



MIKE BONIN

City of Los Angeles
Councilmember, Eleventh District

December 1, 2014

Eric Villanueva
Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Mail Stop 160

Dear Mr. Villanueva:

I strongly support Carole Nakano's petition to recognize the community of "Sawtelle Japantown" in West Los Angeles. The name, which pays homage to the historic roots of the community, would honor the contributions of Japanese-Americans to this westside neighborhood.

Japanese-Americans began arriving in Los Angeles in the 1890s, with many fleeing anti-Asian persecution in San Francisco. Sawtelle became an ideal home for working Japanese-Americans who were unable to live in nearby restricted communities like Bel-Air, Brentwood and Westwood. In the 1920s, cultural, community and religious organizations like the Japanese Institute of Sawtelle, West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple and United Methodist Church formed to support this vital community. Sawtelle existed as a separate city until 1922, when it was annexed to the City of Los Angeles.

Last year, local community members recognized the need to preserve this important cultural heritage and formed the Sawtelle Japantown Association to begin the process of renaming the neighborhood. This grassroots effort to recognize "Sawtelle Japantown" in West Los Angeles, with boundaries of Santa Monica Blvd. to the north, Pico Blvd. to the south, Centinela Ave. to the west and the I-405 to the east, has collected over 500 signatures in eight months. The designation will serve as an important reminder of the history of our great City and the neighborhoods and people that make it what it is today.

I am honored to recognize the achievements of Japanese-Americans in this vital West L.A. community, and I support the "Sawtelle Japantown" designation and placement of signs on Sawtelle Blvd. at both Olympic and Santa Monica Blvds.

Regards,

MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

MB:ln

Westchester Office

7166 W. Manchester Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 568-8772
(310) 410-3946 Fax

City Hall

200 N. Spring Street, Room 475
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011
(213) 473-6926 Fax

West Los Angeles Office

1645 Corinth Avenue, Room 201
Los Angeles, CA 90025
(310) 575-8461
(310) 575-8305 Fax

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**

**PETITION FOR
NAMING / RENAMING COMMUNITY**

Pursuant to Council action of January 31, 2006 (Council File 02-0196), a petition must accompany the application to name or rename a community. The petition must contain a minimum of 500 signatures of individuals who either reside in and/or have businesses, both profit and nonprofit, in the neighborhood being name or renamed. If the population of the neighborhood is under 2,500 people, then 20% of the population of the area being named or renamed is required. All addresses will be confirmed as to their location within the boundaries of the community being named/renamed. Therefore, to prevent any delay in the application approval process, it is recommended that additional signatures be collected in case some addresses are not located within the bounded area.

Petition for:

the Community of _____ (current name of community) to be renamed the Community of _____ (proposed community name).

OR

the area bounded by the following streets (street boundaries of area to be named)
Northern Boundary: Santa Monica Blvd. from 405 Freeway to Centinela Ave.

Eastern Boundary: 405 Freeway from Santa Monica Blvd. to Pico Blvd.

Southern Boundary: Pico Blvd. from 405 Freeway to Centinela Ave.

Western Boundary: Centinela Ave. from Santa Monica Blvd. to Pico Blvd.

to be named the Community of Sawtelle Japantown (proposed community name).

I, Carole Nakano, do hereby certify that I am a resident of the City of Los Angeles; that my present, precise residential is 2106 Barry Avenue, in the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, CA 90025 Los Angeles, State of California; and that I was at least 18 years of age at the time I circulated this petition for signatures. Each signature on this sheet is genuine and was affixed thereto, on the date shown, in my presence, by a separate individual who declared at the time of signing to be a resident or business owner, profit or nonprofit, of the community being named / renamed, at the address as set forth.

Declaration under Penalty of Perjury

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 15th day of Nov, 20 14 at Los Angeles, California.

Carole Nakano
(Signature of Circulator)

2106 Barry Avenue

(Residence Address)

Los Angeles, CA 90025

(City)

(Zip Code)

1. Name: Yotsukura Carrie

Last	First	M.I.
Mailing Address: <u>1749 Armacost Ave.</u>		
Street Address		
<u>Los Angeles</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>90025</u>
City	State	Zip

Telephone: 310-200-2112 FAX: _____

Email: ceyots@yahoo.com

◆ ◆

2. Name: Fujimoto Randall

Last First M.I.

Mailing Address: 2110 Corinth Ave.

Street Address

Los Angeles CA 90025

City State Zip

Telephone: 310-922-6223 FAX: _____

Email: randall@sawtellejgis.org

*****Please include additional members on separate sheet. *****

2. COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Proposed Name of Community: Sawtelle Japantown

Current Name of Community (if applicable): _____

Reason for Name Change (Please state historical precedent or other reason):

From the early 1900s, the Sawtelle district of West Los Angeles has been one of the largest Japanese American communities in the United States. In order to preserve and promote its Japanese American heritage and culture, the community should be officially renamed to "Sawtelle Japantown" to become only the fourth Japantown community in the nation (joining Little Tokyo, San Francisco Japantown, and Japantown San Jose).

Street boundaries of the community to be named / renamed (Please attach map and/or legal description):

Northern Boundary: Santa Monica Blvd. from 405 Freeway to Centinela Ave.

Eastern Boundary: 405 Freeway from Santa Monica Blvd. to Pico Blvd.

Southern Boundary: Pico Blvd. from 405 Freeway to Centinela Ave.

Western Boundary: Centinela Ave. from Santa Monica Blvd. to Pico Blvd.

REQUESTING TWO (2) SIGNS: 1. On Sawtelle Blvd. just south of Olympic Blvd.,
2. On Sawtelle Blvd. just north of Santa Monica Blvd.

Funding source for signs: Community funds.

ON BEHALF OF THE AFOREMENTIONED ADVOCATES, THE UNDERSIGNED AGREES TO PROMPTLY NOTIFY THE CITY CLERK OF CHANGES TO THE FOREGOING INFORMATION AND AGREES TO SUBMIT A REVISED APPLICATION AND PETITION IN THE EVENT THAT THIS OCCURS.


Signature

11/15/2014

Date

To be filed in the:

Office of the City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, California 90012
eric.villanueva@lacity.org; 213-978-1073