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Honorable Mayor Garcetti and Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument ("El Pueblo") oversees the historic and cultural heart of Los Angeles, the birthplace of the city and a premiere destination point for both residents and visitors. Centered around the city's original plaza, the district showcases the city's famed historical landmarks, monuments, memorials and sites which together reflect the diverse communities that contributed to the founding and growth of Los Angeles. In accordance with our mission statement, El Pueblo "promotes, safeguards, and preserves the City's birthplace, and culturally diverse heritage through the effective management of its commercial and historical resources and events."

Part of also preserving El Pueblo's cultural legacy is the reckoning and grappling with the traumatic histories that took place in and around the historic heart of the City and the communities that are to this day impacted by events that took place here. The 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre and the violent murder of nineteen innocent lives continues to serve as a painful reminder of the history of racially-motivated hate crimes and the unjust targeting of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI).

On Thursday, April 22, 2021, at the regularly scheduled meeting of the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Board of Commissioners ("Commission"), the Commission discussed the creation of a memorial related to the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre and the recommendations of the Mayor's Civic Memory Working Group's report titled "Past Due." Christopher Hawthorne, Chief Design Officer, Mayor's Office, former Los Angeles Councilmember Michael Woo, and Gay Yuen, President of the of the Friends of the Chinese American Museum, also provided their input on the importance of a future memorial. At this meeting, the Commission instructed



the El Pueblo Department to draft a motion to be considered at a future Commission meeting to support the creation of a monument or memorial to the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre and for it to be located at El Pueblo.

On Thursday, May 13, 2021, the Commission unanimously approved a motion to support the creation of the memorial related to the 1871 Anti-Chinese Massacre at El Pueblo. The Commission also instructed the Department to prepare and transmit a letter to the Mayor, City Council, and other related departments indicating the Commission's support of the memorial and urging the Mayor and City Council to immediately begin discussions with related City departments to bring the memorial to fruition.

As recently stated by Mayor Eric Garcetti in the Civic Memory Working Group's report, the 1871 massacre, "that bloody event, a stain on Los Angeles from 150 years ago, and our failure to commemorate its victims as fully as we might, is a reminder of the work still ahead of us." Both the staff of El Pueblo and the Commission are committed to the creation of a memorial or monument that respectfully honors the memory of the lost lives of 1871 and addresses the continued unjust targeting of AAPI communities. We are committed to working together with the City Council, Mayor's Office, related City Departments, as well as the Chinese American Museum and all community stakeholders and representatives.

Thank you for your continued support of El Pueblo.



Arturo Chavez
General Manager
El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument

cc: Danielle Brazell, General Manager, Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA)
Michael Shull, General Manager, Department of Recreation & Parks (RAP)