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MEMO

TO: Steven Huss + Kristen Zaremba / Oakland Cultural Funding Program + PAAC Panel

FROM: Sue Mark + Bruce Douglas / marksearch team

RE: *Walking the Invisible City* Markers: UPDATE

We have continued the community vetting process to fine-tune the cultural and historic content of the markers. As a result, we have modified some of the marker text. We have had email discussions about the meaning of Chinese text. We are currently working with Monique Tsang with the City's Equal Access Office to confirm the Chinese translation. We are also still in discussion with the Oakland Museum to finalize the text for their marker. We are in email conversation with the Vice Chairwoman of the Muwekma Ohlone tribe to get the translation for the Museum text (the Ohlone word for 'transform'). We have simplified the fonts used for the markers' layout. The sandblasting equipment is ready and we have been perfecting the engraving installation technique to ensure that the image is crisp and durable.

The following people and organizations have positively reviewed the marker text:

- Gilbert Gong, Director, Lincoln Square Recreation Center
- Darlene Lee, Youth Services, Lincoln Recreation Center
- Rich Fong, President, Chinese American Citizen Alliance
- Edward Yu, Vice-President, Chinese American Citizens Alliance
- Roy Chan, Director, Oakland Asian Cultural Center
- William Wong, Chinatown Historian
- Annalee Allen, Oakland Historian, Coordinator of Oakland's Walking Tour program
- Betty Marvin, Planner, Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey
- Tina 'Tamale' Ramos, Old Oakland activist
- Hoang Bahn, President, Old Oakland Neighbors
- Old Oakland Neighbors Board + Members

We are also in conversation with these individuals about specific markers:

- Pastor Emily Lin, Chinese Community United Methodist Church
- Roland Hui, President, Wa Sung Community Service Organization
- George Ong, Long-time Chinatown resident
- Ed + Evelyn Loo, Madison Square Tai Chi practitioners
- Elena Voiron, Owner, G.B Ratto's
- Buddhist Church of Oakland

PROPOSED MARKER TEXT FOR WALKING THE INVISIBLE CITY

	MARKER TOPIC	MARKER LOCATION	MARKER TEXT
1	Project Intro	Madison Park (Chinese: translations being confirmed by the City's Equal Access Office)	1853: Oakland was shaped by seven green squares Downtown's living rooms, now, only five <i>'Parks Bring out the goodness of good people'</i>
2	Project Intro	Lincoln Park (English)	1853: Oakland was shaped by seven green squares Downtown's living rooms, now, only five <i>'Parks Bring out the goodness of good people'</i>
3	Project Intro	Jefferson Park (Spanish + English at different entrances to park)	1853: Oakland was shaped by seven green squares Downtown's living rooms, now, only five <i>'Parks Bring out the goodness of good people'</i> 1853: Siete cuadrados verdes Daban forma a Oakland, De estos salones urbanos Quedan sólo cinco Los parques hacen resaltar la bondad de buena gente.
4	Project Intro	Lafayette Park (English)	1853: Oakland was shaped by seven green squares Downtown's living rooms, now, only five <i>'Parks Bring out the goodness of good people'</i>

	MARKER TOPIC	MARKER LOCATION	MARKER TEXT
5	Madison Park name change and relocation for BART	NE Corner Madison St. & 9 th St	1853: Over cattle trails, Kellersberger mapped wide urban streets. And included Caroline Square here, So named for his dear wife.
6	Lincoln Park Chinese Women's "USO"	11 th St btw Harrison St. & Alice St.	Dorothy Eng's Oak-Chi Center blossomed Chinese daughters' worlds 'Our soldiers had somewhere to go.' Friendship & hospitality 1943
7	The last standing house	SW corner MLK Way & 7 th St.	Their children loved this park African American, Irish, Italian, and Latino neighbors Make way for the freeway! 1950s The last home standing
8	Site of Oakland High School	NW corner MLK Way & 11 th St.	Oakland High School Educated young minds here 1895-1928 Topped in 1940, Its bricks built Lincoln Square's clubhouse
9	Former Washington & Franklin Parks	NW corner Broadway & 5th St.	1874 Main Street divided twin squares Carpentier's power grab for young Oakland The Alameda County Seat
10A	Harrison Square History	NW corner Harrison St. & 7 th St.	A nostalgic park, Linked to Oakland's pioneer days. A past Railroad Museum now honors Local Chinese-American heroes.

10B	Harrison Square ID / Project Intro	Sidewalk @ Senior Center Entrance 7 th St btwn Harrison & Alice Sts	1853: Oakland was shaped by seven green squares Downtown's living rooms, now, only five 'Parks Bring out the goodness of good people'
	MARKER TOPIC	MARKER LOCATION	MARKER TEXT
11	Tai Chi, Qi Gong and master Choy, Madison Park	SE corner Jackson St. & 9 th St.	1965 A BART land exchange. A daily morning sea of movement, Hundreds flow together. 'Tai Chi Park is our dream'
12A	Fong Get Moo woman barber	SW corner Harrison St. & 8 th St.	Lon Yoke Fong, our Fong Get Mo A trim...a lollipop...even a myna bird! Chinatown's Queen Barber 1940s-1980s
12B	C. A. C. A.	SW corner Harrison St. & 8th St.	Defenders of civil rights, Hurdling social & political barriers The Chinese American Citizens Alliance Oakland Lodge (In Chinese) From here since 1912
13	Japanese internment / Buddhist Church	SW corner Jackson St. & 9 th St.	Executive Order 9066 shattered Japantown 1942 This Buddhist Church, a reminder of that history 'I am an American!'
14	Redwood tree Lincoln Park	SE corner Harrison St. & 10 th St.	1898: A young sequoia grew, Nurtured by soil from each state To honor Abraham Lincoln the Great Emancipator
15	EBALDC – WWII parachute factory	SW corner Harrison St. & 9 th St.	1922 A neo-gothic code machine factory never realized On the top floor,

