

## FW: 8/13 Agenda Item 10.3 - 0 Seely Avenue Development

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Tue 8/13/2024 4:26 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

📎 1 attachments (137 KB)

Letter of Support - San Jose City Council 8.13.24 Agenda Item 10.3.pdf;

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**From:** Lomio, Michael <Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2024 4:18 PM

**To:** Rocha, Vincent <Vincent.Rocha@sanjoseca.gov>; City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

**Subject:** Fw: 8/13 Agenda Item 10.3 - 0 Seely Avenue Development

FYI



**Michael Lomio (he/him)**

Sr. Land Use & Economic Development Policy Advisor

Office of Mayor Matt Mahan

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**From:** Ho, Wendy <[wendy.ho@BOS.SCCGOV.ORG](mailto:wendy.ho@BOS.SCCGOV.ORG)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2024 4:10 PM

**To:** CouncilMeeting <[CouncilMeeting@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:CouncilMeeting@sanjoseca.gov)>

**Cc:** Lomio, Michael <[Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Michael.Lomio@sanjoseca.gov)>; Fruen, Joseph <[Joseph.Fruen@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Joseph.Fruen@sanjoseca.gov)>; Sandoval, Vanessa <[vanessa.sandoval@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:vanessa.sandoval@sanjoseca.gov)>; Arreola, Kiara <[Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Kiara.Arreola@sanjoseca.gov)>; Privitt, Mara <[Mara.Privitt@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Mara.Privitt@sanjoseca.gov)>; Madero, Angel <[Angel.Madero@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Angel.Madero@sanjoseca.gov)>; Groen, Mary Anne <[maryanne.groen@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:maryanne.groen@sanjoseca.gov)>; Fleming, Jonathan <[Jonathan.Fleming@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Fleming@sanjoseca.gov)>; Adera, Teddy <[Teddy.Adera@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Teddy.Adera@sanjoseca.gov)>; Hughes, Scott <[scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:scott.hughes@sanjoseca.gov)>; Dexter, Michele <[Michele.Dexter@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:Michele.Dexter@sanjoseca.gov)>

**Subject:** 8/13 Agenda Item 10.3 - 0 Seely Avenue Development

[External Email]

Hello Mayor and Members of the San Jose City Council:

Please find attached a letter from Santa Clara County Supervisor Otto Lee related to item 10.3 on today's Council agenda. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,  
Wendy



Wendy Ho, MPA  
Chief of Staff  
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**Otto Lee**

**County of Santa Clara Supervisor, Third District**

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August 13, 2024

San Jose City Council  
San Jose City Hall  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

**SUBJECT: 8/13/24 Agenda Item 10.3: Planned Development at 0 Seely Avenue**

Dear Mayor Mahan and Members of the San Jose City Council:

I am writing in support of Vice Mayor Kamei's memo on the Seely Avenue project. As the County Supervisor who represents North San Jose, I am excited about the planned development and the sorely-needed housing that it will bring to this part of the city. However, I want to ensure that development uplifts an important part of the city's history and the legacy of Eiichi "Edward" Sakauye.

San Jose is home to a rich cultural history, including a once vibrant Chinatown and Pinoytown (Filipinotown), which are now relegated to a hardly noticeable memorial plaque or two noting their existence in their former locations. I would hate to see a similar fate for the Sakauye farmhouse. The footprint of the Sakauye farmhouse and the land it stands on is historically significant because it represents the Herculean struggle of the Japanese American community who were integral to the city's history. It is a powerful story of resilience, one that recounts the Eiichi's struggle to rebuild a life after being unjustly held at the Heart Mountain Internment Camp in Wyoming.

The City has a unique opportunity to preserve the Sakauye farmhouse within the planned development. Preserving the Sakauye farmhouse in its original location would be a fitting tribute to Eiichi and his legacy. It will also serve as a visual reminder of our past and a cautionary tale to not repeat this tragic and painful history.

I urge the City Council to move forward with Vice Mayor Kamei's memo and prioritize preserving the Sakauye farmhouse as a historical resource for future generations. If you have any questions about this request, please do not hesitate to contact my Chief of Staff, Wendy Ho, at 408-299-5030 or via email at

[Wendy.Ho@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:Wendy.Ho@bos.sccgov.org).

Sincerely,

Otto O. Lee  
Vice President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors