

# ***Vietnamese American Community Center Project Fact Sheet***

## **Q. What is the Vietnamese American Community Center (VACC) project?**

The VACC project will provide for the social, cultural, educational, and recreational needs of the community, with an emphasis on the Vietnamese American culture.

## **Q Is this community center only for Vietnamese?**

This community center will celebrate the Vietnamese American culture but welcomes everyone. The public is encouraged to participate in community Visioning Events to provide input on residents' needs and the most important programs and services to have at this proposed center.

## **Q Who will make decisions at the end of the project?**

Based on community input, the VACC Task Force will present recommendations to the City Council, who will make the final determination about the center.

## **Q How were the VACC Task Force members selected?**

In 2008, the City of San Jose and the Redevelopment Agency began accepting applications from residents, businesses and community organizations to join the VACC Task Force. Applications were available at City Hall, City community centers, and on the Agency's website. It was advertised in English, Vietnamese and Spanish language newspapers, television and radio. Community members and groups were contacted to encourage participation. The process was open for 40 days. Twenty-one applicants were selected based on their ability to facilitate solicitation of community input and to build consensus regarding the VACC's vision, goals and priorities.

## **Q How much funding is available for the project?**

In 2006, the City Council approved \$2.75 million for the Vietnamese American Community Center Project. The funds are to be used for capital improvements only, such as design and construction work and cannot be used for ongoing operations or maintenance.

## **Q Has the George Shirakawa Center been selected for the project? What will happen with the name of the center?**

The VACC project is proposed to be located at the Shirakawa Center (2072 Lucretia Avenue) based on the leveraging of City and District 7 resources. The center can be named through community input and a formal city naming process.

## **Q How do we make this center accessible to different groups? What types of classes will be offered?**

The center will be open to all area residents. The specific classes, programs and services to be offered at the center will be determined through the community input process.

## **Q Who will operate the VACC?**

Funding is not currently available for the operation or maintenance of the proposed center. The City is working under the assumption that several non-profit organizations have the capacity to operate and maintain the center. The City hopes to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for organizations interested in the project after recommendations are presented to the City Council in 2010.