			Women of Chinatown sewed WWII parachutes.
	MARKER TOPIC	MARKER LOCATION	MARKER TEXT
16	Pacific Renaissance Center	9th St. btwn Franklin & Webster St. (at the entrance facing the fountain)	Chinatown's treasures: Sharing & sustaining Arts Identity The Oakland Asian Cultural Center The Asian Branch Library
17	Underground gambling passages G. Ong building	NW corner Franklin St. & 7th St.	Legendary underground passageways Long ago, seeking fortunes, games of chance: Pai Gow, Fan Tan, Chinese Lottery
18	Intro, about "Walking the Invisible City"	NE corner Broadway & 9 th St. (Spanish)	Follow the trees, Walk among them. Urban secrets revealed: Discover your Invisible City. Sigue los árboles, Camina entre ellos. Los secretos urbanos se revelan: Descubre tu ciudad invisible.
19	Intro, Chinese -	NW corner Broadway & 8 th St. (Chinese: translation being confirmed by the City's Equal Access Office)	Follow the trees, Walk among them. Urban secrets revealed: Discover your Invisible City.
20	Former train station	7 th St. + Broadway	1875-1941 A transcontinental waiting room

			Great Iron Horse tracks buried Booming Oakland Our multicultural city
	MARKER TOPIC	MARKER LOCATION	MARKER TEXT
21	Chinatown Epicenter	8 th & Webster	1882-1943: Excluded A forced Chinese sanctuary A Bachelor society Builders of California's infrastructure
22	George Scotlan, Convention Center	NW corner Broadway & 10th St.	1983 Old Oakland's terrain updated Dedicated to African American civic leader Scotlan, A devoted youth advocate.
23	Former Swan's Market	10 th St. btw Clay & Washington St.	Swan's Marketplace: Everything Under the Sun Romantic Mr. Pantoskey's Free Market 1885 Shrewd Mr. Swan's Dry Goods Salvage 1924
24	Former Fong Wan Herbalist	10 th St. btw Jefferson St. & Clay St.	1930s-1950s herbalist king Fong Wan Provided miraculous cures Doubted by mainstream medicine "I am the light of the world!"
25	Former Housewives Market block	SE corner Jefferson St. & 9 th St.	Housewives Market was Oakland An ethnic food lifeline East Bay's once bustling shopping district Forms downtown's housing renaissance
26	Darlene Lee leader	10 th St. btw Harrison St. & Alice St.	Peace keeper & Park Mom,

	for thousands of local youth		A safe haven for kids, Ms. Lee always listens.
	MARKER TOPIC	MARKER LOCATION	MARKER TEXT
27	Tina 'Tamale' Ramos	7 th St. btw Jefferson St. & Clay St.	Tina Tamale Guardian of cultural heritage on the cobblestoned La Siete Oakland's first Latino Barrio
28	Mary meals at St. Joseph Church for Lafayette patrons	NW corner MLK Way & 10 th St.	Oakland's Mother Mary Ann Wright Inspired by a vision Sharing food & hope In the park, she quietly changed the world.
29	Pardee House	NE corner Castro St. & 11 th St.	Pardee Home 1869 George governor water advocate Helen first lay eclectic collector A living museum preserved by dedicated daughters
30	Intro, 12 th St BART station	NE corner Broadway & 11 th St. (English)	Follow the trees Walk among them Urban secrets revealed Discover your Invisible City
31	Chinese Community United Methodist Church	Scout location; talk to pastor	1887 Chinese Community United Methodist Church Faith, hope, love at work (This line is in Chinese) Immigrants become neighbors One community

32	Ratto's	Washington St. btwn 8 th St. & 9 th St.	Once a Ratto's tradition: Wednesdays for pesto, Saturdays for pasta opera; A young Italian's quest Bay Area's world food landmark since 1887
	MARKER TEXT	MARKER LOCATION	MARKER TOPIC
33	Junk Ship	Lincoln Square	1969 Wa Sung Community Service Club's gift 'Free China' junk ship A symbol of determination For children everywhere. 中國帆船 華生社贈
34	Oakland Museum	Museum entrance We are still in the vetting process with the Museum and also waiting for the Ohlone translation	Once a lush marsh Ohlone, 'almost amphibious' Fed off its abundance Transform Transform Transform Transform (In Ohlone, Spanish, Chinese, & English) The people's museum

NOTES:

- All **marker numbers** are for reference only and coordinate with the attached map. The final markers will not include these numbers.
- The **marker topic** will not be included on the marker itself. This information is for reference only.
- The **marker location** indicates the general location. We are currently scouting for the exact sidewalk square in which to place the marker. The community is also advising us on specific sidewalk locations.