



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
June 26, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager  
Submitted by: Andrew Clough, Director, Public Works  
Subject: Street Name Change: Harold Way to Dharma Way

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the petition from the Tibetan Nyingmapa Meditation Center (TNMC) to change the name of Harold Way to Dharma Way; and direct the City Manager to have Public Works staff send letters to all required agencies advising them of the change.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The City received the applicant's payment of \$800 to cover the following estimated costs:  
Streets: materials and labor to replace 2 street name signs.....\$350  
Meter Maintenance: routine maintenance change of parking meter address ....\$60  
Alameda County Clerk filing fee for Resolution .....\$50

The payment was deposited to 363-4960-360-9999-11TM11, and unused funds will be returned to the applicant.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Letters declaring Berkeley's intent to consider the petition were mailed on April 4, 2012 to the Alameda County Planning Department, US Postal Service, and Berkeley Police and Fire Departments. The letters requested comments within 30 days, and no adverse responses were received. In late May, the applicants informed the City that they are planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony for June 28, 2012, and would like to have the street name change implemented in time for their event.

BACKGROUND

Harold Way is 1 block long between Kittredge Street and Allston Way, and listed on County Assessor's Map 057-2027 as the Shattuck Hotel Tract. Harold Way was named for Harold Woolsey, grandson of Francis K. Shattuck, and was dedicated to the City by the Shattuck Hotel Association in 1913 for public use.

There are 2 addresses on the west side of the block: Dharma College (2222 Harold Way); and Dharma Publishing Bookstore/Tibetan Aid Project (2210 Harold Way). Both

properties are owned by the non-profit TNMC. The east side of the street is occupied by properties that front and have addresses on Kittredge Street and Allston Way.

In early 2011 a representative of TNMC contacted the City asking what process they should use to request a street name change. The City Attorney provided guidelines established by the City Manager in 1998, which require: 1) petition of support for the street name change from 51% or more of property owners to the Public Works Director; 2) deposit of \$800 paid to the City, to be applied to expenses; 3) notification of the proposal by the Public Works Director to the US Postal Service, Alameda County Planning Department, and Berkeley Police and Fire Departments; 4) if no objection from these agencies is received, Council reviews the proposal, may hold a public hearing, and either adopts a resolution approving the name change, or denies the proposal; 5) if approved, the City notifies the same agencies, plus the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, and files a certified copy of the Resolution with Alameda County.

On April 13, 2011 Legal Counsel for the non-profit that owns both buildings with Harold Way addresses submitted a letter petitioning the City to change the name of the street from Harold Way to Dharma Way (Attachment 1), along with a check for \$800 as a deposit toward the City's costs.

The applicant provided the following information on the proposed name:

*The word "dharma" is a Sanskrit term for "truth", "reality," or the "natural order of things." It is used in all philosophies and religions of Indic origin, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. Dharma is also used to refer to the teachings of the Buddha.*

On January 31, 2012, Council adopted new procedures for consideration of naming or re-naming public facilities, however since this application was received prior to that time, staff followed the earlier procedures.

#### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

All prerequisites to Council consideration that were in effect at the time the application have been fulfilled. 100% of the addresses fronting the 1-block street approve of the proposed street name change. None of the agencies that were notified of the name change proposal responded with objections.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

#### CONTACT PERSON

Farid Javandel, Transportation Manager, Public Works Department, 510-981-7061

Attachments:

1: Resolution

2: April 13, 2011 Letter from Applicant

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

STREET NAME CHANGE: FROM HAROLD WAY TO DHARMA WAY

WHEREAS, City has a procedure for re-naming a street, including receipt of an applicant's petition and its check to cover costs, notifying designated agencies, and receiving approval by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the petition from the Tibetan Nyingmapa Meditation Center, owner of the properties on Harold Way, Dharma College and Dharma Publishing Bookstore/Tibetan Aid Project, met the requirements; and

WHEREAS, the applicant has paid the required funds, which have been deposited to budget code 363-4960-360-9999-11TM11; and

WHEREAS, letters of intent to consider the proposal were mailed to all required agencies and no opposition statements were returned.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the petition that the street currently named Harold Way be changed to Dharma Way is hereby approved.



RECEIVED

APR 14 2011

PUBLIC WORKS  
ADMINISTRATION

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# TIBETAN NYINGMA MEDITATION CENTER

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April 13, 2011

Andrew Clough, Acting Director  
City of Berkeley Public Works Department  
2180 Milvia Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Berkeley, CA 94704

Dear Mr. Clough,

As the owner of all the buildings that have addresses on Harold Way, a one-block street between Allston Way and Kittredge Street in downtown Berkeley, we hereby petition your office to change the name of the street to "Dharma Way."

The three properties on the west side of Harold Way are all owned by a single non-profit organization, Head Lama of the Tibetan Nyingmapa Meditation Center ("TNMC"). These properties are: Dharma College (2222 Harold Way), Dharma Publishing Bookstore/Tibetan Aid Project (2210 Harold Way: "Bookstore/TAP"), and Mangalam Centers (2018 Allston Way, corner of Harold Way). Dharma College and the Dharma Publishing Bookstore/Tibetan Aid Project building are the only two properties on the street with Harold Way addresses. For photos of the street and buildings, see the next page.

