained in their Community Vision document adopted in 2007 as well as the Land Use and Transportation plan adopted in 1997. One of the stated citywide goals is "to celebrate the diversity of the population and to provide equal opportunity for all residents to participate fully in community life." In fact, the City's Community Vision document laments that there are few opportunities to celebrate our differences or learn more about each other's culture. The Zen Center provides exactly that opportunity. The Zen Center creates opportunities which draw residents to participate fully in the life of the community. It also serves as a destination, bringing in the kind of cultural diversity and programs desired by the City. The Zen Center regularly offers workshops to address issues and problems in many people's lives. It brings harmony and peace and makes the community a better place to live. During the current economic downturn, the Zen Center is especially helpful in relieving the anxiety, stress, fear and frustration that many people are feeling.

Use Permit Justification

1. Since the City of Sunnyvale rezoned the property to a MS/POA in 2006, the Zen Center fits well into the area to serve the community by offering teaching on the ageless wisdom of Buddhism and Zen meditation to anyone interested in learning. The growing number of participants from all cultures and beliefs shows the Zen Center fills the need of pursuing happiness and better lives.

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ATTACHMENT D

2. Another stated goal of the City is “to provide outstanding recreation programs, library services, and visual and performing arts to meet the interests and needs of the diverse population.” The City’s stated vision is for a complete community that “provides its residents not only employment opportunities to realize income, but also leisure activities to stimulate the mind, body and spirit.” The Zen Center’s programs directly address this goal through its education, community and religious activities. In addition the Zen Center helps stop the cultural “leakage” to other communities that so concerns the City of Sunnyvale.
3. Numerous articles and research studies have stated that meditation has many benefits on our physical body and mind. By offering 10-15 meditation classes for free each week, the Zen Center helps people to have a healthier body, worry less, and live longer. Meditation can also help prevent, slow or control the pain of chronic diseases and improve the quality of life. With more people in a calmer state, the community will have less crime and conflict and it will be a safer and more harmonious place to live. In addition the Zen Center helps reinforce a sense of community for the residents of the City
4. The Zen Center considers itself a part of the community and is enthusiastic about contributing to the prosperity of the community. The Zen Center frequently holds workshops for the general public discussing life, cultural, environmental and social topics. The workshops help attendees enrich their lives, have positive attitudes, and resolve conflicts.
5. To be a good neighbor, the Zen Center initiates community services and encourages our disciples to participate in activities like street sweeping, donating blood, Tsunami relief and donating food. The monks are often invited to give speeches to local schools and universities and perform blessing ceremonies for local government and social groups. In more than two years of residing in the building, the Zen Center has not received any complaints or caused any inconvenience to the community. Instead, the Zen Center has become a destination for many people seeking serenity and peace in a time of need.

ATTACHMENT D
Page 2 of 3

*ringing fresh air for a healthy spirit to the Sunny Valley;
We bring the world closer to peace
By discovering the peace and compassion within themselves.*

*Charity, tolerance, interfaith work;
Serenity, calmness, mutual understanding;
Zen meditation is pure water for the soul and the community.*

(Preliminary)

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING MANAGEMENT PLAN

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

Director of Community Development
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Subject: Transportation and Parking Management Plan
For The Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project

Dear Sir:

Attached is the Transportation and Parking Management Plan (TPMP) for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale project. This plan is required as part of the conditions of the Use Permit. The City Planning Department stipulates that the TPMP shall provide additional parking for the annual events. The attached plan shall address different options to achieve this goal.

Respectfully,

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

Since inception in April 2007, Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale had held the Opening Ceremony, monthly ceremonies, annual Buddha's Birthday Ceremony, and 12-week-long weekly meditation and Buddhism classes (offered three times a year). During all the events, the traffic control and parking were exactly according to the city's regulation and Use Permit conditions. All the activities were satisfactorily completed without causing any traffic jam or inconvenience to the neighbors. Based on our experience on the Opening day, the Zen Center can accommodate a total of 280 people throughout the day without causing any problem. In anticipation to the future growth, we would like to increase the annual ceremony participants to a total of 380 throughout the day.

Current parking and forecasted Attendance

The current parking lot accommodates 57 standard, 4 handicapped, and 29 compact parking stalls, for a total of 90 stalls. Twice a year, during the Buddha's Birthday Ceremony and Lunar New Year, the attendance may be up to 380, taking into account our future growth.

This Transportation and Parking Management Plan will address different options to solve the potential parking shortage during the annual Buddha's birthday and Lunar New Year events.

By our current ceremony records, on average, about sixty to eighty percent of our participants carpool to the Zen Center regularly. They are families (husbands and wives or relatives), neighbors, or friends and associates, or people who do not drive or have no cars.

Different Options to reduce the parking demand

Zen Center will implement the following actions to help reduce the parking demand, not only at the annual event (required) but also at our regular services (though not required for the Use Permit, it is good practice). The actions are explained below. Each action, when implemented depending on the situation, will alleviate all or part of the parking demand.

1. Implement a carpooling program for the members
2. Encourage members to use the public transit system
3. Contract private shuttle services
4. Encourage members to bicycle or walk when possible
5. Move the event to an off-site location

1. Implement a Carpool Program

The Zen Center will implement a carpooling program by establishing an in-house carpooling office to coordinate carpooling activities. This office will staff a coordinator and volunteers, and supply them with necessary equipments, such as computers and phones. The Zen Center will educate and emphasize the need of carpooling to reduce parking demand and reduce environmental pollution to its membership and at the same time find out who will be interested to participate. The Zen center will provide these services:

- ✧ Establish membership's contact information; names, phone numbers, addresses (already done).
- ✧ Designate different general areas according to the demographics of our membership. (Cupertino, Saratoga, Los Gatos general area and San Jose, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale general area).
- ✧ Designate available driver's in each general area, provide nearby members with the available driver's contact information, help coordinate meeting locations, starting locations, etc.
- ✧ When there is an event or service, contact drivers/passengers, give parking locations and driving directions, others considerations to make carpooling easier for participants.
- ✧ Review and monitor progress of program.

2. Encourage the Use of the Public Transit System

Zen Center members can use the public transit system to get to the Zen Center. The transit system includes, but is not limited to, the VTA bus system and CalTrain system. The VTA bus system may require transfers depending on where a person is coming from. People taking the Caltrain system will require shuttle pick-up from the nearby Caltrain stations. There are bus stops on Arques Avenue right in front of the Zen Center and right across the street on the other side of Arques for bus lines #304. There is also a bus stop 0.4 miles away further south on Wolf for the ACE shuttle. Zen Center can provide public transit information and arrange shuttle service pick-up. The arrangement of shuttle service pick up can be a part of the duties assigned to the carpooling center coordinator. The Zen Center already has a van that can seat 8 people that can serve in shuttle transportation

3. Contract Private Shuttle Services

Zen Center can provide private contracted shuttle services during the annual event, if necessary, to ease the parking demand. The contracted shuttle services will use the public parking lots, such as the VTA Light Rail, Park-n-Ride, and BART parking lots, for staging purposes. Several lots have been identified as suitable as staging areas due to their proximity to the Zen Center. (See table below and attached map.) We have done this three years ago at a special event at Buddha Gate Monastery in Lafayette, where we obtained permit from the Lafayette BART parking lot and contracted shuttle bus to transport participants. It worked very well.

Park-n-Ride Locations	Distance to Zen Center	Transit System	Spaces Available
1. Evelyn at Francis CalTrain Station in Sunnyvale	1.5 miles	VTA, CT	489
2. Lawrence CalTrain Station at San Zeno Way in Sunnyvale	1.6 miles	VTA, CT	122
3. Lawrence Expressway Moorpark in San Jose	6.0 miles	VTA	70

4. Encourage Members to Bicycle or Walk When Possible

The Zen Center is near the heart of the residential zone in Sunnyvale, and some of our members live very near it. The three Buddhist monks, who are the permanent staff of the Zen Centers, live in apartments within a 15-minute walk of the new Zen Center. The Use Permit also requires racks for up to 13 bicycles. Some members already walk or bicycle to the Center. We'll encourage our nearby members to do the same.

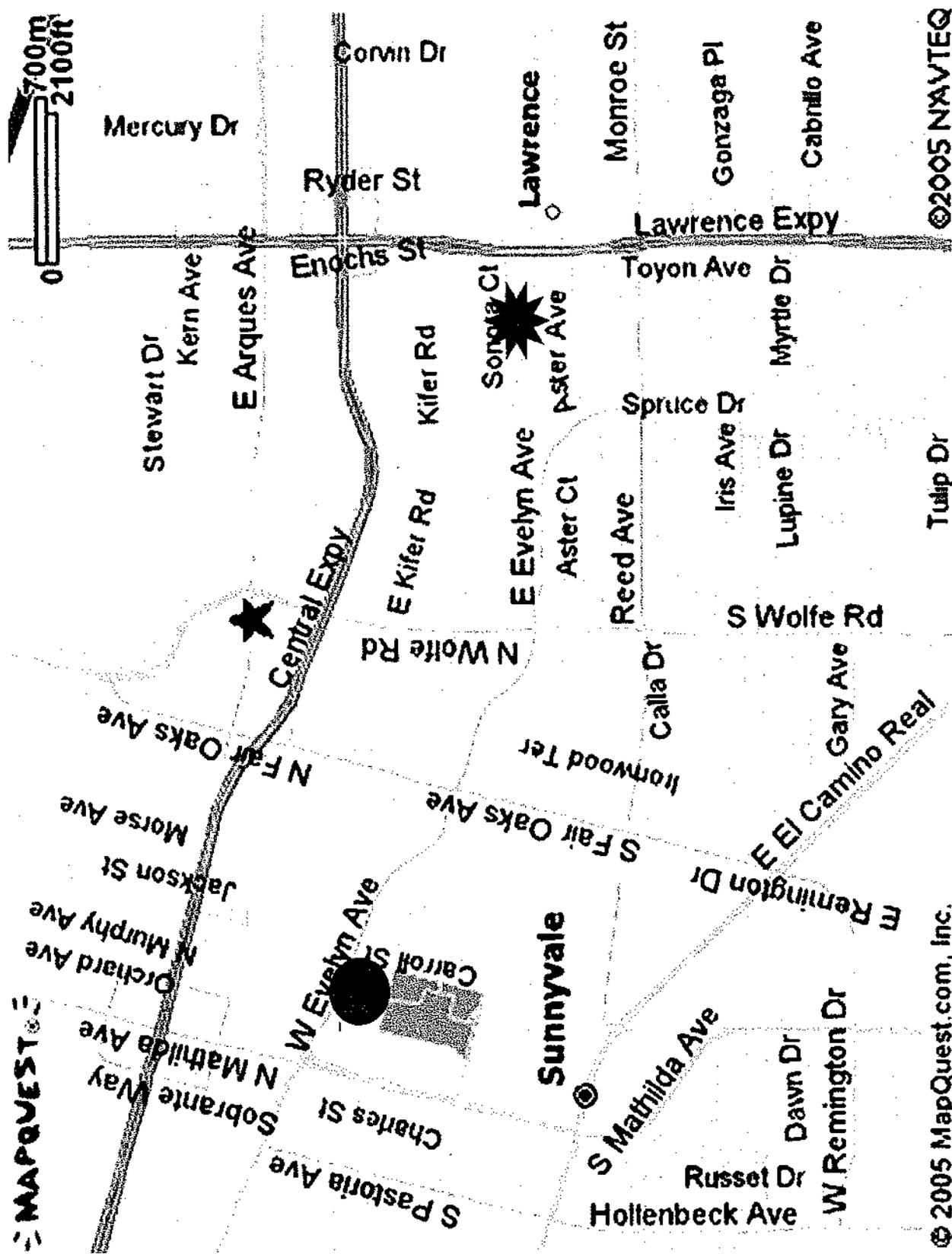
5. Move Special Events to an Off-Site, Rented Location

When there is a special event and a large number of participants are expected, Zen Center is ready to move the event to a public park or rented location where parking is not a problem. We have previous experience with this (we held an outdoor picnic at the Lafayette Reservoir four years ago). When parking and traffic congestion becomes a problem, Zen Center can use our own shuttle, or contract private shuttle services using the designated Park-n-Ride lots for staging purposes.

Continuous Monitoring

Zen Center recognizes the importance of providing adequate parking for membership so it will not cause parking over-spilling into the neighboring streets. Zen Center is committed to eliminating this parking problem. All of the above options are practical, do-able, and can be implemented.

Zen Center intends to continuously monitor the parking situation and these plans for the future to assess their degrees of success.



©2005 NAVTEQ

Tulip Dr

Zen Center of Sunnyvale

© 2005 MapQuest.com, Inc.

Lawrence Caltrans Station at San Zeno Way

Evelyn at Francis Caltrans Station

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

Dharma Event Carpool Summary

<u>Date</u>	<u># of Carpool Car</u>	<u># of people carpool</u>
03/16/07	16	45
04/29/07	57	189
05/27/07	31	94
06/17/07	19	49
07/15/07	24	66
09/16/07	22	56
10/21/07	20	51
11/18/07	17	53
02/03/08	48	130
04/20/08	17	44
05/11/08	45	133
06/08/08	21	47
07/20/08	15	41
09/21/08	22	63
09/07/08	29	80
10/19/08	20	55
11/16/08	26	70
01/25/09	56	167
02/15/09	20	53
03/15/09	45	142
04/19/09	17	49
Average	28	80

Based on the 21 events for the past two years, the average percentage of carpool participants is 60 – 80% of the total participants.

