



Korean American Chamber of Commerce of Silicon Valley

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Honorable Patricia Mahan and
The City of Santa Clara Council Members
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050

August 23, 2006

Dear Mayor Mahan and Council Members:

The Korean American community in the City of Santa Clara has made a significant contribution to the economic growth and cultural vitality of the city since 1912. Today, hundreds of Korean owned businesses fill the city's streets on and near El Camino Real, and Korean Americans are introducing the Korean culture to Santa Clara which increases the diversity of the city.

The Korean American business community has increased by 379% within the past decade from 107 Korean owned businesses in 1995 to approximately 406 businesses in 2005. Today, the number of Korean owned businesses continues to grow, and by the end of this year, our chamber estimates that there will be over 500 Korean owned businesses in the City of Santa Clara. Based on the U.S. Census data released on May 15, 2006, the average Korean owned business generate about \$297,000 of gross sales a year. Based on this figure, it is estimated by our chambers that the total revenue generated by the Korean owned businesses in the City of Santa Clara is approximately 120 million dollars a year. In addition, the Korean business community has created over 2,000 jobs within the city limit. In short, the Korean American community has made a major economic contribution in the city.

We, the Korean American community, believe that the following additions to this great city will help increase the city's revenues and employment opportunities even further. As such, we respectfully request that the City of Santa Clara take action in the following specific areas:

- 6) Mounting one monument sign on the center island of El Camino Real near Lawrence Expressway,
- 7) Posting signs on the 280 and 101 freeways near the Lawrence Expressway exits and on the 880 freeway near the Alameda exit.
- 8) Erecting a Korean American community symbol in Heritage Park, and
- 9) Hiring Korean language speaking police officers in the city's police department.

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Korea Town

We feel that a monument sign would publicly announce the existence of the Korean concentrated businesses and cultural centers in the city and act as the beginning marker of a tourist destination. The freeway signs will help other residents in the surrounding cities experience 5,000 years of rich Korean art, culture, food, music, and people. In line with the monument and freeway signs, we believe that it would be appropriate to create a Korea American community symbol, such as the Korean gazebo in Los Angeles. This would incorporate Santa Clara as an inclusive community that celebrates the contribution of Korean Americans. As the Korean community continues to grow, it is pertinent to increase security for the businessmen and residences in the city. Despite strong efforts by Chief Stephen Lodge and our chambers, currently, there are no Korean speaking police officers in Santa Clara Police Department. We believe that the addition of Korean speaking officers would improve communication between the Korean community and the Santa Clara Police Department to maintain security and assist the officers during patrols and investigation of crimes.

We, the Korean community, firmly believe that the improvements requested above will benefit the City of Santa Clara as a whole.

In addition to this letter, we are submitting the petitions from the thousands of residents and businessmen, both in and outside of the city, in support of establishing Korea Town in the City of Santa Clara for your review and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Hull, President
KACC

Tak Chang, Chairman
KACC