Mangalam Centers and Dharma College are both wholly owned projects of TNMC. Dharma Publishing and the Tibetan Aid Project, both operating out of 2210 Harold Way, are separate corporations formed in support of the activities of TNMC. They are allowed by TNMC to use the facilities at 2210 Harold Way, and do not pay rent. The east (opposite) side of the street is taken up by two large buildings (2065 Kittredge Street and 2070 Allston Way) that only have one side door, a delivery ramp, and a display window on Harold Way. They do not have addresses on Harold Way. There are no other stakeholders in the block's identity.

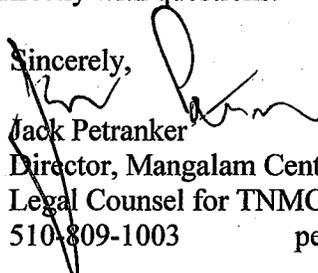
The word "dharma" is a Sanskrit term for "truth", "reality," or the "natural order of things." It is used in all philosophies and religions of Indic origin, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. "Dharma" is also used to refer to the teachings of the historical Buddha.

For further information about our organization and its historical relationship with Berkeley and with Harold Way, please refer to this Nov. 29, 2010 article in [Berkeleyside.com](http://www.berkeleyside.com) - [http://www.berkeleyside.com/2010/11/29/tibetan-buddhism-flourishes-in-berkeley/#disqus\\_thread](http://www.berkeleyside.com/2010/11/29/tibetan-buddhism-flourishes-in-berkeley/#disqus_thread).

We understand that this letter will initiate a process that will lead to a public hearing and vote at the City Council, as changing a street name involves a change to the Municipal Code. We will be glad to present any further information required to effect the proposed name change. In accord with instructions received from Tamlyn Bright, we have enclosed a deposit check for \$800.

Please feel free to contact me directly with questions.

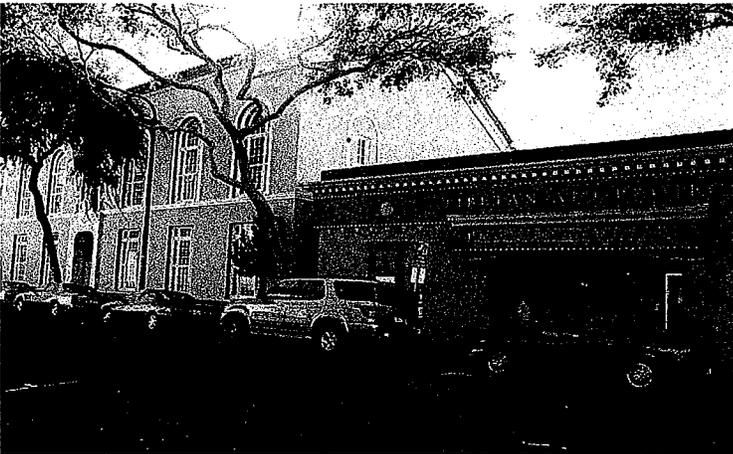
Sincerely,

  
Jack Petranker  
Director, Mangalam Centers  
Legal Counsel for TNMC, Tibetan Aid Project, and Dharma Publishing  
510-809-1003      petranker@att.net

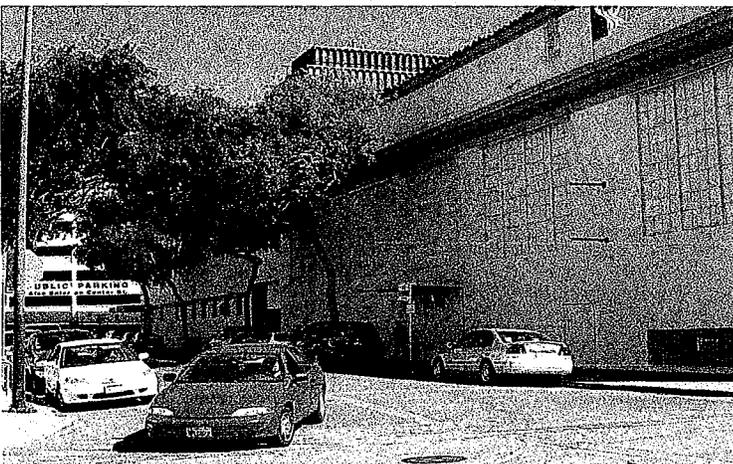
cc: Jesse Arreguin; Gordon Wozniak



Dharma College in foreground;  
Tibetan Aid Project/  
Dharma Publishing Bookstore behind  
Dharma College;  
Mangalam Centers on far right (on  
corner of Allston Way)



Tibetan Aid Project/  
Dharma Publishing bookstore;  
Dharma College on left



Buildings on opposite side  
of Harold Way