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities Sign Up sheet

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 4/29/2007 , Time: 10:00 - 15:30

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	Patricia McCarlen	San Leandro		5	
2	Lucia Nelk	Lafayette		5	
3	Chen-Hung Tans	Sunnyvale		2	
4	Thanh Pauline Lee	Santa Clara		4	
5	Den U Chir	Lafayette		3	
6	Christine Tam	San Francisco, 94121		4	
7	Julia Feng	Cupertino, 95014		4	
8	鄒佩 (Feng Zou)	Danville, 94506		2	
9	林桐志 (Jongzhi Lin)	Cupertino, 95014		2	
10	曾廣權 (Guenquan Zeng)	San Jose		2	
11	Philana Lee	San Jose		2	
12	陳彤華 (Tonghua Chen)	Los Altos		2	
13	陳介川 (Jiechuan Chen)	Cupertino, 95014		3	
14	張燕卿 (Yenqing Zhang)	San Francisco		6	
15	蔡令儀 (Lingyi Cai)	Sunnyvale		2	
16	劉瑗婷 (Aining Liu)	San Jose		3	
17	施健偉 (Jianwei Shi)	San Francisco		4	
18	唐立峰 (Lifeng Tang)	Fremont, 94539		4	
19	甄碧梓 (Bigui Zhen)	Los Altos, 94022		6	
20	費瓊蕙 (Quonghui Fei)	Monterey, 93940		4	
21	Stefania Dal Lie	Sunnyvale, 94086		3	
22	陳麗香 (Lixiang Chen)	San Jose, 95129		4	
23	林成 (Cheng Lin)	Fremont, CA		3	
24	文傑 (Jie Wen)	Sacramento, CA		6	
25	Cindy Nark	Oakland, Ca		2	
26	Alan Tsai	Palo Alto, 94306		2	
27	Albert Want	Fremont, CA		3	
28	傅慈 (Chuan Ci)	San Mateo		2	
29	Andrev Khilko	Redwood City, 94061		2	
30	Wendy Lam	Fremont		5	
31	Shaling Cho	Milpitas, 95035		2	
32	David Tsai	San Jose		3	
33	Demi Keng	San Jose		2	
34	Mike Ma	Sunnyvale, 94087		2	
35	Jeanne Wu	Burlingame, 94010		3	
36	Linda M. Robinson	Milpitas		3	
37	James Ma	Milpitas		4	
38	Jenny Chen	Sunnyvale		2	
39	Donna Yee	San Jose		3	
40	Tu Lam			4	
41	Grace Wu	Saratoga, 95070		6	
42	Eric Yeh	San Jose, 95130		4	
43	Rvan Yiu	San Francisco, 94122		5	
44	Aaron Lee	Daly City, 94014		5	
45	傅因 (Chuan Yin)	Saratoga, 95070		6	
46	Nina Wang	Burlingame, 94010		3	
47	Chu Lee	Sunnyvale, 94087		2	
48	Anne Fang	Milpitas, 95035		2	
49	廖雪貞 (Xuizhen Liao)	San Jose, 95148		2	
50	江素吟 (Suyin Jiang)	San Jose, 95132		6	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities Sign Up sheet

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 5/27/2007 , Time: 9:30 -

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	Lillian Hsiao	Fremont, 94536		2	
2	Jessica Chang	Saratoga, 95070		2	
3	John Hui	Fremont, 94539		3	
4	Rvan Yiu	San Francisco, 94122		3	
5	Anny Tran	San Jose, 95132		3	
6	Christine Tan	San Francisco, 94121		3	
7	Kai Chang	San Jose, 94112		4	
8	Jimmy Neugen	San Jose, 95148		9	
9	Jayon La	San Jose, 95133		3	
10	Neugen Vien			2	
11	Trihn Lam	Sunnyvale		4	
12	Hwei-Chu Yeh	Fremont, 94539		2	
13	施耀宗 (Yaozone Shi)	Cupertino, 95014		3	
14	張淑莉 (Shuli Zhane)			4	
15	Winnie Chen			2	
16	Stephen Hsu	Cupertino, 95014		4	
17	Yong Chen	Sunnyvale		2	
18	Dan & Sara Mah	San Carlos		2	
19	Ming Cheng	San Jose, 95129		2	
20	Wain & Carly Chu			2	
21	林雅慧 (Yahui Lin)	Sunnyvale		2	
22	Jenny Chen	Sunnyvale		2	
23	蔣慧玲 (Huilong Jiang)	San Francisco, 94122		2	
24	Gus Wang	Fremont		2	
25	羅顯強 (Xiangqiang Luo)	Cupertino, 95014		3	
26	Shan Branna	Santa Clara		5	
27	Jinehan Ye	Fremont, 94539		2	
28	Julia Feng	Cupertino, 95014		3	
29	Praveen Sharma	Los Altos Hills, 94022		6	
30	Lilina Chen	San Jose, 95128		4	
31	Alloeyta	Cupertino, 95014		2	
	Total		31 cars	94 people	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities Sign Up sheet

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 9/16/2007 , Time: 9:30 - 16:00

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	Zhihong Li	Sunnyvale, 94086	[REDACTED]	2	
2	Yahwei Lin	Sunnyvale, 94087	[REDACTED]	3	
3	Daisv Chi			2	
4	Xu Bo			3	
5	Nikeva Jev	Sunnyvale		2	
6	Angela Chen	San Jose	[REDACTED]	2	
7	Rachel Liu	Sunnyvale, 94086	[REDACTED]	2	
8	Yung-Ming Chou	Fremont, 94538	[REDACTED]	3	
9	Ming Wang	Sunnyvale, 94087		2	
10	Alice Lo	San Jose		2	
11	Damai Lama	San Jose	[REDACTED]	4	
12	Shyan-Dar Wu	Saratoga, 95070	[REDACTED]	3	
13	Ning Fong	Saratoga, 95070	[REDACTED]	2	
14	Rita Wang	Fremont, 94539	[REDACTED]	2	
15	Choo Ooi	Sunnyvale, 94087	[REDACTED]	5	
16	Wain Chew	San Jose, 95128	[REDACTED]	2	
17	Silvia Chu	Mountain View, 94043	[REDACTED]	3	
18	Shirley Yang	Sunnyvale, 94087	[REDACTED]	2	
19	Trinh Lam	Sunnyvale, 94086	[REDACTED]	3	
20	Christine Tam	San Francisco, 94121	[REDACTED]	2	
21	Leewei Yang		[REDACTED]	2	
22	Welling Hsu	Cupertino, 95014	[REDACTED]	3	
	Total		22 cars	56 people	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities sign Up sheet

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 2/3/2008 , Time: 9:30 -

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	Marzaret Collaco	San Jose, 95110		3	
2	Kimmy Tang	San Jose, 95131		5	
3	Kim Duong	San Jose		2	
4	Ann Chia	Millbrae		5	
5	毛倍華 (Weihua Mao)	Mountain View		4	
6	莊瑞美 (Ruimei Zhuang)	Los Altos		2	
7	朱慧 (Hui Zhu)	San Mateo, 94401		3	
8	S. Ravont	Los Altos		2	
9	彭文賢 (Wenxian Peng)	Berkeley		2	
10	譚哲易 (Zheyi Tan)	Cupertino		3	
11	Jackie Ling	San Jose, 95132		2	
12	Mohammad Petra	San Jose, 95123		2	
13	Andrev Khilko	Redwood City, 94061		2	
14	Kin Yuen Uatt	San Francisco		4	
15	廉禾 (He Lian)	Fremont, 94539		2	
16	Jennifer Chen	Cupertino, 95014		3	
17	Lisa			3	
18	Kevin Shev	San Francisco, 94122		2	
19	Yaping XuShen	Cupertino, 95014		5	
20	Jenny Hien	San Jose, 95129		3	
21	Alice Chung	San Jose, 95120		3	
22	陳仁華 (Renhua Chen)	Palo Alto, 94306		2	
23	Christine Tam	San Francisco, 94121		2	
24	Wain & Carolyn Chew	San Jose, 95128		2	
25	傅禾 (Chuan He)	Fremont		2	
26	Kim Hsieh	Los Altos, 94024		2	
27	傅品 (Chuan Pin)	Fremont		4	
28	Anjie	Fremont, 94539		8	
29	粘金鍾 (Jinzhong Nian)	San Francisco, 94111		2	
30	羅玉純 (Yuchun Luo)	San Jose, 95129		2	
31	郭潘安麗 (Anli Pan)	San Jose, 95148		2	
32	高淑玲 (Shuling Gao)	Saratoga, 95070		2	
33	羅曉瑛 (Yanxing Luo)	Sunnyvale, 94086		2	
34	施耀宗 (Yaorong Shi)	Cupertino, 95014		3	
35	尤梅桂 (Meigui You)	San Jose, 95129		2	
36	林美伶 (Meiling Lin)	Fremont, 94539		2	
37	莊婷婷 (Tingting Zhuang)	San Jose, 95129		2	
38	陳煥青 (Yiqing Chen)	Sunnyvale, 94087		3	
39	莊鎮邦 (Zhenbang Fan)	San Jose, 95127		2	
40	周永明 (Yongming Zhou)	Livermore, 94550		3	
41	李梓麗 (Ziruli Li)	San Jose, 95120		2	
42	Ken Fan	Sunnyvale, 94089		2	
43	Chulee	Sunnyvale, 94087		2	
44	Ben Chu	San Jose, 95131		2	
45	Maeie Wong	San Jose		3	
46	傅儒 (Chuan Ru)	San Jose		3	
47	傅蘇 (Chuan Su)	Cupertino, 95014		3	
48	傅泳 (Chuan Yong)	Sunnyvale		2	
	Total		48 cars	130 people	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities sign Up sheet
Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs
 Date: 5/11/2008 , Time: 9:30 - 15:00

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	陳易水 (Yishui Chen)	Stockton		2	
2	石善惠 (Shanhui Shi)	San Jose, 95152		2	
3	Justin Juswaili	Fremont, 94538		2	
4	Christine Tam	San Francisco, 94121		3	
5	Erica Wu	San Jose, 95129		3	
6	周曉宇 (Xiaoyu Zhao)	Saratoga, 95070		4	
7	徐南光 (Nanguang Xu)	Saratoga, 95070		3	
8	梁見彩 (Jiancai Liang)	Fremont, 94555		3	
9	李海倫 (Hailun Li)	L.A. 94024		2	
10	Patricia Lin	Fremont, 94539		2	
11	陳玉鳳 (Yufeng Chen)	Fremont, 94539		3	
12	Suganthi Alaeamalai	Sunnyvale, 94086	[REDACTED]	3	
13	Share Jing Ko	San Jose, 95123	[REDACTED]	2	
14	Stefania Dalte	Sunnyvale, 94086	[REDACTED]	4	
15	Jessica Jochin	San Jose, 95124	[REDACTED]	3	
16	Robert Arne	Sunnyvale	[REDACTED]	3	
17	Thuy Ly	San Jose, 95148	[REDACTED]	5	
18	Tony Tran	San Jose, 95148	[REDACTED]	2	
19	Ling Lee	San Jose, 95129	[REDACTED]	7	
20	Kimmy Tang	San Jose, 95131	[REDACTED]	7	
21	Tsoning Yeh	Fremont, 94539		2	
22	Amy Wang	San Jose, 95129			
23	王沛 (Pei Wang)	Cupertino, 95014		2	
24	Jason Je	San Jose		2	
25	Trinh Lam	Sunnyvale		3	
26	Chau Lam	Sunnyvale		2	
27	Alice Lo	San Jose		2	
28	Tracy Ho	Fremont		2	
29	Camille Chen	Cupertino, 95014		2	
30	Albert Fong	San Jose		2	
31	Chi Hoang	San Jose		5	
32	Cynthia Chen	San Francisco		4	
33	Marowen Ng	Mountain View		2	
34	Lava Fang	Sunnyvale		3	
35	Rong Hu	Cupertino, 95014		3	
36	林雅慧 (Yahui Lin)	Sunnyvale		2	
37	宋繼華 (Jihua Song)	Cupertino, 95014		2	
38	林鈺凱 (Yukai Lin)	Cupertino, 95014		4	
39	徐美榮 (Meivine Xu)	Saratoga, 95070		3	
40	Susan Liang	San Jose		2	
41	羅玉純 (Yuchun Luo)	San Jose		3	
42	Bruce Wang	Fremont		2	
43	Harold Juang	Fremont		3	
44	Wain Chew	San Jose		2	
45	羅志雲 (Zhiyun Luo)	Mountain View, 94040		4	
	Total		45 cars	133 people	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities Sign Up sheet

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 6/8/2008 , Time: 9:00 – 12:00

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpooled	Note
1	Tanya Chang	San Jose, 95129		3	
2	Chi-Hsing Chen	San Jose, 95129		2	
3	Michelle Wong	San Jose, 95032		3	
4	Wain Chew	San Jose, 95128		2	
5	Margaret Wang	Fremont, 94539		2	
6	Bruce Wang	Fremont, 94539		2	
7	Chew Lam	Sunnyvale, 94086		2	
8	Gordan Chan	Burlingame, 94010		3	
9	Shvan-Dar Wu	Saratoga, 95070		2	
10	Alex Chan	San Jose, 95161		3	
11	Justin Juswandi	Fremont, 94538		2	
12	Andrev Khilko	Redwood City, 94061		2	
13	張瑋方 (Kerene/Zhang)	San Jose, 95125		2	
14	Kim Hsieh	Los Altos, 94024		2	
15	Ping Ng	Fremont, 94539		2	
16	Shirly & Heidi	Milpitas, 95035		2	
17	Winnie Chu	San Jose		2	
18	張誠生 (Disheng Zhang)	Sunnyvale		2	
19	Lu Fang	Milpitas		3	
20	Kumar Krishhan	Sunnyvale		2	
21	Robert Anne	Sunnyvale		2	
	Total		21 cars	47 people	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities Sign-up sheet

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 1/25/2009 , Time: 9:00 – 16:00

