CITY OF SANTA CLARA CITY COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

"Mission City 21" Minutes for July 19, 2006 Meeting

Attendance: Council Member Pat Kolstad, Chair

Council Member Dominic Caserta Ron Garratt, Assistant City Manager

Kevin Riley, Director of Planning & Inspection

Pam Morrison, Administrative Analyst to the City Manager

Denise Harris, Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce and Convention-Visitors Bureau

Guests:

Alex Hull, Silicon Valley Korean-American Chamber of Commerce Tak S. Chang, Silicon Valley Korean-American Chamber of Commerce

Matters for Council Action: None.

I. The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Introductions were made.

II. Silicon Valley Korean America Chamber of Commerce. Alex Hull of the Silicon Valley Korean-American Chamber of Commerce showed a brief video about the history of Korean-Americans in this area.

There are a growing number of Korean businesses in Santa Clara. In 2005, there were 199 businesses; the number has grown by 100 since that time. Several businesses are located on El Camino Real, and some people have expressed a desire to have the area designated as "Korea Town," with a monument sign on El Camino Real. Mr. Hull expressed an interest in working with the City to improve Santa Clara as a tourist destination, as he said that Korean tourists visit Santa Clara when traveling between San Francisco and the Los Angeles area. A question was raised about how non-Korean businesses feel about having an area designated as "Korea Town;" Mr. Hull said that he believed it had a positive effect by creating synergy and reciprocal business. He said he doesn't want to create a sense of exclusion, but rather wants non-Koreans to feel welcome. Mr. Hull said he was also interested in having freeway signs placed on Highway 101, and having some sort of symbol like a gazebo or statue, funded by Koreans, to mark "Korea Town."

Council Member Caserta made a motion to refer to this matter to staff to review and come back to the Committee with possible options within eight weeks, with Mr. Hull providing a list of suggestions to the City Manager for staff review; Council Member Kolstad seconded the motion and it was approved.

III. Miscellaneous Economic Development Updates

- A. Yahoo! Purchase of 42.5 acres in Santa Clara. The site is located between Old Ironsides Drive and Patrick Henry Drive off Tasman Boulevard. This is a great opportunity to turn Class B space into Class A space, and it is an indicator that the area is still growing.
- B. Cedar Fair Completes Purchase of Paramount Parks. Paramount Parks has been sold to Cedar Fair, L.C., a publicly traded partnership that owns and operates seven amusement parks and five water parks nationwide. Staff met with the executives from Cedar Fair.

- C. Commercial Broker's Workshop Held June 13, 2006. A workshop was held on June 13, 2006 because of the high number of requests. Fourteen brokers attended, and there are now 60 certified brokers on website. This continues to be a very popular program.
- IV. Public Presentations. No public presentations were made.
- V. Schedule Next Meeting Fall 2006 (date to be determined).

VI. Adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:25 p.m.

Prepared by:

Approved:

Pam Morrison

Administrative Analyst to the City Manager

Jennifer Sparacino City Manager