

 <p>DLANC Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council</p> <hr/> <p>www.dlanc.com P.O. Box# 13096 Los Angeles, CA 90013-0096</p>	 <p>lacity.org</p>	<p>Patti Berman, President Celina Mancina, VP Administration Jay Kim, VP Outreach & Communication Scott Bytof, Treasurer Shira Blatt, Secretary</p> <p>PHONE # 678-65 DLANC</p>
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May 11, 2011

Mr. Michael Lo Grande
Director of City Planning
Los Angeles City Hall, Room 525
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: Budokan of Los Angeles Gymnasium/Community Center: 237-249 S. Los Angeles Street

Dear Planning Director LoGrande:

At our regularly held public meeting on May 10, 2011, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (“DLANC”) voted to submit the following letter of support for the proposal by Little Tokyo Service Center CDC (“LTSC”) to develop a new gymnasium and community center in Little Tokyo, within DLANC’s boundary, pursuant to the motion passed on April 19, 2011, by DLANC’s Planning & Land Use Committee.

DLANC is strongly supportive of LTSC’s proposal for the new facility, to be known as the Budokan of Los Angeles. The project will benefit not only the Little Tokyo community, but continue the re-activation of Downtown L.A. as a sports and entertainment destination as well as an active, pedestrian-friendly residential district. The project will provide much-needed facilities for sports, martial arts, after-school and other community programs, and cultural activities. In addition to the activity generated by the project itself, the Budokan has the potential to stimulate other businesses in the project vicinity. The new facilities will be critical to continuing the growth of the Downtown L.A. area as a neighborhood serving people of all ages, including families with children.

DLANC believes that the current project proposal will be a catalyst for development in the Little Tokyo area, given its proximity to the Little Tokyo Library and St. Vibiana Cathedral. Further, the facility will benefit from the region’s investment in transit due to their proximity to infrastructure projects currently under development like the Regional Connector and the Downtown LA Streetcar. DLANC applauds LTSC’s efforts to create an environmentally sustainable project that will enhance the pedestrian-oriented character of the Little Tokyo area. We encourage the City to work with the developers to address parking and traffic circulation issues in a manner that is consistent with the urban environment and takes advantage of existing and future infrastructure improvements in and around Downtown L.A.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,



Patricia Berman
DLANC President

Very truly yours,



Shiraz D. Tangri
DLANC Planning & Land Use Committee Co-Chair

CC: Hon. Jan Perry (Council District 9 c/o Marie Rumsey)
Nicholas Maricich/Patricia Diefenderfer (City Planning Department)
David Nagano