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	馬震宇 (Zhenyu Ma)	94087		4	
2	鄭玉雯 (Yuwen Zheng)	95051		3	
3	余水暉 (Shuivang Yu)	95070		2	
4	關伯瑋 (Bowe Guan)	95132		2	
5	龍傳吉 (Chuanji Long)	94087		5	
6	Trinh Lam	94086		3	
7	蔡佩真 (Peizhen Cai)	95070		2	
8	傅暉 (Chuan Zhu)	94087		3	
9	黃韓玲 (Hanling Huang)	95129		2	
10	吳惠玲 (Huilin Wu)	95014		4	
11	王蘭貴 (Langui Wang)	95014		3	
12	Ching-Chi Tsao	Saratoga 95070		3	
13	Alice Chiou	Saratoga 95070		5	
14	Tanya Chang	San Jose 95129		3	
15	Wain Chew	San Jose 95128		2	
16	Diquan Gong	San Jose 95129		4	
17	Susan Lan	Saratoga 95070		4	
18	Alice Lo	San Jose		2	
19	Tony Chang	Saratoga 95070		6	
20	Mei Teng	San Jose 95129		2	
21	張迪生 (Disheng Zhang)	Sunnyvale		2	
22	周永明 (Yongming Zhou)	94538		3	
23	林炯志 (Jiongzhi Lin)	95014		2	
24	Amanda Hiao	95129		3	
25	辛冠君 (Guanjun Xin)	94085		3	
26	林方薇 (Fangwei Lin)	95051			
27	何翠慧 (Cuihui He)	94539		2	
28	方潔 (Lu Fang)	95035		3	
29	Nuche Tang	95993		6	
30	朱柏昌 (Bochang Zhu)	95120		2	
31	Lisa Bishon	94110		4	
32	張蓉玲 (Rongling Zhang)	95014		2	
33	徐榮 (Rong Xu)	95014		3	
34	區玉玲 (Yuling Ou)	95132		2	
35	鄧惠文 (Huiwen Deng)	Fremont		2	
36	Kint Lam	Sunnyvale 94086		2	
37	任梅芬 (Meifen Ren)	Fremont		2	
38	Elaine Wang	San Jose		3	
39	Harv Yu	Sunnyvale		2	
40	傅露 (Chuan Ru)	San Jose		3	
41	馮茵翎 (Ruiling Feng)	Fremont		2	
42	Tu Uong	Sunnyvale		4	
43	陳樹德 (Shude Chen)	Cupertino		2	
44	尹維彤 (Weitong Yin)	Sunnyvale 94087		2	
45	黃惠蓮 (Huilian Huang)	San Jose		2	
46	Mickey Forman	Los Altos		2	
47	Michael Chen	San Jose		3	
48	Yuxiao Guo	Sunnyvale		5	
49	Larry Klein	Sunnyvale		2	
50	Khien Tang	Santa Clara		4	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities Sign Up sheet

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 2/15/2009 , Time: 9:00 – 12:00

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	Tanya Chang	San Jose, 95129		3	
2	Karen Cheung	Alameda, 94502		3	
3	傅囑 (Chuan Zhu)	Sunnyvale, 94087		6	
4	Emily Wang	Fremont, 94538		3	
5	Andrey Khilko	Redwood City, 94061		2	
6	傅因 (Chuan Yin)	San Jose, 95122		2	
7	傅韻 (Chuan Fan)	San Jose, 95132		2	
8	吳晉達 (Xianda Wu)	Saratoga, 95070		2	
9	傅懷 (Chuan Huai)	Fremont, 94539		3	
10	莊婷婷 (Tingting Zhuang)	San Jose, 95129		2	
11	穆秀芬 (Xiufen Mu)	94065		2	
12	Jerry Hsian	95132		2	
13	林崇星 (Chongxin Lin)	94536		2	
14	李文儀 (Wenli Li)			5	
15	Trinh Lam	94086		2	
16	溫森勇 (Senyong Wen)	94404	[REDACTED]	2	
17	傅寶 (Chuan Bao)	94539	[REDACTED]	2	
18	Vanna Wong	95054	[REDACTED]	2	
19	尹維彬 (Weibin Yin)	94087	[REDACTED]	2	
20	Mindy	95051	[REDACTED]	3	
	Total		20 cars	53 people	

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Activities sign Up sheet Page 30 of 31

Event: Dharma Event Carpool Participation Form

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale encourages Participants to carpool to all our Dharma events and programs

Date: 3/15/2009 , Time: 9:00 -- 17:00

No	Name	City / Zip Code	Phone Number	# of People Carpoled	Note
1	Hbinz Kauk	Sunnyvale, 94086		2	
2	Don Endres	Sunnyvale, 94087		2	
3	張迪生 (Disheng Zhang)			2	
4	Maggie Wong	95121		2	
5	Livne Zhang	Sunnyvale, 94087		3	
6	Vanna Wang	95054		3	
7	Dat On	Santa Clara, 95050		2	
8	Chau Lam	Sunnyvale, 94086		4	
9	Sue Chang	San Jose, 95129		4	
10	Rebecca Auibela	95112		2	
11	Jennifer			2	
12	韓仁 (Ren Han)	Cupertino, 95014		2	
13	Mav Lin	San Jose		2	
14	Tony Ju	Santa Clara		3	
15	廖惠君 (Huijun Liao)	Fremont, 94536		7	
16	Tanya Chang	San Jose		3	
17	Juseina Jong	Mountain View, 94040		3	
18	Kimmy Tang	San Jose		2	
19	Mindy Trinh	Santa Clara		3	
20	Nancy To			5	
21	Josephie Tran			4	
22	Tiffany Tran			3	
23	Morris Lee	95129		5	
24	Damai Lama	95110		3	
25	Tara Sotelo	94086		3	
26	Ellen Chu	94022		2	
27	Hane Lee	95054		4	
28	Rosolie Garzo	95159		4	
29	Wayne Vuin	95121		3	
30	Jimmy Neuyen	95148		4	
31	Kawan Fole	94501		2	
32	Henry Chen	94572		6	
33	Yinxia Guo			5	
34	Christine Tam	San Francisco, 94121		2	
35	Irene Leong	94087		2	
36	Brian Gurske	94553		2	
37	Wain Chew	95128		2	
38	Jianhua Shu	94539		2	
39	徵雅 (Chuan Ya)	95118		3	
40	Jadyn Lan	95002		5	
41	Choo Ooi	94087		8	
42	Molly Bacar	San Carlos, 94070		2	
43	Arnold Chu	Los Altos, 94024		2	
44	Ling Zhang	Santa Clara, 95051		3	
45	Margaret Tsao	Sunnyvale, 94086		2	
	Total			45 cars	142 people

**中台山太谷精舍 Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale**

750 E. Arques Ave. • Sunnyvale • CA 94085 • Tel: (408)733-0750 • Fax: (408)733-0751

June 15, 2009

Dear Ryan,

To date, we have collected 58 support letters from our Zen Center participants. Enclosed please find a complete set of these letters as we have received. We expect a few more in the next few days.

The voices in these letters reflect the cross-section and diverse populations we serve. Enclosed please find the original letters and a log sheet.

We greatly appreciate it if you would pass this on to the Planning Commission.

Sincerely

Venerable Jian Hu
Abbot and Founder
Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale



ATTACHMENT F

Page 2 of 71

駐舊金山台北經濟文化辦事處
**TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE
IN SAN FRANCISCO**

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 U.S.A.

May 21, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

This office, functioning as the *de facto* Consulate-General of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in San Francisco, would like to seek your favorable consideration to renewing the usage permit for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale at 750 East Arques Avenue.

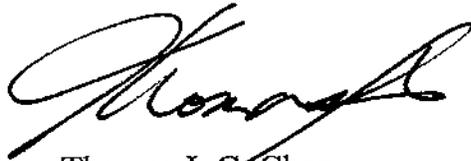
While the Zen Buddhism has been an integral part of Asian cultures for over 2,500 years, it also has been attracting a great number of people worldwide for many years. Taking pride in being a harmoniously melting pot of the global village, the United States, especially the great State of California, has successfully accommodated different ethnics and religions. Freedom and human rights thus find their best home to settle, particularly in the City of Sunnyvale.

Serving people in Sunnyvale for years, Chung Tai Zen Center is a good neighbor and a symbol of peace, relief and comfort. It promotes multi-cultural interaction and provides educational resources to the community in a very efficient manner. The Center has been indeed playing a critical role in

making the community a better place to live in. Your kindness in extending its permit will surely be welcomed by the people in the community.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Thomas J. G. Chen
Director General

CC: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale



Santa Clara County

San Jose, CA 95128

June 8, 2009

Co-Executive Directors:

The Rev. Dr. Diana Gibson
The Rev. Margo Tenold

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Board of Directors:

The Rev. Michael Ellard
President
The Rev. Richard Mixon
Vice President
The Rev. Travis Hyatt
Treasurer
Ms. Marion Elkhorn
The Rev. Jerry Fox
Ms. Katherine Kim
The Rev. Larry LaPierre
Mr. Terry McCaffrey
The Rev. Evelyn Vigil

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to encourage you to approve the application of the Chung Tai Zen Center for a permanent Use Permit. They are a valuable addition to our community.

Over the last 3 years I have had the honor of working on several interfaith projects with the staff of the Chung Tai Zen Center. I have found them to be dedicated to interfaith dialogue and harmony. The Ven. Jian Hu and his staff have always brought a thoughtful and peaceful presence to our meetings and have been happy to contribute to our interfaith programs.

On several occasions I have been invited to join them as a representative of the Christian community in some of their celebrations. Their services are inclusive, with most of the service given in both Chinese and English. The Center itself welcomes any and all to its classes on Buddhist meditation and spiritual development. When I have been there, the Center has offered me moments of peace in the midst of the hectic pace of Silicon Valley. I'm sure others find this true, also.

I believe the Chung Tai Zen Center enriches our community through their activities and that they work for mutual understanding and respect. I hope you will approve their application for a permanent Use Permit.

Sincerely,

Rev. Margo Tenold
Co-Director

[Redacted text]

Proclaiming and Practicing Good News Since 1942



Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

June 8, 2009

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I write in support of Chung Tai Zen Center's application for a permanent use permit at their facility on East Arques Avenue in Sunnyvale.

A faculty member at Santa Clara University, I conduct research on and take students in my classes to visit local congregations. Chung Tai has been at the top of my "Local Religion Project" resource list for the past five years. In that time I have taken entire classes to tour the facility, study the beautiful art and sacred texts, attend dharma talks, observe meditation instruction, and ask questions of the abbot, monks and lay volunteers. In April of this year, for example, Chung Tai hosted the 21 students enrolled in my "Encounters of Religion and Globalization" class and me for lunch, coupled with a tour and question/answer session.

I have been fortunate to observe a number of services at Chung Tai—e.g. the recent Buddha's Birthday celebration—where I get a sense of the community they serve. The events are always well-organized, ably staffed by volunteers, and more often than not I meet not only members of the Chung Tai community but also colleagues from other universities, local officials, and civic and religious leaders from Taiwan.

Chung Tai's abbot, Venerable Jian Hu, is a real asset to the Silicon Valley educational and interfaith communities. He has spoken at Santa Clara University a number of times—including an experimental course in which he offered meditation instruction to students in a religious studies class—and is a regular participant in local interfaith events. Through his outreach efforts, Chung Tai is now known in the south bay as a center where one can engage Chinese culture and Buddhism in an authentic and hospitable setting.

Sunnyvale is fortunate indeed to be home to Chung Tai.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Philip Boo Riley
Associate Professor

June 05, 2009

ATTACHMENT F

Page 6 of 71

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the application by the Zen Center of Sunnyvale for a Permanent Use Permit of their premises at 750 E. Arques Avenue. I have been connected to the Zen Center for over five years, first in my capacity as Associate Director of the Center for Buddhist Studies at Stanford University, and later as a supporter from afar since working at San Francisco State University in January of 2008. The Chung Tai Zen Center has become a mainstay in the cultural and religious life of the greater Bay area, and in particular on the Peninsula, whose importance and contributions to the community at large cannot be overstated.

Its abbot, Ven. Jian Hu, and his amazingly dedicated staff composed of both monks and lay people have endeared themselves to the community up and down the Peninsula, and have added immeasurably to its quality of life. While I worked at Stanford, we invited Ven. Jian Hu to offer an entire semester-long lecture series on the Chinese Zen masters. The series was wildly successful and scores of people from the community attended weekly lectures free of charge. The Stanford community in turn was invited to participate in all lectures and meditation sessions in Sunnyvale at the Center as well.

As I understand it, a Permanent Use Permit will ensure that the Zen Center can continue its year-round classes, retreats, workshops, and other programs for all age groups, at no cost to the participants as a service to the community. I can only say that the Zen Center has enriched the community beyond words since it first opened. It continues to build bridges and foster multicultural and interreligious understanding in the Bay area and beyond. I do hope you will grant them the permit they seek and so greatly deserve.

With best wishes,

Wendy Abraham 

Wendy Abraham, Ed.D.
Director of Development
College of Science and Engineering
College of Health and Human Services
San Francisco State University

May 18, 2009

To: Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

From: Lucille Liaw (Sunnyvale Resident)

Re: Use Permit for Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367 - 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am a Sunnyvale resident since 1983. I am submitting this petition to express my appreciation of assistance from Chung Tai Zen Center and request for allowance of **Use Permit** for its continuous operation. I take this opportunity to explain my personal experience and how Chung Tai Zen Center can help other Sunnyvale residents.

Year 2002 was a difficult year for me and my family. My beloved mother got brain hematoma, I couldn't help and she passed away two months after, I had diagnosis with possibility of cancer and had a major operation, my employer had a major reduction in force and I lost my job (primary and only income for the family), I got depression, and so on.

My mother got brain hematoma and passed away two months after. My brother and sister came from Taiwan & Germany to take care of her. It was so hopeless and we couldn't do anything, we felt guilty and got angry to each other. Master Jian-Gong from Lafayette Chung Tai Zen Center introduced us Buddha's lesson thru meditation practice, he taught us the uncertainty of life. He introduced Zen practice to focus on what we can do, what we should do, and to maintain a clear mind. The Buddha's teach and meditation practice brought my family together in harmony and supports each other. I am also sure that mother knew her children were united and left with peace.

Right after mother's death, my health condition went down. My doctors suggested a major surgery. My mind filled with fear and uncertainty. This was another big challenge. Again, Zen practice helped, trying to understand the uncertainty of life, and focusing on what I can do, it helped me to regain peace and hope. I gained the strength to face the upcoming operation and to accept the possibility of worst outcome.

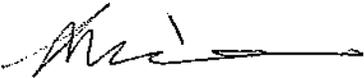
While I was in recovery from operation, my employer had a major reduction in force and I lost my job. I was the primary and only income producer for the family. My son was sick and need long term, maybe life time treatment; my daughter was just admitted to UCSD. My body chemistry changed from operation, I got so depressed and it was out of my control. I listen to Master Jian-Gong's suggestion. I drove to Lafayette and south San Jose for meditation practice. It helped to find my inner-self and I was able to help others later on.

During this difficult time, I had to take a long drive to Lafayette or South San Jose with traffic competition. During the last three years, we finally have a place to practice in Sunnyvale. The

Chung Tai Zen Center certainly offers significant benefits to Sunnyvale residents and community. I am taking this opportunity to share my personal experience and hopefully this can provide value inputs to your decision.

ATTACHMENT F
Page 8 of 71

Sincerely,



Lucille Liaw

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

June 1, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

As one of the millions of Chinese immigrant who came to America in pursuit of the new life, I have been wondering about the meaning of life in this hustling and bustling Silicon Valley. Is that all there is to it just studying, working, getting married, retired and die? Often times, I woke up in the middle of the night pondering, "Where am I and what am I doing here?"

After 30 years' soul searching, I can finally say, "I was blind, now I see. I was lost, now I am found". I owe it to the Zen Center of Sunnyvale the new life I have because I found my true nature and the reason for being. What a liberating moment to realize that the truth shall set us free and all is impermanent.

It has been an inspiring journey of five years with the Zen Center. Before I met the Dharma Masters, I thought they were cultivating in the mountain caves like recluses. What a pleasant surprise to find them down-to-earth, friendly, and even humorous, I have eye-witnessed the most selfless, compassionate human beings working day and night, no weekends nor holidays for the welfare of the lay disciples like me.

It never ceased to amaze me the way they teach Zen Buddhism through actions, not mere words. Being transparent, compassionate, and purified is not just theory, it is the way of life here at the Zen Center. I am truly blessed to know personally the ordained monks and nuns dedicating their lives to the teaching of Buddhism. Their frugal, disciplined and exemplary living clearly lend authenticity and power to the manifestation of the Buddhism principles and values we all cherish.

Many volunteers at the Zen Center, guided and inspired by the Dharma Masters, are also tirelessly contributing time and money in supporting its daily operations.

They are followers of the Four Tenants (Be Respectful to our Elders; Be Kind to our Juniors; Be Harmonious to Others; Be True in all Endeavors) prescribed by the Founding Grand Master whose vision and compassion has made Chung Tai Chan Monastery in Taiwan the most respected spiritual landmark in modern Buddhism history.

Since I personally put the Four Tenants into my daily practice at home as well as at work, life has taken on its new meaning. I have earned the respect from my husband and my manager at work as well. My job is to take care of a few hundred senior special need clients whom I treat as my own parents as taught by the Buddah that all people should be treated as our own brothers, sisters or parents. How can I ever repay the Dharma Masters for their profound and life changing teaching? Finally, I realized the best way is just by paying forward to another human being with the same kindness, compassion and perhaps a bit of life changing wisdom.

I sincerely hope that City of Sunnyvale will grant the Zen Center the permit to continue its magnificent work as the vital part of the community in providing more Sunnyvale residents a place they can find truth, peace and tranquility. **THE TORCH OF TRUTH HAS TO PASS ON TO MORE PEOPLE TO LIGHT UP THEIR LIVES.**

Sincerely yours,

Chu Lee

Sunnyvale, Ca. 94087



ASIC
Advantage INC.

ATTACHMENT F
Page 11 of 71

May 19, 2009

City of Sunnyvale
Building Department

Re: Letter of Support regarding the Use Permit for Chung Tai Zen Center on Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Department decision makers,

ASIC Advantage, Inc. is a custom semiconductor company in the City of Sunnyvale. ASIC Advantage has been operating in the City of Sunnyvale since its inception in 1999. Our workforce is very diverse with employees from all over the world including Vietnam, China, France, India and the United States. While all of our employees work in the City of Sunnyvale, 15% of our workforce both lives and works in the City of Sunnyvale. Accordingly, the working/living environment of the City is very important to us. The City provides many services to its citizens such as public safety, library, parks and recreation. However, many other important services that the City cannot provide are furnished by other organizations including profit and non-profit entities. These services are also crucial to the well being of our employees and all others who live or work in the City. A very good example of a non-profit providing very important services is the Chung Tai Zen Center on Arques Ave. We have several employees who have visited or use the Zen Center and participate in its programs.

The Zen Center has many programs aimed at the well being of the citizens of Sunnyvale. These include educational classes, access to meditation, religious services, workshops on topics relevant to living and working in Silicon Valley as well as a haven from the stresses and competitiveness of Silicon Valley. The Zen Center teaches and actively promotes peace, happiness, morality, tolerance, patience and charity. Silicon Valley is in dire need of all these qualities.

While ASIC Advantage, Inc. is a very diverse workforce, so is the citizenry of the City of Sunnyvale. It is imperative that the citizens have access to cultural institutions. The City of Sunnyvale already has a great diversity of religious institutions in the City. It is one of Sunnyvale's greatest strengths. By providing a use permit for the Zen Center, the City would be furthering that strength and would also be celebrating the City's diversity, heritage and uniqueness. If the City of Sunnyvale lost the Zen Center to another City in the area, the loss would be an unthinkable tragedy.

Therefore I urge you to grant the Zen Center a permanent use permit to operate its facility on Arques Ave. In addition, in accordance with the greatest and oldest of the American's tradition of freedom of religion, I also urge you to assure that the conditions of the use permit allow the Zen Center to enjoy full unhindered freedom of their religious expression.

Sincerely,

M. Cathy Martin
Vice President, Finance

June 10, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

Dear Planning Commissioners:

As a housewife and a mother of nine grown up children plus five grandchildren, I always pray for my family to be safe, healthy and happy. One of my primary responsibilities in life has been to take good care of my kids and husband. Their well being is intimately tied to mine. My husband, who was my life-long partner for 50 years and main source of strength in raising the children, could be thought as my co-captain in sailing a big ship. Without either captain, the ship would not have a direction. This seemingly impossible scenario of chaos occurred when he unexpectedly passed away two years ago.

I was very much unprepared both mentally and emotionally when he died, and subsequently I was in great despair and sorrow. I couldn't accept the fact that he had left us and would not return for good. Every day I would miss his voice, his humor, laughter, etc. and things that he would do. My kids were also very sad. This is understandable because we are a very closely knitted family. They took care of him every single day, 24/7, when he was sick at Stanford Hospital. I thank God my kids were so nice to their father. Even my son had to leave graduate school in Boston temporarily to return to California to take care of him.

While mourning his death, our family was very fortunate to receive help from the Zen Center of Sunnyvale during such tumultuous time. The Zen Center was like a miracle pill for us then as it gave us the necessary comfort and guidance to put the family ship back on course. The Zen masters and the disciples were very gracious and kind in helping us heal and move on. Without their help, I don't think we could have made it through that well and fast. The big network of family at the Zen Center made us feel welcome and protected. People there were ready to extend their helping hands and pull us out of the abyss of sorrow. My kids and I spent a lot of time at the Zen Center to do volunteer works, attend Buddhism/meditation classes, chant liturgy, interact with many wonderful disciples and brilliant Zen masters, as well as participated in many other activities. We were there almost every day. Almost every single activity or event we participated in has a meaning to it. I learn to let go of things and not to be too emotionally attached. The Zen Center has helped me see life through a clearer lens.

At the Zen Center, we get to learn a lot about Buddha's teachings, meditation, and the true meaning of life. Although my husband has left us, I still can treasure the fond memories we have had and also appreciate that my children are around me and that they are good, healthy kids. My

life journey continues and it is really up to me what I do to make this trip a meaningful and happy one for myself and the people around me. It is the journey -- not the destination or achievement -- that defines one's life. And so, I came to learn to appreciate life better. I'm really glad to see that my family and I learn to cultivate positive thinking and be compassionate towards every sentient beings. It is of no exaggeration to say that our strength and comfort in life derive in a great deal from the Zen Center. It has a great and positive impact on me and my kids.

Since we've received so much from the Zen Center, we like to reciprocate by helping those families who are experiencing similar ordeal as we had been through before. To my family and countless others, the Zen Center is indeed a sanctuary this Sunnyvale city cannot afford to lose. Sunnyvale is truly blessed that the Zen Center is here and that it is benefiting so many people of different backgrounds and walks of life. I implore you to expeditiously approve the permit renewal and make the approval a permanent one.

Sincerely yours,

Jock Goh

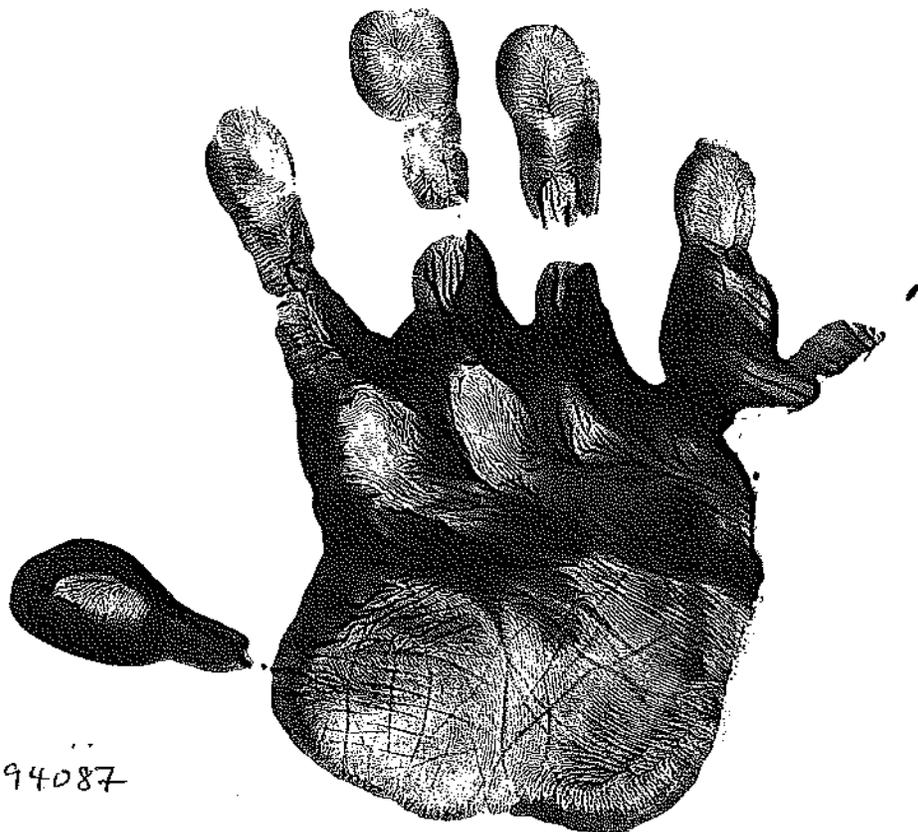
Jock Goh

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

06-09-09

I, Lionel Loo support Zen Center. Zen Center
Masters are very kind and love me. They
teach me a lot of good things.

Lionel Loo



Address:
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

June 2, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

Dear City of Sunnyvale,

I'm a thirteen year old boy who would like to have the Zen center continue to open. It would be great to renew the Zen center's permit. The Zen center is a great place to be. It has helped hundreds possibly many thousands of people. It's like a lighthouse in a foggy night. If it were closed this can harm hundreds of people and destroy the balance. Devoted Buddhist would then have to drive to farther centers. This would make them use more gas which would cost money. If they were devoted Buddhists who went often, then it would be costly. In this economy people can't afford to use too much gas. Furthermore, if the Zen center is closed, it would cause multiple inconveniences. Hence, it would help every devoted Buddhist who goes to the Sunnyvale Zen center if it is kept open. It's like a small community with all the events going on inside. There's a small world in there that can't be spoiled. If the Center is closed then the balance of the world would be severely affected! ☺

As a devoted Buddhist I often go to the Zen center every week. I go four to five times every week. I participate in some of the events, such as the meditation sessions. Meditation can calm the mind and help bring peace to people. The Zen masters teaches how to meditate. There are also three levels in the introductory classes. Level one is the introduction to Zen Buddhism. This is a crucial class to figure out if you're really interested in Zen. Level two and three finish you up on basic Buddhism. Sutra classes teach you about the ancient sutras. These lessons teach me and many other people many thought-provoking issues, such as cause and effects in science and in life. I always go to these classes every week. Every month there are

ceremonies that help remind us of doing good deeds and appreciate what we already have. All these activities and lessons help common people with their life and stress. Finally the Zen center serves delicious healthy vegetarian food. You can volunteer cook vegetarian meals for various events. The kitchen serves anyone in the Zen center for free. Then there are the awesome classes, these classes teach many kids like me Buddhism. We play meaningful games and learn a lot from them. I also make good friends too at the Center.

Buddhism has helped me ever since I started going to the Zen center. I haven't felt so calm my entire life. The center makes me happy and at peace. For the past two years I've been there it has been the best two years of my life. So I hope the city doesn't close the Zen center. Please, please, please renew its permit and also make it permanent! Thank you very much!

Sincerely,



William Hsieh

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

May 21, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to support the application for a use permit from the City of Sunnyvale for the Sunnyvale Zen Center's location on Arques Avenue.

Zen Center of Sunnyvale not only teaches meditation and Buddhism but also gives us a direction of how to face stress, frustration, and failure.

The year of 2008 was truly a challenge for me. After realizing how scarce jobs were, my husband accepted a job offer in China. His leave impacted the living style of this family. I kept complaining about how I had to take care of the family alone after work. To me this was inequitable, and I detested it. I was depressed and didn't pay much attention to my children until I came to the Zen Center of Sunnyvale. The Zen Center made me felt calm and peaceful and people there were friendly. The classes they taught influenced my personal behavior. I became more patient and organized, and had better judgment when making decisions as well. My two daughters and I helped each other and learned how to overcome challenges presented to us. A few months later, I was laid off after working as a software engineer for ten years. I felt a little sad but not frustrated since I was able to face it. I am now a volunteer at the Zen Center and enjoy working with the people there.

I am not a resident of Sunnyvale; the scope of my daily life was around West San Jose and Cupertino. However, this habit changed. When I go to the Zen Center I make the trip efficient. I go to Lowe's, located across the street from the Zen Center, during lunch to get flowers, plant food, soil, and tools. Fry's is 600 feet further and it carries stationery, computer parts, and hardware/software that my daughters need. Before going home, COSCTO is a nice place to shop for groceries. The Zen Center brings a lot of business to the city and increases the city's revenue. I hope the city will recognize these additional contributions.

I appreciate the lessons I have learned from the Zen Center, and hope this letter will be helpful in promoting and encouraging your support for the Zen Center's use permit and its early approval.

Sincerely yours,



Shu-Fen Jen

San Jose, CA 95129

June 6, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am a retired county civil engineer after 38 years' work. I came to America with a one way air ticket from Hong Kong and worked my way through Berkeley. Under the command of my wife, I had the privilege to be involved in the renovation of the Zen Center building and the permit application process three years ago. My wife was volunteering in the capacity of assisting Dharma Masters in paperwork, taking minutes, translation...etc. I knew first -hand how hard the Dharma Master had worked tirelessly with a few dozens of volunteers in the three years process. Finally it came to fruition and a magnificent Zen Center had been built and approved for three years conditional permit. It has since become the spiritual sanctuary for many disciples who can learn, grow under the spiritual guidance of several Dharma Masters who dedicated their life to the teaching of Zen Buddhism.

Not having any religious background, I am still learning about the Zen Buddhism and its profound teachings about death and life. My wife is more religious and we often talk about the life being an illusion and all is impermanent. I remember Dalai Lama once said, " Before you buy anything, ask yourself the question, " Do I really need it?" I guess Buddhism is really cool teaching people how to lead a simple life without attachment to anything or anybody.

I also remember one time I went to the park with a group of friends, One guy tried to pick up a rock and strike the little snake we came across , I stopped him by saying, " My wife told me if you kill a snake, next life, you will be a snake and get killed by others, too." The moral of the lesson is not to kill. I respect Buddhists because they preach and practice non-violence, tolerance and compassion. No other religions have put so much emphasis on respect for all living beings and peace toward all. This is not just a slogan, but a way of life at the Zen Centr.

I urge city of Sunnyvale continue to support the Zen Center project because they deserve a place in this community. What a wonderful place they provide to Sunnyvale residents for peace, tranquility and compassion.

Sincerely yours,

Al Chan



Sunnyvale, Ca 94087

June 1, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

It is my pleasure, as a resident of Sunnyvale, to write this letter in support of the Permanent Use Permit Application for the 750 E. Arques Avenue property of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. It would be of tremendous benefit to the City of Sunnyvale and outlying communities to grant and expand the scope of the Zen Center's use permit for the 750 E. Arques Avenue facility, from which the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale can continue providing services to many more people in the years to come.

The chance I have had at the Sunnyvale Zen Center to find a traditional and truly well practiced monastic Zen community has provided the turning point in my long search for the proper place to learn about Zen meditation training. My interest in Zen meditation started more than 20 years ago as a high school student when I found an eight volume work at the main public library in San Jose which profoundly outlined Zen practice and the way the mind is looked at in Zen training.

I was astounded to find a clear explanation of my mind's functions and immediately wanted to find a place where I could really practice the tradition I had found. And even though the tremendous guidance from the Zen literary tradition began to truly unwind the obscure functioning of my own mind, I searched far and wide for a place to further study and learn Zen meditation, though unfortunately without success.

My search to find out more about Zen and the mind continued during my university training in East Asian Studies and Linguistics (EAS). Within the EAS discipline it is not difficult to encounter reference to mind training in various literature, especially in Zen Buddhist literature. Without the experience of a teacher, however, the words on the pages of such Zen literary works lack the potent guidance of a master teacher who can point out their correct use.

While working as a research assistant at UC Davis, I had the chance to meet the Abbot of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale and this all changed. My encounter with Jian Hu Shifu's teaching brought the profound apprehension, training, and practice of the Zen Buddhist tradition to life and ended a 20 year search for a fulfilling place to pursue Zen training. This proved a fitting end, at the steps of the Sunnyvale Zen Center, right back where my search began, near to where I long ago grew up in the South Bay.

The Zen Buddhist tradition of meditation and community service is now an important facet of western life, especially here in Sunnyvale. The value of such training and community service provided by the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale cannot be overstated. From its generous educational training and outreach services, the Zen Center has transformed many lives, bringing peace and strength of mind to life's stark challenges.

I, therefore, urge the honorable commissioners to grant the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale its expanded Permanent Use Permit and afford the continued flourishing of the community of Zen practitioners who have found a genuine home for their practice here in our outstanding city of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely,

J. M. Sugnet 06-01-09

James McKay Sugnet

Sunnyvale, CA 94085

May 26, 2009

ATTACHMENT F
Page 22 of 71

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

As a resident of Sunnyvale, I support the Chung Tai Zen Center Project.

The following are some of the Benefits of Meditation

- Helps us to relieve stress, get rid of anxiety, and sleep better during the night. This is particularly true for those working in a high-pressure environment.
- Helps us achieve a better and truer understanding of the self and the way things are.
- Brings us discriminative wisdom; the wisdom that enables us to distinguish between differing situations without making false judgments, without clinging to particular views and without clinging to discrimination ourselves. And this wisdom will also enable us to distinguish, classify, understand, and perceive things without attachment.
- Helps us eradicate delusions and ignorance.

My family has been going to the Zen center since it first opened. Since then, my family feels happier, calmer, more focused and aware. Our kids were taught the four tenets of Chung Tai: "To our elders be respectful, To our juniors be kind, With all humanity be harmonious, In all endeavors be true". They have adopted them and worked to apply them right away. I personally gained the wisdom that every time I do anything, I remind myself to think of the consequences of my doing. Therefore, I believe that the Zen center is a definite benefit to the residents of the city of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely,


Chau Lam

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 2009

LETTER OF SUPPORT

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Anh Tran Caldwell, a registered nurse, used to live in the neighborhood of the Zen Center Sunnyvale, and a resident of 875 Laburnum Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94086. My phone number is . I continue to come to the Zen Center as my home as Shifus are my mentors.

I am writing this letter as an opportunity to express my appreciation to the Zen Center and recognition about the immensely positive impact of the Sunnyvale Zen Center on my personal life, as well as the community.

As a nurse, I have applied many therapeutic techniques to serve my patients, many of my patients have effectively used praying as a method for pain relieving, and relaxation for healing process. This is not beyond the theory of mind-body as my health professional practice. Shifus effectively function as the doctors/healers, who can treat not only patients' mental issues, but also physical health as a result. My arthritis has 95% healed after 1 week retreat session at the Zen Center, where as an 8-month course of pain killer did not heal the illness but developed an ulcer as its side effect.

Not only are Shifus the spiritual leaders of the community, they also teach many free classes/programs to the public, teaching about ethics and morality. The Sunnyvale Zen Center has been providing the tremendous resources for persons, the families, the youngsters and the community.

I believe the Sunnyvale Zen Center benefits the community in many aspects, and is a home of many people of all ages, all back grounds, the residents of Sunnyvale and of other places as well.

Sincerely,



Anh Tran Caldwell

June 9, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I'm writing with great pleasure and strong urgency to support the permit renewal for Sunnyvale Zen Center. As a Sunnyvale resident for close to 18 years, I'm always appreciative of the work and the various services the City promotes and provides to the community, such as the wonderful Sunnyvale Public Library. In a similar vein, the Zen Center has been an invaluable gem to our Sunnyvale community ever since it was established several years ago.

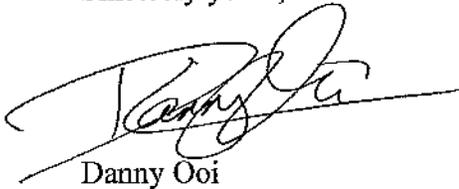
I came to know the Zen Center during the most difficult time in my life – the death of our beloved father two years ago. In a large part it was through the Zen Center's generous and compassionate acts that we managed to pull ourselves together and surmount the consequent emotional and psychological impacts. My father's death was very difficult for my mother to accept because they were married for close to 50 years. Fortunately, the Zen Center gave us the sanctuary to receive comfort, wisdom and guidance necessary for us to heal and move on. In doing volunteer works, attending various Buddhism classes taught by the Zen masters, and participating in other Zen activities, we could reflect on ourselves and learn the true meaning of life as well as realizing who we are as a human being in this world. All these were very important to our healing process.

I've benefited a great deal from the daily liturgy chanting. Not only do I get to learn the wisdoms from the thousand years old sutras, but also relax and remind myself of the main purpose of life. Like most people, I could be easily carried away by the competitive and stress-filled surrounding environment. Since young I had been riding on a fast track, be-the-first bandwagon to do well in schools and work. I used to tell myself to be the best in everything. However, as I learn more about Buddha's teaching through the Zen Center, I adjust my life's pace and appreciate better what I already have, such as good health, family members, friends, environment, etc. To me, the Zen Center and the Zen Masters in many ways are like the ancient Library of Alexandria – the center of wisdoms and knowledge which are important for personal and spiritual growth. The Zen masters encourage us to use common-sense, empathy and compassion in everything we do. The Zen Center's core values have become my own bedrock life principles: Treat people who are senior to us (e.g. parents, teachers, etc.) with respect; Treat people below us (e.g. children, less fortunate people, etc.) with compassion; Treat everyone with a sense of peace; Handle all matters with sincerity and honesty.

Many people including myself feel fortunate to have the highly educated and experienced Zen masters here in Sunnyvale to give us guidance and support. Often times these benefits are not limited to spiritual matter but rather emotional, psychological and practical as well. The Zen masters are kind and incredibly intelligent. Their teachings are invaluable and contemporary, especially in this bustling and technology driven Silicon Valley. If it weren't because of timing constraint, I would have invited the Zen masters to Boston to give lectures on contemporary Buddhism and its relation to technology and environment. I know I've benefited a great deal from their teaching here at the Zen Center, but would love to reciprocate and give the opportunity to students from my former school at Harvard University and nearby MIT. I'm sure students/faculty members from both schools would love to hear their insightful and scintillating lectures. Since they are already here in Sunnyvale, we should do our utmost best to ensure their continuous existence, which will bring benefit to the local residents and beyond. No doubt the Zen Center will help promote and reinforce the universal ideals of peace and compassion and serve as a conduit for religious and cultural diversity in this wonderful city of Sunnyvale I've come to love so much.

It is important for Sunnyvale city, which has done a lot for its residents, to recognize the countless contributions and positive effects the Zen Center has on the residents. Without any reservation whatsoever, I urge the commissioners to approve the permit renewal not just on a temporarily but permanent basis.

Sincerely yours,



Danny Ooi

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My name is Jenny Chen, a Sunnyvale resident since 1990. First of all, I am grateful for your continuous support of the Zen Center in conjunction with the permit contract. I first saw the advertisement for the Chung Tai Zen Center Grand Opening Ceremony back in April 2007, and has visited there with my mother. I found it to be a wonderful Zen center to learn Buddhist teachings and meditation. Through attending the Zen classes offered quarterly by the Zen Center, I have come to understand the purpose of meditation is to help us understand phenomena properly so as to remove the fantasies of our imagination which give us a false view or reality. I also find meditation to be very useful in helping me to live peacefully despite various disturbances that are so prevalent in the world. Having a place like the Zen Center has been a blessing in bringing religion into my personal life, enriching my relationships with my family and friends. The Dharma masters at Zen Center are always there for us. They always find time from their busy schedules, to give us counseling and guidances whenever we are in a dilemma. I cannot express enough how much this Zen center means to me. I feel so lucky that this Zen center is located here in Sunnyvale, just 10-15 minutes away from my home. Some of my friends and Zen classmates have to drive all the way from Pleasanton, Fremont, or San Francisco to attend Zen classes or events.

Thank you for supporting a place like the Zen Center, as it has helped and touched many people's lives.

Sincerely,



Jenny Chen

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Dean E. Linebarger
2150 Park Ave.
Santa Clara, CA 95050

June 1, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

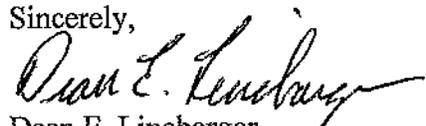
Dear Planning Commissioners:

I want to take this opportunity to give my full support and backing to the Chung Tai Zen Center Project noted above. I have attended Zen Meditation and Buddhism classes continuously from the initial opening of the Zen Center on Fair Oaks Avenue in 2004 through the current date. The Zen Center has been instrumental in bringing a new attitude of peace and calm to my day to day activities and has enabled me to be much more mindful and compassionate in my interactions with others. These changes in my outlook and conduct have been highly beneficial not only personally, but also to my family, friends, co-workers, and virtually everyone else I interact with. I have also observed this kind of positive change in numerous regular participants in the Center's classes, religious services, workshops, and other events.

I hold a Masters Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from San Jose State University and have worked in local government in Santa Clara County from 1974 to today. I attended both grade and high school locally and I am very familiar with Sunnyvale and the surrounding area. I can't imagine a better land use for the property at 750 East Arques Avenue, or a better neighbor for the businesses and residents of the neighborhood. The interfaith and charity work undertaken by the Center serves to bring together diverse communities and individuals in a very positive manner that promotes tolerance and understanding. The facility and grounds have been beautifully remodeled and the solar power installation on the roof sets a great example of responsible stewardship for the entire community.

I feel strongly that the Chung Tai Zen Center has made, and will continue to make, a very beneficial contribution to the well being of the residents of Sunnyvale and the surrounding communities. I want to encourage the Planning Commission to fully approve the Zen Center's project so that its important work can continue and flourish.

Sincerely,



Dean E. Linebarger

June 4, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to support the permit renewal of the Zen Center of Sunnyvale. The reason I support the Zen Center is that it provides a lot of good services which benefit the community, such as living a good lifestyle. Throughout the year, the Zen Center offers Dharma lectures, AWESOME youth classes, meditation classes, healthy dietary, and other volunteer opportunities. It also has a nice and tranquil environment that is good for cultivating mindfulness.

People there are friendly. They are a good source for learning Buddhism. The Zen Center Masters give guidance and comfort to people who have family, work and personal issues such as job loss, loss of loved one etc..

Initially I was surprised to see that Zen center has many visitors of diverse nationalities such as Iran, Iraq, Japan, China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Africa, India, Vietnam, Europe, Russian, to name a few. They all come to this center and become part of a large family. This indicates that the value of the teachings from the Zen Center are universal and applicable to everyone regardless of background. This fits well with Sunnyvale diverse ethnic groups. They all go there to practice meditation and learn the principles of Buddhism. Once they can master meditation, they will gain self awareness, have a pure mind that is compassionate toward others.

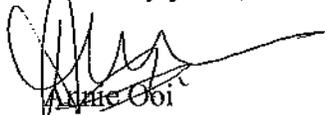
From the aforementioned points, it's very important to make sure the Zen Center continue to operate in Sunnyvale especially we are located in the heart of Silicon Valley. Majority people that I encountered are in a certain level of stress and fortunately the Zen Center is the place where they can come to relax and calm down their stress in a very effective and healthy way. I am one of the people who has benefit from the practice of meditation and learning to be mindful.

I came to the Zen Center about two years ago. Since then, I go there often to do volunteer work, and attend the interesting and great Dharma classes. For me, I find it rewarding doing volunteer work because I can assist and share happiness with others. The Zen center encourage people to help people and also give me the opportunity to participate in the different areas of volunteering work. This itself is very self satisfying. The Zen masters are very friendly and they always help us with warmth and compassion.

I support Zen Center because they made good efforts in many ways that benefit Sunnyvale and other cities in the Bay Area. The Zen Center is located within close proximity to my house and thus convenient for me to visit there often. I haven't come across a place that is as accepting and generous as the Zen Center.

I very much hope you will give a permanent permit to the Zen Center so that they can continue help more people, especially in such challenging economy.

Sincerely yours,



Akira Obi

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

June 03, 2009

ATTACHMENT F
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Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My family and I have been attending the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale since 2006. The teaching we have received has made a real significant impact on our lives. We feel very fortunate that the Zen Center is located in the town where we live.

The teaching on meditation, compassion, charity and interfaith understanding has been vital in our lives. Since attending the Zen Center of Sunnyvale we have developed tools to minimize stress and improve relationships. For most people, including us, just surviving in Silicon Valley is a tremendous challenge. The Zen Center provides tools for people to be productive in their work and school without losing sight of their own well being, family, community and environment.

Sunnyvale is the perfect location for a Chung Tai Zen Center. For a community that is as diverse as Sunnyvale it is important that residents have a wide variety of spiritual options. Buddhism is a religion that is under-represented in Sunnyvale. In fact, until the Zen Center arrived in Sunnyvale there was minimal options for the English speaking community to learn about the Buddha's teaching and to practice meditation.

We both live and work in Sunnyvale. We love the people, the schools and the shops. In fact we rarely need to leave Sunnyvale for services or shopping. And with the presence of the Chung Tai Zen Center we do not have to leave Sunnyvale for our spiritual needs also. I am sure your planning commission truly sees the value that Zen Center offers to the community and businesses of Sunnyvale.

Yours Faithfully,



Roland Lucas and Stefania Dal Zio.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 24, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

ATTACHMENT F
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RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I work as an Application Engineer at Verisign Inc., and I live in Heritage Park Apartments, Sunnyvale. On Mother's Day I really missed my mum and when I came to know about the celebration at Zen Center, I joined them for the celebration. At the ceremony, various inter faith people from various religions gave inspiring speech. At the end of the ceremony, I really felt at home. That inspired me to visit Zen Center often.

I really liked the cleanliness and the way they maintain the center even after so many visitors. That inspired me to keep my home clean.

I really liked the atmosphere in Zen Center that I volunteered in the kitchen during the 7 Day retreat. I am really thankful to the Zen Center and I am looking forward to visit the Zen Center very often.

Sincerely,

Kumar Krishnan



Sunnyvale,
CA 94086

May 24, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

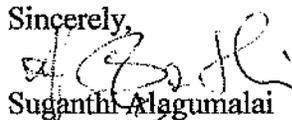
Dear Planning Commissioners:

I live in Heritage Park Apartments, Sunnyvale. I work as a Program Manager at FuGen Solutions, Inc. I earned my M.B.A from San Jose State University this summer. I was in need of peace of mind to have an environment to continue my Masters Program. I come to Zen Center on Thursdays to attend the English Level I class. And I have completed that course followed by Level II, level III, Sutra Study I, and Sutra Study II classes. I really enjoy coming here.

Meditation at Zen Center relaxes my mind and that gave me enough confidence to complete my Masters Degree. It even enhanced me to complete my MS

I really liked the atmosphere in Zen Center that I participated in the 7 Day retreat too. I am really thankful to the Zen Center and I would like to come here not only on Thursdays, but very often.

Sincerely,


Suganthi Alagumalai

Sunnyvale,
CA 94086

June 2nd, 2009

ATTACHMENT F
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Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

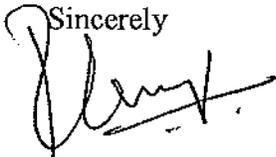
Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am Venkat Rajappan, an Electrical Engineer by qualification. I have lived in Sunnyvale since July 2003. The Zen Center came into being in May, 2007. I lived on E. Maude Avenue with my family around that time. Currently I live on Gail Avenue.

It is a blessing for us to discover the Zen Center. We regularly visit the Zen Center and participate in its programs and have benefitted by its activities.

The calm, serene and vibrant community is an asset to the City of Sunnyvale. I humbly urge the City of Sunnyvale to support the growth of the Zen Center to help its citizens in a strong positive manner.

Sincerely



(Venkat Rajappan)

(June 2nd, 2009)

Sunnyvale, CA - 94086

Sunnyvale, CA 94087
May 17, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Project File Number: 20090367 (Chung Tai Zen Center Project)
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to express my appreciations of your supporting the Use Permit of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale and wonderful jobs the monks have done. As a Sunnyvale resident and an employee of a Sunnyvale company, I have enjoyed this convenient location to take Buddhist lessens and practice Zen meditation. Zen practice has changed my entire life attitude to be calmer, more thoughtful, and wiser.

I carry much more positive attitudes to deal with a lot of difficulties in my life and work to form a harmony environment. For example, in the past month, our company had a big project of changing our network, our IT team had different solutions for a certain problem, I chose to following the idea that the person had a strong feeling of even though I did not agree with it as long as it would not affect our company's operation too much. My attitude is to let people figure out their ways to correct their solution instead of arguing too much even though it might take me more time to help out. During this heavy project, I was able to make jokes and smiled to people under huge stress. If it had happened before my Zen practiced, I would have had argued and complained during this period of time.

Zen practice does benefit tremendously my life. I strongly support the Zen Center of Sunnyvale and its convenient location and appeal your permission.

Sincerely,



Qing Chen

Andrea Breidenbach

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

ATTACHMENT F
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25 May 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I'm an International Sales/Business Development Professional living in Sunnyvale on and off for 20 years, with the last 7 years abroad. When I moved back last Fall, I was pleasantly surprised to discover the Chung Tai Zen Center, which didn't exist when I left. My husband, Karl-Heinz Kruk, and I have been enjoying Meditation classes there since January and it has helped us become more calm and centered in this fast-paced environment of Silicon Valley. Especially now that I am unemployed, I appreciate the positive energy at the Zen Center and we enjoy the wonderful vegetarian meals before class.

We live only 2 miles away from the Center, an added plus to have such a special spiritual place closeby. Please let the Zen Center continue its operation in its current place!

Respectfully,



Andrea Breidenbach



Karl-Heinz Kruk

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

First of all, I would like express my whole-hearted support for Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale in obtaining its user permit.

I am a resident of Silicon Valley for three years and through the years I've witnessed the growth and development of City of Sunnyvale. Along with economic expansion of enrolling tech companies and renewed downtown area, the city has also experienced growth and cultivation of many different cultures and ethnicities. These different flavors of cultures add enrichment and vitality for the city and its surrounding neighborhoods. As part of this enrichment Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale has contributed to the community with its multi-facet spiritual and social services such as meditation classes, teaching of Bodhi heart, various art and culture workshops, family and social events, and so on. Whether one is seeking for spiritual direction or emotional health, or just wants to be a better person with better relationship to others, Zen center is here to serve and to foster community strength.

Personally I've been part of the Zen center since 2007 and with its warm and kind reception Zen center has become an anchor in my life. I've met and made friends with the kind and friendly people there and whenever I go I feel relax and calm. Knowing that I can count on the Zen center being there for me is both relieving and comforting. I have learned to be more aware and to look at things from different perspectives, with empathy and compassion. In addition, the various activities provided not only enrich my life with knowledge but also with appreciation of people and beauty. As if this is not enough, the delicious and convenient vegetarian meal is a time and health saver.

I can't imagine my life without Zen center. It has become my second home – I go there after work almost everyday and also on weekends. Obtaining its user permit will allow Zen center much more stability to ensure its place in continuing serving the community. Therefore, I urge the City of Sunnyvale grant Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale its user permit.

Sincerely,


Sophie Li

June 1, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

ATTACHMENT F
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RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My name is Tina Burke and I have been living in Sunnyvale for 3 ½ years. I work in the high tech industry as a supply chain management consultant. My ex-boyfriend had been interested in Buddhism and meditation and had gotten me interested. When we broke up and he moved out I decided to look up local centers to help with my grief and anger over the situation. I began taking the Zen training classes weekly at the start of the year.

This was fortunate timing because a month later I was laid off from my job. I spoke in class that week about how I felt that I had been sent to the class for this reason. If it wasn't for my meditation and the weekly classes I would have been very upset over the loss of my job and become very depressed. However, since I had been practicing regularly and reading many books and teachings, I decided to look at the situation as an great opportunity instead of a bad thing.

With my new found peace and positive outlook I quickly set out to discover what that new opportunity would be. I revised my resume and began applying for anything I could. In the first couple weeks I applied to over 25 positions. I had heard nothing from these employers. I started to get frustrated and worried. When I attended the class that week my teachers and friends helped me regroup and recommit. With my head clear again I began the search again. I sent out even more resumes and applications. After a couple weeks I began hearing back from the employers about positions. I had even been directly contacted by various recruiters.

Before each interview I would meditate for 20 minutes or longer. Sitting in the waiting rooms I would also use some of the skills I learned to calm and ground myself. I believe this helped me do well in my interviews. I was not bitter about what happened, I was

positive about my future, and I was open and friendly. I did well and was offered two positions. I am now doing what I have always wanted to be doing. I even got to travel to Germany with the company. Without my Zen teachings I may still be wallowing in pity, sitting on my couch all day.

The teachings have also helped me through the breakup I mentioned before. I had been with that man for 3 years and was very devastated when he moved out. Zen teachings helped me accept that things are not permanent and helped me give up my attachments. I opened my eyes and my heart and looked forward to my next adventure. I then met a wonderful man. Before the Zen teachings I may have discounted him for some of his faults. The teachings have helped me accept him for who he is and see that these things are not faults but the things that make him unique. This acceptance helped him feel secure enough to open his heart to me as well.

I do not have children but I do have 2 very rambunctious cats. Previously I would get very upset whenever they caused trouble. I would come home to find a shredded roll of toilet paper and I would flood with frustration and annoyance. Many times I thought of giving them back to the shelter. I would get frustrated repeatedly telling them to get down off the counters or the table. Now I just accept them for how they are and appreciate the joy they bring me. If they shred a roll occasionally, I just laugh and think about how much fun they must have had doing it. It is just a roll of toilet paper anyway. I also let them just lounge on the tables and the counters. It is not worth the yelling at them, they will never understand anyway. If I want to eat there I just wipe it down first. This is the life of a cat owner, ☺ I wouldn't trade them for the world.

I want to thank the Zen center and all the teachers for the peace they have helped me find. My life is so much more enriched and beautiful now that I am open to see it. The peace I have found permeates all aspects of my life and flows over to those I come in contact with. Thank you so much!

Sincerely



Tina Burke

Sunnyvale, CA 94089

June 10, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

Dear Planning Commissioners:

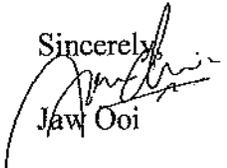
I have been going to the Zen center for a couple years now and I must say that it had a big impact in my life. Zen center is now like my second home with comfort. I have learned how to appreciate life and not to take things and people for granted. For instance, at this Sunnyvale Zen center, I always thought the place will be there forever for many people until I found out recently that the permit will be expiring soon and needs to be renewed. Needless to say, I am very worried and thus I am writing this letter to strongly support the renewal of the permit for Sunnyvale Zen Center.

I believe the progress in me in many ways, especially being more patient was accomplished through the volunteer work such as serving food to the disciples and masters in the monthly ceremony events. Even though serving food is a simple task, however, the important lesson I learned is to handle the task mindfully and patiently. In the past, I would usually just do things hastily and impatiently without paying much attention to the work and the process. Even worse, not knowing the amount of harm/stress I caused to myself or others. I now realized that all the fast heartbeat, raised blood pressure and sweat are due to the self imposed stress for being lack of patience .

So, ever since I grasped the meaning of mindfulness and the concept of impermanence (i.e. nothing is permanent) my whole view of life is completely different. I am now a more calm person and can handle matters much better for myself and do more good deeds for the society. Equally important, I cherish my mom and my siblings for all the things they have done and love for me. They are the foundation of my life. This foundation is also similar to the core message of the Zen Center which is to love every sentient beings with love as we do for our family members and the loved ones.

I truly enjoy my time at the Sunnyvale Zen center. Please renew the permit quickly so that I and the Sunnyvale residents can continue to go there to enrich and become better human beings.

Sincerely,


Jaw Ooi

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

June 1, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to give my full support to renew Zen Center's permit because it is an excellent place for personal and spiritual growth.

I was introduced to the Zen center of Sunnyvale in June of 2007. Since then I have learned many valuable teachings that have helped improve my life dramatically. For instance, I have learned to manage stress by doing meditation or using positive thoughts. The atmosphere at the Zen center is very peaceful as everyone like the Zen masters and diciples are compassionate and willingly to help each other to become a better and happy individual.

I hope you will renew the permit and also maybe help provide the resources the Zen Center needs. It is beneficial and important to me and also to many Sunnyvale residents.

Best,



Choo Ooi

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

June 5th, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am a small business owner and I feel very fortunate to discover the Zen center of Sunnyvale a couple of years ago. Upon hearing about Zen center permit application renewal, without any hesitation I enthusiastically would like to contribute my personal testimonial to the committee on how the Zen center has positively impacted my life. Two areas that benefited me greatly from participating in the Zen Center are healthy eating and fruits arrangement/decorations activities. These activities are very different from other events that I have participated elsewhere because at the Zen center, everything we do, we were taught by the Zen masters to be mindful, eat healthy, and pay attention to the environment. For instance, we learn to conserve water whenever we can, recycle plastics and bottles, and use spoiled veggies as fertilizer and etc. We learn to protect our environment. I also learn to eat healthy so that my body will be happy! ☺

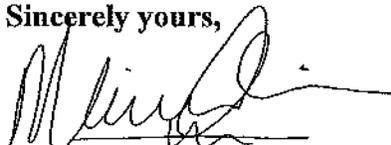
Equally important, we also learn to be mentally healthy by meditating and staying self awareness. Besides helping cook in the kitchen and food arrangements, I've also learned many good Buddha's teachings from the Zen masters who guide me to be a better and happy person.

In summary, the Zen center is a very important place for me and my family because it is where we can learn to be a good person, how to stay happy and healthy, and improve personal & spiritual growth. Also, it's where many people from all walks of life get together to achieve the same goals.

So, please renew Sunnyvale Zen center permit for the benefit of many, many people.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Mei Ooi

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

June 2nd, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to you to express my support for the renewal of the permit to operate for the Zen Center of Sunnyvale. My family and I have been going to the Zen Center for the past several years, and have found the center to be an excellent resource for the Sunnyvale and Bay Area

community at large. The center is a welcoming place for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Buddhist faith and way of life. In addition to various classes on Buddhist philosophy, the masters in the center also offer meditation classes that I find to be very useful and good. I have made many friends in the Center who have come from as far away as Santa Cruz and Monterrey.

Currently my sons are taking dharma and meditation classes catered to young children, ages six years old and up. Since they began the classes, I have found a significant improvement in their obedience and concentration at school. I hope the renewal permit will be extended without delay as I plan to continue participating in the Zen Center activities in the years to come.

Regards,



Lee Ha

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

June 1st 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to support the renewal of the Permit-to-Operate for the Sunnyvale Zen Center located at 750 Arques Avenue . It is well known that the Zen center is dedicated to teaching and bringing the benefits of Buddhism to our Sunnyvale community, and it is open to anyone who has a desire to learn more about Buddha's teaching.

Since its inception in Sunnyvale more than two years ago, the Zen Center has taken on a wide range of programs to benefit the community. Some of its activities include giving regular dharma lectures, providing free dharma books and literature, teaching various Zen meditation classes, and providing various counseling services to families. All these activities can help promote cultural diversity within the Zen Center and beyond. More importantly, these activities are undertaken with a keen desire to encourage and reach out to people to cultivate the good way of life – a life based on compassion, empathy and selflessness.

My family and I very much appreciate and benefit greatly from the Zen Center. The Zen master's guidance and words of comfort were of great help to my family when we were grieving the death of my father a couple of years ago. Currently, my two older nephews are taking Zen AWESOME classes at the center. Fortunately, my experiences and lessons learned at the Zen Center help shape how I will raise my three and half yr old son, Lionel. In particular, I would instill in Lionel the essence of compassion, empathy, mindfulness and cause of effect. The best way to learn all these important values is to be a role model to him. Asides from home, school, the Zen Center provides a good environment where Lionel can learn by examples and interact with the other children with respect and love. By planting the good seeds, such as good characters, integrity, empathy early in them, I hope they will become good and responsible citizens. I also know of many other families in the Bay Area that also have benefited greatly from the services that the Zen Center offers.

I therefore hope that the renewal application for the Zen center will be approved unconditionally and expeditiously.

Regards,



Seng Hai Loo, Lionel Loo and Mimi Ooi

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

May 25, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to strongly support the award of Use Permit to the Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

I work in Stanford University as a postdoctoral researcher. I have lived in the City of Sunnyvale and enjoyed the diversified and vibrant culture here for almost three years. I am a Buddhist, so I had been looking for a place to keep learning and practising Buddhism including meditation after I moved here. I was so lucky that very soon I heard the news of opening ceremony of the Zen Center of Sunnyvale on a local radio. Ever since then I have been visiting the Zen Center regularly and benefited so much from the deep and broad cultivation of positive view of life, compassion, and tolerance.

I would love to share some of my personal experience in the Zen Center.

Before, I often felt uneasy after doing something important, namely I always felt I did something inappropriate or wrong somewhere. The feeling is uncomfortable. After joining the services and classes in the Zen Center, I realized that the so-called uneasiness is actually a very strong attachment to the ego of myself. I have now learned to let go the attachment easily. This is a great relief for me.

Another very educational experience in the Zen Center is my observation of how the masters and dharma brothers meticulously handle everything in the Center. As a scientist, I always care to improve my ability of handling things more carefully and accurately, and I was greatly impressed that daily life and work can be handled so elegantly and meticulously in the Zen Center. I then realized that I still have a large room for improving my ability of processing and organizing the daily life and work.

Both experiences will keep benefiting me significantly in the long run. Besides, regular learning and practice of Buddhism in the Zen Center have saved me from the stress of work. I have seen not only myself, but also other people from child to senior with different language and cultural background, and from singles to families, have very much enjoyed and benefited from the teachings in the Zen Center.

My deep gratitude for the tremendous help that I received from the Zen Center will never end. I strongly support and sincerely hope that the Zen Center of Sunnyvale can be granted the Use Permit so that people who live in Sunnyvale and other Bay Area cities

can continue to benefit from the positive teachings.

Your consideration of granting the Use Permit is deeply appreciated. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely Yours,



Tao Hong

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 24, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I strongly support the City of Sunnyvale to issue the permanent "Use Permit" to Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

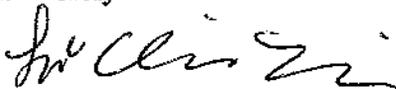
I, a computer consultant in Bank of America, have lived in Sunnyvale since 1995 and have really enjoyed the environment and cultural diversity in this city.

I have been taking classes at the Zen center for one year, and it has changed my life and attitude a lot. Everyone encounters challenges from family, school, job, etc., but they may not have enough wisdom to face, accept and solve those challenges. After taking the classes at the Zen Center, I feel that I have improved both mentally and emotionally, and I have a much more positive point of view on the people and things that surround me.

I lost my beloved parents within 2 years, and I could not shake off my sadness until learning from the Dharma at the Zen Center. It clears my mind and thoughts, as well as teaches me how to face the difficulties of life.

Zen Center is an invaluable asset in Sunnyvale; it provides not only the residents of Sunnyvale, but also the people of Bay Area a place to raise our life and spirit. Again, I truly suggest that the City of Sunnyvale approve the permanent "Use Permit" to Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely



Li-Chien A. Tsai

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 18, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale

Dear Planning Commissioners

We would like to express our strong support for Chung Tai Zen Center. We are residents of Sunnyvale. For the past few years, Chung Tai Zen Center has been an important part of this community. I personally benefited from its presence in many ways. First, Chung Tai Zen Center is a gateway for me to seek my own realization of inner peace. Abbott Jian Hu is an excellent teacher. Not only he holds a Ph. D. in computer science from UCSD, his insights and knowledge into dharma impressed me. Abbot Jian Hu is also able to apply teachings of Buddha into solving and facing the challenge of a layman's daily life. In addition, what is also great about Chung Tai is that there is no pushing, coercion, or preaching. It advocates and practices self realization through reasons that does not contradict from science and modern medicine.

Professionally, I am in management consulting business, specialized in projects for US governments and global 1000 companies. I personally hold a master degree in electrical engineering from Cornell University and I have been a Silicon Valley resident since 1985 when I first moved here. As an active participant of our democratic process and a concerned voter, I believe the success of Silicon Valley as a technology leader of the world comes from the diversity of its ethnic groups. The uniqueness of Silicon Valley is that we accommodate all faiths and all races to strive for better living environments of the body, the mind and the soul in a mutually respectful way. Therefore, I urge the Commission to renew its support for Chung Tai Zen Center

Sincerely



Paul Yeh & Family

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 14, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My name is Adam Mitchell. I am a Technical Support Engineer working for a Mountain View based company called CyberSource. I came across the Chung Tai Zen Center serendipitously because it is located directly down the street from my apartment.

The existence and location of the Zen Center in Sunnyvale has been greatly helpful to my well being and has contributed greatly to my life in the recent months. With the Zen Center's help, I am learning better ways to interact with the world and interact with myself. Their teachings have, and continue to, contribute to the betterment of my life.

I think its location so close to my place of residence and work has contributed to this positive effect and I would like to convey my deepest support for keeping the center in its current location, and for it to continue its community enrichment work. Please make their permit permanent, they are a great asset to this community.

Sincerely



Adam Mitchell

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 13, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Argues Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

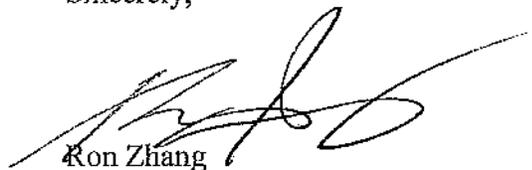
I am writing to ask you to support issuing a permanent permit to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale so that it can serve the Bay Area and in particular the Silicon Valley for many years to come.

I started my first class at the Zen Center two years ago in May, 2007 after my wife signed me up for it. I didn't expect to stay but have never left ever after the first class with the Abbot. What attracts me are the profound yet practical teachings by the Dharma masters who understand even worldly matters more deeply than I could ever fathom. As we know, Silicon Valley is a keenly competitive community and work-related stress very common. Through the mediation and lecture sessions, I have learned to better manage my daily interactions with people. After our son was born last year, we have received wonderful advice and great support from the Zen Center on how to deal with the new challenges. Currently I take two classes a week and participate in many of the events.

Needless to say, the Zen Center has been invaluable to us through its spiritual and educational programs. I truly feel blessed to have the Zen Center in our great city of Sunnyvale and hope it will continue to serve our city and the local community.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Ron Zhang

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

May 27, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

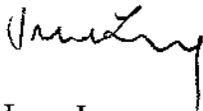
We have been going to Chung Tai Zen Center for meditation classes, learning Buddha's principles, and meditation retreats. Zen Buddhism teaches how to attain inner peace and uncover the inherent wisdom within each person. Meditation helps us calm our mind, focus, and have mutual understanding with others. As a result, we discover the peace and compassion within ourselves as well as with others and therefore, bring the community closer to peace and harmony. The most profound effect on us is the ability to handle stress and anxiety in this fast pace of modern living with calmness, consideration, clear thoughts, and tolerance.

At Zen Center, in a tranquil environment, people learn the ageless wisdom of Buddhism and practice meditation to help oneself as well as others. Zen meditation is pure water for the soul and the community. It brings fresh air for a healthy spirit to our Sunny Valley and hence brings the world closer to peace.

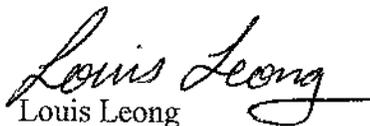
We strongly support Zen Center and respectfully urge you to allow the center to continue its mission of teaching Zen Meditation and Buddhism. Zen Center also promotes social awareness and brings the compassion, wisdom, and equality of Buddhism to all people; it helps everyone to build a peaceful and harmonious community.

Thank you for your time and consideration to this very good cause for our community.

Sincerely,



Irene Leong



Louis Leong

Sunnyvale, CA 94087
(408) 733-3884

May 18th, 2009
Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale CA 94086

Re: Permanent Permit for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale at 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale CA 94086

Dear Planning Commissioners,

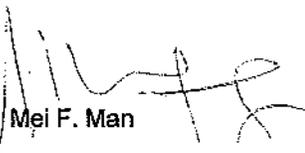
I am writing to express my strongest support for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale at 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale CA 94086 for a permanent permit.

I have been attending various Zen Buddhism classes and services regularly since May 2004. I have the deepest respect and appreciation for Venerable Jian Hu and other Dharma Masters in the Zen Center for their compassion and dedication in teaching Zen Buddhism to students who want to understand the true meaning of life. Ven. Jian Hu and other Dharma Masters also teach students how to meditate to calm their minds in order to gain wisdom and inner peace.

As a resident of Sunnyvale, I cannot be more delighted to have come to know such a positive and inspirational organization in our community. I am also one very fortunate student of Ven. Jian Hu and other Dharma Masters. The Zen Center opens its door to people from all walks of lives, so there is no doubt in my mind that the Zen Center will only benefit the community further should more people learn of its presence and various meditation sessions, Buddhism classes and services it offer. The Zen Center is a treasure of Sunnyvale which must be guarded. I therefore ask you to give your continuous support for the Zen Center.

Thank you for your time and consideration for this matter.

Sincerely,



Mei F. Man

Sunnyvale CA 94086

May 21, 2009

To: City of Sunnyvale Planning Commissioners
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale CA 94086-7619

Fr: Patty Chen

Sunnyvale CA 94089

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center
700 ... ue
Sunnyvale CA 94085
Project #20090367

Dear Commissioners,

I have been a resident of Sunnyvale for over twenty years. The reason I am writing this letter is to support the Chung Tai Zen Center's renewal for a permanent permit.

For the past six months, I have been attending the meditation class at Chung Tai Zen Center. The Center's spiritual leaders, Jian-Gong and Jian-Shye, helped me deepen my spiritual awareness and let me discover an inner peace of mind. I am now able to be happy with myself, look at things more positively and feel more compassion for others. The meditation class has been a very productive and positive influence in my life and I believe that it could provide the same benefits to others in our community.

I strongly support the Chung Tai Zen Center and I hope you consider my request to grant the permanent permit. Please let me know if you have any further questions or concerns and I will be happy to address them. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Patty Chen

May 22, 2009

To: City of Sunnyvale Planning Commissioners
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

From: Hui Liang

Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale
Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Project # 20090367

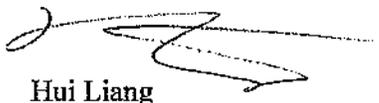
Dear Commissioners,

My name is Hui Liang. I live on [redacted] Sunnyvale. I am a mechanic, working for a company in Sunnyvale too. I spend most of the time in Sunnyvale. I love Sunnyvale.

I spend my free time in the Zen Center of Sunnyvale, practicing Buddhism and meditation. After a few years of spiritual cultivation, I have become calmer, and my mind is clearer. Then I began to understand things and situations better. Therefore, I have better relationship with coworkers, friends, and family relatives. Both I and people around me are happier and in harmony. The Zen Center has guided me to the right path.

I believe Zen Center of Sunnyvale has had a very positive effect to the city or even the whole Bay Area as well as some other states. People from all over the country come to our Center to learn Buddhism. We all like to have the Zen Center lasting as long as it can. Please grant the Use Permit to the Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely Yours,



Hui Liang

May 19, 2009
Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA. 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of having a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue. To relief our daily stress, it is valuable to have a nearby center which offers guided meditation.

I strongly advocate the approval and construction of said center at the site listed above.

Thanks in anticipation for your approval of this project.

Sincerely,


WINNIE KAO

SUNNYVALE, CA. 94086

Tsun-chiu and Yung M Tsao

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 20, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project, File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085

Dear Planning Commission:

We are writing to express our support for granting a permanent use permit to Chung Tai Zen Center at 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94085.

We moved to Sunnyvale from Pennsylvania in July 2008. Besides wanting to be close to our family, the other main attraction of Sunnyvale was its diversity of ethnicity and culture and its excellent services to seniors. We have found many active Buddhist groups in Sunnyvale, but Chung Tai Zen Center is the largest among them with the best Buddhism programs. The Zen Center offers free programs in both English and Chinese at several different levels. Since moving here, we have attended many meditation and Buddhist study classes at the Zen Center and have also become volunteers. The dharma classes, meditation sessions, and volunteer work we have participated in help us to live happy and productive lives as retirees.

We are extremely grateful for the excellent public facilities, services, and rich array of cultural and recreational activities offered by the city of Sunnyvale. The Chung Tai Zen Center complements Sunnyvale's recreational exercise programs by keeping minds healthy through spiritual guidance and enrichment. In this chaotic world, the Zen Center is a sanctuary for people from different parts of the Bay Area with diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds. The Zen Center welcomes all to meditate, study Buddhism, enjoy a vegetarian meal, talk with dharma masters and volunteers, or to just sit quietly for awhile. It makes Sunnyvale a very attractive place to live.

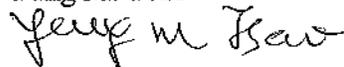
Thank you very much for your dedicated service to our community. Please consider granting a permanent use permit to Chung Tai Zen Center.

Sincerely,



Tsun-Chiu R. Tsao

Yung M. Tsao



5-30 P

54 OF 71

DEAR PLANNING COMMISSION

JUST A NOTE TO ADD TO ALL THE
OTHER LETTERS.

THE ZEN CENTER HERE IN SUNNYVALE
IS MY HOME, JUST AS MUCH AS WHERE I LIVE
ON REMINGTON DR.

HOPFULLY YOU CAN EXTEND US EVERY
CONSIDERATION IN YOURS DECISION MAKING.

SINCERELY

R. M. O'Neil

P.S.

ENCLOSED IS MY CARD
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL OR WRITE

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I moved to Sunnyvale in 2008. Since I knew the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale, I take my free time to learn Buddhism and meditation there. Zen Center provides me the best place for my body and mind. It brings my friends and me the total health of body, mind, and spiritual. I think Zen Center brings the best benefits to the residents of Sunnyvale. Please grant the unconditional Use Permit to the Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely Yours,



Jin Fuh

Sunnyvale, CA 94089

Julian Kain
160 S. Pastoria Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
May 10, 2009

Dear Sunnyvale City Council Members:

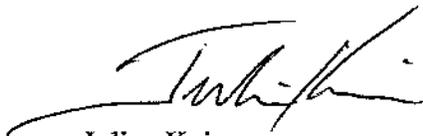
I would like to express my sincerest appreciation of, and support for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. As a community resource, the Zen Center is indispensable for me and so many others; through their offerings including daily meditation practice, lessons and classes, excursions, celebrations and various other events, they foster a sense of community that cannot readily be found elsewhere. As a spiritual institution, the quality of teaching and practice is among the best I've had the honor to partake in.

Like many other residents of the Bay Area, I moved here to practice my craft as an engineer, to enhance my career, and to explore the area's great resources and experiences. It is certainly a good life, but also a busy one that is prone to stress and pressure. The Zen Center is my personal retreat, where I can hone my mental and spiritual focus, and relax. The monastic residents, volunteers, lay members, pristine building, and overall experience provide a balance to my life that I feel is critically important to living here.

I firmly believe the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is fundamentally one of the best institutions around. Offering a sense of solace, family, and purpose, it balances and compliments the commerce, public parks, and other resources that make Sunnyvale a good and great city in which to reside and grow.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Julian Kain

May 18, 2009
Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

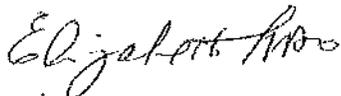
RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number:
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of having a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue. I am a senior and will appreciate the establishment of such a center nearby for meditation. I and other people who need such a place for improvement of both mental and physical health strongly advocate the approval and construction of said center at the site list above.

Thanks in anticipation for your approval.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth C. Kao

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

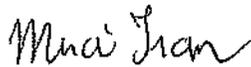
RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I would like to emphasize that the Zen Center of Sunnyvale is a necessity for our community. I am 74 years old now. My health was degrading a few years ago. Since the Zen Center opened, I come to take lessons and learn meditation. It helped my health tremendously. I am very grateful to the Zen Center and wish it will exist forever so everybody who wish to can learn Buddhism.

The Dharma masters here are very kind and helpful to us. There is only 5 minutes drive from my home and it's like my home away from home.

Sincerely Yours,



Muoi Tran

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

May 13, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Argues Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

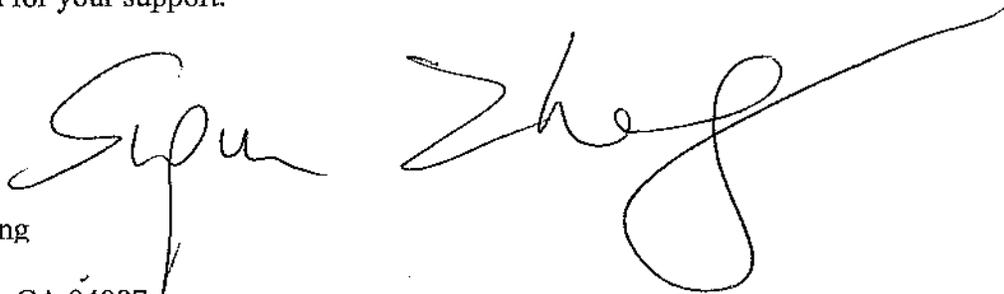
I am writing to ask you to support issuing a permanent permit to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale so that it can serve the Bay Area and in particular the Silicon Valley for many years to come.

I started my first class at the Zen Center two years ago in March, 2007 and I have gained benefits way beyond what I ever imagined. The Dharma masters not only teach the meanings of Buddhist Sutras but also help the students overcome our many habitual pitfalls in living daily life. I signed my husband up for a class two months later and he has been deeply influenced ever since. Both of us are now happier than before we went to the Zen center and I should say both of us are now better human beings too.

I sincerely believe that more people can benefit from the teachings of the masters if they come to the Zen center and get to know the masters and take some classes. I hope the Zen center will always be here to help people just as it has greatly helped me and my husband. I think Sunnyvale is a blessed city to have such a wonderful place inside it which has attracted many people from neighboring cities and even from other states. I am certain that the decision to issue a permanent permit to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale will be a great contribution to the city of Sunnyvale so that our city can give more spiritual help to more people.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suqin Zhang', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Suqin Zhang

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

May 15, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE:
File Number 2005-0509
Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
750 East Arques Avenue

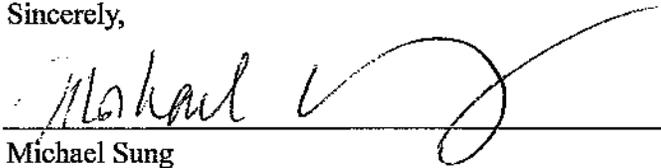
Dear Commissioners:

I'm writing to express my support for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale's application for a permanent permit. I enjoy coming to the Zen Center so much that I became a Sunnyvale resident as a result.

I have been a member here for over three and half years now. I volunteer in its daily operation, assist in its event planning, attend its classes four times a week and participate in its various workshops as well as interfaith activities. It provides spiritual yet practical teachings to members of all, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, social background or educational levels. I have seen many of them transformed one way or another over the years.

I truly believe the Zen Center is an important resource in the spiritual and cultural landscape in Sunnyvale. Please grant the Zen Center its permanent permit.

Sincerely,



Michael Sung

Sunnyvale, CA. 94086

May 25, 2009

Irene Wang
471 Liquidambar Way
Sunnyvale, Ca 94086

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, Ca 94086-7619

Dear Planning Commissioners:

This is a support letter for Chung Tai Zen Center's use permit. I am currently taking care of my parents everyday and sometimes I feel extremely frustrated and exhausted. Since I knew of the Chung Tai Zen Center which is only 2 blocks away from my parents home, its like I found a precious treasure.

I go to the Zen Center to meditate almost everyday and take classes to learn Dharma which helps me to know more about the profound meanings of Buddhism.

Also, from the Master's teachings, I learned how to have the right meditation skills and concept of the meaning of life. My mind becomes peaceful and more caring.

Chung Tai Center is very important to many of us. It helps many people in times of need and helps many like myself.

Please give Chung Tai Zen Center the permit. This center is a very important part of my life.

Sincerely,

Irene Wang



May 26, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is a great place for people seeking inner peace, knowledge, and wisdom of Buddhism. I would like to see the Zen center continues to offer the above benefits and classes to everyone at a convenient central location for people in the bay area and therefore it is important for the Zen Center to obtain a Use Permit to remain at its current location.

I first visited Zen Center of Sunnyvale at the end of 2007 to find a place for my mother to volunteer and learn about Buddhism when she visit us from Singapore in the next few years. Zen Center turned out to be a perfect place for my mother's needs and I ended up taking some of the classes to help myself better in coping with my stressful life. The classes have helped reduce the stress in my life and I enjoyed the people I met there and really like the peace and quiet there. Even though my mother has not yet visited us in Sunnyvale (we are visiting her in Asia this summer), I do think there's no better place than the Zen Center for her when she is here with us.

I would greatly appreciate if you would allow Zen Center of Sunnyvale to remain at where it is so it can continue to offer classes to teach the general public about Buddhism and ways to meditate to reduce stress. Thank You.

Yours sincerely,



Sharon Rhoden

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

May 12, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I hope Zen Center can get the Use Permit.

This is Violet Chen. Coming to Zen Center as a volunteer has become part of my life.

I took beginning class, medium and advanced class 5 years ago. During the learning process, Master told many meaningful true stories. Those stories often remind me what I can do, what I am better to do, and what I should not do. My own experience is I become more tolerant of different people. I have 2 housemates. I had problem getting along well one of them. We often have different opinions about water. So we had argued 2 times last year. Now, I have better control about my temper. I can try to avoid arguing happen.

Some lectures need to be repeated listening and practicing. In Zen Center, many people want to upgrade their spiritual quality then they can face the obstacles in the life. I think it will be a good impact to our society and the environment. That's why I am glad to be as a volunteer in Zen Center.

Hope more people can benefit from it. That's why I hope Chung Tai Zen Center has the Use Permit.

Sincerely



Violet Chen

Sunnyvale CA 94087

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Re Chung TaiZen Center Project
Project File Number. 20090367
Project Location. 750 East Arques Avenue.

Dear Planning Commissioners,

First, thank you very much for your hard working to keep Sunnyvale a beautiful and safe place to live.

I am writing today to express my biggest support for Cheng TaiZen Center's use permit.

Sometime ago I want find place to relax my main and body after busy working and taking care family. I tried different things, like taking yoga class and going to the gym; it seems not suit my needs. Finally I found the Zen Center from internet, they offer meditation classes. So I enrolled in the Chinese level I meditation course. The three month course is in fact both an introduction to meditation and meditation methods, and Buddhism in general. After beginning meditation class I realize this is the place that everyone need. The people at Zen center are very nice and helpful.

I want to continue take class at Zen center, and I hope that Zen Center will exist in Sunnyvale forever. So again I hope you can give Zen center Use Permit.

Sincerely yours,



Lingyi Chen

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My name is Shu-mei Lin, a current Sunnyvale resident and a stay-at-home mother. First of all, I would like to express my appreciation for your continued support of the Zen Center in conjunction with the permit contract. I was first introduced to the center two years ago by some close friends, and have really found a niche there. Having a place like the Zen Center has been a blessing in bringing religion into my personal life, enriching my relationships with my family and friends. It has also provided many opportunities to volunteer in the community and help out those in need. Thank you again for supporting a place like the Zen Center, and helping to touch many people's lives.

Sincerely,



Shu-mei Lin
409 Nuestra Avenue, Sunnyvale CA 94086

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Date: May 16, 2009

RE: **File Number 2005-0509**
Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
750 East Arques Avenue

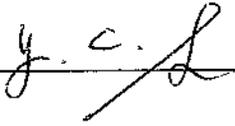
Dear Commissioners:

I want to voice my support for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale in its application for permanent permit.

As a retiree, the Zen Center is an invaluable resource for my social and spiritual needs. I have made several good friends and met many kind people through the Zen Center. The teachings I received here helped me greatly in my personal life.

I'm grateful that I can have Zen Center around at this point of my life. I urge you to keep this wonderful place in Sunnyvale.

Sincerely,



Yin Chang Shen

Sunnyvale, CA. 94085
Tel: 408-736-8059

May 14, 2009

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project
Project File Number: 20090367
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I would like to support the approval of use permit for Chung Tai Zen Center Project.

My name is George Yeh, Sales/Account Manager in UMC-USA located in Sunnyvale.
It is a great place for people to learn and practice Zen Meditation and learn Darma.
It is a profound way to cleanse mind and relax body.

The Zen center is located in the center of Sunnyvale city, it is great interest to people to access and participate.

It is great beneficial to mind and body to all people.
Hope commissioners could observe the benefit to people in the community and approve the use of permit.

Sincerely
George Yeh



Address:

Dear Sunnyvale officer:

Zen Center is a pure green
meditation place for all
Sunnyvale citizen, poor or
rich, I support it
to continue to be here.
it will grow like lotus
from the dirt pound.

Amitofo. Thanks

Let it be there

Jene YANG

Peter Yang

Sunnyvale, 94089

408 734 9272

To: City of Sunnyvale
Planning Commission

I would like to express that I strongly appreciate we have Zen Center of Sunnyvale in our community.

Sincerely yours

Munya Su

Sunnyvale